

YouGov / Amnesty Survey Results

Sample Size: 1011 Urban Indian Adults
Fieldwork: 13th - 24th November 2014

	Age			Gender		
Total	18-29	30-39	40+	Male	Female	
Weighted Sample	1011	435	263	313	516	495
Unweighted Sample	1011	436	263	312	609	402
	%	%	%	%	%	%

In December 1984, there was an industrial disaster at the Union Carbide plant in Bhopal, India.

Before today, were you aware of this?

Yes, I was	85	75	88	97	87	84
No, I was not	15	25	12	3	13	16

The Indian government estimates that around 5,000 people died as a result of the disaster, while non-governmental organizations estimate the total death toll as approximately 20,000. An estimated 500,000 people were also injured.

Critics of Union Carbide claim that poor maintenance and management were responsible for the gas leak. Union Carbide claims that the disaster was as a result of sabotage by a disgruntled employee.

The Bhopal plant was owned and operated by a company called Union Carbide India Limited (UCIL), which was a subsidiary of Union Carbide (UCC) head-quartered in the USA.

Which of these comes closer to your view?

The US parent company had a responsibility for the plant	76	70	78	83	79	74
The US parent company did not have a responsibility for the plant	9	11	7	6	8	9
Don't know	15	19	14	11	13	17

In 1989, Union Carbide paid US\$470 million as compensation in a legal settlement.

The Government of India is seeking additional compensation from Union Carbide, as it claims the numbers of people who died or were injured are now estimated to be higher than the figures used in 1989.

Union Carbide says that as it has already agreed to a legal settlement and paid compensation, it has no further obligations. The Indian Supreme Court rejected objections from non-government organizations (NGOs) on two occasions (1991 and 2007) following its initial validation of the settlement in 1989.

Which of these statements comes closer to your view?

Any claims for compensation were resolved by the 1989 settlement	27	34	28	18	23	32
The 1989 compensation settlement should be reassessed	50	40	49	66	56	44
Neither	8	10	6	7	7	9
Don't know	14	17	17	9	14	15

In 1987 criminal charges were filed in India against Union Carbide in relation to the gas leak as Union Carbide had overall ownership of Union Carbide India Limited.

Union Carbide says it has not appeared in the criminal proceedings because it is not subject to the jurisdiction of the Indian courts, since it did not operate the factory directly.

Do you think Union Carbide should or should not attend the Indian courts about its role in the gas leak at the Bhopal plant?

Should attend the Indian courts about its role in the gas leak at the Bhopal plant	82	79	84	86	81	84
Should not attend the Indian courts about its role in the gas leak at the Bhopal plant	8	10	6	7	9	7
Don't know	10	12	10	7	10	10

Who should play a role in ensuring accountability for the Bhopal disaster, including with relation to US companies involved?

The Indian and US governments and courts	66	66	67	65	63	69
Only the Indian government and courts	22	19	23	26	26	18
Only the US government and courts	4	4	4	3	3	4
None of these	2	3	2	1	2	2
Don't know	6	8	4	5	5	7

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In 1998, the lease on the Bhopal factory site was surrendered to the State Government of Madhya Pradesh. At the time, the State Government said "the civil and criminal liabilities of Union Carbide will remain unchanged". Union Carbide Corporation says that the State Government assumed "all accountability for the site".

A number of scientific studies have shown that there is pollution at the former factory site in Bhopal, linked to operations at the factory before the gas leak. This is recognised by the Indian courts. Union Carbide says that any ongoing contamination is not its responsibility.

Who do you think should pay to clean up the pollution?

The companies that operated and designed the factory	66	62	66	72	66	66
The Madhya Pradesh State Government which now owns the site	22	25	21	20	22	22
Neither	3	4	4	1	4	2
Don't know	9	10	9	7	8	9

How well or badly do you think the Indian Government since 1984 has responded to the gas leak at the Bhopal site?

Very well	17	20	20	9	12	22
Fairly well	19	24	13	17	16	23
TOTAL WELL	36	44	33	26	28	45
Neither well nor badly	24	25	22	26	24	25
Fairly badly	18	14	18	24	21	15
Very badly	15	9	20	19	20	9
TOTAL BADLY	33	23	38	43	41	24
Don't know	7	8	8	6	8	6