

**GOVERNMENT OF MADHYA PRADESH  
BHOPAL GAS TRAGEDY RELIEF &  
REHABILITATION DEPARTMENT  
BHOPAL**



***MEMORANDUM ON PLAN OF ACTIONS***

***FOR***

***THE RELIEF AND REHABILITATION  
OF  
BHOPAL GAS TRAGEDY VICTIMS***

## History

The Bhopal Gas Tragedy is a catastrophe that has no parallel in industrial history. In the early morning hours of December 3, 1984 a rolling wind carried a poisonous grey cloud past the walk of the Union Carbide plant in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, India.

Forty tons of toxic gases were released from Carbide's Bhopal plant and spread throughout the city. The cause was the contamination of Methyl Isocyanate (MIC) storage tank No. 610 with water carrying catalytic material.

Residents awoke to clouds of suffocating gas and began a desperate flight through the dark streets. The impact was instant untimely death of 3000 innocent lives. Dead bodies of humans and animals blocked the streets, leaves turned black, the smell of burning chili peppers lingered in the air. The intensity was so high that it not only had an impact on human life but affected entire flora and fauna.

Today, even after twenty five years, the victims are too sick to work for a living, and a recent study in the Journal of the American Medical Association confirmed that the children of gas-affected parents are themselves afflicted by Carbide's poison.

To handle such unpredictable crises, the medical and relief infrastructure was incapable of taking care of such large emergency.

Government of Madhya Pradesh took immediate recovery action to take care of the effected victims on physical and emotional ground and took many initiatives with the help of GOI which are still going on.

## The Reactive and Proactive Relief Setup

### Administrative setup

- Establishment of Gas Relief and rehabilitation Department on August 29, 1985.
- Establishment of Directorate of Gas Relief and rehabilitation on October 17, 1995

**Objectives:** For smooth function and to give a proper direction to various rehabilitation initiatives undertaken by the government of Madhya Pradesh.

- Health and various vaccination camps- 36 dropped
- Schools in affected wards – 16 Rs. 1.60 Cr.
- Modern dustbins and construction of Sulabh Complex Rs. 5.00 Cr.
- Construction of houses for dependents Rs.40.00 Cr.
- Upgradation of Sewage System of existing Gas victims colony, Near Union Carbide, Bhopal: Rs. 4.92 Cr

### 1. Widow Pension

(a) After gas disaster almost 16,000 deaths have occurred. Out of all deaths it was estimated that about 5000 widows are there who needs financial support for their livelihood. There is great demand from various NGOs working for Bhopal gas victims to provide Rs. ~~500~~ <sup>1000</sup> p.m. to all gas victims widows. Therefore, recurring expenditure of Rs.30.00 crores for this scheme will be required. Moreover, monetary assistance to 70% disabled gas victims may not be possible at present because of non availability of actual data.

(b) Yoga Centre for Gas victims: Looking into the disease pattern of gas victims there will be great help through Yoga practice. In future this programme may help in reducing medicine expenditure. The Department proposed to develop Yoga Centres in all the gas affected wards. So 36 Yoga Centres will be developed where Yoga trainer will be employed.

Construction:

S.No	Name of work	Plinth Area	Rate(/Sq.Ft.)	Amount
1	Stage-1, Estimate for Community Development Centre for Yoga Health and various Vaccination Camps	5200.00	850.00	Rs.10.20 lacs
<b>Total Cost for 36 Centre-10.20x36</b>				<b>Rs.3.68 crores</b>

### 2. Schools in affected wards-16

The Gas Relief and Rehabilitation Department have established 16 primary/middle schools in the different localities of affected wards. It