

## International Coastal Cleanup (ICC) Day 2023

### Digha – Talsari Beach, West Bengal



**16<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

Coordinator: Dr. Sudipta Kumar Ghorai  
Associate Professor  
Egra Sarada Shashi Bhusan College  
Egra, Purba Medinipur, West Bengal

**National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR)  
Ministry of Earth Sciences**

**Annexure-I**

**ICC-day 2023- Questionnaire**

**Date:** 16<sup>th</sup> September 2023

**Time:** 7:30 am

i.	<b>Details of the coordinator</b>	Name: Dr. Sudipta Kumar Ghorai Mobile number: +918016328891 Email: sudiptag8@gmail.com
ii.	<b>Name of the organization</b>	Egra Sarada Shashi Bhusan College
iii.	<b>Name of the Beach, District, and State belonging to</b>	Digha – Talsari Beach, West Bengal, India.
iv.	<b>Beach usage</b> (For mixed activities, tick on all applicable categories)	Tourism <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/>
v.	<b>Beach category</b>	Urban beach: <input type="checkbox"/> Semi Urban <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Remote: <input type="checkbox"/>
vi.	<b>Beach type</b>	Sandy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rocky <input type="checkbox"/> or Other:
vii.	<b>Beach ends with</b>	Seawall <input type="checkbox"/> , Road <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> , Vegetation <input type="checkbox"/> or other:
viii.	<b>Geographic coordinates</b>	Lat.: 25.6503°N Long.: 85.0974°
ix.	<b>Dimension of beach cleaned</b>	Length(meter) :1000 Width(meter):50
x.	<b>Are there any food stalls or any other shops on the beach</b>	Yes Food: 100 Balloon shooting: 10 Others:60
xi.	<b>Is there a harbour/fishing jetty close to the beach</b>	No
xii.	<b>Is there a river/creek close to the beach</b>	Yes Subarnarekha Estuary - 4 km Champa River – 1.5 km
xiii.	<b>Is there a fishing village close to the beach</b>	Yes/No; If yes, give the name and distance:
xiv.	<b>How often is the beach cleaned</b>	Not cleaned regularly
xv.	<b>Method used for cleaning</b>	Manual
xvi.	<b>Authority responsible for cleaning</b>	Digha Sankarpur Development Authority (DSDA)

## Digha – Talsari Beach cleanup Report – 2023

Digha beach is a popular seaside destination located in the state of West Bengal, India. It is recognized for its natural beauty and tranquil beachfront along the Bay of Bengal and is located in the Purba Medinipur district, about 160 km from Kolkata, capital of West Bengal. Beach enthusiasts and those looking for a tranquil getaway from the rush of city life frequently travel there. On India's eastern coast, it provides a revitalizing coastal experience. Given that it is a location with densely populated areas and numerous cultural events occurring throughout the year, anthropogenic activities have a significant impact there. Environmental damage can result from visitor overcrowding and inappropriate trash disposal. This beach has a prominent sand dune belt and is capped by the beach vegetation.

An International Coastal Cleanup (ICC) day program was organized by Egra Sarada Shashi Bhusan College at Digha – Talsari Beach, West Bengal on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2023. This event was funded by National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR), Ministry of Earth Science (MoES), Chennai. A total of 61 participants including students and staff of ESSBC had registered and participated in this program (Fig. 1).



**Fig.1:** Initial gathering before starting the cleanup drive at Digha Beach.

On the designated day for the cleanliness drive, all participants departed from the college campus and convened at Digha Beach at approximately 7:30 am. Upon arrival, all attendees were equipped with gloves, T-shirts, hand sanitizer and first-aid protocols. A section of beach was selected for the cleanup activity and the length and breadth of the beach was measured (Fig. 2).



**Fig.2:** Location of coastal cleanup drive, Digha beach (Image Courtesy: Google Earth).

At 9:00 am, the cleanup drive was officially inaugurated by Dr. Sudipta Kumar Ghorai, Associate Professor at ESSBC. Dr. Ghorai addressed the gathering, emphasizing the importance of such initiatives and their significance (as shown in Figures 3). Following this inaugural address, the participants were organized into groups, and the collection of marine litter commenced (as depicted in Figures 4 and 5).



