



INDUSTRIALIZATION, ENVIRONMENT & HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE SUNDARBANS ADJACENT AREAS

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CLEAN (COASTAL LIVELIHOOD AND ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION NETWORK)

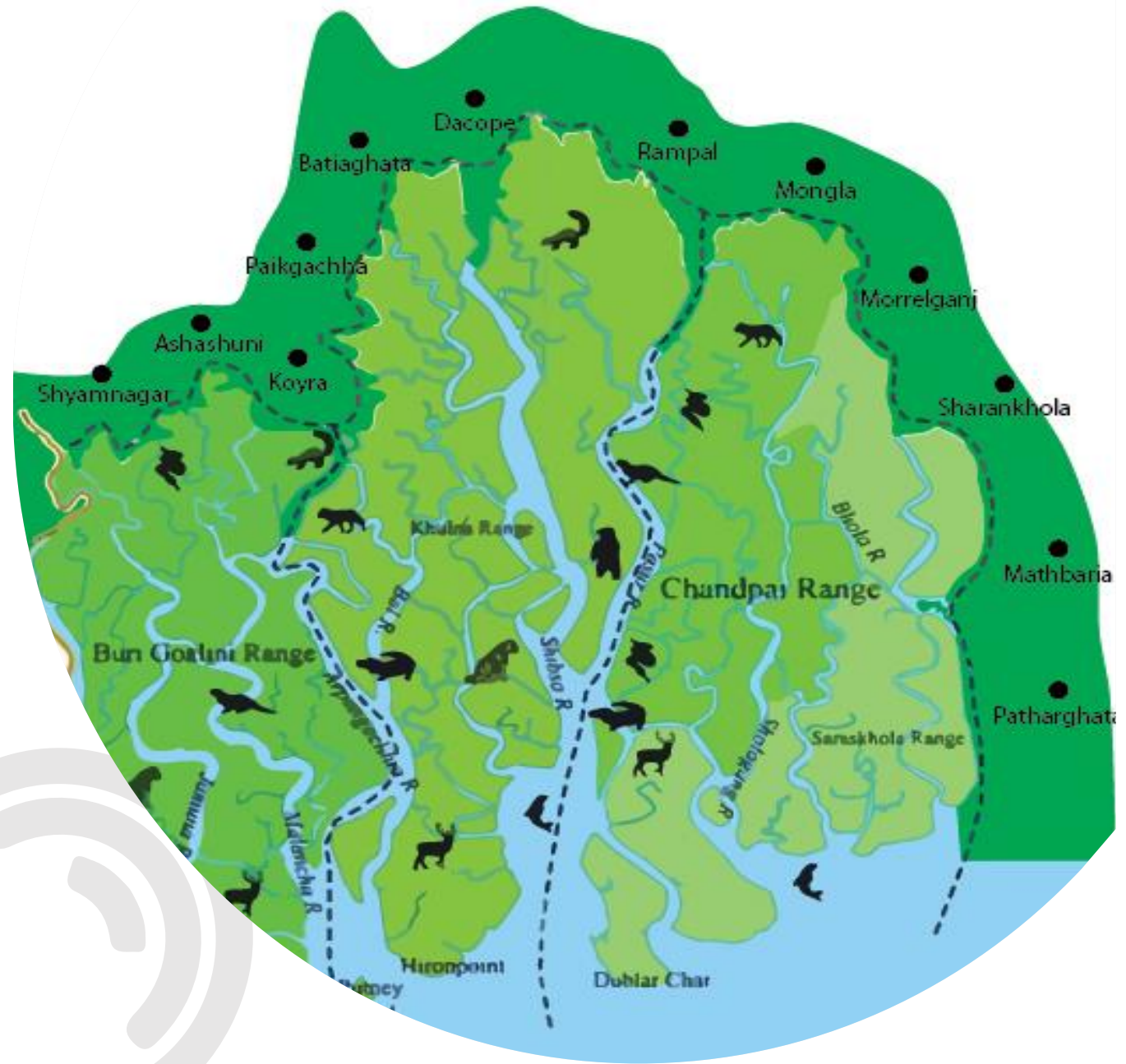
THE SUNDARBANS

our common future



