

Title: Need to declare Dalkhola in West Bengal as the corridor of Eastern India.

*SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR (BALURGHAT): Hon. Chairman Sir, West Bengal can be divided into two parts-one is south Bengal and another is north Bengal. All of you are aware that north Bengal is famous for its scenic beauty and natural resources. People from all over the world come to visit the place and enjoy the natural beauty of Darjeeling, Duars hills and Sikkim. But due to water pollution and environmental pollution, now rainfall is very less there. There is rampant deforestation, construction of houses, roads and other infrastructure facilities which are adversely affecting the rivers and they are drying up as a result. The waterfalls are silent today and the quantum of water is also less. The situation on the whole is very grim. So the Government should come forward with schemes to tap and conserve the water of rivers Teesta, Jaldhaka, Kalchini during the monsoon season. If that water is diverted properly to the villages of north Bengal then the environment will become much better. The water will help the forests to thrive and the region will become more beautiful. Thus the Government should focus more on the Teesta Project which it has already undertaken. But not a single penny has been spent for this project. For the benefit of the people of the region, the work needs to be expedited and completed as soon as possible.

The Government should pay heed to my request. With these few words, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak in zero hour and conclude my speech.