

1984	
3 December	Methyl isocyanate (MIC) leaks from the Union Carbide plant in Bhopal.
4 December	N.K. Singh, Judge on Madhya Pradesh High Court, appointed as single-member commission to investigate accident.
7 December	Carbide Chairman Warren Anderson flies to Bhopal and is arrested at airport. Melvin Belli files \$15 billion class action in West Virginia.
9 December	American attorneys John Coale and Arthur Lowy arrive in Bhopal. The government of Madhya Pradesh announces its intention to file suit against Carbide.
10 December	M.A. Krishnamurthy files public interest writ seeking compensation for victims. Belli arrives in Bhopal. Madhya Pradesh government refuses Carbide's Rs. 1 crore relief donation.
11 December	R. Ramachandran appointed to head Indian Central Bureau of Investigation inquiry into gas leak. Mother Teresa visits Bhopal. Junior doctors strike.
14 December	Residents flee Bhopal as plan to neutralize remaining MIC is announced.
19 December	Evacuation camps outside of Bhopal closed.
30 December	Madhya Pradesh government plans to seek compensation in U.S. courts. State cabinet warns residents to avoid American lawyers.
1985	
1 January	Gas victims rally in Bhopal to protest suspension by state government of relief payments.
3 January	Central government establishes committee to give free legal aid to victims.
12 January	Anderson predicts that U.S. courts will dismiss all Bhopal suits. 100 arrested as protestors in Bhopal occupy railway station.
15 January	K. Parasaran, India's Attorney General, arrives in New York to discuss viability of suing in U.S. courts.
19 January	Stockholder suit filed against Carbide board of directors.

24 January	Judicial Panel on Multi-district Litigation holds consolidation hearing in New Orleans.
27 January	ATLA board rejects motion to censure American lawyers for Bhopal activities.
28 January	Stuart Diamond's report in New York Times begins
3 February	Reports that death toll may be as high as 20,000. Parasaran recommends that central government sue in U.S. court.
6 February	Suits combined in Southern District of New York, assigned to Judge John F. Keenan. Controversy over use of sodium thiosulphate as antidote to MIC poisoning begins.
20 February	Central government passes ordinance making itself legal representative of Bhopal victims.
8 March	First hearing in combined suits postponed.
9 March	Robins, Zelle, Larson & Kaplan chosen as counsel by Indian government.
19 March	Carbide holds settlement talks with Indian government.
21 March	Carbide's report on the accident.
3 April	U.S. lawyers plan to challenge ordinance making Indian government the representative of victims.
4 April	Carbide's settlement offer of \$100 million is rejected.
8 April	Government of India files complaint against Carbide.
11 April	Writ challenging validity of ordinance filed on behalf of 14 victims.
16 April	First pre-trial hearing in New York. Judge Keenan urges Carbide to make interim relief payments.
18 April	Carbide offers \$5 million in interim aid.
25 April	Judge Keenan selects Attorneys Ciresi, Chesley and Bailey to co-ordinate plaintiff litigation.
4 June	Rajiv Gandhi doubts out-of-court settlement can be reached.
8 June	India rejects Carbide's offer of interim aid.
25 June	Rally of gas victims in Bhopal broken up by police, injuring many. Volunteer doctors arrested.
28 June	American attorneys file joint suit in consolidated action in New York. India's

