

## The Bhopal Chronology of Events

**December 2-3, 1984** - Poisonous gas leak from Union Carbide's pesticides factory. First Information Report filed on December 4. In three days around 8,000 people die: HYPERLINK <http://www.bhopal.net/death-toll.html> [www.bhopal.net/death-toll.html](http://www.bhopal.net/death-toll.html)

**December 7, 1984** - Prime accused Warren Anderson amongst nine others arrested in India – Anderson is released on bail of 25,000 rupees, upon a promise to return.

**December 1, 1987** - Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) files charge sheet against Warren Anderson, chairman of UCC, and eleven other accused including UCC (USA), Union Carbide (Eastern) Hong Kong, and UCIL. Summons served on Anderson, accused #1 and UCC, accused #10 on charges of culpable homicide.

**July 6, 1988** - Chief Judicial Magistrate (CJM), Bhopal, issues letter rogatory to the U.S. Administration seeking permission for the CBI to inspect the safety systems installed at the MIC unit of UCC's premier pesticide plant at Institute, West Virginia, USA.

**February 9, 1989** - CJM, Bhopal, issues non-bailable warrant of arrest against Warren Anderson for repeatedly ignoring summons.

**February 14, 1989** - U.S. Administration grants permission to the CBI to inspect the safety systems of UCC's pesticide plant at Institute, West Virginia, USA, for purposes of comparison of the safety standards with that of the safety systems installed at the Bhopal plant.

**February 14-15, 1989** - While the matter relating to payment of interim compensation was being heard before the Supreme Court of India, UCC and the Government of India (GOI) reached a settlement. The settlement stipulated inter alia that UCC would pay \$470 million as compensation and the GOI would withdraw the criminal cases instituted against the accused in the Bhopal gas leak disaster case.

**Feb – Mar 1989** - Public protest against the unjust settlement followed by filing of a number of review and writ petitions against the settlement in the Supreme Court by the Bhopal Gas Peedith Mahila Udyog Sangatan (BGPMS), the Bhopal Gas Peedith Sangarsh Sahayog Samiti (BGPSSS) and other concerned groups.

**June 1, 1989** – Women survivors belonging to the trade union Bhopal Gas Peedit Mahila Stationery Karamchari Sangh (BPMSKS), employed as stationary workers by the Madhya Pradesh State government, begin an epic padayatra when 100 women and children walk 700 kilometres to Delhi in order to get their case for job regularization and equal benefits heard. Though employed as part of the MP government's economic rehabilitation scheme for gas survivors, until today the women are paid at a below poverty level rate and without sickness or maternity leave. The Padayatra lasted 33 days: HYPERLINK "<http://www.bhopal.net/longwalktodelhi.html>" <http://www.bhopal.net/longwalktodelhi.html>

**April 1990** - In the years following the disaster, persistent complaints of foul smelling and tasting tube and well water in the communities around the factory prompted survivors' organisations to initiate investigations into the possible contamination of the area. The Bhopal Group for Information and Action (BGIA) sent sediment from the Solar Evaporation Ponds, soil samples taken from near the ponds and community well water from Jai Prakash Nagar to the Citizen's Environmental Laboratory, Boston. Dichlorobenzenes,

Phthalates, Trichlorobenzenes and 1-Napthalenol were found in the pond samples. Additionally, Dichlorobenzenes and Trichlorobenzenes were found in the soil and water samples and Phthalates were found also in the soil.

**April 1990** - Marco Kalofthen of the Citizen's Environmental Laboratory, Boston raises the issue of contamination of Bhopal's soil and community wells in the Annual shareholders meeting of UCC (USA). He asked for a schedule for the clean up of toxic materials by Union Carbide. Mr. Robert Kennedy, CEO UCC requested Mr. Kalofthen to pass on the information to Mr. C.C. Smith, Vice President of Health, Safety and Environment.

**November 27, 1990** - The women's trade union BPMSKS, led by Rashida Bi, initiate legal action against their employer, the Government Press and other agencies of the state government in the Administrative Tribunal, Jabalpur.

**1991** - Tests on local groundwater taken from 11 tube wells carried out by the M.P. Public Health Engineering Department's State Research Laboratory. The study reports heavy chemical contamination of the drinking water.

