

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
EASTERN ZONE BENCH, KOLKATA**

**ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 20 /2022/EZ**

**SUPROVA PRASAD**

..... APPLICANT(S)

**VERSUS**

**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT FOREST  
& CLIMATE CHANGE & ORS.**

..... RESPONDENT(S)

**AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF THE RESPONDENT NO. 03 THE  
WEST BENGAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD.**

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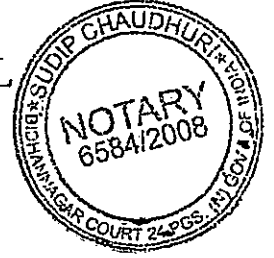
Filed by

*Dipanjjan Ghosh*

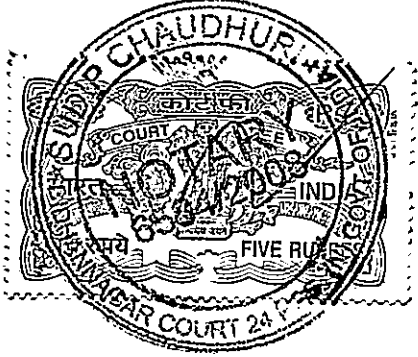
**DIPANJAN GHOSH  
ADVOCATE  
HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA**

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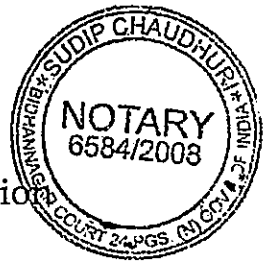
AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF THE RESPONDENT NO. 03 THE  
WEST BENGAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD.

Most Respectfully Sheweth

I, Sri Tapas Kumar Gupta, son of Sri Late Priyashankar Gupta, aged about 61 years, by Religion - Hindu, by Occupation-Service, working for gain at West Bengal Pollution Control Board, having office at 10A, Block - LA, Salt Lake City, Kolkata - 700106, do hereby solemnly declare and say as follows:-

29 MAR 2022

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01. That, I am the Chief Technical Advisor, West Bengal Pollution Control Board (hereinafter will be referred to as the 'State Board') and look after this case and as such I am well acquainted with the facts and circumstances of the case. I have been duly authorized by the Respondent No. 03 to affirm this Affidavit on its behalf and as such, I am competent to do so.

02. That, this affidavit is being affirmed in pursuance to the solemn order passed by the Hon'ble Tribunal dated 16.02.2022.

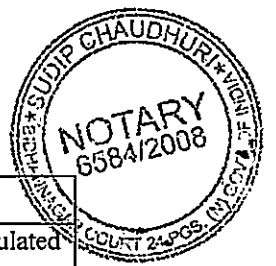
03. That, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal vide order dated 16.02.2022, constituted a Committee comprising of :-

- 1) Senior Scientist from the Central Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Kolkata.
- 2) Senior Scientist from the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation.
- 3) Dr. Tapas Kumar Gupta, Chief Technical Advisor, WBPCB.

The said Committee was directed to inspect the ghats in question and submit report along with complete Action Plan for restoration of remedial measures to prevent further pollution in the river Hooghly.

04. That, the said Committee inspected six number of ghats along the river Hooghly namely Ahiritola Ghat, Nimtala Ghat, Mayer Ghat, Sutanuti Ghat, Kumortuli Ghat and Cossipore Ghat on 22.03.2022. The findings obtained from each ghat reads as follows :-

29 MAR 2022



Name of Ghat	Findings
i) Cosipore Ghat (Sarbamangala Ghat)	Overall Cleanliness is maintained in the ghat. No accumulated garbage was found near the ghat. Twin litter bins were found at the entry of the ghat. Anti-littering message was found displayed. Garbage from twin bins are collected & disposed on regular basis by KMC. At the left side of the ghat one no. DWF/SWF sewer line was found having penstock gate installed. Some seepage was noticed during inspection from that drain. During inspection the Committee members noticed that religious activities were being performed by General Public.
ii) Mayer Ghat	Overall Cleanliness is maintained in the ghat. No accumulated garbage was found near the ghat. Twin litter bins were found at the entry of the ghat. Anti-littering message was found displayed. Garbage from twin bins are collected & disposed on regular basis by KMC. No DWF sewer line noticed. During inspection the Committee members noticed that religious activities were being performed by General Public.
iii) Sutanuti Ghat	It is a very small ghat situated beside electrical crematorium of Kashi Mitra Ghat operated by KMC. Twin litter bins and displaying of anti-littering message were also noticed. Ghat was found clean and any type of garbage accumulation was not noticed in and around the ghat. No DWF sewer line noticed. During inspection the Committee members noticed that religious activities were being performed by General Public.
iv) Kumortuli Ghat	Overall Cleanliness is maintained in the ghat. No accumulated garbage was found near the ghat. Twin litter bins were found at the entry of the ghat. Anti-littering message was found displayed. Garbage from twin bins are collected & disposed on regular basis by KMC. No DWF sewer line was noticed. During inspection the Committee members noticed that religious activities were being performed by General Public.
v) Ahiritola Ghat	It is a big ghat. KMC officials informed that this ghat is used for bathing purpose only. Overall Cleanliness is maintained in the ghat. No accumulated garbage was found near the ghat. Twin litter bins were found at the entry of the ghat. Anti-littering message was found displayed. Garbage from twin bins are collected & disposed on regular basis by KMC. No DWF sewer line was noticed near the ghat. Separate bathing facility exists in this ghat. During inspection the Committee members noticed that religious activities were being performed by General Public.
vi) Nimtala Ghat	It is a big ghat, situated beside electrical and wood fired crematorium of Nimtala Mahasashan operated by KMC. Overall cleanliness is maintained in the ghat. No accumulated garbage was found near the ghat. Twin litter bins were found at the entry of the ghat. Anti-littering message was found displayed. Garbage from twin bins are collected & disposed on regular basis by KMC. No DWF sewer line was noticed nearby ghat. During inspection the Committee members noticed that religious activities were being performed by General Public.

