

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:219

ANSWERED ON:01.08.2011

FERRY SERVICE

Ganeshamurthi Shri A.;J Helen Davidson;Saroj Smt. Sushila;Sugavanam Shri E.G.;Upadhyay Seema

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the newly introduced ferry service to Sri Lanka from Tuticorin Port in Tamil Nadu has commercially benefited the Indian exchequer;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the estimated volume of additional trade likely to be generated between the two countries;
- (c) whether the Government has any plan to introduce more such service in the near future; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN)

(a): Yes, Madam.

(b): A sum of Rs. 7.20 crore has been collected by V.O. Chidambaranar Port Trust, Tuticorin as first year licence fee from the operator of the ferry service between Tuticorin and Colombo. Vessel related charges are also being collected from the operator. So far 1542 passengers have embarked and 1098 passengers have disembarked. The volume of additional trade likely to be generated between the two countries cannot be estimated now.

(c): Yes, Madam.

(d): The Government has decided to introduce ferry service between Rameswaram and Talaimannar and between Cochin and Maldives.