

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 3128
ANSWERED ON – 09/08/2024

BUCKINGHAM NAVIGATION CANAL

3128. SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY:

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

पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्री

- (a) whether the Government has undertaken any study / research / survey into the working of the Buckingham Navigation Canal;
- (b) if so, the details along with the steps taken/proposed to be taken in order to make the Buckingham Canal fully functional;
- (c) the funds allocated/utilised for the purpose of reinvigoration of Buckingham Canal during the last five years, especially the part of the navigation canal falling in Andhra Pradesh;
- (d) whether the Government has considered setting any deadline for making the Canal fully functional, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether the Government has considered carrying out any upgradation work of existing infrastructure of Buckingham Canal, if so, the details including funding allocated/utilised during the last five years?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) Yes. IWAI has undertaken the following study/research/survey on Buckingham Canal in NW-4:-

- i. Detailed Project Report (DPR) for development of navigation in Kakinada – Puducherry canal along with River Godavari and Krishna in NW-4.
- ii. Study and preparation of the project proposal for development of Sholigganallur to Thiruvanmiyur stretch of South Buckingham Canal of NW-4 in Tamil Nadu.
- iii. Preliminary Engineering for development of the Waterway Stretch between Sholinganallur to Kalpakkam of South Buckingham Canal of NW-4 in Tamil Nadu.

The survey of the canal indicates siltation at many places and leveling of embankments at some portions, defunct lock structures, low level bridges as well as major encroachments at many portions. Further, in the vicinity of the East Coast there has been development of road and rail network parallel to the Buckingham Canal and therefore the operationalization of the same was found techno-commercially non-viable

for navigation. The removal of encroachments in Buckingham Canal falls under the domain of State Governments of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.

(c) No fund has been allocated for the purpose of reinvigoration of Buckingham canal including the portions in Andhra Pradesh during the last five years.

(d) No development activities are envisaged at present due to major encroachments at many portions of the Buckingham Canal.

(e) No.
