

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL,
EASTERN ZONE BENCH KOLKATA**

Original Application No. 20/2022/EZ

Suprova Prasad

..... Applicant(s)

-Versus-

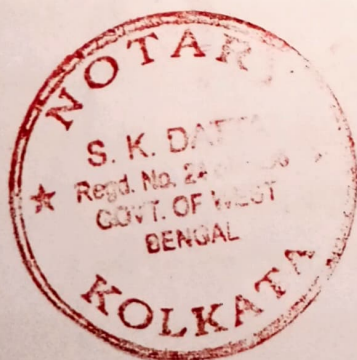
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change & Ors.

.....Respondent(s)

**AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF RESPONDENT NO. 10, URBAN
DEVELOPMENT & MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT,
GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**

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Sibajyoti Chakraborty
S. Chakraborty

Advocate

19 MAY 2023

1

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**AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF RESPONDENT NO. 10, URBAN
DEVELOPMENT & MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT,
GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**

Most Respectfully Sheweth:

I, Nandini Ghosh, daughter of Samir Dasgupta, aged about 54 years, by occupation - service, working for gain as Senior Special Secretary, Urban Development and Municipal Affairs Department, Government of West Bengal, having office at 'Nagarayan', DF -8, Sector - 1, Saltlake, Kolkata - 700064, do hereby solemnly affirm and state as under:-

1. That I am the Senior Special Secretary, Urban Development and Municipal Affairs Department, Government of West Bengal. I am well acquainted with the facts and circumstances of the case and I have been duly authorized to affirm this affidavit on behalf of the Principal Secretary, Urban Development & Municipal Affairs Department, Government of West Bengal.
2. That I say that the Hon'ble NGT, has been pleased to pass an order dated 20.04.2023 directing *inter alia* that "...*Learned Counsel for the parties inform that (i) Kamarhati Municipality, (ii) Panihati Municipality, (iii) Bally Municipality, (iv) Baranagar Municipality and (v) Uttarpara-Kotrung*



Municipality are necessary parties to the Original Application as substantial part of the Ghat falls in these Municipalities also.

The Applicant is permitted to implead the aforesaid Municipalities in the array of Respondents as Respondent No.14 i.e., Kamarhati Municipality; through its Chairman, Respondent No.15 i.e., Panihati Municipality; through its Chairman, Respondent No.16 i.e., Bally Municipality; through its Chairman, Respondent No.17 i.e., Baranagar Municipality; through its Chairman, and Respondent No.18 i.e., Uttarpara-Kotrung Municipality; through its Chairman.

.... List on 22.05.2023..”.

3. That I say that considering the importance and gravity of the instant matter and for the better representation before the Hon'ble NGT and for taking appropriate and suitable measures therefore Senior Special Secretary, Department of UD & MA has conducted a meeting on 17.05.2023 with all the concerned stakeholders of Kamarhati Municipality, Panihati Municipality, Bally Municipality, Baranagar Municipality, Uttarpara-Kotrung Municipality, WBSPMG, Kolkata Metropolitan Development Authority (KMDA) & State Urban Development Agency (SUDA). Necessary instructions have also been given to all the stakeholders, for pollution abatement in river Hooghly (Ganga) with regard to Solid Waste Management, Liquid Waste Management, beautification, development, maintenance and restitution/ restoration of the ghats on the banks of the river Hooghly (Ganga).

The copy of the Minutes of the meeting dated 17.05.2023 has been attached as part of the Affidavit and marked as **Annexure R-1**.

4. That I say that, Department of Urban Development & Municipal Affairs has been taken necessary measures for Solid & Liquid Waste Management programme, IEC activities for abatement of pollution in the River Hooghly. Kolkata Metropolitan Development Authority (KMDA), Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC), Howrah Municipal Corporation (HMC), State Urban



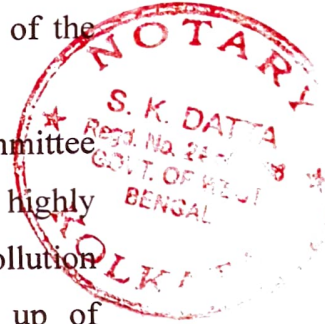
Development Agency (SUDA), Kamarhati Municipality, Panihati Municipality, Bally Municipality, Baranagar Municipality, Uttarpara-Kotrung Municipality and WBSPMG are regularly monitoring the work of Solid and Liquid Waste Management, keeping the ghats on the banks of the River Hooghly clean and free from dirt, filth, garbage and other pollutants. Urban Development and Municipal Affairs Department is giving utmost efforts to take necessary actions to curbing and mitigating the pollution of the River Hooghly (Ganga).

