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Title: Need to resolve ownership dispute of river islands between West Bengal and Jharkhand.

SHRIMATI MAUSAM NOOR (MALDAHA): The shifting of course of River Ganga, about 10km eastwards in Malda since 1950s, has led to the disappearance of about 20,000 sq Km. or 50,000 acres of land from Manikchak, Kaliachak, Ratua and Harishchanderpur in Malda. The submerged land area has re-emerged as chars (river islands) in Jharkhand. Most of the re-emerged land has been officially included in the 2011 list prepared by Jharkhand administration and it is trying to take over the fertile land, which is hardly in workable condition, by enticing the local people with administrative and infrastructure support, making the lives of people living in the char areas, who were once the residents of Malda, difficult. The borders between states according to the constitution are fixed and a change in river's course cannot alter a border. Accordingly, the chars should remain with West Bengal. Hence, I request the Government to take steps to urgently resolve the issue.