

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2906**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 13TH MARCH, 2018/ PHALGUNA 22, 1939 (SAKA)
HUMAN RIGHTS**

2906. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

**(a) the details of the major issues concerning human rights plaguing the country;
(b) the status of accountability of Union Carbide Corporation towards the victims and survivors of the 1984 Bhopal gas tragedy; and**

(c) the details of the efforts made so far by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)**

(a): National Human Rights Commission has intimated that the major issues concerning human rights are deaths in custody, torture by police, atrocities on SC/STs, atrocities on other weaker section of society including women, children and minorities, bonded labour, child labour, protection of environment and protection of the rights of elderly and disabled.

(b) & (c): Ministry of Chemical and Fertilizers has intimated that a large number of civil and criminal cases were filed against Union Carbide Corporation by individuals and groups. The Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its orders and settlement dated 14th and 15th February, 1989 finally settled the litigation on the compensation amount payable to Bhopal Gas Victims. Under the settlement, the Union Carbide Corporation was directed to pay a compensation of US \$ 470 million, which was deposited by the Company with the Registrar of the Supreme Court of India, in February 1989. The said compensation is awarded/ disbursed by the Office of the Welfare Commissioner, Bhopal Gas victims, Bhopal to the survivors and families of the victims of the Bhopal Gas Leak disaster.

Thereafter, on the direction of the Cabinet, a Curative Petition No. 345-347 was filed in December 2010 by Union of India V/s Union Carbide Corporation (UCC), USA, Dow Chemicals, USA and Others claiming enhanced compensation from UCC and/ or successor companies of UCC, by seeking a review of the Court's earlier judgment of 1989, settling the compensation amount at US \$470 million. The compensation claimed in the Curative Petition is due to the difference between the number of cases assumed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court at the time of passing the orders for settlement in 1989 and the actual number of cases awarded by the Office of the Welfare Commissioner, Bhopal Gas victim, Bhopal. The petition also claims reimbursement of costs incurred by the Government of India for various rehabilitation measures for victims and the amount required for environmental remediation. The matter is sub-judice.
