

Six firms shortlisted for riverfront beautification

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Kolkata: The Kolkata Metropolitan Development Authority (KMDA) has short-listed six reputable consultancy firms to prepare the detail project report (DPR) for engineering designs and technical specifications of the proposed World Bank-funded Hooghly riverfront development project.

The six firms are Wapcos Ltd, IPE Global Limited, EGIS India Consulting Engineer Pvt Ltd, LEA Associates South Asia Pvt Ltd, SMEC International Pty Ltd and Aarvee Associates Architects Engineers and Consultants Pvt Ltd. One of these firms will finally be selected for profiling of the riverfront development project. "The technical evaluation of the firms are under process," said a government official.



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The selected agency will work under the supervision of the World Bank and KMDA. The final DPR will be prepared by obtaining a no-objection certificate from all concerned authorities, like the National Green Tribunal, KoPT, PWD, railways, KMC, CESC, HMC and other urban bodies.

The proposed project, which entails a complete makeover of the Hooghly river stretch in Kolkata Metropolitan Area, will be implemented under the Centre's National Ganga River Basin Project scheme.

The demonstration investments will include examples of multi-sectoral and area-based interventions aimed at effectively addressing urban growth and densities along the riverfront, ecological sustainability, smart transportation systems and public space revitalisation.

In December last year, a World Bank team had visited the city's riverfront. The state government had sought technical assistance to develop the riverfront further in the KMA region.