

ROW Annual Meeting -2021-2022



by  
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<http://rowfoundation.org>

## 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

❖ Indonesia

❖ Bangladesh

❖ S. America (Mexico)

❖ Australia

❖ Other Parts of the World

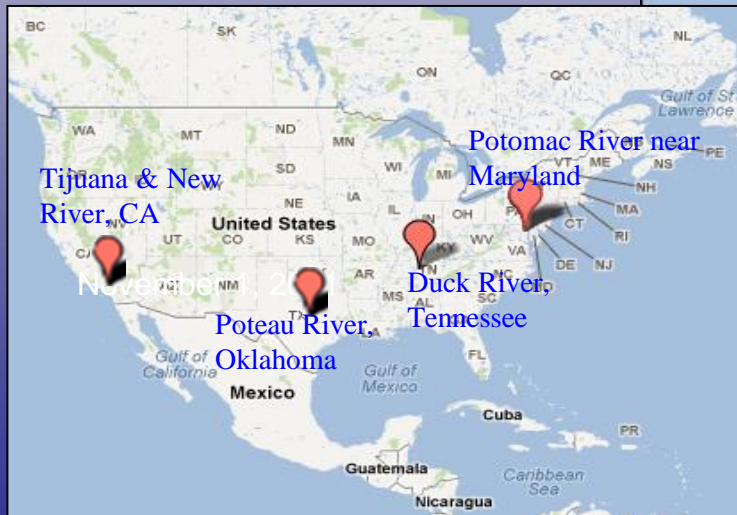
**Rivers of the World ROW Foundation** is a Tax-Exempt (501(c)3) Organization. All contributions to the ROW Foundation (Fed. Tax ID 26-062-3120) qualify to be deductible from U.S. income taxes. All Rivers of the World Foundation team members are participating on their personal time and contributing their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

# ■ A synopsis on *Rivers of the World Foundation* –

- Where and How we Flow

## ■ Countries Where we Currently work

- China
- India
- Nepal
- Philippines
- United states



Some of our project sites



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)	

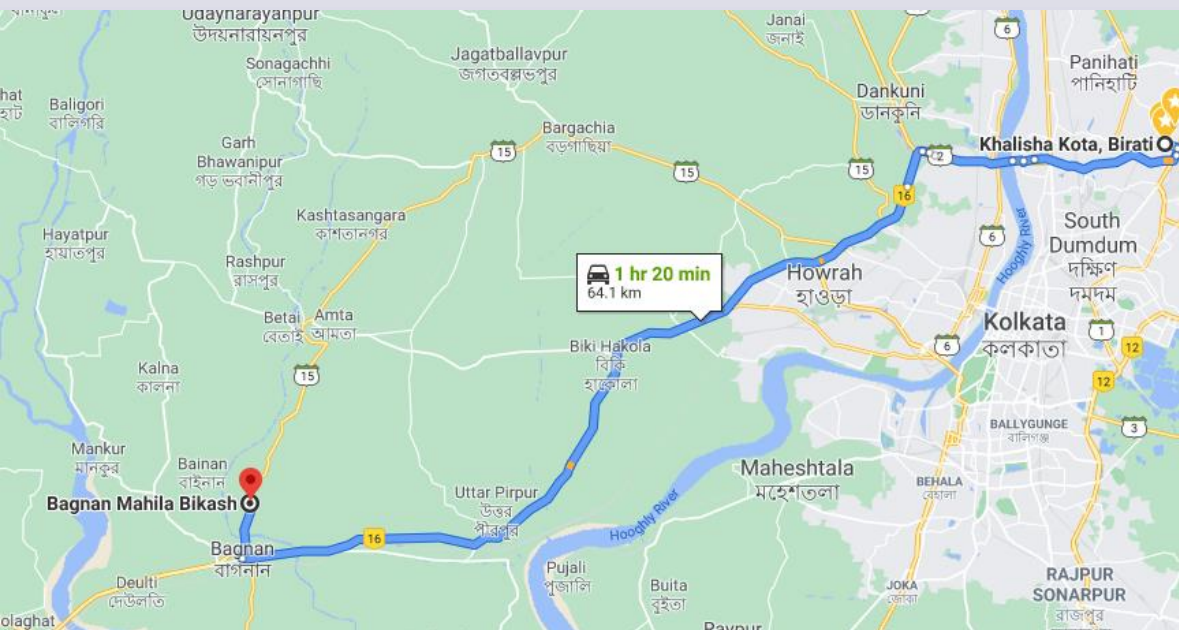
Column1	Last name	Profession	Background	Headshot
Nagiyoti	S. Bollapragada	Environmental Engineer. ROW Coordinator, Maharashtra, India	Env. Sustainability Rotary Action Group (ESRAG) member, Sangli, Maharashtra	
Pawan	Sharma	ROW Coordinator Gokul, UP, India		
Phalguni	Bhattacharyya	ROW Coordinator Kolkata, 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, Kerala Improvements. <a href="http://sriprojects.org/">http://sriprojects.org/</a> Kollengode	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 on the web

