

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
EASTERN ZONE BENCH, KOLKATA
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 158/2023/EZ

Re: "Banks of the Circular Canal are getting "Stolen" regularly near Galiff Street:

Wastes and garbage spreading pollution" - News item published in Bartaman, Daily Bengali Newspaper, dt.15.10.2023, Kolkata

REPORT ON AFFIDAVIT FILED BY THE WEST BENGAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD.

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Filed by

DIPANJAN GHOSH

Dipanjana Ghosh

HIGH COURT, CALCUTTA

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SL. NO. 9 Dt.- 27/12/23

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Most Respectfully Sheweth :

I, Sri Subrata Ghosh, son of Shri Biswanath Ghosh, aged about 60 years, by faith-Hindu, Occupation- Service, residing at Narkelbagan, Gorosthan, Chinsurah, District - Hooghly, do hereby solemnly declare and say as follows:-

01. That, I am the Officer on Special Duty (OSD), West Bengal Pollution Control Board (hereinafter will be referred to as the 'State Board') and I am well acquainted with the facts and

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circumstances of the case. I have been duly authorized by the Respondent No. 05, to affirm this Affidavit on its behalf and as such, I am competent to do so.



02. That, this affidavit is being affirmed in pursuant to the solemn order passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal dated 17.10.2023.
03. That, in compliance to the order of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, the State Board caused an inspection of the said site, namely, the bank of the Circular canal along Galiff Street in North Kolkata, from Barrackpore Bridge to Chitpur lock gate, on 23.11.2023, from 12.30 p.m. onwards.
04. From the inspection carried out, the following observations were made:
- a) Both banks of the canal are fully occupied and over crowded with population living in shanties.
 - b) The population residing in shanties along the banks of the canal has constructed several bathrooms and toilets using bamboo and other materials encroaching the banks of canal discharging faeces and human waste directly in to the canal.

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- c) Seven hutments were seen on Galiff Street towards the canal. It was learnt that hutments were constructed by KMC along the bank of canal for traders and vendors. They are presently occupied and used as KMC staff quarters.
- d) The quarters have septic tanks draining liquid waste to the canal.
- e) Behind the hutments there are several shanties on the bank of the canal.
- f) On the bank of the canal near Chitpore Bridge, there is a garbage dumping site and a sewage pumping station, both owned by KMC. At the time of inspection, garbage was being cleared at the said dumping site.
- g) At some places along the bank of canal dumping of waste and garbage were also noticed
- h) At the time of inspection, there was high tide in river Hooghly forcing tide water entering through the circular canal. Waste and garbage were seen to be flowing through the canal.



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Copy of the inspection report of the State board is annexed herewith and marked with letter "R".

05. That, it may further be noted that KMC is the responsible agency in this issue.
06. It is therefore respectfully prayed that Hon'ble Tribunal may pass such order/orders as it deems fit and proper in the interest of justice.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Sarbani Mitra".

DEPONENT

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VERIFICATION

I, Sri Subrata Ghosh, son of Shri Biswanath Ghosh, aged about 60 years, by Religion - Hindu, by Occupation- Service, residing at Narkelbagan, Gorosthan, Chinsurah, District-Hooghly, do hereby solemnly declare and say as follows:-

1. That, I am the Officer on Special Duty (OSD), West Bengal Pollution Control Board and I am well acquainted with the facts and circumstances of the instant Original Application.
2. That, the statements made in paragraph 1 of this affidavit is true to my knowledge and belief.
3. That, the statements made in paragraphs 2 to 5 of this affidavit are my information derived from the records available in the office of the State Board which I verily believe to be true and the rest are my respectful submission before this Hon'ble Tribunal.

Sri Subrata Ghosh
DEPONENT

Identified by me
Dipayan Ghosh
Advocate

WBPCB

Solemnly Affirmed &
Declared Before Me
On Identification By

[Signature]
SARBANI MITRA
NOTARY
Regd. No.-5515/08

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West Bengal Pollution Control Board

INSPECTION REPORT

Reference	News was published in leading Bengali News Paper Bartaman on 15.10.23 regarding waste dumping, encroachment on banks of Circular Canal and subsequently Hon'ble NGT issued order dated 17.10.23 in case no O.A. 158/2003/EZ, serving notice to WBPCB.
Date & Time of inspection	23/11/2023 (12.30 pm onwards)
Inspecting officers	Sri D Das, AEE, WBPCB Sri N. Das, AEE, WBPCB

Observation:

The bank of the Circular canal along Galiff Street in North Kolkata, under PS. Shyampukur from Barrackpore Bridge to Chitpur lock gate (a stretch of approximately 1.5 km) was inspected. Both banks of the canal are fully occupied and over crowded with population living in shanties. The population residing in shanties along the banks of the canal has constructed several bathrooms and toilets using bamboo and other materials encroaching the banks of canal discharging faces and human waste directly in to the canal.