**October 3, 1991** - Supreme Court of India revoked criminal immunity granted to UCC and all other accused in the Bhopal gas leak disaster case in response to review and writ petitions filed by BGPMUS, BGPSSS and others. To meet the medical needs of the gas victims, the Court further ordered the Government of India to construct a 500-bed hospital. The construction cost of the hospital and its running cost for eight years was to be borne by UCC and UCIL.

**November 11, 1991** - Criminal cases against all the accused revived in the CJM's Court at Bhopal.

**January 1, 1992** - Proclamation for Anderson's appearance published in the Washington Post.

**February 1, 1992** - After ignoring four court summonses, Anderson declared a fugitive from law. UCC (USA) and UCE (Hong Kong) also proclaimed absconders.

**February 21, 1992** - Proclamation of CJM published in the Washington Post declaring UCC (USA) an absconder and ordering UCC to present itself before the CJM on 27/3/1992.

**April 30, 1992** - In the light of their continued non-appearance in court, magistrate in pending criminal proceedings attaches of the shares and properties of Union Carbide India Limited (UCIL) held by UCC.

**May 22, 1992** - The criminal case (R.T. No.2792/87) was committed to trial by the CJM, Bhopal, after separating 3 of the 12 accused - namely, accused Nos.1, 10 and 11 - who had been proclaimed as absconders on 1/2/1992.

**October 1992** - The Permanent Peoples Tribunal [PPT] on Industrial Hazards and Human Rights holds its session in Bhopal (PPT was founded in 1979 as the successor to the Bertrand Russell Tribunal on Crimes Against Humanity). Recommends the setting up of an International Medical Commission on Bhopal (IMCB).

**April 5, 1993** - BGPSSS, BGPMUS and BGIA submitted a petition to Shri Narasimha Rao, Prime Minister, GOI, highlighting five issues of utmost importance which were causing grave concern to the victims of the Bhopal gas leak disaster. The issues related to payment of interim relief, economic

rehabilitation, payment of final compensation, Medical relief and research, and prosecution of the guilty.

**January 7-25, 1994** – IMCB finally materialises when at the request of victim-groups, fourteen medical specialists from eleven countries - Belarus, Canada, China, Germany, India, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Sweden, UK and USA - come together to deliberate on the long term medical care of the Bhopal gas victims.

**January 23, 1994** - The IMCB issues a statement which, among other things, states the following: "The IMCB publicly and clearly condemns Union Carbide and reiterates its full responsibility not only for the responsibility of the deadly gas leak but also for the confounding role of its behavior with respect to the timely and effective application of the appropriate medical measure since the time of the accident. We underline specifically: 1. The lack of transparency about qualitative and quantitative composition of the leaking gases. This contributes substantially to the absence of a rational strategy of care in the acute phase and to the perpetuation of conflicts and suspicions among the professionals and the population...."

**April 22, 1994** - BGPSSS addressed letters to the Minister for Chemicals & Fertilizers, Minister for External Affairs and Minister for Home Affairs, GOI, regarding the inordinate delay in seeking the extradition of Warren Anderson. It was pointed out that a non-bailable warrant of arrest issued by the CJM, Bhopal, had been pending against the accused since 27/3/1992.

**September 20, 1994** - CBI gives an undertaking to the Court that the facts relating to the extradition proceedings undertaken by the GOI would be placed before the Court within a month. [The relevant facts of the case have not been placed before the CJM to this day.]

**November 1994** – Despite numerous petitions by survivors' groups, Supreme Court of India allows Union Carbide to sell off its encumbered assets to fund the 500 bed hospital. Criminal proceedings against Union Carbide become difficult to enforce because, although the accused refuse to appear in court, Carbide no longer has any assets in India.

**April 11, 1995** - A mass delegation of Bhopal gas victims goes to Delhi to submit another memorandum to the Prime Minister, Shri Narasimha Rao. The memorandum stated the following: "This is the fifth memorandum to you submitted by the gas affected people in your office. Prior to this, thousands of suffering and helpless gas affected people traveled to Delhi, on dates such as 31.7.1991, 17.11.1991, 24.4.1992, 28.7.1993, etc., to present their memorandum in the hope that necessary and concrete action would be initiated to meliorate their suffering. We deeply regret the fact that not only have you disregarded initiating any action, even a formal acknowledgment of the memorandum was never sent to us. Still, we once again travel to Delhi with a lingering hope that even after a delay of one full decade, meaningful action would be initiated to redress the grievances of lakhs of victims, ending a long phase of injustice." (This memorandum also did not evoke any response from the Prime Minister.)

