

BARAKAR RIVER at ASANSOL



We were allotted BARAKAR river at Asansol to be our area of survey. We went there on 22/11/2017 from the school, along with our teacher.

Weather – sunny

Temperature – 23°C

Time of collection of water sample – 10:35 a.m.

Wind – light, 14 km/hr

About the river -

This river is the main tributary of Damodar river in Eastern INDIA. Originating near Padma in Hazaribagh district of Jharkhand, it flows for 225 km (140 mi) across the northern part of the Chota Nagpur plateau, mostly in a west to east direction, before joining the Damodar at Dishergarh in Bardhaman district of West Bengal. It has a catchment area of 6159 sq. km. The river flows in full fury during rainy season, in it's upper reaches and has already washed away two bridges on the Grand Trunk road.

(source : **wikipedia.com**)

Our Observations & Inferences -

- ✚ The water is clean. (*only through visual inspection. For the results obtained from testing the water sample, please stay in touch*)
- ✚ The river is used for a variety of purposes like –
 - ✓ Bathing – humans as well as cattles.
 - ✓ Drinking – local people say that the water is safe for drinking & they consume it without having it purified.
 - ✓ Water supply – water of this river is supplied by the local municipality after purification and necessary cleaning processes.
 - ✓ Washing – Local people wash their clothes over here.
 - ✓ Festivals – Festivals like CHHATH are celebrated on the banks of the river. Also, idol immersion is done in the river.
 - ✓ Fishing – fishes of local varieties are found here in large quantities and fished by the local people. Anyone can fish over here & no special membership is required for fishing. Fish, in this region is the main food item besides rice or puffed rice.
 - ✓ After-cremation processes – there is a crematorium just beside the river & the unburnt dead bodies are thrown in the river.
- ✚ Disease analysis – According to local inhabitants, no one has been infected upon drinking the river water or bathing in it. Only during the rainy season, when the river water is yellow, skin problems arise due to bathing in the river. People do not consume the river water during rainy season.
- ✚ Floods – the local people con it as “ savior as well as destroyer”, The river overflows it’s banks during the rainy season and water level rises by some 45 – 50 ft from the river bed.



current water level



water level reaches to the red mark

- ✚ Water-level – During summers season, water level stays at 1 to 3 ft, at the center of the river. During rainy season, it overflows the banks and reaches to a height of 45 to 50 ft, at the center.
- ✚ Dredging – dredging of the river bed is being done right now.



(1: deposition of alluvium n the river bed, 2: survey of local people, 3: survey of local people, 4: survey of local people)