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Title: Regarding permanent cleanliness and purification of river Godavari.

SHRI HEMANT TUKARAM GODSE (NASHIK): Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to seek your attention to the important issue about permanent cleanliness and purification of the river Godavari. Godavari is called the Southern Ganga. It is the second largest river of India as it is mentioned in the scripture *Ganga Snanam, Goda Panam*.

The source of Godavari starts from Trimbakeshwar near Nashik and it finally meets the Bay of Bengal in Andhra Pradesh after travelling a distance of 1465 kms. While crossing Nashik city, Godavari has to face a lot of pollution such as sewerage, industrial waste consisting oil and other chemical material. The condition of Godavari is worsening day by day and has reached its climax affecting the health of people. At many religious places, the river is much polluted. Pilgrims come here with religious devotion and spiritual emotions. People all over India come here for *asthi visarjan* thinking that the river causes the remission of sins and facilitates *moksha*.

From July 2015 this year, the *Kumbha mela* is going to take place in Nashik. Crores of pilgrims are participating in this mega country event. It is also said that at the time of Parvati Day, all the Lords come to take sip and bath in the clean and pure holy river.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI HEMANT TUKARAM GODSE: I request the hon. Minister of Environment and Water Resources to instruct the authorities concerned for permanent cleanliness and purification of Godavari and all religious places.