## ■ Some of the Major Accomplishments of 2020-2021

- World Water Day 2021 – HES, Ghansali and Iloilo, Philippines.
  - Others canceled due to the Covid-19 pandemic
- Covid-19 Pandemic Assistance – Active Assistance provided by ROW team
  - ROW volunteers – actively helped in protecting, saved a few lives – Delhi
- 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 a few pics
- 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

- 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.)



## Activities in 2021

- Worked on Nepal Well-Water Treatment System Development for Households and Communities (next few slides)
- Joined in a collaborative Effort with Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group (ESRAG)
  - Helping with River restoration and remediation plan and evaluation –
    - Krishna River, Sangli, Maharashtra
    - World Rivers Day Series presentations
    - Will be giving the World Rivers Day series Roundup Presentation on November 24<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM EST.
- Climate Change Resilience and Reversal Effort -
  - Working with Harsha Karumanchi and Dr. Bill Roper on this ‘
  - Scheduled to visit Prof, Joh Lienhard, Director, Water and Food Systems Research Lab at MIT, Cambridge, MA on Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> – possible collaborative effort with them.



## ■ ROW Foundation work Kathmandu Valley, Nepal

- General background of the area
  - Nepal is a landlocked country (pop. 28 million), with China on the north and India on south, east and west.
  - Mostly Mountainous - with Mount Everest at 8,848 meters.



Kathmandu Valley (pop. 1.77 million)



Mountain Range at a distance from Kot Timal



# Well-water treatment Kathmandu Valley, Nepal

## ➤ Past performance in Kerala, India

- The MF Filter system is being used by a number of communities in Kerala.
- Suresh Soman, an Engineer and our team member helped with installation and training of MF cartridge system in Kerala to provide safe drinking water during the 2018 flood disaster.
- A number of MF community filter systems installed there worked effectively to provide clean potable water to the affected community.
- There were issues when the water level went down and muddy water were pumped. It choked the filter.
- Alternate water source and replacement of the cartridge was needed.
- The disaster relief work was organized by the Registered Engineers for Disaster Relief (RedR.org.in)



