GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2706
ANSWERED ON 21/12/2021

UNVIABLE NATIONAL WATERWAYS

2706. SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE:

Will the Minister of PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any of the 111 National Waterways (NWs) declared under the National Waterways Act, 2016, have been found technically unviable;
(b) if so, the details thereof and whether there are any measures proposed to make them viable or to identify alternative river channels;
(c) the details of waterways, made out of 111 declared waterways, operational, fully or partially, for commercial and tourism purposes and the details thereof; and
(d) the details of expenditure for the development of each declared National Waterway in the past three years; project-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS
(SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL)

(a) & (b) To promote inland water transport (IWT) in the country, 111 waterways (including 5 existing and 106 new) were declared as National Waterways (NWs) under the National Waterways Act, 2016. Based on the outcome of techno-economic feasibility and Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) prepared for NWs, 23 NWs have been found viable for cargo/passenger movement (Details in **Annex-1**) and 25 NWs viable for tourism purpose (Details in **Annex-2**) and 63 NWs have been found not feasible/ unviable at present on account of their techno-commercial feasibility of cargo, inadequate fairway with depth and width required for operation of IWT vessels of reasonable size etc. Details of these NWs are at **Annex-3**.

(c) Out of the 111 NWs, 13 nos. have been made operational by IWAI. The cargo is moving in 21 nos. NWs are indicated in **Annex-4**.

(d) Details of expenditure for the development of each declared National Waterway in the past three years; Project-wise is at **Annexure-5**.

Annex-1

LIST OF 23 NATIONAL WATERWAYS FOUND FEASIBLE FOR CARGO/PASSENGER MOVEMENT

Sl. No.	National Waterway No.	Details of Waterways	STATES
1	National Waterway 1	Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly River System (Haldia - Allahabad)	Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand & West Bengal
2	National Waterway 2	Brahmaputra River (Dhubri - Sadiya)	Assam
3	National Waterway 16	Barak River	Assam
4	National Waterway 3	West Coast Canal (Kottapuram - Kollam), Champakara and Udyogmandal Canals	Kerala
5	National Waterway 4	Krishna River (Vijayawada – Muktyala)	Andhra Pradesh
6	National Waterway 5	Dhamra-Paradio via Mangalagadi to Pankopal	Odisha
7	National Waterway 9	Alappuzha-Kottayam – Athirampuzha Canal	Kerala Alternate route: 11.5km
8	National Waterway 27	Cumberjua River	Goa
9	National Waterway 68	Mandovi River	Goa
10	National Waterway 86	Rupnarayan River	West Bengal
11	National Waterway 97	Sunderbans Waterway	West Bengal
12	National Waterway 111	Zuari River	Goa
13	National Waterway 40	Ghagra River	Bihar & U.P.
14	National Waterway 10	Amba River	Maharashtra
15	National Waterway 44	Ichamati River	West Bengal
16	National Waterway 57	Kopili River	Assam
17	National Waterway 25	Chapora River	Goa
18	National Waterway 37	Gandak River	Bihar & U.P.
19	National Waterway 28	Dabhol Creek Vasisti River	Maharashtra
20	National Waterway 73	Narmada River	Maharashtra & Gujarat
21	National Waterway 85	Revadanda Creek - Kundalika River System	Maharashtra
22	National Waterway 94	Sone River	Bihar
23	National Waterway 100	Tapi River	Maharashtra & Gujarat

Annex.-2

LIST OF 25 NATIONAL WATERWAYS FOUND FEASIBLE FOR TOURISM AND FERRY SERVICES

Sl. No.	National Waterway (NW)	Length (km)	Name of Waterways	STATES
1	NW-6	68.484	Aai river	Assam
2	NW- 7	19.59	Ajoy river	West Bengal
3	NW-8	29.123	Alappuzha - Changanassery Canal	Kerala
4	NW-14	48	Baitarni river	Odisha
5	NW-15	135.165	Bakreswar - Mayurakshi river system	West Bengal
6	NW-18	68.9	Beki river	Assam
7	NW-20	94.65	Bhavani river	Tamil Nadu
8	NW-23	56	BudhaBalanga	Odisha
9	NW-24	60.86	Chambal river	U.P.
10	NW-29	135	Damodar River	Jharkhand and West Bengal
11	NW-30	109.136	Dehing river	Assam
12	NW-36	119.165	Dwarka river	West Bengal
13	NW- 42	514.31	Gomti river	U.P.
14	NW-47	130.59	Jalangi river	West Bengal
15	NW-50	42.576	Jinjiram river	Assam & Meghalaya
16	NW-52	53.41	Kali river	Karnataka
17	NW-83	31	Rajpuri Creek	Maharashtra
18	NW-87	212	Sabarmati River	Gujarat
19	NW-88	14	Sal River	Goa
20	NW- 90	28.67	Sharavati river	Karnataka
21	NW-91	48	Shastri River/ Jaigad Creek	Maharashtra
22	NW-95	106.45	Subansiri River	Assam
23	NW- 104	232.4	Tungabhadra river	Karnataka, Telangana & Andhra Pradesh
24	NW-108	52.83	Varuna river	U.P.
25	NW-110	1089	River Yamuna	Delhi, U.P. & Haryana

