

## NEERI UNDERTAKES THE EIA STUDY FOR MUMBAI SEWAGE DISPOSAL PROJECT, STAGE II, PRIORITY WORKS



*(Left) The coastal survey team is studying the ocean sampling sites (Center) Physicochemical analysis is in progress (Right) Biological analysis is in progress*

Municipal Corporation of Brihan Mumbai (MCBM) has undertaken Mumbai Sewage Disposal Project, Stage II, Priority Works for improvement of environment in and around Mumbai city. The priority works for implementation include sewage and treated effluent pumping stations at Versova and Malad along with the respective pumping mains, modifications of treatment plants at Versova, Malad, Colaba, Worli, Bhandup, Ghatkopar and Dharavi as well as the ocean outfall system at Erangal. Most of the installations are located in the Coastal Regulatory Zone (CRZ) and expected to create environmental impact during construction and operational phases to the coastal environment including mangroves. MCBM desired NEERI to carry out comprehensive Environmental Impact Analysis (EIA) for these installations and recommend appropriate Environmental Management Plan (EMP).

The impact assessment will include detailed water quality assessment in the coastal areas around Mumbai including the western coast and Thane creek. The study is also expected to recommend possible measures for further improvement of water quality in addition to the proposed wastewater treatment facilities for generating higher assimilative capacity of the heavily polluted creeks.

MCBM agreed to offer Rs. 1.26 Crores for the consultancy services to be carried out by NEERI. NEERI will carry out extensive monitoring of coastal and creek waters, quantify and characterize treated and untreated wastewater discharges, monitor air, noise, land use, soil, groundwater, biological and socioeconomic status around the installations. State of art water quality and hydrodynamic models will be used for predictions and evolving possible solutions for improvement of the environmental conditions.

Dr. Mrs. S.S. Dhage, Er. P.S. Kelkar and Dr. T.K. Ghosh will lead various monitoring programmes. Dr. A. Gupta, assisted by Er. Ritesh Vijay, will lead the overall activities including modelling. Dr. T. Chakrabarti, Acting Director, NEERI, will coordinate the project activities.