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Title: Need for desiltation of Durgapur barrage of Damodar river in West Bengal.

SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL (KATWA): Sir, siltation has now become the major environmental problem throughout the country. In this respect, I do recall that the Members of the Standing Committee on Water Resources, while on a study tour to Durgapur Barrage of Damodar River, have expressed their worry, seeing the critical siltation problems in the surface of Damodar on 12th February, 2007. After visiting and knowing the serious stage of siltation, the Committee held a meeting with the engineers of West Bengal State Irrigation and Waterways Department, Central Water Commission and Damodar Valley Corporation to discuss regarding the same.

I understand the barrage engineers were not in favour of desiltation since the works of desiltation would be much expensive. But it is a matter of concern that the siltation will cause crisis in water supply to Durgapur on the one hand and inundation on the other hand in near future. The Committee asked the concerned engineers to make a Detailed Project Report (DPR) and send to the Central Water Resources Department. But some DPR has yet to be made.

Sir, keeping in view of the alarming situation, the Department of Water Resources should immediately come forward to arrest the destruction of productive reservoir capacity of dams and to combat the flood on the riverbanks through desiltation programme.

SHRI SUNIL KHAN (DURGAPUR): Sir, I would like to associate with him because it falls in my constituency.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes, you can associate with him.