**Fig 3.:** Inauguration of the Digha Beach cleanup Program.



**Fig.4:** Marine litter collection from Digha Beach.



**Fig.5:** Marine litter collection from Digha Beach.

### ICC Day 2023 Datasheet

Category	Description	No. of items	Weight (kg)
Plastic	Plastic water bottle	543	43.45
	Plastic liquor bottle	23	2.9
	Plastic Medicine bottle	32	1.8
	Polythene cover (carry bags)	1165	1.8
	Plastic spoon	926	1.6
	Plastic straw	750	0.6
	Plastic cups	1825	26.4
	Food containers (box)	220	16
	Food wrappers	1920	8.4
	Cigarette butts & filters	520	0.8
	Cigarette packs	340	1.6
	Plastic rope	78	4.2
	Fishing lures	32	2.8
	Fishing floats	34	3.1
	Fishing nets	56	67
	Toys	42	7.5
	Mesh bags (for fruits and vegetables)	45	0.5
	Foam plastics (Thermocol, Sponge)	140	5
Other plastics items (Mix plastic)	270	19	
Glass	Liquor glass bottle	210	52
	Medicine glass bottle	45	7.6
	Other glass items	44	18
Metal	Tin Cans	38	2.4
	Foils	240	5.7
Papers	Cardboard boxes & fragments	135	7.4
Cloths	Face Mask	185	2
	Hat	28	4.6
Wood	Ice cream sticks	710	0.75
	Wood (Others)	52	34

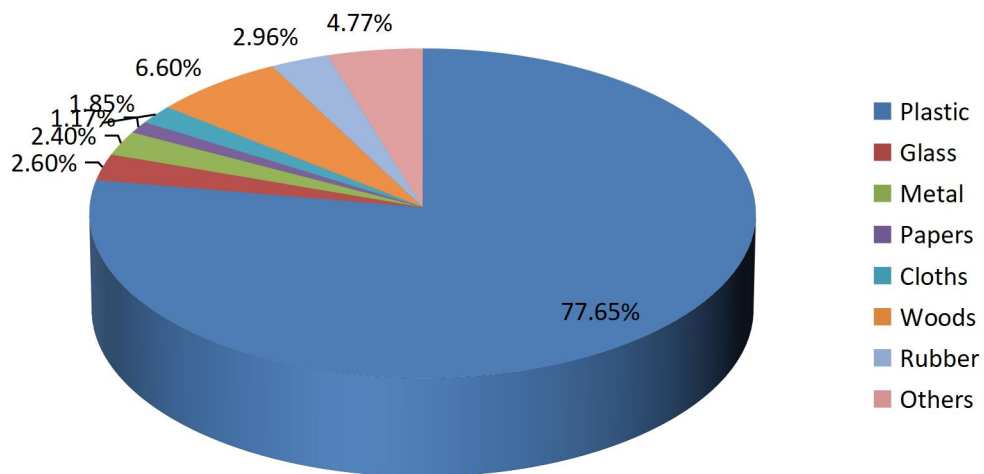
Rubber	Footwear(flip-flops)	342	36.5
others	Medical waste (Diaper & sanitary pads)	240	18.5
	Coconut shells	310	21
Total			424.9

Total number of volunteers participated = 61

Total area = Length(m) \* width(m) = 1000m \* 50m = 50,000 m<sup>2</sup>

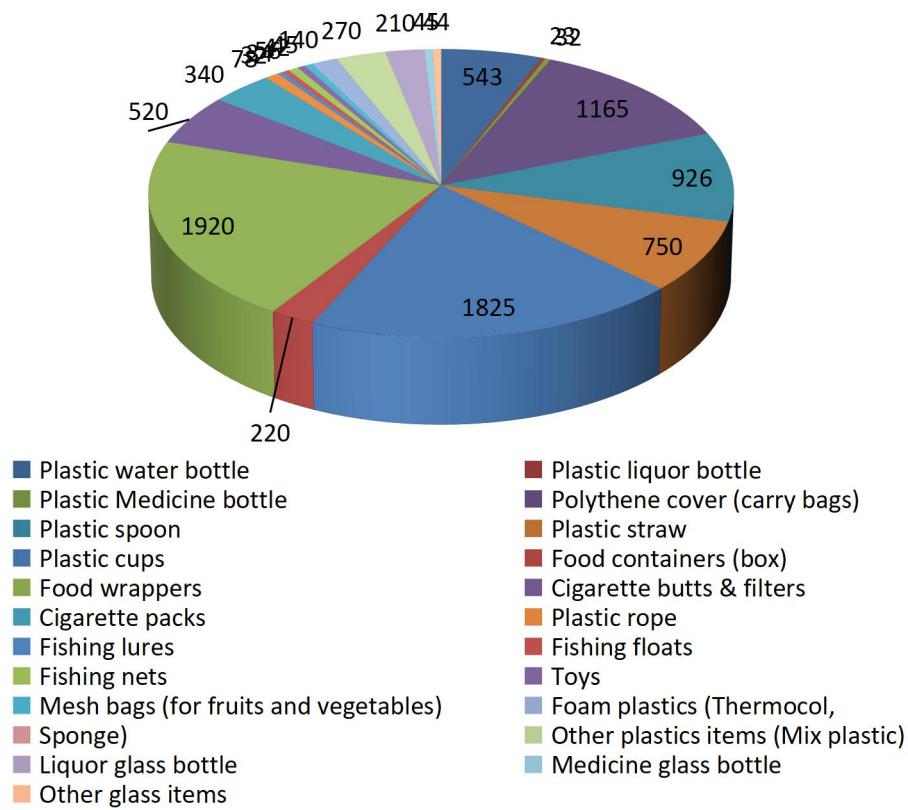
Total number of litter items collected = 11540

