

## SWM project in Howrah's Domjur Block gets underway



Domjur Panchayat Samity in collaboration with Aamra Susama Jalaprapat (Nga) in Howrah District of West Bengal has commenced a solid waste management (SWM) initiative in four Gram Panchayats (GP) – a system that is working efficiently with community participation.

According to Mr. Prasun Kanti Das, Project In-charge Domjur SWM Unit, the project is being implemented in the GPs of Domjur, Parbatipur, Uttar Jhapardaha and Dakshin Jhapardaha from September 2020.

The project is being managed by an advisory committee comprising representatives from all the four GPs, the Domjur Panchayat Samity and the NGO.

### Coverage at a glance:

Name of Gram Panchayat	Total Gram Sansads (Wards)	Gram Sansads covered	Total Households	Households covered	Total Markets	Markets covered
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Domjur	19	8	5624	1209	4	3
Dakshin Jhapardaha	17	9	4207	635		
Uttar Jhapardaha	14	4	4327	441		
Parbatipur	11	5	2770	888		
<b>Total</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>16928</b>	<b>3173</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>

**Waste collection vehicles:** As of now 19 waste collection routes have been established and 18 waste collection vans have been organized, 6 of which are motorized for use on all days except for Sunday. Additionally, one vehicle is available for ceremonial programmes.



**Staff and their commission:**

Sl. No.	Type of Staff	No. employed	Daily rate/ Commission	Working days
1	Support organization staff	1		As per requirement
2	Supervisor	1	Rs. 300	26
3	Waste Collector	19	Rs. 300	26
4	Support Staff	06	Rs. 200	26
5	Swachhata Doots appointed through community contribution	18	@ 20% on total collection	No specific days

**Daily collection of waste:** Each day 8-9 metric tons (MT) of waste is collected, consisting of Biodegradable waste (one MT) and non-biodegradable waste (7 MT). Around 10 per cent of waste cannot be recycled or converted into compost and is therefore not usable. From the biodegradable waste around 300 kgs of compost is produced per day.

**Cost to the community:** While households covered under the project are charged Rs. 40 per month, shops and establishments are charged Rs. 150 per month while the fee for collection from ceremonial programmes is Rs. 700 per event.

**Waste bins distributed:** So far, 3700 waste bins have been distributed – 3173 to households and 529 to shops.

**Income and expenditure:** The monthly contribution from the community has been around Rs. 1.30 to 1.50 lakhs, while the income from the sale of non-bio-degradable items was Rs. 3,000 through two recyclers. On the other hand, the total monthly expenditure has been 2.54 lakhs including the waste collector's commission.

**The future course of action:** The 1.04 deficit should decrease considerably after October 2020 through new initiatives planned. It has been proposed to extend the project to include a new unit at Parbatipur GP; commence the sale of compost after quality testing and enhance coverage to all sansad areas.



**Inputs:** *Mr. Prasun Kanti Das, Project In-charge Domjur SWM Unit*