



Doi Ghat Redevelopment Along Hooghly River

Why in News?

[Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port \(SMP\)](#), Kolkata, and TNS Logi-Park Pvt. Ltd. signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** to **redevelop the historic Doi (Dahi) Ghat** under a [Corporate Social Responsibility \(CSR\) initiative](#), aiming to restore its cultural and economic legacy.

- The Doi Ghat project aligns with SMP's broader initiative to **develop and beautify the [Hooghly riverfront](#)** for cultural revival and tourism.

Key Points

- **Historical and Cultural Significance of Doi Ghat:**
 - Located at the **confluence of [Adi Ganga](#) and the Hooghly River**, opposite Howrah.
 - The name "**Doi Ghat**" is derived from the Bengali word *doi* (curd), due to its historic link to the **[dairy trade from Howrah](#)**.
 - It was a vital **riverine trade and cultural exchange point** between rural Bengal and colonial Calcutta.
- **Significance of the MoU:**
 - **Urban Heritage Conservation:** Revives a forgotten socio-cultural landmark.
 - **Public-Private Partnership (PPP):** Demonstrates successful collaboration for social development.
 - **Tourism and Community Engagement:** Adds to riverfront aesthetics and fosters cultural pride.
 - **Sustainable Development:** Integrates heritage, environment, and infrastructure goals.
 - **Alignment with Clean Ganga Mission:** Supports the broader national objective of **[restoring sacred rivers](#)**.
- **About Adi Ganga:**
 - Known historically as **Gobindapur Creek, Surman's Canal, and Tolly's Canal**.
 - Served as the **main course of the Hooghly River between the 15th and 17th centuries** before silting and diversion.
 - Currently a **polluted urban water body**; efforts are underway for its **revival and rejuvenation**, including:
 - **[National Mission for Clean Ganga \(NMCG\)](#)** has sanctioned **₹650 crore**.
 - Adi Ganga included in a **multi-country [South Asian river pollution combat project](#)**.
- **Hooghly River:**
 - A **260 km tributary** of the **[Ganga](#)** originating from **Murshidabad**.
 - Formed when the Ganga splits into **Padma (towards Bangladesh)** and **Hooghly (towards West Bengal)**.
 - Known also as **Bhagirathi-Hooghly or Kati-Ganga**.
 - Crucial for **port trade, transport, cultural life**, and religious activities in Bengal.



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