## ESTIMATES COMMITTEE 1959-60

#### SEVENTIETH REPORT

(SECOND LOK SABHA)

#### MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Action taken by Government on the Recommendations contained in the Sixty-first Report of the Estimates Committee (First Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Transport—Inland Water Transport



### LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT NEW DELHI

December, 1959 Aghan, 1881 (Saka)
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#### ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

#### 1959-60

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Shri R. K. A. Subrahmanya—Under Secretary.

#### INTRODUCTION

- I, the Chairman, Estimates Committee, having been authorised by the Committee, present this Seventieth Report of the Estimates Committee of the Second Lok Sabha on the Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Sixty-first Report of the Estimates Committee (First Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Transport—Inland Water Transport.
- 2. The Sixty-first Report of the Estimates Committee (First Lok Sabha) was presented to the Lok Sabha on the 28th March, 1959. The Government furnished their replies to the recommendations in the report, between February, 1959 and August, 1959. The Study Group 'G' of the Estimates Committee examined these replies on the 14th September, 1959.
  - 3. The Report has been divided into five chapters:
    - I. Report;
    - II. Recommendations that have been accepted by Government;
    - III. Replies of Government that have been accepted by the Committee
    - IV. Replies of Government that have not been finally accepted by the Committee; and
    - V. Recommendations in respect of which final replies of Government have not been received.
- 4. An analysis of the action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Sixty-first Report of the Estimates Committee (First Lok Sabha) is given in Appendix II. It would be observed therefrom that out of the 38 recommendations made in the report 21 per cent of the recommendations have been accepted fully by Government, while 47.4 per cent of the recommendations have been accepted partly. Of the rest, replies of Government in respect of 10.5 per cent of the recommendations have been accepted by the Committee while those in respect of 18.5 per cent of the recommendations have not been accepted by the Committee. The Government have not furnished replies to 2.6 per cent of the recommendations.

New Delhi-1,

The 17th December, 1959.

Aghan 26, 1881 (Saka)

H. C. DASAPPA,

Chairman,

Estimates Committee.

#### CHAPTER I

#### REPORT

In para 34 of their Sixty-first Report (First Lok Sahba) the Estimates Committee noting with regret that the Inland Water Transport had been neglected for a long time past felt that the matter should be taken up seriously. They recommended that the question of declaring important waterways as national waterways should be taken up and a beginning should be made with the Ganga Brahmaputra Waterways. They further recommended that the Inland Water Transport Committee might be asked to go into the question of expenditure involved in declaring other important waterways in the county as national waterways and to prepare a scheme for gradual increase in the mileage of waterways to be declared as national waterways. The Government stated in reply as follows:

"The Constitution provides that shipping and navigation on inland waterways declared by law to be national as regards mechanically propelled vessels, shall be the concern of the Central Government. The major implications of declaring a waterway as National by Statute are that the Central Government will have to be responsible for the conservancy of such a waterway and also administrative control of shipping and navigation on such a waterway. far as the Calcutta-Assam route is concerned, the State Government have been contributing only small amounts to conservancy. The conservancy work is carried out by the Joint Steamer Companies, who are fully experienced in this work. The Central Government have decided to make a grant of Rs. 5 lakhs per annum to the Joint Steamer Companies for a period of three years for this purpose, beginning from 1957-58. The Central Government are thus now bearing a substantial part of the conservancy expenditure on this waterway. As regards the Ganga, the Ganga Brahmaputra Water Transport Board has been bearing a substantial part of the conservancy expenditure since 1957. As regards executive control, at present, the State Governments exercise this control. But, most of the inland vessels on the Ganga and the Brahmaputra are registered and surveyed at Calcutta. The State Government have entrusted the administrative work to the Principal Officer, Mercantile Marine Department, who is an officer of the Central Government. The declaring of general waterways as National and taking over the entire administrative responsibility by the Central Government will be decided in the light of the recommendations of the Inland Water Transport Committee, which are to be received shortly."

Referring to the report of the Estimates Committee, the Inland Water Transport Committee has in its report stated as follows:

"36.1 During the course of our enquiry, there was a general demand from the State Governments and non-official organisations that the important waterways in their particular regions should be declared as National Waterways, thereby shifting the responsibility for conservancy and maintenance

of these waterways and for development of inland water transport from the State Governments concerned to the Government of India.

- 36.2 The Constitutional position is that when an inland waterway is declared by Parliament by law to be a National Waterway, Parliament alone has the power to legislate with regard to shipping and navigation and carriage of passengers and goods in mechanically propelled vessels and the rule of the road on that waterway (Vide entries 24 and 30 in List I). The executive power of the Central Government is co-extensive with this legislative power of Parliament as provided in Article 73 of the Constitution.
- 36.3 Although the ownership of the waters of the National Waterway will continue to vest in one or the other State, the Central Government would still have the right and the consequent and co-relative liability over that Waterway for the limited purpose envisaged in entries 24 and 30 in the List I of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. It would, therefore, be the Central Government's responsibility to maintain the National Waterway so far as such maintenance related to shipping and navigation as regards mechanically propelled vessels. It would also appear to be the right and responsibility of the Centre to take the measures indicated below:—
  - (a) Hydrographic surveys and enforcement of draft restrictions according to the availability of seasonal depths.
  - (b) Day to day conservancy measures such as (i) bandalling; (ii) dredging; (iii) marking of channel for day and night navigation.
  - (c) Salvage operations such as removal of wrecks and snags constituting a danger to navigation.
  - (d) Enforcement of Rules of the Road and assistance in the event of groundings or collision.
  - (e) River training measures of a permanent nature involving]capital expenditute.
- 36.4 It would further appear that in respect of a National Waterway, a State Government might not have the right to divert water from that waterway for irrigation purposes so as to prejudice shipping and navigation therein by mechanically propelled vessels contrary to the provision of any Central Act in that behalf.
- 36.5 We have given anxious thought to the whole question and feel that it is desirable to suggest certain principles on the basis of which it may be examined whether any particular waterway should be considered for being declared as a National Waterway, bearing in mind the legal and financial implications involved. We suggest the following principles for consideration:
  - (a) That the waterway should pass through and serve the interests of more than one State in India;
  - (b) That the waterway should have on it a substantial amount of traffic by mechanically propelled vessels; and
  - (c) That the Government of India should be satisfied that it will not be possible for the State Governments concerned to undertake proper regulation and development of such Waterway and that it should, therefore, be virtually taken over by the Government of India in the national interest.