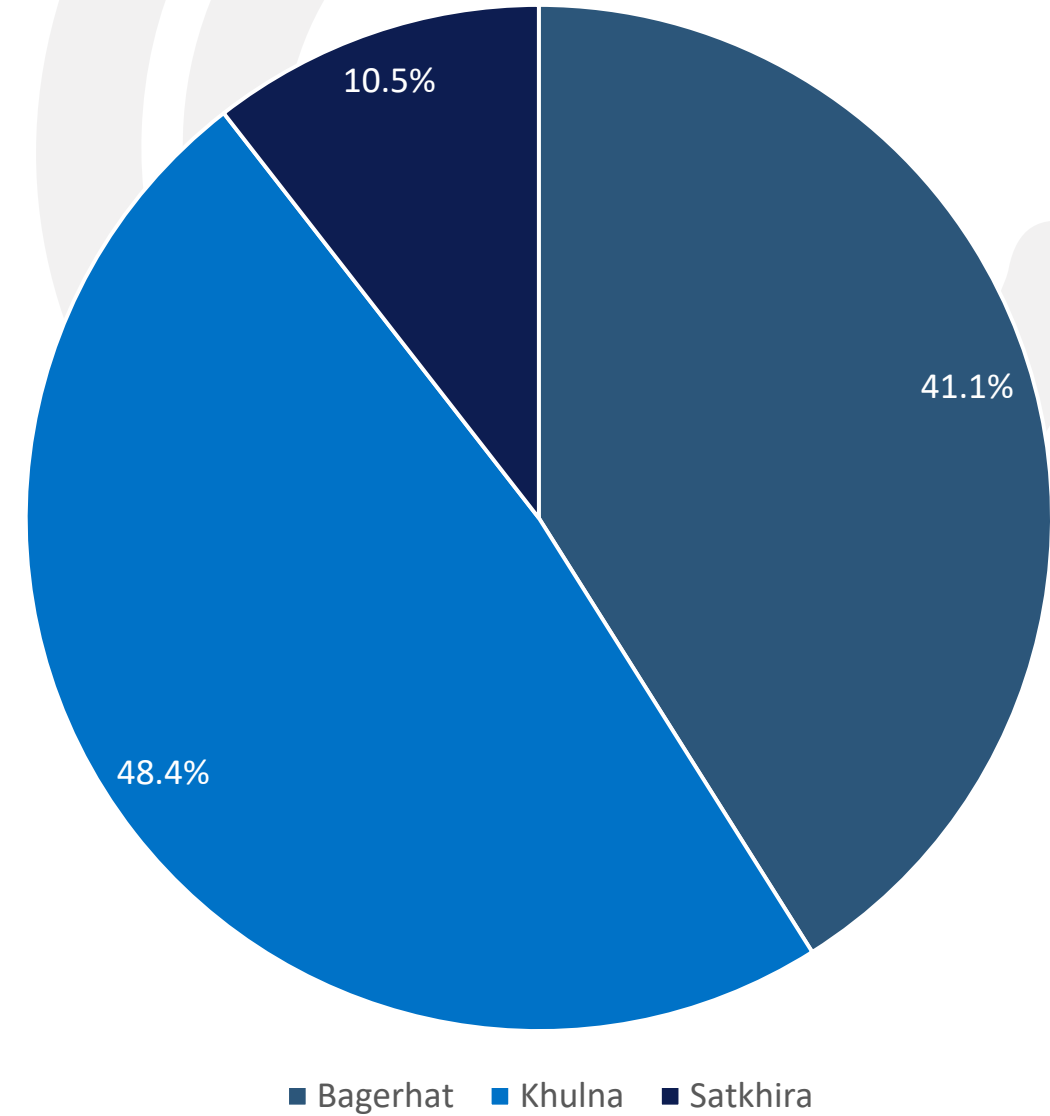
THE ECA

Under the provision of Environmental Protection Act 1995, the Government of Bangladesh declared 10 km landward periphery of the Sundarbans as Ecologically Critical Area on 30 August 1999. A total area of 2,929.26 sq. km is identified as ECA according to the Gazette Notification.



