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Title: Need to look into the incident of release of hazardous waste in Waldhuni river in Ulhasnagar in Maharashtra severely affecting scores of people of the area.

DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE (KALYAN): I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the release of hazardous waste in Waldhuni river at Ulhasnagar in my Constituency. The release of poisonous effluents reacted with water and immediately there was rotten smell and people started feeling nausea and breathlessness and vomited. In a matter of an hour more than 1500 people from various localities had to be admitted to the Hospital. Naturally the Hospital was not prepared to handle such matters although this has been a regular complaint lodged by the residents but none including the authorities at MIDC or Pollution Control Board of the State took any cognizance of the matter.

Then started the blame game. The police said that the matter was regarding pollution and hence to be dealt with by the MIDC and local Pollution Control Board authorities. These authorities in return questioned the police regarding law and order measures.

The point worth noting in this case is that although the poisonous fumes and foul stench started somewhere around 3 a.m. and even after the authorities were informed of the urgency, no one arrived on the scene. The local residents say that almost every night the effluents are released during midnight hours and the stench continues. They say that all the authorities are aware of the fact but no one is taking action.

I would like the Government of India and the Central Pollution Control Board to immediately intervene in the matter for the lapses from any authority and a permanent solution needs to be found to the menace of water pollution.

**14.14 hrs**