

# *Rivers of the World Foundation*

ROW Annual Meeting -2020-2021



by

Subijoy Dutta, P.E.  
email: [subijoy@gmail.com](mailto:subijoy@gmail.com)

<http://rowfoundation.org>

# *Rivers of the World Foundation*

## BACKGROUND

- Rivers of the World (ROW) Foundation was formed in July 2007. It stemmed from the Yamuna River cleanup effort in India that was ongoing from 1993.

The primary objective of the Foundation includes efforts to Cleanup/Protect highly polluted Rivers in

❖ US

❖ India

❖ China

❖ Philippines

❖ Nepal

❖ Europe

❖ Bangladesh

❖ S. America (Mexico)

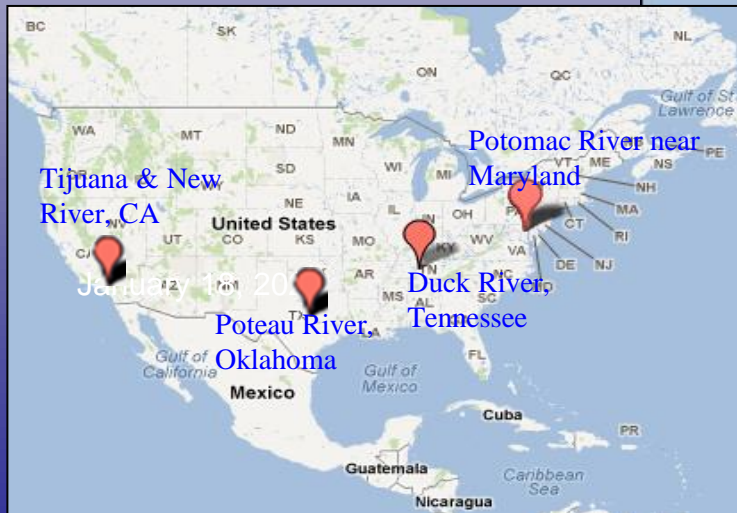
❖ Australia

❖ Other Parts of the World

**Rivers of the World ROW Foundation** is a Tax-Exempt (501(c)3) Organization. All contributions to the ROW Foundation (Fed. Tax ID 26-062-3120) qualify to be deductible from U.S. income taxes. All Rivers of the World Foundation team members are participating on their personal time and contributing their personal funds.

- A synopsis on *Rivers of the World Foundation* –
  - Where and How we Flow

- China
- India
- Nepal
- Philippines
- United states



[www.rowfoundation.org](http://www.rowfoundation.org)



Column1	Last name	Profession	Background	Headshot
Pranuj	Malla, Kathmandu, Nepal	Drinking Water Specialist	Science graduate from Peoples College, Kathmandu, Nepal	
Priyo (PG)	Banerjee	ROW Coordinator, Pune, India	CEO, Pinnacle Equipments Pvt. Ltd, Pune, India	
Pushpa	Morolla	Member, Hyderabad, India		
Rajashree	S. Walhekar	Active Volunteer - Pune River Cleanups	B.R. Gholap Mahavidyalaya(2004)	
Rajendra	Kumar Yadav	Health Science/Phlebotomist. From 2011	Diploma In Medical and Laboratory Technology (DMLT)	
Roopa	Shekar	Member, Mysore, India	Studied Kukkerahali Lake - Algae bloom.	
Rudra (Soham)	Saha	ROW Intern -Pond Cleanup and media Materials. Teacher, Birati, Kolkata	B.Com, Calcutta University (2016). MBA Financial and Marketing Management(2019)	

Column1	Last name	Profession	Background	Headshot
P.C	Abhilash	ROW Coordinator Kerala, India		
Pawan	Sharma	ROW Coordinator Gokul, UP, India		
Phalguni	Bhattacharyya	ROW Coordinator Kolkata, India		
Yi heng	Wu	ROW Volunteer- River Cleanup Jiang'an District, Wuhan, China	Completed Training on Qingjiang River Water Quality evaluation. Hubei Normal University graduate 2007.	
Prabhakaran	Puthyaveedu	Rotary Club, Rural Improvements. <a href="http://sriprojects.org/Kollengode">http://sriprojects.org / Kollengode</a>	PhD, Century University, Los Angeles (1984). Founded Primary School - Sri Vidyalaya School in Kollengode, Kerala	
Pradip	P. Walhekar	Rotary Club, Pune Chinchwad District, Mula/Pawana River Cleanup volunteer.	College SF Jain Vidyalaya and Junior College	
Jayanta	Patra	Project Management planning, and coordination. Bhubaneswar, Odisha	MA in Sustainable Int'l Development, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA 02453 USA (2013)	
Jerry	L. Ellis, Jr.	Environmental Scientist with the U.S. EPA. ROW volunteer, Clarksburg, Maryland	MS, Environmental Science, Tufts University - Medford, Massachusetts, U.S.A. (1999)	
Noel	Hechanova	ROW Coordinator Iloilo City, Philippines	Director, ENRO, Iloilo City, Philippines	

