

Sixteenth Loksabha

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Title: Need to address pollution issues causing health problem.

SHRI RABINDRA KUMAR JENA (BALASORE): India ranked among the bottom five nations in the global Environmental Performance Index (EPI) list released in January 2018, slipping 36 places in two years. Lancet report has stated that 2.5 million people are dying prematurely due to diseases linked to pollution. A report by Greenpeace India, based on data from State and Central Pollution Control Boards, stated that as many as 47 million children live in areas with pollutant PM10, or particulate matter in the air with diameter less than 10 microns, exceeding the safe limits. Despite varying sources of evidence from independent, domestic and global organizations that are pioneers in research of health and environment, the government still refuses to acknowledge and act on this crisis. I urge the Central Government to declare environmental issues of pollution as a health hazard and a mass public health problem and undertake remedial action in this regard.