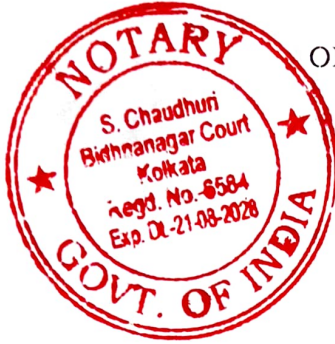


BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC
AT BIDHANAGAR
DIST.-NORTH 24 PARAGANAS

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

EASTERN ZONE BENCH, KOLKATA

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 235/2024/EZ



In The Matter of:

Ankur Sharma

... Applicant

Versus

State of West Bengal & Ors.

... Respondents

SL. NO. 2081/2025

AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF THE RESPONDENT NUMBER 07, KOLKATA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION.

INDEX

SL	PARTICULARS	ANNEXURE	PAGE
1.	Affidavit		1-6
2.	Photocopy of the Report of the Fact Finding Committee along with Annexure and Colored Photographs are collectively annexed	'R-1'	7-23

Filed by

SIBOJYOTI CHAKRABARTI

Advocate

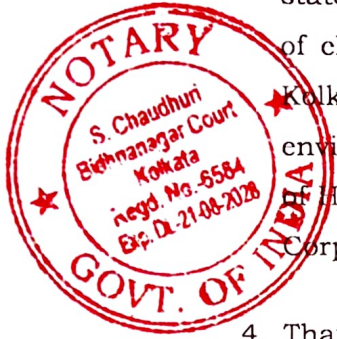
For The Kolkata Municipal Corporation

Email: subho.advocate@gmail.com

(M): 9007035534

20 FEB 2025

2. That this affidavit is filed in compliance to the Solemn Order dated 02.01.2025, passed by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Eastern Zone Bench, Kolkata.
3. That the instant original application relates to seeking directions upon the civic body to install pyre fumes collection system in Crematoriums throughout the twin cities of Howrah and Kolkata to control pollution generated by traditional wood pyre cremation method. That it is also stated in the original application that air pollution caused by furnaces of electric cremation incinerators in different places of Howrah and Kolkata emitting thick black smoke into the air thereby causing environmental pollution. A list of Crematoriums within the jurisdiction of Howrah Municipal Corporation (H.M.C.) and the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (K.M.C.).
4. That the Hon'ble Tribunal in paragraph 14 of the Solemn Order dated 02.01.2025 has constituted a Fact Finding Committee and has been further pleased to direct the said Committee to file its Report.
5. That the Municipal Commissioner and/or any senior Officer nominated by him was directed to be a member of the Committee and accordingly Mr Jayanta Deb Sarkar, Executive Engineer (Electrical) /Lighting/Crematorium), Kolkata Municipal Corporation being the deponent was a member of the Committee.
6. That the Committee so constituted had visited and inspected the Crematorium at South Kolkata, Howrah and Bally and North Kolkata, on 08.02.2025, 10.02.2025 and 14.02.2025 and has made the following observations :
 - (i) The Committee made a detailed inspection to all the crematoria listed in the Order of Hon'ble Tribunal and made certain observations which are listed in Annexure-I.



20 FEB 2025

(ii) Howrah Municipal Corporation (H.M.C.) and Kolkata Municipal Corporation (K.M.C.) submitted reports of stack emission monitoring conducted by West Bengal Pollution Control Board recognized laboratories for furnaces of the crematoria under their jurisdiction and the results of emission show compliance with respective permissible standards.

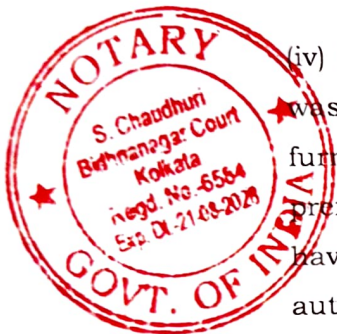
(iii) On enquiry, as reported by the crematoria representatives, on an average about 300 Kgs of firewood is required to cremate one human body.

(iv) During interaction with members of the family of the deceased, it was learnt that the family members voluntarily opted for electric furnace or wooden pyre burning as per their personal beliefs and preferences under no compulsion. However, the rates of wooden pyre have been fixed at much higher rates by the respective municipal authorities due to the higher raw material costs and to encourage the use of electric furnaces as an eco-friendly alternative for the purpose of cremation.

