

Guidelines

Movement of Over Dimensional Cargo in National Waterways & Indo-Bangladesh Protocol route

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI), set up in 1986 by an Act of Parliament, has been entrusted the task of development and regulation of the National Waterways. The Authority undertakes infrastructure development, maintenance and regulation works on National Waterways. Presently, the five National Waterways in India are as under:
 1. **National Waterway No. 1 (NW-1)** : Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system from Allahabad to Haldia (1620 kms) in the states of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal
 2. **National Waterway No. 2 (NW-2)** : Brahmaputra river from Sadiya to Dhubri (891 kms) in the state of Assam
 3. **National Waterway No. 3 (NW-3)** : West Coast canal from Kollam to Kottapuram along with Champakara and Udyogmandal canals (205 kms) in the State of Kerala
 4. **National Waterway No. 4 (NW-4)** : Kakinada Pudducherry canals consisting of Kakinada canal, Eluru canal, Commamur canal, Buckingham canal and Kaluvelly tank along with Bhadrachalam Rajamundry stretch of River Godavari and Wazirabad Vijaywada stretch of River Krishna (1095 km) in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Union Territory of Pudducherry
 5. **National Waterway No. 5 (NW-5)** : Talcher Dhamra stretch of Brahmani Kharsua-Dhamra river system along with Geonkhali Charbatia stretch of East Coast Canal, Charbatia Dhamra stretch of Matai river and Mahanadi delta river system between Mangalgadi and Paradip (623 km) in the States of Orissa and West Bengal
- 1.2 An Inland Water Transit and Trade Protocol exists between India and Bangladesh. North Eastern region of India through National Waterway No.2 is connected with Kolkata and Haldia ports through specified routes of Bangladesh and Sunderbans waterways. For India, IWAI is the Competent Authority relating to IWT operations under Protocol while Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) is the Competent Authority for Bangladesh.
- 1.3 At present, National Waterway 1, 2 & 3 and Indo-Bangladesh Protocol route are fully equipped to facilitate movement of any type of cargo and the instant Guidelines are applicable to movement of Over Dimensional Cargo (ODC) on NW 1, 2 & 3 and Indo-Bangladesh Protocol route.

2. Over Dimensional Cargo (ODC)

- 2.1 The term 'Over Dimensional Cargo (ODC)' refers to cargo which is beyond standard measure. These include, inter alia, heavy machinery, plant generator, turbines, furnace, chimneys and boilers. Broadly, cargo with dimensions of more than fifty feet length, more than eleven feet width and/or eleven feet height, require special handling equipment because of cargo's typical size and weight and are generally classified as Over Dimensional Cargo.

3. Definitions

- (i) Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) : A statutory body under Ministry of Shipping, Govt. of India, with its head office at A-13, Sector-1, Noida, PIN - 201301 (U.P.)
- (ii) **Chairman:** Chairman of the Inland Waterways Authority of India
- (iii) **Director:** Director of the Inland Waterways Authority of India posted in its regional offices located at Kolkata, Patna, Guwahati and Kochi who shall be responsible for facilitating movement of ODC and will be co-coordinator for the ODC movement.
- (iv) **Fee:** means the rate per metric tonne per km fixed by IWAI for movement of ODC through inland water transport on National Waterway(s) and / or Indo-Bangladesh Protocol route.
- (v) **Nodal Officer:** an officer of IWAI, not below the rank of an Assistant Director or its equivalent, designated by Director as officer in charge responsible for safe, smooth and timely passage of ODC through the declared stretch of waterway.
- (vi) **Day:** means a calendar day beginning and ending at mid-night.
- (vii) **Week :** means seven consecutive calendar days
- (viii) **Month:** means one Calendar month.
- (ix) **NW:** means an inland waterway in India designated as a National Waterway by an Act of Parliament.
- (x) **Indo-Bangladesh Protocol route:** means the route notified by Government of India and Government of Bangladesh under provisions of Inland Water Transit and Trade Protocol.
- (xi) **Operator:** means the firm providing logistics for transporting the ODC using National Waterway (s) and/or Indo-Bangladesh Protocol route and executing MoU with IWAI.
- (xii) **Vessel:** means the vessel/craft belonging to/arranged by the ODC movement operator.