

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5708
ANSWERED ON 27.03.2026

OPERATIONAL NATIONAL WATERWAYS

5708. SHRI G KUMAR NAIK:

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

पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्री

(a) the number of Waterways declared as National Waterways so far and the number of those currently operational along with the details of its length, location and the year in which operations commenced, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) the reasons for the gap between the number of declared waterways and those that are operational; and

(c) the details of the plan of the Government to develop twenty new waterway corridors during the next five years, including the proposed routes, estimated costs, implementation timelines and funding mechanisms?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b) A total of 111 waterways have been declared as National Waterways (NWs) under the National Waterways Act, 2016. Based on Feasibility Study Reports / Detailed Project Reports, 32 NWs have been made operational for cargo/passenger movement. State-wise and year-wise details of operational NWs with length are at **Annexure-1**.

(c) Details of 20 NWs which will be made operational within next 5 years are given at Annexure-2. Estimated cost for their operationalisation is being finalised based on the infrastructure proposed on these NWs in consultation with the stakeholders/ respective States and the expenditure shall be met from the budgetary support.

State-wise and year-wise details of operational NWs with length

Operational NWs in 2013-14				
Sl.No.	NW No.	Name of NW	Operational Length (in km)	State / UT
1	NW-1	Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly River System (Allahabad – Haldia)	1,620	Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal
2	NW-2	Brahmaputra River (Sadiya-Dhubri)	891	Assam
3	NW-3	West Coast Canal	205	Kerala
NWs made operational in 2016-17				
4	NW-10	Amba River	45	Maharashtra
5	NW-83	Rajpuri Creek	31	Maharashtra
6	NW-85	Revadanda Creek-Kundalika River System	31	Maharashtra
7	NW-91	Shastri River - Jaigad Creek System	48	Maharashtra
8	NW-68	Mandovi River	41	Goa
9	NW-111	Zuari River	50	Goa
NWs made operational in 2017-18				
10	NW-73	Narmada River	226	Gujarat
11	NW-100	Tapi River	436	Gujarat
NWs made operational in 2018-19				
12	NW-4	Krishna Godavari River Systems	82	Andhra Pradesh
13	NW-97	Sunderbans Waterway	172	West Bengal
NWs made operational in 2019-20				
14	NW-16	Barak River	121	Assam

15	NW-44	Ichamati River	63	West Bengal
16	NW-94	Sone River	141	Bihar
NWs made operational in 2020-21				
17	NW-86	Rupnarayan River	72	West Bengal
NWs made operational in 2021-22				
18	NW-5	East Coast Canal and Matai River/Brahmani-Kharsua-Dhamra Rivers/Mahanadi Delta Rivers	233	Odisha
19	NW-64	Mahanadi River	98	Odisha
NWs made operational in 2022-23				
20	NW-23	BudhaBalanga	56	Odisha
21	NW-8	Alappuzha-Changanassery Canal	29	Kerala
22	NW-9	Alappuzha-Kottayam – Athirampuzha Canal	40	Kerala
23	NW-14	Baitarni River	48	Odisha
24	NW-31	Dhansiri/Chathe	114	Assam
NWs made operational in 2024-25				
25	NW-48	Jawai-Luni-Rann Of Kutch River	34	Gujarat
26	NW-53	(Kalyan-Thane-Mumbai Waterway, Vasai Creek and Ulhas River)	68	Maharashtra
NWs made operational in 2025-26				
27	NW-27	Cumberjua River	17	Goa
28	NW-47	Jalangi River	84	West Bengal
29	NW-87	Sabarmati River	34	Gujarat

30	NW-57	Kopili River	6	Assam
31	NW-110	Yamuna River	7	Uttar Pradesh
32	NW-40	Ghaghra River	12	Uttar Pradesh

Annexure-2

Details of 20 NWs which will be made operational within next 5 year

Sl. No.	National Waterway (Length)	State/U.T.	Year of operationalization
1	NW-49 : Jhelum River (110 km)	Jammu & Kashmir	2026-27
2	NW-26: Chenab River (51 km)	Jammu & Kashmir	
3	NW-84: Ravi River (44 km)	Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh & Punjab	
4	NW 51: Kabini River (23.17 km)	Karnataka	
5	NW 90: Sharavati River (28.67 km)	Karnataka	
6	NW-14: Baitarni River (48 km)	Odisha	
7	NW-25: Chapora River (33 km)	Goa	2027-30
8	NW-88: Sal River (14.05 km)	Goa	
9	NW-4 Extension- Krishna River (636 km)	Telangana & Andhra Pradesh	
10	NW-76: Panchagangavali River (23 km)	Karnataka	
11	NW-22: Birupa–Badi–Genguti–Brahmani System (155 km)	Odisha	
12	NW-23: BudhaBalanga River (55.89 km)	Odisha	
13	NW-96: Subarnarekha River (311 km)	Jharkhand, West Bengal & Odisha	
14	NW-20: Bhawani River (95 km)	Tamil Nadu	
15	NW-89: Savitri River & Bankot Creek (45.57 km)	Maharashtra	
16	NW-13: AVM Canal (11.3 km)	Keralam & Tamil Nadu	
17	NW-59: Kottayam–Vaikom Canal (18.8 km)	Keralam	
18	NW-28: Dabhol Creek–Vashishti	Maharashtra	

	River (45 km)		
19	NW-41: Ghataprabha River (111.76 km)	Karnataka	
20	NW-5: Brahmani River- Kharsua & Mahanadi Delta rivers System (332 km)	Odisha	2030-31
