

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SHIPPING  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6013  
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2010  
NEW INLAND WATERWAY  
Singh Shri Dushyant

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any study to develop various rivers including Chambal river as inland waterways;
- (b) if so, the details and outcome thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the criteria for declaring a river as an inland waterway?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MUKUL ROY)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. To assess the techno-economic feasibility of developing inland waterways for shipping and navigation, study of many rivers has seen conducted by the Government from time to time. Out of these, Haldia to Allahabad stretch of river Ganga in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal; Dhubri-Sadiya stretch of Brahmaputra in the State of Assam; the Kollam-Kottapuram sector of West Coast Canal along with Udyogmandal and Champakara canals in the State of Kerala have been declared as National Waterways 1, 2 and 3 respectively. Two more waterways i.e. Kakinada-Puducherry canals along with Godavari and Krishna rivers in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Tamilnadu and Union Territory of Puducherry and East Coast Canal integrated with Brahmani river and Mahanadi delta in the states of West Bengal and Orissa have also been declared as National Waterways-4 and 5 in November, 2008. Besides these five waterways system, techno-economic feasibility studies of some others waterways namely

Narmada river in Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat, Barak river in Assam, extension of National Waterway-3 from Kottapuram to Karsargode and Kollam to Kovalam/Kolachal in Kerala, and DVC canal in West Bengal have also been conducted. However, no such study of Chambal river has been conducted by the Government.

(c): As per Inland vessels Act 1917, as amended in 2007, "inland water" means:

- (i) any canal, river, lake or other navigation water within a State,
- (ii) any area of any tidal water deemed to be the inland water as defined by the Central Government under section 70,
- (iii) waters declared by the Central Government to be smooth and partially smooth waters under clause (41) of section 3 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958.