

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:103
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2010
INTER-STATE WATER TRANSPORT
Yadav Shri Hukumdeo Narayan

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) ensures seamless inter-state water transport in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether private sector participation has been envisaged in the development of inland transport/waterways;
- (d) if so, the details thereof including private sector companies assisted, financially in this regard during the last three years; and
- (e) the steps proposed to be taken to develop inter-state water transport in the country and units engaged therein?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 103 TO BE ANSWERED ON 2ND AUGUST, 2010 RAISED BY SHRI HUKUMDEV NARAYAN YADAV REGARDING INTER-STATE WATER TRANSPORT

(a) & (b): Union Government through Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) develops inland water transport infrastructure namely navigation channels, navigation aids and terminals on waterways declared as National Waterways (NWs) by Acts of Parliament. With this infrastructure in place, a National Waterway provides seamless inter-state water transport if it passes through more than one State. So far, five waterways have been declared as National Waterway.

There is also a route connecting West Bengal and Assam through Bangladesh under Indo-Bangladesh Protocol on Inland Water Transit and Trade for transportation of goods.

(c) & (d): Yes Madam. Three Joint Venture Companies were incorporated by IWAI in 2008-09 for construction of inland vessels and operation thereof on NW-1 & 2.

A MoU with NTPC Ltd. has been signed for transportation of 2-3 million tonnes of imported Coal from Haldia to NTPC Power Plant at Farakka and Kahalgaon through IWT mode. Action has also been initiated for setting up a Coal handling terminal at Jogighopa on NW-2 in PPP mode.

Under Inland Vessels Building Subsidy Scheme which was in operation upto 31.3.2007, 30% subsidy was given for the construction of inland vessels for plying in national waterways.

(e): Development of National Waterways - 4 & 5 will provide interstate connectivity between Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry and between West Bengal and Orissa respectively. The National Waterway - 5 will also connect National Waterway - 1. The development of these National Waterways will be undertaken by IWAI with private participation wherever feasible.