

in East Pakistan was the same Indian ship ; and

(c) if the reply to part (a) above in the negative, what further action, if any is proposed to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) A preliminary enquiry into the disappearance of the vessel 'Mahajagmitra' was held by the Mercantile Marine Department, Calcutta. In view, however, of the serious nature of causality the Inquiry Officer recommended Formal Investigation into the casualty. A formal Investigation under Section 360 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 was accordingly ordered. This investigation which was held by the Chief Presidency Magistrate, Calcutta has since been completed and the report is expected to be available towards the middle of April, 1971.

(b) Our Deputy High Commissioner in Dacca reported that the vessels grounded off the Island of Dawla were Pakistani vessels and not our vessel 'Mahajagmitra'.

(c) Does not arise.

CORRESPONDENCE COURSES IN DIFFERENT SUBJECTS IN DELHI UNIVERSITY

61. SHRI R. P. KHAITAN : Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi University proposes to start correspondence courses in M. A. in political Science, History and other subjects from the new academic session ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI SIDDHARTHA SHANKAR RAY) : (a) and (b) The question of starting M. A. Courses by correspondence is under consideration of the University.

DEVELOPMENT OF NUCLEAR CARGO SHIPS

62. SHRI SUNDER MARI PATEL : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that with West German collaboration Japan has developed nuclear cargo ships for use between the Far East and the Western Europe ;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to develop nuclear cargo ships with a view to keeping abreast of the latest technological development in shipping ; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) A nuclear powered ship is reported to have been launched in Japan in 1969 but Government have no information whether this ship was constructed with West German collaboration.

(b) and (c) Nuclear propulsion is still in an experimental stage and is yet to be adopted on a commercial scale. Such ships will also involve heavy capital investment. Therefore, the question of India going in for such ships does not arise at this stage.

SEIZURE OF CURRENCY NOTES IN SALEM (TAMIL NADU)

63. SHRI A. D. MANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the police seize a large quantity of currency notes in Salem (Tamil Nadu) on December 21, 1970 ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) what steps have been taken against the persons involved in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) and (b) On 18.12.1970, the Tamil Nadu Police seized 3686 unfinished pieces of forged hundred rupee notes, from three persons in Salem. The equipments used in the forgery have also been seized by the Police.

(c) The three persons concerned have been arrested by the Police, and the criminal case registered against them is under investigation.