

# Inland Waterways (IWAI) Permissions Guide

Maritime, Shipping & Ports

Document type: Licence / statutory filing · Generated 15 Oct 2026

This guide explains what the tool produces, how to use the output, and what to watch for. The actual output (draft/report) is generated on the tool page.

## Background

Explains permissions and requirements to operate cargo or passenger vessels on national and state inland waterways — IWAI, vessel registration and survey, and the opportunity. Use it to plan an inland-waterways operation.

## Purpose of this tool & output

Operate on national inland waterways

## How the output is used

Use it to operate on national inland waterways — the Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) permissions for vessels on National Waterways.

## Who receives it

Permissions are with the Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) and the concerned State/inland vessel authority under the Inland Vessels Act.

## How to submit / file it

Apply with the vessel registration/survey, crew and safety documents for the waterway operation and terminal use; inland-vessel survey and registration precede operation.

## Fees & charges

IWAI/waterway usage and inland-vessel registration/survey fees as applicable; permissions are periodically renewed.

## Who should vet it

IWAI and the State inland-vessel authority that register and survey the vessel and permit the operation.

## Important cautions

Inland-waterways rules, navigability, terminals and seasonality vary by waterway and change and viability depends on fairway depth and cargo. Confirm requirements and navigability with IWAI or the state authority and validate cargo and draft before investing.

## Companion documents

---

- Maritime Approvals Roadmap
- Ship Registration (Indian Flag) Guide
- DG Shipping Approvals & Certificates Guide
- RPSL (Seafarer Recruitment) Licence Guide
- Port & Maritime Board Permissions Guide
- IMO Convention Compliance Guide

This is AI-assisted guidance. Verify with a qualified professional before any binding decision. Fees, authorities and processes vary by state and change over time — confirm with your state authority.