

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1229
ANSWERED ON 06.02.2026

WATERWAYS IN TAMIL NADU

1229. SHRI SASIKANTH SENTHIL;

Will the Minister of PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS be pleased to state:

पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्री

- (a) whether the Government has identified rivers and canals in Tamil Nadu, including the Buckingham Canal and rivers Bhavani, Kaveri-Kollidam, Pazhyar and Ponniyar, for development as National Waterways, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any funds have been sanctioned for surveys and Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for the said waterways, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to establish jetties or cargo and passenger facilities along the said waterways, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to accord final approval and operationalise the said waterways within a stipulated timeframe, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS
(SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL)

- (a) The declared rivers and canals as National Waterways (NWs) under the National Waterways Act, 2016 identified for development in Tamil Nadu are as under:
 - i. Buckingham Canal (constituent of NW-4);
 - ii. River Bhavani (NW-20);
 - iii. River Kaveri- Kollidam (NW-55);
 - iv. River Pazhyar (NW-77); and
 - v. River Ponniyar (NW-80):
- (b) Feasibility Study Reports (FSR) for the above mentioned rivers/canals have already been completed by Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI), an autonomous body under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways. Besides, IWAI has sanctioned Rs.5.23 Crore for updation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for NW-4, which also includes Buckingham Canal.
- (c)&(d) Yes. IWAI has prepared an action plan and shared with Government of Tamil Nadu for their comments/recommendations.
