

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.728
ANSWERED ON 29.11.2024

INLAND WATERWAYS PROJECTS IN NORTH EASTERN STATES

728. SHRI PRADYUT BORDOLOI:

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

पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्री

- (a) the funds sanctioned and utilised under the Central Sector Scheme (CSS) for Development of Inland Waterways in North Eastern States including Sikkim since it was established;
- (b) the details regarding the physical progress made under all projects sanctioned under the above mentioned CSS and the deadlines that have been set for the same;
- (c) the status of various floating and permanent jetties on the Brahmaputra and Barak rivers in Assam and dredging of the Brahmaputra at 88 locations by the Inland Waterways Authority of India; and
- (d) the projected increase in trade volume and economic activities as a result of the newly developed inland waterways projects in the North-Eastern Region?

ANSWER

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

- (a) Funds sanctioned and utilised under the Central Sector Scheme (CSS) for Development of Inland Waterways in North Eastern States including Sikkim are detailed at **Annexure – 1**
- (b) Physical progress made under all projects sanctioned under the above mentioned schemes under CSS in NER and the deadlines are detailed at **Annexure-2**.
- (c) Status of various floating and permanent jetties of the Brahmaputra and Barak rivers in Assam and dredging of the Brahmaputra is at **Annexure-3**.

(d) The newly developed inland waterways projects in NER helped in increasing the trade and economic activities at grass root level. Details of cargo movement is at **Annexure-4**

Funds sanctioned and utilised under the Central Sector Scheme (CSS) for Development of Inland Waterways in North Eastern States

| Sl. No. | Name of State | Name of Project | Funds Sanctioned | Funds released |
|----------------|----------------------|---|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. | Assam | Construction of 15 Nos. of 17.0 M long floating terminals at 15 Ferry Ghat Bank on River Brahmaputra in Assam under CSS. | Rs. 6.0749 Cr. | Rs. 4.9147 Cr. |
| | | Construction of 25 Nos. of 17.0 M long floating terminals at 25 Ferry Ghat Bank on River Brahmaputra in Assam under CSS. | Rs. 10.9787 Cr. | Rs. 6.5914 Cr. |
| | | Construction of 15 Nos. of 17.0 M long floating terminals at 15 Ferry Ghat Bank on River Barak in Assam under CSS. | Rs. 6.3691 Cr. | Rs. 1.2338 Cr. |
| | | Construction of 16 Nos. of 25.0 M long floating terminals at Ferry Ghat on River Brahmaputra in Assam under CSS | Rs. 13.7016 Cr. | Rs. 2.7403 Cr. |
| | | Construction of Passenger Vessels of different size and capacities, construction of terminal facilities and capacity building of crews of IWT, Assam | Rs. 25 Cr. | Rs.3.2879 Cr. |
| 2. | Manipur | Loktak Inland Waterways Improvement Project for Assistance under Central Sector Scheme. | Rs. 25.58 Cr. | Rs. 5.117 Cr. |
| | | Loktak Inland Water Transport Project-II for Loktak lake in Manipur | Rs. 7.8842 Cr. | Rs. 7.8842 Cr. |
| 3. | Tripura | Revised Project Proposal for Development of Inland Water Transport in River Gomati in Tripura with a view to setting up linkage with Meghna River System in Bangladesh. | Rs. 24.5257 Cr. | Rs. 4.905 Cr. |
| 4. | Mizoram | Conducting Hydrographic Survey and Economic Feasibility Study at River Chhaintuipui, Mizoram | Rs. 0.82305 Cr. | Rs. 0.7818 Cr. |

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| | | Development of IWT on River Khawthlangtuipui – Tuichawng in Lunglei District in Mizoram. | Rs. 6.178 Cr. | Rs. 1.2357 Cr. |
| | | Proposal for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for development of IWT on River Chhimituipui, Mizoram-reg. | Rs. 1.41 Cr. | - |
| | | Preparation of DPR for Development of IWT in River Tlwang (NW-102), Mizoram | Rs. 0.89 Cr. | - |
| 5. | Nagaland | Preparation of DPR for promotion of Water Sports & Tourism at Nouné and Shilloi Lake in Nagaland under Central Sector Scheme | Rs. 0.90 Cr. | - |
| | | Preparation of DPR for development of IWT at Doyang Reservoir, Wokha Nagaland | Rs. 0.85 Cr. | - |

Physical progress made under projects sanctioned under the CSS in NER and the deadlines:

| Sl. No. | Name of State | Name of Project | Status |
|----------------|----------------------|--|---|
| 1. | Assam | Construction of 15 Nos. of 17.0 M long floating terminals at 15 Ferry Ghat Bank on River Brahmaputra in Assam under CSS. | Project was sanctioned on 23.06.2014. Project Completed. |
| | | Construction of 25 Nos. of 17.0 M long floating terminals at 25 Ferry Ghat Bank on River Brahmaputra in Assam under CSS. | Project was sanctioned on 19.01.2018 12 out of 25 floating terminals are partially completed. Govt. of Assam has informed that due to cost escalation, the contractor has denied for taking up the work of the remaining 13 floating terminal. Therefore, the project has been foreclosed by Govt. of Assam. Ministry has requested Govt. of Assam to return the unspent amount together with the interest accrued thus far to Consolidated Fund of India (CFI) and to reassess the need for remaining floating terminals and formulate a new proposal/project (if required) for consideration of this Ministry. |
| | | Construction of 15 Nos. of 17.0 M long floating terminals at 15 Ferry Ghat Bank on River Barak in Assam under CSS. | Project was sanctioned on 24.01.2018 The earlier work order has been cancelled due to non-execution of work. After fresh NIT work order has been issued on 05.10.2023. Till date no Physical and Financial progress has been achieved. |
| | | Construction of 16 Nos. of 25.0 M long floating terminals at Ferry Ghat on River Brahmaputra in Assam | Project sanctioned on 25.01.2018 03 terminal completed out of 16 terminals Due to non execution of the work by the contractor, Govt. of Assam has foreclosed the project. |

