

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3253
ANSWERED ON 07.08.2026

RIVER PORTS ON NATIONAL WATERWAYS

3253. DR. MOHAMMAD JAWED:

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

पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्री

- (a) whether the Government maintains data on functional river ports, terminals and jetties operating on National Waterways and if so, the details thereof, National Waterway-wise and State-wise indicating the status of each facility as functional or non-functional;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to revive, modernise or redevelop non-functional river ports, terminals and jetties on National Waterways to promote inland water transport and enhance economic activity in the hinterland;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, including the list of identified projects and the timeline likely to be taken for their implementation;
- (d) whether the Government maintains data on the cargo and passenger traffic handled through river ports and terminals on National Waterways during the last five years; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof including the volume of cargo handled (in metric tonnes), value of goods transported (in Rs. crore), passenger traffic and revenue generated, National Waterway-wise and State-wise along with the steps taken by the Government to increase the utilisation of inland waterways?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) Yes. The National Waterway(NW)-wise and State-wise details of 28 permanent river ports/ terminals and 116 floating jetties/ landing points are given at **Annexure-I**. These river ports/ terminals and floating jetties developed by Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI), an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways are functional and available for the public in ready to use condition.

(d) Details of cargo and passenger movement on NWs during last five years is given below.

Year	Cargo (in Million Metric Tonnes)	Passenger (number)
2021-22	108.79	24,32,041

2022-23	126.15	1,25,52,965
2023-24	133.03	1,41,39,552
2024-25	145.84	7,63,81,332
2025-26	218.24	10,55,70,442

(e) Details of NW-wise cargo movement during last five years and State-wise details of passengers traffic handled on NWs are given in Annexure-II and Annexure-III respectively. Further, the revenue generated by IWAI during last 5 years is given at Annexure-IV. However, the data on value of the goods transported is not centrally maintained.

Infrastructure and policy measures taken for promotion of Inland Water Transport to increase utilization of NWs are given at Annexure-V.

Annexure-I

List of permanent terminals / Floating Jetties / Landing Points on NWs	
NW-1 – Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal	
Permanent Terminals	
1	Multimodal Terminal (MMT) Varanasi
2	Gaighat Patna
3	MMT Sahibganj
4	Garden Reach Jetty II, Kolkata
5	MMT Haldia
6	Farakka Jetty (of Farakka Barrage Project)
7	Pakur Jetty (of Farakka Barrage Project)
8	Intermodal Terminal Kalughat
9	BTPS Jetty
National Waterway-2 - Assam	
10	Pandu, Guwahati
11	Dhubri
12	MMT Jogighopa
13	Bogibeel
National Waterway-3 - Keralam	
14	Kottapuram
15	Aluva
16	CSEZ Kakkanad
17	Maradu
18	Vaikkom
19	Thannermukkom
20	Alappuzha
21	Thrikunnappuzha
22	Kayamkulam
23	Chavara
24	Kollam
25	Bolgaty
26	Willingdon Island
National Waterway-16 - Assam	
27	Badarpur
28	Karimganj
List of Floating Jetties / Landing Points on NWs	
NW-1– Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal	
Floating Jetties/ Landing Points	
29	Chunar
30	Mirzapur
31	Ghazipur
32	Buxar

33	Doriganj
34	Chirand
35	Simaria
36	Munger
37	Sultanganj
38	Bateshwarsthan
39	Samtaghat
40	Jangipur
41	Murshidabad
42	Matuari
43	Kalna
44	Kolkata
45	Namkhana
46	Bhagabatpur
National Waterway-97	
47	Bali Island
48	Hemnagar
National Waterway-2	
49	Jogighopa
50	Goalpara
51	Bagbor
52	Bohiri
53	Sualkuchi
54	North Guwahati
55	Machkowa
56	Fancy Bazar
57	Uzan Bazar
58	Mayong Pahar
59	Pobitora
60	Singri
61	Tezpur
62	Silghat (Kaziranga National Park)
63	Biswanath Ghat
64	Dhansiri Mukh
65	Bindhyakata
66	Gamir Ghat
67	Subansiri Mukh
68	Majuli Island
69	Neamati Ghat
70	Aplamukh
71	Sibsagar (Dikhomukh)
72	Bogibeel
73	Dibrugarh
74	Okland
75	Orium Ghat
76	Guizan
77	Saikhowa
78	Sadiya