Total weight of litters collected = 424.9 kg

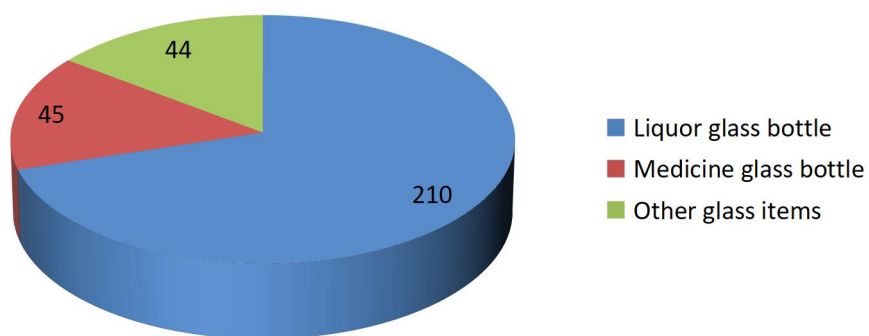


**Fig.6:** Types of marine litter collected from Digha Beach cleanup program.





**Fig.7:** Types of plastic collected from Digha Beach cleanup program.



**Fig.8:** Types of glass collected from Digha Beach cleanup program.

Each form of marine debris that had been separated was weighed and put into bags. Both biodegradable and non-biodegradable marine debris weighing a combined 424.9 kg was collected and disposed of. In the end, Dr. Dipak Kumar Tamili, Principal, ESSBC, started an awareness campaign. The impact of garbage menace on the marine ecosystem and its repercussions for people were explained to the locals and tourists who had congregated on the beach. This cleanliness campaign was a great success thanks to the passionate participation of the ESSBC students and staff.

### **Acknowledgement**

We extend our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to Dr. T. Kaviarasan, Head of the Marine Litter and Microplastics Group at the National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR), for his invaluable initiative in organizing the beach cleaning activity at Digha Beach on 16th September, 2023. This commendable effort aimed at preserving our precious coastal ecosystems and raising awareness about the importance of maintaining clean and healthy beaches.

We are immensely grateful to the National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR) and the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) for their generous funding and unwavering support. Their commitment to environmental conservation and sustainability has played a pivotal role in making this initiative possible.

Special thanks go to the following individuals and institutions for their invaluable contributions to the success of the program:

1. Dr. Dipak Kumar Tamili, Principal, Egra SSB College
2. Dr. Swapan Mishra, Principal, Mugberia College
3. Dr. B. A. Ghata, Om Sree Guru Hospital
4. Dr. Sachchidananda Bhattacharya, Retired Professor, Kharagpur College
5. Dr. Pritiranjana Maity, Headmaster, Hirapur Dasagram High School

Their active participation, support, and dedication have been instrumental in making this beach cleaning program a resounding success. Together, we have taken a significant step towards preserving our coastal environment for future generations.

We extend our sincere thanks to all the participants who joined us in this noble cause. Their enthusiasm and commitment to the environment are truly commendable.

Once again, we express our deep appreciation to everyone involved for their invaluable contributions to this initiative.

## Media Coverage

# এগরা কলেজের সৈকত পরিচ্ছন্নতা অভিযান

১৭ সেপ্টেম্বরঃ এগরা সারদা শশীভূষণ কলেজের ব্যবস্থাপনায় ন্যাশন্যাল সেন্টার ফর কোস্টাল রিসার্চ ও ওসান সোসাইটি অফ ইণ্ডিয়ার আনুকুল্যে আন্তর্জাতিক তটভূমি পরিচ্ছন্নতা সপ্তাহ - ২০২৩ উপলক্ষে 'স্বচ্ছ সাগর ও সুরক্ষিত সাগর' প্রকল্পে বেলাভূমি পরিচ্ছন্নতা অভিযান চালানো হয় রবিবার বগুড়ান জলপাইতে সকালে ও দীঘায় বিকেলে। উদ্বোধন করেন অধ্যক্ষ ড. দীপক তামিলী। উপস্থিত ছিলেন মুগবেড়িয়া কলেজের অধ্যক্ষ ড. স্বপন