Seven hutments were seen on Galiff Street towards the canal. It was learnt that hutments were constructed by KMC along the bank of canal for traders & vendors. These are presently occupied & used as KMC staff quarters. The quarters have septic tank draining liquid waste to the canal. Behind the hutments there are several shanties on the bank of the canal.


On the bank of the canal near Chitpore Bridge, there is a garbage dumping site and a sewage Pumping Station, both owned by KMC. At the time of inspection garbage was being cleared at the said dumping site

At some places along the bank of canal dumping of waste & garbage were also noticed.

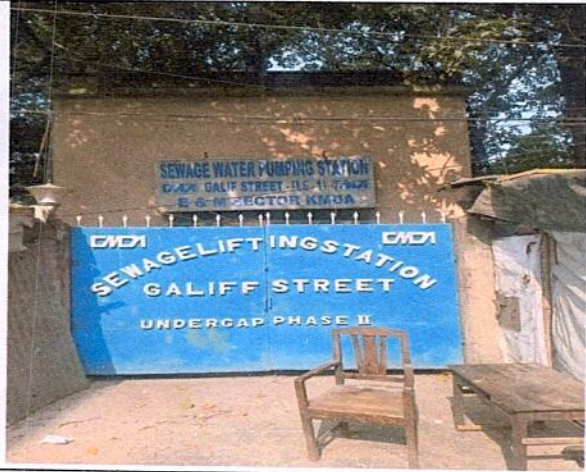
At the time of inspection there was high tide in river Hooghly forcing tide water entering through the circular canal. Waste & garbage were seen to be flowing through the canal.

Remarks: Condition of the Circular canal was found to be very poor and restoration is required.


(Mr. N. Das, AEE, Salt lake RO, WBPCB)


(Mr. D. Das, AEE, Salt lake RO, WBPCB)

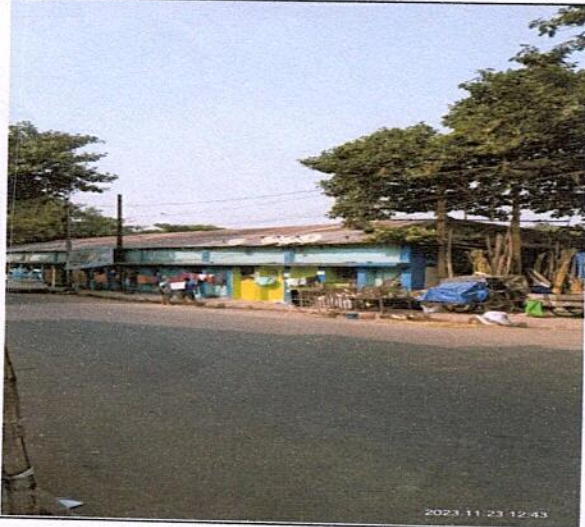




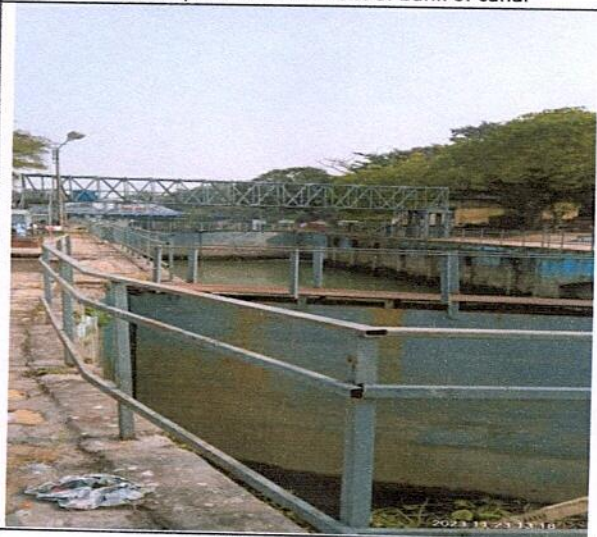
Sewage pumping station of KMC



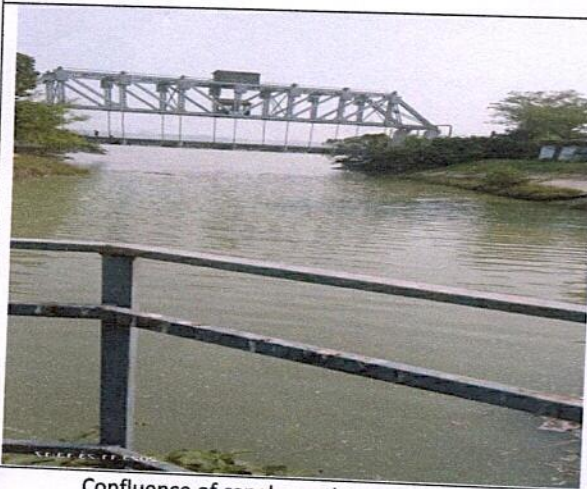
Close up of encroachment of bank of canal



