

- (b) whether the deal has materialised;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) to (d). Poompuhar Shipping Corporation have proposed to acquire three ships from M/s Hitachi Shipbuilders & Engineers Limited, Japan. They have entered into an agreement with the said shipbuilders for acquisition of ships. The proposal is being processed for the consideration of the Shipping Development Fund Committee. The deal can materialise only when the Government have accorded sanction for acquisition after considering the recommendations of the Shipping Development Fund Committee.

Central University in Bihar

181. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from the Bihar Government either to promote any University of Bihar to a Central University or to open a new Central University in Bihar State; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): (a) No such proposal has been received from the Government of Bihar.

(b) Does not arise.

Number of Passport Applications Received by R.P.O. Chandigarh

182. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for new passports received by the Regional Passport Office in Chandigarh during 1979, 1980 and 1981;

(b) number of those given passports during these years;

(c) number of those still kept pending year-wise; and

(d) number of those rejected year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) to (d). The required information is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Regional Passport Office Chandigarh

	1979	1980	1981
(a) Passport Applications Received	73504	52849	816
(b) Passport granted	72657	50432	760