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কলকাতার জন্য
Concern for Calcutta



OA-115/2024/EZ

To
Chief Executive Officer
KMDA, Government of West Bengal
CJ – 164, 2nd Avenue,
DJ Block, Sector – II
Bidhannagar, Unnayan Bhawan,
Kolkata – 700091

25th April 2024

Sir(s)/Madam,

Rabindra Sarobar is a major environmental reserve of Kolkata with the lake ecosystem playing an important role in the urban ecology of the city. In fact the Rabindra Sarobar is an oxygen belt for the residents of South Kolkata. People from all walks of life go to Rabindra Sarobar for walking, jogging, running and doing various other physical and sport activities. There are a few rowing, swimming and sport clubs around Rabindra Sarobar.

Considering its elegance, Rabindra Sarobar was declared as National Lake on 3rd December, 2001 under the National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP) thus praving way for inflow of funds for its beautification, maintenance, protection and preservation from the Government of India.

Rabindra Sarobar is now under the care and custody of KMDA since the year 2017 by reason of merger of erstwhile Calcutta Improvement Trust with the Calcutta Metropolitan Development Authority by reason of insertion of Section 27A in the West Bengal Town and Country (Planning and Development) Act, 1979 to provide for the planned, eco-friendly, holistic and sustainable development without disturbing or sacrificing the existing rich biodiversity of flora and fauna, treasure of plants, shrubs and herbs of medicinal value and unique ecosystems in West Bengal.

We state that since the formation of Rabindra Sarobar, no scientific action has been taken for the removal of sediments of entire lake, which has now become toxic in nature.

Due to deposition of huge quantities of non-bio-degradable materials over the years on the water body, the dissolved oxygen level is now very poor and the water temperature is now above normal.

NGT, EZB, KOLKATA

Receipt No. NGT/EZB/Kol/141

Date 26/04/2024

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Secretariat: AG, 47 Lake Place, Kolkata 700 029

Ph: 2419 8785, Email: cforc1984@gmail.com, Website: www.concernforcalcutta.org.in

Final
Rhatta
26/4/24

To Brijeshji.

Please put up as PG/Kol/141

Nisab
26/04/24



Periodically cleaning of entire lake with proper de-siltation is advisable to up-keep the environment as well as to protect the biodiversity of Rabindra Sarobar.

IOT sensors needed to get the real time feedback on water quality, depth level, water contamination and leakage etc.

We state that earlier KMDA planned to recharge the lake water with liquid oxygen and aerators for improving the DO level but such attempt was not made till now.

Recently it has been observed that the level of water body has substantially gone down to 6 ft. to 10 ft. and the Lake Water depth in the middle is barely 6 feet and all along the Lake bank is hardly 2 ft. Dead fishes are now floating on the water-body and colour of water body has become dark. Non-flowering dark green small plants like Mosses, Algae, Plankton, etc. have now surfaced on the shallow water and are slowly drifting towards the fringe of water-body. Due to such low level water, the fins (metallic structures fitted under the hull) of rowing boats got stuck in the slush when the oars drifted towards the bank. The oars, too, got stuck, causing damage to the boats. Due to scorching heat, water level may further go down which may cause serious ecological problems.

The only source of water so far, it is understood, is "rain water". Previously it has come to our notice there were certain pipelines connected with the River Hooghly to replenish the rain water but due to unknown reasons, such pipelines have been completely locked.

In view of above, we "Concern for Calcutta" a NGO request KMDA to take immediate action for dredging and desiltation and for protection, preservation and conservation of Rabindra Sarobar so that existing bio-diversity of flora and fauna of our National Lake can be well protected and its abundant beauty can be preserved for the present and future generations to come.

We also request you to give us an opportunity at your convenience to explain the urgency in the matter.

Yours Faithfully,

For Concern for Calcutta

Ashok Purohit
President

Om Prakash Jhunjhunwala
Governing Body Member



Copy to:

1. To
Hon'ble Governor of West Bengal
Raj Bhawan, B. B. D. Bag
Kolkata 700 062
2. Smt. Mamta Banerjee
Hon'ble Chief Minister of West Bengal
Nabanna, 325, Sarat Chandra Chatterjee Road,
Shibpur, Howrah – 711102.
3. The Chairman
KMDA, Government of West Bengal
CJ – 164, 2nd Avenue,
DJ Block, Sector – II
Bidhannagar, Unnayan Bhawan,
Kolkata – 700091
4. The Minister of State
National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Ecosystem (NPCA)
Under Ministry of Forest, Environment & Climate Change,
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jorbagh Road
New Delhi 110 003
5. Central Pollution Control Board
Ministry of Environment,
Forest and Climate Change
G97V + H5Q, Kasba New Market,
Sector – E, East Kolkata Township
Kolkata – 700107



6. National Green Tribunal

HFXC+VR5, Kadampukur Village, New Town, Ghuni.,
West Bengal, Pin-700 156