

Campaign Programme on Silence Zone

Date: Friday, August 24, 2007

Venue: Dr. U.N. Brahmachari Road, In front of La Martiniere for Girls', Kolkata

On August 24, 2007 at 7:20 a.m., the WBPCB officials and an enthusiastic group of 50 students and teachers of La Martiniere for Girls' School led the campaign programme on silence zone, which was held in front of the school gate. The student-participants demonstrated various useful information resource materials like notice-boards and placards with relevant messages on noise pollution, as well as voiced slogans to reach out to the masses. In order to promote awareness amongst drivers and passer-byes, the students pasted stickers on the vehicles, mostly commercial vehicles such as car, taxis, school bus etc. The students also distributed pocket notebooks to drivers of cars, taxis, school bus and other public vehicles. These notebooks would serve as an extremely useful guide on the legal restrictions of noise pollution. Moreover, the participants distributed leaflets on noise pollution to the pedestrians and passer-byes for disseminating information on the issue.

The Anti-Pollution Cell of Kolkata Police also extended their full support and help in the campaign. Soon after the campaigning by the students, Kolkata Police started charging spot fines against offenders. There were 43 cases of spot fines against people who were practicing unnecessary honking in front of the school and violated the legal order of a silence zone. Also, there were three cases of spot fines against vehicles with no PUC (Pollution-Under-Control) certificate. One vehicle was fined because of a double case of violation for using air horn and not having a valid PUC certificate.