

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1664
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.07.2018

Environmental Damage due to Accidents in Chemical Industries

1664. SHRI RAM CHARAN BOHRA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the damage caused to environment due to leakage/accidents in chemical industries during the last three years;
- (b) whether there has been an increase in such accidents during the last three years;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of remedial measures taken to protect environment against such damages?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

- (a)to(c) As per the information provided by the Chief Inspector of Factories (CIFs) of the State Governments/ Union Territories, accidents have happened in chemical industries causing damage to environment as well as human life. The available data indicates a downward trend in occurrence of accidents as well as resulting deaths. The calendar-year wise details of accidents happened in the last three years are mentioned below:

Year	No. of Accidents	Deaths	Injuries
2015	64	70	215
2016	44	70	181
2017	25	15	688

- (d) According to National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), apex body for coordinating disaster management in the country, concerned State Governments/ Union Territory administrations are primarily responsible to deal with such accidents. The NDMA is responsible for laying down the policies, plans and guidelines for disaster management for ensuring timely and effective response to such accidents. To this effect, NDMA had issued National Disaster Management Guidelines on Chemical Disasters (Industrial) in April, 2007. The Guidelines *inter-alia* contains the roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders to deal with such situations. NDMA released National Disaster Management Plan (NDMP) in May, 2016 to assist stakeholders including State Governments in disaster risk management of various hazards including Chemical (Industrial). The Plan provides a framework and direction to government agencies for all phases of disaster management i.e. prevention, mitigation, response and recovery. Further, the Ministry has notified Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemical

Rules, 1989 (MSIHC Rules, 1989) with the objective of preventing chemical accidents from industrial activities and mitigate associated impacts. The Chemical Accident (Emergency Planning, Preparedness and Response) Rules, 1996 complement MSIHC Rules, 1989 and provide statutory backup to crisis management set up with four-tier system at Central, State, District and Local level. The industrial units are also required to aid, assist and facilitate in functioning of the Crisis Groups.
