

Title: Need to formulate an action plan to make river Brahmani in Orissa pollution free.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (DHENKANAL): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of Government of India to the growing pollution of Brahmani river in Orissa. It is one of the major river systems in India. I want to mention that the water quality of stretch of Brahmani river in Orissa from Kamalanga Bhuban is critically polluted. The reasons for growing pollution of Brahmani is not far to seek. A number of major industries including National Aluminium Plants in Angul, Heavy Water Plant and Fertiliser Plant at Talcher, and NTPC (National Thermal Power Plant Corporation) managed Power Plant set up there are the main sources of pollution of Brahmani water.

Public Sector Undertakings are also not paying adequate attention on implementing appropriate anti-pollution measures due to the unabated discharge of effluents and wastage into the rivers. The water in it is getting increasingly polluted. The combined effects of all these factors are responsible for the pollution of Brahmani. It has adversely affected the livelihood of a large number of fisherfolk families, endangered marine life and the entire ecology and environment.

As a result of this, the river water is not fit for consumption. It has posed a great threat to fishes in the river. Even the animals are not spared after drinking this water. The State Pollution Control Board has not been able to control the level of pollution of Brahmani and other rivers.

As the river Brahmani is the main source of livelihood for the people living on both sides of the river, I request the Government of India to prepare a detailed action plan to cleanse the river thereof improving the quality of water so that the people as well as animals, birds, reptiles and marine life living on both sides of the river derive the benefits they were getting from the river.