

**Title:** Need to draw a master plan to check soil erosion caused by rivers in North East region-Laid.

SHRIMATI MINATI SEN (JALPAIGURI) : The larger part of Jalapaiguri with reserved forests innumerable streams, rivers and tea gardens is known as 'The Dooars' the gate way to the North East.

From Bhutan and Sikkim rivers flow rushing down through the 'dooars' and enter into Bangladesh in the South in rainy season. These rivers in their primary stage carry down logs, boulders, pebbles, sand and silt making the river-bed higher and incapable of holding the on-rushing water in the rains. They become full to the brim and burst their banks. Recurrent floods severely damage the only railway line and the national highway. Then the entire north eastern region is totally cut off from the main land.

I urge upon the Govt. to draw up in consultation with the concerned countries and States a master plan in order to prevent soil erosion, felling of trees and yearly flood. Such a master plan, costly though it may be the only remedy for putting an end to the sufferings of the people and to the colossal wastage of national wealth.