

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 612
ANSWERED ON 09/12/2022

PROMOTION OF INLAND NAVIGATION

612. PROF. SOUGATA RAY:

Will the Minister of PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS be pleased to state:

पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्री

- (a) whether the Government has given importance to promotion of inland navigation compared to surface transport and goods movement;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any incentives have been announced to promote inland navigation in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has constructed new waterways connecting major rivers for the promotion of inland navigation so far; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS
(SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. To promote Inland Water Transport (IWT) in the country, 111 waterways (including 5 existing and 106 new) spread over 24 states have been declared as National Waterways under the National Waterways Act, 2016. Based on the outcome of techno-economic feasibility and Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of the NWs, 26 NWs have been found viable for cargo/passenger movement as detailed at **Annex.-1**.

(c) & (d) To promote inland waterways as a supplementary, eco-friendly and cheaper mode of transport, waterway usage charges levied by the IWAI on vessels moving on National Waterways have been waived in July 2020, initially for a period of three years.

(e) & (f) In addition to pre-2016 existing 5 NWs, development of 9 new NWs for promotion of inland shipping have been taken up as detailed at **Annex.-2**.

**LIST OF 26 NATIONAL WATERWAYS (NWs)
FOUND FEASIBLE FOR CARGO / PASSENGER MOVEMENT**

Sl. No	NW	Details of Waterways	Length (Km)	STATES
1	NW 1	Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly River System (Haldia - Allahabad)	1620	Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand & West Bengal
2	NW 2	Brahmaputra River (Dhubri - Sadiya)	891	Assam
3	NW 16	Barak River (Lakhipur -Tuker Gram)	121	Assam
4	NW 3	West Coast Canal (Kottapuram - Kollam), Champakara and Udyogmandal Canals	205	Kerala
5	NW 4	Krishna River (Vijayawada – Muktyala)	82	Andhra Pradesh
6	NW 5	Dhamra-Paradip via Mangalagadi to Pankopal	233	Odisha
7	NW 8	Alappuzha- Changanassery Canal	29	Kerala
8	NW 9	Alappuzha - Kottayam – Athirampuzha Canal	40	Kerala (Alternate route: 11.5km)
9	NW 27	Cumberjua River (Cortalim-Ferry to Sao MartiasVidhanParisad)	17	Goa
10	NW 68	Mandovi River (Usgoan bridge to Arabian Sea)	41	Goa
11	NW 86	Rupnarayan River (Pratap Pur to Geonkhali)	72	West Bengal
12	NW 97	Sunderbans Waterway (Namkhana to AtharaBanki Khal)	172	West Bengal
13	NW 111	Zuari River (Sanvorden bridge to Marmugao Port)	50	Goa
14	NW 40	Ghagra River (Faizabad to ManjhiGhat)	345	Bihar & U.P.
15	NW 10	Amba River (Arabian Sea, Dharamtaar Creek to Nagothane ST Stand)	45	Maharashtra
16	NW 44	Ichamati River (Bridge at Gobra to Bansjhari near Bangladesh Border)	63	West Bengal
17	NW 52	Kali River (Kodasalli Dam to Sadashivgad Bridge, Arabian Sea)	53	Karnataka
18	NW 57	Kopili River (Banthai Gaon Tinali Bus Stop to Chandrapur No.2 confluence with Brahmaputra)	50	Assam
19	NW 25	Chapora River (Bridge near Maneri village to Morjim, Arabian Sea)	25	Goa
20	NW 37	Gandak River (Bhaisalotal Barrage to Hazipur)	296	Bihar & U.P.
21	NW 28	Dabhol Creek Vasisti River (Arabian Sea at Dabhol to Bridge at Pedhe)	45	Maharashtra
22	NW 73	Narmada River (Pandhariya to Gulf of Khambhat)	226	Maharashtra & Gujarat
23	NW 85	Revadanda Creek - Kundalika River System (Arabian Sea at Revadanda to Bridge near Roha Nagar)	31	Maharashtra
24	NW 94	Sone River (Sone Barrage, Dehri to Confluence with the Ganga)	141	Bihar
25	NW 100	Tapi River (Hatnur Dam to Gulf of Khambhat)	436	Maharashtra & Gujarat
26	NW 31	Dhansiri River (Morongi T.E. village Bridge to Numaligarh)	110	Assam

The details of projects initiated on the 09 new national waterways:

Sl. No	NW	Details of Waterways/States	Length (Km)	Projects started
1	NW 16	Barak River (Lakhipur -Tuker Gram) in Assam	121	Development of NW 16 and IBP route at a cost of Rs 145 crore during 2020-21 to 2024-25 was approved by SFC. Declared as National Waterway-16 (NW-16), Barak River connects Silchar, Karimganj and Badarpur in Cachar valley of Assam through road/waterway with Haldia and Kolkata ports through Indo-Bangladesh Protocol (IBP) Route. There are 10 activities as approved by SFC for NW-16 & IBP route. Out of these 10 activities, 03 are of permanent nature viz, (1) Construction of Terminal at Sonamura on Gumti river, (2) Construction of terminal at Maia on Ganga River and (3) Upgradation of Badarpur and Karimganj terminals, which are in consideration. The remaining 07 activities are of recurring nature viz., (1) Fairway development (2) O&M of navigational aids (3) Consultancy training (4) cargo promotion, and (5) amenities at Ports of Call etc. These activities are carried out on annual maintenance basis under implementation at 2.55% progress till October 2022.
2	NW 8	Alappuzha-Changanassery Canal in Kerala	29	Development proposed as per DPR recommendations. 24 hours navigational aids (15 nos.) provided at critical locations and being maintained.
3	NW 9	Alappuzha - Kottayam - Athirampuzha Canal in Kerala	40	Development of the waterway at an estimated cost of INR 1.60 crore has commenced. Night navigation facilities has been installed. Waterway is already operational.
4	NW 27	Cumberjua River (Cortalim-Ferry to Sao MartiasVidhanParishad) in Goa	17	NWs of Goa are operational under a Tripartite MoU with Govt. of Goa, Mormugao Port Authority & IWAI. Development of NWs in Goa at an estimated cost of INR 22.65 crore has commenced. Work for installation of 04 nos. floating Jetties amounting to Rs.11.33 crores on river Mandovi and river Chapora taken up. In addition a fund of Rs 6.84 Crore has been released to Mormugao Port Authority on 02.04.2022 for induction of navigational Aids.
5	NW 68	Mandovi River (Usgoan bridge to Arabian Sea) in Goa	41	
6	NW 111	Zuari River (Sanvorden bridge to Mormugao Port) in Goa	50	
7	NW 86	Rupnarayan River (Pratap Pur to Geonkhali) in West Bengal	72	

			cargo. Permanent terminal is also proposed at Kolaghat for which land acquisition completed in June 2022 and development is considered through annual scheme.
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8	NW 97	Sunderbans Waterway (Namkhana to AtharaBanki Khal) in West Bengal	172	Development of waterway at an estimated cost of INR 18.10 crore has commenced. Dredging work by department dredger is proposed. Waterway is part of Indo-Bangladesh Protocol route and already operational for vessels.
9.	NW 40	River Ghagra (Ayodhya Ghagra to Ghaghra-Ganga Confluence)	354	An amount of Rs. 11.60 cr. has been approved for fairway development by bandalling and day channel marking, creation of floating terminals and monthly surveys. Scheme at a cost of Rs. 4.46 cr. has been sanctioned during 2021-22 for development under Phase-I of the waterway.
