

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO- \*155**  
ANSWERED ON – 06/08/2024

**BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION OVER THE RIVER BRAHMAPUTRA NATIONAL  
WATERWAY-2**

\*155. SHRI AJIT KUMAR BHUYAN:

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

- (a) the number of bridges which are under construction over the river Brahmaputra, National Waterway-2;
- (b) whether any clearance or no-objection is necessary before construction of a bridge in any National Waterway and the parameters that need to be followed for maintaining navigational clearance;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Ministry is aware that a bridge between Guwahati and North Guwahati over the river Brahmaputra is under construction and whether any NoC or clearance has been given by the Ministry; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. \*155 FOR ANSWER ON 06.08.2024 RAISED BY SHRI AJIT KUMAR BHUYAN, HON'BLE MP REGARDING "BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION OVER THE RIVER BRAHMAPUTRA NATIONAL WATERWAY-2"**

(a) Five bridges are under construction over Brahmaputra River (National Waterway-2). The details of bridges are attached as Annexure-1.

(b) & (c) Yes. "No objection" from IWAI is necessary before construction of a bridge over any National Waterway with respect to the parameters related to horizontal and vertical clearances (Navigational Clearances) in accordance with Inland Waterways Authority of India (Classification of Waterways in India) Regulations, 2006 as amended in 2016 & 2022. The requirement of minimum Horizontal & Vertical clearances for different class of waterways is detailed as Annexure-2.

The stretch of 891 km. of Brahmaputra River from Dhubri to Sadia was declared as (National Waterway-2) in September,1988. Brahmaputra River (National Waterway-2) from Dhubri to Dibrugarh is classified as Class-VII Waterway and Dibrugarh to Sadia as Class-V Waterway as per regulations. The classification is done to ensure safe plying of self propelled vessels. As per regulations, minimum horizontal clearance of 100m between the two piers and minimum vertical clearance of 10m is required in the Brahmaputra River (National Waterway-2) for Class-VII waterways. Minimum horizontal clearance of 80m between the two piers and minimum vertical clearance of 8m is required in the Brahmaputra River (National Waterway-2) for Class-V waterways.

(d) & (e) Yes. For construction of bridge over Brahmaputra (NW-2) connecting Bharalumukh (South Guwahati) to North Guwahati, the No objection Certificate (NoC) has been issued by IWAI on 28.02.2018 to Guwahati Metropolitan Development Authority (GMDA)

**Annexure-1**

**UNDER CONSTRUCTION BRIDGES IN RIVER BRAHMAPUTARA (National Waterways – 2)**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Location (From/To)</b>	<b>Type of Bridge</b>	<b>Implementing Ministry/Agency</b>
1	Dhubri to Phulbari	Road Bridge	Ministry of Road Transport & Highways
2	Jogighopa to Panchratna	Road Bridge	Ministry of Road Transport & Highways
3	Sualkuchi to Palashbari	Road Bridge	Public Works Department, Assam
4	Bharalumukh, Guwahati to North Guwahati	Road Bridge	Public Works Department, Assam
5	Jorhat to Majuli	Road Bridge	Ministry of Road Transport & Highways

## Annexure-2

**Classification of Inland Waterways:** The waterways are classified in the following categories for safe plying of self propelled vessels up to 2000 tonnes Dead Weight Tonnage (DWT) and tug-barge formation in push-tow units of carrying capacity up to 8000 tonnes :-

<b>Class</b>	<b>Minimum Horizontal clearance (m)</b>	<b>Minimum Vertical clearance(m)</b>
<b>Class I-River</b>	30	4
<b>Class I- Canal</b>	20	4
<b>Class II-River</b>	40	5
<b>Class II- Canal</b>	30	5
<b>Class III-River</b>	50	6
<b>Class III- Canal</b>	40	6
<b>Class IV-River</b>	50	8
<b>Class IV- Canal</b>	50	8
<b>Class V-River</b>	80	8
<b>Class VI-River</b>	80	10
<b>Class VI- Canal</b>	60	10
<b>Class VII-River</b>	100	10

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