

Death cases and compensation to Bhopal gas victims

584. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the municipal ward-wise, age-wise (such as below five years, 6 to 18 years, 19 to 45 years, 46 to 60 years, and 61 years and above) and gender-wise break up of proven death cases of Bhopal gas victims and the amount of compensation awarded for such death cases from the year 1984 onwards, ward-wise and year-wise; and

(b) the municipal ward-wise, age-wise as above and gender-wise break-up of death claims of Bhopal gas victims converted as injury claims and the amount of compensation awarded for such cases from the year 1992 onwards ward-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA) : (a) and (b) The information in the desired format is being collected and will be laid on the table of the house.

Death claims of Bhopal gas victims

585. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Welfare Commissioner under the Ministry has reopened registration of death claims of Bhopal gas victims who died after 1997; and

(b) if so, the number of disaster-related death claims registered till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA) : (a) and (b) No death claims of Bhopal Gas Victims who died after 1997 were registered in the Office of the Welfare Commissioner, Bhopal Gas Victims, Bhopal. One death case No. 04/R-2/260, Claim No. 10330 dated 17.6.2002, was registered on the directions of the High Court of Delhi *vide* LPA No. 495/2002 - Union of India Vs Ramrati and others in respect of Mr. Maman who had expired on 20.2.1993. However during adjudication, the claimant failed to prove that death was due to exposure to MIC Gas, hence the claim was awarded under injury category and compensation of Rs. 65,000/- was paid to legal heir on 16.8.2004.

Prior price approval for medicines

586. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is mandatory on part of manufacturers to get prior price approval for medicinal formulations from the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) even if one of the ingredients belongs to scheduled category under Drug Price Control Order (DPCO);

(b) if so, the nature of action taken when without such price fixation, manufacturers sell the products at exorbitant prices; and

(c) the number of companies against whom such action has been taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As and when the cases relating to sale of the scheduled medicinal formulation without prior price approval are brought to the notice of NPPA, action has been taken on a case to case basis including issuance of show cause notices to the defaulting companies and fixation of price of such formulation as per relevant provisions of Drug (Prices Control) Order, 1995. NPPA has referred 39 cases to the State Drug Controllers for taking appropriate prosecution action against defaulting companies.

Culprit of Bhopal Gas Tragedy

587. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB:
SHRI SABIR ALI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Warren Anderson, the main culprit of Bhopal Gas Tragedy was allowed to flee the country;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) the persons responsible for the same; and

(d) the action being taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA) : (a) to (d) After the gas leak, the Inspector of Police, P.S. Hanumanganj, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh filed an FIR on 03.12.1984. It mentioned Section 304 A IPC and no other Section. It did not specifically mention the name of Warren Anderson, Chairman of UCC, USA. However, it did mention a few names and "other officials of Union Carbide Factory, Bhopal". Anderson came to India on 06.12.1984 and visited Bhopal on 07.12.1984. He was arrested/taken into custody on 07.12.1984 by the State Police. He obtained bail on furnishing a personal bond of Rs. 25,000 with one surety. Then, he returned to Delhi on the same day and, shortly thereafter, left the country. Anderson did not appear before the Court subsequently and he wilfully jumped bail and violated the bail conditions.

Bhopal Gas Tragedy

588. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB:
SHRI SABIR ALI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the case of Bhopal Gas Tragedy was mishandled;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the corrective measures being taken in the matter?