The copy of the reports and photographs as received from concerned Urban Local Bodies (ULBs), SUDA, KMDA, WBSPMG regarding Solid and Liquid Waste Management, ghats, IEC activities has been attached as part of the Affidavit and collectively marked as **Annexure R-2**.

5. That I say that, Urban Development and Municipal Affairs Department and other stake holders are giving utmost efforts towards implementation strategy for beautification, development, maintenance and restitution/ restoration of the ghats on the banks of the river Hooghly (Ganga).

6. Therefore, I humbly pray before your honour's that a Committee comprising all the aforesaid stakeholders of this instant case will be highly helpful for monitoring the timely completion of various ongoing pollution abatement projects, fixing up of implementation strategies, drawing up of beautification, land scaping of ghats, construction of electric crematoria and their installation and other related matters (as was done in the instant case in compliance with the order of Hon'ble NGT dated 01.04.2022 for Kolkata Municipal Corporation).

7. That the statements made in Paragraphs 1 to 6 are based on information derived from the record which are usually kept and maintained by the answering respondents in the ordinary course of business and which I belief to be true and rest thereof are my humble submission before this Hon'ble Tribunal.



L. NO. 02/19/5/20.23

Identified by me
Sibojyoti Chakrabarti
Advocate
for the state of WB

Solemnly Affirmed & Deponent
Nandini Ghosh

Declared before me
on identification of Advocate

SANTOSH KUMAR DATTA
NOTARY
90/1A, Hari Ghosh Street
Kolkata-700006
Regn. No.- 24 of 1996

19 MAY 2023

S. K. DATTA
NOTARY

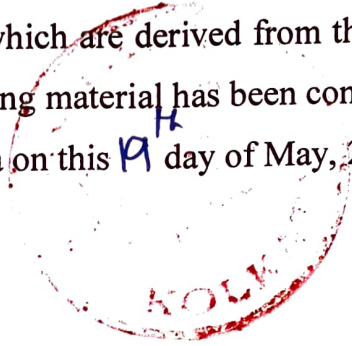
19.5.2023

NANDINI GHOSH, IAS
Senior Special Secretary
Department of Urban Development &
Municipal Affairs
Govt. of West Bengal

VERIFICATION

I, the deponent above named do hereby verify that the contents of the above affidavit are true which are derived from the relevant office records. No part of it is false and nothing material has been concealed there from.

Verified at Kolkata on this 19th day of May, 2023.



Nandini Ghosh

DEPONENT

The deponent is identified by me.

Shriyoti Chakrabarti

Advocate

for The State of WB.

NANDINI GHOSH, IAS
Senior Special Secretary
 Department of Urban Development &
 Municipal Affairs
 Govt. of West Bengal



**Minutes of the Meeting in connection with OA 20/2022/EZ
[Suprova Prasad -vs- Ministry of Environment Forest &
Climate Change and Ors.]**

Ref: River Ghats and Hon'ble NGT order dated 20.04.2023

Date: 17.05.2023	Time: 2.00 p.m.	Venue: 2 nd floor Conference Room, KMDA, Unnayan Bhavan, DJ - 11, Sec - II, Salt Lake, Kolkata - 700091
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List of Participants present in the meeting: Annexure - I

The meeting was chaired by the Senior Special Secretary, Department of Urban Development and Municipal Affairs & Program Director, WBSPMG.

The officials of concerned ULBs, Authority and Department attended the meeting.

At the outset, Senior Special Secretary, Department of Urban Development and Municipal Affairs & PD, WBSPMG welcomed all the participants and initiated the discussion.

The fact of the case bearing OA No. 20/2022/EZ was briefed by Special Law Officer, Department of Urban Development and Municipal Affairs.

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1. The Senior Special Secretary, Department of Urban Development and Municipal Affairs & Program Director, WBSPMG highlighted the objectives of the meeting on the basis of the following agendas:-

- (i) Pollution abatement in river Hooghly (Ganga) with regard to Solid Waste Management, Liquid Waste Management,
- (ii) Beautification, development, maintenance and restitution/ restoration of the ghats on the banks of the river Hooghly (Ganga),
- (iii) Miscellaneous issues.

2. With regard to agenda no. (i) *Pollution abatement in river Hooghly (Ganga) with regard to Solid Waste Management, Liquid Waste Management and (ii) Beautification, development, maintenance and restitution/ restoration of the ghats on the banks of the river Hooghly (Ganga),*

Decision

(a) Concerned ULBs namely, (i) *Kamarhati Municipality*, (ii) *Panihati Municipality*, (iii) *Bally Municipality*, (iv) *Baranagar Municipality* and (v) *Uttarpara-Kotrung Municipality* of Howrah, North 24 Parganas and Hooghly district those have been newly added as Respondents in the instant case bearing OA No. 20/2022/EZ, will look into the matter of cleaning of ghats, screening of drains/outfalls, waste management, plantation of trees around ghats and parks adjacent to river Hooghly (Ganga) and allied matters, and will compile a report along with geo-tagged photographs on aforesaid matters including door to door collection, installation of Single/Double Stand Bins at Ghats, frequency of cleaning of ghats, drains/outfalls, disposal of waste, etc.

