



**Stakeholders Conference for  
Development and Promotion of  
Cargo Movement on National Waterway -1**  
11 February 2020, Lemon Tree Premier, Patna



**Event Overview:**

With 14,500 Kms of navigable waterways of rivers and canals that can be used by mechanized craft and cargo, inland waterways in India present huge opportunity. The push by the government through various initiatives like *the Jal Marg Vikas Project (JMVP), Building of Multi modal terminals at Varanasi, Haldia and Sahibganj, Development of Ro-Ro terminals* amongst other are generating private sector's interest in this area.

National Waterway -1, between Allahabad and Haldia with total length for 1620 kms and 7 permanent terminals and 19 floating jetties, is envisaged to improve navigability, enhance coastal and regional connectivity with Bangladesh and Nepal. Jal Marg Vikas Project (JMVP), in collaboration with World Bank, is undertaken for capacity augmentation of NW-I from Varanasi to Haldia for an estimated cost of Rs 5369 crores. The project includes development of multimodal terminals, freight villages and industrial clusters cum logistics parks with an objective to encourage modal shift to Inland Waterways Transport (IWT) for movement of cargo.

The future of waterways transportation in India is promising with manifold prospects and investments. Tapping the huge potential, the government aims to increase the inland waterway cargo movement from the current 8 million tonnes to 27 million tonnes in the next two years. The waterways will form a part of the larger multi-modal transport network and will deliver a significant reduction in logistics costs which will lead to improved economic indices. The prime challenge is the lack of appropriate infrastructure and limited awareness amongst relevant stakeholders. To embrace these opportunities and get a better understanding of challenges, FICCI in partnership with Inland Waterways Authority of India had organized **“Stakeholders Conference for Development and Promotion of Cargo Movement on National Waterway -1”** on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at Patna, Bihar.