	representative on panel (Ciresi) does not join suit.
11 July	Carbide plant in Bhopal closed, leaving 1000 jobless.
17 July	Justice Singh charges that Madhya Pradesh government is not co-operating in his inquiry.
23 July	Carbide's second-quarter earnings fall 19.8%.
29 July	Carbide asks for dismissal of all U.S. claims on grounds of "forum non conveniens."
30 July	International Federation of Free Trade Unions issues report critical of Carbide.
31 July	Carbide announces corporate re-organization.
7 August	Second pre-trial hearing in New York.
11 August	Carbide plant in Institute, West Virginia leaks toxic chemicals
20 August	American lawyers with Bhopal suits file claims over West Virginia leak.
13 August	GAF announces it has acquired more than 5% of Carbide stock, marking the presence of a serious campaign to take over the troubled corporation.
26 August	Limited discovery begins in Bhopal suit in New York.
28 August	Carbide announces major restructuring, including plant closings and work force reductions.
2 September	GAF holding of Carbide stock increases to 9.9%.
1 October	OSHA cites Carbide for "willful neglect" of safety procedures at its Institute, W.Va. plant.
26 November	Plan for disbursal of the \$5 m. relief funds approved by Judge Keenan.
3 December	Anniversary marked in Bhopal by bandh, rallies; settlement reached on compensation of workers dismissed by closure of Bhopal plant— approximately \$1,000 each.
4 December	Gas leak at Srireun Food and Fertilizer Industries in Delhi causes panic.
9 December	Publication of plans of GAF to offer \$68 per share to acquire 40% of Carbide stock.
11 December	Seven victims of Delhi gas leak file suit for damages in Court of the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Delhi. GAF announces intention to sell of almost half of Carbide if takeover successful.

12 December	GAF sweetens bid by offering \$68 cash for all Carbide shares.
15 December	Carbide announces to buy 23.55 million (35%) of its shares for a package of cash and securities valued at \$85 a share.
17 December	Madhya Pradesh government announces that it is terminating the judicial commission headed by Justice N.K. Singh.
23 December	Moody's lowers credit rating of Union Carbide debt securities.
25 December	GAF raises its bid to \$74 per share of Carbide stock.
30 December	Judge Milton Pollack of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York denies GAF motion to enjoin the Carbide stock buy-back plan.
30 December	Carbide announces plan to sell engineering polymers and composites business to Amoco for \$210m. Its film packaging businesses were sold to Envirodyne for \$230m.
1986	
1 January	Madhya Pradesh Government discontinues supply of free rations to MIC victims; ten day yagna begins, to purify atmosphere of Bhopal and bring peace to souls of victims.
2 January	GAF offers to acquire Carbide for \$78 per share; Carbide board of directors meets and announced defense plan which involves sale of consumer divisions, purchase of 55% of its shares, split in stock, rise in regular dividend and payment of special dividend.
3 January	Oral argument on forum non conveniens motion before Judge Keenan.
8 January	GAF gives up on bid to take over Carbide.
8 February	Judge Keenan meets secretly with a small number of victims, flown over from Bhopal at his request.
23 March	Publication of supposed settlement in range of \$350m. arranged by Carbide and private plaintiffs lawyers.
7 April	Carbide announce additional \$1 billion in assets sales, including Danbury headquarters and other businesses.

12 May	Judge Keenan dismisses Bhopal victims' claims against Carbide on grounds of forum non conveniens, subject to three conditions.
21 May	Individual plaintiffs attorneys move that Judge Keenan hold a fairness hearing to determine suitability of proposed settlement.
28 May	Judge Keenan denies motion for fairness hearing; refuses to grant stay of Opinion and Order or to amend three conditions.
12 June	Carbide accepts Judge Keenan's conditions, reserving right to appeal.
26 June	Chesley and Bailey file Notice of Appeal on behalf of individual plaintiffs attorneys.
30 June	Carbide completed sale of battery operations to Ralston Purina.
10 July	Carbide appeals on discovery.
15 July	Sale of Carbide's home and automotive operations completed, marking end of company's consumer products division. Carbide now entirely an industrial company.
22 July	Carbide announces intention to sell agricultural products division, including pesticide operations, and including the Institute plant.
10 August	Carbide announces finding that leak was deliberate act of disgruntled employee.
26 August	Carbide announces plans sell electrical carbon business.
5 September	Government of India files cases against Carbide in District Court in Bhopal, asking unspecified compensatory damages plus punitive damages.
4 November	Carbide announces refinancing plan to buy back \$2.53b of high interest bonds, take new bank loans and issue new stock.
17 November	Carbide files counter-suit against Union and State Governments; Bhopal court issues temporary injunction barring Carbide from selling assets, paying dividends, or buying back debt.
22 November	Government of India announces it will seek over \$3 billion in suit against Carbide.
24 November	Appeal of Judge Keenan's forum non conveniens decision argued before panel of Second Circuit; Carbide asks increased oversight over Indian proceedings.