29 MAR 2022

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After the Field visit the Committee members assembled at the Conference Hall of Kolkata Municipal Corporation in their main Building, 5, S.N. Banerjee Road, Kolkata-13. On behalf of the KMC, Mr. Debashish Kar, DG-Parks & Square made a presentation about the activities and management programme of different ghats, Solid Waste Management and Liquid Waste Management. DG-Civil, DG-S & D and other senior officials were also present in the meeting and interacted with the committee members.

As regards Solid Waste Management, KMC is having following activities:

Waste generation : 4500 Ton per day(TPD)

Processing facilities :

Windrow Composting - 500 TPD

Organic Waste Converter (OWC) - 2 TPD

Plastic waste processing - 2 TPD

Construction and Demolition Waste - 500 TPD ( at Pathuriaghata treatment plant under construction)

Bio-CNG Plant at Dhapa - 5 TPD ( Under Construction)

Other processing facilities like Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT), In vessel composting, Material Recovery Facility (MRF) will be taken up after reclamation of land at Dhapa & Garden Reach.

Bio-mining project at Dhapa: 3,10,803.314 MT removed till date and Bio-mining project at Garden Reach: Work order issued.

As regards Liquid Waste Management under the jurisdiction of KMC area are as follows:

Total Sewage generation = 1400 MLD

(i) Sewage treated naturally in fisheries of (East Kolkata Wetland) EKW = 910 MLD

(ii) Sewage treated in existing five numbers of STP- 179 MLD

Name of STP	Capacity (MLD)
Bangur STP	52
Gardenreach STP	57
Baghajatin STP	15
South Suburban (Keorapukur) STP	45
Hatisur STP	10

STP under construction = 85 MLD (Under KEIIP)

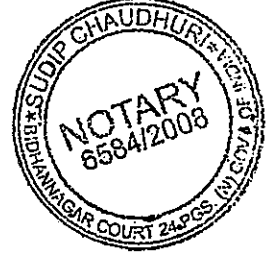
STP for which Tender Invited = 49 MLD (Under KEIIP Tender 23 MLD & Tolly Nullah 26.06 MLD)

Proposed STP under KEIIP = 70 MLD (Tranche – 3, STP of approx. 70 MLD is under consideration for Ward 108, 109 and Ward 110).

Remarks:

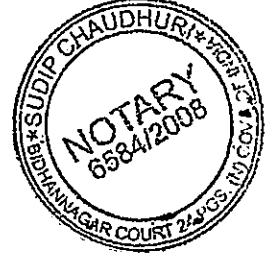
A considerable portion of the sewage is treated in Septic Tanks in added areas i.e. areas of Brough – XI, XII, XIII, XIV and XVI.

29 MAR 2022



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It may be mentioned here that Urban Development & Municipal Affairs Dept, Govt of West Bengal submitted a synopsis of the report regarding total sewage generation and its management plan for the State of West Bengal before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Eastern Zone Bench, Kolkata by an affidavit sworn on 08/12/2021 in connection with O.A. no. 14/2017/EZ.



05. That, the synopsis of the report reads as follows :-

**Overall status of the State:**

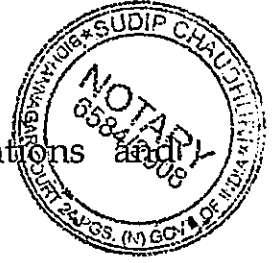
- I. Total Population: Urban Population & Rural Population: 10.09 Cr.**  
**(3.09 Cr. Urban population & 7 cr. Rural population)**  
**(estimated population for 2020)**  
**(Source: www.census2011.co.in)**
- II. Estimated Sewage Generation (MLD):**
- a. **2758 MLD (Urban area)**  
**1400 MLD (Rural area)**
- b.
- III. Details of Sewage Treatment Plant (Urban Area):**
- a. Existing no. of operational STPs including East Kolkata Wetland in **31(474.69+910)**  
Kolkata City and Treatment Capacity (in MLD): **(1384.69 MLD)**
- b. No. of STPs under construction **9 (303.25 MLD)**
- c. No. of STPs under renovation **18(334.96 MLD)**
- d. No. of STPs under proposal/tender stage **21 (351 MLD)**
- IV. Gap in Treatment Capacity in Urban area as on 31.03.2021. 2758-2381.9=376.1**
- V. Capacity utilization of Existing STP (291+910) =1201 MLD**

