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Title: Need to review the decision to incinerate the toxic waste of Union Carbide Factory, Bhopal at DRDO plant, Nagpur.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (NAGPUR): Madam, with your permission I raise a matter which may have a very serious impact on the health and overall environment on the whole Vidarbha region. With the recent decision of the Government to incinerate 346 tons of Toxic Waste of the Union Carbide Factory (Bhopal) at their DRDO incinerator at Nagpur would create manifold problems for the people. The small plant of DRDO is mainly meant for doing experiments and research and this small incinerator may not be able to undertake the burning of the toxic waste of such a huge quantity of 346 tones. This might eventually result in an unthoughtful disaster apart from the badly polluted to heavy polluted atmosphere due to the number of coal based thermal power plants located in the surroundings of Nagpur. The Chandrapur district in the Vidarbha region having 33 coal mines and 750 factories is already designated, a few years back, as the most polluted district in the country and ranks 26th in the Maharashtra's Human Development Index. The disposal of toxic material of Union Carbide plant of Bhopal to Nagpur will further worsen the pollution level not only in the Vidarbha region but also in the entire State of Maharashtra. There is no rational behind transportation of the intoxicant waste from Bhopal to a small incinerator of Nagpur inspite of repeated protests from the people of Nagpur and other concerned persons.

In view of the above, I would urge upon the Government to review its decision to incinerate the toxic waste at its DRDO plant at Nagpur.