

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:949
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2005
DEEPENING OF BOAT ROUTES IN KERALA
Rajendran Shri P.

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether most of the boat routes in Kerala are shallow due to non-execution of timely deepening work; and
- (b) if so, the plans made to entrust the work of deepening the boat routes in Kerala to Inland Waterways Authority of India?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) & (b) Development of only those inland waterways which are declared as National waterways comes under the purview of the Central Government. There is only one such waterway in Kerala i.e. National Waterway 3 which runs from Kollam to Kottapuram. As regards National Waterway No. 3 in Kerala, capital dredging has been completed between Kochi and Thakazhi Jetty (south of Allappuzha) and in Udyogmandal and Champakara canals. Depth of 2 meters is available in these sections. Capital dredging is in progress in Kochi-Kottapuram section through private contractors. In the remaining stretch of waterway i.e. Thakazhi jetty to Kollam (50 Km.) also, arrangements have been made to complete the dredging. Inland Waterways Authority of India has also deployed one of its dredgers for dredging operations on Edapallikota-Kollam Stretch. Central Govt./IWA has no plans to entrust the work of deepening the boat routes in Kerala which do not fall under National Waterway 3.