

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *99
ANSWERED ON 25.07.2025

STATUS OF NATIONAL WATERWAY NUMBER 37

*99. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR:

Will the MINISTER OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS be pleased to state:

पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्री

- (a) whether the Government had identified National Waterway Number 37 on Gandak river in Bihar from Saran up to Nepal border via Champaran to develop it as an international waterway, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether an amount of Rs. 150 crore was sanctioned for the survey work of the said waterway and some part of survey work was completed as well, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there was also a proposal to set up six terminals along the Gandak river to operate the said waterway, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to approve the said waterway and make it operational to strengthen trade relations between India and Nepal by way of discovering new waterways, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

- (a) to(d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *99 FOR 25.07.2025 RAISED BY SHRI SUNIL KUMAR,
HON'BLE M.P. ON "STATUS OF NATIONAL WATERWAY NUMBER 37"**

(a) Gandak River has been declared as National Waterway (NW) No. 37 from Valmiki Nagar near Triveni to the Ganga River confluence at Hajipur (stretch of 295.7 km) under the National Waterways Act, 2016. This NW connects Valmiki Nagar Bridge at Bhaishalotan Barrage and provides connectivity with Nepal.

(b) & (c) An amount of Rs. 12.91 crore for NW-37 was approved during the year 2017-18, which included the following works:

1. Hydrographic Survey (Thalweg Survey & Detailed Hydrographic Survey of shoals)
2. Channel Marking
3. Bandalling
4. Floating Terminals
5. Identification of Cross Structures
6. Stakeholder Workshops
7. Conduct Trial Movements

Further, Hydrographic Survey from Valmiki Nagar Barrage (Triveni) to Ganga Confluence (Hazipur) has also been conducted. Moreover, two steel floating pontoons/jetties have been provisioned at Bettiah for utilization by the local community.

(d) The updation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) has been taken up through M/s Rail India Technical and Economic Service (RITES) Ltd. for exploring the possibilities of Inland Water Transport (IWT) development based on economical and social viability.
