

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2147
ANSWERED ON 15.12.2023

TRANSPORT CARGO ON RIVER GANGA

2147. SHRI DULAL CHANDRA GOSWAMI:

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

पत्तन, पोतपरिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्री

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to run large transport cargo on river Ganga in Bihar to transport goods through waterways;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any ongoing work on river Ganga to ensure the smooth operation of transport cargo; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) 1,31,69,853 Metric Tons (MT) of cargo movement has been recorded on National Waterway-1 (NW-1) i.e. on Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly River System in 2022-23 which includes 1845.8 MT of Over Dimension Cargo (ODC) which is difficult to be moved by other modes. Details of 4 ODC cargo movement to Bihar during 2022-23 is given below:

Sl.No.	Month	Year	Origin	Destination	Commodity	Cargo in MT	Shipper
1	May	2022	Budge Budge	Buxar	Transformer	379	L&T Ltd.
2	Feb	2023	Kolkata	Semaria	Diesel HDT Reactors	703.5	Indian Oil Corporation
3	Feb	2023	Kolkata	Buxar	Generator Stator	379	Buxar thermal Power Project
4	Feb	2023	Diamond harbour	Semaria	Reactor	384.3	Indian Oil Corporation
					Total	1845.8	

(c) & (d) River Ganga (Ganga – Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system) from Prayagraj to Haldia has been declared as National Waterways-1. To improve navigability and provide a cost-effective, environment-friendly and safe supplementary mode of transportation, Inland Waterways Authority (IWAI) of India has undertaken Jal Marg Vikas Project (Haldia to Varanasi at a cost of Rs. 5362.27 Crore. The development objective of JMVP project is to enhance transport efficiency and reliability of Inland Waterways for handling logistics. Expected major outcomes of the project are given below:

- i. Construction of Multimodal Terminals at three locations: Varanasi, Sahibganj and Haldia and one Intermodal Terminal at Kalughat.
- ii. Construction of a new Navigational Lock at Farakka.
- iii. Fairway Development through dredging, river training works etc.
- iv. Provision of Navigational Aids, such as channel markings, night navigational aids including deployment of GPS, RIS and river maps and charts for navigation.
- v. Construction of 60+ community jetties on NW-1.
- vi. Upgradation of existing Navigational Lock at Farakka.
- vii. Installation of Quick Pontoon Opening System

The project has achieved physical progress of 59.89% and financial progress of 59.35% as on 30.11.2023.
