

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 316
ANSWERED ON 04.02.2025

WATERWAYS ON MAHANADI RIVER

316. SHRI NIRANJAN BISHI:

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

- (a) whether Government has formulated any action plan for the development of inland-waterways in the rivers of the country;
- (b) if so, the details of the rivers and the waterways included in the action plan, State-wise, including Odisha;
- (c) whether there is any specific plan for Odisha in this regard;
- (d) whether Government has any plans to develop inland-waterways in the Mahanadi River of Odisha, which has great historic significance for trade with Southeast Asian countries; and
- (e) whether Government has any plans to set up a port on the Mahanadi River at Cuttack?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) Yes. To promote Inland Water Transport (IWT) in the country, 111 waterways [including 5 pre-notified National Waterways (NWs) and 106 new waterways] spreading over 24 States were declared as National Waterways under the National Waterways Act, 2016.

Based on the outcome of Techno-Economic Feasibility Study and Detailed Project Report (DPR) of the NWs, 26 NWs have been found feasible for cargo and passenger movement. Action Plan has been formulated for development of 26 NWs which were found viable for cargo and passenger movement as detailed at Annexure – I.

(c) & (d) Yes. The details of developmental activities in Odisha for 6 declared National Waterways, in consultation with Government of Odisha, are as follows: -

- i. NW-5– Development of infrastructure for evacuation of coal through Talcher coal fields and providing connectivity to Pankapal Industrial area with the ports of Dhamra and Paradeep with this an annual cargo carrying capacity of 30 MMTPA.
- ii. NW-14 (Baitarni River) – Provision of floating jetty alongwith navigational aids for promoting river cruise tourism across Bhitarkanika forest.

- iii. NW-22 (Birupa-BadiGenguti-Brahmani River System) – The necessary infrastructure i.e. floating jetties at each site, fairway and navigational aids to promote river cruise tourism connecting the "Diamond Triangle" of the "Ratnagiri-Udayagiri-Lalitgiri" complex.
 - iv. NW-23 (Buddha Balanga River) – Necessary infrastructure i.e. floating jetties at 2 locations alongwith navigational aids to promote river cruise tourism from Hidden Beach(Chandipur) to Balasore city.
 - v. NW-64 (Mahanadi River) – Maintaining the fairway to Class-VII standard (carrying capacity of 2000 DWT vessels) and provisioning of navigational aids along with passenger jetties for Bahakud-Musadia ferry service.
 - vi. NW-96 (Subarnarekha River) – Necessary infrastructure i.e. floating jetties at 3 locations alongwith navigational aids to promote river cruise tourism from PanteiGhatto Bichitrapur Mangroves and Bhusandeswara Temple(Asia's largest Shivlingam) and adjoining Digha Sea Beach (West Bengal).
- (e) Yes. IWAI has initiated action for setting up a fixed jetty on behalf of IFFCO on Mahanadi River (NW-64).

Status of the development of 26 New National Waterways (NWs):

| Sl. No | NW | Details of Waterways | STATES | Status |
|--------|-------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | NW 1 | Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly River System (Haldia - Allahabad) | Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand & West Bengal | Jal Marg Vikas Project (JMVP). The major components are Multi-modal Terminal at Varanasi, Sahibganj and Haldia, Construction of New Navigational Lock at Farakka, modernisation of old lock gate at Farakka, Kalughat Intermodal Terminal, and Fairway Development |
| 2 | NW 2 | Brahmaputra River (Dhubri - Sadiya) | Assam | Comprehensive Development of NW-2. The major components are Construction of Bogibeel cargo terminal, Construction of terminal at Jogighopa, Development of Approach Road from Pandu Port Terminal to NH-27 and Development of Ship Repair Facility at Pandu, Guwahati (Assam) and fairway development. |
| 3 | NW 16 | Barak River (Lakhipur -Tuker Gram) | Assam | Comprehensive Development of NW-16 & Indo Bangladesh Protocol Route (IBP) The major components are Construction of Terminal at Sonamura on Gumti river, Up gradation of Badarpur and Karimganj Terminals, Construction of Office building, and residential complex alongwith boundary wall in Silchar and Procurement of one Amphibian Dredger and Survey Vessel and fairway development. |
| 4 | NW 3 | West Coast Canal (Kottapuram - Kollam), Champakara and Udyogmandal Canals | Kerala | |

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|----|--------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| 5 | NW 4 | Krishna River (Vijayawada – Muktyala) | Andhra Pradesh | Development of 23 nos. National Waterways (consisting of NW-3, NW-4, NW-5 and 16 new NWs) for the purpose of shipping & navigation. The major components are Fairway Development, Terminal Development and allied Infrastructure, Hydrography Survey, charting & RIS etc. | |
| 6 | NW 5 | Dhamra-Paradip via Mangalagadi to Pankopal | Odisha | | |
| 7 | NW 8 | Alappuzha- Changanassery Canal | Kerala | | |
| 8 | NW 9 | Alappuzha - Kottayam – Athirampuzha Canal | Kerala (Alternate route: 11.5km) | | |
| 9 | NW 27 | Cumberjua River (Cortalim-Ferry to Sao MartiasVidhanParisad) | Goa | | |
| 10 | NW 68 | Mandovi River (Usgoan bridge to Arabian Sea) | Goa | | |
| 11 | NW 111 | Zuari River (Sanvorden bridge to Marmugao Port) | Goa | | |
| 12 | NW 86 | Rupnarayan River (PratapPur to Geonkhali) | West Bengal | | |
| 13 | NW 97 | Sunderbans Waterway (Namkhana to AtharaBankiKhal) | West Bengal | | |
| 14 | NW 40 | Ghagra River (Faizabad to ManjhiGhat) | Bihar & U.P. | | |
| 15 | NW 52 | Kali River (Kodasalli Dam to Sadashivgad Bridge, Arabian Sea) | Karnataka | | |
| 16 | NW 44 | Ichamati River (Bridge at Gobra to Bansjhari near Bangladesh Border) | West Bengal | | |
| 17 | NW 57 | Kopili River (BanthaiGaonTinali Bus Stop to Chandrapur No.2 confluence with Brahmaputra) | Assam | | |
| 18 | NW 31 | Dhansiri River (MorongiT.E. village Bridge to Numaligarh) | Assam | | |
| 19 | NW 10 | Amba River (Arabian Sea, Dharamtaar Creek to Nagothane ST Stand) | Maharashtra | | |
| 20 | NW 28 | Dabhol Creek Vasisti River (Arabian Sea at Dabhol to Bridge at Pedhe) | Maharashtra | | |
| 21 | NW 73 | Narmada River (Pandhariya to Gulf of Khambhat) | Maharashtra & Gujarat | | |
| 22 | NW 100 | Tapi River (Hatnur Dam to Gulf of Khambhat) | Maharashtra & Gujarat | | |
| 23 | NW 37 | Gandak River (Bhaisalotal Barrage to Hazipur) | Bihar & U.P. | | |
| 24 | NW 25 | Chapora River (Bridge near Maneri village to Morjim, Arabian Sea) | Goa | | Mostly operational waterways for development by 2030. |
| 25 | NW 85 | Revadanda Creek - Kundalika River System (Arabian Sea at Revadanda to Bridge near Roha Nagar) | Maharashtra | | |
| 26 | NW 94 | Sone River (Sone Barrage, Dehri to Confluence with the Ganga) | Bihar | | |
