

- 11.6 The Nodal Officer will also be authorized to decide the place, length and time of starting the bandalling process with a view to improving the LAD in an identified 'critical' stretch provided it is within the approved budgetary and length limits. In case, the budget and the approved Plan is getting exceeded, it will be the duty of the Nodal Officer to obtain the approval of the Director before executing the scheme. It shall be the duty of the Director to take and convey his decision to the Nodal Officer in case of a proposal received by him within 36 hours.
- 11.7 The Vessel Master will be fully briefed by the Nodal Officer regarding the 'navigation challenges'. This may involve giving a set of instructions **Do's and Dont's** prepared in the regional language apart from navigation charts and/or any other relevant document relating to safe navigation.
- 11.8 Providing experienced River Pilots at the pre-determined time and place to guide the vessel safely through the river stretch, on its onward as well as return journey on the river, will also be a prime duty of the Nodal Officer. These are essential for safe navigation of vessels on National Waterways. The Nodal Officer will also take steps to train suitable River Pilots and keep them ready for undertaking trips on vessels plying on the National Waterways.
- 11.9 The Nodal Officer will be responsible for ensuring that the day navigational marks provided in the stretch of the NW are in place. Likewise, responsibility for maintaining Night navigation facilities such as 2 NM lights mounted on country boats, shore beacons having 5 NM lights located in his area will be of the Nodal Officer. Deficiency, if any, shall be immediately rectified.
- 11.10 Opening of pontoons bridges erected at various locations in NW-1 will be arranged by the Nodal Officer. He will take advance action in consultation with Master of vessel for opening of such pontoon bridges within two hours of vessel reaching the spot in working hours.
- 11.11 The Nodal Officer will continuously monitor the passage of the vessel in his stretch of the river. He will ensure that all services promised by IWAI in the MoU are provided to the Operator / Vessel Master and there is no 'delay' on account of deficiency in service by IWAI.
- 11.12 In order to enable the Nodal Officer to effectively monitor ODC movement and discharge his duties, it is also necessary to establish a good communication network on the river stretch. Fortunately, almost the entire river stretch is under mobile network coverage. Hence, it has been decided that to begin with a sum of Rs.1500/- per month would be provided to the Nodal Officer to meet the itemized telephony & internet bill pertaining to him and his subordinate staff deployed in the field.

### **Delegation of Powers**

- 11.14 In order to satisfactorily carry out the aforesaid duties, the following financial and administrative powers are delegated to the Nodal Officer with immediate effect.
- ♦ Power to hire a vehicle for undertaking official work for a period of maximum ten days in a month after following due procedure in this regard.

- ♦ Entail expenditure of any item considered 'unavoidable' without calling for quotation provided its value does not exceed Rs.5000 and the value of such expenditure does not exceed Rs.25000 in a month.
  - ♦ Approval of tour programme of officers and employees under his control and within his jurisdiction
- 11.15 Adequate budget would be provided to the Nodal Officer by the concerned Director. Proper accounts of all expenditure incurred and payments received (if any) shall be maintained by the Nodal Officer, in a format prescribed by the Chief Accounts Officer (CAO), IWAI, before 31.12.2009.
- 11.16 Directors, IWAI are also authorized to make any changes relating to the place, length and time of setting up the bandalling, dismantling the same and /or shifting the same to another venue with a view to improving the LAD in identified 'critical' stretches provided it is within the approved budgetary and length limits for the Directorate. In case, the approved budgetary and length limits need to be exceeded, a revised proposal shall be forwarded by the Director to the IWAI Head Office and he shall proceed to take action thereon after the same has been approved by the Head Office. Chief Engineer, IWAI will ensure that requisite decision of Head Office is communicated to Director, IWAI within 15 days of receipt of proposal.

## **12 River Information Service**

- 12.1 IWAI will set up an effective River Information Service on the National waterways which, inter alia, will enable Director, IWAI and /or Nodal Officer to effectively monitor any vessel plying on the National Waterway. IWAI may also stipulate all Operators to install appropriate Vessel Identification System on board their vessels.

## **13 Emergency Services to be provided by IWAI**

- 13.1 In case of distress/ emergency, the Operator will inform the concerned Nodal Officer, Director and Member (Cargo) in the Head Office of IWAI for the required help apart from the concerned administrative officers belonging to the State Government in whose jurisdiction the location, where emergency occurred, lies.
- 13.2 Some State Governments have notified 'River Thanas' (River Police Stations) with specific territorial jurisdictions. Director, IWAI will take steps to clearly demarcate the jurisdiction of the District Administration and the Police Station, in whose territorial jurisdiction various stretches of the National Waterways lie; in case of any crime, appropriate authorities, police and civil, are to be notified without any delay so that prompt and effective action can be taken by them. Details of appropriate authorities will be furnished to the Operator and /or the Vessel Master by the Director.
- 13.3 In case of navigational distress /emergency, such as engine failure, collision with another vessel or