

PROJECT INVOLVES BRAHMANI, KHARASUA & HANSUA RIVERS

Waterway dream few steps away

SUBRAT DAS

Bhubaneswar, June 30: Work on the proposed National Waterway No. 5 will begin shortly with the Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) deciding to execute a part of it through a joint venture in two phases.

The 201-km stretch of the waterway involving three rivers — Brahmani, Kharasua and Hansua — between Jokadia near Kalinga Nagar and Paradip and Dhamra ports will be developed by the Noida-based central government agency in the first phase in collaboration with the state government and Paradip and Dhamra ports.

In the second phase, the stretch between Talcher and Jokadia (131km) will be developed. The two-phase project with a length of 332km will be executed for Rs 2,000 crore.

The state government, the IWAI, and the two other stakeholders today formalised a memorandum of understanding here in the presence of chief minister Naveen Patnaik. Authority chairman Amitav Verma inked the MoU on behalf of his organisation.

The proposed waterway will help the industries in Kalinga Nagar and Vyasa Nagar industrial hub, apart from mines in Talcher and Daitary, to transport their goods to and from the ports through the riverway. While a number of steel plants have come up in the Kalinga Nagar region, there are several coal mines at Talcher and iron ore and chromite mines at Daitary.

Earlier, **The Telegraph** had published a number of reports on the status of the proposed waterway. In November

2008, a total river and canal stretch of 588km covering parts of Odisha and Bengal was declared as National Waterway No. 5 by the central government through an act.

However, the project could not take off, as initially, the proposal to develop the waterway in public-private-partnership (PPP) mode was considered economically unviable. In December last year, it was decided to form a joint venture between the IWAI, the state government and Paradip and Dhamra ports.

"The IWAI has assessed the development of the Talcher-Dhamra river stretch of National Waterway No. 5 to be economically viable and accordingly has taken steps to develop the project in two phases with a projected cost of around Rs 2,000 crore," said IWAI chief engineer S. Dandapat.

The central agency will prepare the project proposal within five months from the date of execution of MoU and obtain necessary sanctions for the project. In the next three months, it will initiate action for execution of the project, which will be over within three years.

"The IWAI will initiate the measures for developing the fairway from the budgetary support of the Centre by way of dredging, repairing and reconstructing the weirs, navigational locks and installing navigational aids," said Dandapat.

The fairway will be developed with a minimum depth of three metres to make it navigable for vessels with 1,500-tonne capacity.

"The state government will provide land free of cost and all possible assistance to



IWAI chairman, state commerce and transport secretary, Paradip Port chairman and Dhamra port sign the MoU as chief minister Naveen Patnaik looks on at secretariat. development of National Waterway No. 5 (picture below) on Monday. Picture by Sanjib Mukherjee



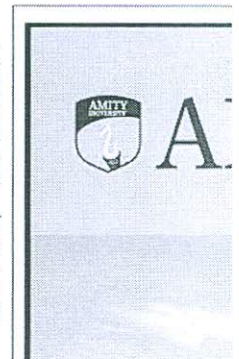
fast track the project," said chief minister Naveen Patnaik, who was present at the MoU-signing ceremony.

The state government will also develop terminal facilities at Pankapal or Jokadia through a joint venture with Paradip Port Trust, and Dhamra Port Company Limited. Paradip and Dhamra ports will develop captive terminal facilities on their premises following which they will operate, maintain and manage the

cargo-handling operations.

Paradip Port Trust chairman Sudhanshu Sekhar Mishra said: "The proposed waterway will be economical and environment-friendly and also ease the burden on the existing road and rail transport system."

Chief executive officer of Dhamra Port Company Limited Santosh Kumar Mohapatra said the waterway would help in enhancing cargo evacuation.



State inks MoU to develop National Waterway No 5

It will reduce burden on road, rail network: CM

PBD BUREAU

BHUBANESWAR, JUNE 30

IN a bid to provide an alternative mode of transport and developing a sustainable and economically viable inland navigation system in Odisha, the State government today signed memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Centre's Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) and other stake holders including Paradip Port Trust (PPT) and Dhamara Port Company Limited (DPCL).

The signing of MoU would thus implement development of National Waterway No 5, a 333 km stretch of waterways in the State at an estimated cost of about Rs 2000 crore to be completed within three years of time. The objective of developing waterway is primarily to connect Paradip and Dhamara ports with industries of Kalinganagar and Talcher and also mines for transportation of cargo like iron ore, coal, coke, steel pallets, bauxite, aluminium ingot, fertiliser, cement etc. Congratulating the commitment of stake holders, IWAI, PPT and DPCL for developing National Waterway No 5, Chief



IWAI chairman Amitabh Verma, State Commerce & Transport Secretary G Mathi Vathnan, PPT chairman SS Mishra, DPCL CEO SK Mohapatra, sign MoU in the presence of CM—PBD

Minister Naveen Patnaik, during the MoU signing ceremony said, "The waterway will provide an economical and environment friendly transport system. It would also help reduce the burden on existing road and rail network. Besides, these organisations will work in tandem to connect and develop the inland waterway between Talcher, Kalinga Nagar, Paradip and Dhamra. This will provide water transport facilities to industrial hubs at Talcher, Anugul, Kalinga Nagar, Paradip and Dhamra ports."

