

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1004
ANSWERED ON 3RD DECEMBER, 2021

OPENING OF WATERWAYS FOR PUBLIC

1004. SHRI RAMESH CHANDER KAUSHIK:
SHRI DILIP SAIKIA:

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

पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्री

- (a) the names of those waterways which are being considered to be opened for public by the Government;
- (b) the action plan formulated by the Government to link Assam and North Eastern States through waterways; and
- (c) whether these schemes are being completed as per the fixed timeframe and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) To promote Inland Water Transport in the country 111 waterways (including 5 existing and 106 new) have been declared as National Waterways (NWs) under the National Waterways Act, 2016 which came into effect from 12th April, 2016. Based on the outcome of techno-economic feasibility and Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of NWs, 25 NWs have been found viable by Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) for cargo/passenger movement. The list of the 25 NWs is at **Annex-I**. Developmental activities have been initiated in 13 NWs.

(b) & (c) Yes, Sir. With special emphasis on North Eastern States, IWAI has undertaken comprehensive development of NW-2 (Brahmaputra River) and NW-16 (Barak River) and Indo Bangladesh Protocol Route at the cost of Rs. 461 crore and 145 crore respectively to establish critical connectivity along with infrastructure development in the North East Region which would boost economic development and trade in the region by connecting hinterland. Details is at **Annex-II**.

In addition, Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways has a Central Sector Scheme (CSS) for development of inland water transport infrastructure in the North Eastern States under which 100% grants is provided to North Eastern States. Details of projects sanctioned under CSS is at **Annex-III**.