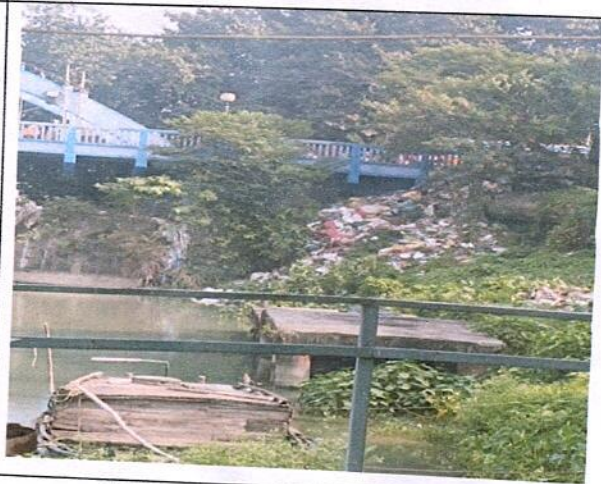
Hutments constructed by KMC



Chitpore Lock Gate



Confluence of canal mouth with river Hooghly



Garbage dumping along the bank of canal



Sarbani Mitra

[Signature]



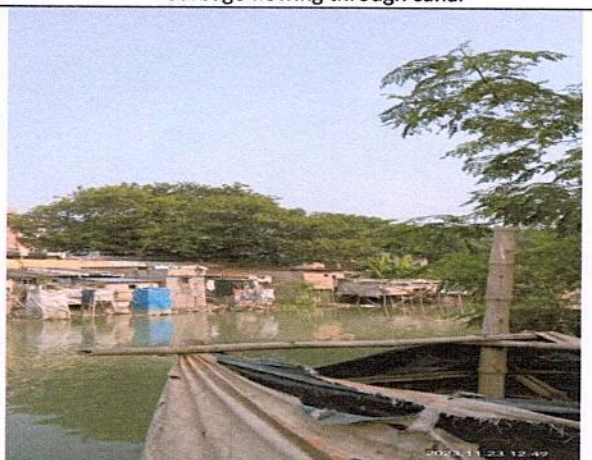
Bathroom constructed along the bank of the canal



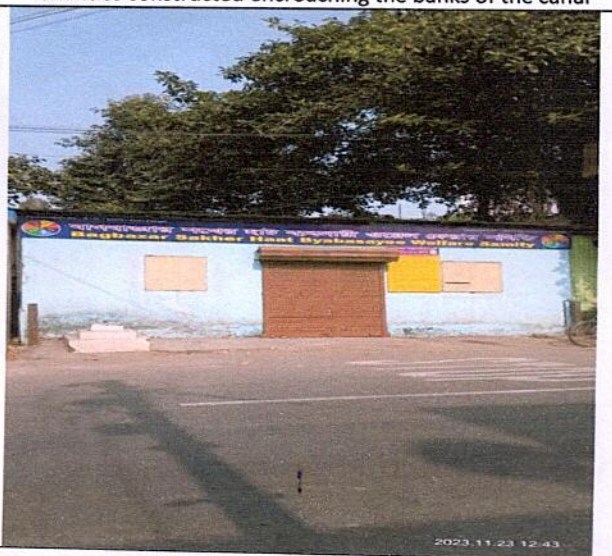
Garbage flowing through canal



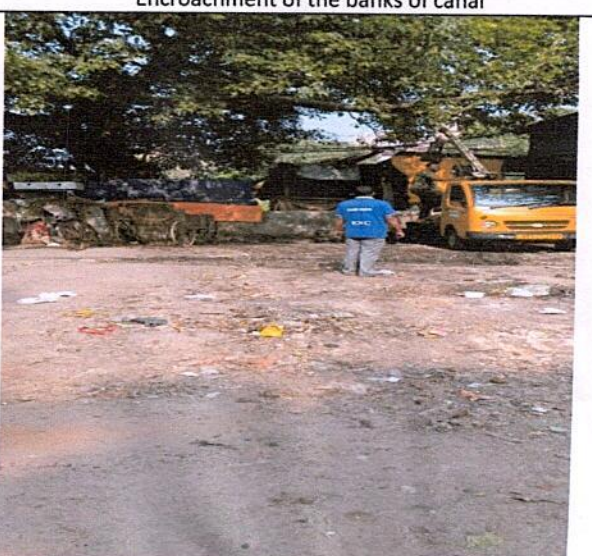
Shanties constructed encroaching the banks of the canal



Encroachment of the banks of canal



Starting point from Barrackpore Bridge



Dumping ground of KMC along bank of canal



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ADVOCATE
HIGH COURT , CALCUTTA