**August 16, 1996** - A delegation of survivors, along with a representatives of central trade unions, women, students and youth organisations and others, meet the Union Minister for External Affairs, and submit a petition urging the Central Government to execute the order of the CJM, Bhopal, dated 27/3/1992, and seek the extradition of Warren Anderson from USA to India to stand trial. The Minister assured the delegation that he would do all he could to expedite the process.

**September 1996** - Supreme Court dilutes charges against Indian officials of Union Carbide India Limited (subsidiary majority owned by Union Carbide Corporation [UCC]), partly on grounds that culpability lies with UCC.

**November 26, 1996** - M.P. Public Health Engineering Department's State Research Laboratory again tests water from 11 community tubewells, finding large amounts of chemicals dissolved in the water. The report concludes "*it is established that this pollution is due to chemicals used in the Union Carbide factory that have proven to be extremely harmful for health. Therefore the use of this water for drinking must be stopped immediately.*"

**November 28, 1997** - BGPSSS, BGIA and BGPMUS again plead before the CJM, Bhopal to direct the CBI and the Government of India to seek extradition of Warren Anderson and authorised representatives of UCC (USA) and UCE (Hong Kong) to face criminal trial in India.

**August 1999** - Union Carbide announces forthcoming merger with Dow Chemical Company.

**November 1999** – Greenpeace tests soil, groundwater and wells in and around the derelict Union Carbide factory and finds 12 volatile organic chemicals and mercury in quantities up to six million times higher than expected. The toxic inventory includes sevin, temik, lindane carbon tetrachloride, dichlorobenzenes and others: HYPERLINK <http://www.bhopal.net/contamination.html> [www.bhopal.net/contamination.html](http://www.bhopal.net/contamination.html)

**November 1999** - Several individual victims of the Bhopal disaster and survivors organizations file a class action suit against Union Carbide and its former CEO, Warren Anderson, in federal court in New York, charging Carbide with violating international human rights law, environmental law, and international criminal law.

**August 2000** – Judge Keenan summarily dismisses the class action suit. Lawyers acting for the survivor plaintiffs appeal the decision.

**February 2001** - Merger occurs. Dow inherits assets and liabilities of Union Carbide. However, Dow claims it is not responsible for a factory it didn't operate - lawyers advise that under Indian and U.S. law this is legal nonsense. Survivors demand Dow should be held responsible for all medical and environmental liabilities in Bhopal and that pending criminal liabilities against UCC be transferred to Dow. Dow's \$10 billion acquisition of Union Carbide opens the possibility of enforcing criminal liability against the corporation as Dow has four subsidiaries and substantial assets in India.

**February 28, 2001** - 300 Bhopal survivors and 100 trade unionists and supporters besiege Dow Chemical's Indian headquarters in Bombay. Dow's offices are occupied for more than four hours. The protesters hung banners from the building that read: "Dow: You Now Have Union Carbide's Blood on Your Hands" and "Killer Carbide is Now Dow Chemical" and demanded a formal meeting with the Dow leadership in India. A memorandum was handed over demanding that Dow assume the ongoing moral and legal liability for the 1984 disaster. The group also demanded that Dow stop production and marketing of Dursban in India, which had been severely restricted in the U.S. due to public health considerations.

**March 2001** – Dow India files a lawsuit against the survivors for the demonstrations outside its Mumbai office. HYPERLINK "<http://www.bhopal.net/actionplaint.html>" <http://www.bhopal.net/actionplaint.html>

**November 2001** - U.S. Second Circuit Court of Appeals reinstates parts of the class action, allowing all claims of pollution and contamination unrelated to the disaster to proceed. Internal documents are to be obtained from Union Carbide via the discovery process: [http://](http://www.earthrights.org/irtk/bhopal/shtml) HYPERLINK "<http://www.earthrights.org/irtk/bhopal/shtml>" [www.earthrights.org/irtk/bhopal/shtml](http://www.earthrights.org/irtk/bhopal/shtml)

**January 2002** - A report by Delhi based Srishti & Toxics Links finds lead and mercury in the breast milk of

nursing mothers in neighboring communities. HYPERLINK "<http://www.bhopal.net/documentlibrary/survivingbhopal2002.doc>" <http://www.bhopal.net/documentlibrary/survivingbhopal2002.doc>

**January 9, 2002** - Dow accepts Carbide's liabilities in the U.S. and settles a Texas asbestos lawsuit originally filed against Union Carbide. Its share price skids 23 percent to close at \$26.83 on Jan. 18. The plunge wipes out \$7.16 billion in equity and put Dow shares back where they were in October 2000.

