

PM to receive first lot of containers moving on National Waterways-1

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

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PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi will receive the first consignment of containers moving on the Ganga from Kolkata to Varanasi on November 12 as India revives its inland waterways for freight movement.

The shipment of 16 containers owned by PepsiCo will reach the new multi-modal terminal which the PM will dedicate to the nation.

The Kolkata to Varanasi route is part of what is called National



Modi will dedicate the terminal to the nation on Nov 12. *Twitter: @nitin_gadkari*

Waterways-1.

As per the government, India has about 14,500 km of

navigable waterways in rivers, canals, to be used for transportation to ease congestion on roads. A vessel of the type that is arriving in Varanasi can take up to 140 trucks off the road, officials said.

India is reviving its waterways with assistance from the World Bank, executed by the Inland Waterways Authority of India.

On November 12, PM Modi will also inaugurate NH 56 - Babatpur Airport to Varanasi, a 17-km stretch. He will also throw open the Varanasi ring road phase - 1.