



Photo credit: Focus Bangla

HONOURABLE PM INAUGURATES ASIA'S LARGEST SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT IN DASHERKANDI, LAID FOUNDATION STONE OF PAGLA STP EXPANSION

Dhaka WASA moving one step ahead towards 'Smart WASA' as Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurated the operation of South Asia's largest single sewage treatment plant (STP) in Dasherakandi near the city's Aftabnagar and laid the foundation stone of reconstruction and expansion of Pagla STP on 13th July 2023. The Dasherakandi Sewage Treatment Plant is the country's first modern STP and sludge drying incinerator with a capacity to treat 500 million litres of sewage per day. The inaugural ceremony was held at the Bangabandhu International Conference Center (BICC).

The plant will play an enormous role in preventing environmental pollution and improving the water quality of Rampura Canal, Balu River, Shitalakshya River and other water bodies, the authorities said. Constructed in the East of Aftabnagar area, the plant is being hailed as a milestone in the country's sewage treatment.

In the plant, some 45 tonnes of fly ash will be generated from sewage sludge a day, which can be used



as raw materials in cement factories. The Dasherbandi STP will treat sewage coming from a number of the city's areas, including Tejgaon, Niketan, Badda, Banani, part of Gulshan, Ramna, Eskaton, Nayatola, Magbazar, Wireless, Mouchak, Outer Circular Road, Mohanagar Housing, Hatirjheel, Kalabagan and part of Dhanmondi. The Dasherbandi plant will be able to treat 20-25 percent of the 2,000 million litre sewage generated in Dhaka city daily.

The plant has been built as part of a master plan taken up by Dhaka WASA to construct five STPs to treat 100 percent of the sewage

generated in Dhaka, in a modern and environment-friendly way, Dhaka WASA Managing Director Mr. Taqsem A Khan told reporters in the day before the inauguration.

The four other modern sewage treatment plants will also be constructed in Pagla, Rayerbazar, Uttara and Mirpur aiming to gain the capacity to treat 100 per cent sewage of Dhaka city by 2030.

Meanwhile, the Pagla Sewage Treatment Plant was undergoing a comprehensive overhaul, including reconstruction and expansion, to rejuvenate the sewage system in the Pagla catchment areas. This ambitious project aimed to increase the plant's capacity

to handle up to 200 million litres per day, significantly enhancing its efficiency and performance. Consequently, approximately 1.4 million residents in the Pagla catchment area would gain access to improved sanitation facilities, ensuring their well-being and environmental sustainability.

This initiative was made possible through collaboration with esteemed partners such as the World Bank (WB), the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), and the Government of Bangladesh, reflecting a shared commitment to advancing public health and infrastructure development.



Collaborative Efforts for Cleaner Dhaka: DNCC and DWASA Strengthen Partnership towards Safely Managed Sanitation



In the bustling metropolis of Dhaka, Bangladesh, which is the home of over 20 million people, the challenges of urbanisation are starkly evident. With its rapid population growth, Dhaka stands at the forefront of a pressing issue: sanitation. However, amidst these challenges lies a beacon of hope as two key city entities, the Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (DWASA) and Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC), join hands in a collaborative effort to tackle one of the city's most pressing issues Safely Managed Sanitation.

The government of Bangladesh is prioritising comprehensive sanitation solutions for its capital city, Dhaka. With the ambitious aim of achieving 100% sewerage coverage throughout the city, Dhaka WASA is leading the charge. However, challenges persist in reaching certain areas due to technical and financial constraints, necessitating alternative approaches. Recognizing these hurdles, Dhaka WASA, in collaboration with the DNCC, is devising temporary sanitation solutions for hard-to-reach and economically unviable areas. Faecal Sludge Management (FSM) emerges as a key strategy to address sanitation needs in these regions.

Under this initiative, Dhaka WASA and DNCC will oversee the management of faecal sludge to ensure a clean and hygienic environment for the residents. With these proactive measures, Bangladesh reaffirms its commitment to sustainable development and improving the quality of life for its citizens, demonstrating a steadfast determination to overcome obstacles on the path to achieving SDG 6.2.

On October 10, 2023, a pivotal moment unfolded as DNCC Chief Waste Management Officer, Cdre S M Sharif-UI Islam, and DWASA Chief Engineer, Md. Kamrul Hasan signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) solidifying their commitment to enhancing Safely Managed Sanitation in Dhaka.