Community jetties on NW-1	
Uttar Pradesh	
79	Ramnagar
80	Raj ghat
81	Kaithy
82	Balua ghat
83	Saidpur
84	Chochakpur
85	Zamania
86	Collector ghat
87	Ujiyar ghat (Bharauli)
88	Majhaua
89	Ravidas ghat
90	Ravidas ghat (Shifted from Samne Ghat)
91	Saraikota
92	Dungurpur
93	Kanspur
94	Ravidas Ghat
95	Namo Ghat-1
96	Namo Ghat-2
Bihar	
97	Manihari
98	Tintanga
99	Kahalgaon
100	Aguani Ghat
101	Munger
102	Sultanganj
103	Digha, Bihar
104	Mithan Ghat
105	Kacchi Dargah
106	Mohanpur
107	Raghopur Diara
108	Nakta Diara
109	Nasiriganj
110	Panapur
111	Barh
112	Buxar
113	Mahuli Ghat
114	Karagola (NOC not received)
115	Ayodhya ghat
116	Simariya
117	NIT Ghat
Jharkhand	
118	Rajmahal (Manglaghat)
119	Samda Ghat
West Bengal	
120	Dainhat
121	Matiary

122	Sankhai
123	Sathiati
124	Agardwip (Ghazipur site)
125	Agradip (Agradip site)
126	Ghoriapara-1
127	Ghoriapara-2
128	Talatala
129	Fakirdanga
130	Maniknagar
131	Maganpara
132	Narkelbaria
133	Plassey (Palasi)
134	Ramnagar (WB)
135	Lalbagh Court Ghat
136	Sadar Ghat
137	Berhampore (Gopal Ghat)
138	Berhampore (Khagra Ghat)
139	Saptarishi Ghat
140	Majherchar
141	Guptipara
142	Baranagar
143	Devipur
144	Bazarpada

Details of Cargo movement on NWs

(Cargo in Million Metric Tonnes)

National Waterways (NW)	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
NW-1 [Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly River System (Haldia-Allahabad)]	10.93	13.17	12.82	16.38	84.78
NW-2 [(Brahmaputra River (Dhubri-Sadiya)]	0.43	0.63	0.59	0.90	1.29
NW-3 (West Coast Canal)	1.70	3.23	3.29	3.49	4.04
NW-4 (Krishna Godavari River Systems)	11.23	8.42	4.30	10.40	5.71
NW-5 (East Coast Canal And Matai River/Brahmani-Kharsua-Dhamra Rivers/Mahanadi Delta Rivers)	0.01	0.40	0.64	0.38	0.66
NW-8 (Alappuzha-Changanassery Canal)	-	0.03	0.04	0.04	0.04
NW-9 (Alappuzha-Kottayam Athirampuzha Canal)	-	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.03
NW-14 (Baitarni River)	-	-	0.00	-	0.03
NW-16 (Barak River)	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.18	0.27
NW-23 (Budha Balanga River)	-	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02
NW-27 (Cumberjua River)	-	-	-	-	0.36
NW-31 (Dhansiri/Chathe River)	-	-	0.01	0.00	0.00
NW-44 (Ichamati River)	0.82	0.46	0.48	0.49	0.49
NW-47 (Jalangi River)	-	-	-	-	0.11
NW-48 (Jawai-Luni River and Rann of Kutch)	-	-	-	2.40	2.58
NW-53 (Kalyan-Thane-Mumbai Waterway, Vasai Creek And Ulhas River)	-	-	-	2.70	3.23
NW-57 (Kopili River)	-	-	-	-	0.00
NW-64 (Mahanadi River)	0.01	0.45	0.67	0.40	0.47
NW-86 (Rupnarayan River)	0.00	0.09	0.10	0.14	0.18
NW-94 (Sone River)	-	-	1.16	0.97	0.05
NW-97 (Sunderbans Waterway)	6.10	5.47	5.19	5.98	6.36
Sub Total (National Waterways 1,2,3,4,5,16,44,64,86,94,&97)	31.24	32.41	29.34	44.91	110.70
Maharashtra Waterways				-	
NW-10 (Amba River)	20.23	28.54	30.17	29.69	31.07
NW-83 (Rajpuri Creek)	0.23	0.24	0.45	0.27	0.28