(v) It was reported that all the electric furnaces along with Air Pollution Control Devices are taken into maintenance at regular intervals for smooth operation of the same.

The following are the Recommendations of the Fact-Finding Committee:

- i. Adequate Air Pollution Control Systems like fume collection hood, scrubber, Induced Draft Fan, and stack of minimum height 15 m from Ground Level (GL) may be installed for all the wooden pyres in all crematoria which have not installed any control systems to comply with stipulated emission norms.



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ii. Concerned Municipal Authority should earmark designated areas for interim storage of solid wastes generated from activities of the crematorium before final disposal at the designated municipal waste collection points, wherever they are found to be lacking in such infrastructure.

iii. Separate Waste Collection Facilities should be maintained for the solid waste generated from the crematoria to prevent mixing with ordinary municipal waste.

Photographs taken during the course of inspection are annexed herewith.

Photocopy of the Report of the Fact Finding Committee along with Annexure and Coloured Photographs are collectively annexed herewith and marked with the letter 'R-1'.

7. That the deponent craves leave of this Hon'ble Tribunal to file supplementary affidavit as may be necessary for the smooth adjudication of the instant original application.

8. That 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.

Jayanta Dele Sarkar

Deponent
Ex. Engr. (LTG)/CRM
KOL. MPL. CORPN

Identified by me

Sibghat Hussain
Advocate
For The K.M.C

S. Chaudhuri
S. CHAUDHURI
★ NOTARY ★
GOVT. OF INDIA
Regn. No.-6584/08
Bidhannagar Court
Dist.-North 24 Pgs.

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VERIFICATION

I, the deponent within named state that this affidavit is verified at Kolkata by the deponent above named on this the 20th. Day of February, 2025 and say that the contents of this affidavit made in paragraph nos. 1 is true to my knowledge and those made in paragraphs no. 2 to 7, are true to my information derived from records and rest are my respectful submission before this Hon'ble Tribunal.

Jayanta Deb Sarkar

Deponent
Ex. Eng. (LTG)/CRM
KOL. MPL. CORPN

Identified by me

Sujit Chakravarty
Advocate
For The K.M.C

S. Chaudhuri
S. CHAUDHURI
★ NOTARY ★
GOVT. OF INDIA
Regn. No.-6584/08
Bidhannagar Court
Dist.-North 24 Pgs

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Annexure - (E-1) 7

Report of the Committee constituted by Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Eastern Zone Bench Kolkata vide order dated 02.01.2025 in connection with O.A. No. 235/2024/EZ in the matter between Ankur Sharma - vs - State of West Bengal & Ors.

In compliance of the solemn order passed by Hon'ble NGT, Eastern Zone Bench Kolkata on 02.01.2025, an inspection on the crematoria of South Kolkata, Howrah & Bally and North Kolkata was conducted on 08-02-2025, 10-02-2025 and 14-02-2025 respectively by the committee constituted by the Hon'ble Tribunal comprising the following members:

1. Shri Azar Zia, Additional District Magistrate (L & LR), Howrah
2. Dr. Nupur Sengupta, Asst. Environmental Engineer, Howrah Regional Office, West Bengal Pollution Control Board.
3. Smt. Parna Maitra, Asst. Environmental Engineer, Kolkata Regional Office, West Bengal Pollution Control Board
4. Shri Manas Das, Secretary, Howrah Municipal Corporation
5. Shri Jayanta Deb Sarkar, Executive Engineer, Electrical Lighting-Crematorium, Kolkata Municipal Corporation.
6. Shri Ankur Sharma, the petitioner in the instant Original Application.

The following officials were also present to facilitate the inspection by the aforementioned Committee:

1. Shri Partha Pratim Sadhukhan, Officer-in-Charge, Environment Section, District Administration, Howrah.
2. Shri Debabrata Pal, Executive Officer, Bally Municipality.

Observations of the Fact-Finding Committee:

- 1) The Committee made a detailed inspection to all the crematoria listed in the Order of Hon'ble NGT and made certain observations which are listed in Annexure I.
- 2) Howrah Municipal Corporation (HMC) and Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) submitted reports of stack emission monitoring conducted by West Bengal Pollution Control Board recognized

laboratories for furnaces of the crematoria under their jurisdiction and the results of emission show compliance with respective permissible standards.