- 36.6 In the light of the above, we doubt if any of the waterways except the one connecting Calcutta with Assam needs further consideration. Even this waterway is not continuous and passes through several hundred miles of Pakistan territory. We feel that the declaration of this waterway as a National Waterway is likely to introduce complications which would be expedient to avoid at present. In the circumstances, we do not recommend any of the waterways in India to be declared as a National Waterway at this stage.
- 36.7 At the same time, we would strongly urge that the Government of India should assume responsibility for improving and maintaining all important waterways of the country, including more particularly those suggested for early development in our report.
- 36.8 We are unable to go into the question of expenditure involved in maintaining and improving these and other waterways on the material available to us. The matter will have to be further examined by the technical staff in the light of such hydrographic and other surveys."
- While the Committee appreciate the analysis of the problem made by the Inland Water Transport Committee they are unable to see whether the conclusions drawn by that Committee follow from the analysis. The Inland Water Transport Committee have not explained the considerations underlying the principles enunciated by them for declaring a waterway as a national waterway and whether the principles do not apply in the case of the Ganga Brahmaputra Waterways which the Estimates Committee had specifically suggested to be declared as a National Waterway. As it is stated that the Ganga Brahmaputra Water Transport Board which is a tripartite body bears a substantial portion of the expenditure on the conservancy of the Ganga and the administrative work relating to the inland vessels on the Ganga and the Brahmaputra is entrusted to a Central Government official, the Committee feel that there is already a Prima facie case for declaring the Ganga and Brahmaputra Waterways as national waterways. They also feel that though the other waterways might not fulfil all conditions prescribed by the Inland Water Transport Committee for declaring them as national waterways, it might be essential that some of the important waterways should be declared as national waterways in order that they might be developed on sound lines. They, therefore, resterate their earlier recommendation and suggest that early action be taken to declare the Ganga Brahmaputra Waterways as National Waterways and also to re-examine that other waterways may be declared as such. >
- 2. In para 45 of their report the Committee suggested that the question of making the Ganga Brahmaputra Board a statutory body might be examined and pointed out that the representative of the Ministry who appeared before them for tendering evidence had agreed at the suggestion of the Committee to include the question in the terms of reference of the Inland Water Transport Committee. In para 94 the Committee specifically recommended that the terms of reference of the Inland Water Transport Committee might be made more comprehensive by including *inter alia* the subject of making the Ganga Brahmaputra Board a statutory Board. The Government stated in reply to para 45 that the recommendation of the Committee had been accepted and that the matter was before the Inland Water Transport Committee and further it was proposed to take a final decision after the report of the

Committee had been received. In reply to para 94, it was, however, stated that the question of making the Ganga Brahmaputra Water Transport Board as a statutory Body was essentially an administrative matter and it had not therefore been considered necessary to refer it to the Inland Water Transport Committee. The Committee feel that the replies of Government are some what contradictory. They, however, urge that further steps might be taken to have the desirability of making the Ganga Brahmaputra Board a statutory board examined and bring in a legislation to that affect at an early date.

- 3. In para 100 of their report, the Committee desired that detailed investigation on the five schemes recommended by the Central Water and Power Commission in their Master Plan for the development of inland waterways should be pursued with vigour. The Government stated in reply that the Inland Water Transport Committee had come to the conclusion that in the present conditions it would be more advantageous to undertake hydrographical surveys in respect of certain specified stretches of certain rivers with a view to determine their navigability. In this connection the Inland Water Transport Committee has stated as follows:
- 24.4. The Central Water and Power Commission considered that the unified multi-purpose development of the rivers could make vast stretches navigable and by inter-connecting some of these rivers a net work of waterways from coasts to coasts could be created. They accordingly prepared a rough outline plan which has been referred to as the 'Master Plan' for guidance in planning. The following are the main schemes outlined in the Plan:
  - (i) Linking the Ganga with west flowing rivers to provide a continuous waterways from the West Coast (Arabian Sea) to the East Coast (Bay of Bengal).
  - by (a) Connecting the Narbada with the Sone viz. the Johilla, a tributary of the Sone.
    - (b) Connecting the Narbada with the Sone (a tributary of the Ganga) via the Hiran and Katni Nai (tributaries of the Narbada and the Sone respectively).
    - (c) Connecting the Narbada with the Chambal via the Karam river (tributary of the Narbada).
    - (d) Connecting the Narbada with the Yamuna via the Bearma and the Ken (tributaries of the Ken and the Yamuna).
  - (ii) Linking the Narbada with the Godavari to provide a continuous waterway from the West Coast to the East Coast.
  - (iii) Linking the Tapti with the Godavari system via the Wardha to provide an alternative waterway connecting the West Coast with the East Coast via the Sone and the Rihand.
  - (iv) Linking the Ganga with the Mahanadi.
  - (v) Inland coastal waterway from Calcutta to Mangalore via Cuttack and Madras.
- 24.5. The representatives of the Central Water and Power Commission explained to us that the Outline Plan, was in itself not a blue print for specific schemes but it was only a basis for planning and for further investigations and that field investigations such as the extent of navigability of the rivers and their slopes in different stretches have yet to be carried out. The Central Water and Power Commission are pursuing further studies of the proposals outlined

in the scheme and have prepared a preliminary draft report on linking the Narbada with the Sone. Investigations such as traffic potential have yet to be carried out.

- 24.6. As we had doubts about sufficient water being available in the rivers to be connected for both irrigation and navigation throughout the year, we requested the Central Water and Power Commission to examine the matter and let us have their views. They now inform us that they are studying the matter in detail but from the preliminary studies made so far they find that adequate water will be available in some of the rivers to be linked.
- 24.11. To explore the possibility of immediate development of navigation on certain important rivers and canals, we suggested in our recommendations that investigations should be taken in hand immediately to ascertain how far they could possibly be made navigable, without prohibitive cost, for minimum depths as indicated below:—
  - (a) Stretches likely to afford a depth of 6 ft. to 8 ft. from the mouth inland.
  - (b) Stretches likely to afford a depth of 4 ft. to 6 ft. in continuation of (a)
  - (c) Stretches likely to afford a minimum depth of 3 ft. to 4 ft. in continuation of (b).
- 24-12. We have suggested that studies on the above lines should be carried out on the following rivers and waterways, both at the end of the monsoon and during the low water season:
  - (a) River Ganga from Allahabad to Kanpur—a distance of 155 miles.
  - (b) River Yamuna—Allahabad to Chambal river—a distance of 290 miles.
  - (c) River Tapti—Surat to Bhusawal—a distance of 232 miles.
  - (d) River Narbada—Broach to Hoshangabad—a distance of 370 miles.
  - (e) River Mahanadi—Cuttack to Dholpur—a distance of 107 miles.
  - (f) River Godavari—Dowalishwaram Anicut to Pranhita—a distance of 260 miles.
  - (g) Sabari and Sileru, tributaries of the Godavari river.
  - (h) Krishna river.

Our idea in making this recommendation was try and see how far these rivers could be made navigable from the mouth upwards; thus generally cutting across road and rail communications and not running parallel to them. This data was not available to us at the time of submission of this report. When these investigations are completed, it would be possible to ascertain how far and at what cost we could make our important rivers navigable from the mouth upwards into hinterland".

It is not clear to the Committee whether the recommendations of the Inland Water Transport Committee are intended to supersede the recommendations made by the C.W.P.C. in their Master Plan for the development of the Indian waterways or to supplement them. As, however, the C.W.P.C. is stated to be carrying out further studies with regard to the plan drawn by it and in view of the fact that the Inland Water Transport Committee has also not given any

alternative master plan the Committee recommend that steps might be taken to finalise the Master Plan learly and determine precisely the broad objectives in the field of development of water transport before undertaking the work on specific schemes so that the resources available are not frittered away.

