1	2	3
5.	Identification of potential waterways in the North East	22 rivers in the 7 North Eastern States were found viable for IWT operation on small scale. The report was sent to NER States. They were advised to take up preparation of detail project reports and subsequently their development, under the Central Sector Scheme for Inland Waterway Transport (IWT) development in the North East Region.

Utilization of Sea-ways

1711. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a)   whether Government has failed in utilizing Sea-ways to their optimum capacity as yet; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b)   the corrective measures taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) and (b) The Government is committed to utilising the full potential of seaways. However, the coastal ships perceive lack of capital, bunker cost and infrastructure gaps as hindrances to optimizing domestic shipping transport. To promote coastal shipping in the country, the Government has exempted ships and vessels from excise duty and removed Counter-Veiling Duty (CVD) on imported ships and vessels. This will augment the fleet capacity of Indian flag ships including coastal ships. Besides, in the Twelfth Five Year Plan, an allocation of Rs. 300 crore is made for promoting coastal shipping.

Developing of Greenfield sea port

1712. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a)   whether the committee formed to review the proposal of developing Greenfield sea port at Tadadi in Uttara Kannada district of Karnataka has submitted its report; and

(b)   if so, the details thereof and the decision taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) and (b) The Committee setup for development of Greenfield Sea Port at Tadadi has submitted its report after technical evaluation. The Committee has suggested that initially Tadadi can be developed