

Agreement for Speedy Development of Waterways

†1812. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN : Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state :

(a) whether NTPC, the Inland Waterways Authority of India and private companies have entered into a tripartite agreement for speedy development of waterways;

(b) the State from which Government will start the first phase of the speedy development of waterways project; and

(c) the amount sanctioned by the Government for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN) : (a) to (c) While no such agreement has been entered into for the development of waterways *per-se*, in August 2011, the NTPC Ltd., Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) and M/s Jindal ITF Ltd. entered into a Tripartite Agreement (TPA) for the transportation of 3 million tonne per year of imported coal for a period of 7 years between Sand heads (Bay of Bengal) and coal stock yard of thermal power plant of NTPC at Farakka through Haldia-Farakka sector of National Waterway-1. Under this TPA, inter alia, NTPC Ltd. has given a commitment of making available 3 million tonne per year of imported coal at Sand heads for a period of 7 years, IWAI has agreed to provide navigational channel and allied facilities between Haldia and Farakka and Jindal ITF Ltd. agreed to invest in various components of the project such as the trans-shipper, the barges, the un-loading infrastructure and conveyor belt system at Farakka including transporting this coal by waterways upto coal stock yard at Farakka Power Plant at specified transportation rate as per various terms and conditions of the TPA. Accordingly, M/s Jindal ITF Ltd. has started implementation of various components of the project and it is expected that the first phase of coal supply under the project commences around December, 2012. The agreed charges for transportation of coal shall be paid by NTPC to M/s Jindal ITF Ltd. as per TPA. M/s Jindal ITF Ltd. is expected to invest about Rs. 650 crores.

National Waterway Project

1813. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA : Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry is considering the implementation of Geonkhali to Charbatia 588 km. of National Waterway Project cost in Rs. 4953 crores;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether the Ministry is also considering to take up the matter with Planning Commission/Department of Economic Affairs for allocation of funds for implementation of National Waterway No. 5 project; and

(c) whether the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs) would take expeditious steps to approve the terms of reference furnished by Asian Development Bank for early implementation of the project?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) to (c) The Geonkhali-Charbatia stretch of East Coast Canal along with Talcher-Dhamra stretch of Brahmani-Kharsua-Dhamra River system, Charbatia-Dhamra stretch of Matai River and Mangalgadi-Paradeep stretch of Mahanadi delta Rivers (total length of 588 km) were declared as National Waterway (NW-5) in November 2008. The estimated cost of the project as per the detailed project report (DPR-2010) is Rs. 4210 crores and not Rs. 4953 crores. However, no funds for the development of this waterway have been allocated during 11th plan period and the Planning Commission has suggested that the feasibility of development of the commercially viable stretches of this waterway be explored under Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) mode with Viability Gap Funding (VGF). In a meeting with the stake holders held in 2010, river stretches of the waterway (i.e. Brahmani-Kharsua-Dhamra River system, Matai River and Mahanadi delta Rivers) were identified commercially more viable than the rest. Thereafter, a proposal was submitted to the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) for engaging a Transaction Adviser (Consultant) of preparing and processing PPP projects under India Infrastructure Project Development Fund (IIPDF) and PPP Pilot Project Initiative through the Asian Development Bank (ADB) Technical Assistance. DEA has already approved the Terms of Reference (ToR) submitted by the ADB and selected a Transaction Advisor.

Subsidy required for Development of Shipping Industry

1814. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE : Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state the details of the subsidy outlay required till the year 2020 for the development of the Shipping Industry in India?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN): Government had a ship building subsidy scheme from 25th October, 2002 to 14th August, 2007. Payments towards the committed liabilities under the said scheme are being made by the Government. The budgetary allocation for the year 2012-13 is Rs. 400 crore.

Institute for Physically Handicapped

1815. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI :

SHRI PRABHAT JHA :

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :