

Cleaning of Wahumkhrah conducted by the Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council

In a meeting held on the 6th July 2017 at the Conference Hall, KHADC Shillong which was chaired by the Chief Executive Member in the presence of the Executive Member i/c Water Resource and the Rangbah Shnong of the localities surrounding Wahumkhrah, it was felt necessary to make efforts towards cleaning of Wahumkhrah . There is a need to have a joint effort from all the stakeholders i.e. the Local dorbar, the District Council, the Government and the public at large to restore the river to its past glory.

As a part of this project the Council shall engaged Muster Rolls duly recommended by the Dorbar Shong on contractual basis at `5000/- per month each. The cleaning of the river was undertaken by the Water Resource Department started on the 7th August 2017 along the stretch from Urkaliar to Mawlai where initially the Council has engaged the following staff under the Supervision of the Water Resource Supervisor:-

1. Council Staff (4 Nos)
2. Muster Roll (8 Nos)

So far 6 truckloads of wastes were collected and transported to Marten.



Fig1: Dumping of Garbage by Public at Wahumkhrah River.



Fig2 : Piles of Garbage being stuck at Check Dam.



Fig3: Indiscriminate Dumping of Garbage at the Foot of Bridge at Umkaliar.



Fig4: Garbage carried by the river from upstream accumulated at the pillar of the bridge at Wahingdoh.

The Council shall install signboards along the stretch of the river to deter people from dumping garbage. A joint inspection was held with the P.W.D. Central Division and Stone Sub-Division on the 9th Oct, 2017 for identification of the area for setting up a signboard in which permission had been granted. Another inspection was held on the 19th Oct, 2017 with the P.W.D. National Highway for the purpose of setting up one signboard at Jingkieng Mawlai in which permission is yet to be received. After getting the permission from the P.W.D. National Highway, the Council will set up ten (10) numbers of signboard from Jingkieng Mawlai to Umkaliar.

The cost incurred by the council till date is as follows

		Nos	Rate	Amount (₹)
1	Cost of equipment			89,500/-
2	Salary of Muster Rolls@`5000/-per head	8	5000	1,20,000/-
3	Lifting of collected garbage	6 trucks	3000	18,000/-
4	Total			2,27,500/-

The work is very challenging for the Council as people still continue to dump garbage indiscriminately into the river especially during the night. Many of those houses located along the stretch treat the river as dustbin and directly dump their household waste into the river causing it to be accumulated along the river banks. There is a need to create awareness among the mass that dumping of garbage nowadays is punishable by law and will attract penalty

So far, we had covered from Umkaliar to Wahingdoh Bridge. Our effort of cleaning the river is an ongoing process. We hope that people should be aware of the ill effect of dumping garbage into the rivers /stream and to cooperate with the Council for our welfare as well as for the future generations. Our effort to restore Wahumkhrah back its past glory shall only bear fruit with the co-operation of all the citizens .



CLEANING WORK IN PROGRESS



RECENTLY CLEANED STRETCH OF THE RIVER AT UMKALIAR



GARBAGE BEING LIFTED BY MUNICIPAL TRUCK.



RECENTLY CLEANED STRETCH OF THE RIVER.