

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1918
ANSWERED ON 05.08.2025

SUBSIDY AUDIT UNDER JAL VAHAK SCHEME

1918. SHRI SUJEET KUMAR:

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

- (a) whether any third-party audit or verification mechanism has been established to monitor the disbursal and utilization of the 30–40 per cent subsidy provided under the Jal Vahak Scheme, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether the Jal Vahak Scheme mandates or incentivizes the adoption of green vessels such as electric, hybrid or LNG-powered;
- (c) whether a performance evaluation system has been put in place to track cargo tonnage growth directly attributable to the implementation of the Jal Vahak Scheme; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

- (a) Inland and Coastal Shipping Ltd (ICSL), a wholly owned subsidiary of Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) is the implementing agency for the Jal Vahak Scheme. Under Jalvahak scheme, there is provision for financial incentives to the extent of 35% of the total actual operating expenditure incurred on waterway journey. As per the Scheme, ICSL is required to submit utilization certificate duly certified by the Statutory Auditor of the amount utilized at the end of Financial Year along with a report.
- (b) The objective of the Scheme is to (i) provide impetus to modal shift of cargo to inland water transport (IWT) mode by incentivising such shift and (ii) demonstrate the reliability as well as readiness of the IWT sector for the purpose of boosting confidence of the stakeholders.
- (c) & (d) A Steering Committee comprising representatives from the Ministry of Ports Shipping and Waterways, IWAI and Inland and Coastal Shipping Limited (ICSL) has been formed for performance evaluation of the Jal Vahak Scheme.