[Action: ULBs]

(b) It has been decided that SUDA will also compile a time bound Action Taken Report on solid waste management, details of ghats, drains, outfalls, etc.

[Action: SUDA]

(c) KMDA will compile a time bound Action Taken Report on liquid waste management.

[Action: KMDA]

(d) Concerned ULBs may take necessary action in compliance of the direction of

Hon'ble NGT dated 20.04.2023 and may send the copy of their reports to the Principal Secretary, Department of Urban Development and Municipal Affairs keeping a copy to Senior Special Secretary (NG), Department of UD & MA, & PD, WBSPMG so that the status of compliance may be placed on record before the Hon'ble NGT on behalf of UD & MA Department also.

[Action: ULBs]

- (e) As an interim measure, concerned ULBs may focus on the cleanliness, maintenance and beautification of the banks and ghats of River Hooghly.

[Action: ULBs]

- (f) It has been further decided that concerned officials of the ULBs along with the officials of SUDA & KMDA may visit the banks, ghats and nearby areas of River Hooghly (Ganga) on priority basis so that the following points may be included in the report to be filed before the Hon'ble NGT in River Hooghly (Ganga) case:

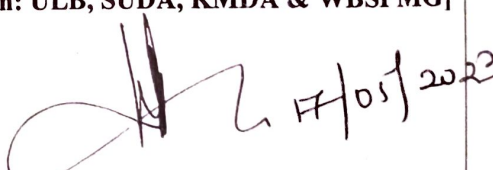
- Checking the sewage drains of the Municipalities.
- Drive for cleaning of plastic.
- Organizing and documenting necessary initiatives taken for keeping the ghats on the banks of the River Hooghly (Ganga) clean and free from dirt, filth, garbage and other pollutants.
- Beautification of the banks and development of ghats of River Hooghly.
- IEC Activities.
- Looking into the matter of crematoria and so that a visible progress may be placed before the Hon'ble NGT.

[Action: ULB, SUDA, KMDA]

3. With regard to agenda no. (iii), since the next hearing of the case being O.A. No. 20/2022/EZ is due on 22.05.2023 Sr. Special Secretary, Department of UD & MA has requested all concerned to provide their time bound Action Taken Report (ATR) as earliest.

[Action: ULB, SUDA, KMDA & WBSPMG]

The meeting was ended with thanks to the chair.


Senior Special Secretary, UD & MA Department
&
Program Director, WBSPMG

NANDINI GHOSH, IAS
Senior Special Secretary
Department of Urban Development &
Municipal Affairs
Govt. of West Bengal

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Annexure-I**List of Participants Present in the Meeting**

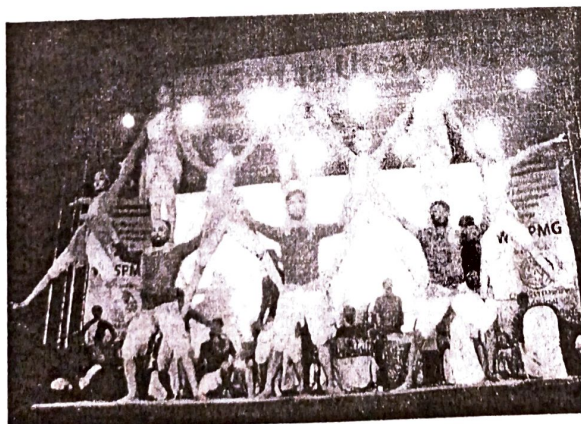
Sl. No.	Name and Designation	Signature
1.	Nandini Ghosh, IAS, Senior Special Secretary, Department of UD & MA, & PD, WBSPMG	Sd/-
2.	Avadh Singhal, IAS, APD, WBSPMG	Sd/-
3.	Representatives of Baranagar Municipality	Sd/-
4.	Representatives of Kamarhati Municipality	Sd/-
5.	Representatives of Bally Municipality	Sd/-
6.	Representatives of Panihati Municipality	Sd/-
7.	Spl. Law Officer, UD & MA department	Sd/-
8.	Prantik Roy, Chief Engineer, GAP Sector, KMDA	Sd/-
9.	Rajib Mukherjee, EE, SUDA	Sd/-
10.	Law Officer(s), UD & MA Department	Sd/-

