

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3328
ANSWERED ON 07.08.2026

INLAND WATERWAYS IN NORTH-EAST REGION

3328. SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA:

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

पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्री

- (a) whether the Government has undertaken any measures to strengthen trade and connectivity through inland waterways in the North-Eastern Region and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the cargo movement on National Waterway-2; and
- (c) whether the Government has undertaken any infrastructure and investment initiatives for the development of inland waterways in the North-Eastern Region and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) The measures undertaken by Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI), an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways to strengthen trade and connectivity through inland waterways in the North-Eastern Region (NER) are :

- Development and maintenance of National Waterway (NW) -2 (Brahmaputra River) and NW-16 (Barak River).
- Development of permanent and floating terminals at Pandu, Jogighopa, Dhubri, Neamati, Bogibeel, Karimganj and other locations.
- Construction of floating terminals, community jetties and passenger facilities.
- Fairway development and Conservancy Works in NW-2 & NW-16.
- Installation of navigational aids and night navigation facilities on NW-2 and Day Channel marks in NW-16.
- Development of Inland Water Transport (IWT) infrastructure under the Central Sector Scheme (CSS) in NER States.
- Promotion of cargo movement through the Indo-Bangladesh Protocol (IBP) Route and integration of waterways with road and rail networks.

(b) Cargo transported on NW-2 includes coal, food grains, fertilizers, cement, fly ash, POL products, stone aggregates, over-dimensional cargo (ODC) and other general cargo. Cargo is also moved through the IBP Route connecting NER with Haldia/Kolkata Ports.

The details of the cargo movement on NW-2 are given below:

Year	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Cargo (in Million Ton)	0.43	0.63	0.59	0.90	1.29

(c) For the comprehensive development of IWT infrastructure in NER, various projects have been undertaken by IWAI details of which are given at Annexure.

Annexure**A. Major Completed Projects in NER:**

Sl. No.	Project	Cost (₹ Cr.)
1	Construction of High-Level Jetty at Pandu	43.89
2	Construction of Jetty and allied works for Dhubri Terminals	47
3	Development of IWT Terminal at MMLP Jogighopa	82.04
4	Construction of Cargo-cum-Tourist Terminal at Bogibeel	101
5	Floating Tourist Jetty at Bogibeel & Pandu	9.75
6	Renovation of Existing Shore Facilities at Badarpur and Karimganj Terminal	6.4
7	Construction & Development of IWT Terminal at Sonamura	6.91
8	Customs & Immigration Building at Bogibeel	8.87
9	Customs & Immigration Building at Dhubri & Bogibeel	9.31
10	Construction of Boundary Wall at Jogighopa Terminal	12.33
11	Renovation of Heritage Building at Dibrugarh	6
12	Operational & Maintenance of other works including terminals and fairway development (2014–2026)	508.3
13	Construction of Steel Gangway with Yoke System at Pandu	2.88
14	Approach Road to Pandu Jetty from NH-27	180

B. Major Ongoing Projects in NER :

Sl. No.	Project	Cost (₹ Cr.)	Present Status
1	Fairway Development in NER through DCI for NW-2 (Bangladesh Border to Pandu)	143	Work in progress (Physical Progress: 67.70%)
2	Ship Repair Facility at Pandu	283.33	Work in progress [Physical Progress: 98.46 % for civil works and total project completion 68% (Civil, Mechanical and Electrical works)]

3	Construction of Tourist Jetty at Bishwanath Ghat & Cargo-cum-Cruise Terminal at Neamati Ghat	158	Work awarded to IPRCL on Deposit Work basis. Tender under process.
4	Development of RCoE at Dibrugarh	207.65	Work awarded to IPRCL on Deposit Work basis. Tender under process.
5	Construction of Building for Regional Office, MSDC, Guest House and Office Space for ITAT at Fancy Bazar	50	Work awarded to IPRCL on Deposit Work basis. Tender under process.
6	Link Road connecting Pandu Terminal with Ship Repair Facility	55	Work in progress (Physical Progress: 27.00%)
7	Development & Maintenance of Fairway in Bhanga–Badarpur (10.5 km) stretch through DCI	41.67	Work in progress (Physical Progress: 67.70%)
8	Construction of Berthing Pontoon with Gangway at Badarpur Terminal	2.57	Work in progress (Physical Progress: 72.50%)
9	Construction of Crane Pontoon with Gangway at Karimganj Terminal	4.42	Work in progress (Physical Progress: 65.00%)
10	Procurement of One Survey Vessel for NW-16	4.97	Work in progress (Physical Progress: 60.00%)
11	Procurement of Three Amphibian Dredgers for NW-16 & IBP Route	30	Tendering Stage
12	Procurement of Two (25×6 m) Steel Pontoons for River Brahmaputra (NW-2)	3.4	Work in progress (Physical Progress: 90.00%)
13	Procurement of Two SDB Vessels for River Brahmaputra (NW-2)	2.88	Work in progress (Physical Progress: 55.00%)
14	Project for Providing 10 Nos. RPL Passenger Vessels for River Barak	13.02	Work in progress (Physical Progress: 55.00%)
15	Construction of All-weather Approach Road from NH-15 to Bogibeel Terminal (DPR)	0.43	DPR Stage
16	DPR for Construction of Community Jetties on NW-30, NW-32, NW-50, NW-57 & NW-95	5.56	Tendering Stage
