

in the High courts and suggest further remedial measures.

2. As regards Supreme Court, the file of pending matters is always under review of the Chief Justice and when it is considered that the arrears have accumulated to such a proportion that additional help is necessary, the question of increasing the strength of the Court within the prescribed limits will be considered.

Functioning of the Punjab University, Chandigarh

*713. SHRI MEETHA LAL
MEENA:

SHRI S. P. RAMAMOORTHY:
SHRI H. AJMAL KHAN:
SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO:
SHRI N. K. SOMANI:
SHRI RAM KISHAN GUPTA:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES be pleased to state:

(a) whether serious differences have developed between the Centre and the Punjab Government regarding the functioning of the Punjab University, Chandigarh;

(b) if so, whether Government of India had any talks during the last two months with the Punjab Government on the subject, and the reaction of the Punjab Government in this regard, if any; and

(c) what steps are being adopted by the Government of India to ensure smooth functioning of Chandigarh-based Punjab University?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION & YOUTH SERVICES (DR. V. K. R. V. RAO): (a) There has been a difference of opinion about the legality of the Notification issued by the Punjab Government transferring 19 colleges situated in the districts of Patiala, Sangrur, Bhatinda and Rupar from the Punjab University, Chandigarh to the Punjabi University, Patiala with effect from June 30, 1969.

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(b) and (c). The question was discussed in a meeting organised by the Education Ministry on June 19, 1969 in which the Education Secretary, Punjab Government was also present. The Government of Punjab is of the view that its notification issued under the Punjabi University Act is sufficient for purposes of extending the Punjabi University's jurisdiction. There has been some correspondence and discussion with the Chief Minister Punjab and the matter is under consideration.

Ships with Chowgule Steamship Ltd.

*714. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Chowgule Steamship Ltd., which runs the Konkan Coastal Shipping Service, has only four ships out of which one ship has already run its full life;

(b) whether the Company has any plans to replace the existing vessels by new ones and also to augment the fleet;

(c) whether Government have made a loan of about Rs. 1.72 crores to the said Company;

(d) if so, what for and what were the terms of repayment; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to alleviate the passengers' hardship?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN- TARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING & TRANSPORT (SHRI RAGHURAMAIAH): (a) Yes, Sir. The old vessel has been permitted to be scrapped.

(b) No, Sir. The remaining three vessels are new vessels built in 1965.

(c) and (d). The Shipping Development Fund Committee have sanctioned to the Company a loan of Rs. 1,7244 crores (being 90 per cent. of the price) for purchase of the three passenger vessels mentioned above. The terms of the loan are those usually applicable to all shipping compa-