

1	2	3	4	5
<b>North-Eastern States</b>				
22.	Arunachal Pradesh	156	18.00	192.42
23.	Assam	372	0.00	277.44
24.	Manipur	102	9.00	109.83
25.	Meghalaya	96	18.00	145.83
26.	Mizoram	89	0.00	189.47
27.	Nagaland	111	27.00	367.87
28.	Sikkim	15	6.30	20.68
29.	Tripura	65	13.50	133.15
GRAND TOTAL		8214	1419.66	12451.86

## No project has been sanctioned as no proposal received from the State.

#### **New scheme for backward districts**

130. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has finalized any new scheme to provide assistance/ grants to backward districts of the country, as an alternative to Backward Regions Grants Fund (BRGF);

(b) if so, the details of the scheme including the criterion for allocation of funds to the States; and

(c) the details of districts selected and the funds earmarked, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) In view of (a) question does not arise.

#### **Progress of Kollam Kottapuram stretch of West Coast Canal**

131. SH. K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state the details of progress of Kollam-Kottapuram stretch of West Coast Canal along with Champakara and Udyogmandal Canals (205 km.) in Kerala which are declared as National Waterways ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): Kottapuram-Kollam stretch of West Coast canal (168 km) along with Champakara canal (14 km.) and Udyogmandal canal (23 km.) [total 205 km.] has been declared as National Waterway-3 (NW-3) on February 1, 1993. The details of progress of NW-3 are as given below:

(i) **Navigable Channel:**

Navigable channel of minimum 38m bottom width in wider sections and 32m bottom width in narrow sections with minimum 2m depth has been developed and maintained in entire NW-3 except a small portion of 3.25 km. where width is 12 meter. This has been achieved by carrying out 38.00 lakh cum of dredging over 83.75 km. out of 87 km. lakh for widening. In the remaining 3.25 km., 1 km. is in Kayamkulam area, where widening can be done once the fishing nets are removed by State Government and 2.25 km. is in Chavara area for which the work for widening has been awarded on 18.11.2015. However, there is no restriction for movement of cargo vessels all along the National Waterway.

(ii) **Aids for 24 hours Navigation:**

The entire NW-3 in Kerala has been provided with navigation aids to facilitate 24 hours navigation.

(iii) **Cargo handling terminals:**

Cargo terminals have been set up at eight locations with safe berthing arrangement for inland vessels, storage go-downs, cargo handling equipments etc. These are; (i) Kottapuram, (ii) Aluva, (iii) Maradu (Kochi), (iv) Vaikkom, (v) Cherthala (Thanneermukkom), (vi) Thrikkunnappuzha, (vii) Kayamkulam (Ayiramthengu) and (viii) Kollam. Construction of 9th terminal at Alappuzha is under progress and 99% progress has been achieved. Land has been acquired at two more locations namely Kakkanad (CSEZ) and Chavara for setting-up of terminal in next phase, depending on demand. In addition, for decongesting the Kochi city by providing an alternate transport route to International Container Transshipment Terminal (ICTT), a pair of Ro-Ro terminals at Willingdon Island and Bolghatty has been provided. The Ro-Ro operation has commenced from 23-02-2011.

(iv) A total expenditure of the order of ₹ 240 cr. has been incurred so far by IWAI for development of NW-3.