25 November	Stockholder suits charging Carbide with failure to warn investors of hazards at Bhopal dismissed by Judge Keenan.
27 November	Carbide offers to maintain \$3 billion unencumbered to meet any judgment in Bhopal suits.
30 November	Bhopal Court lifts injunction against Carbide selling assets, etc.
20 December	Supreme Court of India delivers judgement in Sriram [Delhi Gas Leak] case, holding industries engaged in hazardous activities are strictly liable to their workers and to residents.
1987	
January	US Court of Appeals upholds US District Court ruling that Bhopal disaster litigation should proceed in India rather than the USA.
4 January	Against the order dated May 12, 1986 of Judge Keenan, appeals were filed by the 145 individual plaintiffs and the UCC. By order dated January 4, 1987, the Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit disposed of the appeals by modifying the conditions subject to which the suit by Union of India had been dismissed.
5 October	Union of India's further petition for a writ of certiorari against the order of the Court of Appeals was declined by the U.S. Supreme Court on October 5, 1987.
1 December	CBI files chargesheet against Warren Anderson and other accused, including UCC (USA), Union Carbide (Eastern) Hong Kong, and UCIL. Summons served on Anderson and UCC on charges of culpable homicide.
17 December	An interim compensation of Rs. 350 crores was ordered by Judge Deo, District Judge, Bhopal.
1988	
4 April	Interim Compensation challenged before the High Court at Jabalpur. By judgment dated April 4, 1988 the High Court reduced the interim compensation to Rs.250 crores. UCC challenged this further before the Supreme Court.

1989	
February	CJM, Bhopal, issues non-bailable warrant of arrest against Warren Anderson for repeatedly ignoring summons.
14/15 February	Indian government and Union Carbide strike an out-of-court deal and compensation of \$ 470 million is given by Union Carbide.
March	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 (BGP MUS), the Bhopal Gas Peedith Sangarsh Sahayog Samiti (BGPSSS) and other concerned groups.
4 May	Following widespread protests over the manner of arriving at the settlement and quashing criminal proceedings, Supreme Court agreed to review the settlement.
6 June	UCC in June 1989 finalized a ‘Site Rehabilitation Project – Bhopal Plant’ for decontamination of the plant site which contained huge quantities of Sevin and Napthol tarry residues and solid wastes dumped in the solar evaporation ponds. Since no Indian organization had the expertise, it was decided to get NEERI to undertake the task under the supervision of Arthur D little &Co. appointed by UCC.
22 December	Supreme Court upheld the validity of the Claims Act applying the doctrine of <i>parens patriae</i> [<i>Charan Lal Sahu v. Union of India</i> (1990) 1 SCC 613].
1990	NEERI submitted its first report in 1990 stating that there was no contamination of the groundwater in and around the plant site. Subsequent documentation reveals that UCC itself doubted NEERI’s conclusions since their internal notes revealed that majority of liquid samples collected from the area “contained naphthol or sevin in quantities far more than permitted by ISI for inland disposal”
1991	
3 October	Supreme Court declined to reopen the settlement justifying it under Article 142 of

