

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3953
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2012
PRIVATE SECTORS IN WATERWAYS
Tanwar Shri Ashok;Venugopal Shri P.

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has initiated any measures to improve the inland waterways cargo movement to fulfill the potential of coal movement in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government is trying to promote private investments in inland waterways and waterway corridors; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN)

(a) & (b): For the transportation of 3 million tonnes of coal per year from Haldia/ Sandheads to Farakka thermal power plant, the NTPC Ltd. has selected a private sector company to transport coal for a period of seven years by inland water transport mode and to set up and operate related infrastructure. The transportation of coal is expected to commence during the current financial year. Discussions are also on to identify other projects for transportation of coal.

(c) & (d): While IWAI will continue to focus on development and maintenance of waterways including the five notified waterways, the commercial exploitation by way of transport potential of the waterways is kept open for investment by the private sector. The IWAI is providing the requisite navigational facilities for this purpose.