INDUSTRIES

Category	#	District
Brick Kiln	32	Bagerhat, Khulna, Satkhira
Cement Factories	09	Bagerhat
Coal Power Plant	01	Bagerhat
Desalination Plant	06	Bagerhat, Khulna, Satkhira
Food Processing Factory	14	Bagerhat, Khulna, Satkhira
LPG Bottling Plant	23	Bagerhat, Khulna
Oil Refinery & Storage	03	Bagerhat (Mongla)
Rice Mills	53	Bagerhat, Khulna, Satkhira
Sawmill	29	Bagerhat, Khulna, Satkhira
Ship Breaking Yard	03	Bagerhat, Barguna



DOE estimated the number of industries and factories are 190 (149 in operation) while independent researchers found more than 320 factories in the adjacent areas of the Sundarbans. The DOE Report itself marked 32 factories as highly polluting for the environment. Cement Factory, LPG Plant, Oil Refinery, Brick Kiln, Shipyard, Tobacco, Automobile, Rice mill, Sawmill, Repairing Garage fall under RED category.

SOME COMPANIES



1. Baraka LP Gas Limited
2. Basundhara Cement Factory
3. Basundhara LP Gas Limited
4. Basundhara Oil & Gas Company Ltd.
5. Beximco LP Gas Limited
6. BM LP Gas Limited
7. Decan LP Gas Limited
8. Delta LP Gas Limited
9. Dubai-Bangladesh Cement Factory
10. Energyprima LP Gas Limited
11. G Gas Limited (Energypac)
12. Green Shipyard Limited
13. Greentown LP Gas Limited
14. Index Power & Energy Limited
15. Lafarge Holcim Cements Limited
16. Mir Group of Companies
17. Meghna Cement Factory
18. Mongla Cement Factory
19. Mongla Oil Installation
20. Navana LP Gas Limited
21. Nixon Group of Companies
22. Omera Petroleum Limited
23. Petredec Elpiji Limited
24. Petromax LPG Limited
25. Petromax Refinery Limited
26. Rupsha Tank Terminals & Refinery Ltd.
27. S. Alam Group
28. Saif Shipyard Limited
29. Saif Powertec Limited
30. SKS LP Gas Limited
31. Ta & Pa Engineering Products Limited
32. TK Group
33. TMSS LP Gas Limited
34. United Refinery Limited
35. WCL Limited

There are no companies based in Khulna, Bagerhat or Satkhira





কয় সূত্রে এই সম্পত্তির মালিক
টি এম এস এস
এল, পি, জি, লিঃ

MONGLA PORT



Our ancestors didn't protest to build a seaport in the Sundarbans in 1949 (1953). We are suffering for that action. Now 10-12 ships load-unload goods at Harbaria every night. It is like a city now.

RAMPAL COAL POWER PLANT

The power plant has significant impact on the Passur River and the ecosystem of the Sundarbans.

It is not only a power plant. It has changed the total landscape of greater Khulna zone.

The whole area is experiencing the consequences of constructing a large infrastructure in absence of a Zonal land use master plan.



নির্মানাধীন প্রকল্প

কাজের নাম : বাংলাদেশ-ভারত যৌথ উদ্যোগে বিদ্যুৎ উন্নয়ন বোর্ডের কয়লা ভিত্তিক
২x৬৬০ মেগওয়াট রামপাল তাপ বিদ্যুৎ কেন্দ্রের বালি ভরাটের মাধ্যমে ভূমি উন্নয়ন কাজ।

বাস্তবায়নকারী সংস্থা : বাংলাদেশ পানি উন্নয়ন বোর্ড।
তত্ত্বাবধানে : খুলনা ডেপুটি ডিভিশনাল ইঞ্জিনিয়ার, পাউবো, খুলনা।

অর্থায়নে : গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার।

নির্মানকাল : বিস্তারিত কার্যাদেশের দিন হইতে ১৫০ (একশত পঞ্চাশ) দিন।
চুক্তিমূল্য : ৯৭ কোটি ৯৮ লক্ষ টাকা।

নির্মানকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান : বাংলাদেশ সেনা বাহিনী কর্তৃক পরিচালিত।
বিডিপি লিমিটেড।



NEWAGE

Rampal Power Plant's carbon emissions to adversely affect Sunderbans: HC

Sunderbans in Bangladesh will definitely be adversely affected by huge carbon emissions from the coal-fired power plant, the High Court Division said on Tuesday without mentioning the under construction Rampal Power Plant.

A bench of Justice FRM Nazmul Ahasan and KM Kamrul Kader made the remarks while delivering a verdict in which the Department of Environment directed to give the clearance for setting up Baraka LPG Bottling Plant at Mongla, Bagherhat.

