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Media Briefing  
**Action Plan**

**Environmental Remediation in and around UCIL, Bhopal**  
Round Table Meeting, April 25-26, 2013

**Background**



## UCIL, 1969–84: Products and processes

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- Mainly produced three pesticides
  - Sevin (carbaryl)
  - Temik (aldicarb)
  - Sevidol (carbaryl and  $\gamma$ -HCH)
- And intermediaries like:
  - Phosgene
  - Methylisocyanate (MIC)
  - Alpha-naphthol



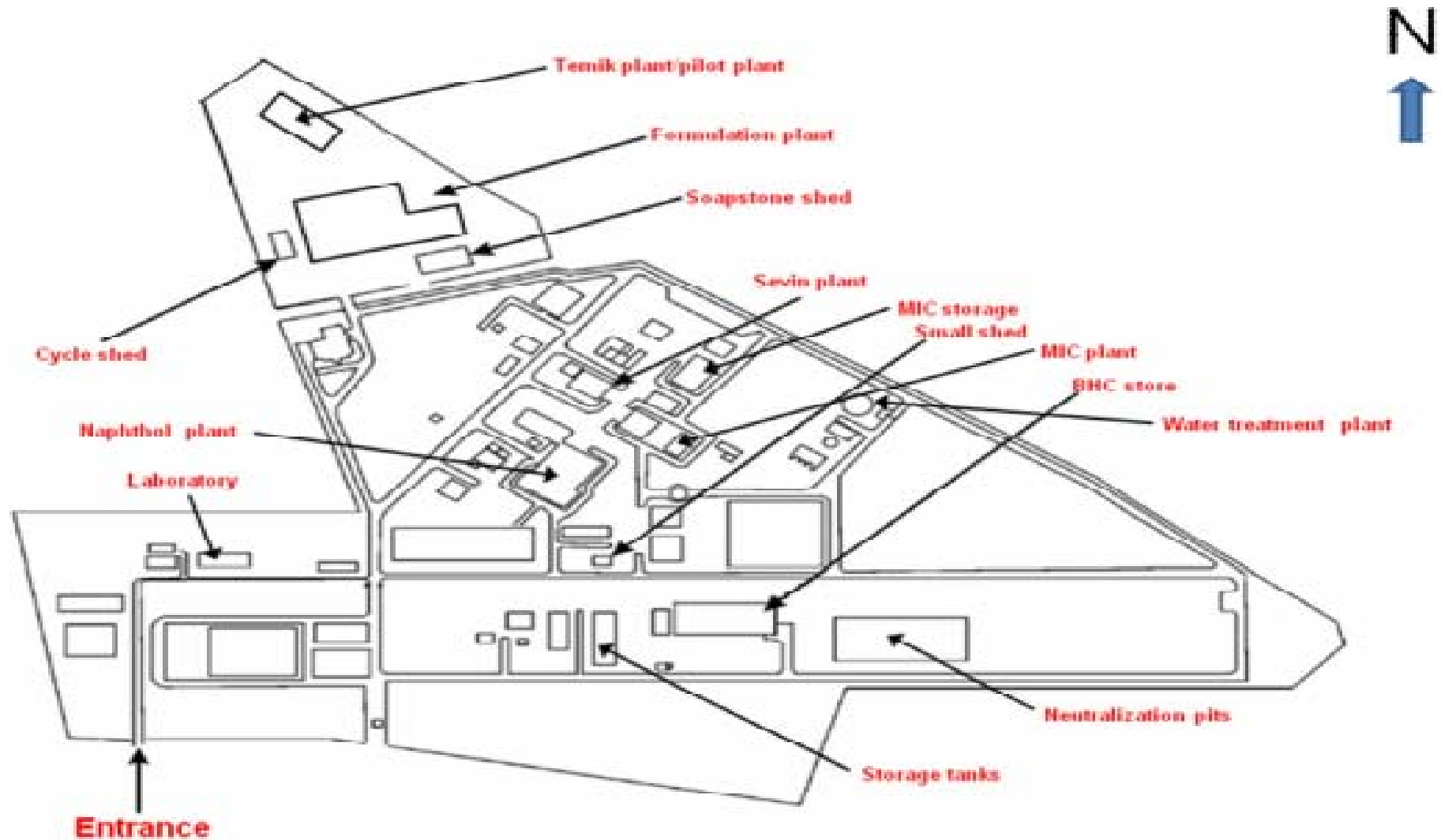
## UCIL, 1969–84: Products and processes

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- Chemicals used:
  - Technical grade HCH (gamma-HCH was used to formulate Sevidol, remaining isomers disposed)
  - Chlorinated benzene compounds (ex. Chloroform, Dichlorobenzene, trichlorobenzene etc.) used as solvents
  - Mercury (as sealant) and chromium (as coolant)
  - Others



# UCIL, 1969–84: Products and





## UCIL, 1969–84: Waste disposal

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- Various solid, semi-solid and liquid wastes were generated including discarded products and chemicals and wastes from processes
- While the most of liquid wastes were disposed off in solar evaporation ponds (SEP) located outside UCIL premises, some of the treated wastewater from temik plant was disposed in two solar evaporation ponds constructed within the plant premises.



## UCIL, 1969–84: Waste disposal

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- The solid/semi-solid wastes were mostly disposed off on open land within plant premises.
  - Three disposal areas, several dumps and pits inside the plant
  - NEERI estimated 6.9 ha as total area of waste disposal within the plant
  - Exact quantity of wastes not known even today



## UCIL: No consensus, no movement

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- **Toxic wastes disposed since 1969 is still lying at the site.**
- **No consensus on the effects of the wastes on the environment and the people**
- **No consensus on the Action Plan (NEERI-NGRI-IICT)**
- **No waste disposal; no remediation.**
- **Institutional log-jam. MP government, GoM, various ministries and institutions in central government, High court, Supreme court**



## UCIL: Pushing the agenda forward

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- **CSE decided to take the process forward**
- **Analyses all the studies done so far to arrive at the state of the knowledge on the effects of waste disposal on the environment**
- **Convened an expert roundtable in April, 2013 which all stakeholders (research and academic institutes, NGOs, industry, govt.) invited to develop consensus on the action plan.**
- **Representatives of the M.P government didn't participate**