

MRIGANKA CHATTERJEE

PROBLEM

Water logging on the streets is a major problem in Kolkata. Sometimes during monsoons the entire city comes to a standstill due to widespread flood. A report in the newspaper held the plastic bags as the main culprit, as these non-biodegradable items clog the drains. Some city environmentalists' are also petitioning the municipal authorities to ban the widespread use of the plastic bags in the city, as the toxic material remain in the soil for years and eventually the agricultural produce from such lands become toxic and these chemicals enter our body damaging our system.

However, plastic bags have become **an indispensable part of our daily life**. It has several advantages, including being cost effective, and hence a “ban” on plastic bags is not viable.

SOLUTION

Plastic cannot be destroyed; the process is to recycle the plastic. Proper recycling of plastic materials, as being done in several developed countries.

COMPANY PROFILE

H.C.Plastic went into production in April 2008. It is the brain child of Mr. Mriganka Chatterjee –a dynamic young entrepreneur who decided to come up with a sustainable business idea that will effectively take care of the problem by ensuring its proper recycling. Mriganka graduated from Ashutosh College in 2002 and it was followed by his MBA with a specialization in HRD. But instead of taking up a cushy job, he decided to take the plunge into business. He wanted to set up a business that will

deal with a social problem and waste management was his area of interest.

The company is one-of-its-kind in West Bengal and is situated at Trenching Ground Road, Harinavi (South 24 Parganas). The unit has been set up under a MoU with Rajpur-Sonarpur Municipality. The unit uses the plastic waste (plastic bottles, bags among others) from the nearby Dumping Ground as its input. It converts the plastic materials into small plastic granules, like the ones produced by the petrochemicals giants, which are then sold to manufacturers of plastic goods. The unit has several sophisticated machines, air pollution control device and has clean hygienic working conditions. Impressed with its results, West Bengal Pollution Control Board has declared it to be a '**model**' unit, to be replicated in other districts.