**May 9, 2002** – Survivors tour of U.S. International Campaign for Justice in Bhopal (ICJB) and Greenpeace members have an informal meeting with Mr. Michael Parker, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Dow Chemical, during a demonstration in front of the Dow Annual General Meeting in Midland, Michigan, U.S. Parker suggests that survivors' compensation money be used to pay for the clean up of Carbide's Bhopal factory site.

**May 24, 2002** – The CBI, working under the Home Ministry, applies in the CJM, Bhopal to dilute outstanding charges against Warren Anderson, from "culpable homicide" to "criminal negligence". Whilst the former carries a possible sentence of ten years, the latter is up to two years and is not extraditable under the terms of the US-India extradition treaty. According to legal opinion, 'It is not within the experience of the law that an accused who absconds and evades the process of law and justice is rewarded by dilution of charges.'

**May 25, 2002** – 'The Ten Bhopal Principles on Corporate Accountability' launched at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) prepcom in Bali: HYPERLINK <http://www.greenpeaceusa.org/bhopal>

**June 29, 2002** – Launch of an indefinite hunger strike in Delhi - in temperatures up to 47 degrees - by representatives of three survivors organizations due to CBI's May 2002 proposal to lower criminal charges against Warren Anderson from culpable homicide to criminal negligence. A global relay hunger strike also announced.

**July 17 – August 15, 2002** – Diane Wilson, an Unreasonable Woman, starts a 30 day hunger strike outside a Dow facility in Seadrift, Texas. HYPERLINK "<http://www.bhopal.net/presscoverage/houstonchronicle/archive/20020812hungerforjustice.html>" <http://www.bhopal.net/presscoverage/houstonchronicle/archive/20020812hungerforjustice.html>

**July 18, 2002** – After the collapse of two of the hunger strikers and the CJM's postponement of a ruling on the dilution of charges, the Delhi hunger strike ends. In the worldwide relay, *over a thousand separate hunger strikers from India, USA, UK, France, Italy, China, South Africa and other countries take part.*

**August 26, 2002** - Diane Wilson chains herself to a 70 foot ethylene oxide tower at the Dow plant in Seadrift, Texas and unfurls a banner that reads 'Dow, responsible for Bhopal'. She is charged with criminal trespass.

**August 27, 2002** - Rashida Bi speaks against corporate 'greenwash' at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg.

**August 28, 2002** - Charges of culpable homicide against Warren Anderson reaffirmed by Chief Judicial Magistrate Kothe in Bhopal court. Court demands his immediate extradition from the U.S. to India.

**August 28, 2002** –ICJB representatives take action at a polluting Dow facility in South Africa during the Johannesburg Earth Summit.

**August 29, 2002** - Following a lead from the UK's Daily Mirror, Greenpeace finds Warren Anderson and visits him at luxury home in New York, U.S: he has been in hiding for over a decade. Greenpeace issues him an arrest warrant.

**September 2, 2002** – The ICJB, along with the student community, do an action outside Dow India Headquarters in Bombay to coincide with the Ministerial meeting at WSSD.

**September 5, 2002** - President of India visits Bhopal. In his speech at the Bhopal Memorial Hospital, where he was expected to speak for half an hour, he winds up in 3-4 minutes, saying he does not know enough about BMHT to say anything about their work.

**September 12, 2002** - Diane Wilson and others sit on hunger strike for justice in Bhopal outside the UN building in NYC, where heads of State of both the USA and India addressed the UN general assembly.

**September 13, 2002** - Diane Wilson and others protest outside Anderson's house in Bridgehampton, Long Island.

**September 30, 2002** - A new study from The People's Science Institute, Dehra Dun confirms the presence of mercury in Bhopal drinking water, in some places as high as two micrograms per liter, and warns of grave risk to health. People have been drinking the water for 18 years after the gas leak.