The Committee would also like to suggest that while finalising the Master Plan, the development of inland waterways might be given special consideration in those regions where due to dearth of rail or road communications, inland water transport is the main means of communication as in the deltaic regions of Orissa. In this connection the Committee would like to draw attention to the following observations made by the I.W.T. Committee in para 15 of their Report:—

"The State of Orissa, is, at present poorly served by Railways. main line of the south-eastern railway passes through Cuttack between the coast and the vast hinterland. The National High-way also runs parallel and close to it in a North-Easterly/South-Westerly direction, while the major inland waterways of Orissa run through the State from roughly west to east across the main highway and railway lines. In the deltaic regions, such as the areas served by the Kendrapara and Taldanda Canals and the Orissa Coast Canal and the hinterland, west of the railway line between Cuttack and Dholpur on the Mahanadi, inland water transport is the main means of communication. We are greatly impressed with the potentialities of water transport in the deltaic region whose development is intimately connected with the future development of Paradip Port which has recently been declared a minor Port. These waterways serve a region completely devoid of rail communication and where road communication is not adequate. The necessity of a co-ordinated development of these waterways in this region has impressed us greatly. While water transport in Orissa cannot be fully developed without an outlet to the sea through Paradip Port, the development of a Port itself is dependent, entirely on the amount of traffic fed into it and taken out of it and this, as it stands, can only be effected by inland water transport. The two schemes are, therefore, interdependent and should be developed simultaneously."

## CHAPTER II

# RECOMMENDATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY GOVERNMENT

S. No. of the Recom- menda- tions	S. No. of Reference the to Recom- paragraph menda- in the tions Report	Summary of Recommendations	Reply of Government
1	2	m	4
7	23	The Committee are glad to note the undertaking given by the representative of the Ministry of Transport that they will have to accept the responsibility of co-ordinating and developing inland Water Transport and hope that the Ministry will now function with this enlarged responsibility. The Committee further recommend that the suggestion to divide the entire country into different contiguous regions and to put	The Committee's recommendation is accepted and action is being taken accordingly.  [Ministry of Transport and Communications— Department of Transport (Transport Wing) O. M. No. 7-IWT (78)/57 dated the 6th March, 1959].

gation in consultation with the Central Water and the State each region under charge of a competent technical officer to attend to the development of river navigation in different regions should be drawn up after careful study and investifor gradual implementation subject to the availability of resources. Commission and Power Governments

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port Board for the year 1958 is expected to be report of the Ganga Brahmaputra Water Trans-Department of Transport (Transport Wing) O.M No. 7-IWT (78)/57 dated the 6th March, 1959]. The Committee find that no annual reports The recommendation is accepted. issued shortly. [Ministry of Board. The Ganga Ministry have informed the Committee that important appendix to the report of the Minino separate report has so far been issued by the Board with regard to its working and that the annual Administration Report of the Ministry of Transport includes stry of Transport. The salient features of account of the working of the Board. The account given in the annual report of the Ministry of Transport is very sketchy and barely covers a page. The Committee suggest that the Board should issue a regular report on its working and it might from an the report may be mentioned in the main on its working are issued by the Brahmaputra Water Tansport

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The Govt. of Orissa are carrying out hydro-graphical surveys of the Dholpur-Cuttack stretch of the Mahanadi with a view to deterrequested to study the economic potentialities The Central Water & Power Research Station, necessary. The State Govt, have also been Poona have undertaken model tests regarding of developing navigation on this river. State Government are arranging the survey. mine the extent of river conservancy Paradip Port and have prepared a This Report is under examination. The Committee regret to note that other urgent The Committee suggest that the scheme of navigation on the Mahanadi should be problems necessitated the postponement of investigation in connection with the developpursued as originally contemplated as early are expected to be completed by the end of as possible. As regards investigations in ment of navigation on the Mahanadi river. connection with the development of a port at the mouth of the Mahanadi river, which 1958 the Committee suggest that efforts be made to complete the investigations earlier. 8

92 The Committee are glad to note the association of the non-official element in the Inland water] Transport Committee.

No. 7-IWT (78) dated the 6th March, 1959]
Noted.

[Ministry of Transport and Communications—

Department of Transport (Transport Wing) O.M.

Depti. of Transport (Transport Wing) O.M. No 7-IWT (78)/57 dated the 6th March, 1959].

[Ministry of Transport and Communications-

Shri Lokur had suggested that river conservancy work should be taken over by Government and that, till then, the grants to the Joint Steamer Companies are operating now only on the Calcutta—Assam route. The Central Government have agreed to meet the actual cost of river conservancy on this route

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Rs. 5 lakhs, per year for a period of three years beginning | from 1957-58, the position being Pradesh. This will benefit the proposed push towing service from Buxar—Raj Mahal (Ganga) the pull towing service from Patna—Behraj (Ganga—Ghogra) and the bigger sized within Indian territory subject to a maximum of subject to review thereafter. The Ganga Brahamaputra Board is now contributing a sum of Rs. one lakh for the river conservancy on the Ganga in Bihar and Rs. 50,cco/- in the Uttar country craft plying in the river. It will also 2. As regards other waterways, the recommenda-(Department of Transport (Transport Wing) O.M. Except two pusher tugs all the other crafts recommended by Mr. J.J. Surio, have been received. One pusher tug will be delivered within a week delay in construction is due to the fact that Direc-[Ministry of Transport and Communications-General Supplies and Disposals originally No. IWT (70)/57 dated the 28th April, 1957] and the second one in about a month's time. tions of the Gokhale Committe are awaited deterioration channels of the river. prevent further obtained for non-recurring and recurring expenditure on this account". "Special efforts should be made to obtain exmeasures required at various places should "The Committee consider the recommendations channel conservancy measures adopted by "The problems of channel conservancy be carefully examined and provision of funds made by Shri N. S. Lokur in respect of the Joint Steamer Companies as reasonable and fair and suggest that Government should reconsider the position and take steps to peditiously the craft and other equipment for the Upper Ganga Pilot Project, and the Project put into operation as early as possible in order that the results of its working may be available for guidance in other places." 3 implement them". 125 9 25

which unfortunately failed to carry out the order. Fresh tenders had therefore to be called. It is proposed to start the push towing pilot project awarded this contract to a firm (United Traders) in early April, 1959.

A country boat towing pilot project was started on 11-1-58.

[Ministry of Transport and Communications— Department of Transport (Transport Wing) O.M.

The recommendation has been accepted and brought to the notice of all the State Governments and No. 7-IW T(78)/57 dated the 6th March, 1959].

Future construction of canals in the country

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[Ministry of Transport and Communications-Department of Transport (Transport Wing) O.M No. 7-IWT (78)/57 dated the 6th March, 1959]. Project Authorities concerned. provision of navigational facilities side by should be designed with due regard to the side, wherever the same are feasible and required in the wider interest of the country.

