

Title: Need to take stringent measures to check pollution in Mahanadi river in Orissa.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Sir, the pollution level in Mahanadi continues to rise alarmingly as a result of which it has posed health hazard to the habitats along with river. Industries like Orient Paper Mill, Jindal, Indal Captive Plant, Orissa Power Generation Corporation, Tata Refractory, IDCOL, Captive Power Plant of Indian Chargechrome, Ballarpur Industries, Paradeep Phosphate are discharging large quantities of contaminated water into the Mahanadi. Similarly, the coal mines of Lajkura, Belpahad, Samaleswari, Lilasi, Lakhanpur, Hirakund, Bundia, Himgiri, Rampur and other mines in Ib valley are the major pollutants.

Following the rise of pollution level in the Mahanadi river, it has secured an ignominious position in the purity list drawn by the Central Pollution Control Board. I would urge upon the Government to take stringent steps immediately to curb pollution of Mahanadi river and prepare a Regional Environment Management Plan (REMP) accordingly.