

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SHIPPING
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4352
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19TH MARCH, 2020

DEVELOPMENT OF RIVER GANGA AS INLAND WATERWAY

4352. SHRIMATI QUEEN OJA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

पोत परिवहन मंत्री

- (a) whether the Government is developing River Ganga as inland waterway;
- (b) if so, the steps being taken in this direction and expenditure incurred thereon; and
- (c) whether the Government proposes to operate Ro-Ro Ferry and Ro-Pax Ferry on the said Waterway and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR SHIPPING
(SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) is implementing the Jal Marg Vikas Project (JMVP) at an estimated cost of Rs. 5369.18 crore for capacity augmentation of navigation on the Haldia – Varanasi stretch of National Waterway-1 (NW-1) with the technical and financial assistance of the World Bank. The salient interventions of JMVP include construction of multi-modal terminals at Varanasi, Sahibganj & Haldia; navigational lock at Farakka; fairway development works for provision of Least Assured Depth (LAD) of 2.2 to 3 metres; River Information System (RIS) etc. Projects worth Rs. 1800 crore (approx.) have commenced on ground in a time period of three years after statutory clearances and an expenditure of Rs. 1566.99 crore has been incurred upto 29.02.2020.

(c) No, Sir. However, the interventions in JMVP include five pairs of Ro-Ro terminals at Rajmahal (Jharkhand) - Manikchak (West Bengal), Samdaghat (Jharkhand) - Manihari (Bihar), Kahalgaon - Tintangha (Bihar), Hasnapur - Bakhtiyarpur (Bihar), Buxer (Bihar) - Saraikota (Uttar Pradesh) which have been informed to potential stakeholders including State Governments to set up requisite infrastructure for operationalization.
