

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SHIPPING
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1014
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27TH JUNE, 2019

CRUISE SERVICE ON RIVERS

1014. DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR:
SHRI KHAGEN MURMU:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

पोत परिवहन मंत्री

- (a) whether the Government has recently introduced cruise service on Ganga river in Varanasi and other river beds and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has engaged public and private sectors in this regard and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of river-circuits identified by the Government along with their promotion proposals;
- (d) the present status of construction of new Cruise Terminals at various ports in the country including Kolkata; and
- (e) the quantum of funds allocated, released and utilised for this purpose?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR SHIPPING
(SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)

- (a) Various private companies are operating cruise vessels on National Waterway – 1 (Ganga), National Waterway – 2 (Brahmaputra) and waterways in Kerala. M/s Nordic Cruise Line Service Pvt. Ltd. has launched cruise service in Varanasi in August, 2018.
- (b) & (c) River cruise/tourism has been a regular feature on National Waterways-1 & 2 since last few years and Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) engages with private companies for development of river cruise tourism. Various companies namely M/s Heritage River Cruises India Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Vivada Inland Waterways, M/s. Assam Bengal navigation Co. and M/s. Nordic Cruise Line Service Pvt. Ltd. operate their cruise

vessels on NW-1 and Sundarbans waterways. M/s. Assam Bengal Navigation Company, M/s Far Horizon Co. are operating cruise vessels on NW-2. River tourism on NW-3 is already popular among domestic and foreign tourists. During the winter months of October-March, several tourist vessels carrying foreign and domestic tourists are regularly plying between Kaziranga and Dhubri in Assam; Patna/Varanasi, Kolkata and Sunderbans on Ganga; and throughout the year in the backwaters of Kerala.

Under the MoU and SOP on Passenger and Cruise Service on the Coastal and Protocol routes signed between India and Bangladesh, private cruise operators of both the countries commenced cruise services in March – April, 2019.

- (d) & (e) The Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned projects for the development of Cruise Terminals and related infrastructure at the major ports as part of its schemes of assistance to central agencies. Details of the project status, amount sanctioned and released is at **Annex.**

Annex

PROJECTS SANCTIONED FOR DEVELOPMENT OF CRUISE TERMINAL/UPGRADATION OF BERTH UNDER THE SCHEME OF ASSISTANCE TO CENTRAL AGENCIES FOR INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

(Rs. In Lakh)

SI. NO.	STATE / YEAR	NAME OF THE PROJECT	SANCTIONED AMOUNT	AMOUNT RELEASED	STATUS
1	Tamil Nadu 2012-2013	Cruise Terminal Building at Chennai Port, Chennai	1724.66	1724.66	Completed
2	Kerala 2012-2013	Development of dedicated Cruise Berthing facilities at Cochin Port	2243.32	2138.92	Completed
3	Goa 2014-2015	Cruise Terminal building at Mormugao Port, Goa	879.04	767.187	Completed
4	Kerala 2016-2017	Upgradation of Berths and backup area of Ernakulam Wharf, Kerala	2141.00	1070.50	Work under progress
5	Kerala 2016-2017	Development of Walkway / Promenade on Willingdon Island, Cochin	901.00	720.30	Work in progress
6	Maharashtra 2016-2017	Development of KanojiAngre Lighthouse to Mumbai Port Trust	1500.00	1500.00	Completed
7	Maharashtra 2017-2018	Upgradation / modernization at International Cruise Terminal at Indira Dock, Mumbai	1250.00	1000.00	Work in progress
8	Goa 2018-2019	Improvement of Immigration facility and deepening of existing Cruise Berth at Mormugao Port, Goa	1316.40	658.20	Work in progress
9	Kerala 2018-2019	Developing infrastructure at Cochin Port Cruise Terminals	120.79	60.39	Work in progress
10	Kerala 2018-2019	Creation of additional Tourism Facility at the Cochin Port Trust	466.47	233.23	Work in progress
11	Andhra Pradesh 2018-2019	Construction of Cruise-cum-Coastal Cargo Terminal at Channel Berth area in outer harbour of Visakhapatnam Port	3850.00	1925.00	Work in progress