

NATIONAL WATERWAYS

Relevant for: Indian Economy | Topic: Infrastructure: Ports & Waterways

TO promote Inland Water Transport (IWT) in the country, 111 waterways (including 5 existing and 106 new) have been declared as National Waterways (NWs) under the National Waterways Act, 2016 which came into effect from 12th April, 2016. Based on the outcome of techno-economic feasibility and Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of NWs, 25 NWs which have been found viable by Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) for cargo/ passenger movement is at **Annex-1**. Development activities have been initiated in the first 13 NWs out of the 25 viable NWs.

Rs. 96.00 crore has been sanctioned for development of the stretch between Vijayawada to Muktayala in Krishna River of NW-4 in Andhra Pradesh for following works:-

- (i) Establishment of four Floating Pontoons,
- (ii) Dredging as per requirement,
- (iii) Land acquisition for construction of 3 Nos. of xed Ro-Ro terminals at Muktayala, Harichandrapuram and Ibrahimpatnam.

During the last two years i.e. 2019-20 and 2020-21, Rs. 18.87 crore and Rs. 7.66 crore respectively has been allocated to Andhra Pradesh.

Bulk cargo like coal, y-ash and iron ore are found economical & cost-eective for movement through Inland Water Transport (IWT) which is environment friendly and less pollutant mode of transport than Rail & Road. The cargo through Inland waterways is transported in barges and there is no direct contact of the cargo with water and therefore no adverse ecological impact.

Operation of Ferries is a State subject. Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) established through IWAI Act, 1985 for the regulation and development of National Waterways for purposes of shipping and navigation has notified (with the prior approval of the Central Govt.) following regulations for safety considerations-

Further Government has enacted the Inland Vessels (I.V.) Act, 2021 replacing I.V. Act 1917 for uniformity of rules and regulation for inland navigation in the country covering safety considerations.

Annex.-1

LIST OF 25 NATIONAL WATERWAYS FOUND FEASIBLE FOR CARGO/ PASSENGER MOVEMENT

Sl. No.

National Waterway

Details of Waterways

STATES

Status

National Waterway 1 Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly River System (Haldia - Allahabad) Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand & West Bengal Development taken up with Assistance from World Bank Jal Marg Vikas Project	1
National Waterway 2 Brahmaputra River (Dhubri - Sadiya) Assam Development taken up as per approved SFC for FY 20-21 to 2024-25	2
National Waterway 16 Barak River Assam	3
National Waterway 3 West Coast Canal (Kottapuram - Kollam), Champakara and Udyogmandal Canals Kerala Mostly Operational Waterways and development and maintenance work taken up.	4
National Waterway 4 Krishna River (Vijayawada – Muktyala) Andhra Pradesh	5
	6

National Waterway 5	
Dhamra-Paradio via Mangalagadi to Pankopal	
Odisha	7
National Waterway 8	
Alappuzha- Changanassery Canal	
Kerala	8
National Waterway 9	
Alappuzha-Kottayam – Athirampuzha Canal	
Kerala Alternate route: 11.5km	9
National Waterway 27	
Cumberjua River	
Goa	10
National Waterway 68	
Mandovi River	
Goa	11
National Waterway 86	
Rupnarayan River	
West Bengal	12
National Waterway 97	
Sunderbans Waterway	

West Bengal	13
National Waterway 111	
Zuari River	
Goa	14
National Waterway 10	
Amba River	
Maharashtra	
Projects at appraisal stage.	15
National Waterway 40	
Ghagra River	
Bihar	16
National Waterway 44	
Ichamati River	
West Bengal	17
National Waterway 52	
Kali River	
Karnataka	18
National Waterway 57	
Kopili River	
Assam	19

National Waterway 25	
Chapora River	
Goa	20
National Waterway 37	
Gandak River	
Bihar	21
National Waterway 28	
Dabhol Creek Vasisti River	
Maharashtra	
Substantial cargo moves in tidal waters/river mouth under respective State maritime board. No interventions are contemplated by IWAI as of now.	22
National Waterway 73	
Narmada River	
Maharashtra & Gujarat	23
National Waterway 85	
Revadanda Creek - Kundalika River System	
Maharashtra	24
National Waterway 94	
Sone River	
Bihar	25
National Waterway 100	

Tapi River

Maharashtra & Gujarat

This information was given by the Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal in a written reply in the Lok Sabha.

MJPS

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National Waterway 1

Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly River System (Haldia - Allahabad)

Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand & West Bengal

Development taken up with Assistance from World Bank **Jal Marg Vikas Project**

2

National Waterway 2

Brahmaputra River (Dhubri - Sadiya)

Assam

Development taken up as per approved SFC for FY 20-21 to 2024-25

3

National Waterway 16

Barak River

Assam

4

National Waterway 3

West Coast Canal (Kottapuram - Kollam), Champakara and Udyogmandal Canals

Kerala

Mostly Operational Waterways and development and maintenance work taken up.

5

National Waterway 4	
Krishna River (Vijayawada – Muktyala)	
Andhra Pradesh	6
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