Sewage treated through Alternate technology at Jangipur drain **8 MLD**  
(which is one of the identified 56 Polluted major drain) as an interim measure is included in the figure 2381.9 MLD

**(In other 55 drains which are within the tidal zone and therefore bio/phyto remediation as interim measure is not feasible and the same has been approved by CPCB)**

- VI. Proposal for setting up of new STPs in 16 Ganga Towns and capacity augmentation of existing STPs, amounting to Rs. 2,885 crores under Namami Gange –II (2021-2023) have been sent to NMCG by PD SPMG on 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2021. This will create an additional capacity of 550 MLD. Therefore, the GAP of 376.1 MLD will be bridged by this 550MLD (Estimated Population– 2036).**

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06. That, the Committee made the following observations and recommended the way forward :-

- a) KMC should take necessary measures to repair the penstock gate at DWF/SWF sewer line near Cossipore Ghat to minimize the Seepage.
- b) Regular garbage cleaning is to be ensured by KMC.
- c) IEC material display along with Public address system in strategic locations of Ghats has to be permanent in nature & to be maintained by KMC and KoPT.
- d) All the ghats should have proper sanitation facilities.
- e) Shyama Prasad Mookerjee Port Trust (formerly KoPT) being the custodian of the land on shores within 47.5 meter of high water (as indicated in the order of Hon'ble NGT dated 13/09/2017 in connection with O.A No. 08/2015/EZ) should take necessary measures to maintain overall cleanliness and environmental aspect of different ghats and banks of the River Hooghly in association with concerned Urban Local Bodies.

Copy of the Report of the Committee dated 23.03.2022 is annexed herewith and marked with letter "R".

07. 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.

Tapas Ks. Saha  
DEPONENT

Identified by me

*Dipankar Ghosh*

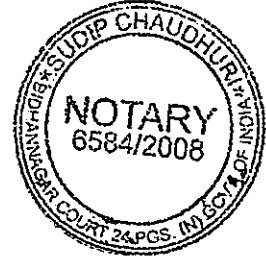
Advocate

WBPCB

29 MAR 2022

BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC  
AT BIDHANNAGAR  
DIST.-NORTH 24 PARGANAS

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VERIFICATION



I, Sri Tapas Kumar Gupta, son of Sri Late Priyashankar Gupta, aged about 61 years, by Religion - Hindu, by Occupation- Service, working for gain at West Bengal Pollution Control Board, having office at 10A, Block - LA, Salt Lake City, Kolkata - 700106, do hereby solemnly declare and say as follows:-

1. That, I am the Chief Technical Advisor, 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 6 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.

Identified by me

*Dipankar Ghosh*

Advocate

WBPCB

*S. Chaudhuri*  
S. CHAUDHURI  
\* NOTARY \*  
GOVT. OF INDIA  
Regd. No.-6584/08  
Bidhannagar Court  
Dist.-North 24 Pgs.

*Tapas K. Gupta*  
DEPONENT

29 MAR 2022

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**Brief description of the complaint of with Original Application No. 20/2022/EZ:**

Large scale pollution at various ghats in the river Hooghly and huge amount of untreated sewage is discharged into the river Hooghly.

**Formation of the Committee:**

Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Eastern Zone Bench has constituted a three member committee comprising a senior scientist from CPCB, a Senior Scientist from the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation and Dr. T. K. Gupta, CTA, WBPCB vide order dated 16.02.2022 in connection with above O.A. Accordingly, a committee was formed comprising following officials:

1. Sri Vijay Kumar Yadav, NMCG, New Delhi, Member of the Committee
2. Dr. Tapas Kumar Gupta, Chief Technical Advisor, WBPCB, Nodal officer of the committee
3. Sri Sandeep Roy, Scientist 'D', CPCB, Member of the Committee

The committee had its meeting on 17/03/2022 & 23/03/2022 at WBPCB, Kolkata. The meeting is attended by Nominated committee members and senior officials from SUDA and KMC.

As decided during the meeting, the committee visited the alleged sites (6 Nos of Ghats) along the River Hooghly on 22/03/2022 with senior officials from SUDA and KMC followed by meeting at KMC, H.O. Kolkata.

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## INSPECTION REPORT

<b>Reference of Inspection</b>	Order of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Eastern Zone Bench dated 16.02.2022 in connection with Original Application No. 20/2022/EZ
<b>Site of Inspection</b>	Six no. Ghats along the River Hooghly as mentioned in the order- i)Ahiritola Ghat, ii)Nimtala Ghat, iii)Mayer Ghat, iv)Sutanuti Ghat, v)Kumortuli Ghat vi) Cosipore Ghat
<b>Date of inspection</b>	22/03/2022
<b>Inspecting officials</b>	<b>Committee Members:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sri Vijay Kumar Yadav, Civil Engineer, NMCG, New Delhi.</li><li>• Sri Sandeep Roy, Scientist 'D',CPCB- RD, Kolkata.</li><li>• Dr. Tapas Kumar Gupta, Chief Technical Advisor, WBPCB, Nodal Officer.</li></ul> Following Officials from respective Departments were also present during the site visit: <b>SUDA Official:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sri Rajib Mukherjee, Executive Engineer, SUDA, Govt. of W.B.</li></ul> <b>WBPCB Officials:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sri Bimalendu Mal, EE, Kolkata R.O.</li><li>• Sri Nayan Das, AEE, Salt Lake R.O.</li></ul> <b>KMC Officials:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sri Somenath Sen, OSD &amp; Ex-officio Dy. C.E., Parks &amp; Square</li><li>• Sri Utpal Mistry,Dy. Chief Engineer, Solid Waste Management</li><li>• Sri Anirban Mukherjee, Executive Engineer, Sewerage &amp; Drainage</li><li>• Sri Kalyan Das, Executive Engineer, Environment &amp; Heritage</li><li>• Sri Anup Sarkar, Executive Engineer, Environment &amp; Heritage</li><li>• Sri Chanchal Kr. Dutta, Executive Engineer, SWM</li></ul>

