

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SHIPPING  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 1564  
ANSWERED ON - 24.12.2018

**DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL WATERWAYS**

1564. SHRI AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the detailed development action plan for development of all identified 106 national waterways have been prepared;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith expected time-frame of completion of each project;
- (c) whether the Ministry has carried out any study, which compares use of waterways as medium of transportation as compared to railways and road transport, with respect to its cost effectiveness and effect on environment; and
- (d) if so, the details of findings of the study?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) & (b) Out of the 106 new National Waterways, declared under the National Waterways Act, 2016, DPRs of 30 technically viable NWs have been prepared as per details at **Annex.-I**. Out of these 30 NWs, development activities have been initiated on 10 NWs as per list at **Annex.-II**.

(c) & (d) Inland Waterways Authority of India had commissioned RITES to undertake study on Integrated National Waterways Transportation Grid. According to report prepared by RITES in 2014, the cost comparison between Inland Water Transport (IWT) mode and other dominant modes of surface transport viz. Railways and Highways is as below:

Mode	Railways	Highways	IWT
Freight (Rs./T.km)	1.36	2.50	1.06

Similarly, the socio-economic and environmental benefits of IWT mode based on some of the studies undertaken by other organizations are at **Annex.-III**.