



सत्यमेव जयते  
Ministry of Shipping  
Government of India



# National Conference on Inland Waterways: Issues, Options and Strategies

2 June 2015 – New Delhi



## Inland Water Transport in India

Waterways were the bedrock of many great civilisations in history. Cities were built on river banks and trade between distant countries was carried through waterways that linked sea routes. Inland waterways even at present offer significant opportunities for creating economic & environment friendly transport systems that would help ease the growing pressure on other modes of transport.

Inland Waterways transport has immense potential for passenger as well as domestic cargo transportation. IWT is best-suited for movement of bulk cargo, over dimensional cargo and hazardous goods. IWT also offers an environment-friendly economic mode of transport compared to road and rail. India has a potential of 14,500 km of navigable waterways for commercial transportation. However, it is an under developed mode of transportation with a share of less than 1 percent in the total cargo handled in the country in comparison to developed countries like US, China, Germany, etc.

Realising the potential of the IWT sector, Government of India has announced several initiatives to promote IWT in the country e.g. setting up an 'Integrated National Waterways Transport Grid' for developing strong water transport network in the country. It is planned to establish a multimodal grid with road and, wherever possible, rail and port connectivity with river terminals on the existing National Waterways and Barak river. Government has recently announced to declare 101 waterways as National Waterways and planning to set up multimodal hubs on the



## About Conference

Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI); Ministry of Shipping, Government of India and Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) are jointly organising 'National Conference on Inland Waterways : Issues, Options and Strategies' on 2 June 2015 at New Delhi. **Shri Nitin Gadkari, Hon'ble Minister for Road Transport, Highways and Shipping, Government of India would inaugurate the conference.**

The conference will discuss policy & regulatory framework for inland water transport, emerging opportunities for private investments in the IWT sector, policy measures for incentivizing modal shift of cargo from surface to water transport, etc. It will provide a platform for industry experts to analyse latest trends in the sector and share latest developments, policy updates, market insights and case studies in interactive business sessions during the conference.

## Focus Areas/Themes

- Reinvigorating waterborne freight traffic through innovative solutions
- Ensuring greater role of inland water transport through policy initiatives for and attracting private sector participation
- Improving sustainability of inland water transport and exploring technology options & best practices
- Incentivizing modal shift of cargo from rail/road to waterways
- Integrating Inland Waterway Transport in the intermodal supply chain for ensuring an optimal modal mix for transporting cargo in and out of ports

## Conference Highlights

- Inauguration by Shri Nitin Gadkari, Hon'ble Minister for Road Transport, Highways and Shipping, GoI
- Key Speakers: Secretary, Ministry of Shipping; Chairman, IWAI; other senior Government officials; business leaders; and industry experts
- Ideal platform for knowledge sharing, deliberations and exchanging ideas on Inland Waters Transport
- Immense networking opportunities with policy makers, business leaders and market experts



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## Target Audience

- Policy Makers / Senior Government Officials
- Ship Designers, Ship Builders & Barge Manufacturers
- Shipping Lines
- Cargo Handling & Logistics Service Providers
- Barge Operators
- Freight Forwarders
- Distributors & Agents
- Construction Companies / EPC Contractors
- Consultants (Environmental / Engineering / Project Management)
- Cruise Liners
- Dredging Companies
- Dredging Equipment Manufacturers
- Electronics/Communications & IT Solution Providers
- Marine Engineering Companies
- Financial Institutions and Banks
- Investment & Merchant Bankers
- Fleet Management & Inspection Agencies
- Infrastructure Developers (Public / Private)
- Project Executing Agencies (National / State Level)
- IWT Service providers / operators
- Maritime Crewing / Manning / Recruitment Agents
- Navigation and Communication Systems
- Navigational Equipment & Aids providers
- Private Investors (Domestic / International)
- Port & Terminal Operators
- Academic, Research Bodies



**For participation & sponsorship opportunities, please contact**

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