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*\*Photographs taken during site visit is annexed*

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The Synopsis of report is as follows:

**Overall status of the State:**

- I. Total Population: Urban Population & Rural Population: 10.09 Cr.  
(3.09 Cr. Urban population & 7 cr. Rural population)  
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(Source: [www.census2011.co.in](http://www.census2011.co.in))
- II. Estimated Sewage Generation (MLD):
- a. 2758 MLD (Urban area)  
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- a. Existing no. of operational STPs including East Kolkata Wetland 31(474.69+910)  
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  - b. No. of STPs under construction 9 (303.25 MLD)
  - c. No. of STPs under renovation 18(334.96 MLD)
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- IV. Gap in Treatment Capacity in Urban area as on 31.03.2021. 2758-2381.9=376.1
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(which is one of the identified 56 Polluted major drain) as an  
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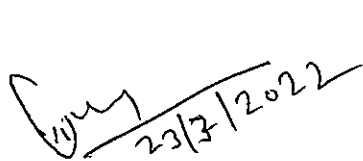
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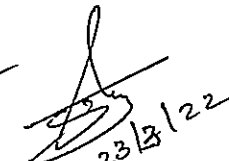
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**Observations & way forward:-**

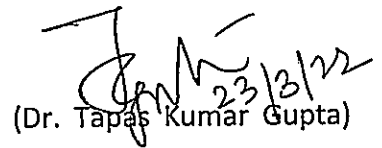
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23/3/2022

