

ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY BUDGET SESSION-2026
UNSTARRED ASSEMBLY QUESTION No. 211
DATE OF REPLY : 10/07/2026.

Subject: Status of River Block Land of Mankachar.

Md. Mohibur Rohman :

Will the Minister of Revenue and Disaster Management Department be pleased to state :

- (a) The total area of land classified as River Block in South Salmara, Seboltary, and Baladoba Gaon Panchayats under Mankachar Constituency (village-wise).
- (b) Kindly furnish the village-wise details of usable and inhabited land in the aforesaid Gaon Panchayats that do not fall under the River Block category.
- (c) Whether the Government is aware that the classification of large areas under South Salmara, Seboltary and Baladoba Gaon Panchayats as River Block has created difficulties relating to land records, land rights, revenue administration and developmental activities.
- (d) Whether any survey, ground verification, or re-assessment has been conducted to determine the present status of land and habitation in these areas? If so, the details thereof.
- (e) Whether the Government has any proposal to reclassify eligible River Block areas under South Salmara, Seboltary and Baladoba Gaon Panchayats as Normal Land? If so, the details and tentative timeline thereof.
- (f) What steps have been taken by the Government to address the grievances of residents affected by the existing River Block classification.

ANSWER

Replied by Hon'ble Minister Shri Keshab Mahanta, Revenue and Disaster Management Department:

- a) Based on report received from the Office of the District Commissioner, South Salmara, there are no villages classified as "River Block" under South Salmara Gaon Panchayat and Baladoba Gaon Panchayat.

It is pertinent to mention that the term "**River Block**" may appropriately be read as "**Government/Khas Land**."

The details for Seboltari Gaon Panchayat are as follows:

GP Name	Revenue Village	Area (B-K-L)
Seboltari	Seboltari	1355-3-4
	Basirchar	823-0-0
	Char Basirchar	2233-0-8

- b) The village-wise details of usable and inhabited land in the South Salmara, Baladoba and Seboltari Gaon Panchayats, excluding villages classified as Govt., are as follows:

GP Name	Revenue Village	Area (Bigha)
Seboltari	Chaitarchar Pt-I	1368

	Chaitarchar Pt-II	535
	Chaitarchar Pt-III	630
Baladoba	Baladoba	1680
	Teltari	357
Dakhin Salmara	Salmara Pt-I	540
	Salmara Pt-II	683
	Khodaidila	513

- c) The Government is aware that while most of these areas were previously eroded by the Brahmaputra and Jinjiram rivers, significant portions have since re-emerged. These lands are currently being utilized for habitation and cultivation. However, because they are formally declared as "Government/Khas" land, land revenue cannot be collected, which impacts formal record-keeping and local developmental planning.
- d) Field verification was conducted to assess areas submerged by the Brahmaputra and Jinjiram rivers that have subsequently re-emerged. Under South Salmara Revenue Circle. The details of the re-emergence status are as follows:
- **Seboltari:** 80% re-emerged.
 - **Basirchar:** 30% re-emerged.
 - **Char Basirchar:** 60% re-emerged
- e) Currently, there is no proposal under consideration to reclassify eligible River Block areas under South Salmara, Seboltary, and Baladoba Gaon Panchayats as Normal Land.
- In riverine (char) areas, where land is dynamic in nature due to erosion, submergence, and re-emergence, the Government may classify certain stretches as **Government/Khas Land** based on their prevailing physical condition. Such land is periodically reassessed through field verification to ascertain its stability, suitability for habitation or other uses, and eligibility for reclassification and settlement, wherever considered appropriate in accordance with the applicable rules and Government policy.
- f) As per Clause 1.11 of the **Land Policy, 2019**, the settlement of land in permanent char areas shall be made to deserving landless indigenous persons. To facilitate this, the Government conducts cadastral surveys in char areas on a priority basis in a phased manner to evaluate land eligibility for settlement. Assessment of re-emerged areas has been undertaken as mentioned in point (d) above.