



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

UNESCO Office in New Delhi

Ms Moulshri Joshi
Organising Committee
International Symposium Bhopal 2011
B4/39 Lower Ground
Safdarjung Enclave
New Delhi - 110029

2 December, 2010

Ref.: 5257/2010/DIR/AS

Subject: International Symposium Bhopal 2011

Dear Ms. Joshi,

I am very pleased to hear that a group of citizens together with some engaged NGOs and professionals are organizing an International Student Workshop followed by an International Symposium on questions relating to the heritage of the Bhopal gas tragedy of 1984. The School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi; the modern Asian Architecture Network (mAAN India); and the India chapter of The International Committee for Conservation of Industrial Heritage (TICCIH) are catalysts in this initiative. It is also very gratifying to know that the Government of Madhya Pradesh is supporting your initiative and actively participating in developing not only this event, but also trying to find ways to sensitively deal with the site of the gas tragedy.

As you may be aware, many sites of traumatic events in the world have in the past been converted into sites of remembrance, serving the affected as a place of mourning, reminding humanity of the destructive powers of mankind, and setting a sign for peace and a better future. Some of these sites have indeed become World Heritage Sites.

Clearly, it is important in the process of developing and managing such sites to explore how lessons of the past can help shape the future through a collaborative approach, while taking into consideration aspects of environmental protection and heritage preservation. Your Symposium may serve as an excellent opportunity to exchange experiences from the world over to explore the role of cultural heritage as a democratic and community-building force.

We would be pleased to assist you in linking with the relevant World Heritage Site managers in order to assure their presence at your event. We would also be keen to link this event to the ongoing IHCN initiative of UNESCO in order to sustain the interest this event will generate.

Wishing you a successful event I remain.

Yours sincerely,



Armoogum Parsuramen
Director and UNESCO Representative
For Bhutan, India, Maldives and Sri Lanka

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Moulshri Joshi
National Representative
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