

Need for desiltation and maintenance of Farakka Barrage and Damodar Valley Corporation Dam in West Bengal-Laid

SHRIMATI JUNE MALIAH (MEDINIPUR): Need for desilting of Farakka and DVC Dams to prevent recurring floods during monsoon. I wish to draw the attention to the urgent need for desilting of the Farakka Barrage and the dams under the Damodar Valley Corporation. Every year, during the monsoon season, large parts of West Bengal face severe floods due to excessive siltation in the reservoirs of DVC dam. Even though the Chief Minister of West Bengal has written multiple times to the Minister, there has been no action. What is concerning is that there has been an 11 fold increase in DVC dam's water discharge in 2025, compared to 2024. In fact it was 30 times higher than 2023. The state government had also pointed out earlier that all important decisions regarding release of water are unilaterally taken by the Union Government without consulting the state government itself. The situation is so bad that sometimes water is released without any notice to the state government. In fact the requests and views of the Government of West Bengal are yet to be addressed. Severe flooding every year has led to loss of life and adversely affected the livelihoods of lakhs of households. Thus, I urge the Government to immediately undertake comprehensive desilting and maintenance of DVC dam, and to develop a long-term flood before releasing any water from the DVC dam management and silt control plan in coordination with the concerned state governments. The Government must also consult states before releasing any water from the DVC dam.