

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 628**  
ANSWERED ON 07/02/2023

**BENEFITS DUE TO GANGA VILAS CRUISE**

628. SMT. GEETA ALIAS CHANDRAPRABHA:

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

- (a) the cities and States of the country through which Ganga Vilas Cruise will pass;
- (b) whether this will impact the development of tourism in these States and cities;
- (c) whether this cruise tour will aid in increasing local employment opportunities; and
- (d) whether it is a fact that this cruise tour will pass through India as well as Bangladesh, if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) & (d) Hon'ble Prime Minister virtually flagged off the longest river cruise by Ganga Vilas on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2023 from Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh) on Ganga River on National Waterway-1 (NW-1) scheduled to reach on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023 to Dibrugarh (Assam) on Brahmaputra River (NW-2) covering a distance of about 3200 km between NW-1 & 2 via Indo-Bangladesh Protocol route.

The route followed by the river cruise and the cities of India as well as Bangladesh set to be covered as detailed by the cruise operator is at **Annex. -1**.

(b) & (c) Yes Sir, it would provide employment to local boat operators, hoteliers and restaurants operators to handle domestic as well as international tourists. It would also benefit the local markets i.e. handicrafts. Thus, it would help in uplifting the lives of people living in the hinterland of waterways by providing employment.

The route and the places of India and Bangladesh stated to be visited –



S.N.	Date	Location	State
Day 1	10 Jan 2023, Tue	Varanasi	Uttar Pradesh
Day 2	11 Jan 2023, Wed	Varanasi	Uttar Pradesh
Day 3	12 Jan 2023, Thu	Varanasi	Uttar Pradesh
Day 4	13 Jan 2023, Fri	Flagging off by Hon'ble Prime Minister from Varanasi	Uttar Pradesh
Day 4	13 Jan 2023, Fri	Ghazipur	Uttar Pradesh
Day 5	14 Jan 2023, Sat	Buxar	Bihar
Day 6	15 Jan 2023, Sun	Doriganj	Bihar
Day 7	16 Jan 2023, Mon	Chirand – Patna	Bihar
Day 8	17 Jan 2023, Tue	Patna	Bihar
Day 9	18 Jan 2023, Wed	Simaria	Bihar
Day 10	19 Jan 2023, Thu	Munger	Bihar

Day 11	20 Jan 2023, Fri	Munger	Bihar
Day 12	21 Jan 2023, Sat	Sultanganj	Bihar
Day 13	22 Jan 2023, Sun	Bateshwarsthan	Bihar
Day 14	23 Jan 2023, Mon	Samtaghat	Jharkhand
Day 15	24 Jan 2023, Tue	Jangipur	West Bengal
Day 16	25 Jan 2023, Wed	Murshidabad	West Bengal
Day 17	26 Jan 2023, Thu	Matiari	West Bengal
Day 18	27 Jan 2023, Fri	Kalna	West Bengal
Day 19	28 Jan 2023, Sat	Kolkata	West Bengal
Day 20	29 Jan 2023, Sun	Kolkata	West Bengal
Day 21	30 Jan 2023, Mon	Kolkata	West Bengal
Day 22	31 Jan 2023, Tue	Namkhana	West Bengal
Day 23	01 Feb 2023, Wed	Bali	West Bengal
Day 24	02 Feb 2023, Thu	Hemnagar	West Bengal
Day 25	03 Feb 2023, Fri	Antihara (Bangladesh)	Bangladesh
Day 26	04 Feb 2023, Sat	Mongla (visit)	Bangladesh
Day 27	05 Feb 2023, Sun	Kotka	Bangladesh
Day 28	06 Feb 2023, Mon	Harbaria	Bangladesh
Day 29	07 Feb 2023, Tue	Morleganj	Bangladesh
Day 30	08 Feb 2023, Wed	Barisal (visit)	Bangladesh
Day 31	09 Feb 2023, Thu	Meghna Ghat (Dhaka)	Bangladesh
Day 32	10 Feb 2023, Fri	Dhaka (visit)	Bangladesh
Day 33	11 Feb 2023, Sat	Sonargaon Excursion	Bangladesh
Day 34	12 Feb 2023, Sun	Aricha	Bangladesh
Day 35	13 Feb 2023, Mon	Tangail	Bangladesh
Day 36	14 Feb 2023, Tue	Sirajganj (visit)	Bangladesh
Day 37	15 Feb 2023, Wed	Chilmari	Bangladesh
Day 38	16 Feb 2023, Thu	Rangpur Excursion	Bangladesh
Day 39	17 Feb 2023, Fri	Dhubri (India)	Assam
Day 40	18 Feb 2023, Sat	Goalpara	Assam
Day 41	19 Feb 2023, Sun	Sualkuchi	Assam
Day 42	20 Feb 2023, Mon	Pandu Port (visit)	Assam
Day 43	21 Feb 2023, Tue	Kolong	Assam
Day 44	22 Feb 2023, Wed	Singri	Assam
Day 45	23 Feb 2023, Thu	Silghat	Assam
Day 46	24 Feb 2023, Fri	Silghat (Kaziranga National Park)	Assam
Day 47	25 Feb 2023, Sat	DhansiriMukh	Assam
Day 48	26 Feb 2023, Sun	SubansiriMukh	Assam
Day 49	27 Feb 2023, Mon	Majuli Island (visit) – NimatiGhat	Assam
Day 50	28 Feb 2023, Tue	Sibsagar–Bogibeel	Assam
Day 51	01 Mar 2023, Wed	Bogibeel – Dibrugarh / Fly to Delhi	Assam