**October 6, 2002** - Survivors in Bhopal launch the “Jhaadoo Maaroo Dow Ko” campaign. The phrase means "Hit Dow with a broom." In India, the broom is a powerful symbol. By giving it, survivors are inviting Dow to clean up its toxic mess and promising they will sweep Dow out of India if it does not. HYPERLINK "http://www.bhopal.net/jhadooamaro.html" <http://www.bhopal.net/jhadooamaro.html>

**October 18, 2002** - School children demonstrate before the Bhopal district court during the hearing on the criminal case. The prosecution CBI tells the court that all paperwork related to Anderson's extradition is nearly complete. Reporting on the ongoing procedure of "verification" of the merger between Union Carbide and Dow, Indian Central Bureau for Investigation representative, Mr Sahay, states that he has appealed to the Union government to name Dow alongside its criminally absconding subsidiary Union Carbide. Once permission is granted, Dow Chemical will also be an accused in the case. HYPERLINK "http://www.bhopal.net/chlldrensprotest.html" <http://www.bhopal.net/chlldrensprotest.html>

**October 20, 2002** – State of Madhya Pradesh, in which Bhopal is located, announces that it will petition the Indian Supreme Court to compel Dow Chemical to clean up the contaminated soil and ground water at the Union Carbide factory site ( HYPERLINK "http://www.indianexpress.com/archive\_full\_story.php?content\_id=11645" [http://www.indianexpress.com/archive\\_full\\_story.php?content\\_id=11645](http://www.indianexpress.com/archive_full_story.php?content_id=11645)), thus beginning Dow's ‘week of horrors’. HYPERLINK "http://www.bhopal.net/weekofhorrors.html" <http://www.bhopal.net/weekofhorrors.html>

**October 21, 2002** – In Switzerland, Dow's European CEO Respini is presented with a broom by Champa Devi and responds by fleeing from the room. HYPERLINK "http://www.bhopal.net/champa-devi.html" <http://www.bhopal.net/champa-devi.html>

**October 21 – 23, 2002** - Indian Minister of State for Home Affairs, I D Swamy, and External Affairs Minister, Yashwant Sinha, in separate interviews tell reporters that India is proceeding with an application to extradite Carbide's ex-CEO Warren Anderson from the U.S.

**October 23, 2002** - G Krishnaveni and others in the International Campaign for Justice in Bhopal [ICJB] present a broom to Dow CEO Michael Parker, a guest speaker at the Tenth Annual Houston Conservation Leadership Awards luncheon at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. HYPERLINK "http://www.bhopal.net/maarijhaadosaaleko.html" <http://www.bhopal.net/maarijhaadosaaleko.html>

**October 25, 2002** – Technical guidelines for the clean-up of Carbide’s abandoned factory site, drawn up by Greenpeace scientists, are presented to Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Digvijay Singh and simultaneously handed over at Dow offices in India, Europe and the U.S. The guidelines indicate that clean-up costs could top \$500 million USD.

**October 25, 2002** - Mrs. Rashida Bi, Bhopal survivor, and Dr. Quaiser of Sambhavana Clinic, go on a 16-day tour with Greenpeace through France, Belgium, Netherlands and Italy, where they confront executives of Dow Chemical and chemical industry associations in different countries with jhados they had carried with them from Bhopal. They also meet with victims of other chemical disasters, Dow workers, members of parliament and other public officials, and make a presentation at the European Social Forum in Naples, Italy. HYPERLINK "http://www.bhopal.net/rashida-drqaiser.html" <http://www.bhopal.net/rashida-drqaiser.html>

**November 9, 2002** – Bhopal survivor Champa Devi Shukla takes the *Jhadoo* Maro campaign to Cuddalore and Chennai in Tamil Nadu, India. HYPERLINK "http://www.bhopal.net/jhadooamaro.html" <http://www.bhopal.net/jhadooamaro.html>

**November 10, 2002** - More than 400 pollution-impacted people in Cuddalore, including women wielding brooms, fisherfolk and farmers joined activists from the ICJB demanding justice for the survivors of the Union Carbide disaster. The march was led by veteran Bhopal activist and gas victim, Mrs. Champa Devi Shukla.

**November 11, 2002** - About 60 people, including villagers, women activists and workers, marched to the gates of Anabond Essex, a Dow joint venture in Pondicherry, to deliver brooms as a message to Dow.

**November 11, 2002** – Plaintiffs organizations share documents from the discovery process of the U.S. class action suit with the Indian Central Bureau of Investigations (CBI). CBI acknowledges that the documents will be of great use for prosecution and the extradition of Warren Anderson.

