

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2339
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2014
WATERWAY FROM VARANASI TO KOLKATA
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Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to develop a waterway from Varanasi to Kolkata and Gujarat to Visakhapatnam;
- (b) if so, the details of the total cost of the project and timeframe for completion of the project;
- (c) whether the concerned States have any role in the project; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI KRISHANPAL GURJAR)

(a)&(b) The Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hoogly river system from Allahabad to Haldia was declared as National Waterway No.1 in 1986 and the stretch between Varanasi and Kolkata is a part of National Waterway No. 1. Inland Waterway Authority of India (IWAI) is developing this waterway with budgetary support from the Government. Based on the existing preliminary studies the cost of developing the river Ganga for commercial navigation between Allahabad-Varanasi-Kolkata is about Rs. 4200 crore to be completed in about six years period. However, there is no such proposal of developing any waterway between Gujarat and Visakhapatnam.

(c)&(d) As far as the development of National Waterways for navigation is concerned, the concerned State Governments assists, interalia, in the land acquisition matters and other statutory clearances required for the construction of infrastructure facilities.