UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA

UG-CBCS ABILITY ENHANCEMENT COMPULSORY COURSE (AECC)- 2

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

SEMESTER - 2

PROJECT REPORT

ON

A STUDY OF RABINDRA SAROVAR LAKE: AN ENCLOSED FRESH WATERBODY ECOSYSTEM

Field work done on 14/07/2023

Students Participated: B.A. Honours, B.Sc. and B.Com. Honours and General

SUMMARY

Rabindra Sarobar, a lake of national importance is the second largest water body in Kolkata and situated in the southern part of the city (22°30′.30″ -22°30′.42″ N, 88°21′-88°22′ E). Rabindra Sarobar and its vicinity is a heaven for floristic diversity, both aquatic and terrestrial that provides a natural CO2 sink of the metropolitan city, apart from its pristine beauty and aesthetic value. It also serves as suitable habitat for a variety of amphibians, fishes, reptiles, waterfowls and migratory birds.

Today it stands as a green and blue landmark at the heart of southern Kolkata. At present the Kolkata Improvement Trust (K.I.T.) maintains this recreational complex. Rabindra Sarobar Lake is situated in South Kolkata covering an area of 192acres, where the actual water area consisting of three water bodies is about 73 acres. It is surrounded by Southern Avenue to the North, Russa Road to the West, Dhakuria to the east, and the Kolkata Sub urban Railway track to the south. It is situated in part of ward no. - 87 as well as occupying a part of ward no. - 90 under Kolkata Municipal Area. The lake area is situated between and 22°30'03" to 22°30'05" north longitude and 88°21'02" to 88°22'03" east.

The importance of the Rabindra Sarobar Lakes cannot be overstated. Lack of education, awareness and sensitivity towards the local ecology and environment has contributed towards the lack of apathy in conserving it efficiently. We must also keep in mind that the eco-system in and around the lake is fragile and any irresponsible behaviour can lead to irreparable damage. Several nongovernment organizations, prominent citizens, ecologists, environmental and wildlife enthusiast, bird watchers, botanical and environmental societies have come close to develop a common platform to protect the local ecosystem and environment and raise awareness. It is hoped that the Government agencies and the citizens will come forward to restore the floral and faunal wealth, as well as the virginity of the environment which is beneficial for the populous metropolitan city of Kolkata.







