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Title: Need to reconsider the compensation package of Bhopal Gas Victims of 1984.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY (BAHARAMPUR): Madam, the specter of Bhopal gas disaster is still haunting us. We are all aware that 25 years ago, that is, on 03 December 1984, thousands of people had fallen prey to the leak of a poisonous gas, namely, Methyl Isocyanate (MIC) and still lakhs of gas victims are recuperating from their various ailments.

Madam, in the year 1989, the Bhopal settlement between the Union of India and the Union Carbide was based on the assumption that only 3,000 gas victims died in that tragedy, and another 1,02,000 had suffered injuries in varying degrees. However, the Claims Court established by the Welfare Commissioner, Bhopal, has determined that there were in all 5,74,367 gas victims, including dead, which effectively meant that the magnitude of the dead and injured was at least five times more than what was assumed at the time of settlement. Still, thousands of gas victims are undergoing treatment. It is alleged that the rehabilitation programme which was promised has not been implemented in a right manner.

I would request the Union Government and the Government of Madhya Pradesh to consider the compensation of those gas victims in a candid manner and sincerely because still those gas victims are continuing to die every now and then. I do not know whether any package has been offered to the orphans, to the widows, and those who are handicapped by the infliction of poisonous gas. Therefore, I would request the Union Government to take stock of the situation once more and do the needful, especially the rehabilitation package should be initiated in right earnest.

SHRI A. SAMPATH (ATTINGAL): Madam, I would like to associate myself with what the hon. Member has said.

MADAM SPEAKER: Yes, you can associate.

Sk. Saidul Haque is allowed to associate himself with what the hon. Member has said.