## CHAPTER III

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ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE	4	Committee understand from a recent The Punjab Government have been working out is report that a proposal to have a canal a scheme for an irrigation canal known as the cing Delhi is under consideration of the Gurgaon Canal Tunnel scheme. The Scheme the has not so far been included in the Second Five posal and hope that the same will be Year Plan.	[Ministry of Transport and Communications—Deptt. of Transport (Transport Wing) O.M. No. 7-IWT (73)/58 dated the 18th February, 1959].	The provision of Rs. 43 lakhs for the development of West Coast Canals during the Second Five Year Plan period was made out of the overall plan provision of Rs. 3 crores for the development of inland water transport through out India. This has been recently reduced by the Planning Commission to Rs. 142 lakhs.
REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT THAT HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE	3	The Committee understand from a recent press report that a proposal to have a canal skirting Delhi is under consideration of the Government. The Committee welcome the proposal and hope that the same will be finalised soon.		"The provision of only Rs. 43 lakhs for the development of west coast canals appears to be inadequate. Feasibility of increasing the same may be examined."
REPLIE	8	16		65
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Rs. to lakhs for Mysore. In view of the possibility of development of I.W.T. in this region the Lo their interim recommendation the Inland Water recommend a provision of Rs. 20 lakhs for Kerala and original provision of Rs. 43 lakhs has been allocated for Kerala. As regards Mysore no provision was made in the Second Plan as the State did not suggest any and nor has it been found possible to provide the funds from the reduced allocaplan. The matter however be reviewed after the report of the traffic survey of the canals on the West coact which is already in progress is completed Committee and the report made available. tion made in the revised Transport Enquiry

[Ministry of Transport and Communications—Deptt. of Transport (Transport Wing) O.M. No. 7-IWT (64)/57 dt. 22-6-1959].

material available in this Department has since

The Committee's observations are noted.

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been made available to the Inland Water Transport

Committee)

(Gokhale

Enquiry Committee

which enquired into the problem as a whole and

whose recommendations have just been received.

a long term plan for the development of inland

water transport.

These are being studied with a view to prepare

The Committee note with regret that the in-Ministry regarding the development of river navigation in India which no doubt is a diffian all India of developing inland water transport in the country was spective plan has so far been drawn up by the cult and vast task but holds possibilities of achievement at a time when it is most needed to supplement the other means of transport strained to the utmost at the not put to any useful purpose in that no per-Ministry collected by the Transport in 1949 regarding survey of the possibilities formation

[Ministry of Transport and Communications—Deptt. of Transport (Transport Wing) O.M. No. 585-IWT/59 dated the 29th July, 1959].

Sen The I.W.T. Committee, in their interim recommittee who will make suitable recommendations for the development of the Buckingham Canal survey of the Buckingham Canal region. report of the survey is awaited by the Committee arranged for a in the light of that report. The I.W.T. canal with the Madras harbour should be carried out within the Second Five Year Plan offers great potentialities for the development ments needed together with the linking of the of traffic and suggest that all the improveperiod to enable the canal to fulfil a long The Committee feel that the Buckingham Canal elt need

The I.W.T. Committee, in their interim recommendations, suggested that experimental dredging should be carried out in certain stretches of the Buckingham Canal by Madras and Andhra Pradesh Governments to see whether the Canal bed when deepened would not heave up again almost immediately to its predredged level as was reported to have happened earlier when the bed was deepened manually. The State Governments of Madras and Andhra Pradesh have been requested to carry out this

experiment and intimate the result.

The Planning Commission have recently agreed to provide Rs. 10 lakhs in the revised Second Plan allocation to carry out improvements of canals in Madras and Andhra areas. The State Governments have been informed about this and told that if they require funds for purchasing or constructing dredgers to carry out experimental dredging, they might submit proposals for

suitable dredgers to us. Thei reply is awaited.
[Ministry of Transport and Communications —Department of Transport (Transport Wing) O.M.
No. 7-IWT (78)/57 dated the 6th March, 1959].

The Committee suggest that the feasibility of connecting Kurnool-Cuddappah canal with some commercial and industrial centres to make it more useful may be examined.

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The recommendation has been examined in con-The entire length of the Kurnool-Cuddappah canal, was I-I-1930. On I-7-1933, the canal from lock navigable from the year 1870 to January 19 o. As there was poor traffic in the canal and practically no return for the large amounts spent towards its maintenance for navigation, a portion of the canal below lock No. 18 to the end of the canal was closed for navigation with effect from No. I to lock No. 18 was also closed for na-The Andhra Government who were requested to consider the Estimates Committ e's recommendation have replied that the question of restoring navigation for the entire length of the canal and also extending it by about 13 furlong Krishnapuram Railway Station was examined by the State Government in 1942. In view of the fact that the people were not taking advantage of the navigation facilities and there and all traffic available is only one way without was, practically, no boat traffic even in the reaches where the canal was navigable, the State Governis little prospect of development of navigation as the canal does not connect with any port No minerals are quarried along There is no forest produce available anywhere along the route, as the canal only about circuits the railway line from drop the question. sultation with the State Government. ment decided to return loads. or export the route. vigation. upto

Kurnool to Nandyal. The towns in the Kurnool Cuddappah area i.e. Kurnool, Nandikotkur and Nandyal are already connected by the canal. The Government of Andhra have suggested that the question of restoring navigation on this canal may be reviewed in the 3rd Five Year Plan when the country is expected to be industrialised.

[Ministry of Transport and Communications— Department of Transport (Transport Wing) O.M. No. 7-IW T(78)/57 dated the 6th March, 1959]. Irrigation-cum-Navigation Canal for loading end unloading of cargo from the boats. As regards special type barges for operation on this

regular terminal points on the Damodar Valley

The Damodar Valley Corporation have provided

traffic by allowing private companies to operate their existing craft. The question of building

special type craft and operating them does not therefore arise for the present.

canal, to begin with, the intention is to attract

The Committee recommend that the Government should give due consideration to the suggestions of Shri N.C. Ghosh, Director/Manager, India River Transport Company Limited, Calcutta, regarding the necessity of special type of craft to navigate on the Damodar Valley irrigation-cum-havigation canal and the need for having regular terminal points along the entire stretch of the canal system.

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The recommendations regarding close cooperation

The Committee further recommend that the Ministry of Transport should not escape

of the river valley and other multipurpose proits responsibility by saying that the utilisation lects for the purpose of navigation is primarily Irrigation and Power Ministry from the very possible such schemes must provide for the It should fully associate itself with nception to see that where navigation is a mere onlooker on such important projects other Ministries to safeguard the interests such schemes and cooperate in full with the same in the overall interests of the country. The Transport Ministry should cease to be and should work in close cooperation with or the Irrigation and Power Ministry to consi-

of inland navigation and its development in

the country.

8

ment of Transport (Transport Wing) O.M. No.

