

Regarding preservation of ancestral land of Rash Behari Bose, the freedom fighter

DR. SHARMILA SARKAR (BARDHAMAN PURBA): Madam, I would to draw your kind attention to an important matter. As you may be aware, Rash Bihari Bose was a distinguished Indian revolutionary and a key figure in the Indian Independence Movement. He was the mastermind behind the Delhi Conspiracy of 1912, which aimed to assassinate the Viceroy of India, Lord Hardinge. While he was in Japan, he founded the Indian Independence League to drive the British out of India. Unfortunately, many Indians remain unaware that the Indian National Army (INA), later led by Subhash Chandra Bose and named 'Azad Hind Fauj', was established on the foundation laid by Rash Bihari Bose. In recognition of his contributions, the Japanese Government honoured him in 1943 with the 'Second Order of Merit of the Rising Sun', the highest title granted to a foreigner.

Madam, I take immense pride in informing this House that Rash Bihari Bose was born on May 25, 1886, in the village of Subaldaha in Bardhaman district, which falls within my Parliamentary Constituency. The people of Purba Bardhaman earnestly request the Government of India to preserve his ancestral land, declare it a heritage site, and develop it into a significant tourist attraction. Considering his great contribution to India's independence, he deserves to be honoured with any prestigious posthumous award. I sincerely hope this request will be taken seriously.