CAPSIZED VESSELS

Year	Place	Material	MT
1990	Mongla River	Petrol	150.00
1992	Passur River	Petrol	110.00
1994	Passur River	Lubricant	197.00
1999	Shela River	Diesel	352.00
2001	Passur River	Diesel	232.00
2014	Shela River	Furnace Oil	357.00
2015	Bhola River	Potassium	500.00
2015	Passur River	Coal	510.00
2016	Shela River	Coal	1,235.00
2017	Harbaria Channel	Cement	825.00
2018	Passur River	Coal	715.00
Total			5,183

Surprisingly, the respective agencies (Department of Shipping, MPA or FD) failed to identify the responsible companies for the sinking vessel in 1990 and 1992



The Indo-Bangla transshipments have been going through Sundarbans now. Already 9 ships capsized in last 5 years with Coal Fly Ash. A group of Indian fishermen have already filed a case in the Green Tribunal

RIVER POLLUTION

	Passur River	Safe Level
Suspended Oil	68.00 mg/l	10 mg/l
Copper	21.310 mg/l	1.3 mg/l
Chromium	20.877 mg/l	0.1 mg/l
Nickel	21.310 mg/l	0.1 mg/l

- Serious level of river erosions are observed in the Passur and Kajibachha river due to unplanned sand mining.
- Sensitive fishes are almost absent in upper Passur river due to pollution and increased temperature of water.
- As a wetland, these unplanned construction of industries have serious impact on water channels.

Asian Water Outlook marked Bangladeshi rivers as most polluted among 48 countries in Asia. Bangladesh ranked 162 out of 180 countries in Environmental Performance and 124 in River Water Quality Index.



LAND GRABBING

- Most of the lands are taken bypassing Acquisition and Requisition Act 2017. In these cases, the lands have been purchased at individual level by using local powerful persons, and then transferred to the company.
- The factories are established on cultivable lands violating Agricultural Land Protection and Utilization Act 2018. It also violated the Notice of the Ministry of Land on 26 November 2012.
- 11,368 acres of agricultural land have been lost in last 10 years although the districts of Bagerhat, Khulna and Satkhira have been experiencing food deficit since cyclone Sidr in 2007

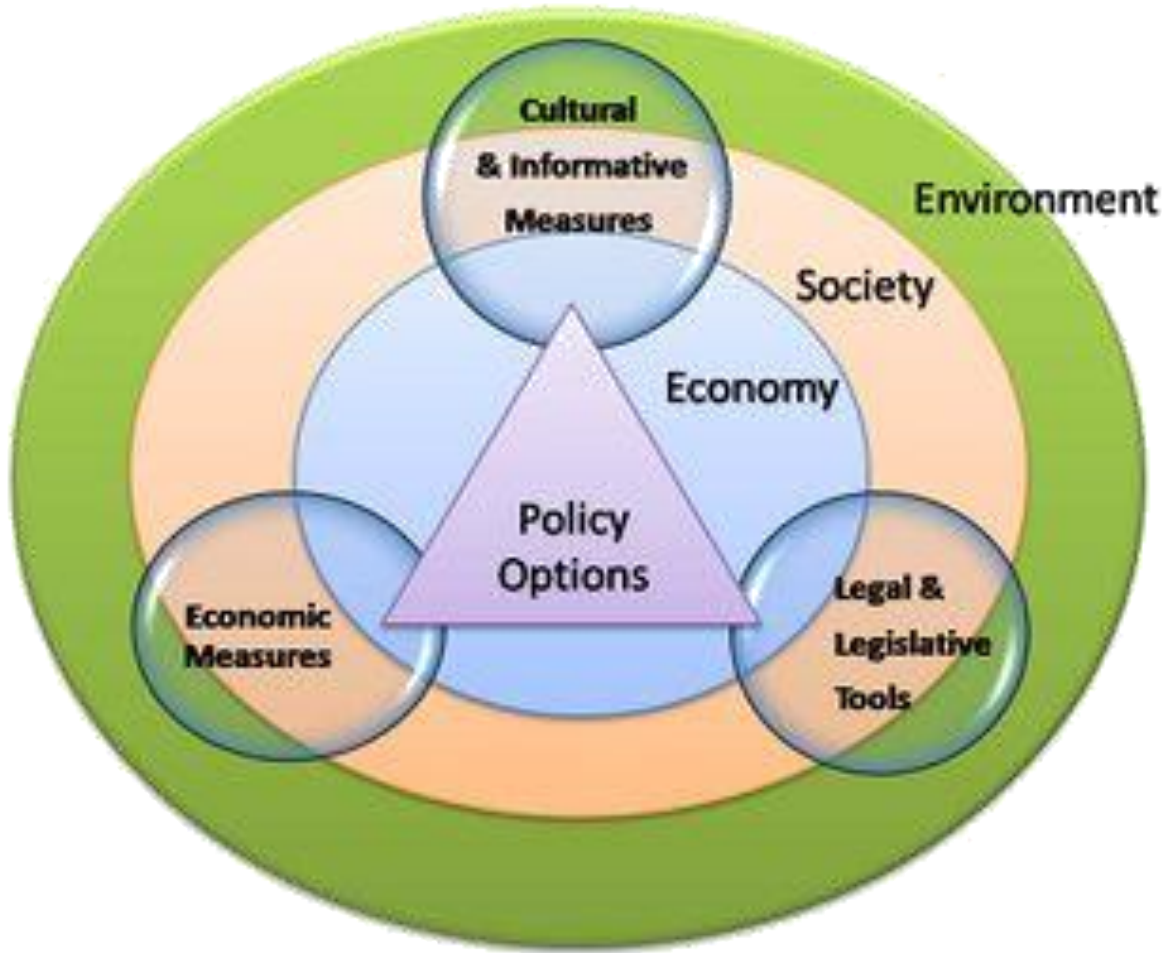
Interestingly, none of the companies have been faced any administrative barrier to do these illegal deals.



