

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3093

ANSWERED ON:05.09.2007

NATIONAL WATERWAYS

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

- (a) the total length of National Waterways in the country at present, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Asian Development Bank has given any report regarding waterways of the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Union Government thereto;
- (d) whether the Union Government provides assistance to the State Governments for development of infrastructure facilities for Waterways;
- (e) if so, the details thereof including the funds allocated to the State Governments during 2006-07 and 2007-08 and the funds utilised therefrom, State-wise; and
- (f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government for extension, development and optimum utilisation of Waterways in the country?

**Answer**

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

- (a) : The total length of the existing three National Waterways is 2716 km as per details given below:
  - (i) Allahabad to Haldia stretch (1620 kms) of the Ganga –Bhagirathi -Hooghly river system. This waterway passes through the States of U.P (502 km approx), Bihar (473 km approx), Jharkhand (16 km approx),and West Bengal (629 km approx),
  - (ii) Sadiya – Dhubri stretch (891 kms) of the Brahmaputra river. The entire waterway is in the State of Assam and
  - (iii) Kollam – Kottapuram stretch of the West Coast Canal along with Champakara to Udyogmandal canals (205kms.) The entire waterway is in the State of Kerala.
- (b)&(c): Details are at Annexure-I
- (d): For encouraging State Governments to develop Inland Water Transport, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) was in force till the financial year 2006-07. Under this scheme 100% grant to North-Eastern States including Sikkim and 90% grant to other State was being provided. Planning Commission has, however, discontinued this scheme from 1st April 2007 (except for the North Eastern States including Sikkim in respect of which it has been continued as Central Sector Scheme under the Ministry of Development of North-Eastern Region).
- (e) : No funds have been released to any State under CSS during 2007-08. Funds allocated to States upto and during 2006-07 under CSS and utilized by them as reported by respective States up to 31.07.2007 are given in Annexure-II
- (f) : The steps taken/being taken for extension, development and optimum utilization of waterways in the country are as under:-
  - (i) Formation of Inland Waterways Authority of India for development and regulation of inland waterways.
  - (ii) Declaration and development of National Waterways. Three waterways have already been declared as national waterways and three more are in the process of being declared so.
  - (iii) Enhanced budgetary allotment for development of National Waterways.
  - (iv) Encouraging private sector in development, operation and management of IWT infrastructure.
  - (v) Providing facilitative framework for increasing IWT fleet under private ownership.
  - (vi) Encouraging States to develop their potential waterways through Centrally Sponsored Scheme.

ANNEXURE-I REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (b) & (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3093 BRIEF NOTE ON ADB REPORT

Under approved 10th plan outlay of IWAI there was a provision of Rs. 10 cr. as external assistance for IWT sector. Accordingly ADB was approached by IWAI/Ministry of Shipping through Department of Economic Affairs for financial assistance for IWT development projects. Subsequently ADB approved a technical assistance of US\$ 1.25 million and commissioned a consultant (M/s CPCS Transcom, Canada) in 2003-04 for review of earlier studies and preparation of projects for ADB funding. This study was conducted in two phases. In Phase -I the consultant identified 3 prospective projects for further detailed study in Phase-II. These are Haldia-Patna sector of National Waterway No. 1 (NW-1), Dhubri-Dibrugarh sector of National Waterway No. 2 (NW-2) and Brahmani river in Orissa. The consultant submitted Phase-II report to IWAI and ADB in November 2006 in which they mentioned that the Brahmani river system offered no project to be implemented under the initial ADB loan project.

About projects of NW-1 and NW-2 the consultant listed the following five conditions that had to be met simultaneously in order to "Jump-Start" inland waterways transport:

- (i) River Navigability
- (ii) Fleet Development
- (iii) Terminal Development
- (iv) Institutional Measures
- (v) Extension of the Protocol Agreement

The report has recommended measures in three phases namely,

- (i) Transition period (i.e. up to signing of ADB loan agreement
- (ii) Short term loan implementation period (2 years) and
- (iii) medium term period (next 6 years) under the above heads.

IWAI has informed ADB about receipt of this report. However, there is no further response or action by ADB on this report.

ANNEXURE-II REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3093

Central Share released to States up to 2005-06, during 2006-07 under CSS and utilized by them as reported by respective States so far:-

(Rs. in Lakh)

S.No.	State	Fund released		Utilisation as reported	
		Up to 2005-06	During 2006-07	Total by the State.	
1	Assam	710.40	375.41	1085.81	771.80
2	Andhra Pradesh	15.00	52.50	67.50	16.84
3	Bihar	21.00	0.00	21.00	0.00
4	Goa	21.80	37.38	59.18	51.175
5	Himachal Pradesh	105.66	0.00	105.66	17.96
6	Karnataka	51.03	0.00	51.03	56.70 (Includes State's share)
7	Kerala	65.30	0.00	65.30	0.00
8	Maharashtra	1037.81	0.00	1037.81	377.19
9	Madhya Pradesh	170.53	42.96	213.49	36.00
10	Manipur	0.00	178.15	178.15	0.00
11	Nagaland	0.00	15.12	15.12	0.00
12	Orissa	50.07	0.00	50.07	51.10 (Includes State's share)
13	Tripura	9.32	0.00	9.32	0.00
14	Uttar Pradesh	2.00	0.00	2.00	0.00
15	West Bengal	1823.71	498.49	2322.20	1773.81
	Total	4083.63	1200.00	5283.63	3152.575