

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2974
TO BE ANSWERED ON 5TH AUGUST, 2021

TOURISM POTENTIAL OF NEW WATERWAYS

2974. SHRI PALLAB LOCHAN DAS:

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

पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्री

- (a) whether the Government is planning to introduce new waterway route from Biswanath Chairali to Kaziranga National Park, Assam and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is aware of the tourism potential of this route; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) Dhubri to Sadiya (891 km) stretch of the river Brahmaputra was declared as National Waterway-2 (NW-2) and is operational for cargo and passenger movement. Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) maintains the NW-2 for ensuring navigability. Biswanath Chairali is located at chainage 470 km on north bank and Kaziranga National Park is located on south bank of the River Brahmaputra.

(b) & (c) The Ministry of Tourism has taken the initiative of identifying, diversifying, developing and promoting niche tourism products including Waterways Routes in the country. The inland waterways have enormous potential to develop cruise tourism. To develop river cruise tourism on NW-2, Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned Rs. 12.45 crore (including GST) for development of 4 tourist jetties at Neamati, Pandu, Jogighopa and Biswanathghat.
