

Development of Jal Marg Vikas Project

The Jal Marg Vikas Project (JMVP) for capacity augmentation of National Waterway-1 (NW-1) between Haldia and Varanasi is being implemented with the technical and financial assistance of the World Bank. Under JMVP multi modal terminals have been planned and their present status is as here under:

Multimodal terminal at Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.

- i) Contract for Phase- I (A) of the terminal has been awarded.
- ii) Road connectivity of the terminal with NH-7 and rail connectivity of the terminal with Jeonathpur railway station on the Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor are part of the project.
(Requisition for acquisition of land for road connectivity has been filed with the District Administration, Varanasi for land acquisition.)
- iii) The rail alignment report submitted by the Consultants has been accepted 'in-principle' by the North Central Railway.

Multimodal terminal at Sahibganj, Jharkhand.

- i) Contract for Phase –I of the IWT terminal has been awarded.
- ii) Road connectivity of the terminal with NH-80 and rail connectivity with the Sakrigali railway station are part of project.
- iii) Requisition for acquisition of land for the terminal has been filed with the District Administration, Sahibganj and the acquisition process is in progress.

Multimodal terminal at Haldia, West Bengal.

- i) Tender process for Phase-I of the IWT terminal has been completed and award of project made to the successful bidder
- ii) Road connectivity of the terminal with NH-41/ NH-6 and rail connectivity of the terminal with the marshalling yard at Durga Chowk in the Haldia Dock Complex are part of the project.

Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI), inter-alia, has been mandated with the responsibility to develop and maintain the National Waterways (NWs) for shipping and navigation purpose. In order to maintain the navigable depth in the NWs, various conservancy works like dredging, bandalling and river training works are undertaken to deal with the problem of silting of the navigational channel.

The Inland Water Transport is recognized to be environment friendly and less polluting as compared to road & rail transportation. The issues related to pollution due to movement of vessels on inland waterways are addressed under the provisions of the Inland Vessels Act, 1917, implemented by the State Governments.

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.

UM/NP/MS

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