

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3354
ANSWERED ON 07.08.2026

RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND WATERWAY PROJECTS

3354. SHRI ADHIKARI SOUMENDU :

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

पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्री

- (a) whether the Government proposes to undertake a wide array of river-focused projects aimed at improving flood management, inland waterway transportation, regional tourism and irrigation and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has undertaken/proposes to undertake projects relating to river-linking, riverfront development, erosion control, desiltation of rivers and development of waterways in West Bengal; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) As informed by Ministry of Jal Shakti, the Government of India has formulated National Perspective Plan under which 30 Interlinking of Rivers (ILR) projects have been identified. These ILR projects generally help in improving flood management, inland waterway transportation, regional tourism including irrigation, drinking water and industrial water. Details of ILR projects to benefit West Bengal and their status is given below:

Sl. No	Name	States benefited	Status
1.	Manas-Sankosh-Tista-Ganga (M-S-T-G) link	Assam, West Bengal & Bihar	Feasibility Report (FR) completed
2.	Jogighopa-Tista - Farakka link (Alternative to M-S-T-G)	Assam, West Bengal & Bihar	Pre Feasibility Report completed

			(The proposal has been dropped)
3.	Farakka -Sundarbans link	West Bengal	FR completed
4.	Ganga (Farakka) - Damodar-Subarnarekha link	West Bengal, Odisha & Jharkhand	FR completed
5.	Subarnarekha-Mahanadi link	West Bengal & Odisha	FR completed

Further, the Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI), an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways has undertaken projects for ensuring seamless navigation, improving multimodal connectivity and facilitating cargo and passenger movement on NWs in West Bengal. The details of projects completed/ undertaken in West Bengal by IWAI are given at Annexure.

Details of projects completed/ undertaken in West Bengal by IWAI:**A. Completed Projects**

i.

S. No.	Name of Project	Details
1	Development of Multimodal Terminal (MMT) at Haldia	Completed in 2023
2	Development of New Navigational Lock Gate in Farakka	Completed in 2024
3	Fairway Development	Farakka – Kahalgaon (LAD based dredging for 5 years completed) Completed in 2023
4	Development of community jetties	Completed at 22 locations
5	Hydrographic survey (River Ichamati NW-44)	Completed in 2022-23
6	Removal of Water Hyacinth from Tentulia to Kalanchi stretch for 23.38 km on Ichamati river in NW-44	Completed in 2023-24
7	Construction & installation of Gangway & pontoon in River Rupnarayan NW-86	Completed in 2023-24
8	Bank protection works in River Rupnarayan NW-86	100m length at Kolaghat terminal – Completed in 2022-23
9	Procurement & Supply of 2NM LED lights Solar Operated in the river Rupnarayan NW-86	Completed in 2023-24
10	Construction of road from Kolaghat terminal to NH 41 for a length of 3.9 Km (except 01 no RCC culvert) in the river Rupnarayan NW-86	Completed in 2022-23
11	Fairway development, 24 hour navigation, Maintenance of Integrated Office Complex(Customs, Immigration-State police and IWAI) at Hemnagar in IBP route of Sunderban Waterways	Works carried out during the period 2014-15 to 2023-24
12	Supply and installation of 04 nos. navigational buoys near Ghoramora island	Completed in 2023-24

13	Works in River Ichamati (NW-44)	○ Night Navigational facilities from Bansjahari-Mallikpur to Bashirhat Bridge - 7.0 km completed. ○ Design and Construction of Single Lane Bridge completed
14	Installation of 1 Ro-Pax jetty	Installed at Manikchak in 2026

B. Ongoing Projects

S. No.	Name of Project	Details
1	Development of additional community jetties at 5 locations	Being constructed at 5 locations - Completion by Sep-2026 (Cost: Rs.21.4 cr.)
2	Onshore facilities for community jetties	Being constructed for 8 locations - (Cost: Rs.5.6 cr.)
3	Renovation/ Modernization of existing Navigational Lock at Farakka	Works ongoing - Completion by Q3-2026 (Cost: Rs. 210 cr.)
4	Fairway Maintenance	○ Farakka – Kahalgaon: Completion by Q2-2027 (Cost: Rs. 98 cr.) ○ Farakka – Katwa: Completion by Q2-2027 (Cost: Rs.58.5 cr.) ○ Katwa – Tribeni: Completion by Q2-2027 (Cost: Rs.57.8 cr.) ○ MMT-Haldia Access Channel: Completion by Q2-2027 (Cost: Rs.50.6 cr.)
5	Works in River Ichamati (NW-44)	Dredging by departmental Amphibian dredger– Cost: Rs.3.9 cr.
6	Works in River Rupnarayan (NW-86)	O&M of navigational lighted posts, snag/ caution marks with retro reflective sticker & project sign board
7	Development of Intermodal terminal at Balagarh	Ongoing through SMPK (Kolkatta Port)
8.	Rail Connectivity for MMT Haldia	Construction for Phase I ongoing
