

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2688
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2012
NATIONAL WATERWAYS
Singh Shri Jagada Nand

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the River Ganges has been declared National Water Ways;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether goods from the Calcutta port to Patna are transported through the river Ganges only;
- (d) if so, the details of the goods transported during the last three years;
- (e) whether tonnage of goods transported decline due to lack of terminal in various places from Haldia to Buxar (Bihar); and
- (f) if so, whether the Government proposes to increase the tonnage of goods transported by making terminals in these places?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MILIND DEORA)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system from Haldia to Allahabad (1620 km) has been declared as National Waterway-1 (NW- 1) in 1986. The NW-1 is being 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) & (d): Various goods like edible oil, cement, rice, wooden logs, fly ash, pulses, iron dust, stone chips, Over Dimensional Cargoes (ODC) etc. have been transported on NW- 1. Cargo transported during last three years on NW- 1 is given below:

Year Quantity
 (in lakhs tonnes)

2009-10 - 18.11

2010-11 - 18.71

2011-12 - 33.10

(e) & (f): No, Madam. Transportation of cargo by IWT mode on NW- 1 has actually increased in last few years. Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWA) has set up terminal facilities at Haldia, Kolkata (BISN, Botanic Garden) Shantipur, Katwa, Farakka, Raj Mahal, Sahibganj, Batteshwarsthan, Bhagalpur, Mungar, Semaria, Patna, Varanasi and Allahabad to cater to the needs of transportation of goods on National Waterway-1. A RCC Jetty at Garden Reach area in Kolkata is under construction. There is also a proposal for transportation of 3 million tonne of imported coal annually for 7 years between Sand Heads (Bay of Bengal) and coal stock yard of thermal power plant of NTPC at Farakka through Haldia- Farakka sector of NW- 1.