

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1745
ANSWERED ON 10.12.2024

LENGTH OF INLAND WATERWAYS IN OPERATION

1745. SHRI SANDEEP KUMAR PATHAK:

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

- (a) the length of inland waterways in operation for transportation of goods and passengers in the year 2014-15, 2019-20 and 2023-24, State/UT-wise;
- (b) the funds released by Central Government in the last five years for the development of inland waterways in each State and UT;
- (c) the number of trips MV Ganga cruise has completed since its beginning in January, 2023 and how many passengers availed the service till date; and
- (d) the funds Government has spent and recovered, so far, from this cruise service?

ANSWER

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

- (a) The length of National Waterways (in kilometer) in operation for transportation of cargo and passenger in the year 2014-15, 2019-20 and 2023-24 state-wise is given at **Annexure-1**.
- (b) Total funds spent by the Government during last five years for development of National Waterways in various States is Rs. 2987.91 Crore as detailed at **Annexure-2**.
- (c) MV Ganga Vilas Cruise has completed 10 trips and 255 tourists have availed the service till end of Season in 2023-24.
- (d) The mandate of Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) is to develop and regulate National Waterways (NWs) for shipping & navigation. The infrastructure developed for transportation on NWs by IWAI includes fairway, terminals, jetties, navigation aids etc. are used by cargo movers, cruise operators, etc. IWAI plays the role of an infrastructure provider and facilitator for services required for cruise/river tourism on NWs. Further, no funds were allocated for MV Ganga Vilas which is a private cruise.

Annexure-1

**OPERATIONAL LENGTH OF WATERWAYS (KM) FOR CARGO AND PASSENGERS
IN 2014-15, 2019-20 AND 2023-24**

Sl.No.	States	2014-15	2019-20	2023-24
1	Uttar Pradesh	407	407	407
2	Bihar	509	559	559
3	Jharkhand	48	48	48
4	West Bengal	583	1003.5	1038.5
5	Assam	891	1012	1047
6	Kerala	203	203	269
7	Andhra Pradesh		280	280
8	Odisha			371
9	Maharashtra		106	106
10	Goa		87	87
11	Gujarat		272	272
	Total	2641	3977.5	4484.5

Annexure-2

THE DETAILS OF EXPENDITURE ON NWS DURING THE LAST FIVE YEARS ARE AS UNDER:

(Rs. in Crore)

Sl. No.	National Waterways	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
1.(a)	NW-1 (Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system) in U.P., Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal	155.10	58.54	87.83	87.22	163.38
1.(b)	NW-3 (West Coast Canal, Kerala) including NW-8 & 9 in Kerala	26.06	21.52	10.83	4.50	4.78
1.(c)	Phase-1, NW-4 (river Krishna, A.P.)	4.41	3.62	3.08	0.44	0.67
1.(d)	Phase-1, NW-5 (Odisha)	3.29	2.13	2.58	0.76	26.53
1.(e)	Other Plan schemes including new NWS-NW-27, 68, 111 in Goa, NW-86, 97 in West Bengal	23.68	13.21	13.47	0.86	11.25
2	Jal Marg Vikas Project (JMVP) on NW-1 (U.P., Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal) - Grants for creation of Capital Assets (GoI share)	461.82	214.05	229.04	315.88	501.26
3	NW-2 & 16- Grants for creation of Capital Assets in Assam	58.42	38.79	78.04	98.55	261.76
	Total	732.78*	351.86	425.43	508.21	969.63
	Grand Total for last 5 years					2987.91

* Expenditure in 2019-20 also include balance fund of EBR.