POLICIES & ACTS



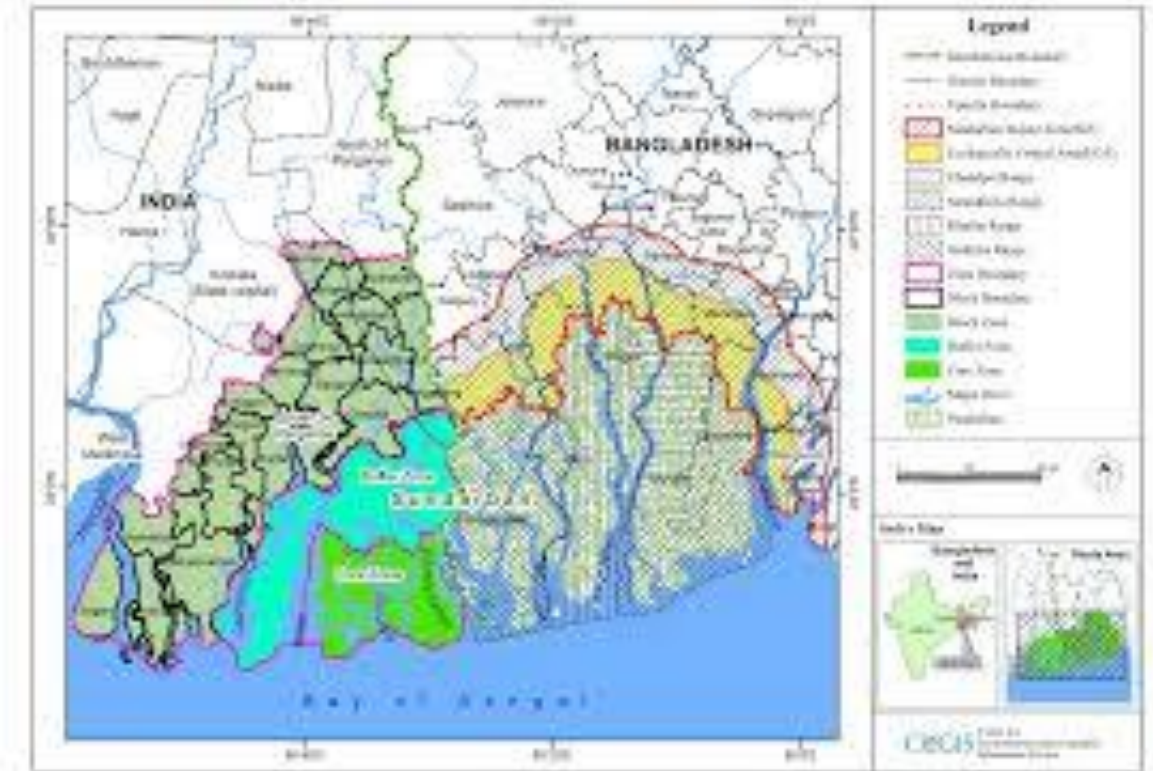
COASTAL ZONE POLICY



- Zoning regulations will be established for location of new industries in consideration of fresh and safe water availability and effluent discharge possibilities;
- All industrial units will be required to install built-in safeguards against pollution within a given timeframe.
- Polluting Industries will be required to pay “green tax” for cleanup of the environment polluted by them.