**November 13, 2002** – At a solidarity march organised by the Tamilnadu Women's Collective, 200 broom-wielding women, including 50 in black sarees, demanded justice in Bhopal. HYPERLINK "http://www.bhopal.net/chennaireport.html" <http://www.bhopal.net/chennaireport.html>

**November 14, 2002** – Survivors release documents obtained via discovery in the New York class action. Documents show that UCC imposed ‘unproven technology’ in the critical MIC unit in order to cut costs and retain control of their Indian subsidiary. HYPERLINK "http://www.bhopal.net/unproventechnology.html" <http://www.bhopal.net/unproventechnology.html>

**November 18, 2002** - About two hundred children took over the heavily-contaminated solar-evaporation ponds. Signposts cautioning people about the toxic contaminants are put up, and a billboard in English, Hindi and Urdu is installed calling upon DOW to clean up the soil and water. Some people have been digging up soil from the area and using it to build their houses. Greenpeace activists from USA, UK, Australia, Netherlands, Thailand, Italy, Belgium, France, Brazil, Norway, and India participated.

**November 22, 2002** – Plaintiffs of the New York class action suit make public more secret documents obtained from Union Carbide via discovery. The documents show that Union Carbide tested soil and water in and around its factory in Bhopal after the disaster and found them to be heavily contaminated. It did not make this information public but used another report, which said there was no contamination, to appease the public and the government of India. The confidential documents show they considered the findings of this report to be unreliable. HYPERLINK "http://www.bhopal.net/poisonpapers.html" <http://www.bhopal.net/poisonpapers.html>

**November 25, 2002** – The ICJB and local community members attempt to safely contain the hazardous pesticides in Bhopal. Greenpeace activists trained in hazardous material handling arrive from around the world to lend their expertise. Bhopal police arrived and began shoving and beating survivors including women. Seventy people are arrested and later charged with criminal trespass.

**December 2, 2002** – Bhopal survivors and supporters take samples of contaminated soil and water from the Union Carbide factory in Bhopal to Dow's Indian headquarters in Mumbai (Bombay) and hand them over, together with more than 4,000 jhados collected in Bhopal, Chennai (Madras) and Trivandrum, Accepting the samples and the brooms on behalf of the company, Finance Director Anand Vohra tells the ICJB delegation that he would personally recommend to his superiors "that action should be taken to alleviate the plight of gas-affected people in Bhopal."

**December 3, 2002** – As thousands of survivors solemnly gather in a vigil in Bhopal on the 18th anniversary of the gas disaster, activists in the United States confront Dow CEO Michael Parker at his home in Midland, Michigan, as he has entertains guests at a dinner party. Parker meets with the activists, and promises to release the composition of the gas, previously considered by the company as an off-limit trade secret. The information could help physicians who are trying to appropriate treat the 150,000 chronically ill gas-affected Bhopal survivors.

**December 3, 2002** – Nine investment firms, which collectively manage a total of \$13 billion, send a letter to Dow Chemical CEO Michael Parker and Chairman William Stavropoulos expressing their concern about the company's continued unwillingness to accept its responsibilities in Bhopal. Citing damage to Dow's reputation and the undermining of its "commitment to sustainability" the companies wrote "We are also concerned about a potential judgment the company may face in a pending lawsuit in the U.S. over groundwater contamination from improper waste disposal at Union Carbide's Bhopal facility as well as ongoing litigation in Bhopal, India for compensation, environmental remediation, and medical rehabilitation." HYPERLINK "http://www.trilliuminvest.com/pages/news/news\_detail.asp?ArticleID=203&status=CurrentIssue&Page=HotNews" [http://www.trilliuminvest.com/pages/news/news\\_detail.asp?ArticleID=203&status=CurrentIssue&Page=HotNews](http://www.trilliuminvest.com/pages/news/news_detail.asp?ArticleID=203&status=CurrentIssue&Page=HotNews)

**December 4, 2002** – The internet is abuzz with new proclamations on Bhopal from [www.dow-chemical.com](http://www.dow-chemical.com), which many believe is the official company site. This internet spoof from the Yes Men gathers over 250,000 hits in the first 48 hours. Due to legal pressure, the site eventually moves to HYPERLINK <http://www.dowethics.com> [www.dowethics.com](http://www.dowethics.com)

**December 12, 2002** - The Central Pollution Control Board orders the removal of toxic chemical waste from the premises of the Union Carbide factory within 15 days.

