

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 236
ANSWERED ON 03/02/2023

ADVANCED DREDGING STRATEGIES

236. SHRI Y. DEVENDRAPPA:
DR. SANJEEV KUMAR SINGARI:
SHRI ARUN SAO:
SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL:
SHRI KURUVA GORANTLA MADHAV:
SHRI RANJEETSINGH HINDURAO NAIK NIMBALKAR:
SHRI SUDHAKAR TUKARAM SHRANGARE:
SHRI VIJAY BAGHEL:
SHRI MOHAN MANDAVI:
SHRI SHIVAKUMAR C. UDASI:
SHRI DILIP SAIKIA:

Will the Minister of PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS be pleased to state:
पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्री

- (a) the total length of inland waterways in the country maintained by Internal Waterways Authority of India;
- (b) whether the Government has any mechanism for regular dredging and maintenance of these waterways and adopt advanced dredging strategies to meet all dredging activities of the ports and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has any proposal to design a dredging policy and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to maintain a minimum draft of 2.5 meters for smooth sailing in all the waterways?

ANSWER

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

- (a) Total length of 111 National Waterways (NWs) is 20162.5 km out of which 4193 km length of 18 NWs has been taken up for development & maintenance by Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) at present.
- (b) IWAI takes up maintenance dredging in selected NWs to develop navigation channel of width 30 m to 45 m and depth of 1.2 m to 3 m wherever lesser depth is

recorded during regular hydrographic surveys. This is taken up through modern techniques by cutter suction, backhoe or water jet dredgers on need basis.

(c) Draft dredging guidelines for National Waterways have been prepared by the IWAI in consultation with the Port Authorities/Maritime Boards.

(d) National Waterways (NWs) have been categorised in VII Classes as per plying capacity of vessels of 100T to 2000T and maintained for 1.2 m to 3 m depth in different stretches of NWs by IWAI.