Annex.-3

LIST OF 63 NATIONAL WATERWAYS FOUND NOT FEASIBLE at Present

Sl. No.	National Waterway (NW)	Length (km)	Name of Waterways	STATES
1	NW-11	98.9	Arunawati - Aran river system	Maharashtra
2	NW-12	5.5	Assi river	Uttar Pradesh
3	NW-13	11.3	AVM Canal	Kerala & Tamil Nadu
4	NW-17	189	Beas river	Himachal Pradesh & Punjab
5	NW-19	67.05	Betwa river	Uttar Pradesh
6	NW-21	138.9	Bheema river	Karnataka & Telangana
7	NW-22	152	Birupa / BadiGenguti / Brahmani River system	Odisha
8	NW-26	51.072	Chenab river	J&K
9	NW-31	110	Dhansiri River	Assam
10	NW-32	63.205	Dikhu river	Assam
11	NW-33	61.368	Doyans river	Assam
12	NW-34	136	DVC Canal	West Bengal
13	NW-35	113	Dwarakeshwar river	West Bengal
14	NW-38	62	Gangadhar river	Assam &W.B
15	NW-39	49.143	Ganol river	Meghalaya
16	NW-41	111.76	Ghataprabha river	Kanataka
17	NW-43,	10.041	Gurupur river	Kanataka
18	NW-45	650.1	Indira Gandhi Canal	Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan
19	NW-46	34.67	Indus river	Leh
20	NW-48	615.445	Jawai-Luni-Rann of Kutch river system	Gujarat and Rajasthan
21	NW-49	181.2	River Jhelum	Jammu & Kashmir
22	NW-51	23.56	Kabini river	Karnataka
23	NW-53	143	Vasai-Thane-Kalyan	Maharashtra
24	NW-54	86	Karamnasa river	Bihar & U.P.
25	NW-55	310	Kaveri-Kollidam river	Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra
26	NW-56	22.104	Kherkai river	Jharkhand
27	NW-58	236	River Kosi	Bihar
28	NW-59	18.78	Vechoor-Athirampuzha Canal	Kerala
29	NW 60	80.446	Kumari river	West Bengal
30	NW-61	27.87	Kynshi river	Meghalaya
31	NW-62	86	Lohit river	Assam and Arunachal Pradesh
32	NW-63	98	Luni river	Rajasthan
33	NW-64	98	Mahanadi Luna river	Odisha
34	NW 65	80.391	Mahananda river	West Bengal
35	NW-66	246.98	Mahi river	Gujarat
36	NW-67	93.5	Malaprabha river	Karnataka
37	NW-69	4.75	Manimutharu river	Tamil Nadu

38	NW-70	245	Manjira river	Maharashtra & Telangana
39	NW-71	26.638	Mapusa river	Goa
40	NW-72	58.7	Nag river	Maharashtra
41	NW-74	30	Netravathi river	Karnataka
42	NW-75	141	Palar river	Tamil Nadu
43	NW-76	23	Panchagangvali river	Karnataka
44	NW-77	20	Pazhyar River	Tamil Nadu & Andhra Pradesh
45	NW-78	261.51	Penganga - Wardha river system	Maharashtra & Telangana
46	NW-79	29	Pennar River	Andhra Pradesh
47	NW-80	125.5	Ponniyar River	Tamil Nadu
48	NW-81	34.61	Punpun river	Bihar
49	NW-82	58.234	Puthimari river	Assam
50	NW-84	44.276	Ravi river	Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh & Punjab
51	NW-89	45.47	Savitri River	Maharashtra
52	NW-92	26	Silabati River	West Bengal
53	NW-93	62.6	Simsang river	Meghalaya
54	NW-96	30	Subarnarekha River	Odisha
55	NW-98	377	Sutlej river	Himachal Pradesh & Punjab
56	NW-99	64	Tamaraparani River	Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh
57	NW-101	40.039	Tizu -Zungki river	Nagaland
58	NW-102	87.136	Tlwang (Dhaleswari river	Assam & Mizoram
59	NW-103	73.25	Tons river	U.P.
60	NW-105	16	Udayavara River	Karnataka
61	NW-106	20.05	Umngot (Dawki) river	Meghalaya
62	NW-107	45.6	Vaigai river	Tamil Nadu
63	NW-109	165.78	Wainganga - Pranahita river system	Maharashtra & Telangana
	Part of NW-3	169.55	NW-3(Extension), Kottapuram to Kozhikode	Kerala

Annex.-4

Details of 21 Operational NWs

Sl. No.	National waterways	Status
1	NW-1 (Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly River System)	Operational and under development
2	NW-2 (Brahmaputra River)	
3	NW-3 (West Coast Canal)	
4	NW-4 (Krishna Godavari River Systems)	
5	NW-5 (Dhamra-Paradip via Mangalgadi to Pankopal	
6	NW-9 (Alapuzha – Kottayam-Athirampuzha canal)	
7	NW-16 (Barak River)	
8	NW-27 (Cumberjua river)	
9	NW-40 (Ghaghra river)	
10	NW-68(MandoviRiver)	
11	NW-86 (RupnarayanRiver)	
12	NW-97 (SunderbansWaterway)	
13	NW-111 (ZuariRiver)	
14	NW-10 (Amba River)	Substantial cargo moves in these operational waterways. No interventions are contemplated as of now.
15	NW-44 (lchamatiRiver)	
16	NW-63 (RajpuriCreek)	
17	NW-85 (RevadandaCreek-KundalikaRiverSystem)	
18	NW-91 (Shastri River - JaigadCreek System)	
19	NW-73 (Narmada River)	
20	NW-100 (TapiRiver)	
21	NW-94(Sone River)	

Annexue-5

Rs. in Crore.

Sl. No.	Budget Head/Waterways	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
1	NW-1 (Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system)	211.09	155.10	58.54
2	NW-2 (river Brahmaputra)	103.60	58.42	38.79
3	NW-3 (West Coast Canal, Kerala)	14.97	26.06	21.52
4	NW-4 (Phase-1) on river Krishna, A.P.)	20.79	4.41	3.62
5	NW-5 (Phase-1), Odisha	2.23	3.29	2.13
6	Jal Marg Vikas Project on NW-1	430.92	461.82	214.05
7	Other Plan Scheme including work on new NWs	25.68	23.68	13.21

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