

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SHIPPING  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1019  
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2011  
VIZHINJAM PORT  
Biju Shri P. K.;Dhanaplan Shri K. P.

**Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government of Kerala has requested the Union Government to develop the Vizhinjam Port at Thiruvananthapuram as a joint venture;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the present status of the proposal including environmental clearance;
- (c) the time by which the said proposal is likely to be cleared by the Union Government;
- (d) whether the Government is planning to develop Hub Ports in the country including developing Kochi Port as a Hub Port; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MUKUL ROY)

(a) & (b): No, Madam. As per Indian Ports Act, 1908, the development of a Non-Major Port vests with the respective State Government/ State Maritime Board. Accordingly, the port infrastructure is being developed by Vizhinjam International Seaport. Ltd., a fully owned company of the Government of Kerala and the remaining facilities will be provided by the private player who will be the port operator on BOT basis

(c): As per Indian Ports Act, 1908, no clearance is required from the Union Government for development of Non-Major Ports except some statutory clearances like security clearance etc. Accordingly, Government of Kerala had approached to Nodal Security Agencies. Inputs / clearances received from various Government agencies will be sent to Government of Kerala for taking a view on the issue.

(d) & (e): Yes Madam. With the commissioning of the International Container Transshipment Terminal (ICTT) Project at Vallarpadam on 11th February, 2011, Cochin Port has already been developed as a Hub Port. The Agenda for the Maritime Decade 2010-2020 envisages development of hub ports at Mumbai (Jawahar Lal Nehru Port) Chennai and Visakhapatnam besides Cochin.