7-IW T(70)/57 dated 28th April, 1959]

[Ministry of Transport and Communications—Depart-

has been established between the Ministry of

Transport and the Ministry of Irrigation and Inland Navigation are noted. Close cooperation

respect

Power in this

with other Ministries to safeguard the interest of

to Rajmahal in early April, 1959. A country Except two pusher tugs, the other craft recommended by Mr. J. J. Surie have been received. The delay in construction is due to the fact that Director General, Supplies and Disposals initially awarded this contract to a firm which unfortunately failed to carry out the order. Fresh tenders had therefore to be called. It is proposed and the second one in about a month's time. One pusher tug will be delivered within a week boat towing pilot project between Chapra was started on 11-1-1958 As regards the diesel ferry service across the Brahmaputra, the intention was to locate it at

ferry vessel across the Brahmanutra. The Comdern craft on the shallow waterways of India in carrying out necessary investigations and surveys, obtaining the craft and placing the The Committee regretfully observe that although mittee feel that the need for operating monearly 4 years have elapsed since Mr. J.J. Surie, an Inland Water Expert of the U.N., subhim for the Ganga, Gogra, and Brahmaputra rivers have not yet been received and put into operation and that surveys are still in progress for drawing up specifications for the diesel is very urgent and that no time should be lost mitted his report, the crafts recommended by same in service asked whether they would still adhere to the

The State Government have accordingly been

original specifications for a ferry service or they would reconsider the requirements. Their views

are awaited.

Gauhati. Specifications were drawn up accordingly and tenders were invited by the Ganga Brahmputra Water Transport Board in 1957.

The Railways have however taken a decision to construct a rail-cum-bridge at Pandu. It has therefore become necessary to consider the effect of the bridge on the proposed ferry service.

[Ministry of Transport " and Communications —Department of Transport (Transport Wing) O.M. No. 7-IWT(78):57 dated the 6th March, 1959].

The Industrial Finance Corporation Act covers assistance for Indian Registered firms engaged in shipping. The word 'shipping' appearing in Src. 2(c) of the I.F.C. Act covers all kinds of shipping including Inland Water Transport Companies. I.W.T. Companies which are public limited Companies or co-operative Societies incorporated by a Central Act or an Act of Legislature of a State or under any law for the time being in force and registered in India are eligible for loan assistance by the Corporation. No request for financial assistance has, however,

The Committee suggest that the feasibility of including the Inland Water Transport Companies in the list of industrial concerns to whom financial aid could be granted by the Industrial Finance Corporation, should be sympathetically examined by the Ministries of Transport and Finance.

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to<sub>7</sub>

been received by the Government so far from Indian shipping companies.

[Ministry of Transport and Communications—Department of Transport (Transport Wing) O.M. No. 17-IWT(1)':9 dated 3rd April, 1959].

beacons. The Board is processing the scheme for the procurement of aga beacons required The question has been considered in consultation with the Director General, Light-houses and Lightships. That Directorate is now prepared to meet the requirement of the Ganga Brahmapu'ra Water Transport Board in respect of 'aga' their Forty-seventh Report wherein it has been pointed out that the Light House Department The Committee would like to refer to para 67 of the automatic beacons for Inlnad Water Naviof the Government of India has developed an acetylene flasher. The Committee suggest that the feasibility of utilising these flashers in III

gation should be examined in consultation with

the Light-house Department.

[Ministry of Transport and Communications—Department of Transport—(Transport Wing) O.M. No. 17-IWT(8)/59 dated the 3rd July, 1959].

for Sunderban and Brahmaputra

The Posts and Telegraphs Directorate prepared an estimate involving Ganga Brahmapu'ra Water Transport Board in a recurring expenditure of Rs. 93,500/- per annum. The Joint Steamer vide and maintain the wireless sets by the Posts "The Committee hope that the proposal to proand Telegraphs Department on the payment of a yearly rental by the Ganga Brahmaputra Water Transport Board will be implemented

Companies who were to be the main beneficiaries, no other Companies having showed any interest in his scheme, were unable to commit themselves to brar any part of the additional recurring expenditure in view of financial stringency. They are at present operating their own wireless sets at certain shoals on the Brahmaputra. The scheme was, therefore, not processed. Recently

without delay."

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the Ganga Brahmaputra Water Transport Board have proposed installing radio telephone sets at Dhuri and Pandu Ports only to begin with. The Joint Steamer Companies have expressed their willingness to share the expenditure on this scheme. The matter is being pursued further

[Ministry of Transport and Communications — Department of Transport (Transport Wing) O.M. No. 17-IWT (12)/59 dated 20th July, 1959]

Designs of Pandu, Karimganj, Patna and Dhubri have been completed by the Ganga Brahmaputra Water Transport Board's engineers. No shortage of engineering staff was experienced in this connection.

[Ministry of Transport and Communications—Department of Transport (Transport Wing) O.M. No. 7-IWT (78)/57 dated the 6th March, 1959].

Plan period for I.W.T. it is proposed to develop

Pandu Port only during the current Plan Period

Due to reduced plan allocation during the Second

ing sraff for preparing designs of modern equipment for berthing of vessels and for mechanical handling of cargo for all

inland water ports and that designs for other

rivarine ports should be finalised without

The Committee suggest that suitable steps should

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be taken to overcome the shortage of engineer-

The Committee are glad to note that provision has recruitment of necessary staff and the purcha e been made in the Ganga Brahmaputra Water narain River and Brahmaputra River at various Transport Board's second five year plan for of vessels for carrying out the Survey of Ganga River, Sunderban area, Hooghly River, Rupplaces and the feeder rivers Dehing, Subansiri **611** 

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Under the original second five year plan proposal, provision was made for the purchase of 3 Survey 2. A Technical Sub-Committee of the Board finalised the designs and specifications and tenders were 3. Meantime, the original provision of Rs. 300 lakhs for I.W.T. was reduced to Rs. 142 lakhs. 4. It is proposed to utilise Rs. 15 lakhs for purchase of 3 survey vessels. The provision of foreign exchange involved is being processed. 5. The Board is however carrying out surveys of Brahmaputra, Ganga and the feeder rivers Launches. invited.

Subansiri, Dehing etc., on a limited scale with 2 small Survey Launches already acquired.

[Ministry of Transport and Communications—Department of Transport (Transport Wing) O.M. The recommendation of the Estimates Committee No. 7-IWT (121)/57 dated the 9th March, 1959]

> The Committee suggest that the provision of Launches at other crossings as at Beharikal, a border station on the Sunderbans, should be

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expedited.

has been examined in consultation with the Ministries of Home Affairs and Finance and the S ate Governments of West Bengal and Assam.

The West Bengal Government have intimated that there are no other steamer crossings with which present arrangements at Dhubri and Karimganj they are concerned. As regards Assam, are working satisfactorily.

partment of Transport (Transport Wing) O.M. Ministry of Transport and Communications—De-No. 17-IWT(1)|59 dated the 29th July, 1959].

The Committee are of the opinion that various nies are the normal facilities required for the purpose of maintaining efficient system of infacilities suggested by the Steamship Compathat provision of these fa ilities should be land water transport. They, therefore, suggest arranged on a systematic basis.

