

श्यामा प्रसाद मुखर्जी पत्तन, कोलकाता  
SYAMA PRASAD MOOKERJEE PORT, KOLKATA  
समुद्री विभाग / MARINE DEPARTMENT



**WEBSITE INSERTION FOR INFORMATION OF CITIZENS**

**Sub : Grant of approval for dredging / desilting operations in Rivers / Water Bodies for the purpose of extraction of sand / silt as filling materials for linear projects**


Through an order issued by Department of Industry, Commerce & Enterprises (Mines Branch) on 22.02.2022, M/s. West Bengal Mineral Development & Trading Corporation Limited has been appointed to act as the State Nodal Agency for the purpose of extraction of sand / silt as filling materials for linear projects. Such works are to be guided by the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) approved by Department of Industry, Commerce & Enterprises (Mines Branch).

As per serial no. 8 of the referred SOP, "the entire technical supervision of dredging / desilting / extraction of silt / earth / soil is responsibility of the parent department under whose jurisdiction the stretch of river / damp / waterbody / area falls".

In terms of gazette notification dated 24.06.2016 (copy attached), the navigable river and channels leading to the port of Kolkata extends from 400 mtrs. down the river Bhagirathi from the centre line of the Jangipur Barrage in the north to Sandheads (Lat.20°45' N) in the south.

River Hugli is a navigable river and hosts the oldest port of the country at Kolkata. The river is home to numerous sand bars and crossings, which are easily affected by unplanned and unresearched activities on the river bed. To obviate such occurrences, SMPK analyses each application for silt / sand excavation by their in-house Research Wing, Hydraulic Study Department, before issuing NOC. Pre and post excavation Hydrographic Surveys are also conducted by the Hydrographic Wing of the Marine Department to ascertain the health of the area where such excavations are carried out. Hence, approaching SMPK and obtaining NOC prior to undertaking excavation work in River Hugli is extremely important.

Any party / company who has been issued or is an applicant for NOC by the State Nodal Agency for the purpose of silt excavation within the limits of SMPK must also approach the Marine Department, SMPK for obtaining NOC before commencing excavation works within the jurisdiction of the Port of Kolkata.

 3/8/22

(Capt. A. Ghosh)  
Director, Marine Department (I/C)