	the Constitution. However, the criminal proceedings were directed to be revived. The court expressed a hope that UCC will contribute Rs.50 crore to setting up of a hospital at Bhopal for the victims.
1992	
1 February	The CJM Bhopal declared A1 Warren Anderson A10 UCC and A11 UCC (Eastern, Hongkong) as proclaimed offenders. The CJM directed that if parties do not appear on March 27, 1992 he will order attachment of UCC's shares in UCIL under s.82 Cr.PC.
27 March	A1, A10 and A11 fail to appear before the CJM but attachment of shares was put off at UCIL's request.
15 April	UCC announced creation of the Bhopal Hospital Trust in London with Sir Ian Percival as Sole Trustee and endowed its entire shareholding in UCIL to the Trust clearly to defeat the attachment.
30 April	CJM Bhopal refused to recognize the creation of the Trust and endowment of UCIL shares and proceeded to attach those shares.
22 June	Trial of the Indian accused was separated and committed to Sessions Court.
19 August	The Central Government announced a scheme of interim relief to the gas victims at Rs.200/- per month subject to a maximum of 5 lakh victims for a period of three years beginning April 1, 1990. The Supreme Court, in a writ petition by the Bhopal Gas Peedith Mahila Udyog Sangathan, directed by its orders dated August 19 and November 4, 1992 interim relief to be paid to all victims, including those left out from the scheme as announced.
16 October	By an order dated February 24, 1989 the Settlement Fund of 420 million US \$ had been directed to be kept in a separate dollar account with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in the name of the Registrar of the Supreme Court. On an application by the Union of India, the court on October 16, 1992 permitted the account to be now held in the name of the Welfare Commissioner, subject to the condition that RBI would not release any part

	of the amount except on a certificate by the Welfare Commissioner that the amount withdrawn was for payment of compensation to the claimants.
1993	
8 April	Charges framed by the Sessions Court, Bhopal against Indian accused for offences under s.304 Part II IPC.
28 May	The Supreme Court directed continuation of interim relief to the victims from June 1, 1993 and permitted Union of India to withdraw Rs.120 crores from the Settlement Fund for this purpose.
10 December	Ian Percival approached the Union of India with an 'offer' to sell the attached shares of UCIL to raise money for the Bhopal Hospital to be built by UCC. Union of India filed an application in the Supreme Court for enforcement of UCC's obligation to build the expert medical facility. At the first hearing of the application, Ian Percival was present and heard. The Supreme Court asked Union of India to consider the Sole Trustee's suggestion which was "eminently reasonable, worthy of consideration."
1994	
14 February	Supreme Court modified the CJM's attachment order and permitted the attached shares to be sold.
September	UCC's shares in UCIL sold to McLeod Russel Ltd. for Rs.170 crores. UCIL renamed as Eveready Industries India Limited (EIIL). After release of around Rs. 125 crores (inclusive of dividends) to the BHT, the balance sale proceeds to the tune of about Rs.183 crores remained under attachment.
November	Despite numerous petitions by survivors' groups, the Supreme Court allows Union Carbide to sell stake in UCIL to McLeod Russell (India) Ltd of Calcutta.
1995	
19 September	Krishna Mohan Shukla, a lawyer practicing in the Supreme Court filed a PIL drawing its attention to numerous illegalities in the matter of categorization, processing and adjudication

	<p>of claims by the Deputy Welfare Commissioners under the Scheme. It was stated that at lok adalats held under the Scheme, many claimants were being compelled to accept a low compensation of Rs.25,000/- in full and final settlement of the claim and further such order could not be appealed. A three-member Committee was appointed by the Supreme Court by its order dated September 19, 1985 to examine the factual position. In its report dated November 14, 1995, the Committee confirmed many of the petitioner's contentions and concluded "all is not well in the matter of disbursement of claims."</p>
1996	
3 April	<p>Supreme Court directed a sum of Rs.187 crores from the attached monies to be further released to BHT for the construction of the hospital.</p>
1 May	<p>In the petition by Krishna Mohan Shukla, the Supreme Court by order dated May 1, 1996 struck down certain circulars issued by the Welfare Commissioner under which a Deputy Welfare commissioner could not revise the category under which the claimant was classified unless the Welfare Commissioner approved it. It called for details of the cases settled in lok adalats.</p>
13 September	<p>Indian accused failed in their challenge to the order framing charges before the High Court at Jabalpur. They then approached the Supreme Court by way of Special Leave Petitions. By judgment dated September 13, 1996, the Supreme Court diluted the charges against the Indian accused from s.304 Part II IPC to s.304A IPC. The trial still pending before the CJM, Bhopal.</p>
1997	
October	<p>EIIL retained NEERI and Arthur D Little to conduct further decontamination studies. NEERI submitted its second report again maintaining that there was no contamination of</p>