- 3) On enquiry, as reported by the crematoria representatives, on an average about 300 kgs of firewood is required to cremate one human body.
- 4) During interaction with members of the family of the deceased, it was learnt that the family members voluntarily opted for electric furnace or wooden pyre burning as per their personal beliefs and preferences under no compulsion. However, the rates of wooden pyre have been fixed at much higher rates by the respective municipal authorities due to the higher raw material costs and to encourage the use of electric furnaces as an eco-friendly alternative for the purpose of cremation.
- 5) It was reported that all the electric furnaces along with Air Pollution Control Devices are taken into maintenance at regular intervals for smooth operation of the same.

Recommendations of the Fact-Finding Committee:

In view of the above, the Committee recommends the following:

- i. Adequate Air Pollution Control Systems like fume collection hood, scrubber, Induced Draft Fan, and stack of minimum height 15 m from Ground Level (GL) may be installed for all the wooden pyres in all crematoria which have not installed any control systems to comply with stipulated emission norms.
- ii. Concerned Municipal Authority should earmark designated areas for interim storage of solid wastes generated from activities of the crematorium before final disposal at the designated municipal waste

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collection points, wherever they are found to be lacking in such infrastructure.

- iii. Separate Waste Collection Facilities should be maintained for the solid waste generated from the crematoria to prevent mixing with ordinary municipal waste.

The Photographs taken during the course of inspection are annexed herewith.

Nupur Sinha

Assistant Environment Engineer
Howrah Regional Office, WBPCB

P. Maitra

Assistant Environmental Engineer
Kolkata Regional Office, WBPCB

A.S.

Secretary
Howrah Municipal Corporation

A. S.

Executive Engineer
Electrical Lighting-Crematorium
Kolkata Municipal Corporation

Ankur Sharma

Ankur Sharma

A.S.

A.D.M. (LR) & D.L. & L.R.O.
Howrah

Glimpses of the Inspection held on 08-02-2025, 10-02-2025 and 14-02-2025 in connection with Hon'ble NGT, Eastern Zone Bench, Kolkata, OA No. 235 /2024/EZ



Inspection at Shanagar Burning Ghat



Inspection at Shibpur Burning Ghat



Inspection at Kashimitra Burning Ghat



Inspection at Nimtala Burning Ghat

72



Latitude: 22.594191
Longitude: 88.351961
Elevation: 29.76±4 m
Accuracy: 6.6 m
Time: 14-02-2025 11:35
Note: 235 Nimtala

Powered by NoteCam

Interaction with family member of Deceased at Nimtala Burning Ghat



Latitude: 22.6478
Longitude: 88.350921
Elevation: 29.64±3 m
Accuracy: 31.3 m
Time: 10-02-2025 13:50
Note: 235 Pathak Ghat