ECA RULES

- Any activities which could affect the Ecologically Critical Area (ECA) negatively is prohibited and treated as a punishable offence (Section-18, ECA Rules 2016)
- Sand lifting from any site which is declared as ECA under the Bangladesh Environment Protection Act (BEPA) 1995 is totally prohibited (Section 4(A), Balumahal and Soil Management Act 2010)



WALKING BACKWARDS!

- LPG Bottling Plant and LNG Terminal was categorized as RED in Environmental Protection Act 1995 and its amendment in 2010. Suddenly, the Department of Environment (DOE) re-categorized the LPG Bottling Plant as "Green" in June 2017.
- As a result, these highly explosive and environmentally risky industry doesn't need any Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) or Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and also allowed to establish within any ECA.



HIGH COURT ORDER



The High Court Division ordered to stop constructing anymore factories in the Sundarbans Ecologically Critical Area (ECA) on 23 August 2019.

But the order is violated seriously and construction work of Dipon Group still going on...

DEMAND-1

Scrap Rampal Coal Power Plant

The Government already has decided to stop second phase of Rampal Coal Power Plant and install a solar power plant in that place. It is time to scrap the Phase-1 also and convert it to Soar Plant.



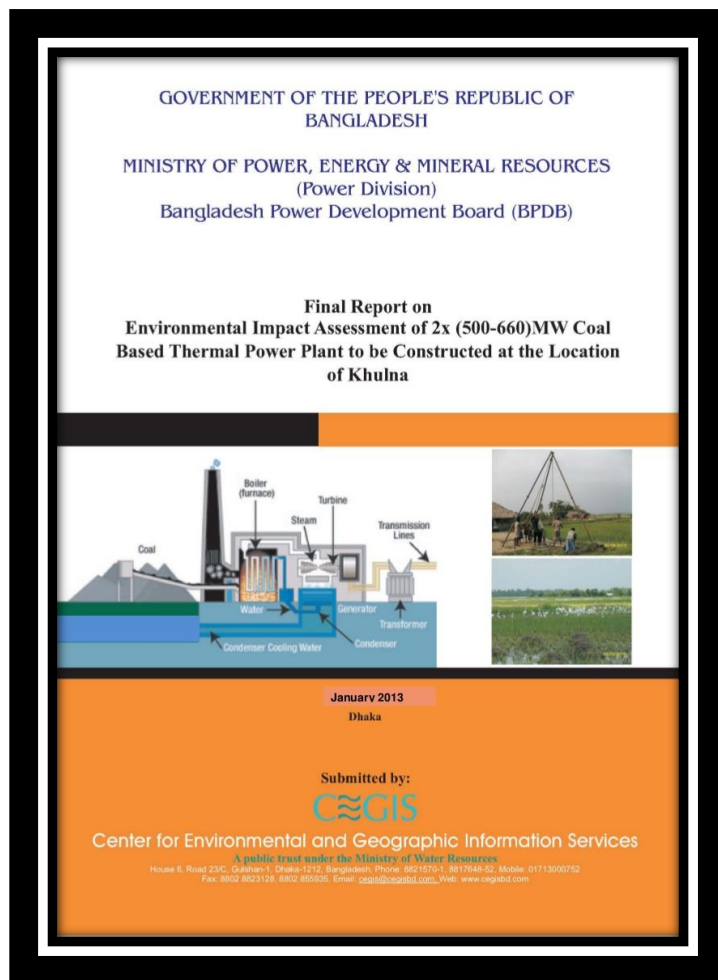
DEMAND-2

Demarcate the ECA

Demarcate the exact Ecologically Critical Area (ECA) and put Cautionary Signal or demarcation signboard as a public notice so that everybody can understand the obligations.



DEMAND-3



Disclose the EIA Reports

Disclose the IEE and EIA Report in public so that affected communities and concerned citizens can express their opinions to the project proponents and respective authorities

DEMAND-4

Form EIA Assessment Panels

There should be an independent Expert Panel to assess the EIA Report as the process of approval becomes a mere formality due to biasness and influences.



