

West Bengal Pollution Control Board

Background Note

Launching of the Project on Environmental Improvement of the East/West Side of the Beliaghata Canal on 15th August, 2005

In order to improve the environment in and around the Beliaghata Canal, the Deptt. of Environment / WBPCB in association with the KMC has undertaken a project for improving the environment on the East/West side of Beliaghata Canal in Kolkata.

The Canal East Road, Canal West Road and Chaulpatti Road span about 18 K.M. on both sides of the Beliaghata Canal. The Irrigation Department has recently dredged the Canal to make use of it for recreational purpose. As a result the banks of the Canal, except a small portion become free of encroachers. The stretches in the east and west bank of the Beliaghata Canal are, however, not environment friendly, and needs to be environmentally improved. The plantations for Urban Forestry and in some places, development of children's park are very much needed.

The scheme involves fencing and plantation around the canal covering its east and west side in the following areas:-

- i) along Canal South Road & Chawl Patty Road (6Km)
- ii) along Canal East & Canal West Road upto Manicktola Main road crossing (4Km)
- iii) Subject to removal of encroachment, along canal South Road (3Km) & along Chawl Patty Road (1Km)

The fruit bearing trees, which would attract large number of birds, and trees that would arrest dust and smoke, like trees with large leaf area and hairy leaves, will be planted. The State Forest Department would collaborate in species selection. The total cost of the scheme comes to about Rs.73 Lakh. The Department of Environment / WBPCB will fund the scheme, and the project will be implemented by the KMC within a period of 3 months.

The project will be launched on August 15, 2005 at 1100 hrs. at Kabi Sukanta Sarani (near Sukanta Setu), Khalpol More, Beliaghata, Kolkata. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of West Bengal will inaugurate the project in presence of Shri Bikash Ranjan Bhattacharya, Hon'ble Mayor Kolkata Municipal Corporation as Chief Guest. The other dignitaries likely to be present are Md. Salim, Hon'ble Member of Lok Sabha, Shri Prasanta Chatterjee, Hon'ble Member of Rajya Sabha, Shri Faiz Ahmed Khan, MMIC, Parks & Garden, KMC, Dr. G. D. Gautama, Pr. Secretary, Departments of Information Technology & Environment, Govt. of West Bengal. Shri Manabendra Mukherjee, Minister-in charge, Information Technology and Environment, Govt. of West Bengal will preside over the inaugural function.