(Vijay Kumar Yadav)  
Civil Engineer, NMCG  
MoJS, Govt of India

  
23/3/22

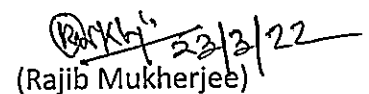
(Sandeep Roy)  
Scientist 'D', CPCB

  
23/3/22

(Dr. Tapas Kumar Gupta)  
Chief Technical Advisor,  
WBPCB & Nodal Officer

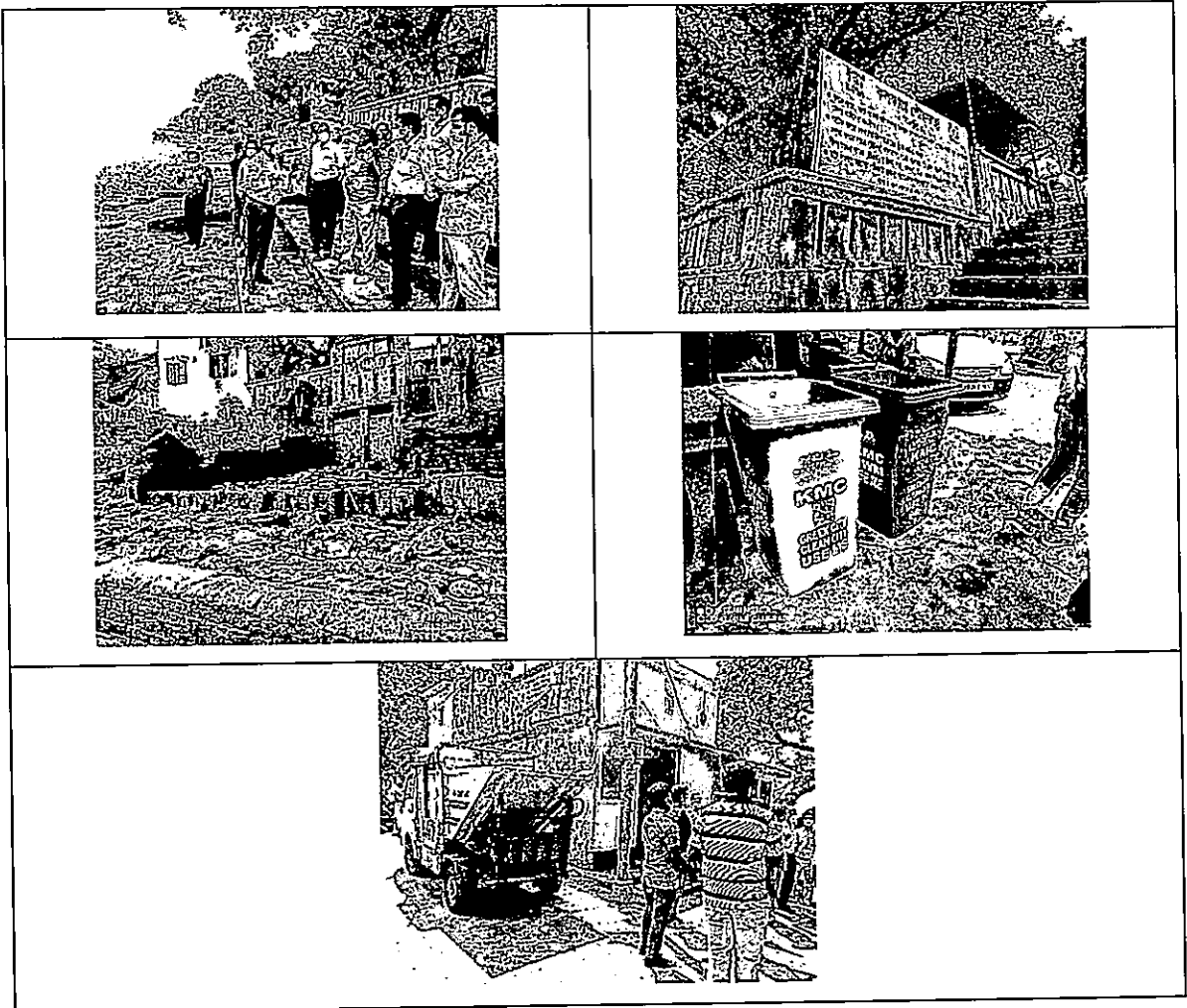
  
(Bimalendu Mal) 29/3/22

EE, WBPCB

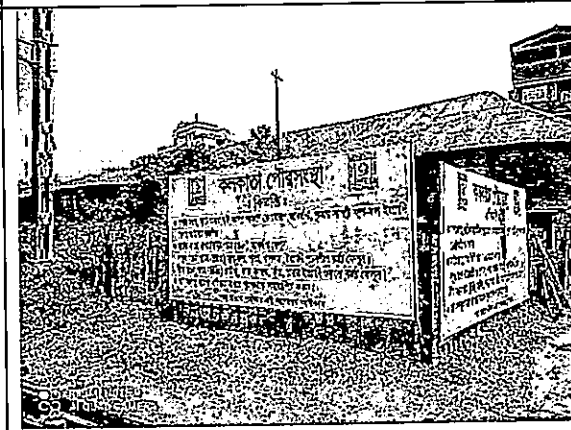
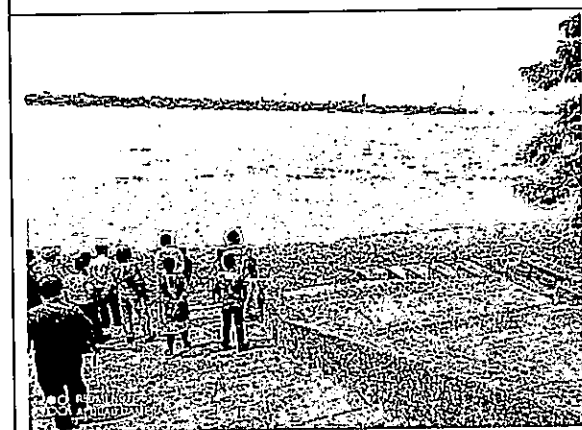
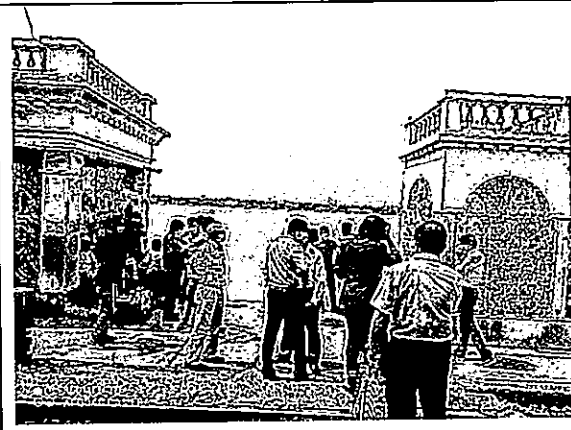
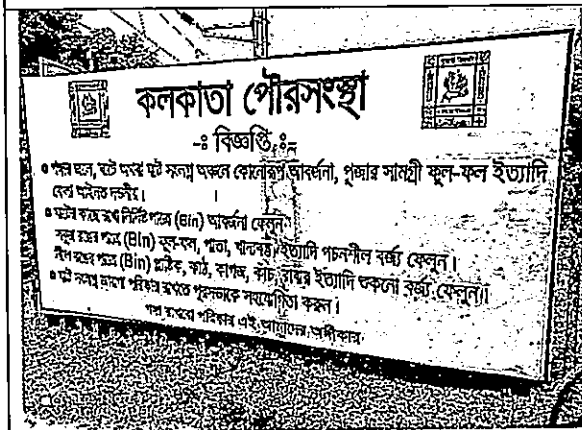
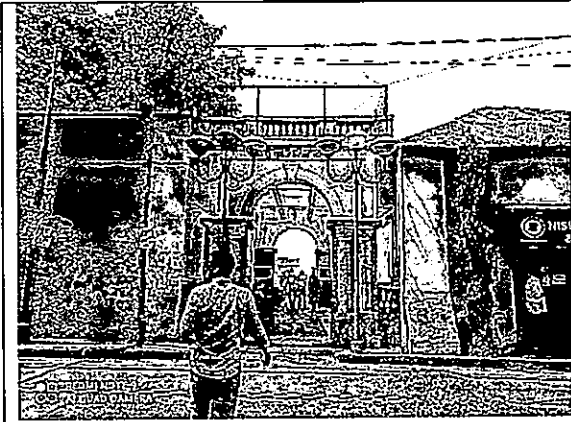
  
23/3/22

Executive Engineer,  
SUDA, Govt. of W.B.

