

### Charter of IWAI

- Development and regulation of National Waterways
- Advise Central Government on matters relating to IWT
- Assist State Governments in development of IWT
- Lay down standards for classification of inland waterways
- Enter into joint ventures concerning inland shipping
- Conduct research in matters relating to IWT

Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) will be starting a new Roll on-Roll off (Ro-Ro) facility in collaboration with the Government of Assam to provide the much-needed connectivity for Majuli Island.

#### **Benefits:**

This Ro-Ro facility will cut down the circuitous road route of 423 KMs that trucks take from Neamati to Majuli Island via Tezpur Road Bridge, by limiting the distance to only 12.7 KM with the use of river route.

#### **About Majuli Island:**

- Majuli is the first island district of the country. The island is formed by the Brahmaputra river in the south and the Kherkutia Xuti, an anabranch of the Brahmaputra, joined by the Subansiri River in the north. Majuli is the nerve centre of neo-Vaishnavite.
- Majuli Island was also declared the largest river island in the world, toppling Marajo in Brazil, by Guinness World Records in 2016.

#### **Know about IWAI:**

Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) is **the statutory authority** in charge of the waterways in India. Its headquarters is located in Noida, UP. It does the function of building the necessary infrastructure in these waterways, surveying the economic feasibility of new projects and also administration.

**To be looked in UPSC Paper 3 Topic:** Infrastructure- waterways.