



Kolkata
Municipal
Corporation

Invitation



Joint Seminar on *Climate Change :* *The Urban Transportation Challenge*

**Wednesday, 8th August 2007
10:00 A.M.—1:00 P.M. The Conclave, Kolkata, India**

Cities, more than states, are at the forefront of the global response to dangerous climate change. Cradles of civilisation, cities are complex organisms, dependent on external natural resources, interlocking institutions and networks for their existence. Cities are also supremely vulnerable to climate disruptions. It is fitting, therefore, that we should be looking towards civic authorities for leadership on climate change as it represents one of the most fundamental threats to their delicate life support systems. This is particularly the case for coastal cities such as Kolkata which will face more intense rainfall and other weather events causing havoc to transport, energy and infrastructure not to mention people. Transportation is already one of the biggest challenges for city managers in terms of greenhouse gas emissions, congestion, road safety, and related hazards. Intrinsicly, it is also one of the toughest and most politicized public policy areas due to contested responsibilities and divisional differences across government. But it is also one of the areas where quick wins & co-benefits can be secured through enlightened leadership.

This Seminar addresses these issues in comparative perspective using the example of cities such as London, a recognised global leader in the field. London Councillor, Mr Murad Qureshi, who also Chairs London's Waterways Commission, will be the Keynote Speaker. KMC will also make a presentation on Kolkata's key transportation challenges, and the likely impact on it by regional climate changes predicted, and relevant strategies that could be proposed for action.

An event under the

Climate Challenge India

initiative



Kolkata Municipal
Corporation

PROGRAMME



- 10.00A.M. – 10.15A.M.** **WELCOME address by Honorable Shri Bikash Ranjan Bhattacharya**, Mayor of Kolkata, KMC
- 10.15A.M. – 10.30A.M.** **INTRODUCTION** to the theme "*Climate Change – the Urban Transportation Challenge*" by **Ms Malini Mehra**, Founder & CEO, Centre for Social Markets
- 10.30A.M. – 11.30A.M.** **PANEL PRESENTATIONS:**
- Mr Murad Qureshi AM**, Assembly Member, **London:** "*Climate and Transportation: the London Experience*"
- Mr Alapan Bandopadhyay**, Municipal Commissioner, **Kolkata** "*Kolkata : The City's Infrastructure Challenges*"
- Dr Sudhakar Yedla**, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development and Research, **Mumbai** - "*Transportation and Climate Change in Indian Cities: : Experiences from Delhi and Mumbai.*"
- 11.30A.M. – 11.45A.M.** **TEA BREAK :**
- 11:45A.M. – 12.45P.M.** **PANEL DISCUSSION:** Chair – Malini Mehra
Followed by **OPEN FORUM WITH AUDIENCE**
- 12.45P.M. – 13.00P.M.** **CONCLUSIONS & NEXT STEPS**
- 13:00 P.M.** **CLOSE followed by Lunch**

About Kolkata Municipal Corporation :

Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) – is the key civic body charged with the responsibility of responding to Kolkata's civic improvement. KMC provides a range of services to the city including the supply of drinking water, sewerage and drainage, solid waste management, roads maintenance, street lighting and slum development works.

About Centre for Social Markets :

The Centre for Social Markets (www.csmworld.org) is an independent non-profit organization dedicated to making markets work for the triple bottom line - people, planet and profit. Founded in 2000, CSM has pioneered a focus on indigenous industry in emerging markets and the Asian diaspora globally - mobilising these constituencies on corporate citizenship, sustainable development and human rights issues. This event is being held as part of CSM's Climate Challenge India campaign which seeks to educate and generate positive energy for climate action in India.

Programme supported by

HEINRICH
BÖLL
FOUNDATION

For further information and to register for this event, please contact:

Dr Tapati Ghosh, Director - Operations, at info@csmworld.org or please visit www.csmworld.org