As per the presentation made by Chief Engineer S. Dandapat of IWAI, the NW 5 project will have fairway ie navigational channel of required depth (about

three metres draft) and width through dredging, excavation, construction of barrages, navigational locks, terminal facilities for handling minimum five million tonnes cargo at three locations Pankopal, Paradip and Dhamra and fleet (cargo vessels and barges). Both PPT and DPCL are expected to develop captive terminal facilities at their locations. "This will help remove bottlenecks of cargo transport in the State and also reduce load of rail and road. While industries of Kalinga Nagar are likely to generate five million tonne of cargo and Talcher will provide 42 MT cargos for water transport initially, the cargo will increase later. This will also

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Govt charts 201-km-long waterway

THE STRETCH WILL LINK KALINGANAGAR TO DHAMRA AND PARADIP PORT IN PHASE ONE

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, June 30: The state government, Paradip Port Trust (PPT) and Dhamra Port Corporation Ltd (DPCL) Monday signed an agreement with Inland Waterway Authority of India (IWI) to develop National Waterways-5 to create a water path from Kalinganagar to Dhamra and Paradip Port. The project is estimated to cost around ₹2,000 crore.

The state will provide land free of cost besides all possible support to fast-track the project which

is expected to go downstream by June 2017, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik said. First phase of development of the project will comprise a stretch of 201 km between Jokodia/Pankapal (Kalinganagar) to Dhamra and Paradip Port, Patnaik added.

The proposed waterway on river Brahmani and the Mahanadi delta will link the industrial area of Kalinganagar and will cater to the needs of various steel plants and other industries set up in the area. The proposed water path would connect two regular ports of the state — PPT and DPCL.

Kalinganagar is likely to produce 5 mtpa of steel

while Talcher belt will generate about 20 million tonnes of coal if all the coal blocks become operational. The waterway will facilitate shipping of the industrial products, Santosh Mohapatra, the chief of Dhamra Port Company Limited, said.

In the second phase, a stretch of around 131 km will be extended to Talcher to cater to the needs of NTPC and other industries. The MoU was signed between Inland Waterway Authority chairman Amitabh Verma, state commerce and transport secretary G Mathivathanan, PPT chief Sudhanshu Mishra and DPCL CEO Santosh Mohapatra.

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Nat'l Waterway-5 Coming up in Odisha

The waterway will provide an economical and environmental-friendly transport system

Express News Service

Bhubaneswar: The National Waterway-5, for facilitating cargo movement through inland waterway, is expected to be completed by June 2017.

The first phase of the project comprises 201 km stretch between Jokadia/Pankapal (Kalinganagar) and Dhamra and Paradip ports, while the second phase has a length of 131 km between Talcher and Jokadia/Pankapal (Kalinganagar).

The State Government, Paradip Port Trust (PPT) and Dhamra Port Company Limited (DPCL) on Monday signed memoranda of understanding (MoU) with Inland Waterway Authority of India (IWAI) for the development of the waterway.

The MoU was signed between IWAI chairman Amitabh Verma, secretary in the Commerce and Transport department G Mathivathanan, PPT chairman Sudhan-

shu Mishra and Dharma Port CEO Santosh Mohapatra at the State secretariat here in the presence of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik.

The State Government would provide land free of cost and all possible assistance to fast track the project estimated at ₹2,000 crore. The Chief Minister said the organisations will work in tandem to connect and develop waterway between Talcher, Kalinganagar, Dhamra and Paradip. This will provide water transport facilities to the industrial hubs in these areas, he said and added that the waterway will also provide an economical and environmental-friendly transport system and help reduce the burden on the existing road and rail network.

The IWAI will prepare the project proposal within five months from the date of MoU and obtain necessary sanction of the estimated cost of the project within the next three months. The State Government will de-

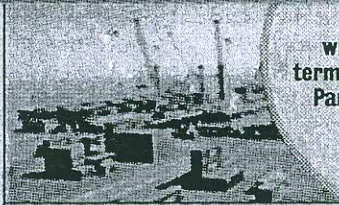
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PROJECT

THE PROJECT WILL PROVIDE WATER TRANSPORT FACILITIES TO THE INDUSTRIAL HUBS

The state government would provide land free of cost

1ST PHASE

The project comprises 201 km stretch between Jokadia/Pankapal (Kalinganagar) and Dhamra and Paradip ports



The state gov't will develop cargo terminal facilities at Pankapal/ Jokadia through a joint venture/Special Purpose Vehicle

2ND PHASE

Has a length of 131 km between Talcher and Jokadia/Pankapal (Kalinganagar)

velop cargo terminal facilities at Pankapal/Jokadia through a Joint Venture/Special Purpose Vehicle with the PPT, DPCL and other stakeholders.

Besides, the PPT and DPCL would develop suitable terminal facilities on their premises as captive facilities to operate,

maintain and manage cargo loading and unloading operations.

The IWAI will initiate activities for providing the desired fairway from the Central budgetary support by dredging, repairing/reconstructing weirs, navigational locks and installing navigational aids.