NW-85 (Revadanda Creek-Kundalika River System)	0.70	0.50	0.99	0.82	0.26
NW-91 (Shastri River - Jaigad Creek System)	22.45	33.87	37.05	32.64	34.41
Total Maharashtra Waterways	43.61	63.15	68.66	63.41	66.02
Goa Waterways				-	
NW-68 (Mandovi River)	2.62	2.54	2.42	2.84	5.13
NW-111 (Zuari River)	1.96	0.39	1.10	1.32	1.57
Total Goa Waterways	4.58	2.93	3.52	4.16	6.70
Gujarat Waterways				-	
NW-73 (Narmada River)	0.05	0.04	0.06	0.06	0.06
NW-100 (Tapi River)	29.32	27.62	31.46	33.31	34.75
Total Gujarat Waterways	29.37	27.66	31.51	33.36	34.81
GRAND TOTAL	108.79	126.15	133.03	145.84	218.24

Annexure-III

State wise number of passengers traffic handled on NWs

S. No.	NW Number	State(s)	2024-25	2025-26
1	NW-1	Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal	4,72,02,730	4,91,51,933
2	NW-2	Assam	50,71,938	88,67,999
3	NW-3	Kerala	1,05,23,478	1,11,19,541
4	NW-4	Andhra Pradesh	-	23,36,857
5	NW-5	Odisha	-	41,25,827
6	NW-8	Kerala	4,75,513	4,24,678
7	NW-9	Kerala	2,78,024	2,95,768
8	NW-10	Maharashtra	2,96,759	3,22,499
9	NW-14	Odisha	-	4,80,385
10	NW-16	Assam	20,06,940	37,38,567
11	NW-23	Odisha	-	76,567
12	NW-27	Goa	-	7,20,724
13	NW-40	Uttar Pradesh	-	14,339
14	NW-44	West Bengal	4,27,054	8,33,163
15	NW-47	West Bengal	-	87,188
16	NW-53	Maharashtra	24,40,300	31,70,252
17	NW-64	Odisha	-	4,61,567
18	NW-68	Goa	28,04,828	87,08,115
19	NW-83	Maharashtra	-	2,36,672
20	NW-86	West Bengal	7,13,113	9,39,412
21	NW-91	Maharashtra	-	1,02,425
22	NW-97	West Bengal	31,85,723	67,02,172
23	NW-100	Gujarat	3,25,900	3,50,914
24	NW-111	Goa	6,29,032	23,02,878
	Total		7,63,81,332	10,55,70,442

Annexure -IV

Revenue generated by IWAI during last 5 years is mentioned below:-

(Rs. in Lakh)

Particulars	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26 (Unaudited)
Revenue/ Internal receipt	1182.34	1397.04	1988.29	2533.90	1717.64

Infrastructure and policy measures taken for promotion of Inland Water Transport to increase utilization of NWs:

1. Infrastructure measures:

(i) 66 community jetties, 20 floating terminals, 3 Multi-Modal Terminals (MMT), 1 Inter-Modal Terminal (IMT) and 4 Ro-Pax terminals have been constructed on NW-1 in addition to 5 pre-existing permanent terminals.

(ii) 13 floating terminals provided on NW-2 along with MMTs at Pandu, Jogighopa and terminals at Bogibeel and Dhubri. Four dedicated Jetties for cruise vessels have been provided at Jogighopa, Pandu, Biswanath Ghat and Neamati. In addition to this, Jetties for cruise and passengers have been constructed at Sadiya, Lyka and Orium Ghat in Assam.

