

Litigation in Karnataka High Court has resulted in an order dated 12.11.2002 which stops the Government from implementing the price control regime of the Pharmaceutical Policy-2002. Government have filed a Special Leave Petition in the Supreme Court against the order of the Karnataka High Court.

Pension to Women Affected by Bhopal Gas Tragedy

†1740. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any demand has been made by the women affected by Bhopal gas tragedy to increase the amount of pension being given at present to them; and

(b) if so, the number of such women together with the existing amount of pension and the decision Government have taken or contemplating to take on their demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATTRAPAL SINGH): (a) According to information received from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh, no such demand has been received.

(b) In view of (a) above, the question does not arise.

VSS in Durgapur Unit of HFCL

1741. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per AAIFR's order revival of Durgapur unit of HFCL was to be reconsidered by BIFR;

(b) whether before the hearing of BIFR, almost all the employees of the unit were released on Voluntary Separation Scheme (VSS);

(c) if so, the reason therefor;

(d) when were release orders actually issued to the individual employees; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.