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Title: Need to allocate sufficient funds for completion of National Waterway No. 4 project connecting Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry.

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI (RAJAHMUNDRY): The Government had conducted studies to explore the possibilities of development of IWT on the integrated waterway system canals alongwith rivers falling in the areas of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. Then the National Waterway No. 4 (NW-4) a 1,095 kilometres long waterway was declared as National Waterway No. 4 on 24 November 2008 under the Provisions of National Waterways Act, 2006. According to this Act, it will take five years and Rs. 542 crores for the completion of the proposed new national waterways and is scheduled for completion in this year.

The river section of the NW-4 comprises two major sections - a) "Godavari river section" and b) "Krishna river section". The Godavari River section stretches from Bhadrachalam to Dowleiswaram, Rajahmundry. The Krishna River section stretches from Wazirabad Nalgonda district to Prakasam Barrage, Vijayawada. It connects the States of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and the Union Territory of Puducherry. The NW-4 runs along the Coromandal Coast through Kakinada, Eluru, Commanur and Buckingham Canals in South India. The experts in this field have recognised its importance and informed the Government that this is one of the best natural water Ways. Though it was announced about 5 years ago, no major progress has been achieved and no fund allocation for this project has been made. In fact, the Ministry of Shipping during last year's Budget had asked for budgetary allocation for this project but due to non-approval by Planning Commission, no budgetary allocation has been made. I, therefore, urge upon the Government to allocate sufficient funds for this project and expedite completion of this project at the earliest.