

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 768  
ANSWERED ON- 08/02/2021

**PRAYAGRAJ-HALDIA WATERWAY**

768 SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA:

Will the Minister of **PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Prayagraj-Haldia waterway (National Waterway 1) has seen a decline in number of freight-carriers during the last two years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has taken any initiative for deepening the Ganga river for smooth transportation of small ships in National Waterway; and
- (d) if so, the details of amount allocated and expenditure incurred on any such initiative during the last three years, year-wise?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR PORTS, SHIPPING AND  
WATERWAYS  
(SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)

(a) & (b) No, Sir. The number of vessels (freight carriers) on NW-1 (Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system from Prayagraj to Haldia) has increased in last two years as detailed below:

Terminal Name	No. of Vessels handled	
	2018-19	2019-20
Varanasi MMT	3	-
Gai Ghat, Patna	-	4
Sahibganj, MMT	-	11
British Inland Steamer Navigation (BISN) and Garden Reach Jetty-II, Kolkata	669	975
Temporary Jetty, Haldia	1241	1171
Handel Thermal Power Station (BTSPS), Tribeni	1	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>1914</b>	<b>2173</b>

(c) & (d) Yes, Sir. Fairway development works which include river conservancy works, O & M of terminals, Differential Global Positioning System (DGPS), River Information System (RIS) and vessels, maintenance dredging activities for smooth transportation of vessels in National Waterways is taken up by Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI). Year wise details of amount allocated and expenditure incurred on NW-1 during last three years is as follows:-

Year	Amount Allocated (Rs. in Crore)	Expenditure (Rs. in Crore)
2017-18	54.77	54.77
2018-19	110.57	228.16*
2019-20	90.66	155.10*

\*Includes expenditure from Extra Budgetary Resources (Bonds) also.

In addition to above works on NW-1, IWAI has taken up capacity augmentation of Ganga River (NW-1) from Haldia to Varanasi (1390) with technical & financial assistance from World Bank under Jal Marg Vikas Project (JMVP) approved by the CCEA on 3<sup>rd</sup> January, 2018 at a cost of Rs. 5369.18 crore (cost revised to Rs. 4633.81 crore in June, 2020). Under JMVP, in addition to other works, assured Least Available Depth (LAD) has been taken up through Contracts for providing Least Assured Depth of 3 m and bottom channel width of 45 m on the following stretches of NW-1:

Waterway stretch	Cost of award (Rs. in cr.)	Financial progress as on 31.12.2020 (Rs. in cr.)
Farakka – Kahalgaon (146 km)	150.00	73.47
Sultanganj-Mahendrapur (74 km)	159.30	26.39
Mahendrapur-Barh (71 km)	182.90	27.55

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