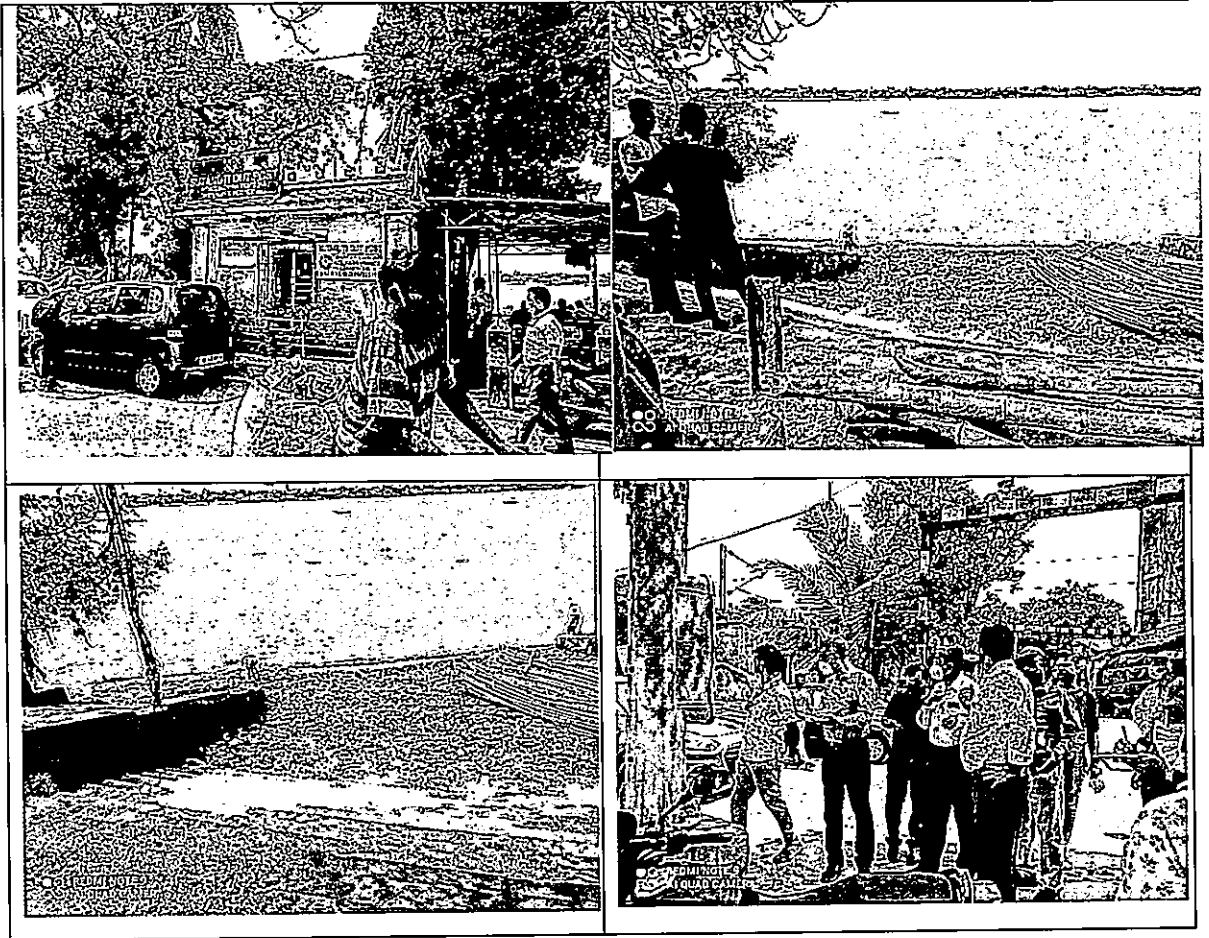
i) Cosipore Ghat (Sarbamangala Ghat)