Powered by NoteCam

Inspection at Pathak Ghat Burning Ghat

13



Inspection at Morapora Burning Ghat



Inspection at Banstala Burning Ghat

A

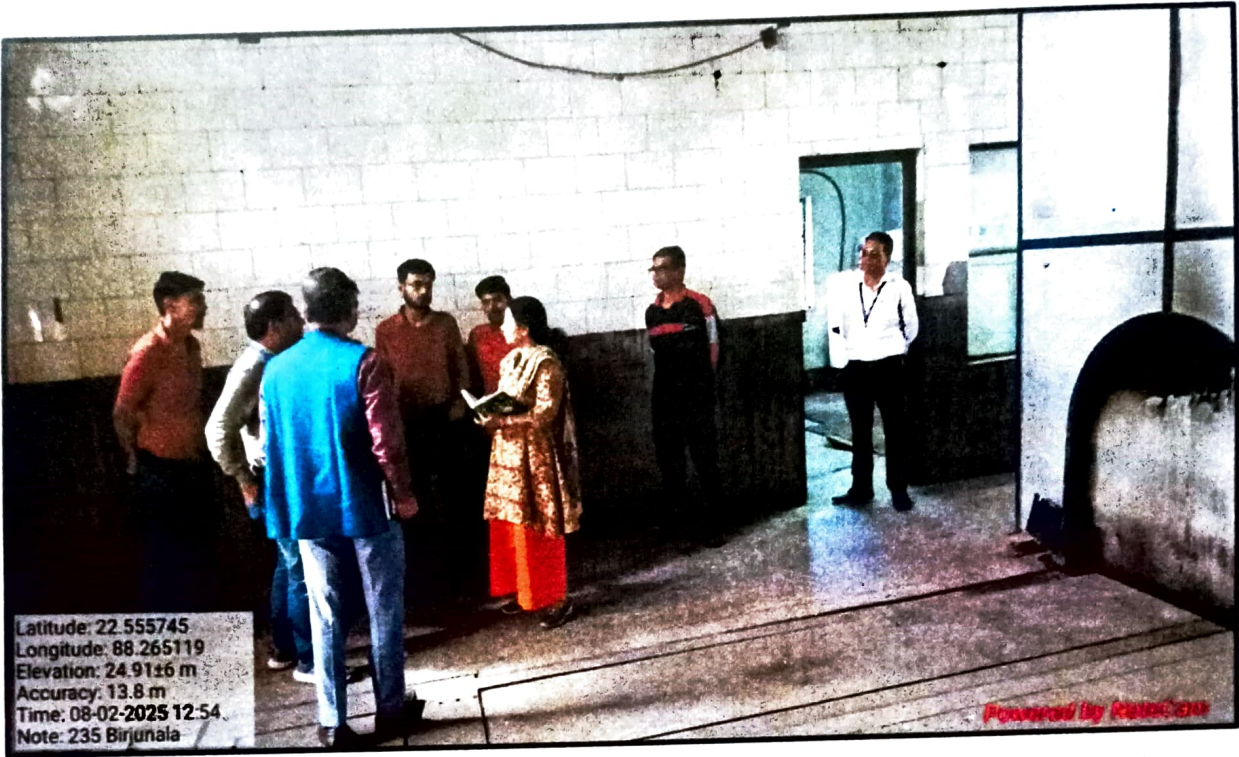


Inspection at Salkia Burning Ghat



Inspection at Shibpur Burning Ghat

15



Inspection at Birjunala Burning Ghat



Inspection at Shanagar Burning Ghat



Inspection at Garia Adi Mahasamsan Burning Ghat



Inspection at Sirity Burning Ghat



Inspection at Shanagar Burning Ghat



Inspection at Sri Sri Ramkrishna Mahasamsan Burning Ghat

Annexure I

S I N o	Name of Crematorium and Address	Persons Met	Date of Inspection	Facilities Present (Type and Nos of Furnaces)	Air Pollution Control System Present (APCS)	Solid Waste (SW) Management	Status of Consent to Operate (CTO)	Remarks (Functional APCS/ number of bodies cremated past one year)
1.	Shibpur Burning Ghat 95, Jagat Banerjee Ghat Road, Shibpur, Howrah 711102	Sri Soumojit Ghosh SAE, Crematorium, HMC Amitabha Rakshit, SAE, Crematorium, HMC	10/02/2025	Electric Cremation Furnace-02, Wooden Pyre -04	Electric Cremation Furnace-Venturi Scrubber and packed bed scrubber in series followed by common stack of height about 30m from GL Wooden Pyre - None	Designated area exists	Expired on 31/07/2016	APCD was functional during inspection Electric Cremation- 6424 Wooden Pyre - 545
2.	Salkia Burning Ghat, 8 Brindaban Dutta Lane, Howrah 711106	Sri Soumyajit Ghosh SAE, Crematorium, HMC Amitabha Rakshit, SAE, Crematorium, HMC	10/02/2025	Electric Cremation Furnace-02 (one is operated at a time) Wooden Pyre -05	Electric Cremation Furnace-Venturi Scrubber and packed bed scrubber in series followed by common stack of height about 30m from GL. One furnace was in operation, no stack emission observed. One body was in waiting for cremation Wooden Pyre -None	Designated area exists, nearby lane is also used for waste storage	Expired on 31/07/2016	APCD was functional during inspection One furnace was under maintenance during inspection Electric Cremation- 3082 Wooden Pyre - 320

