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Title: Need to address the grievances of people victimized by land-grabbing mafias in West Bengal.

SHRI CHARLES DIAS (NOMINATED): The reports about land-grabbing mafia in West Bengal is alarming as many poor and helpless people are becoming victims of this mafia. Usually, the law-abiding, simple and straight forward people are suffering because of the money power and muscle power of a few people. Old people and widows are also targeted by land-grabbers as they are helpless and quite a number of cases have been brought to the notice.

The land-grabbers usually play the trick of preparing forged documents and force the helpless people to accept their terms and if the land-owner refuses or resists, they use threat and muscle power. There are quite a number of cases reported and when police are approached, they drag the case and even advise the real owner of the land to sell it off to the land-grabber who play the trick of forging documents. There are incidents that the land mafia use musclemen and damage the buildings of helpless people and forcefully occupy their land. The Government has to look into this matter urgently, alert the State Governments, collect details of such cases now pending at various courts and police stations, and take suitable steps to redress the grievances of the victims.