

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1939
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2013
SAGAR MALA PROJECT
Danve Shri Raosaheb Patil

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Sagar Mala project which would bring about major changes to improve the maritime industry has been implemented.
- (b) if so, the details in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to develop one of most important area of the said project i.e making inland water transport a viable alternative to the heavily burdened rail and road transport?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K VASAN)

(a)&(b): The Sagar Mala Programme is not in existence and in lieu National Maritime Development Programme (NMDP) was taken up by the Ministry of Shipping. Under NMDP, 82 projects have been implemented for development of Major Ports in the country costing around Rs. 8238.68 Crores as on March 2013. The Government has also formulated a Perspective Plan for Development of the Maritime Sector, namely "The Maritime Agenda 2010-2020". In the year 2012-13, 32 new projects have been awarded with an estimated investment of about Rs. 6765.63 crores.

(c) Development and regulation of those waterways which are declared as National Waterways (NWs) comes under the purview of Union Government. The responsibility of the development of other waterways rests with the respective State Government. So far, five waterways have been declared as National Waterways (NWs). Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWA) was established in 1986 for systematic development of National Waterways. IWA undertakes navigation channel development and maintenance works namely hydrographic surveys, dredging, bandalling and providing aids for day and night navigation on National Waterways.