

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 309**  
ANSWERED ON 05.12.2023

**INLAND WATERWAYS IN ASSAM**

309. SHRI PABITRA MARGHERITA:

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

- (a) the total number of inland waterways in Assam in 2014 and in 2023, along with a list of the same; and
- (b) the total bulk of cargo movement through inland waterways in Assam from 2018 to till date?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) In 2014, there was only one National Waterway (NW) in Assam i.e. Brahmaputra River which was declared as NW-2 vide National Waterways Act, 1988. 11 more inland waterways of Assam and 4 inter-state waterways with Assam were declared as National Waterways vide National Waterways Act, 2016. Thus, there are 15 NWs in Assam in the year 2023. List of NWs of Assam is at Annex.-1.
- (b) The total cargo movement on National Waterways in Assam recorded from 2018-19 till October 2023 is 25.64lakhtonnes as detailed at **Annex.-2**.

**Numbers of National Waterways (NWs) of Assam (State-wise)**

No. of NWs	State(s)	NWs in 2014	NWs in 2023 (Declared vide National Waterways Act, 2016 w.e.f. 11.04.2016)
11	Assam	NW-2-Brahmaputra River (Dhubri - Sadiya) declared vide the National Waterway Act, 1988 in September 1988.	NW-2 (Brahmaputra River (Dhubri - Sadiya)) NW-6 (Aai River) NW-16 (Barak River) NW-18 (Beki River) NW-30 (Dehing River) NW-31(Dhansiri / Chathe river) NW-32 (Dikhu River) NW-33 (Doyans River) NW-57 (Kopili river) NW-82 (Puthimari river) NW-95 (Subansiri river)
1	Assam & Arunachal Pradesh		NW-62 (Lohit river)
1	Assam & Meghalaya		NW-50 (Jinjiram river)
1	Assam & Mizoram		NW-102 (Tlwan (Dhaleswari River))
1	Assam & West Bengal		NW-38 (Gangadhar river)

**Annex-2**

**National Waterways in Assam-Cargo Data 2018-18 to 2023-24 (till October)**

**(in Metric Tons)**

	<b>National Waterways (NW)</b>	<b>2018-19</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24 till Oct</b>
1	NW-2 (Brahmaputra River (Dhubri-Sadiya))	502,003	392,768	307,191	428,134	629,853	281,956
2	NW-16 (Barak River)	-	-	-	5,088	11,302	1,062
3	NW-31 (Dhansiri/Chathe) -	-	-	-	-	521	4,469
	<b>Total Tonnes</b>	<b>502,003</b>	<b>392,768</b>	<b>307,191</b>	<b>433,222</b>	<b>641,676</b>	<b>287,487</b>
<b>Grand Total of Cargo Movement on NWs from 2018-19 to October 2023 = 25,64,347 tonnes (2.56 million tonnes)</b>							

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