

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:115
ANSWERED ON:05.08.2013
INTERLINKING THROUGH INLAND NAVIGATION
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Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantity of cargo transported through inland waterways where origination and destination both lie within the Country during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) whether the Government has formulated a proposal to increase the use of inland waterways for cargo shipment including interlinking Kerala through inland navigation connecting Kasargode in the North and Trivandrum in the South;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the expected flow of cargo and passenger traffic and the resultant financial advantage; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN)

(a) The quantity of cargo moved through inland waterways within India in organized sector on National Waterways- 1, 2 and 3 and inland waterways of Goa and Mumbai during the last three years and current year is indicated below:

Year - Cargo moved (in million tonnes)
2010- 11 - 72.8
2011- 12 - 68.8
2012- 13 - 22.0
2013- 14 - 5.4 (up to June, 2013)
#provisional

(b)to(d):Government along with Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) has chalked out projects with the specific objective of transportation of cargo by Inland Water Transport (IWT) mode. One such project for transportation of 3 million tonnes of coal every year for 7 years from Haldia (Sandheads) to NTPC's Power Plant at Farakka through National Waterway- 1 is already under implementation by a private sector company. Government has identified some more such projects which,inter-alia,include transportation of coal for NTPC's Power Plant at Barh (near Patna), transportation of coal for NTPC Power Plant at Bongaigaon (near Jogighopa on National Waterway- 2), transportation of fertilizers on National Waterway- 1; and transportation of food grains from Kolkata to Tripura through Indo- Bangladesh Protocol Routes.

No specific proposal with regard to Kerala has been formulated. However, on the request of Government of Kerala, IWAI has undertaken a review techno- economic feasibility study for extension of National Waterway- 3 from Kollam to Kovalam in the South and Kottapuram to Kasargode in the North through the consultant M/s NATPAC.