GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 2221
ANSWERED ON 22/03/2022

WATERWAYS FOUND USEFUL FOR FREIGHT TRANSPORT

2221. SMT. CHHAYA VERMA:
SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR:
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:
SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

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

(a) the number of waterways which have been found useful for freight transport in the country;

(b) the number of waterways which are being utilized for transporting goods at present;

(c) whether it is a fact that most of the waterways selected for freight transport remain unuseful; and

(d) the funds spent for the development of these waterways during the last three years and the revenue received during the said period, therefrom?

ANSWER

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

(a) To promote inland water transport (IWT) in the country, 111 National Waterways (NWs) (including 5 existing and 106 new) were declared under the National Waterways Act, 2016. Based on the outcome of techno-economic feasibility and Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) prepared for NWs, 26 NWs have been found viable for cargo/passenger movement (Details at **Annex.-1**).

(b) At present, transportation of goods is recorded on 19 NWs out of the above 26 NWs.

(c) No Sir. Most of the waterways are useful as 19 of the 26 NWs used for freight transport have recorded cargo movement of 83.61 million tones per annum (MTPA) during the year 2020-21 and 96.31 MTPA (till 28.02.2022) during the year 2021-22.

(d) Funds spent for the development of these waterways during the last three years and the revenue during the said period is detailed at **Annex – 2.**

Annex.-1

LIST OF 26 NATIONAL WATERWAYS FOUND FEASIBLE FOR CARGO / PASSENGER MOVEMENT

Sl. No	National Waterway	Details of Waterways	STATES	Status
1	National Waterway 1	Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly River System (Haldia - Allahabad)	Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand & West Bengal	Development taken up with Assistance from World Bank **Jal Marg Vikas Project**
2	National Waterway 2	Brahmaputra River (Dhubri - Sadiya)	Assam	Development taken up as per approved SFC for FY 2020-21 to 2024-25
3	National Waterway 16	Barak River	Assam	
4	National Waterway 3	West Coast Canal (Kottapuram - Kollam), Champakara and Udyogmandal Canals	Kerala	Mostly Operational Waterways and development and maintenance work taken up.
5	National Waterway 4	Krishna River (Vijayawada – Muktyala)	Andhra Pradesh	
6	National Waterway 5	Dhamra-Paradio via Mangalagadi to Pankopal	Odisha	
7	National Waterway 8	Alappuzha- Changanassery Canal	Kerala	
8	National Waterway 9	Alappuzha - Kottayam – Athirampuzha Canal	Kerala (Alternate route: 11.5km)	
9	National Waterway 27	Cumberjua River	Goa	
10	National Waterway 68	Mandovi River	Goa	
11	National Waterway 86	Rupnarayan River	West Bengal	
12	National Waterway 97	Sunderbans Waterway	West Bengal	
13	National Waterway 111	Zuari River	Goa	
14	National Waterway 10	Amba River	Maharashtra	Plan formulated for development.
15	National Waterway 40	Ghagra River	Bihar	
16	National Waterway 44	Ichamati River	West Bengal	
17	National Waterway 52	Kali River	Karnataka	
18	National Waterway 57	Kopili River	Assam	
19	National Waterway 25	Chapora River	Goa	
20	National Waterway 37	Gandak River	Bihar	
21	National Waterway 28	Dabhol Creek Vasisti River	Maharashtra	
22	National Waterway 73	Narmada River	Maharashtra & Gujarat	
23	National Waterway 85	Revadanda Creek - Kundalika River System	Maharashtra	
24	National Waterway 94	Sone River	Bihar	
25	National Waterway 100	Tapi River	Maharashtra & Gujarat	
26	National Waterway 31	Dhansiri River	Assam	

Annex.-2

(a) The details of fund allocated and utilized (expenditure) during the last three years are as under:

(Rs. in Crore)

Year	Allocation	Expenditure
2018-19	703.29	809.28*
2019-20	406.60	732.78*
2020-21	413.50	351.86

* Expenditure during 2018-19 and 2019-20 also include balance fund of EBR raised during 2017-18.

(b) Quantum of revenue generated by IWAI on short term deposits, sale of tender forms, over dimensional cargo / general cargo movement, berthing/pilotage charges etc. in the last 3 years is as under:

Year	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Revenue (Rs. in lakh)	3712.88	2995.98	1950.05

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