



# DAKSHINBANGA MATSYAJIBI FORUM (DMF)

Trade Union Regn. No.20474/92.

Head Office: 20/4, Sil Lane, Kolkata – 700015. Phone & FAX: 033-23283989 e-mail: [dmfwestbengal@gmail.com](mailto:dmfwestbengal@gmail.com)

Memo No. D.M.F./G.S. – 03/24

January 6, 2024

The Divisional Forest Officer,  
24 Parganas (South) Division.  
New Administrative Building,  
Alipore. Kolkata - 700027

Sub: Suspension of fishing by boat on 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2024 for crocodile estimation.

Sir,

Please refer to the communication resting with your Office Order No. 160/Misc/Fishing Boats Dt. 02.01.2024 (copy enclosed) which states that ‘In view of the ensuing Estuarine Crocodile Estimation which is supposed to be conducted on 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2024. All Fishing boats will be debarred from any movement for smooth conduction of the Crocodile Estimation. Plying of all Fishing boats will remain closed on 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> January in the jurisdiction of 24 Parganas (South) Forest Division’.

Dakshinbanga Matsyajibi Forum (DMF), the largest organisation of small-scale fish workers in West Bengal, hereby conveys its grave concern regarding the **unilateral and arbitrary** stoppage of livelihood earning of a large number of small-scale fishers who fish with boats in the rivers and creeks falling under the jurisdiction of 24 Parganas (South) Forest Division.

We are constrained to state that the constitution of India protects the right to livelihood of Indian citizens and if any government agency needs cessation of the livelihood practices of Indian citizens for any purpose whatsoever, it is **mandatory** for it to hold prior consultation with the affected citizens and compensate them for the loss of their livelihood.

We would request you to hold consultations with the small scale fishing communities and offer adequate compensation for the loss of livelihood they are going to incur due to stoppage of fishing boats.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully

Milan Das,

General Secretary,

Dakshinbanga Matsyajibi Forum

**Enclosure:**

Copy of -

Office Order No. 160/Misc/Fishing Boats Dt. 02.01.2024.



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January 6, 2024

Copy with a copy of the enclosure forwarded for information and necessary action to –

1. The District Magistrate, South 24 Parganas.
2. The Director of Fisheries, West Bengal.
3. The Assistant Director of Fisheries (Marine), Diamond Harbour.
4. The Convener, National Platform for Small Scale Fish Workers (NPSSF)

*Milan Das*

Milan Das,  
General Secretary,  
Dakshinbanga Matsyajibi Forum