

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2057
ANSWERED ON:26.03.2012
INCREASING INLAND WATER TRANSPORT
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Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any plan to develop and increase the scope for inland water transport in a large scale in the country particularly in States like Bihar and Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has any plan to provide subsidy in order to encourage the scope for Inland Water Transport; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN)

(a)&(b): The following waterways, totaling to 4382 km, have been declared as National Waterways (NWs):

(i) Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system (Allahabad-Haldia-1620 km) in the states of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal as NW-1, declared in 1986.

(ii) River Brahmaputra (Dhubri-Sadiya – 891 km) in the state of Assam as NW-2 declared in 1988.

(iii) West Coast Canal (Kottapuram-Kollam) along with Udyogmandal and Champakara Canals – (205 km) in the state of Kerala as NW-3 declared in 1993.

(iv) Kakinada-Puducherry canals along with Godavari and Krishna rivers (1078 km) – in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Union territory of Puducherry as NW-4 declared in 2008.

(v) East Coast Canal integrated with Brahmani River and Mahanadi delta Rivers (588 km) in the states of West Bengal and Odisha as NW-5 declared in 2008. Of these, the NW-1, 2 & 3 are developed for shipping and navigation by providing the required inland water transport infrastructure. The developmental works include providing a navigational channel with targeted depth and width for most part of the year, aids for day and night navigation, fixed/floating terminals at selected locations for berthing and loading/unloading of vessels and intermodal connectivity at a few selected locations.

(c): No, Madam.

(d): Question does not arise.