

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2970
ANSWERED ON:10.02.2014
RELAXATION IN CABOTAGE LAW
Thomas Shri P. T.

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken decision with regard to relaxation in the existing Cabotage law in favour of Vizhinjam Port in Kerala;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN)

(a)&(b): No, Madam.

(c) Cabotage is a right which, all over the world, is reserved for flag vessels of the country concerned. The Cabotage regulation under the Merchant Shipping Act 1958, which gives Indian flag vessels the first right to carry cargo between two Indian ports, protects the interests of Indian flag vessels.