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“Disaster, Development and Governance: Reflections on the ‘Lessons’ of Bhopal.”

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The paper firstly uses the case study of the Bhopal gas disaster to understand why many scholars and activists seek alternatives to ‘big’ development. Secondly, it critically examines the claims that have been made in this regard in the literature in political ecology, science and technology studies and environmental governance, and in doing so, articulates a framework of questions for the next generation of research and advocacy.

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