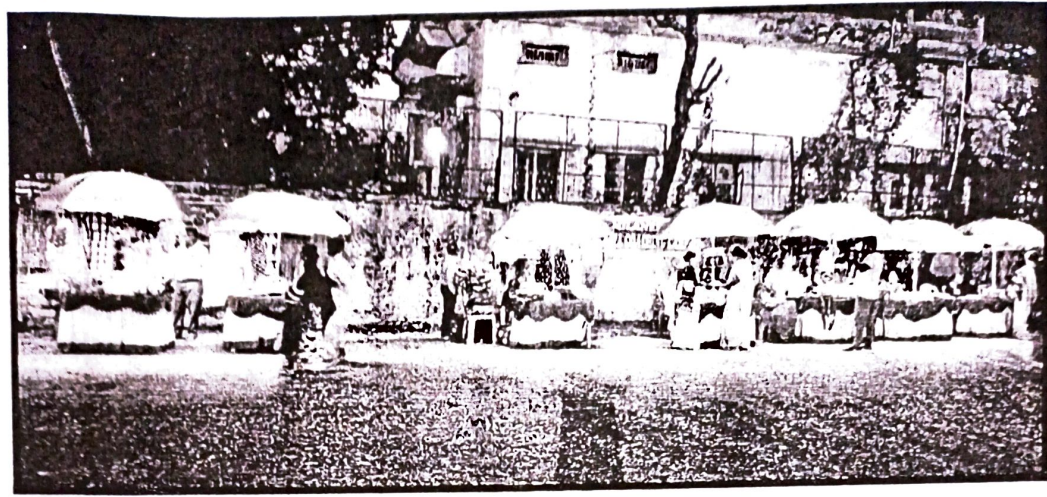
Introduction

As a part of sustained efforts of WBSPMG towards River Pollution Abatement and for the improvement of Eco-System of River Basin including enhancement of water quality, extensive Communication & Public Outreach Activities had been taken up in the Ganga River Basin.

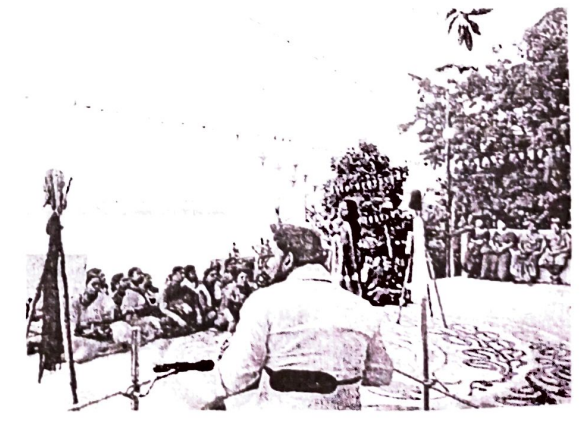
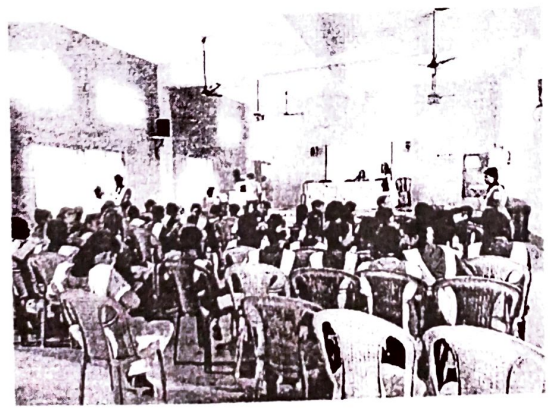
Kamarhati ULB

WBSPMG had conducted large scale Public Outreach Activities in Kamarhati ULB on the financial year 2022-23 towards River Pollution Abatement. On the November, 2022 during the Ganga Utsav, a three day long (15th - 17th November, 2022) mega cultural event had been organized in the Ghats and various Strategic locations (Chandimandir Ghat, Ariadaha, Kamarhati Municipality Campus and other locations) of Kamarhati. Aforesaid event was inaugurated by Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Transport Department, GoWB. Hon'ble Member of Parliament from Dum Dum Lok Sabha Constituency, Hon'ble MLA of Kamarhati Assembly constituency along with the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Councilors of Kamarhati Municipality were attended the event. Musical and Dance performance of famous mainstream artists had been organized to influence people. Folk performances like Chau, Raibeshe, Baul etc. were organized to convey the message of Sustainable Eco-system. Ganga Arati had also been conducted in the Ghats of Kamarhati ULB to make participate the traditional stakeholders in the work of River Rejuvenation. The local students had been involved in large number in Ganga Utsav of Kamarhati with the aim of spreading awareness towards keeping Ganga Clean. Drawing competition, Ganga Quiz were conducted for the students and children. Under the Arth Ganga Component of Namami Gange- II, WBSPMG had organized Ghat pe Haat in Kamarhati area to generate livelihood opportunities.