The recommendation, in so far as the provision

radio-telephone c mmunications between vessels and shore stations to recommendations No. 19 and 20. As regards the item relating to the provision of suitable, floating or shore outposts at border check points, a separate reply is being sent with reference to recommendation No. 23. As regards the provision of modern equipment of a permanent berth and two transit sheds are included in the project for development of Pandu Port. This akhs has been provided in he revised allocations of automatic flashing beacons to facilitate night are concerned, has been covered by the replies nature for the berthing of vessels and for mechanical handling of cargo, one mechanically operated during the 2nd Five Year Plan for the construction of Pandu Port. The extent of mechanisation will depend on the availability of necessary foreign project will cost Rs. 30 lakhs. A sum of Rs. navigation and introduction of

As regards river surveys, the Ganga-Brahmaputra Water Transport Board owns two small survey aunches. One is employed on the Ganga and the other is in Assam. The Subansiri and the Dehing rivers in Assam have been surveyd. A survey of the Ganga is in progress. Specifications for bigger survey launches for the main waterways

the 2nd Five Year Plan. A part of this will be required as foreign exchange. The matter is alternative arrangements for the running of have been prepared. A provision of Rs. 15 lakhs for the purchase of three survey vessels was suggested in the revised allocation of funds during under examination in consultation with the The suggestion regarding improvement of roads to ghats has been brought to the notice of the The recommendation was brought to the notice Brahmaputra Water T ansport Board to suggest by the Joint Steamer Companies. That Committee Transport (Transport Wing) O.M. No. 17-IWT(1) 59 dated the 29th July, of a Committee which was set up by the Ganga-Bihar IWT Services consequent on the withdrawal traffic should move by the rail-cum-river route via Rajmahal. This is feasible only if the river freight rate is more attractive than the freight by the all-rail route. A traffic survey of the Ganga Transport and Communications recommended that Calcutta Bihar (river stations) has now been arranged through the National Planning Commission. 1 Government of Assam. Department of [Ministry of 1959]. enough traffic at present for transport by rail, The Committee are of the opinion that there is road as well as steamers. They, therefore, suggest that the matter of the rational organisation of transport in the region should be examined and efforts made to earmark certain amount of traffic for earriage by river naviga-

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survey is in progress. The question of ear-

Council of Applied Economic Research. This marking certain amount of traffic for carriage by river will be considered in consultation with the railways in the light of the results of the traffic

[Ministry of Transport and Communications— Department of Transport (Transport Wing) O.M. NO. 7-IWT (78)/57 dated the 6th March, [Ministry of Transport and Communications - Departhydrographic surveys of certain stretches of survey and the report of the I.W.T. Committee The recommendation has been noted. Information regarding the provisions in the laws of the foreign of Transport (Transport Wing) O.M. the following more important rivers with a view countries have been obtained and is being studied. The Committee on Inland Water Transport have, in their interim recommendations, suggested to determine their navigability from mouths Godavari upto the confluence of Pranhita which is expected to be received in a few weeks No. 7-IWT(121)/57 dated the 9th March, 1959] Yamuna from Allahabad to where the Cham-1. Ganga from Allahabad to Kanpur. Mahanadi from Cuttack to Dholpur. upwards as far as possible:bal joins the Yamuna. and including Sabari. 1959]. ment "The Committee suggest that the question of foreign countries studied and the Act suitably nothing has been done to develop the potentialiamending the Inland Steam Vessels Act on the lines suggested by the Steamship Companies should be examined, provision in the laws of The Committee feel that the rivers like Narbada and Tapti, on the Western Coast have long been neglected with the result that their waterways have been silted up and blocked and their ties of navigation on these rivers. The Committee recommend that the Ministry of Transport should arrange early for a survey of the navigation possibilities of these rivers, as also Ports have been made unsailable. So far of the Chambal and Jamuna in consultation with the Central Water and Power Commission 134 140 131 27

and the State Governments concerned. They may be constituted for this purpose.

vers and canals throughout India and the carthe navigation potentialities of the various rirying out of improvements and extensions also recommend that an inter-state River Board The Drawing up of schemes, with a view to study thereto should be take 1 in hand without further delay and the work completed within a period of say, 2-3 years. The West Coast should be facilities as in the case of North-East, East, and explored early for providing river navigation

5. Narbada from the sea to the south of Hos-Detailed estimates for these surveys have been They have recommended a provision of Rs. 2 lakhs during the current Plan period for this purpose. Tapti from sea to the south of Bhusawal. hangabad. 7. Krishna.

prepared. The Planning Commission have approved this project. The question of provision The suggestion regarding constitution of an inter-state River Board will be pursued in the light Inland Water Transport which are now awaited. Transport and Communicationsof funds is under examination. The project will of the recommendations of the Committee on be undertaken shortly. Ministry of

Department of Transport (Transport Wing) O.M. No. 7-IWT (78)/57 dated the 6th March 1959].

should be taken to standardise country boats The Committee also suggest that suitable steps

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(Part II)

for local as well as inter-district communica-

and Angura. Life were required feasibility of standardising the country boats the feasibility of standardising the country boats with regard to size, type, design etc. The State Governments of U.P. West Bengal, Orissa, Kerala, Madras and Bihar are of the The recommendation was brought to the notice of the State Governments of Bombay, Madras, West Bengal, U.P., Bihar, Orissa, Assam, Kerala and Andhra. They were requested to examine opinion that standardisation is not feasible on an all India or even regional basis as local conditions and the nature of the waterways,

lorger remain a paying proposition. The State Government of Ardhra Pradesh also do not size and shape of the country boats vary from region to region and place to place. The Govisation of country boats may adversely affect the cost of construction and ferry services would no ernment of Madras have also stated that standardconsider it necessary to have rigicity in the matter of adoption of designs for the country boats. The comments of the Assam Government are awaited.

and their recommendations in this regard are The terms of the I.W.T. Enquiry Committee set up under Shri B. K. Gakhale cover this aspect awaited. [Ministry of Transport and Communications—Department of Transport (Transport Wing) O.M. No. IWT(78)/58 dated the 18th February, 1958].

The recemmendation has been noted. "The requirements of dredgers, and other and rivers, which have silted up through machinery required for deepening the canals neglect during the last many years, and of suitable craft and equipment required for service thereon should be estimated sufficiently in advance to enable adequate funds being

pariment of Transport (Transport Wing) O.M. No. 7. IWT (121)/57, dated the 9th March, 1959]. [Ministry of Transport and Communications—DeFive Third obtained during the

Plan period.

