

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2679
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2009
REHABILITATION OF BHOPAL GAS VICTIMS
Singh Shri Ganesh;Tomar Shri Narendra Singh

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

- (a) whether a decision was taken jointly by the Union and the State Government for the rehabilitation of the people affected by the Bhopal Gas Tragedy;
- (b) if so, whether the conditions of the decision are being followed by both the Governments;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Union Government has received a proposal from the State Government to construct a gas tragedy memorial in Bhopal;
- (e) if so, the action taken by the Union Government thereon;
- (f) whether the Union Government has also received a proposal to detoxify the toxic substances lying in Union Carbide premises in Bhopal; and
- (g) if so, the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS(SHRI SRIKANT KUMAR JENA).

(a) to (c): No such decision was taken that the schemes for the rehabilitation of the people affected by the Bhopal Gas Tragedy in Madhya Pradesh will be implemented jointly by the Union and State Government. However, the Central Government had approved a five year Action Plan for the Medical, Social, Economic and Environmental Rehabilitation of Bhopal Gas Victims with a total outlay of Rs.163.10 crore which was subsequently increased in stages to an outlay of Rs.258 crore to be implemented by the State Government. This outlay was to be shared between the Government of India and the State Government of Madhya Pradesh in the ratio of 75:25. The Central Government has already released its entire share of Rs.193.50 crore and the Action Plan has been completed in the year 1999-2000. The State Government has been informed that if further funds were required by them for continuing the rehabilitation programmes, started under the Action Plan, such funds should be provided as a part of the State Plan in consultation with the Planning Commission.

(d) & (e): The State Government of M.P. has informed that the decision to construct a Bhopal Gas Tragedy Memorial was taken by the State Government on 23rd February,2007. The Planning Commission has approved one time additional central assistance of Rs.10.00 crore for this purpose, provided during 2006-07 to the Government of Madhya Pradesh. The State Cabinet Sub-Committee has approved the conceptual plan for construction of Bhopal Gas Tragedy Memorial. The extent of Government of India's responsibility in the matter of construction of memorial is limited to the additional central assistance released to the State Government by Planning Commission. The State Government has moved an application before the Madhya Pradesh High Court, Jabalpur in Writ Petition No. 2802/ 2004 pending before the High Court seeking permission to start construction of the memorial. The construction will start after receiving the permission of the High Court.

(f) & (g): No such proposal has been received by the Government in this regard. However, the process of disposal of toxic wastes lying at Union Carbide India Limited (UCIL) premises is being jointly funded by Government of India and Government of M.P. and monitored by the Hon'ble High Court of M.P. at Jabalpur.