

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3300
ANSWERED ON 08.08.2025

NATIONAL WATERWAYS IN WEST BENGAL

3300. SHRIJAGANNATH SARKAR:

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

पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्री

- (a) the steps being taken to develop and enhance National Waterways in the State of West Bengal to boost transportation and trade, including the progress on National Waterway 44 (NW-44) and National Waterway 86 (NW-86);
- (b) the specific projects initiated to upgrade the infrastructure of National Waterways in the State, particularly for the said waterways, along with their current status; and
- (c) the manner in which the Union Government is collaborating with the Government of West Bengal to ensure the effective implementation of these projects?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) Government declared 17 waterways in the State of West Bengal as National Waterways (NWs) under the National Waterways Act, 2016 (17 of 2016). Central Government through Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) has undertaken various developmental activities on NW-1 (the Ganga-Bhagirathy-Hooghly River System) which covers West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Jharkhand, NW-44 (Ichamati River) and NW-86 (Rupnarayan River). These include development of fairway, terminals, navigation lock and navigation aids for smooth navigation of inland vessels. Details of projects undertaken on the NWs in West Bengal along with status are given in Annex-I.

(c) A Project Oversight Committee (POC) has been constituted with representatives from the States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, and West Bengal for projects under implementation on NW-1 under Jal Marg Vikas Project (JMVP) to collaborate with State Governments. Further, for holistic development of Inland Waterways Transport (IWT) across the country, Inland Waterways Development Council (IWDC) has been constituted under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways with representation from States/Union Territories.

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) & (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3300 for 08.08.2025.

PROJECTS IN WEST BENGAL

A. Completed Projects

S.No.	Name of Project	Details
1	Development of Multimodal Terminal (MMT) at Haldia	Completed in Q3-2023
2	Development of New Navigational Lock Gate in Farakka	Operational
3	Fairway Development	Farakka – Kahalgaon (LAD based dredging for 5 years completed)
4	Development of community jetties	Completed at 15 locations
5	Hydrographic survey (River Ichamati NW-44)	Completed
6	Removal of Water Hyacinth from Tentulia to Kalanchi stretch for 23.38 km on Ichamati river in NW-44	Completed
7	Construction & installation of Gangway & pontoon in River Rupnarayan NW-86	Completed
8	Bank protection works in River Rupnarayan NW-86	100m length at Kolaghat terminal – Completed
9	Procurement & Supply of 2NM LED lights Solar Operated in the river Rupnarayan NW-86	Completed
10	Construction of road from Kolaghat terminal to NH 41 for a length of 3.9 Km (except 01 no RCC culvert) in the river Rupnarayan NW-86	Completed
11	Fairway development, 24 hour navigation, Maintenance of Integrated Office Complex(Customs, Immigration-State police and IWA) at Hemnagar in IBP route of Sunderban Waterways	Completed
12	Supply and installation of 04 nos. navigational buoys near Ghoramora island	Completed

B. Ongoing Projects

S.No.	Name of Project	Details
1	Development of community jetties	Underconstruction at 7 locations
2	Onshore facilities for community jetties	Under constructionat 8 locations

3	Renovation/ Modernization of existing Navigational Lock at Farakka	Under Implementation
2	Fairway Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farakka – Kahalgaon • Farakka – Katwa • Katwa – Tribeni • MMT-Haldia Access Channel
3	Works in Ichamati River (NW-44)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dredging by departmental Amphibian dredger • Night Navigational facilities from Bansjahari-Mallikpur to Bashirhat Bridge - 7.0 km • Design and Construction of Single Lane Bridge at Swarupnagar, (WB) including Approach Road and RE wall
4	Works in Rupnarayan River (NW-86)	O&M of navigational lighted posts, snag/caution marks with retro reflective sticker & project sign board
