

**The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday January 25, 2005 at 10.30 hrs
in the Conference Room of Meenakshi Guest House, Digha.**

A meeting was held in the Conference Room of Meenakshi Guest House, Digha on 25.01.2005 at 10.30 hours on chalk out of future course of action regarding the implementation of ban of plastic carry bags in coastal regulation zone areas like Digha, Sankarpur etc. in Purba Medinipur district. Dr. S. K. Sarkar, Member Secretary, West Bengal Pollution Control Board (WBPCB) chaired the meeting.

The persons attended the meeting were :-

1. Dr. S. K. Sarkar, Member Secretary, WBPCB
2. Mr. Damodar Sarangi, ADG (PC), WBPCB
3. Dr. Debashis Chakraborty, Scientist, WBPCB
4. Sri Abhijit Basu, Env. Engineer, Haldia Regional Office, WBPCB
5. Md. G.A. Ansari, SDO, Contai
6. Mr. M. Adhikary, S.P., Purba Meidnipur, West Bengal Police
7. Shri Bhabani Prasad Ray, Dy. S.P.-HQ-Purba Medinipur, West Bengal Police
8. Shri Subhas Chakraborty, Kaliswar Yuba Chatra Sangrami Sangha
9. Shri Rajnish Sharma, Techno- Commercial Manager Representing IAPM, Hindustan Coca-Cola Beverages (P) Ltd. Kolkata.
10. Shri Sudam Chandra Adak, Secretary, Dharmapu Samaj Kalyan Samity
11. Shri Jagat pati Maiti, Member, Sarbodday Sangha, Vill+PO- Ajaya, Purba Medinipur
12. Shri Prasanta Kumar Giri, Gopinathpur Millennium Club
13. Shri Debasis Bij, SDPO, Contai.
14. Shri Nemai Chand Halder, Administrator, DDS
15. Shri Girish Chandra Raut, Digha Hoteliers Association
16. Shri Ranjit Kr. Das, Chairman, New Digha Hoteliers Association
17. Shri Ram Krishna Das, Bivisonpur-Three Star Club, convenor NGO
18. Shri Dilip Bhuia, Officer in charge, Digha Police Station
19. Shri Byomkesh Das, DDS
20. Shri Rajani Kanta Pradhan, Ex-secretary, Digha Hoteliers Association & President, Lions Club of Digha Saikat.
21. Shri Arun Kr.Senapati, DDS
22. Shri M.E. Beg, Head Asstt., Digha Sankarpur Development Authority
23. Shri Satya Ranjan Pradhan, Member- Digha Hotelier Association.
24. Shri Saugata Das, Digha Hotel & Lodge Association
25. Smt.Sanghamitra Payra, Secretary, Tajpur Ma Saradamoyee Nari Kalyan Samity
26. Smt.Banasri Maity, Asstt. Secretary, Tajpur Ma Saradamoyee Nari Kalyan Samity

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27. Dr. Goutam Bhattacharya, Alinan Ramkrishna Vivekananda Yuba Sangha
28. Shri Jugal Kishore Satapathy, PBVM, Purba Medinipur District Committee.
29. Shri Trinanjan Ghara, Deulichak Pally Samity
30. Shri Sudip Sakha Midya, Deriachak Vidyasagar Social Welfare Organisation.
31. Shri Debopam Pradhan, Project Supervisor, Mahammadpur Development Mahila Samity
32. Shri Anadi Nandan Das, Ashoke Hotel & Lodge, Sankarpur
33. Surajit Bhattacharya, Alukaranbarh Sebha Sangha.
34. Shyamal Bose, Kolaghat Science Hobby Centre
35. Shri Dipak Kr. Jana, Kalindi Tarun Sangha
36. Shri Sudip Panda, Midnapur District Social Welfare Council

At the beginning of the meeting the representative of Indian Association of PET Manufacturers (IAPM) gave a presentation on the process of PET bottle waste management in West Bengal. The participants were briefed on the method of PET bottle waste collection and its recycling into PET flakes as well as the cost involved in process. The case studies of Kolkata and Siliguri were cited during the presentation aimed at exploring the possibility of taking up project on PET waste management in Digha and Sankarpur areas.

Discussion during the second part of the meeting dealt with the proper enforcement of the blanket ban of plastic carry bags in the coastal regulation zone area vide State Board's Order no. 1833A-3S-89/2001 dt. 03.09.2001.

The issues and decisions taken in the meeting are as follows:-

- Block Development Coordination Committee would be formed by including BDO, Panchayat Samity, Local OC, NGOs, representative of Digha Development Authority to launch awareness campaign in Digha and Sankarpur areas. Bibhisampur Three Star Club, Convenor NGO of Purba Medinipur district, will coordinate this programme.
- Convenor NGO would also prepare a comprehensive action plan of the awareness programme for Digha and Sankarpur areas involving Hoteliers' Association, Bazar Samity and others. It was suggested that the publicity and awareness programme should be initiated simultaneously. In the first phase of action, the hoarding at the prominent places such as Saikatabas More, Sea Beach Ghat-1 & Ghat-2, State General Hospital, South Bengal Bus Stand at New Digha, Digha Railway Station, Picnic Spots, Konika Math, Amrabati Lake, Science Centre etc. would be put up. SDO-Contai would prepare the proposal and forward it to WBPCB for funding.
- Littering of plastic carry bags and other plastic materials on the sea beach and surrounding areas in Digha becomes a common environmental disaster. There was a suggestion to provide sufficient nos. of bins to the Digha Development Authority and Hoteliers Association for proper placement and utilization of the same.
- Training for the manufacturing of alternative eco-friendly carry bags made of papers, cloth, jute etc may be organized by the WBPCB at Digha for the self help groups, voluntary organizations, NGOs and unemployed youth. The SDO-Contai may arrange the participants and provide the list to WBPCB.
- The Development of PET bottle disposal mechanism in Digha on similar lines being undertaken by the WBPCB through IAPM in Kolkata may be setup. The SDO-Contai was requested to explore the possibility and extend the cooperation to the IAPM in this regard.
- It was decided that the publicity as well as awareness campaign programme may be continued for the next two months and after that the regulatory action may be initiated against the violators.

Meeting ended with vote of thanks to and from the chair.

Sd/ 31.01.2005
(Dr. S. K. Sarkar)
Member Secretary

West Bengal Pollution Control Board

Memo No: 4M-4/2003

date: 01.02.2005

Copy forwarded to

1. Sr. Law Officer, WBPCB
2. Sr. Env. Engineer(P), WBPCB
3. Deputy Secretary, WBPCB
4. Information Officer, WBPCB
5. PA to Chairman, WBPCB
6. PA to Member Secretary, WBPCB
7. PA to ADG(Pollution Control), WBPCB
8. Float File, WBPCB

(Dr. Debashis Chakrabarty)
Scientist
West Bengal Pollution Control Board