(iii) 2 existing terminals at Badarpur & Karimganj on NW-16 have been upgraded/renovated and 1 terminal at Sonamura on Gumati river in Tripura on IBP route has been constructed.

(iv) 9 Permanent IWT terminals with godowns and 2 Ro-Ro/Ro-Pax terminals have been constructed on NW-3 in Kerala.

(v) 4 floating concrete jetties have been provided to Govt. of Goa and installed on NW-68.

(vi) 4 Tourist Jetties on NW-4 in Andhra Pradesh have been commissioned and 8 Floating Jetties on NW-110 in Mathura-Vrindavan stretch in Uttar Pradesh, 2 Jetties on NW-73 and 2 Jetties on NW-37 in Bihar have been established.

(vii) A new Navigation Lock at Farakka has been constructed.

(viii) 2 Quick Pontoon Opening Mechanisms (QPOMs) have been constructed on NW-1 to facilitate smooth and faster movement of vessels.

(ix) Fairway maintenance works (river training, maintenance dredging, channel marking and regular hydrographic surveys) have been taken up in various National Waterways for providing a navigation channel of 35/45 m width and 2.0 / 2.2 / 2.5 / 3.0 m least available depth (LAD) for operation of vessels.

2. Policy Measures:

- **Jalvahak Scheme:** A scheme for providing 35% incentive to promote the utilization of inland waterways transport sector by cargo owners and for scheduled service for cargo movement on NW-1 and NW-2 and NW-16 via IBP route by Inland & Coastal Shipping Limited (ICSL) has been approved by the Government. The scheme is implemented at a cost of INR 95.42 Crore for three years.

- **Tonnage tax:** An extension of the tonnage tax scheme to inland vessels registered under the Indian Vessels Act, 2021 was announced during the budget presented on 01.02.2025. Inland vessels operating on NWs, rivers, and canals, will be benefited. This move is expected to boost the industry's competitiveness and encourage more cargo owners to use inland waterways for transportation. A tonnage tax system is a special taxation policy for shipping companies where tax is not based on actual profits but on the size (tonnage) of the vessel. It provides stable, predictable, and lower taxation for vessel owners, reducing their financial burden.
- **The National Waterways (Construction of Jetties / Terminals) Regulations 2025** has been notified, allowing private companies to invest and operate Inland Waterways infrastructure by providing a clear regulatory framework to attract private sector investment for facilitating the growth of inland waterways sector.
- **Jalyan & Navic :** To increase ease of doing business in the IWT sector, along the same lines as 'vahan' and 'sarathi', a central data base and portal has been developed for registration of vessels and crew all over the country. This will facilitate registration of vessels and crew digitally and would also provide accurate status on number of vessels and crew in the country and thus help in planning.
- **Cargo Aggregation :** The cargo movement on the waterways suffer from problems of multimodality because of lack of industries along the waterways. Therefore, projects for development of cargo aggregation hub – MMLP at Varanasi and Integrated Cluster- cum-Logistics Park, Sahibganj have been taken up. NHLML, a PSU under the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has been engaged for development of these MMLPs. The work of Rail connectivity for three MMTs has been assigned to M/s Indian Port and Rail Company Ltd. (a PSU under MoPSW).
- **IBP Route :** Indo Bangladesh Protocol route no. 5 & 6 between Maia and Sultanganj has been operationalized recently with successful trial movements.
- **Shift of cargo by PSUs:** For modal shift of cargo to waterways, more than 140 PSUs have been approached to plan their movement using IWT mode. They have been requested to outline their current status of cargo movement through the waterways and their plan for modal shift of cargo. Ministries of PNG, Co-operation, Fertiliser, Food & Public Distribution, Heavy industries, Steel and Coal have been requested to advise the PSUs under their jurisdiction to utilise IWT mode as far as possible and earmark certain percentage of their cargo for IWT mode keeping in line the MIV targets.