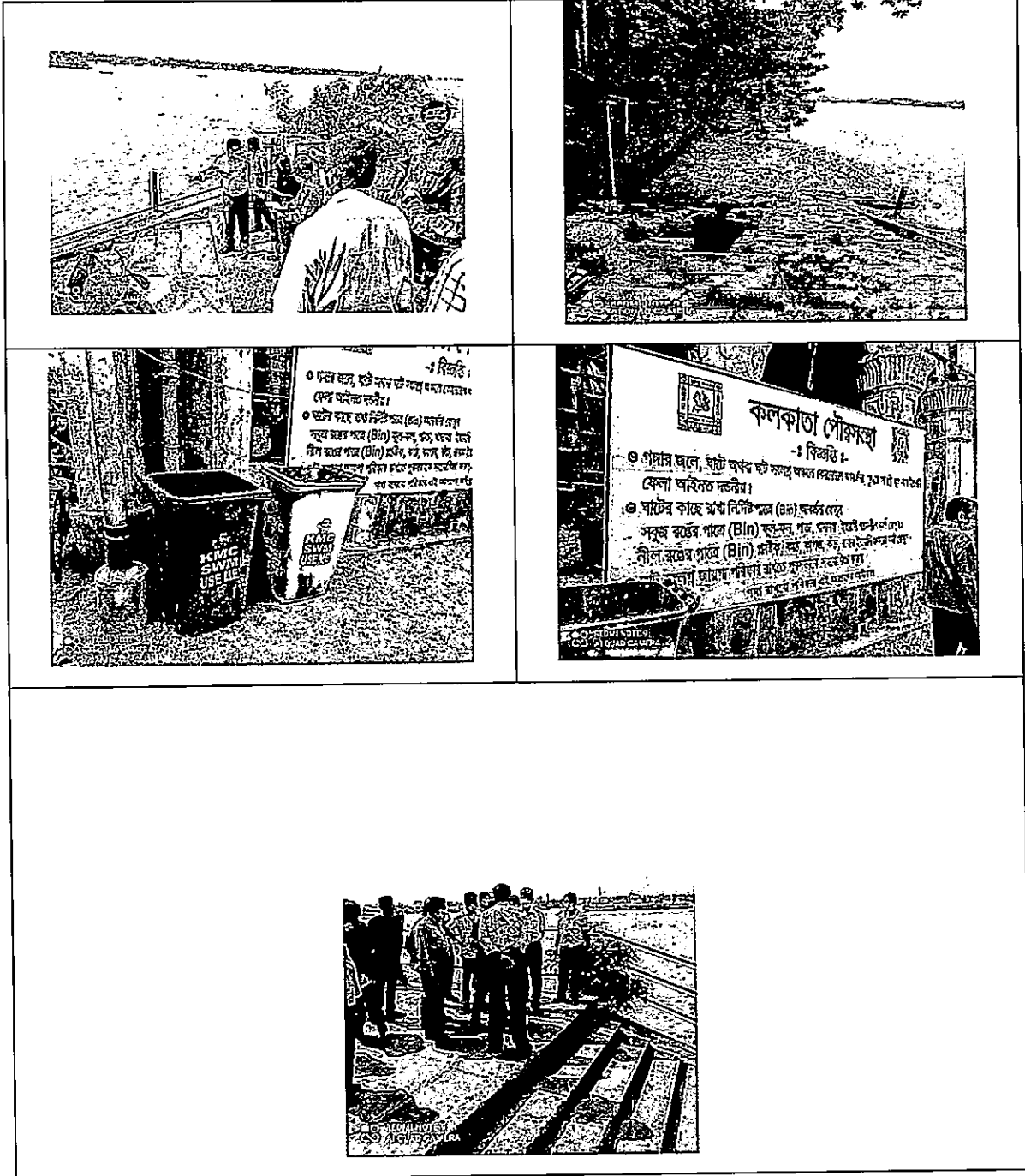
ii) Mayer Ghat



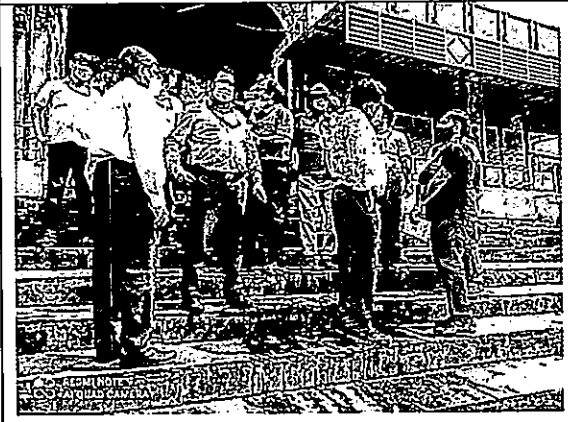
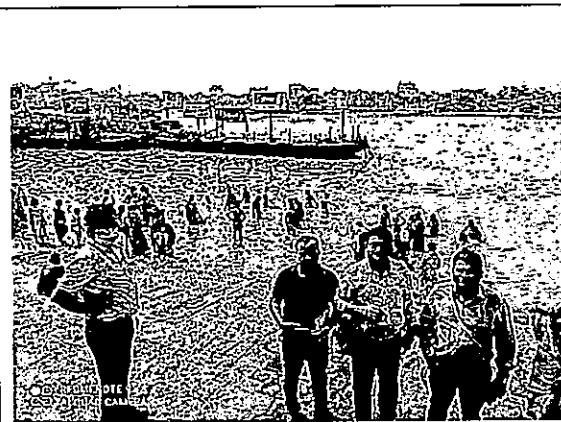
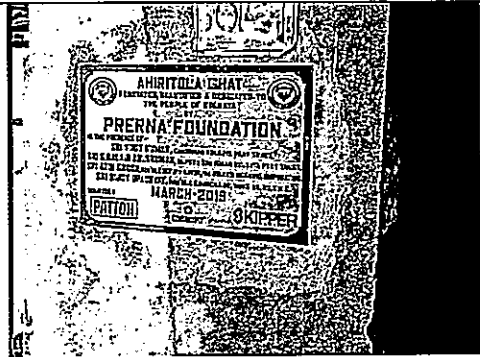
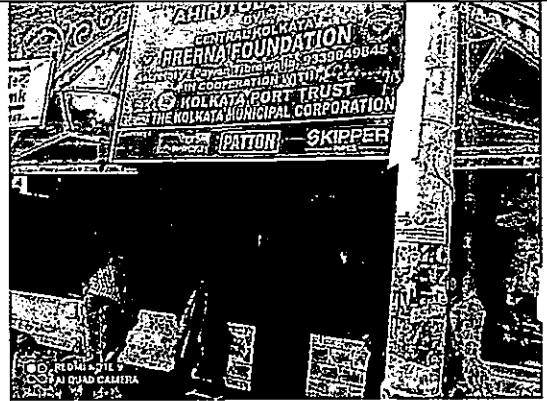
iii) Sutanuti Ghat



