

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.722
ANSWERED ON 29.11.2024

WATERWAYS PROJECTS ON BRAHMAPUTRA RIVER

722. SHRI GAURAV GOGOI:

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

पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्री

- a) the current status of the 10 waterways projects on the Brahmaputra River announced in March 2024, project-wise;
- b) the current status of the plans of the Government to develop river tourism and water sports along Brahmaputra, project-wise;
- c) the details of the progress made for the development of the Eastern Grid at Brahmaputra and Barak rivers;
- d) the progress of the development work of slipways in Majuli and the construction of six tourist jetties including the one proposed at Neamati; and
- e) whether the Government proposes to revisit the Indo Bangladesh Protocol (IBP) in light of the current geopolitical scenario and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways has approved Government of Assam's proposal for development of 10 waterways projects along with riverine infrastructure at various locations along NW-2 on River Brahmaputra with total outlay of Rs.645.56 Cr. for assistance under Sagarmala Scheme. Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance has conveyed in-principle approval for 10 projects of Government of Assam. The details of projects is at **Annexure**.

(b) The following inland waterway infrastructure has been developed on Brahmaputra River (NW-2), for cargo/passenger movement and river tourism.

- 12 floating terminals, 2 Multimodal Terminals at Pandu & Jogighopa and 2 permanent terminals at Bogibeel and Dhubri which are also used for berthing of river cruise vessels.
- Fairway with required depth and width is also maintained for smooth plying of cruise vessels.
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed on 19.05.2024 to take up the project of “**Riverine based Religious Tourism Circuit in SPV framework**” among Sagarmala Development Company Limited (SDCL), Assam Tourism Development Corporation Limited (ATDC), Directorate of IWT Assam (DIWT) and Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI).
- The project aims to connect seven temples through waterways by deploying appropriate capacity of vessels on Hop on & Hop off basis as given below:-

(i) Kamakhya Temple, (ii) Pandunath Temple, (iii) Ashwaktanta Temple, (iv) Doulgovinda Temple, (v) Umanada Temple, (vi) Chakreshwar Temple & (vii) AuniatiSatra.

- IWAI’s mandate is to develop National Waterways for the purpose of Shipping and navigation. Hence, there is no plan to develop water sports on or along River Brahmaputra. However, if a request is received from the State Government for development of fairway related to water sports, it can be considered under the central sector scheme for development of IWT infrastructure in NER State.

(c) For comprehensive development of the Brahmaputra and Barak rivers, three projects with an estimated investment of Rs 1010 crore have been approved by the Government. The details of three projects are mentioned below:-

I. Comprehensive Development of NW-2

- Sanctioned Cost – **Rs. 474.00 Cr**
- Total expenditure -**Rs.378.60**
- Overall physical progress -**79.87%** till October 2024

II. Development of Approach Road from Pandu Port Terminal to NH-27 and Development of Ship Repair Facility at Pandu, Guwahati (Assam)

- Sanctioned Cost – **Rs.388.00 Cr.**
- Total expenditure –**Rs.235.44 Cr.**
- Overall physical progress -**60.68%** till October 2024

III. Comprehensive Development of NW-16 & Indo Bangladesh Protocol Route (IBP)

- Sanctioned Cost – Rs.148.00 Cr.
- Total expenditure -**Rs. 24.26 Cr.**
- Overall physical progress -**16.39%** till October 2024

(d) Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways has approved Government of Assam's proposal for construction of slipway at Majuli district in Assam on River Brahmaputra with outlay of Rs.96.60 Cr. for assistance under Sagarmala Scheme. Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance has conveyed in-principle approval for the aforesaid project.

Progress on construction of six tourist jetties is as given hereunder-

- The overall progress of development of floating RCC tourist jetties at Bogibeel and Pandu is 85%.
- For development of tourist steel jetties at 04 locations, namely: Silghat, BishwanathGhat, Neamati&Guijan, the project has been assigned to Indian Port Rail & Ropeway Corporation Limited (IPRCL).

(e) No

Annexure

S. No	Proposal Name	District	Cost (In Cr.)
1.	Proposal for construction of slipway at Maya Ghat, Dhubri, Dhubri district in Assam	Dhubri district	Rs.96.60 Cr.
2	Proposal for construction of passenger terminal at Ghagor, North Lakhimpur district in Assam	North Lakhimpur district	Rs. 26 Cr.
3	Proposal for construction of slipway at Majuli district in Assam	Majuli district	Rs.96.60 Cr.
4	Proposal for construction of passenger terminal at Bahari , Barpeta district in Assam	Barpeta district	Rs. 91.20 Cr
5	Proposal for construction of passenger terminal at Goalpara, Goalpara district in Assam	Goalpara district	Rs. 92.06 Cr
6	Proposal for construction of passenger terminal at Guijan, Tinsukia district in Assam	Tinsukia district	Rs. 36.00 Cr
7	Proposal for construction of passenger terminal at Kurua , Darrang district in Assam	Darrang district	Rs. 49.00 Cr
8	Proposal for construction of passenger terminal at Dhubri , Dhubri district in Assam	Dhubri district	Rs. 72.10 Cr
9	Proposal for construction of passenger terminal at Disangmukh ,Sibsagar district in Assam	Disangmukh, Sibsagar district	Rs. 40.00 Cr
10	Proposal for construction of passenger terminal at Matmora , North Lakhimpur district in Assam	North Lakhimpur district	Rs. 46.00 Cr
