

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.466
ANSWERED ON 06.02.2024

DEVELOPMENT OF NEW NATIONAL WATERWAYS

466.SHRI SATISH CHANDRA DUBEY:

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

- (a) whether Government is considering developing new national waterways;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to complete the national waterway No. 37 in the last four years and how long the ships are likely to operate on this waterway and the status to start the said national waterway?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS
(SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL)

- (a) & (b) Yes. In addition to development of 5 National Waterways (NWs) (NW-1 to NW-5), the development of 14 new NWs has been approved by the Government in the States of Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Goa, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra & Assam as detailed at **Annex.-1**
- (c) Steps taken for development of NW-37 (River Gandak) with status are detailed at **Annex.-2**.

List of new NWs sanctioned under Phase-I development

S/N	National Waterways (NWs)
1.	NW-8- Alappuzha-Changanassery Canal in Kerala
2.	NW-9- Alappuzha-Athirampuza Canal in Kerala
3.	NW-27-Cumberjua River in Goa
4.	NW-68- Mandovi River in Goa
5.	NW-111- Zuari River in Goa
6.	NW-86- River Rupnarayan in West Bengal
7.	NW-97- Sundarbans Waterways in West Bengal
8.	NW-40- Ghaghra River in U.P. & Bihar
9.	NW-44- Ichamati River in West Bengal
10.	NW-10- Amba River in Maharashtra
11.	NW-28-Dabhol Creek Vashisthi River in Maharashtra
12.	NW-57- Kopili River in Assam
13.	NW-31- Dhansiri River in Assam
14.	NW-16-River Barak in Assam

Steps taken for development of NW-37 (River Gandak) and present status

IWAI initiated actions for phase-1 development, at sanctioned cost of Rs.12.91 cr. during the FY 2017-18 & 2018-2019. The longitudinal survey including river conservancy for stabilization of the fairway channel using bandalling& channel marking works commenced during FY 2017-18 & 2018-19.

However, the developmental activities of NW-37 are kept in abeyance due to non-availability of the potential cargo as well as very low clearance structure located across NW-37 i.e., RewaGhat Bridge. IWAI had taken up the matter with the Engineer In-Charge, Road development department, Patna, Govt. of Bihar with a request for the reconstruction of a Rewaghat road bridge on River Gandak and same was also discussed with Bihar Govt. Authorities during the meeting taken by the Chief Secretary, Govt. of Bihar on 30.05.2019 and decided that the Rewaghat road bridge belongs to NHAI and to be modified by NHAI. Subsequently, the matter was also taken up with the Project Director & Chief General Manager, NHAI, Patna respectively for the modification/reconstruction of the aforesaid bridge (with Minimum 50m Horizontal clearance between the piers and 06 m Vertical clearance for Navigation High Flood level).