Collaboration is essential for maintaining cleanliness in our city, and neither the DNCC, Dhaka WASA, nor the citizens can achieve this goal alone. Recognizing this, the MoU has been signed to foster a joint effort.

Under this MoU, DNCC will facilitate the collection of waste from the tanks and its transportation to Dhaka WASA. Once received, Dhaka WASA will treat the waste at its sewage treatment plants, ensuring safe disposal.

Importantly, Dhaka WASA possesses the necessary infrastructure and capabilities to effectively treat this waste.

The ceremony, graced by distinguished figures including, the Minister of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives Md. Tazul Islam, DNCC Mayor Md. Atiqul Islam, Secretary, Local Government Division Mr. Muhammad Ibrahim, DWASA Managing Director and CEO Engr. Taqsem A. Khan, UNICEF Representative to Bangladesh Mr. Sheldon Yett and ADB Country Director Mr. Edimon Ginting.

The collaborative efforts between DNCC and DWASA signify hope for Dhaka's sanitation future. With strong governance, strategic partnerships, and a shared vision for a healthier city, Dhaka is poised to overcome its sanitation challenges and emerge as a model for urban resilience and sustainability.

In the heart of Bangladesh's capital, amidst the chaos of urban life, a silent revolution is underway – one that promises a cleaner, healthier future for all Dhaka residents. As DNCC and DWASA pave the way forward, the journey towards a greener, cleaner, and smarter Dhaka has only just begun.



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Exploring Sustainable Solutions: DWASA and LGD Delegates' Study Visit to Tokyo



In a bid to revolutionise Dhaka's sewerage system, a delegation comprising 10 representatives from the Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (DWASA) and the Local Government Division (LGD) embarked on a five-day study visit to Tokyo, Japan. Facilitated by the invitation of the Tokyo Sewerage Bureau and generously funded by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the visit took place from August 29 to September 3, 2023.

Delegates who participated in the study visit are Mr. A.K.M Shahid Uddin – DMD (O&M), Md. Mizanur Rahman – DMD (RP&D), Mr. Mustafizur Rahman – SE, Md. Rafiqul Islam – SE&PD, DSIP, Md. Momtajur Rahman – EE&DPD, DSTPP, Mr. Mohammad Salim Miah – EE&DPD, DSIP, Md. Rahat Sikder – EE, PSTP, Md. Emdad Hossain – EE, DWSNIP, Mr. Rajib Ahmed – AE, DSTPP, all are from DWASA; and Mr. Prottoy Hasan – Senior Assistant Secretary of Local Government Division. The delegation had a multifaceted

agenda aimed at fostering knowledge exchange, implementing cost-effective and environment-friendly sewerage management practices, and receiving hands-on training in sewer maintenance and safety protocols.

The visit kicked off with a high-level meeting with Mr. Sasaki Ken, the Honourable Director General of the Tokyo Sewerage Bureau. This meeting served as a pivotal moment for the delegation, providing them with insights into Tokyo's innovative approaches to sewerage management and setting the tone for the rest of the visit.

During the trip, delegates had the opportunity to explore cutting-edge water reclamation technologies at the Shingashi Water Reclamation Centre, gaining valuable insights into efficient water management strategies for Dhaka's growing needs. Additionally, they visited the Tokyo Sewerage Museum "Rainbow", delving into the evolution and significance

of sewerage systems in urban infrastructure. Practical training at the Sewerage Technology Training Centre equipped them with essential maintenance skills. Visits to the Morigasaki Water Reclamation Centre and the Nanbu Sludge Plant further deepened their understanding of sustainable waste treatment and sludge management practices, emphasising the importance of eco-friendly solutions for Dhaka's challenges.

As the study visit concluded, the delegation returned to Dhaka inspired to implement transformative changes in the city's sewerage infrastructure. Armed with newfound knowledge, innovative ideas, and international best practices, DWASA and LGD are poised to lead the way in developing a more sustainable, efficient, and eco-friendly sewerage system for the vibrant metropolis of Dhaka. This journey to Tokyo marked a significant step forward in Dhaka's quest for a cleaner, healthier, and more resilient urban future.