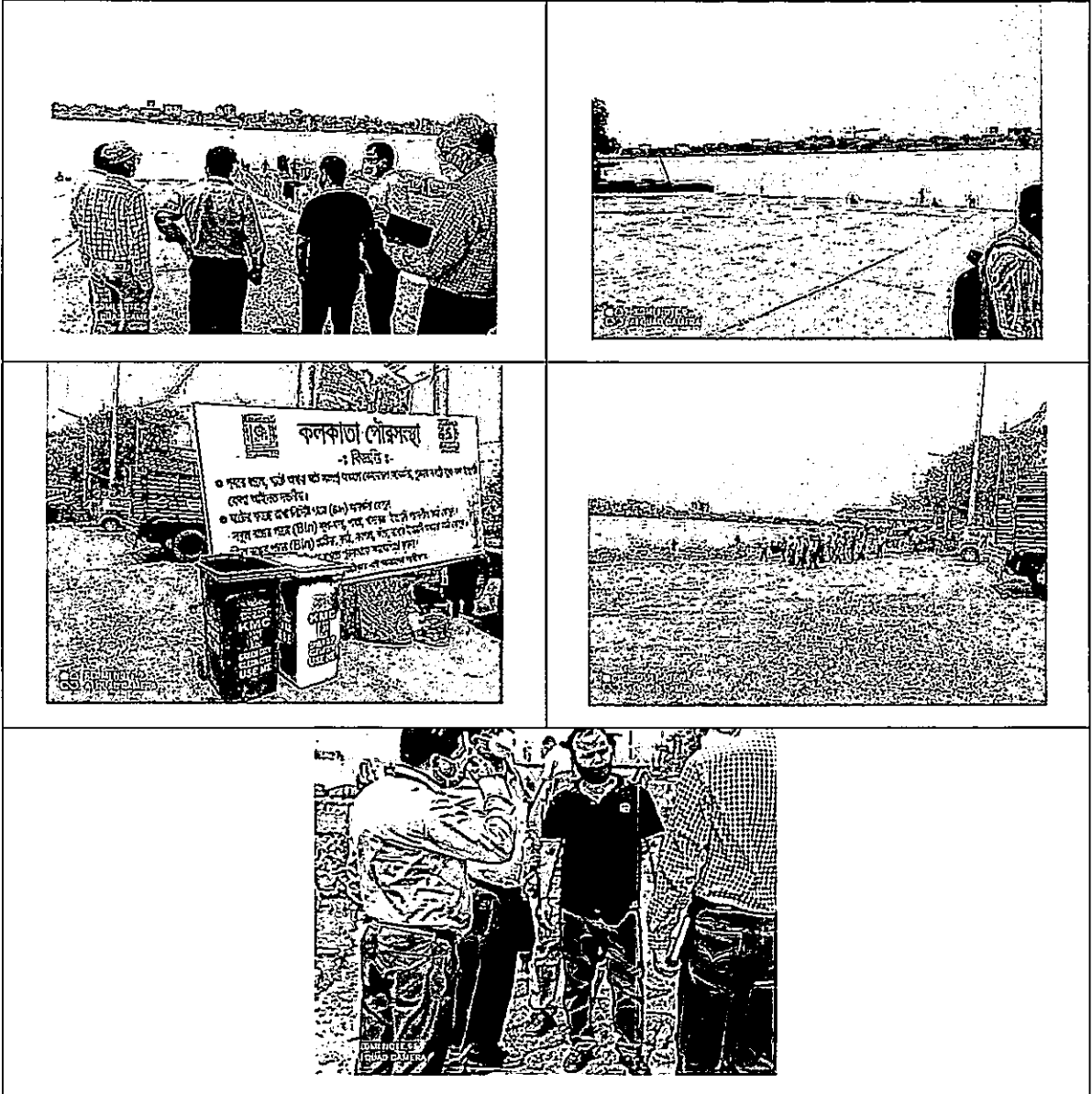
iv) Kumortuli Ghat



v) Ahiritola Ghat



vi) Nimtala Ghat



BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
EASTERN ZONE BENCH, KOLKATA

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 20 /2022/EZ

SUPROVA PRASAD

..... APPLICANT(S)

VERSUS

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT FOREST &  
CLIMATE CHANGE & ORS.

..... RESPONDENT(S)

AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF THE RESPONDENT  
NO. 03 THE WEST BENGAL POLLUTION  
CONTROL BOARD.

DIPANJAN GHOSH  
ADVOCATE  
HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA