

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.*83
ANSWERED ON 03.12.2024

INLAND WATERWAY SERVICES IN RAIGAD, MAHARASHTRA

*83. SHRI DHAIRYASHIL MOHAN PATIL:

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

- (a) the current status of National Waterway-10 (NW-10) along the Amba River in Raigad, including timelines for phased development;
- (b) the Ministry's plans to enhance inland waterway infrastructure on the Kundalika River to promote regional tourism and connectivity;
- (c) the measures being taken to ensure affordable fare structures for waterway services, considering the needs of rural users in the Raigad area; and
- (d) the operational efficiency and future expansion plans of the M2M Ro-Pax Ferry service between Mumbai and Mandwa in Raigad to improve regional waterway connectivity?

ANSWER

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

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (d) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 83 FOR ANSWER ON 03.12.2024 RAISED BY SHRI DHAIRYASHIL MOHAN PATIL, HON'BLE MP REGARDING 'INLAND WATERWAY SERVICES IN RAIGAD, MAHARASHTRA'

(a) & (b) National Waterway-10 (NW-10) Amba River is operational and 30.17 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) and 16.98 MMT of cargo movement was recorded in FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25 (upto 31.10.2024) respectively. NW-85 (Kundalika River) is also operational with 0.99 MMT and 0.33 MMT of cargo movement recorded in FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25 (upto 31.10.2024) respectively. As on date, both NW-10 and NW-85 have sufficient draft and 3 functional ports. Further, infrastructure development on both these National Waterways depends on future requirements.

(c) Inland Waterway Authority of India (IWAI) doesn't levy any charge for usage of National Waterways for commercial/passenger/ cruise movement. The ferry operations on these NWs are monitored/regulated by Maharashtra Maritime Board (MMB). MMB has initiated exercise to explore methods to implement cross-subsidized water transport services to address the issue of affordable fare structures for waterway services.

(d) M2M Ro-Pax Ferry service between Mumbai and Mandwa has enhanced regional connectivity, transporting a sizeable number of passengers and vehicles since 2020 and has helped in reducing carbon emissions. M2M Ferries has introduced a second Ro-Pax Vessel, which it intend to deploy on the Ferry Wharf to Mandwa route after receipt of all clearances to operate in Indian waters.
