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Title : Need to implement the recommendation of Task Force for Keleghai Kopaleswari-Baghal Basin drainage and Tamluk Drainage, District Midnapur, West Bengal.

SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH (TAMLUK): Tamluk Parliamentary Constituency from where I am elected is surrounded by rivers in four sides namely Ganges in East, Rupnarayan in North, Kangsabati and Keleghai in West and Haldi in South. Due to heavy concentration of silt in river bed, drainage system provided by irrigation Department, Government of West Bengal have become non functional. River bed have become higher than that of agricultural land as a result rain water is not being drained out causing flood every year in all these areas.

I may mention that in ancient time river Rupnarayan was navigable for transportation of cargo. Later, port in the name of Tamralipta Bandar came into existence. Due to heavy siltation the said port ceased to exist.

In reference to my letter dated 15-12-2005 Hon'ble Minister of Water Resources, Government of India assured that recommendation of Task Force for two schemes i.e. (1) Keleghai Kopaleswari-Baghal Basin drainage with estimated cost of Rs. 32.75 crores (2) Tamluk Drainage with estimated cost of Rs. 20.51 crores will be implemented in Eleventh Plan.

Hon'ble Minister of Water Resource also informed that Task Force has recommended various measures for flood management including flood protection schemes on River Haldi, Rupnarayan, Ganga, Kopaleswari, Chandia and Hoogly, This recommendation needs implementation immediately.

Further, desiltation schemes in all these rivers which will help flood control and navigation of cargo vessels has not been taken up. So, I would also request Hon'ble Prime Minister and Minister of Water Resource for implementation of aforesaid schemes recommended by Task Force besides taking up desiltation work in Rupnarayan and Haldi.