S I N O	Name of Crematorium and Address	Persons Met	Date of Inspection	Facilities Present (Type and Nos of Furnaces)	Air Pollution Control System Present (APCS)	Solid Waste (SW) Management	Status of Consent to Operate (CTO)	Remarks (Functional APCS/ number of bodies cremated past one year)
3.	Banstala Burning Ghat, 25 Dr. Gangadhar Mukherjee Road, Howrah 711101	Sri Soumajit Ghosh SAE, Crematorium, HMC Amitabha Rakshit, SAE, Crematorium, HMC	10/02/2025	Electric Cremation Furnace-01 Wooden Pyre -02	Electric Cremation Furnace-Venturi Scrubber and packed bed scrubber in series followed by common stack of height about 30m from GL. Wooden Pyre – Individual suction hood, leading to Venturi Scrubber and packed bed scrubber in series followed by common stack of height 30m from GL.	No designated area exists for waste storage	Expired on 31/07/2016	APCD was functional during inspection. None of the furnaces were in operation during the visit. One body was under preparation. Electric Cremation- 1711 Wooden Pyre - 68
4.	Pathak Ghat, 1 Pathak Ghat Lane, Bally Howrah 711201	Pratyay Banerjee, SAE, Electrical, Bally Municipality	10/02/2025	Electric Cremation Furnace-01 Wooden Pyre -03	Electric Cremation Furnace-Venturi Scrubber and packed bed scrubber in series followed by common stack of height about 30m from GL. Wooden Pyre – None	PVC drums observed for interim storage of SW. However, nearby private land was found to be dumped with waste clothes, waste flowers and MSW.	Expired on 31/07/2016	APCD was functional during inspection. None of the furnaces were in operation during the visit. Electric Cremation- 2612 Wooden Pyre - 116

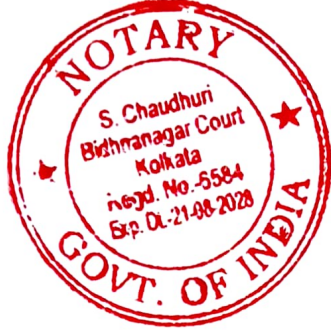
S I N O	Name of Crematorium and Address	Persons Met	Date of Inspection	Facilities Present (Type and Nos of Furnaces)	Air Pollution Control System Present (APCS)	Solid Waste (SW) Management	Status of Consent to Operate (CTO)	Remarks (Functional APCS/ number of bodies cremated past one year)
5.	Mora Pora Ghat, 5/31/1 Ashtish Mukherjee Road, Howrah 711201	Debabrata Pal, EE, Bally Municipality	10/02/2025	Electric Cremation Furnace- none Wooden Pyre -03	Wooden Pyre – Natural Draft hood for 02 furnace with stack of height about 20 ft from GL. 01 Wooden Pyre -None	No designated area exists for waste storage	Expired on 31/07/2016	None of the pyres was in operation during the visit. Wooden Pyre - 255
6.	Shanagar (Keoratala) Burning Ghat, 113, Tollygunge Road, Kolkata 700026	Sri J Jena, EE, Electrical, KMC, Sri S Mukherjee AEE, Crematorium, KMC	08/02/2025	Electric Cremation Furnace-08, Wooden Pyre -02	Electric Cremation Furnace-02 nos each are connected to common 02 nos wet scrubber in series followed by common stack of height about 30m from GL Wooden Pyre - Individual suction hood, leading to common 02 nos wet scrubber in series followed by common stack of height 30m from GL.	Designated area exists	Valid upto 31/05/2029	Furnace No 03 and 04 were in operation, mild stack emission was observed during inspection. All APCSs were functional during inspection Electric Cremation- 22304 Wooden Pyre - 174

S I N O	Name of Crematorium and Address	Persons Met	Date of Inspection	Facilities Present (Type and Nos of Furnaces)	Air Pollution Control System Present (APCS)	Solid Waste (SW) Management	Status of Consent to Operate (CTO)	Remarks (Functional APCS/ number of bodies cremated past one year)
7.	Nimtola Burning Ghat, 2P Strand Road, Kolkata 700006	Dr Manas Sikdar, Sub Registrar	14/02/2025	<p>Electric Cremation Furnace-08 (New Complex),</p> <p>Electric Cremation Furnace -04 (Old Complex)</p>	<p>Electric Cremation Furnace-02 nos each are connected to common 02 nos wet scrubber in series followed by common stack of height about 30m from GL</p>	Designated area exists	Valid upto 31/05/2029	<p>Furnace No 05 and 06 were in operation, mild stack emission was observed during inspection. All APCSs were functional during inspection.</p> <p>02 nos electric furnaces were under maintenance.</p> <p>Electric Cremation- 25242</p> <p>Wooden Pyre – 2429</p> <p>Alternative fuel comprising of cow dung is provided by a third party namely Prerna Foundation as reported during inspection.</p>
				Wooden Pyre -04	Wooden Pyre - Individual suction hood, leading to common 02 nos wet scrubber in series followed by common stack of height 30m from GL.	Some waste flowers and other cremation wastes were found on the nearby river bank		

