

# Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis Mahavidyalaya



(Accredited by NAAC)

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## A State Level Seminar on Living Under Threats; Mangroves of Sunderban

Date: 11.01.2019

Time: 10.30 am – 5.30 pm

Venue: Seminar Hall, Room no 15, College Premises

Number of Participants: 79

Name and Designation of Resource Person(s): Dr. Shruti Agrawal.

Organizing Committee: Department of Geography and IQAC in collaboration with SOCEO.

**Brief Report:** The Seminar was inaugurated by the honourable Deputy Consul General Mr Schord German Consulate Kolkata at 10.30 a.m in Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis Mahavidyalaya. The director . SOCEO, Mr Sujoy Chatterjee and Principal Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis Mahavidyalaya, Dr Shyamal Karmokar welcomed all delegates and participants. Dr Alpana Ray. Head Of the Department gave a short speech on the importance of the seminar in brief . In the First half The Resource Persons Dr Meheebub Sahana, WWF india, Dr Punorbasu Chowdhury, Environmental Science, University of Calcutta, prog Sugata Hazra, School of Oceanographic Studies, Dr A.A Danda World Bank Consultant delivered their speech on the consequences of depleting Mangrove forests in Sunderban and its role in climate change in Indian scenario. In the second half a Panel discussion renowned Professors from Universities and colleges participated.

The Resource persons had focused on the issues of a sprawling mangrove forest straddling the coasts of Bangladesh and India, faces a multitude of threats jeopardizing its delicate ecosystem and the communities reliant upon it. Climate change looms as a primary menace, driving rising sea levels, intensifying cyclones, and altering precipitation patterns. These changes exacerbate saltwater intrusion, leading to soil salinization and jeopardizing the survival of mangrove species crucial for the ecosystem's stability. Human activities further compound the challenges confronting the Sundarbans. Deforestation, fueled by illegal logging and land conversion for agriculture and infrastructure, diminishes the mangrove's ability to act as a buffer against storm surges and erosion. The Sundarbans' status as a UNESCO World Heritage Site and habitat for the iconic Bengal tiger amplifies the human-wildlife conflict. Encounters between tigers and villagers result in casualties and provoke retaliatory killings, escalating tensions between conservation efforts and human needs. In conclusion, the Sundarbans mangrove forests confront a precarious future amid mounting threats. Urgent action is required to address climate change, curb deforestation, mitigate pollution, and foster coexistence between humans and wildlife. Only through collaborative and concerted efforts can we preserve the Sundarbans' ecological integrity, safeguard the livelihoods of local communities, and ensure the survival of this invaluable natural heritage for generations to come. The total participants were 79 in the seminar. In the valedictory session Dr Alpana Ray, Head of the Department gave a vote of thanks to all of them and the programme ended with Certificates giving ceremony.



**LIVING UNDER THREAT: MANGROVES OF THE SUNDARBANS**  
SEARCH FOR COPING MECHANISMS THROUGH AN INNOVATIVE INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACH

11<sup>th</sup> January 2019 in Kolkata



A Symposium organised by  
**Department of Geography**  
**Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis Mahavidyalaya**  
111/3 B.T. Road, Bonhoogly, Kolkata - 700018

In collaboration with  
**soceo**

## BANNER OF THE SEMINAR



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**Patron**

Dr. Shyamal Karmakar  
Principal, Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis Mahavidyalaya

**Organising Committee**

Convener: Sujoy Chatterjee (Managing Director, SOCEO)  
Dr. Suchita Dutta (Lecturer, Department of Geography)

**Organising Secretary**

Dr. Alpana Ray (Head, Department of Geography)

**Committee Members**

Dr. Kamala Mitra (Co-ordinator, IQAC)  
Dr. Rekha Biswas (Assistant Professor, Department of Geography),  
Ms. Sudeshna Choudhury (Lecturer, Department of Geography),  
Mr. Sudip Roy (Lecturer, Department of Geography),

**Committee for organizing seminar**



  
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**Schedule**

10:00 am	<b>Inauguration</b> Welcome speech by Dr. Alpana Ray Head, Department of Geography, Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis Mahavidyalaya  Speech by Patron: Dr. Shyamal Karmakar Principal, Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis Mahavidyalaya
10:20 am	A brief orientation on the Symposium by Sujoy Chatterjee Managing Director, SOCEO
10:30 am	<b>Technical Presentation – I</b> <b>Dr. Meheub Sahana</b> Lecturer in Remote Sensing and GIS at Indira Gandhi Conservation Monitoring Centre (IGCMC), WWF-India with support from the Ministry and Environment and For- ests and Climate Change, India  <b>Topic:-</b> "Application of remote sensing and GIS techniques for mangrove habitat site, suitability assessment towards their restoration in the Sunderban Biosphere Reserve, India"
11:00 am	<b>Technical Presentation – II</b> <b>Dr. Punarbasu Chaudhury</b> Head/Incharge, Assistant Professor, Department of Envi- ronmental Science, University of Calcutta  <b>Topic:-</b> 'Mangrove Flora of Indian Sundarban: Threats, conservation and wise use.'

### Programme Schedule



**Mr Schord German Consulate Kolkata Inaugurated the seminar**



**DR MEHABUB SAHANA FROM WWF INDIA DELIVERED LECTURE**



**PARTICIPANTS IN THE SEMINAR**



**PROFESSOR SUGATA HAZRA, SCHOOL OF OCEANOGRAPHIC STUDIES JADAVPUR UNIVERSITY**



**Pannel Discusion in the Second Half**

*Karmakar*

Dr. Shyamal Karmakar, Principal