

# **Development of Indian Waterways Transport System**

Out of 111 National Waterways (NWs), NW 1, 2 and 3 were declared as NWs in 1986, 1988, 1993 respectively and NW-4 & 5 in 2008. Development work in these five NWs were undertaken after techno-economic feasibility studies and Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) including safety aspects.

In respect of the 106 National Waterways declared on 12th April 2016, feasibility or DPR studies are underway. The development works would entail intervention for safe navigation. Inland Vessels Act, 1917, implemented by the respective State Governments, provides for safety compliances for transportation of cargo and passengers.

The Registration and survey of mechanically propelled inland vessels is mandatory under the Inland Vessels Act, 1917. The Act prescribes compliance requirement for life saving appliances, communication and navigation apparatus to be installed on board inland mechanically propelled vessels.

This information was given by the Minister of State for Shipping Shri Mansukh L. Madaviya in written reply to a question in Rajya Sabha today.

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