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| | | under CSS. | |
| | | Construction of Passenger Vessels of different size and capacities, construction of terminal facilities and capacity building of crews of IWT, Assam. | Project sanctioned on 18.03.2024, Tender issued. |
| 2. | Manipur | Loktak Inland Water Transport Project-II for Loktak lake in Manipur | Project sanctioned on 29.03.2016 Project completed. |
| | | Loktak Inland Waterways Improvement Project for Assistance under Central Sector Scheme. | Project sanctioned on 31.10.2019 The project could not be started as a PIL was filed in Hon'ble High Court of Manipur and Stay was imposed on 17.07.2019 for not to commence any developmental work in Loktak lake. Thereafter, Govt. of Manipur cancelled the project. Till date a sum of Rs.4,84,26,484/-returned by Govt. of Manipur has been deposited by IWAI in the CFI and the balance along with interest thereon is yet to be received from Govt. of Manipur. |
| 3. | Tripura | Revised Project Proposal for Development of Inland Water Transport in River Gomati in Tripura with a view to setting up linkage with Meghna River System in Bangladesh. | Project sanctioned on 10.02.2022 The overall physical progress is 55%. |
| 4. | Mizoram | Conducting Hydrographic Survey and Economic Feasibility Study at River Chhimtuipui, Mizoram | Project sanctioned on 14.09.2022 Project Completed. |

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| | | Development of IWT on River Khawthlangtuipui – Tuichawng in Lunglei District in Mizoram. | <p>Project sanctioned on 30.12.2021.</p> <p>A total of Rs. 50,67,873 has been utilized by the Government of Mizoram, while the remaining balance of Rs. 77,89,171 has been returned to IWAI and surrendered to the CFI.</p> <p>Due to delay in execution of project by Govt. of Mizoram. The Ministry has appointed IWAI as an implementing agency for taking over the project.</p> |
| | | Proposal for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for development of IWT on River Chhimtuipui, Mizoram-reg. | Administrative sanction conveyed to IWAI (Project Implementing Agency) on 21.10.2024. |
| | | Preparation of DPR for Development of IWT in River Tlwang (NW-102), Mizoram | Administrative sanction conveyed to IWAI (Project Implementing Agency) on 14.11.2024. |
| 5. | Nagaland | Preparation of DPR for promotion of Water Sports & Tourism at Nouné and Shilloi Lake in Nagaland under Central Sector Scheme | Administrative sanction conveyed to IWAI (Project Implementing Agency) on 22.10.2024. |
| | | Preparation of DPR for development of IWT at Doyang Reservoir, Wokha Nagaland | Administrative sanction conveyed to IWAI (Project Implementing Agency) on 24.09.2024. |

Status of various floating and permanent jetties on the Brahmaputra and Barak rivers in Assam and dredging of the Brahmaputra:

River Brahmaputra:

- Permanent terminal at Pandu port and Dhubri are operational.
- Construction of Jogighopa Multi-Modal Terminal (MMT) completed.
- Floating terminals along the river Brahmaputra are provided for embarkation/disembarkation of passenger and loading/unloading of cargo at 12 (twelve) locations viz: i) Dhubri, ii) Jogighopa, iii) Pandu, iv) Uzanbazar, v) Tezpur vi) Silghat, vii) Bishwanath Ghat, viii) Neamati, ix) Afalamukh, x) Bogibeel, xi) Bindyakata & xii) Guijan,
- Construction of Cargo-cum-Tourist jetty at Bogibeel is (Phase – I) completed.

River Barak:

- Permanent IWT terminal at Karimganj & Badarpur operational.
- Floating terminal along the river Barak is provided for embarkation/disembarkation of passenger and loading/unloading of cargo at Badarpur.

Dredging in Brahmaputra: For safe movement of vessels, fairway of required depth of 2 to 2.5 m & width of 35 to 45 m of navigation channel is maintained. For maintenance of fairway, besides the other means (bandalling, channel stabilization works etc), maintenance dredging is carried out as per site conditions wherever recorded depth during fortnightly hydrographic surveys is less than the targeted LAD.

Annexure – 4

The cargo movement on NWs of NER from 2019-20 till 2024-25 October in Million Metric Tonne (MMT) is as given below:

| National Waterway | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | 2023-24 | 2024-25 till Oct |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|------------------|
| NW-2 (Brahmaputra River (Dhubri-Sadiya)) | 0.39 | 0.31 | 0.43 | 0.63 | 0.59 | 0.51 |
| NW-16 (Barak River) | 0.004 | 0.001 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.003 | 0.10 |
| NW-31 (Dhansiri/Chathe) | - | - | - | - | 0.01 | 0.002 |
| Total | 0.40 | 0.31 | 0.43 | 0.64 | 0.60 | 0.61 |

The Traffic movement for 2024-25 till October, 2024 has already surpassed the total cargo moved in 2023-24.
