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PART I.—Orders and Notificatons by the Governor of West Bengal, the High Court, Government Treasury, etc.

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL  
Environment Department

NOTIFICATION

No. 880-EN/T-II-7/003-ii/2003.—3rd July, 2020.—Whereas, Baneswar Shiva Dighi is a pond measuring about 1.65 acre located in Mouza Baneswar in Coochbehar District and offers refuge to Black Softshell Turtle (*Nilssononia nigricans* Anderson, 1875, locally revered as 'Mohan' which is under Appendix I of CITES and is extinct in the wild as per IUCN ;

And, whereas, to strengthen the biodiversity conservation and to stem habitat degradation in and around the pond, the State Government, upon the recommendation of the West Bengal Biodiversity Board, has felt it necessary to declare the area as the Baneswar Shiva Dighi Biodiversity Heritage Site ;

And, whereas, the collection of species of plants, animals and microbes from the Baneswar Shiva Dighi requires to be regulated as per the provisions of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and West Bengal Biological Diversity Rules, 2005.

And, whereas, no-objection regarding declaration of Baneswar Shiva Dighy has been resolved in the meeting held by District Magistrate of Coochbehar on 17.12.2019 with concerned Biodiversity Management Committes, local authorities and other stakeholders, and thereafter no objection regarding said Biodiversity Heritage Site declaration has been conveyed by the office of the District Magistrate of Coochbehar ;

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred under sub-section(1) of Section 37 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and sub-rule(2) of rule 20 of the West Bengal Biological Diversity Rules, 2005, the Governor is hereby pleased to declare Baneswar Shiva Dighi and surrounding areas in the immediate vicinity as Baneswar Shiva Dighi Biodiversity Heritage site.

The details of the area and boundary of Baneswar Shiva Dighi Biodiversity Heritage Site is given below :—

**BANESWAR SHIVA DIGHI BIODIVERSITY HERITAGE SITE**

The Area covered :—

Area	: 1.65 Acre (perimeter of 328 meters)
Mouza	: Baneswar
Gram Panchayat	: Baneswar
Panchayat Samity	: Coochbehar-II
District	: Coochbehar
Boundary	: West : Park, Shiva Mandir Road in further west East : Metalled Road North : Baneswar Shiva Mandir area South : Metalled Road (New Baneswar Road)

**GPS-Co-ordinates of the Baneswar Dighi Biodiversity Heritage Site :—**

The boundaries of the proposed Biodiversity Heritage Site (BHS) are subtended by GPS co-ordinates mention below :

Waypoint	Waypoint name	Latitude(°N)	Longitude (°E)
1	North-East	26.3985°	89.4986°
2	North-West	26.3985°	89.4977°
3	South-East	26.397796°	89.498563°
4	South-East	26.397835°	89.497699°

The management of Baneswar Shiva Dighi Biodiversity Heritage Site shall be done by the Gram Panchayat level Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC) of Baneswar Gram Panchayat, BMC of Coochbehar-II Block under the overall supervision of the District level BMC/District Magistrate of Coochbehar District in consultation with the West Bengal Biodiversity Board.

This Notification shall come into effect from the date of its publication in *The Kolkata Gazette*.

By order of the Governor,

Sd/-

Principal Secy. to the Govt. of West Bengal.