

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6177
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2015
SHIPPING SERVICE
Chinnaraj Shri Gopalakrishnan

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has any proposal to start a shipping transport service between Talaimannar-Rameshwaram;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the time by which the shipping service would be started; and
- (d) the budget allocated for the project?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN)

(a)to(c): A MoU was signed between India and Sri Lanka on 07 January, 2011 for operationalization of ferry services between Tuticorin and Colombo and between Rameswaram and Talaimannar.

The resumption of ferry service between Rameshwaram to Talaimannar is dependent upon the reconstruction of the Talaimannar Pier on the Sri Lankan side. The reconstruction of the Talaimannar Pier is to be undertaken by IRCON International Limited as part of the rehabilitation of the Northern Railway Line in Sri Lanka, being implemented under an Indian Line of Credit. The Sri Lankan Ministry of Transport is yet to give permission for reconstruction of Talaimannar Pier.

(d) No, Madam, there is no budget allocated for the project for running the ferry service between Talaimannar and Rameshwaram.