TRANSPORT CARGO ON RIVER GANGA

2147. SHRI DULAL CHANDRA GOSWAMI:

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

पत्तन,पोतपरिवहनऔरजलमार्गमंत्री

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to run large transport cargo on river Ganga in Bihar to transport goods through waterways;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether there is any ongoing work on river Ganga to ensure the smooth operation of transport cargo; and
(d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a)& (b) 1,31,69,853 Metric Tons (MT) of cargo movement has been recorded on National Waterway-1 (NW-1) i.e. on Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly River System in 2022-23 which includes 1845.8 MT of Over Dimension Cargo (ODC) which is difficult to be moved by other modes. Details of 4 ODC cargo movement to Bihar during 2022-23 is given below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl.No.</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Origin</th>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>Commodity</th>
<th>Cargo in MT</th>
<th>Shipper</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>2022</td>
<td>Budge</td>
<td>Budge Buxar</td>
<td>Transformer</td>
<td>379</td>
<td>L&amp;T Ltd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Feb</td>
<td>2023</td>
<td>Kolkata</td>
<td>Semaria</td>
<td>Diesel HDT Reactors</td>
<td>703.5</td>
<td>Indian Oil Corporation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Feb</td>
<td>2023</td>
<td>Kolkata</td>
<td>Buxar</td>
<td>Generator Stator</td>
<td>379</td>
<td>Buxar thermal Power Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Feb</td>
<td>2023</td>
<td>Diamond harbour</td>
<td>Semaria</td>
<td>Reactor</td>
<td>384.3</td>
<td>Indian Oil Corporation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1845.8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
(c) & (d) River Ganga (Ganga – Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system) from Prayagraj to Haldia has been declared as National Waterways-1. To improve navigability and provide a cost-effective, environment-friendly and safe supplementary mode of transportation, Inland Waterways Authority (IWAI) of India has undertaken Jal Marg Vikas Project (Haldia to Varanasi at a cost of Rs. 5362.27 Crore. The development objective of JMVP project is to enhance transport efficiency and reliability of Inland Waterways for handling logistics. Expected major outcomes of the project are given below:

i. Construction of Multimodal Terminals at three locations: Varanasi, Sahibganj and Haldia and one Intermodal Terminal at Kalughat.

ii. Construction of a new Navigational Lock at Farakka.

iii. Fairway Development through dredging, river training works etc.

iv. Provision of Navigational Aids, such as channel markings, night navigational aids including deployment of GPS, RIS and river maps and charts for navigation.

v. Construction of 60+ community jetties on NW-1.

vi. Upgradation of existing Navigational Lock at Farakka.

vii. Installation of Quick Pontoon Opening System

The project has achieved physical progress of 59.89% and financial progress of 59.35% as on 30.11.2023.

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