

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1463
ANSWERED ON:22.03.2012
COMPENSATION TO VICTIMS OF BHOPAL GAS TRAGEDY
Muttamwar Shri Vilas Baburao;Viswanathan Shri P.

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

- (a) whether the victims of Bhopal Gas tragedy have sought more compensation and review of position with regard to the number of casualties;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has considered the matter;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether in view of the strong opposition about the treatment and disposal of toxic waste at Nagpur, the Union Government has reviewed its position in the matter;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether the Government shall force the Dow Chemicals for more compensation and environmental clean up of Bhopal; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

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

(a)to(c): Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals has filed a Curative Petition (Civil) in the Supreme Court on 3rd December, 2010, seeking enhancement of compensation which was earlier settled at US \$ 470 million by the Supreme Court in 1989. A group of NGOs associated with Bhopal Gas Victims has filed an application for directions in the Curative Petition contesting the numbers and classification of Bhopal Gas victims under various categories. The matter was considered by the Group of Ministers (GoM) constituted to oversee the issues related to Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster on 13th January, 2012 and it was decided that no revised claim needed to be filed in the Curative Petition as there was no need to change the numbers and classification under various categories of Bhopal Gas Victims.

(d)&(e): The decision to incinerate toxic waste at incinerator facility of Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) at Nagpur could not be implemented because of non- possession of requisite authorization by the incinerator as well as non-grant of necessary No Objection Certificate by Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) for transportation of the said waste. Therefore, Ministry of Environment and Forests has now decided on 22nd February, 2012, to implement the earlier decision of disposal of the waste in the Transportation, Storage and Disposal Facility (TSDF) at Pithampur as already intimated to the Supreme Court in 2010. However, the matter is sub-judice in the High Court of Madhya Pradesh at Jabalpur.

(f)&(g): The Curative Petition filed for claiming enhanced compensation includes the actual expenditure incurred/ to be incurred towards environmental clean up. Dow Chemicals Company is one of the respondents in the said Curative Petition.