

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SHIPPING**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3488
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26TH MARCH, 2018
PLANS FOR WATER TRANSPORT**

3488. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has plans for initiating an exclusive water transport, with the different State Governments to facilitate and utilise route on river Ganges, including the State of West Bengal;
- (b) if so, the plans for initiating this water transportation route on river Ganges from Haldia to Varanasi; and
- (c) by when would it start functioning?

**ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING
(SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA)**

(a) & (b): The Government has approved the implementation of Jal Marg Vikas Project (JMVP) for capacity augmentation of navigation on the Haldia-Varanasi stretch of National Waterway-1 (Ganga) at an estimated cost of Rs. 5,369.18 crore with the technical and investment support of the World Bank. The salient features of the project are construction of multimodal/intermodal terminals, Ro-Ro terminals, one new navigational lock at Farakka, channel marking systems, integrated vessel repair and maintenance facilities, automated information techniques of Differential Global Positioning System (DGPS) and River Information System (RIS), day and night navigation aids, slipways, bunkering facilities, river training and river conservancy works etc.

(c): The National Waterway-1 is already operational. The capacity augmentation facilities proposed under JMVP are scheduled to be completed by 2022-23.
