

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:115
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2011
INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES AT WATERWAYS
Devi Aswamedh

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) the total inland waterways network declared as National Waterways in the country;
- (b) whether the infrastructure facilities at these waterways are adequate enough to make them a viable option;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to improve the infrastructure available on these waterways?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 115 FOR ANSWER ON 8TH AUGUST, 2011 RAISED BY SHRIMATI ASHWAMEDH DEVI REGARDING INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES AT WATERWAYS.

(a): The following five waterways have so far been declared as National Waterways (NWs):

- (i) National Waterways-1: Allahabad- Haldia stretch of the Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly river (1620 km) declared in 1986.

- (ii) National Waterways-2: Sadiya-Dhubri stretch of the Brahmaputra river (891 km) declared in 1988.

- (iii) National Waterways-3: Kollam-Kottapuram stretch of the West Coast Canal and Champakkara and Udyogmandal Canals (205 km) declared in 1993.

- (iv) National Waterway-4: Kakinada-Puducherry stretch of canals and Kaluvelly tank, Bhadrachalam-Rajahmundry stretch of river Godavari and Wazirabad-Vijayawada stretch of river Krishna (1078 km) declared in 2008.

- (v) National Waterway-5: Talcher-Dhamra stretch of Brahmani river, Geonkhali-Charbatia stretch of East Coast canal, Charbatia-Dhamra stretch of Matai river and Mahanadi delta rivers (588 km) declared in 2008.

(b) to (d): The development works are being carried out by Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWA) on NW-1, 2 and 3 only. The developmental works include providing a navigational channel with targeted depth and width for most part of the year, aids for day and night navigation and terminals at selected locations for berthing and loading/ unloading of vessels. Development of waterways is a continuous process and as such while a certain level of infrastructure has been developed on NW-1, 2 and 3, it needs to be upgraded

and new infrastructure needs to be provided depending upon potential of transportation of cargo from time to time.

As regards development of National Waterways 4 & 5, detailed project reports have been prepared but funds were not made available in the eleventh Five Year Plan for their development. Funds are being sought in the 12th Five Year Plan.