**December 13, 2002** – Citing weak financial performance, Dow replaces CEO Michael Parker with Board Chair and former CEO William Stavropoulos. The downturn in Dow's financial performance and stock value is parallel with its purchase of Union Carbide.

**December 18, 2002** – After 16 years of struggle, the Bhopal Labour Court gives a decision that directs the State Government to appoint the women survivors of the BPMSKS to the permanent posts of Junior Binder with effect from April 29, 1998. The Court also directed that the women be paid arrears due to them. The MP government decides to appeal the decision.

**December 19, 2002** – Dow India files a lawsuit in the Mumbai High Court against the survivors, demanding about US\$10,000 compensation for "loss of work". That is \$10,000 compensation for a two hour peaceful protest where only one Dow employee briefly ventured out of the Mumbai corporate business park to meet the women protestors.

**January 2-4, 2003** - Champa Devi Shukla and Satinath Sarangi of the BGIA take part in the Asian Social Forum.

**January 3, 2003** - The State government files an appeal challenging the December 18, 2002 order of the Labour Court that directed that the jobs of gas affected stationery workers be regularised.

**January 7, 2003** – ICJB activists return four barrels of toxic waste from the Bhopal plant to Dow Chemical. The action takes place at Dow's second largest facility worldwide, in Terneuzen, the Netherlands; the waste travels to the Netherlands from India on Greenpeace's Arctic Sunrise sailing vessel. Twenty-one activists are arrested in the protest, including Rashida Bi and Greenpeace U.S. Executive Director John Passacantando. Dow refers to this action as "regrettable."

**January 16, 2003** – As the World Social Forum began in Brazil, Greenpeace activists erected scaffolding in front of Dow Chemical's Latin American headquarters in Sao Paulo with the message "Bhopal Corporate Crime" painted on the sides in Portuguese, Spanish and English.

**January 21, 2003** – Greenpeace activists deliver 18 barrels of toxic waste collected from Bhopal, India to Dow Chemical's European headquarters in Horgen, Switzerland, just as business and political leaders are gathering in Davos for the World Economic Forum.

**January 30, 2003** – At a press conference, leading Indian medical specialists from different disciplines express serious concerns on the continuing health problems of survivors affected by the Union Carbide disaster and those suffering from contamination of ground water in the local area. Studies on those affected by the factory contamination were also presented: the commonest symptoms were found to be abdominal pain followed by giddiness, pain in chest, headache and fever. HYPERLINK "<http://www.bhopal.net/topdoctorsrelease.html>" <http://www.bhopal.net/topdoctorsrelease.html>

**January 30, 2003** - Greenpeace stages a protest at the Dow Chemical factory in Tsing Yi, Hong Kong.

**February 25, 2003** - The BGPMSKS undertake an action in front of the Bhopal labour court protesting the MP government's decision to appeal the December labour court judgment. HYPERLINK "<http://www.bhopal.net/discrim.html>" <http://www.bhopal.net/discrim.html>

**February 27, 2003** - In the Indian Parliament the Parliamentary 'Committee on government assurances' presents their report strongly recommending that the government move on Anderson's extradition without delay, and strongly attacking the government's apathy so far. HYPERLINK "[http://www.bhopal.net/gov\\_explain.html](http://www.bhopal.net/gov_explain.html)" [http://www.bhopal.net/gov\\_explain.html](http://www.bhopal.net/gov_explain.html)

**March 5, 2003** - A writ petition is filed on behalf of 36 survivors representing the 36 municipal wards declared to be gas affected by the government. The petition alleges that the fundamental constitutional rights of equality before law and right to life of the victims of the disaster have been violated due to non-payment of interest on the compensation amount to the claimants. HYPERLINK "http://www.bhopal.net/Bhopal-comp.doc" <http://www.bhopal.net/Bhopal-comp.doc>

**March 11, 2003** - The ICJB returns contaminated drinking water from Bhopal, India, to Dow Chemical's Texas headquarters. ICJB volunteers and Greenpeace activists block the entrances to the Houston Dow Center after delivering 250 gallons of contaminated water taken from wells in Bhopal. Protestors from Houston, Dallas, Austin, Seattle, Winston-Salem, NC, and Washington, D.C. demanded that Dow meet with Bhopal survivors to discuss their legitimate grievances. HYPERLINK "http://www.bhopal.net/toxicwaste1.html" <http://www.bhopal.net/toxicwaste1.html>

**March 18, 2003** - The Michigan Student Assembly at the University of Michigan passes a historic resolution, calling on Dow to clean up Bhopal and calling on the University to refuse all of the company's donations until it does.