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partment of Transport (Transport Wing) O.M. No. 7-IWT (78)/57 dated the 6th March, 1959]. [Ministry of Transport and Communications—De-"The requirements of various facilities such as The recommendation has been noted. etties, equipment for the berthing of vessels communications, and mechanical handling of cargo, floating or shore out-posts with residential and office accommodation etc., should similarly be estimated well in advance so as to be included in the Third Five Year Plan." beacons, radio-telephone

At present most of the I.W.T. crews are recruited "Arrangements should be taken in hand for the

for inland water transport." \*

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in the Calcutta region. The West Bengal Government have a Training Centre at Calcutta where general and technical training for Deck and Engine Room ratings is imparted. The candidates from U.P., Bihar and Assam are also trained at this Centre. The Joint Steamer Companies, who are the Chief Inland Water for further practical training of the boys who Transport operators, have also made arrangements pass out from I.W.T. Training Centre, Caltraining of crew and other personnel required

personnel for appearing in the Competency Examinations of Serang/Master and Driver. partment, Calcutta has prepared a Higher Training Scheme for imparting training to the I.W.T. The Principal Officer, Mercantile Marine De-This has been agreed to in principle

4	Government of West Bengal. The State Government have been requested to expedite the introduction of this Scheme at the I.W.T. Training Centre at Calcutta.  [Ministry of Transport and Communications—Department of Transport (Transport Wing) O.M. No. 7-IWT-(75)/57, dated the 2nd March, 1959].	
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# CHAPTERIV

REPLIE	S OF THE	GOVERNMENT THAT HAVE	REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT THAT HAVE NOT BEEN FINALLY ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE	BY THE COMMITTEE
Serial No. Ref. to of the re- Para No. commen- in the dation Report	Ref. to Para No. in the Report	Summary of Recommendation	Reply of Government Com	Comments of the Committee
I	7	E	4	8
*	<b>4</b> 6	The Committee are of the opinion that the Central Government should not shirk their responsibility in the matter of declaring certain inland waterways as national waterways by statute. Inland Water Transport has been neglected for a long time past and it is high time that the matter is taken up seriously. The Railways and some road-	The Constitution provides that shipping and navigation on inland waterways declared by law to be national as regards mechanically propelled vessels, shall be the concern of the Central Government. The major implications of declaring a waterway as National by Statute are that the Central Government will have to be responsible for the conservancy of such a waterway and also administrative control of shipping and navi-	Please see para 1 of the Report.

important

at present, the State Governments exercise this control. But, most of the inland vessels on the Ganga ways have since been nationalised and brought under the Central Government. There is, therefore, no point in not up and that a beginning may Water Transport Committee may be asked to go into the question of expenditure involved in declaring other mportant waterways in the country as national waterways and to prepare a scheme for recommend that the question of declaring imwaterways should be taken be made with the Ganga and Brahmaputra waterways. Further, the proposed Inland gradual increase in the mileage of waterways to be declared waterways as national water-The Committee, cortant waterways as national as national waterways. declaring the therefore.

have ar as the Calcutta-Assam route is conservancy work is carried out by he Joint Steamer Companies, who Companies for a period of three ears for this purpose, beginning rom 1957-58. The Central Governnent are thus now bearing a substantial part of the conservancy maputra Water Transport Board concerned, the State Government akhs per annum to the Joint Steamer regards the Ganga, the Ganga Brahnave been contributing only small are fully experienced in this work. nas been bearing a substantial part of the conservancy expenditure since 1957. As regards executive control, expenditure on this waterway. zation on such a waterway. decided to make a grant of The Central Government amounts to conservancy.

and the Brahmaputra are registered

surveyed at Calcutta.

land Water Transport Committee, which are to be received shortly. responsibility by the Central Govthe administrative work to the Principal Officer, Mercantile Marine Department, who is an officer of the Central Government. The declaring of general waterways as National and aking over the entire administrative ernment will be decided in the light of the recommendations of the In-State Government have entrusted

nications (Department of Transport) Transport Wing O.M. No. 7-IWT (121)/57, dated the 9th March, 1959] Ministry of Transport and CommuPlease see para 2 of Report. The recommendation has been accepted. This matter is now before I.W.T. Committee. It is proposed to take a final decision after the report of the

Ministry of Transport and Communicato be made a statutory body. Committee feel that

Transport)

Committee has been received.

after getting 5 to 10 years experience, it would be proper time for the Ganga Brahma-

outra Water Transport Board

The representative of the Minis-

try expressed the opinion that

tions (Department of Transport)
Transport Wing O. M. No. 7-IWT (70)/57, dated the 28th April, 59] the suggestion of the Committee the representative agreed to include this question in the terms of reference of the this question might as well be examined at this stage. At

Inland Water Transport Com-

mittee which is being set up.

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Sunderbans as compared with the short haul by rail (867 miles by river by barges from Calcutta for distribution in the North India region was examined and it was found that the carriage of bulk oils by river view of the long haul by river via to the same level or below those of could not be a paying proposition in as compared with 273 miles by rail) and the necessity to keep river rates The proposal of M/s. Standard Vacuum Oil Company to transport their oil rail rates. ndia as those mentioned by the Soviet Railways and other so as to enable maximum use Standard Vacuum Oil Com-The Committee suggest that the feasibility of arriving at some such arrangements in of the surplus capacity. River navigation in many places on those occasions, the traffic business establishments, mav to move their raw materials and finished goods over the the Rhine and the Tennessee European Railways in their report and as given in para 89 should also be examined is bound to be seasonal and can be diverted from the Railways. Also, just like the pany, other big firms and be called upon by Government Ganga region by river. On the Indian delegation

to emphasize that the should make plans for the The Committee would like rationalised use of the various modes of transoort in the country Government

the Ganga in the dry season preclude working at economical draughts Navigation is navigational conditions in which the peak of dry season do not groundings affect seriously affected exceed 4'-6". further Further which

Rivers in Europe and the

Please see para 2 of the

Report.

The Mokameh bridge just completed (66) 57, dated the 13th March, 1959] opens out a direct rail route from U. S. A. respectively, bulk banks of the rivers at selected ducts by truck and rail according to requirements. Sugarin bulk quantities via watercane, coal fertilizers and raw of non-perishable goods conous if the oil companies avail bulk storage plants on the places, distributing the promaterials also can be moved stitute most of the traffic. It will be certainly advantageof the services of river transport and build terminals and ways, in certain regions.

Calcutta with telescopic rail rates to all stations in North Bihar area, which will cut completely across any suggested transport by water over Transport) Transport Wing O. M. No. 7-IWT Ministry of Transport & Communicaong distances on the Ganges. tions —(Department of

The question of declaration of National Waterways has been included in

Committee. The terms of reference maputra Water Transport Board a Statutory Body is essentially an adtherefore, been considered necessary the terms of reference of the Gokhale A copy of the terms of reference is The question of making Ganga Brahaministrative marter and it has not, to refer it to the Inland Water are now sufficiently comprehensive. attached (Appendix I).

Committee might be made more comprehensive by in-

form of the administration of

the waterways, a direct river West Coast, creation of na-

service between East and

cluding subjects like the best

Transport Committee.

tional waterways, and making

the Ganga Brahmaputra Board

a Statutory Board etc.

