

Regarding erosion and floods caused by river Brahmaputra

MD. RAKIBUL HUSSAIN (DHUBRI): Hon. Speaker Sir, I rise to draw the attention to the issue of recurring river erosion and floods caused by the Brahmaputra River and its tributaries in Assam.

Due to river erosion, Assam loses approximately 8,000 hectares of fertile land annually. In the past 50 years, nearly 4,000 square kilometres or 7.4 per cent of the State's area has been lost. The floods worsen the situation affecting over 30 per cent of Assam's population annually. In 2023 alone, 20 districts and over 1,00,000 people were impacted. Despite its severity since ages, river erosion in Assam was recently recognized as a natural calamity by the 15th Finance Commission. However, bureaucratic inefficiencies often hinder the effective distribution of the funds to beneficiaries.

Therefore, I urge the Ministry of Home Affairs (Disaster Management Division) and the Ministry of Jal Shakti to take immediate, coordinated action to mitigate its impact and declare the flood and erosion problem of Assam as a national problem.