

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1114**  
ANSWERED ON 29.07.2025

**INLAND WATER TRANSPORT IN BIHAR**

1114. DR. BHIM SINGH:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a great potential for inland water transport in the districts of Bihar under National Waterways;
- (b) whether a detailed action plan has been prepared to develop terminals, jetties and logistics hubs in Patna, Bhagalpur, Katihar and Buxar;
- (c) whether a multimodal connectivity scheme is being implemented to link these terminals with railways, highways and industrial areas; and
- (d) whether Government is considering to provide technical and financial assistance for promotion of local employment and tourism by encouraging boat-based transport on small waterways?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (c) Yes. Patna, Bhagalpur, Katihar and Buxar are on the banks of the river Ganga [National Waterway (NW)-1]. Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) an autonomous body under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways has constructed permanent terminals at Patna & Kalughat and established floating terminals/jetties (steel pontoons) at Bhagalpur, Manihari (Katihar) and Buxar to cater the cargo and passenger movement. These terminals have road connectivity with Highways. As of now, there is no plan for logistics hub by the Ministry in Bihar.

(d) IWAI is providing required terminals/floating jetties, navigational aids and fairway to promote river cruise tourism by encouraging boat based transport on National Waterways in Bihar. Further, the IWAI provides technical support to State Government as and when sought.

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