Sensitization Workshop had been done in the Char Mandir Ghat and Educational Institute (Bharati Bhawan Girls High School, Dakshineswar) of Kamarhati with the large participation of local people and students to ensure River-People Connect.



West Bengal State NGRBA Program Management Group (WBSPMG)

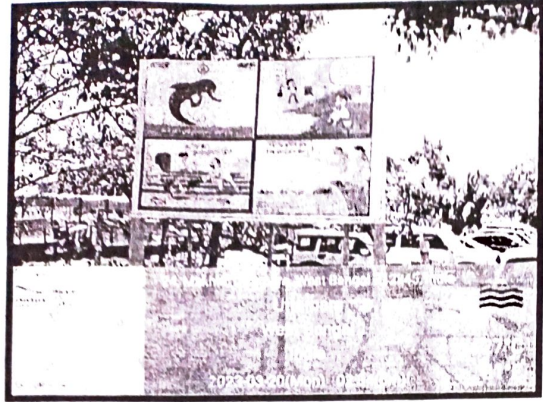
Street Drama had been performed in the Pituri Ghat and Ariadaha Ferry Ghat of Kamarhati to effect Behavioral change of local people toward Waste Management in the year 2022.



Uttarpara-Kotrung ULB

Ghats of Uttarpara-Kotrung ULB under Hoogly district had been Painted with the message of Waste Management. Hoardings had also been installed in Ghats of this Municipality. It attracts local people to be aware about the River Pollution Abatement as well as Bio-diversity in River Ganga.





Panihati ULB

During the second National Ganga Council (NGC) Meeting, held in Kolkata on 30th December, 2022 Hon'ble Prime minister had inaugurated the Panihati STP along with other twenty-one (21) STPs of West Bengal in presence of Hon'ble Chief Minister and Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Jal Shakti Department, GoI. On this occasion, an IEC event had been organized in STP site by the District Ganga Committee of North 24 Parganas to aware people regarding the effort of Government toward Treatment of Wastewater.



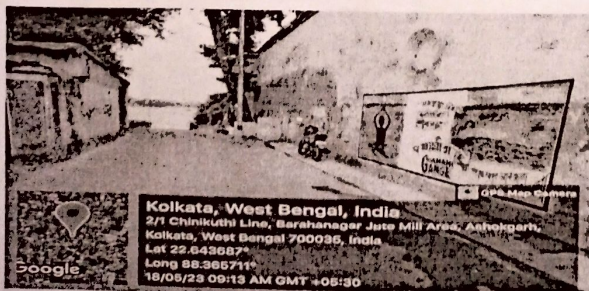
Program Director, WBSPMG

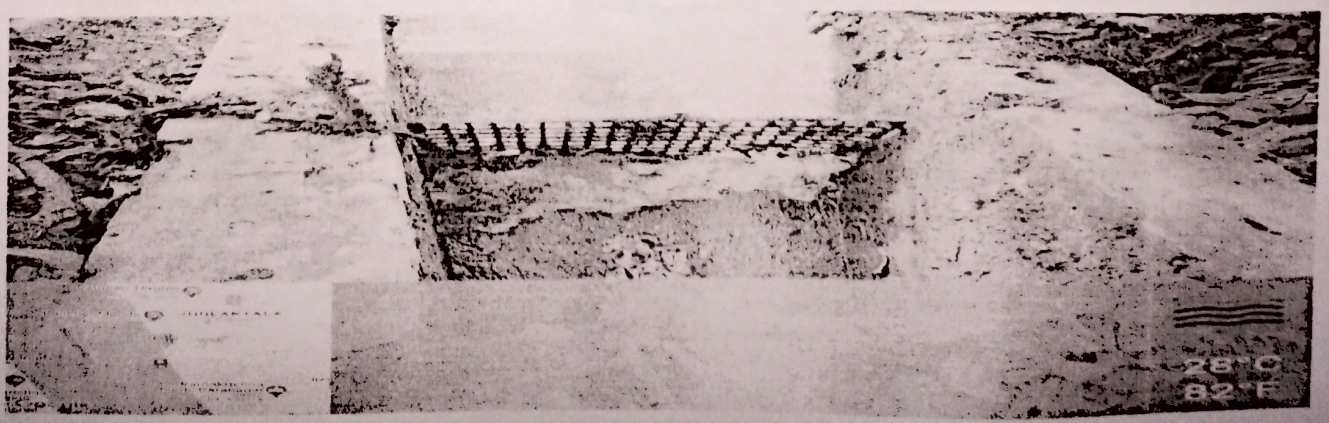
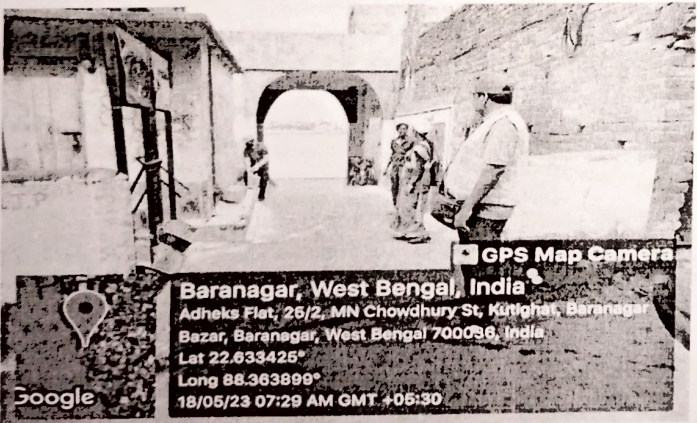
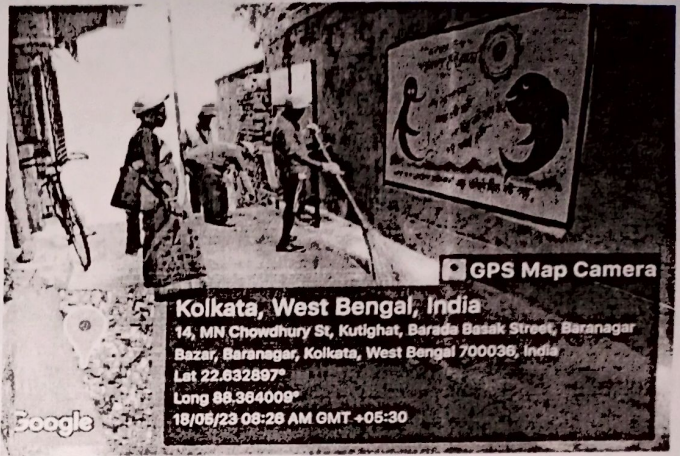
NANDINI GHOSH, IAS
 Program Director
 West Bengal State NGRBA Program
 Management Group (WBSPMG)

