prescribed format is being collected and uploaded daily on e-samiksha portal of Cabinet Secretariat. The developments are also being monitored in the Ministry on daily basis. As on date 18.3.2020, 25394 passengers/crew in 559 vessels were scanned.

Port hospitals have been kept in a state of readiness with isolation ward.

Development of Baitarani River National Waterway no. 14 in Odisha

3344. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any step to initiate development/procurement activities for Baitarani River National Waterway No. 14 in Odisha during the financial year 2019-20;
- (b) the projected expenditure for the development of Baitarani River National Waterway for the next five years;
- (c) whether Government has made any budgetary provision or plans to allocate funds from extra budgetary resources during the financial year 2019-20;
- (d) whether Government has any plan to allocate funds from Central Road and Infrastructure fund; and
 - (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) to (e) As per its Detailed Project Report (DPR), National Waterway-14 (Baitarani River in Odisha) has not been found feasible for cargo transportation, shipping and navigation by the Inland Waterways Authority of India. Therefore, no budgetary allocations have been made for its development.

Operation of large transport cargo on Ganga river

- †3345. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to operate large transport cargo in Ganga river in Bihar for freight transportation by waterways;

[†]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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if so, the details thereof;

Written Answers to

- whether any such works are being done in Ganga river that do not cause any inconvenience to the operation of transport cargos; and
 - if so, the details of the works being done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) The Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) is implementing the Jal Marg Vikas Project (JMVP), with technical and financial assistance of the World Bank, at an estimated cost of ₹5369 crore for augmentation of navigation capacity on the Haldia-Varanasi stretch of National Waterway-1 (Ganga). The major objective of the project is to enable movement of 1500-2000 Dead Weight Tonnage (DWT) vessels. Projects worth ₹1800 crore (approximately) have commenced on groundunder the JMVP.

(c) and (d) The works on National Waterway-1 under JMVP include construction of multimodal terminals at Varanasi, Sahibganj and Haldia, Ro-Roterminals, navigation lock at Farakka, development of channel marking system, integrated vessel repair and maintenance facilities, automated information techniques of Differential Global Positioning System (DGPS), River Information System (RIS), day and night navigation aids, slipways, bunkering facilities, river training and river conservancy works etc. with the ultimate objective of safe shipping and navigation on Ganga.

Development of major port in Andhra Pradesh

3346. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- whether Government has constituted any expert committee to examine the matter of alternate sites for development of major port in the State of Andhra Pradesh;
 - if so, the details thereof;
- whether the expert committee submitted its recommendation/observation to Government:
 - if so, the details thereof; and (d)
 - if not, the reasons therefor?