PANEL OF
EXPERTS
FOR EIA REPORT
ASSESSMENT

DEMAND-5



Ensure Proper Monitoring

- Environmental Clearance must be taken from both the Local offices and Head office of Department of Environment (DOE) to ensure double checking of the documents and reduce influences.
- Adequate staff allocation for DOE with sufficient equipment and Green Court at Divisional Level.
- Closely and regular monitoring the air, water and noise pollution in the Sundarbans adjacent areas.



DEMAND-6

Form a Oil Spill Striking Force

Formation of a Striking Force with Participation of Department of Shipping (DOS), Forest Department (FD), Fire Service & Civil Defense (FSCD), Coast Guard, Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA), Mongla Port Authority (MPA), Department of Environment (DOE) and Expert Members.




DEMAND-7

Bangladesh Forest Department
 Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change


Prospectus

Strategic Environmental Assessment
 of South West Region and the Sundarbans




April 2020

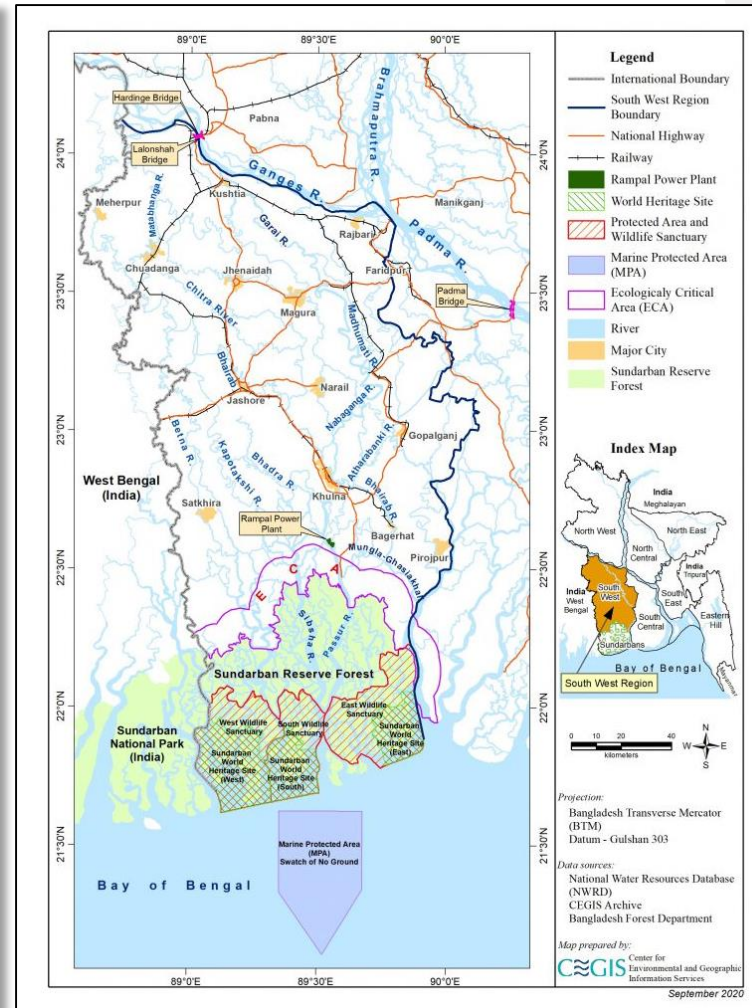
Prepared by



Center for Environmental and
Geographic Information Services



Integra Consulting s.r.o.



Include whole area in SEA Process

Include areas of Barisal, Patuakhali and Barguna Districts in the on-going Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) process as the water flow from these areas has significant influence on the Sundarbans.

তোমাদের বিদ্যুতের জন্য আমাদের আবাস ধ্বংস ক'রো না!
Don't destroy our habitat for your electricity!

শিল্পায়ন ও অবকাঠামোগত দুর্যোগ থেকে সুন্দরবন রক্ষা করো

১ সেপ্টেম্বর ২০১৬ বৃহস্পতিবার | শহীদ হাদিস পার্ক, খুলনা

clean

সমিটি (সনাক), খুলনা

ট্রান্সপারেন্সি
ইন্টারন্যাশনাল
বাংলাদেশ
দুর্নীতিবিহীন একটি সামাজিক আন্দোলন





THANK YOU!