Please check our list of ROW team members the web

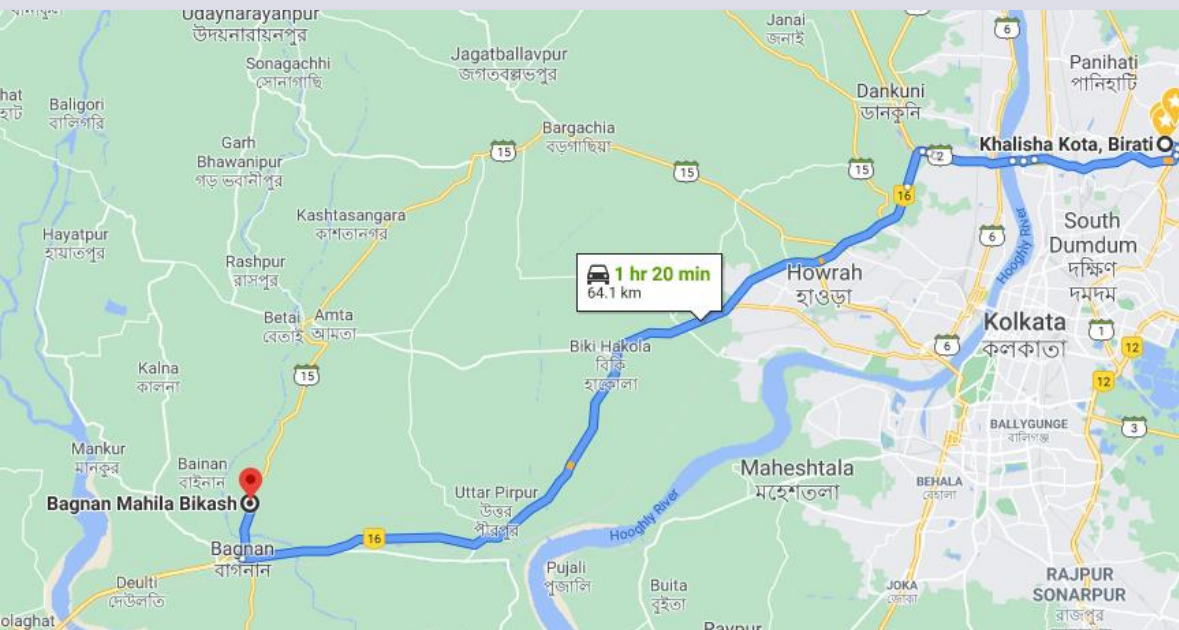
# *Rivers of the World Foundation*

## ■ Some of the Major Accomplishments of 2019-2020

- World Water Day 2020 – [Updated Alt. Activities due to COVID-19](#)
- World Water Day 2019 – 11 events
- 4 Cash Awards given – <https://www.rowfoundation.org/0/WWD2019-Reports>
  
- Visited Wuhan, China - Yangtze River Team in Nov. 25-27, 2019
  - Met with a number of students and other local teams
- Visited Iloilo, and Cebu Philippines – at the end of November, 2019
  - Visited Iloilo River and other river bank restoration areas.
  
- Environmental Training and Research Institute (EnTRI) Follow Up in VBU-Hazaribagh, Hyderabad, Uttarakhand, Bengaluru, Mysuru and Pune
  
- Sneak Peek at ROW-team [Visits India February 2020 - Calendar and Maps w/ 2020 Pictures](#)

# Rivers of the World Foundation

- Training Workshop in SOA University, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India Feb 11-12, 2019
- Visited a Rural center in West Bengal
  - Bagnan Mahila Bikash, (Women's Craft and Training Ctr.)





# Rivers of the World Foundation



Matt Perry watching interactions with Students at Himalayan English School



Ganges River – Rishikesh – Captured by Matt Perry



Renewable Energy Sources – in a Haryana Village



Traffic Pattern – Observation by Matt Perry



# *Rivers of the World Foundation*

- Water quality testing and Monitoring Lab Setup – Himalayan English School, Ghansali, Uttarakhand, India.
- Conducted seminars -Uttarakhand, India
  - Visited Donni village – **Mount Valley Development Association**