S I N o	Name of Crematorium and Address	Persons Met	Date of Inspection	Facilities Present (Type and Nos of Furnaces)	Air Pollution Control System Present (APCS)	Solid Waste (SW) Management	Status of Consent to Operate (CTO)	Remarks (Functional APCS/ number of bodies cremated past one year)
8.	Sri Sri Ramkrishna Mahasamsan Burning Ghat, 5 Chandra Kumar Roy Lane, Kolkata 700036	Dr Partha Pratim Mondal, Sub Registrar	14/02/2025	Electric Cremation Furnace-04 Wooden Pyre -02	Electric Cremation Furnace-02 nos each are connected to common 02 nos wet scrubber in series followed by common stack of height about 30m from GL. Wooden Pyre - Individual suction hood, leading to common 02 nos wet scrubber in series followed by common stack of height 30m from GL.	Designated area exists	Valid upto 31/05/2029	01 no. Furnace was in operation, mild whitish stack emission was observed during inspection. All APCDs were functional during inspection. 01 no electric furnace was under maintenance. Electric Cremation- 10289 Wooden Pyre – 147
9.	Kashimitra Burning Ghat, 1 Strand Road, Kolkata 700006	Dr. J Pramanik, Sub Registrar	14/02/2025	Electric Cremation Furnace-01 Wooden Pyre -02	Electric Cremation Furnace- new APCD under installation comprising of 02 nos wet scrubber in series connected to existing stack of height about 30m from GL. Wooden Pyre - None	Designated bin exists	Valid upto 31/05/2029	01 no electric furnace was under shut down due to maintenance. Old APCDs were observed in partially dismantled condition Electric Cremation- 1667 Wooden Pyre was in operational condition. Wooden Pyre – 20

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S I N O	Name of Crematorium and Address	Persons Met	Date of Inspection	Facilities Present (Type and Nos of Furnaces)	Air Pollution Control System Present (APCS)	Solid Waste (SW) Management	Status of Consent to Operate (CTO)	Remarks (Functional APCS/ number of bodies cremated past one year)
10.	Garia Adi Mahasamsan Burning Ghat, 138 Boral Main Road, Kolkata 700084	Chiranjib Sarkar, AEE, Crematorium, KMC	08/02/2025	Electric Cremation Furnace-04, Wooden Pyre -03	Electric Cremation Furnace-02 nos each are connected to common 02 nos wet scrubber in series followed by common stack of height about 30m from GL Wooden Pyre – None	Designated area exists	Valid upto 31/05/2029	01 furnace was in operation during inspection. APCSs were functional during inspection Electric Cremation- 5979 Wooden Pyre - 5
11.	Sirity Burning Ghat, B L Saha Road, Kolkata 700041	Chiranjib Sarkar, AEE, Crematorium, KMC	08/02/2025	Electric Cremation Furnace-02	Electric Cremation Furnace-02 nos are connected to common 02 nos wet scrubber in series followed by common stack of height about 30m from GL	Designated area exists	Valid upto 31/05/2029	01 no. furnace was in operation during inspection. APCSs were functional during inspection Electric Cremation- 3406
12.	Birjunala Buring Ghat Z 20, Lenin Road, Kolkata 700044	Chiranjib Sarkar, AEE, Crematorium, KMC	08/02/2025	Electric Cremation Furnace-02, Wooden Pyre -02	Electric Cremation Furnace-02 nos are connected to common 02 nos wet scrubber in series followed by common stack of height about 30m from GL Wooden Pyre - None	Designated area exists	Valid upto 31/05/2029	None was in operation during inspection. APCSs were functional during inspection Electric Cremation- 213 No sampling port was found in the stack. Wooden Pyre - 15



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

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO.
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AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF THE
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CORPORATION.

Submitted By:-

SIBOJYOTI CHAKRABARTI
Advocate

For The K.M.C

Email: subho.advocate@gmail.com

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120 FEB 2025.