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Title: Need to make River Musi in Telangana pollution-free-laid.

SHRI KOMATI REDDY VENKAT REDDY (BHONGIR): Let me congratulate the Government for taking up the mammoth task of cleaning of “Maa Ganga” by “Namami Gange” programme. I would like to draw the kind attention of the Government regarding need to protect the Musi River water from contamination and pollution on the similar lines of Namami Gange.

I had raised this issue during the last session of the Parliament and requested the Government to take immediate necessary steps to contain the contamination and pollution. But there is no action either by State Government or Central Government in this direction.

A new study by researchers from the Department of Geophysics of Osmania University has shown that Musi is full of filth and dirt up to 70 km from the city’s periphery.

Large quantities of untreated sewage/drug residue are released by major and minor pharmaceutical companies established along the bank of Musi in Telangana making it extremely toxic. Due to this at several areas, waste water and ground water co-exist next to each other along the river. The contaminants have Musi River have percolated up to 300 feet below the ground at many places and up to 500 feet at a few places. More than 40 pharmacy industries established in Pochampally and Chowttuppal area release chemicals into river. Chemicals and drug resistant superbugs have seeped into the ground water not only in Hyderabad but also in villages up to Valigonda in Suryapet. Ground water in villages on either side of the river has become alkaline and unfit

for consumption. At many places pH value of ground water has crossed 10.

I humbly request the Government to set up tertiary sewage treatment plants (STPs) to clean 3000 MLD, take up massive tree plantation around water bodies and penalise those polluting the water bodies. All encroachments should be removed immediately.