1. STATUS OF GHATS AND OUTFALLS/DRAINS

SL No	Name of the ULB	Total Number of Ghats	Frequency of Ghat cleaning	Manpower engaged (Ganga Bandhu) for maintenance of Ghat Cleaning	Total number of Community Bins with stands installed at Ghat	Ghat Beautification Status
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
1	Baranagar	15	Twice a day daily	14 (conservancy stuff)	40 nos. 15 ghats	-

Fund for installation of Bins	Number of Outfalls/drains discharged into River Hooghly (Ganga)		Number of Outfalls where screen already installed	Number of Outfalls where screen not installed	Frequency of drains cleaning	IEC Activity	Remarks
	Pucca	Kacha					
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
₹ 4,08,582 (Rs. 2,36,582/- for bin installation) & (Rs. 1,72,00/- for screen installation)	4	-	4	0	Twice a day daily	IEC board with awareness messege has been erected at 15 ghats. Ganga ghat specific 2 tableaus are there	





GPS Map Camera
Kolkata, West Bengal, India
 14, MN Chowdhury St, Kutighat, Barada Basak Street, Baranagar Bazar, Baranagar, Kolkata, West Bengal 700036, India
 Lat 22.632897°
 Long 88.364009°
 18/05/23 08:28 AM GMT +05:30

GPS Map Camera
Kolkata, West Bengal, India
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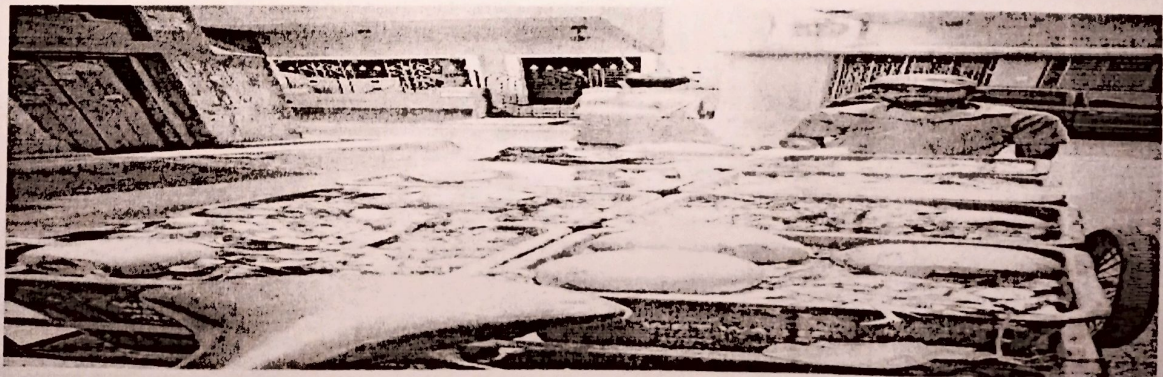
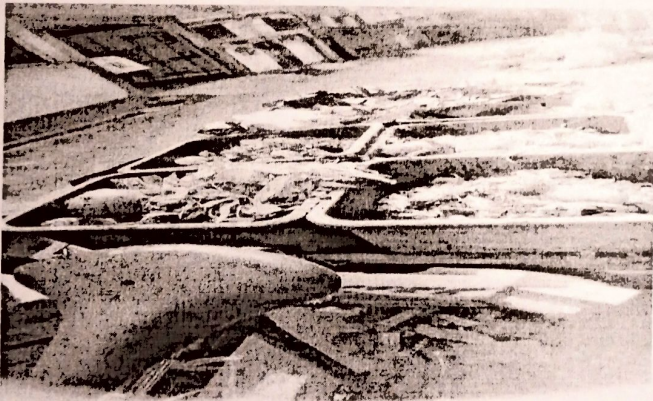
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GPS Map Camera
Kolkata, West Bengal, India
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28°C
82°F

2. SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

SL No	Name of the ULB	Total Number of wards	Number of wards for door to door collection	Segregation status	Quantity waste generation (in TPD)	IEC Activity	Remarks
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.
1	Baranagar	34	34	85%	150 TON	Kitchen stickers-87000, Leaflet-1 lakh, hoarding-2. Required para meetings and training of Nirmal sathis have also been conducted	Fund Required for further activity



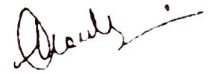
3. Liquid Waste Management - N A

4. IEC Activities Undertaken - A (Ganga ghat): IEC board with awareness messege has been erected at 15 ghats. Ganga ghat specific 2 tableaus are there.

B (SWM): Kitchen stickers-87000, Leaflet-1 lakh, hoarding-2. Required para meetings and training of Nirmal sathis have also been conducted.

5. Status of Electric Crematorium - We have 2 nos. furnace in our electric crematorium. Hence no polluted materials are being discharge into the River Ganga. Further no polluted water also being discharged in the River Ganga since the water is being treated through the chlorination chamber.

6. Use of Treated waste water - Proposed to be used for road washing.



Aparna Moulik
Chairman
Baranagar Municipality

STATUS OF GHATS AND OUTFALLS/DRAINS

Sl No	Name of the ULB	Total Number of Ghats	Frequency of Ghat cleaning	Manpower engaged (Ganga Bandhu) for maintenance of Ghat Cleaning	Total number of Community Bins with stands installed at Ghats	Ghat Beautification Status
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
	Uttarpara-Kotrung Municipality	18	Once in a day	06 Ganga Bandhus, 02 Drivers, 10 Helper, 02 Supervisors	13	Permanent Structure IEC, Park remodelling, sitting arrangement for senior citizens, potted plantation etc.

Fund for installation of Bins	Number of Outfalls/drains discharged into River Hooghly (Ganga)		Number of Outfalls where screen already installed	Number of Outfalls where screen not installed	Frequency of drains cleaning	IEC Activity	Remarks
	Pucca	Kacha					
8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.
Rs. 224174.00	09	NIL	09	NIL	Once in a day	Permanent framed IEC structure, Street drama, Leaflet, Banner etc	
<p align="center">The entire drainage network reversely connected with chaskhal for natural biological treatment process. Only nine old existing outfalls are covered riverbank areas only. All are screened by permanent iron frame and regularly cleaned by GANGA BANDHU.</p>							

**Note: Geo tagged Photographs of Present status of Ghats and IEC Activity enclosed.

1. SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

SI No	Name of the ULB	Total Number of wards	Number of wards for door to door collection	Segregation Status	Quantity of waste generation (in TPD)	IEC Activity	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Uttarpara-Kotrung Municipality	24	24	100%	89.81	Leaflet – 2610; Stickers – 5220; Hoarding – 20; Banner-6; Required para meetings and training of Nirmal Sathis have also been conducted.	

**Note: Geo tagged Photographs of Present status of Ghats and IEC Activity enclosed.

2. Liquid Waste Management:

3. KMDA has currently rejuvenated one STP of 22 MLD under Uttarpara-Kotrung Municipality area which treats the maximum liquid wastes coming from the municipality. KMDA is also maintaining 4 Lifting Stations and 1 MPS. Along with these treatment plants 1 FSTP (Fecal Sludge Treatment Plant) has been proposed to be constructed to the Uttarpara-Kotrung Municipality for the treatment of the Septic Tank Sludge. The DPR is under the review of NMCG, Government of India.

