The Disaster in India: Chronic of a Nightmare in a Crowded Industrial City

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of an Indian Government investigation that is expected to take several months to complete.

The Setting: Vast Slums

From a distance, there is an immense network of roads and rail tracks that crisscross the Union Carbide pesticide plant. The plant, like many others, is built on the edge of a slum area, or "ghetto," which is a legacy of what once was a small agrarian village. Today, the slums have grown into vast expansions of living conditions, with many of the buildings declared by the government to be "slums." The slums are a part of the northern suburb of Bhopal, the capital city of Madhya Pradesh.

Surrounding the complex are almost 2.5 million people who are trapped in a living nightmare, with no escape from the toxic fumes and lethal fumes of Bhopal. The slum area is a part of the Indian subcontinent's most densely populated area in the world.

The Bhopal slum is operated by a private Indian company, Union Carbide India Limited (UCIL), which is a subsidiary of Union Carbide Corporation, a diversified American company engaged in manufacturing, steel, chemicals, medicine, and con-

Questions: Plant Design

In December, 1984, the design and layout of the Bhopal Union Carbide plant were revealed to the Indian public by the Indian newspaper, The Times of India. Union Carbide repeatedly refused to release the plans, claiming that the information was classified and that it was the property of the Indian government. The Indian government eventually released the plans in 1988, just before the trial of the company.

The plans show that the plant was poorly designed, with inadequate safety features and a lack of proper ventilation systems. The plant was located in an area with poor air circulation, which allowed the toxic fumes to spread quickly.

The Alert: Heropic and Flight

As soon as the gas leak was detected, the plant was put on a "routine" gas leak in the plant's history. The gas leak was reported to the police and the air pollution control board.

The Crisis: Fumies and Sires

The Indian government was slow to take action, and many people died from the gas leak. The government was criticized for its slow response to the crisis.

The Leak: Heat and Pressure

The disaster on the Union Carbide plant began on December 3, when a leak caused a explosion that killed many workers. The explosion occurred because of a failure of the plant's metal pipe, which gave way under the pressure of the gas.

Disaster: Panic and Death

As people collapsed and died, authorities lost control of the situation. The gas spread in a deadly cloud over the slum. Many of the victims died from asphyxiation, while others died from exposure to the toxic substances.

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