

## **DOCUMENTARY ON BHOPAL GAS DISASTER CASE**

**DATE: 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2019**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The Environment Cell which has been constituted in July 2019 at Bharati Vidyapeeth (Deemed to be University) New Law College, Pune conducted this activity for the Final year students of both BBA LLB and BA LLB. The documentary was an one hour movie clip which has been shot and directed by the National Geographic team. The documentary is based on the tragic event of the Bhopal Gas Leakage.

It is better known as the Bhopal Gas Tragedy which was a gas leak incident caused on the night of 2-3 December, 1984. The incident happened at the Union Carbide India Limited Pesticide Plant in Bhopal Madhya Pradesh. The incident occurred at midnight when the city was peacefully asleep.

First there was a minor leak which was checked by the on duty staff and they decided that it was not very grave. But within no time the gas pressure rose so high that it was beyond control and soon the surrounding areas of the plant were covered with a blanket of highly poisonous gas.

The documentary was shown to create awareness and to instigate a discussion on the subject of environment protection. The Bhopal Gas Tragedy is considered to be the world's worst industrial disaster and we as lawyers must be aware of all the legal aspects which come into play when any such incident occurs.

By way of this documentary the students were able to think in the direction of the protection of environment, the breach of the rights of the individuals affected, the liability imposed on the owners of the Union Carbide Plant and many more such questions. These questions helped in a positive discussion where many different ideas and views came to light.

### **OBJECTIVE**

To implement legal teaching method based on experiential learning to enhance the knowledge of the subject, personal skills and values as well as promoting social justice at the same time.

### **EXECUTION**

The documentary was shown in the cyber cell by the help of the projectors on 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2019 i.e. Monday. After the documentary was completed the students had many different views and thoughts on the incident, which were then discussed at length. The students got involved in a healthy group discussion which gave many new insights on the subject.

### **TIME**

The documentary is of about an hour but there were further discussions which were held in the class. Due to these discussions the documentary became extremely interactive and resulted in an open discussion.

### **NUMBER OF STUDENTS**

The final year students from both BBA LLB and BA LLB were a part of this documentary viewing activity. The strength can be accounted for around 50 students.

### **OUTCOME**

The documentary sensitized the students on the subject on environment law and made them think about the rights which were infringed of the individuals who were affected by this tragic incident. It opened the class to a series of discussion and created awareness towards the subject of environment protection and security features of such dangerous power plants.

### **ACTIVITY DONE**

The documentary shown and the discussions held therein were both a success, since there was active participation on part of the students. Such activities should be conducted on all the subjects of law to ensure that the views of the students are heard and molded towards a better understanding of the law.



## **SUGGESTIONS**

Such an activity should be conducted once in every 15 days to inculcate the real sense of law in the students. Such open discussions and activities are necessary to instigate the young minds towards environment protection.