

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SHIPPING  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:709  
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2000  
CARGO AND PASSENGER SERVICE  
MOINUL HASSAN AHAMED;SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL)

**Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:**

- (a) the time by which Calcutta -Allahabad National Waterway through Farakka is likely to be opened to passenger and goods traffic;
- (b) whether the siltation problem at the mouth lock channel at Farakka has come to the notice of the concerned authorities; and
- (c) if so, whether the Inland Waterways Authority of India and the Central Inland Waterways Transport Corporation are still entrusted with the job of dredging the channel; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

- (a) The Haldia-Calcutta - Patna Stretch of NW-1 is open for navigation for passenger and goods traffic by vessels upto 1.8 m draft for about 330 days in a year. Action has been initiated to provide the waterway in Patna - Allahabad reach for vessels with 1.8 m draft for operation of 300-330 days in a year.
- (b) (c) & (d) Dredging of lock channel was undertaken by Inland Waterways Authority of India. The Channel has already been dredged to the required depth of 2 meters.