

World Water Day (WWD) 2023 Gokul, UP, India - Summary Report

Sponsored by- **Rivers of the World Foundation**, Crofton, Maryland USA

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BE THE CHANGE YOU WANT TO SEE IN THE WORLD

World Water Day

Rivers of the World FOUNDATION
Mending Our Water Ways
rowfoundation.org

SAVE OUR RIVERS AND STREAMS

2023 Accelerating Change

Organized by Local Volunteers

Save our Rivers and Streams

Come!!! Let us Take Steps

Date: March 22 - April 3, 2023
Location: Yamuna river bank

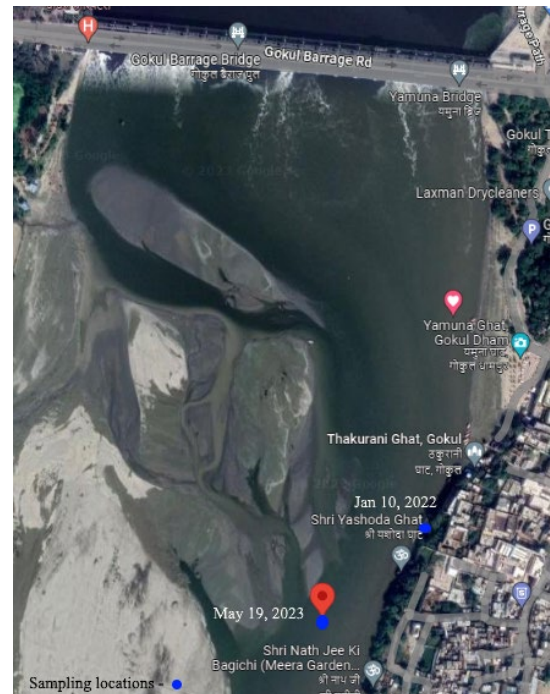
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Mr. Pawan Sharma, Coordinator, for the Rivers of the World (ROW) Foundation, Gokul, U.P. organized a trash cleanup program with his team and volunteers on **March 25th for the World Water Day 2023**. The ROW team from Gokul along with local people wholeheartedly participated in the event.

The water quality for the Yamuna River is severely impacted by pollutants from upstream area.

The ROW team checked the present status of Yamuna water quality on May 19th, 2023 at a location around the center of the Yamuna River about 400 ft. downstream of the Yashoda Ghat. There was no foam in the water due to less agricultural runoff carrying phosphates from upstream area, but high volume of industrial discharges from upstream caused the water quality unsuitable for potable use.

The water quality test results from the recent one on May 19th, 2023 shows an increase of 310 ppm or 58.4% higher compared to the January 10th, 2022 results. The sampling locations are shown on a Map on the right (courtesy google maps).



The actual results from the two dates are provided below:

May 19, 2023:

Latitude: 27° 26' 15.38279" N

Longitude: 77° 42' 59.04832" E

Yamuna water

Total Dissolved Solids (TDS): 840 ppm

Conductivity: 1680 µmho/cm

Temp.: 39.5 C

ROW volunteer, boatman Jagdish Kewat (picture on the right)

took us to the center of the River on May 19th for conducting the water testing.



At the Yashoda Ghat on January 10th, 2022. A lot of foam predominated the underlying flowing Yamuna River. The water quality test results and the location is provided below:

Latitude: 27° 26' 17.07961"

Longitude: 77° 43' 2.45413"

Total Dissolved Solids (TDS): 530 mg/l (ppm)

Conductivity: 1022 µmho/cm

Temp. 14.2 C

The results indicate that the water is not suitable for potable use. The water quality of the river in the Gokul area is severely impacted by pollutants from upstream area. The water quality have been poor for the past 10 years or more with seasonal dilution due to rainfall and runoff from clean areas during the Monsoon.

On Saturday, March 25th, 2023 local people from the area along with the ROW volunteers conducted cleanup of the Yamuna bank and other areas of Gokul. Some of the activities during the cleanup event were captured below in pictures provided by Pawan Sharma, ROW Coordinator, Gokul.





The Yamuna River had no foam during the event as apparent from the picture above. The boatmen take these opportunities to get hired by the pilgrims for rides on such days when the Yamuna River flows without any floating foam.

Because of its association with Lord Krishna, Gokul is an important pilgrimage center located close to Vrindaban, Uttar Pradesh on the bank of the Yamuna River. The focus of the event was to clean up the trash on the bank of Yamuna River and teach students and local community the importance of water quality for a healthy life.

About 150 people gathered for cleaning up of Ghats or Landings for the Yamuna River. ROW volunteers from Gokul, and local community joined in cleaning up the trash from the bank of the Yamuna River on March 25th.

Summary of the cleanup activity:

- Date and Time of event - March 25th; 7:00 AM to 11:00 AM
- Location - Bank of the Yamuna River downstream of Gokul Barrage
- Number of participants - 150
- Amount of Trash removal - 600 Kgs (about 60 bags eqvt.)
- Type of Waste - Shrubs, Leaves, branches, papers/plastics, and other solid wastes.

We hope to see more such events and awareness program in future.in the Braj area.

Please visit the ROW website <https://rowfoundation.org> for further information. You can send your questions or comments to rowfoundation@gmail.com.