

(a) whether it is a fact that Department of Company Affairs has ordered probe under Section 237 of Companies Act in the affairs of M/s HFCL, Macleods Pharmaceuticals, Zee Telefilms and ADANI Exports; and

(b) if so, what have been the findings and what action is being taken against the companies ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) and (b) No investigation under Section 237 of the Act has been ordered against the companies referred to.

Taxation of RBI Relief Bond

4700. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to bring the investment in Reserve Bank of India Relief Bond, in the income tax net; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Financial aid to drought affected States from National Calamity Fund

†4701. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to provide financial aid from National Calamity Fund to drought affected States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have fixed any condition for providing financial aid ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Statement is enclosed (*See below*).

(c) The assistance from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) is provided for natural calamities of severe nature requiring expenditure by the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

State Governments in excess of the balances available in their own Calamity Relief Fund (CRF). The assistance is provided in accordance with the items and norms of expenditure under NCCF as laid down by the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Statement

Amount provided by the Ministry of Finance from National Calamity Fund to drought affected States during 2002-03 and 2003-04 (so far)

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	States	Amount	
		2002-03	2003-04
1.	Andhra Pradesh	59.47	64.04
2.	Chhattisgarh	100.68	26.83
3.	Himachal Pradesh	14.05	0.30
4.	Karnataka	196.88	10.77
5.	Madhya Pradesh	148.49	23.17
6.	Maharashtra	20.00	0.00
7.	Orissa	5.29	0.00
8.	Rajasthan	426.68	363.10
9.	Tamil Nadu	215.99	116.10
10.	Uttar Pradesh	310.06	0.00

Non-stapling of currency notes

†4702. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether RBI has issued instructions to all banks not to staple currency notes;

(b) whether public and private banks are not complying with these instructions;

†(Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.