

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2200

ANSWERED ON 01.08.2025

ENHANCEMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE ALONG NATIONAL WATERWAYS

2200. SHRI RAJESH VERMA:
SHRI RAVINDRA DATTARAM WAIKAR:
DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE;
SMT. SHAMBHAVI:
SHRI NARESH GANPART MHASKE:

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

पत्तन, पोत परिवहन एवं जलमार्ग मंत्रालय

- (a) whether the Government has announced significant investments to enhance infrastructure along national waterways, and if so, the details of thereof;
- (b) whether these initiatives are expected to improve transportation efficiency and promote economic growth in the regions served by national waterways, if so, the details of these investments;
- (c) whether the Government has initiated the Riverine Community Development Scheme to support coastal communities, and if so, the specific measures included in this scheme;
- (d) whether there are plans to launch new green vessels as part of the Government's commitment to sustainable shipping practices, and if so, the number of vessels planned for launch; and
- (e) whether these efforts are anticipated to create job opportunities and promote skill development in the inland waterways sector, and if so, the initiatives being undertaken to achieve this?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) Government has sanctioned significant investment of Rs. 6833.46 Crore during last 5 years to enhance infrastructure along national waterways as detailed at **Annexure.** The development of National Waterways, being an alternate and

supplementary mode of transportation, can improve transportation efficiency and promote economic growth in the regions.

(c) Under the Jal Marg Vikas Project, Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI), an autonomous organisation under Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways has taken up construction of 60 Community Jetties for socio-economic benefits of the farmers, fishing and local communities residing along the river Ganga (National Waterway-1) in the State of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal. Apart from this, floating jetties/terminals have been constructed along other National Waterways across the country to facilitate the communities living around these rivers.

(d) IWAI has placed order on Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) for construction of eight hybrid electric catamaran. In addition, one hydrogen fuelled vessel constructed by CSL has been handed over to IWAI and deployed at Varanasi.

(e) Development of Inland Water Transport (IWT) sector has the potential for creating job opportunities and promote skill development in various areas, including river cruise tourism, vessel design/operations, terminal construction and operation, maintenance dredging, fairway development, navigation aids, river engineering, hydrology etc.

Annexure

DETAILS OF INVESTMENT SANTIONED ON WATERWAYS DURING THE LAST FIVE YEARS:

Sl.	Name of Project	Amount (Crore)
1	Jal Marg Vikas Project (JMVP-I & II) from Varanasi-Haldia stretch on NW-1 (Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly River System) in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand & West Bengal	5061.15
2	8 Nos. Hybrid Electric Catamaran (Green inland vessels)	144.00
3	Comprehensive Development of NW-2 (River Brahmaputra from Bangladesh Border to Dhubri to Sadiya) in Assam	498.38
4	Development of Approach Road from Pandu Port Terminal to NH-27 and Ship Repair Facility at Pandu, Guwahati	419.00
5	Comprehensive Development of NW-16	134.72
7	Development of 23 NW's (Phase-1)	266.09
8	Central Sector Scheme (CSS) for inland waterway infrastructure projects in NER	100.00
9.	Misc. projects	210.22
Total		6833.56