Met with local leaders along with Dr. Taori,  
and Sudhir Nautiyal

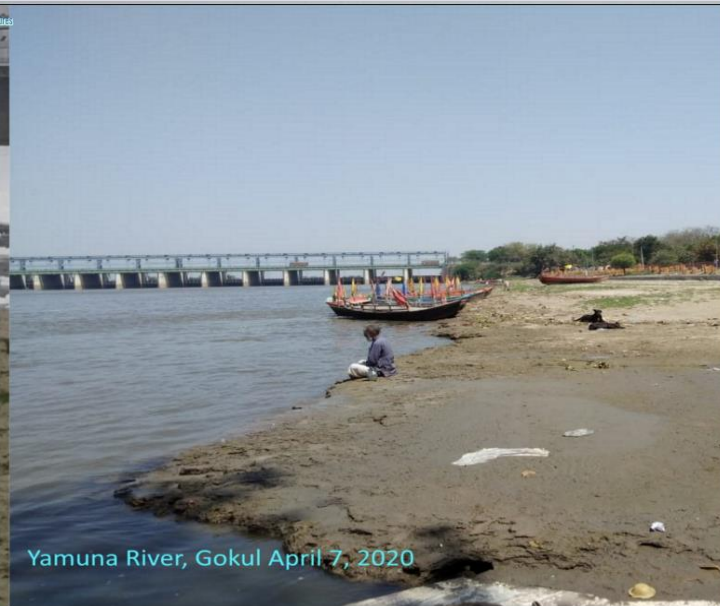


With Avtar Singh Negi  
Secretay, MVDA



# *Rivers of the World Foundation*

- Water quality testing and Monitoring Lab Setup – Himalayan English School, Ghansali, Uttarakhand, India.
- ROW team (Sucharit and Tushar K. Guha) Visited Gokul, and Vrindaban – bank of Yamuna River.
  - Foam removal effort for the Yamuna River
  - Clean Yamuna in April due to COVID-19 Locked Down



## **Clean Yamuna After a Decade in Gokul, India**

While entire India is locked down from March 25th, the Rivers of the World (ROW) Foundation volunteers in Gokul village observed a great/unbelievable change in the Yamuna River Water quality. For over a decade Yamuna has been flowing with over one foot of foam and dark colored water at this site and now the Yamuna is flowing as a live river again with her original Himalayan color.

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- Met with PGR Sindhia, ex. Minister in Karnataka and President of India Boy Scout Groups - in Bengaluru, Karnataka India
  - Discussed about water and cleanup of the Lakes with the students
  - Tested their Water
  - Demonstrated water testing to the participants.
  - Students showed interest to move forward.



- Follow up on Earthquake Relief in Nepal
  - Repairing of Two School buildings
  - Thansing, Nuwakot and Kot Timal
  - help from – many ROW members & GOPIO Foundation
  - New School Built with ADB Grant now



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## **Plans for 2021**

1. Water, Waste and Energy Training in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India
  - Planning for late 2021 or early 2022 after the Pandemic situation is stable.
2. Water Testing and Monitoring Workshop for School Students – Rishikesh
  - Locally the students will continue as the pandemic condition is stable. ROW team will visit during mid to late 2021.
3. Gokul and Vrindaban – Composting and Renewable Energy plan and discussion w/ Local people + Yamuna Water cleanup options upstream.
4. Water Education and Awareness Program with Murals involving School Students in Rishikesh and Ghansali with Jeff Huntington (Annapolis, MD)
  - Date TBD (Jeff will be working with Sucharit Dutta, ROW Coordinator, and Mr. Nautiyal)
5. Yamuna River cleanup effort in Agra with Brij Khndelwal and Shravan Kumar
6. Collaborating with MIT and working with them on validating their innovative Dry Testing System.
7. Conduct a Water, Waste and Energy Training in Iloilo, Philippines after the Pandemic situation is stable.

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**In 2020 We plan to arrange Environmental Training in India, Philippines, and China**  
*TRAINING COMPONENTS*

1. Water Treatments
  - a. Drinking Water
  - b. Wastewater
  - c. Stormwater
  - d. Water Quality – Testing and Monitoring
2. Waste (MSW + Hazardous + Medical) Management
  - a. MSW
  - b. Hazardous Waste
  - c. Waste to Energy
  - d. Recycle
  - e. Reuse
3. Climate Change
  - a. Factors affecting Climate Change
  - b. Remote Sensing Technologies
4. Yoga/Ayurvedic/Global interfaith
  - a. Yoga
  - b. Health
  - c. Women Involvement and Community Interaction
5. Education/Awareness
  - a. Media
  - b. WWD (World Water Day plus Similar Events)
  - c. Video Documentaries



## **Conclusions/Recommendations**

- 1. This Fiscal year we'd like to begin a more progressive strides with the help and support of our members, and partners and with creative inputs and Ideas.**
- 2. We plan to arrange Environmental Training to upcoming professionals and school students in Uttarakhand, Odisha, and other parts of India, Nepal and Philippines.**
- 3. Small steps at a time –**
  - Initiate Small Demonstration Projects involving any of the following:**
    - Biological Treatment of a polluted Stream/Lake or Drainage Canal**
    - Other low-cost/Biological Systems**
    - Involve Communities – awareness programs**

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**QUESTIONS?**

Please send comments or questions to Subijoy Dutta  
[Subijoy@gmail.com](mailto:Subijoy@gmail.com)