মিশ্র, 'পরিয়াবরণ মিত্র পুরস্কার প্রাপ্ত পরিবেশ প্রেমী ড. প্রীতিরঞ্জন মাইতি, ডা. বাদল অশ্রু ঘাটা, অধ্যাপক ড. সচ্চিদানন্দ ভট্টাচার্য প্রমুখ। প্রায়

সাড়ে চার কুইন্ট্যাল বর্জ্য সংগৃহীত হয়। ছাত্র-ছাত্রীদের নিয়ে সমগ্র কর্মসূচী পরিচালনা করেন অধ্যাপক ড. সুদীপ্ত ঘোড়াই।

### International Coastal Cleanup Day 2023 at Boguran Jaipal Beach, West Bengal

EOI CORRESPONDENT

KOLKATA, SEPT 18/~81 dedicated participants from Egra SSB College, West Bengal, came together on September 18, 2023, to observe International Coastal Cleanup Day. The event, made possible through financial assistance from the NCCR & OSI, saw an enthusiastic response from both students and faculty members alike. The entire program was coordinated by Dr. Sudipta Kumar Ghorai, who ensured that the day was not only a success but also an educational experience for all involved.

Among the dignitaries present at the event were Dr. Dipak Kumar Tamili, Principal of Egra SSB College, Dr. Swapan Mishra, Principal of Mugberia Gangadhar College, Dr. B. A. Ghata, Member of the Governing Body (GB), Dr. S a c h c h i d a n a n d a B h a t t a c h a r y a, former Professor, and Dr. Pritiranjana Maiti, Headmaster of a local school, who graced the occasion as resource persons. Their presence added weight to the importance of the event and served as a source of inspiration to the participants.

The highlight of the day was the collective effort put forth by the participants in cleaning up Boguran Jaipal Beach. A staggering total of 800 kilograms of garbage was collected during the program, consisting of plastic waste, discarded fishing gear, and other debris that pose a threat to marine life and the coastal environment.

Dr. Ghorai, who played a pivotal role in organizing the event, expressed his gratitude to NCCR and OSI for their financial support and to all the participants for their unwavering dedication to the cause.

## আন্তর্জাতিক কোস্টাল ক্লিন দিবস পালন

স্টাফ রিপোর্টারঃ ১৬ সেপ্টেম্বর। এগরা সারদা শশীভূষণ কলেজের ছাত্রছাত্রীরা সাড়ম্বরে পালন করল ইন্টারন্যাশনাল কোস্টাল ক্লিন আপ ডে। কন্টাই ১-এর বগুড়ান জলপাই সমুদ্র উপকূলে প্রায় এক কিলোমিটার এলাকা থেকে ৮০০ কেজি বর্জ্য অপসারণের মধ্য দিয়ে দিনটি পালন করা হয়।

বর্জ্য পদার্থের অধিকাংশই ছিল প্লাস্টিক (প্লাস্টিক বোতল, মাছ ধরার জাল, থার্মোকল ইত্যাদি)। এগরা কলেজের ৫১ জন ছাত্র ও ১০ জন গবেষক এই কর্মসূচিতে অংশগ্রহণ করে। এই কর্মসূচিতে নেতৃত্ব দেন এগরা কলেজের অধ্যক্ষ ডঃ দীপক

কুমার তামিলী, মুগবেড়িয়া কলেজের অধ্যক্ষ ডঃ স্বপন মিশ্র, এগরা কলেজের পরিচালন সমিতির সদস্য ডাঃ বি. এ. ঘাটা, প্রাক্তন অধ্যাপক ডঃ সচ্চিদানন্দ ভট্টাচার্য, বিশিষ্ট প্রধান শিক্ষক ডঃ প্রীতিরঞ্জন মাইতি ও এগরা কলেজের প্রাণীবিদ্যা বিভাগের অধ্যাপক ডঃ সুদীপ্ত কুমার ঘোড়াই। এনসিসিটি-এর অর্থানুকূল্যে অনুষ্ঠিত হওয়া এই কর্মসূচির মধ্য দিয়ে এগরা কলেজ জনসাধারণের মধ্যে 'স্বচ্ছ সাগর, সুরক্ষিত সাগর' এর যশস্বীজ রোপণ করতে পেরেছে যা ভবিষ্যতে সাগরকে স্বচ্ছ রাখতে এবং পরিবেশবান্ধব সমাজ গড়ে তুলতে সাহায্য করবে।