**March 18, 2003** - Federal judge John F Keenan again throws out the class action lawsuit filed by Bhopal survivors and supporters, saying Union Carbide had done enough and that too much time had passed. HYPERLINK "http://www.bhopal.net/uscad2.html" <http://www.bhopal.net/uscad2.html>

**March 25, 2003** – Three survivors' groups, the BGIA and attorney Raj Sharma hold a press conference in Bhopal to announce their appeal of the class action decision by Keenan. HYPERLINK "http://www.bhopal.net/uscad1.html" <http://www.bhopal.net/uscad1.html>

**April 4, 2003** - The Supreme Court of India directs the Union Government to submit a detailed reply to the issues raised by survivors of Bhopal regarding the balance of compensation funds in their writ petition filed on March 5, 2003. HYPERLINK "http://www.bhopal.net/supcourt.html" <http://www.bhopal.net/supcourt.html>

**April 4, 2003** - New York's state attorney this week said he plans to sue Dow AgroSciences LLC for allegedly breaching a 1994 agreement against false advertising of a pesticide. The action involves Dow's widely used pesticide, Dursban. As part of the 1994 agreement, the company was supposed to stop making claims that the product was "safe," State Attorney Eliot Spitzer said in a statement. HYPERLINK "http://www.planetark.org/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/20371/story.htm" \t "\_blank" <http://www.planetark.org/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/20371/story.htm>

**April 8-9, 2003** - During the Criminal case court hearing in Bhopal, judge Kothe asks the CBI to report in the next court hearing on the progress of Warren Anderson's extradition, and on the inclusion of DOW as one of the accused in the criminal case.

**April 9, 2003** – Over 50 British MPs have so far signed an Early Day Motion supporting the struggle for justice in Bhopal and commending the Sambhavna Clinic's work. HYPERLINK "http://edm.ais.co.uk/weblink/html/motion.html/ref=933" <http://edm.ais.co.uk/weblink/html/motion.html/ref=933>

**April 11, 2003** - Several members of Justice for Bhopal, a University of Michigan student group and member of the ICJB, quarantine the Dow Laboratory Building, which is largely funded by contributions from the Dow Chemical Company.

**April 21, 2003** - Rashida Bee and Champa Devi Shukla of the BGPMSKS and Satinath Sarangi of the BGIA arrive in Texas for a 40 day US tour. HYPERLINK "http://www.bhopal.net/tour03-1.html" <http://www.bhopal.net/tour03-1.html>

**May 12, 2003** – ICJB and US supporters demonstrate outside the Indian embassy in Washington D.C, demanding extradition of Anderson and indictment of Dow.

**May-June 2003** – The Indian Government conveys its request for extradition of Anderson to the US Government via its embassy in Washington D.C.

For constant updates and the latest news as it occurs, please keep checking:  
<http://www.bhopal.net>

**UCC – Union Carbide Corporation**  
**BGPMUS – Bhopal Gas Peedith Mahila Udyog Sangathan**  
**BGPSSS - Bhopal Gas Peedith Sangarsh Sahayog Samiti**  
**BPMSKS - Bhopal Gas Peedit Mahila Stationery Karamchari Sangh**  
**BGIA – Bhopal Group for Information and Action**  
**CJM – Chief Judicial Magistrate (District Court)**

# International Campaign for Justice in Bhopal

[www.bhopal.net](http://www.bhopal.net)

Association for India's Development  
(Austin, Ann Arbor & Bay Area)

Bhopal Action Resource Center,  
USA

**Bhopal Gas Peedit Mahila Stationary Karmachari Sangh, India**

Bhopal Group for Information and Action, India

Bhopal Information Network, Japan

Calhoun County Resource Watch  
Seadrift, USA

Center for Environmental Health, USA

Corpwatch,  
India & USA

Essential Action,  
USA

Ecology Centre of Michigan, USA

Environmental Health Fund, USA

Greenpeace  
International

National Campaign for Justice in Bhopal  
India

Pesticide Action Network North America, UK

The Other Media India

UK Campaign for Justice in Bhopal

Justice for Bhopal, Univ. of Michigan USA