

U. S. Navy Destroyers for Pakistan

*277. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that two U. S. Navy destroyers are being transferred to Pakistani Navy;

(b) if so, reaction of Indian Government reaction thereto; and

(c) whether any protest has been lodged with the U. S. Government in this regard and if so, with what result?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Government of India has normalised relations with Pakistan and seeks to explore the possibilities of increasing beneficial cooperation between the countries of this region. We have brought to the notice of the U.S. Government our concern at the danger of arms sales which could upset this process.

त्रिवेन्द्रम मेडिकल कालेज, केरल के लिए वित्तीय सहायता

* 278. श्री एम० एन० गोविन्दन नायर : क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या केरल राज्य सरकार ने त्रिवेन्द्रम मेडिकल कालेज के कैम्पस विंग को क्षेत्रीय कैम्पस केन्द्र के रूप में विकसित करने के लिये केन्द्रीय वित्तीय सहायता की मांग की है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो तन्सम्बन्धी व्यौरा और उस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री (श्री राज नारायण): (क) जी हां ।

(ख) पांचवीं योजना के दौरान केन्द्रीय सेक्टर में कैम्पस अनुसंधान और उपचार के लिए उपलब्ध किए गए सीमित धन को देखते हुए केरल सरकार को क्षेत्रीय कैम्पस संस्थान मेडिकल कालेज, त्रिवेन्द्रम के लिए किसी प्रकार की केन्द्रीय सहायता देना संभव नहीं हो पाया है ।

Branch of Passport Issuing Office at Trivandrum

*279. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 712 on 16th June, 1977 regarding applications for passports pending with Regional Passport Authority, Cochin and to state:

(a) whether there has been any suggestion to open a branch of the passport issuing office at Trivandrum; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): (a) No, Sir. Government's attention has, however, been drawn to a report in the "Hindu", daily newspaper, of 9th June, 1977, in which the Minister for Labour & Employment of the Government of Kerala is reported to have said that there was a strong case for the opening of a Regional Passport Office in Trivandrum.

(b) With the addition of staff strength to the Cochin office, and the revision of working methods and procedures, the needs of Kerala State will be fully met by the existing Regional Office at Cochin.