All septic tank sludge is collected by municipal workers. Only mechanical collection was made by three numbers of cesspools emptier (02 numbers of 3000ltr. Capacity, 01 numbers of 1600X2=3200 ltr capacities). 01 number of 12000ltr. Capacity cesspool emptier used for transportation from Uttarpara-Kotrung Municipality to RWMC Baidyabati Municipality for scientific treatment under the KSWMIP project.

4. IEC Activities Undertaken:

Throughout the year several IEC activities were prepared by the municipal end like banner, hording, leaflet, sticker, street corner campaign, tubule, street drama, rally etc.

5. Status of Electric Crematoria:

Two numbers of electrical crematoriums installed at SHIBTALA BURNING GHAT which is situated at Ward no-08.

6. Use of Treated waste water:

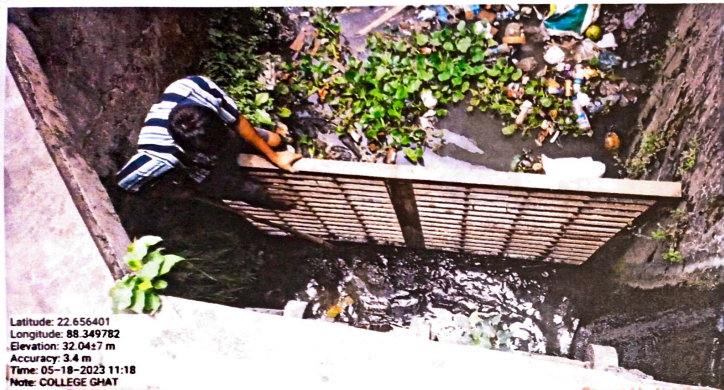
The entire drainage network reversely connected with chaskhal for natural biological treatment process. A 06 MLD Sewage network system installed to cover entire municipal area under GAP phase-I, II and all pumping station are properly functional and operated by KMDA.

**Note: Geo tagged Photographs of Present status of Ghats and IEC Activity enclosed.

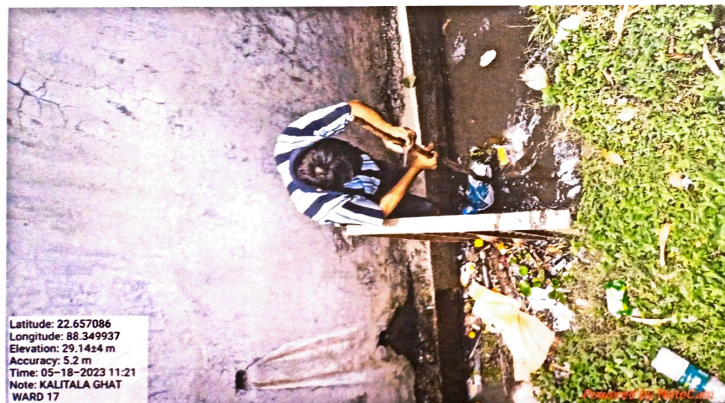
20

Photographs of present status of Outfalls/Drain under Uttarpara-Kotrung Municipality

1016



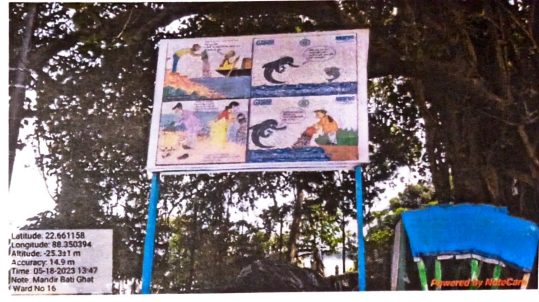
College Ghat



Kallitala Ghat

90

Photographs of present status of Ganga Ghat Bin Stand under Uttarpara-Kotrung Municipality



Photographs of STP Lifting Station under Uttarpara-Kotrung Municipality



Photographs of Door to Door House Collection under Uttarpara-Kotrung Municipality





Photographs of Ganga Ghat cleaning under Uttarpara-Kotrung Municipality



Photographs of IEC under Uttarpara-Kotrung Municipality



No. 7X/042 No-54A, Grand Trunk Rd, Kotrung, Uttarpara, West Bengal 712258, India

Uttarpara
West Bengal
India

31°C
88°F

2023-04-22(Sat) 11:07(am)



MBSX-1949, Kotrung, Uttarpara, West Bengal 712258, India

Uttarpara
West Bengal
India

31°C
88°F

2023-04-22(Sat) 11:21(am)



22/A, Grand Trunk Rd, Kotrung, Uttarpara, West Bengal 712258, India

Uttarpara
West Bengal
India

31°C
88°F

2023-04-22(Sat) 10:25(am)



Uttarpara
West Bengal
India

34°C
93°F

2023-04-22(Sat) 10:54(AM)



