

Details of strength of Personnel Below Officers Rank (PBOR)/Airmen/Sailors in the three Armed Forces, force-wise, are as under:—

Service	Authorised Strength	Held Strength	Shortage
Army (As on 31.07.2018)	1222101	1193629*	28472
Navy (As on 31.12.2018)	73221	56682	16539
Air Fore (As on 1.1.2019)	142865	128091	14774

* Excluding 1788 APS Non-regular JCOs/OR.

(b) and (c) Recruitment in the Armed Forces is a continuous process. The Government has taken a number of measures to reduce the shortages. These include sustained image projection, participation in career fairs and exhibitions and publicity campaign to create awareness among the youth on the advantages of taking up a challenging and satisfying career. Further, various steps have been taken to make career in the Armed Forces more attractive including improvement in promotion prospects, more attractive pay package, better compensation for risk and hardships, additional family accommodation through Married Accommodation Project (MAP) etc.

Inland waterways in West Bengal

*77. DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) the list of all the projects sanctioned for inland waterways in the State of West Bengal;
- (b) details of the status of those projects, along with deadlines; and
- (c) the total length of inland waterways developed in the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) To promote Inland Water Transport in the country, 111 (including 5 existing and 106 newly taken over) National Waterways (NWs) spread over 24 States have been declared as National Waterways under the National Waterways Act, 2016. One existing and 15 new NWs are in West Bengal. The status of projects/activities undertaken on these 16 National Waterways in West Bengal is given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(c) Developmental activities have been initiated on 10 new NWs with a total length of 1,236 kms. in the last three years. The details are given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

Status of Projects/Activities undertaken on National Waterways in West Bengal

Sl.No.	National Waterway	Length (km.)	Status and Timeline
1.	Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system (NW-1 in WB, Jharkhand, Bihar and UP).	1620	Government is implementing the Jal Marg Vikas Project (JMVP) for capacity augmentation of navigation on National Waterway -1 (NW-1) on the Haldia -Varanasi stretch with the technical and financial assistance of the World Bank. The salient features of the project are construction of three multimodal terminals at Haldia (West Bengal), Sahibganj (Jharkhand), Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh) and two intermodal terminals at Kalughat (Bihar) and Ghazipur (U.P.); five pairs of Ro-Ro terminals at Rajmahal (Jharkhand) and Manikchak (West Bengal); Samdaghat (Jharkhand) and Manihari (Bihar); Kahalgaon and Tintangha (Bihar); Hasanpur and Bakhtiyarpur (Bihar) and Buxer (Bihar) and Saraikota (U.P.); one new navigational lock at Farakka (West Bengal), channel marking systems, integrated vessel repair and maintenance facilities at Kolkata (West Bengal) and Sahibganj (Jharkhand); automated information systems including Digital Global Positioning System (DGPS) and River Information System (RIS), day and night navigation aids, slipways, bunkering facilities, river training and river conservancy works. JMVP is scheduled to be completed in March, 2023.
2.	Ajoy (NW-07)	90	DPR has been prepared.
3.	Ichamati (NW-44)	63	
4.	Rupnarayan (NW-86)	34	The development of the waterway is being done at an estimated cost of ₹ 24.00 crore. Work has been awarded for setting up of floating terminal. Tender for dredging is at an advanced stage. Waterway is operational.

Written Answers to

[11 February, 2019]

Starred Questions 13

Sl.No.	National Waterway	Length (km.)	Status and Time-line
5.	Damodar (NW-29)	132	Feasibility study completed. Not found technically feasible.
6.	DVC canal (NW-34)	137	
7.	Dwarekeshwar (NW-35)	108	
8.	Silabati (NW-92)	26	
9.	Sunderbans (NW-97)	172	The development of the waterway is being done at an estimated cost of ₹ 18.0 crore. Work has been awarded for maintenance dredging. Waterway is part of Indo-Bangladesh Protocol route and already operational.
10.	Dwarka (NW-36)	119	Feasibility study completed. Further TEF study and discussion with the State Government envisaged.
11.	Jalangi (NW-47)	131	
12.	Bakreswar-Mayurakshi (NW-15)	135	Feasibility reports are being forwarded to the State Government of West Bengal for comments/response.
13.	Kumari (NW-60)	80	
14.	Mahananda (NW-65)	80	
15.	Gangadhar (NW-38)	62	
16.	Subarnarekha (NW-96)	311	(i) Feasibility study completed and only 30 km stretch from sea-mouth in the State of Odisha was found viable, (ii) DPR for 30 km stretch in the State of Odisha is prepared.

Statement-II

*List of 10 National Waterways on which development activities
have been initiated*

Sl. No.	Name of the Waterway	Length (km.)
1.	River Barak (NW-16)	48
2.	River Gandak (NW-37)	250
Waterways in Goa		
3.	Cumberjua (NW-27)	17
4.	Mandovi (NW-68)	41
5.	Zuari (NW-111)	50
6.	Alappuzha-Kottayam-Athirampuzha Canal (NW-9):	38
7.	River Rupnarayan (NW-86)	34
8.	Sunderbans Waterways (NW-97)	172
9.	River Kosi (NW-58)	236
10.	River Ghagra (NW-40)	350
TOTAL LENGTH		1236

Deteriorating air quality of Delhi

*78. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of the deterioration of air quality in the capital city of Delhi, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether a recent study suggested that the pollution could be contained through an artificial rain, if so, the response of Government thereto;

(c) the reasons for increase of pollution in Delhi, making it the most polluted city in country; and

(d) steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to solve the long-standing problem of severe pollution in the capital city?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): (a) As per available data, there has been marginal improvement in air quality of Delhi in 2018 compared to 2017. There is an increase in the number of 'Good' to 'Moderate' days to 159 in 2018 from 152 in 2017 and 108 in 2016, and reduction in the number of 'Poor' to 'Severe' days from 246 in