

container transportation in the main trade routes of India, but keeping in view the limitations of combination carriers and imbalance in the two-way flow of containerised traffic in India's trade, Indian shipping companies charter container vessels as

and when necessary. Transchart had no occasion for chartering any container vessel. Details of the two survey vessels chartered by the Chartering Wing for oceanographic survey are as under:—

Sl. No.	Name of Vessel	Flag	Period of Charter
1.	m. v. SKANDI SURVEYOR	Norwegian	About 15 months (31-7-82 to 29-10-83).
2.	m. v. FARNELLA	British	About 14 months (7-12-82 to 27-1-84).

(d) The Chartering Wing (TRANSCHART) is responsible for arranging shipment of Government owned controlled cargoes only and not for cargoes moving in the private sector. As for as chartering of ships for Government owned controlled cargoes is concerned, Transchart is reasonably well equipped to handle the work.

Building of container services in Indian Shipping

2824. SHRI M. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Shipping Corporation of India Ltd. for building of container services and the acquisition of container ships of various tonnage;

(b) how many container ships are presently available with the Shipping Corporation of India with details of DWT, both cellular and non-cellular types; and

(c) what steps are being taken to acquire small container ships of 5000 to 10000 DWT for inland coastal service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI):

(a) The Shipping Corporation of India Ltd. has already inducted con-

tainer oriented vessels in all the major trade routes viz. India|U.K. Continent, India/USA (Atlantic and Pacific), India/Australia, India/Far East Japan, India/East Africa and India/Black Sea-Mediterranean. Presently, they are working on the second phase in which the existing container services would be strengthened with increased and reliable frequencies. SCI proposes to acquire six fully containerised cellular vessels with capacity to carry 1400 containers per vessel. Besides, two container oriented ships with a total container capacity of 632 TEUs are under construction in Hindustan Shipyard Limited.

(b) Cellular—Nil.

Non-Cellular (Combi ships)—32 vessels of 5,18,089 DWT (with container capacity of 10789 TEUs).

(c) SCI proposes to acquire two small container vessels (feeders) of 300/400 container capacity (7500 DWT each) for movement of containers mainly along the Indian Sub continent Coast.

Arrest of Officers of Bengal Pottery Ltd. in bank fraud case

2825. SHRIMATI ILA BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Executive Director and some other