

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2928
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2005
PROJECT OF NATIONAL WATERWAYS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
Paswan Shri Sukdeo

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to look into the project of "National Waterways Development Council" in view of the present situation of the natural calamity like flood, drought in various States of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government also proposes to implement the " National Waterways Project";
- (d) if so, whether the Government proposes to implement the "National Waterways Project" to make transporting system cheap and economical; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a) There is no such project under consideration of the Government.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) to (e) There are already three national waterways in the country namely
 - (i) the Ganga- Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system between Haldia and Allahabad,
 - (ii) Sadiya-Dhubri stretch of Brahmaputra and
 - (iii) Kollam-Kottapuram stretch of West Coast Canal along with Champakara and Udyogmandal Canals. These national waterways are being developed in a phased manner for cost effective transportation. Further action has already been initiated for declaration of three new waterways namely Kakinada-Pondicherry Canals along with Rivers Godavari and Krishna; East Coast Canal along with Brahmani and Mahanadi Delta, and River Barak as National Waterways.