

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:750  
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2011  
DISPOSAL OF TOXIC WASTE IN BHOPAL  
Tagore Shri Manicka;Tarai Shri Bibhu Prasad

**Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:**

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- (a) whether large quantity of toxic waste are still lying around the defunct Union Carbide Plant in Bhopal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any action plan for disposal of such waste;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which the said toxic waste is likely to be cleared/disposed off from the Plant ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT KUMAR JENA)

(a) & (b): There is approximately 350 MT of toxic wastes kept safely in a secured go-down within the UCIL premises, Bhopal.

(c) to (e): The Government of India has set up an Oversight Committee in the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India under the chairmanship of Minister of State (Independent Charge) in the Ministry of Environment and Forests with the representatives of the concerned Ministries/Departments and Government of Madhya Pradesh for providing oversight and support to the Government of Madhya Pradesh for carrying out the necessary remedial actions. The issue of disposal of 350 MT of toxic waste which was to be incinerated at Pithampur Treatment, Storage and Disposal Facility (TSDF) was considered by the Oversight Committee in its meetings held on 24th March, 2011 and 25th May, 2011 in view of Government of Madhya Pradesh expressing their inability to incinerate the said waste at Pithampur. The other options suggested included disposal by the Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) in their incinerator at Nagpur, Maharashtra. The DRDO has agreed to undertake the safe disposal of toxic waste currently lying at the premises of the erstwhile UCIL in its incineration facility at Borkhedi near Nagpur. The sole responsibility of safe transportation of toxic waste from Bhopal to the DRDO facility will be that of the Government of Madhya Pradesh. The disposal of the toxic waste will be continuous over a period of 2 years from the start of delivery of the waste by the Government of Madhya Pradesh at the incineration facility of DRDO at Borkhedi near Nagpur.