	groundwater and soil around plant site. But Arthur D little did not rule them out.
7 November	In the Krishna Mohan Shukla petition, the Supreme Court made an order permitting a claimant who was aggrieved by an order made in the lok adalat to challenge it by way of an appeal.
1998	
September	State of M.P took control of the land. Put up notices in nearby residential areas warning against drinking water.
1999	
August	Union Carbide announces merger with US-based Dow Chemicals.
November	International environment watchdog 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.
15 November	Fresh class action litigation filed in the court of the Southern District New York by Sajida Bano, Haseena Bi and five other victims directly affected by the contamination and five Bhopal victims groups claiming damages under 15 counts. Counts 9 to 15 related to common law environmental claims.
2000	
28 August	Judge Keenan dismissed the class action claim on the ground that the 1989 settlement covers all future claims.
2001	
February	Union Carbide refuses to take responsibility for UCIL's liabilities in India. The US Federal Trade Commission approved the merger of UCC with Dow Chemical Company (Dow).
15 November	The Second Circuit of Appeals affirms in part but remanded claims on counts 9 to 15 to Judge Keenan
2002	

January	A study by Srishti and Toxics Links finds lead and mercury in breast milk of nursing mothers in communities near the plant.
April	In discovery proceedings before Judge Keenan UCC submitted over 4000 documents.
June	Bhopal gas tragedy survivors launch a protest in New Delhi when they hear the Indian government plans to drop charges against Anderson.
August	Charges of culpable homicide are maintained against Anderson by Indian court, which demands his extradition to stand trial. Meanwhile, a British newspaper reports that Anderson is in New York after US authorities say they are unable to locate him.
2003	
March	Judge Keenan dismissed the suit of Hasina Bi again - this time on grounds of limitation.
May	The Indian government formally conveys its request for extradition of Anderson to the US.
2004	
March	A US court says it could order Dow Chemicals to clean soil and ground water in the abandoned factory site if the Indian government provides a no objection certificate. The Indian government forwards the certificate to the United States.
March	The Court of Appeal affirmed in part but asks Judge Keenan on remand to consider claims of Bi arising out of damage to property and the issue of decontamination by UCC of the site if the Union of India and State of M.P. had no objection.
June	The US rejects India's request for extradition of Anderson saying the request does not "meet requirements of certain provisions" of the bilateral extradition treaty.
30 June	After victims went on a hunger strike in Delhi, the Union of India submitted a memo before Judge Keenan stating it has no objection to decontamination being undertaken by UCC at UCC's cost.
19 July	In a representative application by 36 victims, Abdul Samad Khan and others, India's

	Supreme Court orders the Central Bank to pay out more than 15 billion rupees, part of the original \$ 470 million received as compensation kept in the account since 1992.
17 September	In another writ petition by the Bhopal groups for medical relief and rehabilitation, Supreme Court finalized the terms of reference of two committees – an Advisory Committee and a Monitoring Committee - appointed by it.
26 October	India’s Supreme Court sets deadline of November 15 to pay out the rest of \$ 470 million paid by Union Carbide as compensation.
2010	
10 June	All eight accused, including the then Chairman of Union Carbide Keshub Mahindra, in the Bhopal Gas disaster case convicted by a court in Bhopal. All eight are Indian and guilty under Sections 304-A (causing death by negligence), 304-II (culpable homicide not amounting to murder), 336, 337 and 338 (gross negligence) of the Indian Penal Code (which carries a sentence of up to two years) and are fined 100,000 rupees (2,000 U.S. dollars) each. Warren Anderson is not mentioned. The light sentences are decried by protesters and amnesty groups around the world.
2014	
29 September	Former UCC Chairperson Warren Anderson passes away in a nursing home in Florida. His death is met with protests in Bhopal as many view him as going unpunished.