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The Committee welcome the appointment of the Inland Water Transport Committee. They would suggest that the terms of reference of the

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Committee also suggest that an stituted to advise the Ministry Advisory Committee be conof Transport on matters pertaining to river navigation.

set up to advise the Ministry of An advisory Committee consisting of officials and non-officials has been Transport on problems relating to road and inland water [Ministry of Transport and Communications (Department of Transport) Transport Wing O. M. No. 7-IWT (121) \$57, dated the 9th March, 1959] tions (Department

The Inland Water Transport Comof the undermentioned stretches of the more important rivers with a view Arthur Cotton and further by the Central Water and some of the proposals made by Commission in their Master Plan for development of Inland Waterways are common understand that the other the Central Water and Power to the suggestions made by Sir Sir Arthur Cotton will also be considered The Committee observe that Power Commission in suggestions of

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Please see para 3 of Report. mittee have come to the conclusion that in present conditions, it will

from Allahabad Ganga

as possible :—

to determining their navigability from their mouths upwards as far

be more advantageous to undertake hydrographical surveys in respect

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course. The Committee hope that detailed investigations on the five schemes recommended by the Central Water and Power Commission will be pursued with vigour.

- 2. Yamuna from Allanabad to where the Chambal joins the Yamuna.
  - Godavari upto the confluence of Pranhita and including Sabari.
     Mahanadi from Cuttack to Dholpur.
- 5. Narmada from the sea to the south of Hoshangabad.
  - 6. Tapti from sea to the south of Bhusawal.
- 7. Krishna.

They have recommended a provision of Rs. 2 lakhs during he current plan period for this purpose.

The Central Water and Power Commission have prepared detailed estimates in this regard. The Planning Commission have approved of the Project. The estimates are under scrutiny. The project will be undertaken shortly.

[Ministry of Transport and Communications—(Department of Transport) Transport Wing O. M. No. 7-ITW (121) 57, dated the 9th March, 1959].

	30	
¥n	The Committee suggest that steps should be taken to utilise the existing capacity fully.	It is not clear whether any statistics are collec- ted with respect to river transport. The Com-
4	The demand for IWT craft is mainly confined to North East Region.  There is no lack of ship building capacity so far as the requirements of inland water transport are concerned. Shortage of iron and steel material, machinery and engines has, however, slowed the progress of work. The need is, therefore, to ensure that the existing firms with long experience are given suitable assistance. This is being done.  [Ministry of Transport and Communications—Department of Transport (Transport Wmg) O.M. No. 7-IWT (78)/57, dated the 6th March, 1959.]	Inland Water Transport plays an important role at present on the Calcutta-Assam route. On this route, mechanised craft owned by
m	"The Committee suggest that the Ministry should carefully examine the position of the indigenous craft building firms in the country and come to some decision regarding the encouragement to be given to such companies with a view to ensure that all the crafts of modern design which will be needed with the development of inland water transport are produced in India. The Committee are of the opinion that given encouragement by the Government there will be no difficulty in developing the eixisting capacity for constructing such craft to any extent required. There are private firms in Bombay and Calcutta who do construct such craft."	The Committee would suggest that the statistics regarding the traffic carried, number of crafts, tugs, barges, etc., plying
8	135	136
-	<b>6€</b>	30

which are of vital importance should be published regularly. The Transport Ministry should either bring out a journal at prescribed intervals giving the data in respect of those forms of transport which come within its purview, or publish these essential statistics for all the States in India in a consolidated manner along with their annual report

organised companies operate. Particulars of essential statistics for this route will be collected and published.

In other parts of India, Inland Water Transport operates only on certain navigable stretches of rivers and canals. Mostly, the craft that operate are country craft. Country-craft traffic is essentially unorganised.

It may not be possible in such cases

riews and also suggest that the State Governments may be requested to collect the statistics.

reiterate

nittee

to collect regular statistics of cargo carried. Some State Governments however collect statistics of traffic carried over canals. Efforts will be made to publish such statistics as are available.

As regards the publication by the Department of Transport of statistics relating to the various forms of transport within its purview, it

As regards the publication by the Department of Transport of statistics relating to the various forms of transport within its purview, it may be stated that basic road statistics are at present already published by the Roads Wing of this Ministry annually. Road transport statistics are also included therein.

As regards shipping statistics, arrangements are being made through the Central Statistical Organisation for

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4	compilation and publication of the same in stages. To begin with statistics of cargoes moving by sea Transport will be collected.	[Ministry of Transport and Communications (Department of Transport) (Transport Wing) O.M. No. 7-IWT (70)[157, dated the 28th April, 1959.]
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H		

CHAPIER V

RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH FINAL REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT HAVE NOT BEEN RECEIVED

Summary of Conclusions/Recommendations

Reference o Paragraph Serial

38

The Committee feel that it is high time that the promise given by the late Shri N. Gopalaswamy Ayyangar, the then Minister for Transport and Railways at Conference in 1949 that if river services were found to be to make the Railways co-ordinate their activities so as to enable the two to work in co-ordination, is implemented. areas, Government would better suited to meet the needs of particular areas, Government would be prepared to consider their development even in preference to Railways or

H. C. DASAPPA, Chairman,

Estimates Committee.

The 17th December, 1959.
Aghan 26,1881 (Saka).

New Delhi-1;

## APPENDIX I

Terms of reference of the Inland Water Transport Committee

- 1. To review the part played by Inland Water Transport in the Transport system of the country.
- 2. To advise on measures for the increased utilisation of Inland Water Transport including movement of bulk commodities to ports for purposes, of export and movement of bulk commodities from the ports to the interior account being taken of what is already contemplated under the Second Five Year Plan for the development of Inland Water Transport, and to give an estimate of—
  - (a) the time needed for the execution of the schemes recommended, and.
  - (b) their cost.
- 3. To examine the prospects of increasing and extending the river services, including a direct river service on the East Coast as well as from some point in the North to the South and to suggest steps to be taken to achieve effective co-ordination between the railways and inland waterways, including financial participation, appropriate allocation of traffic as between the two modes of transport and arrangements for through-booking.
- 4. To consider the organisation of an efficient country boat service on a co-operative basis with an appreciable mcrease in the present number with a view to facilitating the carriage of more goods and the question of mechanising at least some of the boats. with particular reference to cost, time and other implications.
- 5. To suggest whether any special organisation is necessary to execute the schemes and how they are to be financed.
- 6. To make recommendations regarding important waterways to be declared as National Waterways as envisaged in the Constitution.

## APPENDIX II

Analysis of the action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Sixty-first Report of the Estimates Committee (First Lok Sabha)

I.	Total number of recommendations	38
2.	Recommendations accepted fully by Government (Vide recommendations in Chapter II)	
	Number	8
	Percentage to total	21%
3.	Recommendations accepted partly or with modifications ( <i>Vide</i> recommendations Nos. 1, 5, 9, 12, 13, 18, 19, 21, 22, 24, 26, 27, 28, 31(i), 31(iv), 31(v), 31(vi), 31(viii).	
	Number	18
	Percentage to total	47.4%
4.	Recommendations not accepted by Government but replies in respect of which have been accepted by the Committee (Vide recommendations Nos. 3, 11, 20, 23)	
	Number	4
	Percentage to total	10.5%
5	. Recommendations in respect of which replies of Government have not been accepted by the Committee (Vide recommendations in Chapter IV)	
	Number	7
	Percentage to total	18 · 5%
6	. Recommendations in respect of which final replies of the Government have not been received (Vide recommendations in Chapter V)	
	Number	I
	Percentage to total	2 · 6%

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