

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7112
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2015
SALARIES TO CUSTOMS OFFICIALS
Tharoor Dr. Shashi

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the State Governments have to pay salaries to custom officers deployed at ports owned by the State Governments;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, port-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to consider exempting such ports including Vizhinjam and Kollam in Kerala to bear the salary costs and utilise the said amount as incentive for promoting coastal shipping; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA)

- (a): Yes, Madam;
- (b): The charges for the customs staff positioned at ports, as per the prescribed staffing norms, are uniformly applicable to all the custodians under the Customs Act, 1962, unless specifically exempted by the Central Government;
- (c) & (d): Custodians of ports including Vizhinjam and Kollam in Kerala may apply for waiver of payment of said charges, if eligible in terms of the guidelines framed in this regard.