Community filter system used in Kerala

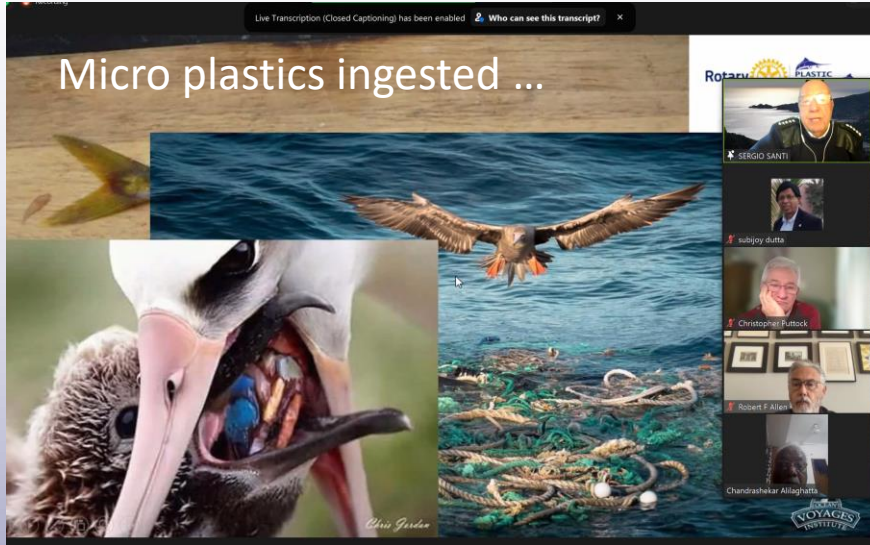


## ➤ Plan for 2022

- A demonstration unit for Nepal Well-water treatment system is being arranged to be sent to our local representative in Kathmandu, for providing demo to a few households.
- Our ROW team member from Nepal, Pranuj Mall will provide a presentation and shed some lights on this.
  - Joined in a collaborative Effort with Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group (ESRAG)
    - Helping with River restoration and remediation plan and evaluation –
      - Krishna River, Sangli, Maharashtra
      - World Rivers Day Series presentations
      - Attended an Eye-opening presentation by an Italian Navy Commodore Sergio Santi on October 27th



## ➤ A few Pictures from Commodore Santi's presentation



- Row (Subijoy Dutta) will be giving the World Rivers Day series Roundup Presentation on November 24<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM EST.



- Climate Change Resilience and Reversal Effort -
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Image of this massive sinkhole shows the Blessem district of Erfstadt in Germany. (Courtesy: Cologne district government)



- Climatic disasters during the past few years causing unprecedented - ➤ floods, ➤ landslides, ➤ mudslides, ➤ tornadoes, ➤ hurricanes, ➤ forest fires, ➤ drought, and ➤ evolving viral outbreaks.
- Intense climatic events are causing huge loss of lives, damages to properties, and businesses supporting current agricultural, and industrial infrastructure.



- The proposed will look into two specific outcomes –
  - → develop steps to prevent the loss/damage of lives and properties due to unprecedented weather events and
  - → remedial steps involving climate reversal.
- 1. Going to India on Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>, and Cover –  
Tentative Plan -  
Dec 6th - Arrive Delhi  
Dec 9 - Fly to Kolkata (~7 pM)–
- 2. Guwahati, Shillong, Silchar (Dec 15 - 28)  
Dec 29 - Silchar to Kolkata  
Back to HQ Kolkata, New year with family.  
Jan 3 AM - fly to Delhi.  
Jan 5 - Roorkee (Jan 5 ), Rishikesh, Ghansali, and back to Delhi Jan 8.  
Jan 9- Columbus sailing (road) along Yamuna Okhla barrage start, visit all towns along the Yamuna- check on water issues with two engineers and and a water specialist. Cover -  
Faridabad, Vrindaban, Mathura, Gokul, Kakhretta, Agra, Kalyanpur Mafi, till Chambal Confluence (441 Km) and back Jan 17th to Delhi,  
Jan 18 - Rishikesh (Uttarakhand) Dehradun, Guttu glacier, Kedarnath, if possible, return to Delhi Jan 25, observe Jan 26; in Delhi  
Jan 26 - night fly to Bhubaneswar - SOA University, provide training seminar on water treatment,  
Jan 27 - Climate change, covid-19 medical waste management.seminar.  
Jan 28 - seminar day 2 - give 1 hr. Exam for participants.  
Jan 30 - return to HQ office Kolkata, <http://www.snmengineering.com>

## Plans for 2022

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Further planning to continue....  
♦ Coimbatore, Kumbhoknam, Thiruvannamalai, Tamil Nadu; ♦ Kollengode +, Kerala; ♦ Vizianagaram, Andhra; ♦ **Bengaluru, Mysuru, Kaveri River, Karnataka**; ♦ **Sangli, Krishna River, Maharashtra**, Pune, Mumbai, Maharashtra; ♦ **Kathmandu, Pokhara, Nepal**; ♦ **Kolkata**; ♦

## 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 undertake a Yamuna STP survey and WQ monitoring for towns and cities along the Yamuna River going past Agra till its confluence with the Chambal River (441 Kms ) one way – ROW team (Jan 9 to 17, 2022) – 3 Engineers and 1 Water scientist.
3. Planning to provide Environmental Training to upcoming professionals and school students at SOA Odisha, and other parts of India, Nepal and Philippines, if the pandemic situation improve.
4. Small steps at a time –
  - Initiate Small Demonstration Projects where feasible involving any of the following:
    - Biological Treatment of a polluted Stream/Lake or Drainage Canal – will look into Bengaluru and Mysuru in Feb 2022.
    - **Involve Communities – awareness programs**



# QUESTIONS?

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