

# FOCAL portal

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## About Forum of Cargo-Owners and Logistics-Operators (FOCAL) portal

- It is a dedicated portal to connect cargo owners and shippers with real time data on availability of vessels
- **Launched by:** It was launched by the Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI)
- In its role as a facilitator and now aggregator, IWAI, that owns a limited number of vessels itself, has been doing pilot movements to establish technical and commercial viability of Inland Waterways Transport (IWT).
- **Designed by:** It has been designed and developed by the in-house IT Department and the Traffic Wing of IWAI as part of its preparedness for optimal use of its ongoing capacity development on various National Waterways.

## Key features of the portal

- The landmark e-connect measure **will enable direct interaction among the vessel operators, shippers and cargo owners** as currently, there is no platform to know the availability of vessels in the market.
- **FOCAL will facilitate responses from the logistic operators** against the requirement raised by cargo owners and vice-versa.
- The users can register on the portal to key in the availability and details of vessels or the available cargo, as the case may be.
- Cargo owners will be able to put details like the origin, destination, type of cargo etc.