

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1225  
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2006  
WATER TRANSPORT SERVICE IN GANGA RIVER  
Agarwal Shri Dharendra;Chavda Shri Harisinh Pratapsinh

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

- (a) whether the Union Government proposes to start water transport service in Ganga river;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether terminals have been constructed for the said service;
- (d) if so, the names of the locations where such terminals have been constructed; and
- (e) the progress made in this regard so far?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (e): The River Ganga between Haldia and Allahabad has been declared as a National Waterway by enactment of an Act of the Parliament in the year 1982 which came into force in October, 1986. Basic infrastructural facilities, such as, navigational channel, terminals, navigational aids, etc are being provided and maintained by the Inland Waterways Authority of India. Transportation of cargo by water transport mode is already taking place on the River Ganga. Floating terminals have been provided at Haldia, Kolkata, Bhagalpur, Patna, Varanasi and Allahabad and fixed terminals at Kolkata, Pakur and Farakka. A fixed terminal at Gaighat, Patna is also under construction and is nearing completion.