

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4917  
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2013  
RESPONSIBILITY IN BHOPAL GAS TRAGEDY  
Rao Shri Nama Nageswara

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

- (a) whether a US Court has recently ruled that neither Union Carbide Corporation nor its former Chairman Mr. W. Anderson were liable for environmental remediation or pollution related claims by those living around its now defunct plant in Bhopal, where a gas leak in 1984 killed thousands of people;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government on such judgment delivered by a US Court;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to appeal against the judgment delivered by US Court; and
- (d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be done and if not, the reasons therefor ?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (d): Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals has not received any communication regarding the ruling given by a US Court that neither Union Carbide nor its former Chairman Mr. Warren Anderson is liable for environmental remediation or pollution-related claims by those living around its now defunct plant in Bhopal, where a gas leak in 1984 killed thousands of people. However, this matter was reported in the media. As per information available in the department, a case (Sajida Bano vs UCC) regarding environmental remediation was filed by Bhopal Gas Victims and several activist organizations in a US Court in 1999. Union of India was not a party in the case. Union of India and Government of Madhya Pradesh had filed No Objection Certificate in the US Court. The case was finally dismissed in October, 2005. Subsequently, in January, 2010, Shri H. Rajan Sharma, lead counsel for the victims in a class action litigation against UCC titled Sahu et al vs UCC et al requested to consider intervention by Union of India and join as a party in the case. The matter was examined in consultation with Ministry of Law and Justice and it was decided that the Union of India should not intervene as a party in the US Court proceedings as the issue of Bhopal Gas Leak and its various ramifications is already being agitated by Union of India in various Courts including the Supreme Court of India and Union of India has nothing to gain by making an application for intervention in the US Courts.