

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2148

ANSWERED ON:16.03.2005

CONTAINER SECURITY INITIATIVE

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Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has decided to join the US promoted Container Security Initiative as reported in the `Economic Times` dated February 7, 2005;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) the details of estimated amount likely to be spent for the implementation of the same; and
- (d) the benefits likely to accrue to India therefrom?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

- (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has, after due consideration, decided to join the US promoted Container Security Initiatives.
- (b) The details of the programme are to be worked out by a team led by Ministry of External Affairs with Central Board of Excise and Customs and others to negotiate arrangements with USA.
- (c) The estimated amount likely to be spent for the implementation of Container Security Initiative cannot be ascertained at this stage in view of (b) above.
- (d) The Container Security Initiative project will lead to benefits of imbibing the best prevalent practices in Container Security both for import as well as export. It would also create an atmosphere conducive to smooth trade relation with US and help in growth of our exports.