

(b) and (c). Shipping Corporation of India have number of multi purpose vessels capable of carrying container and general cargo.

### Government Recognition and Awards to Pali Language

471. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a representation for including scholars of Pali language and literature along with the scholars of Sanskrit for annual recognition and awards by the Union Government;

(b) if so, the decision taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) if no decision has been taken so far, the likely date by which the decision would be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) and (b). Under this, scheme, the scholars of Pali language and literature are already being included along with scholars of Sanskrit for annual recognition and Awards by the Union Government.

(c) Question does not arise.

### Encouragement to Studies of Far East Asian Countries by UGC

472. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government and University Grants Commission propose to give an

impetus to the study of the languages literature, culture, history, politics and economy of the countries of the Far East Asia (China, Japan and both the Koreas:

(b) if so, the names of the Universities and Institutions of higher learning having facilities for their studies as on date; and

(c) and outline of the programme for the Eighth Plan including the names of the Institutions where such studies are likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) and (b). The University Grants Commission provides assistance to a few selected universities for promoting area studies programme relating to the History, Economy, Geography, Culture, Language, etc. of different countries and regions of the world. The Commission is, at present, supporting an area studies centre on China and Japan in the University of Delhi.

(c) The Commission does not have any proposal presently under consideration for assisting more institutions for undertaking area studies of Far East Asian countries.

### Memorandum Regarding Discontinuance of Teaching of Foreign Languages

473. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether principals of about 18 schools which are offering foreign languages at the secondary stage of Delhi have submitted a memorandum to his ministry and the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) protesting against the decision of the CBSE to discontinue the teaching of