

THE INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR JUSTICE IN BHOPAL

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MEDIA ADVISORY

For Thursday, December 3

CONTACT: [Name & cell phone number]

25th Anniversary of Bhopal Chemical Disaster Prompts Protests Around the World

**[City/Action - ex. San Francisco “Die-In”] Calls on Dow Chemical to
Clean Up Poisoned Groundwater and Face Criminal Trial in India**

Tens of Thousands in Bhopal Still Suffering from Toxic Chemical Exposure

At midnight on December 2, 1984 twenty-seven tons of lethal gases leaked from Union Carbide’s pesticide factory in Bhopal, India, immediately killing 8,000 people and poisoning thousands of others. Today, at least 150,000 people, including children born to parents who survived the disaster, are suffering from exposure-related health effects such as cancer, neurological damage, chaotic menstrual cycles and mental illness. Over 20,000 people have been forced to drink water laced with unsafe levels of mercury, carbon tetrachloride and other persistent organic pollutants and heavy metals.

Human rights, legal, environmental health and other experts are demanding that Dow Chemical, the current owner of Union Carbide, be held accountable for this atrocity. Many events worldwide are taking place to coincide with the 25th anniversary.

WHAT: [Brief description, ex: 25 people, each representing 1,000 people who have died in Bhopal to participate in mass Die-In, covering themselves in white sheets to symbolize those who have died due to Dow’s negligence.]

WHERE: [Location, ex: Union Square, San Francisco]

WHEN: [Time, ex: Thursday, December 3, 12:05pm]

WHY: **The International Campaign for Justice in Bhopal demands the following:**

- Dow’s subsidiary, Union Carbide, must show up in court to face trial in the ongoing criminal proceedings against them in India.
- Dow must give the Indian government their requested \$23 million deposit now to start cleaning up Bhopal and prevent further spread of the toxins.
- The Indian Government needs to fulfill it’s August 2008 promise to establish an “empowered commission” addressing the health, environmental, and economic issues in Bhopal.
- The Indian Government needs to fulfill it’s promise to build pipelines to bring clean water to the communities that have been drinking, eating, and washing with contaminated water for 25 years. Construction was started, but has been stalled, and needs to be completed urgently.

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