

Report on 'Socio-Cultural Survey For Assessment of Environmental Flows For Kumbh 2013 At Allahabad'



Prepared By

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Socio-Cultural Survey For E-Flow Assessment of Ganga River At Allahabad During Kumbh 2013¹

I. Introduction

Kumbh Mela is the largest gathering of people for a religious purpose in the world and is held every 12 years on the banks of the Triveni Sangam - the confluence of the holy rivers Ganga, Yamuna and Saraswati at Allahabad. In 2013 it will be held from 14th January to 10th March.

Millions of people gather in Allahabad on this auspicious occasion. Estimates suggest that in the Kumbh Mela held in Allahabad in the year 2001, nearly 60 million took bath and if the forecasts are to be believed, the next one will garner an even bigger gathering than the previous one.

Hence, proper management of Kumbh along with maintenance of proper flow and quality of the river water during this period is very important.

As the Ganga symbolizes the national heritage and identity of India, the situation has become truly critical.

All efforts are being made to this end. Planning is underway to have clean, green & serene Kumbh Mela in Allahabad 2013. The spiritual and religious leaders are organizing clean Ganga campaign. The National River Ganga River Basin Authority (NRGBA) is taking effective measures to save the river. The Uttar Pradesh State Pollution Control Board (UPSPCB) is working on the issues relating to the pollution problem of river Ganga due to discharge of effluents through River Ramganga and Kali and its other tributaries.

Under the Integrated River Basin Management Programme, the assessment and maintenance of E-Flows has been considered to be of utmost importance. The E-Flow is considered as an amount of water that is kept flowing down a river in order to maintain the river in a desired environmental condition.

In a jointly organized 3 day workshop in September 2012 by WWF-India and IITs Consortia (engaged in development of GRBEMP), it was decided that Kumbh 2013 is a unique opportunity to initiate work towards assessment and implementation of E-Flows in Ganga at Sangam Allahabad during Kumbh 2013.

Expected turnout during Kumbh 2013 (figures are in lakh)

S. No.	Auspicious bathing days	Dates	Kumbh 2013
1	Makar Sankranti	14.01.2013	110
2	Paush Poornima	27.01.2013	55
3	Mauni Amavasya	10.02.2013	305
4	Basant Panchmi	15.02.2013	193
5	Maghi Poornima	25.02.2013	165
6	Mahashivratri	10.03.2013	55

¹ Advisor, Dr. Ravi Chopra, Principal Investigator, Dr. Anil Gautam, and Research Team – Anita D. Sharma, Subhoshree Banerjee, Meena Yadav, and Pavitra Singh

But E-Flow assessment is not just a scientific exercise in the case of Ganga River as this river carries a lot of spiritual significance and has influenced the people of India and their social ethics tremendously.

Hence, E-Flow assessment for Ganga River requires a combination of scientific and social aspects. The scientists can do the best assessments of flow needs, but people’s aspirations are equally important. Since one of the key objectives of E-Flows assessment is to suffice the socio-cultural aspirations, in this regard, the socio-cultural surveys were required to be undertaken and documented to help in determining the required E-Flows. With a view to undertake the exercise of E-Flows assessment and larger policy advocacy for implementation of the same, a multidisciplinary Working Group has been formed and PSI is a part of this working work. It has been assigned the responsibility of conducting socio-cultural surveys.

II. Socio-Cultural Surveys

a. Objectives:

- To assess the perceived importance of the Ganga, and suggest adequate flows from a cultural point of view.
- To establish perceived thresholds of probable concern.

b. Sample size:

Overall the sample size was 117 which included 08 respondents from Rishikesh, 19 respondents from Haridwar, 83 from Allahabad and 07 from Varanasi. *(See annexure 1 at the end of this report).*

Total Number of Interviews Conducted		117
Category 1	Respondents from Haridwar, Rishikesh, Allahabad & Varanasi	51
Category 2	Respondents from Haridwar, Rishikesh & Allahabad	03
Category 3	Respondents from Allahabad	39
Category 4	Respondents from Allahabad	24



Type of Respondents	Haridwar	Rishikesh	Allahabad	Varanasi	Total Number of Respondents
Spiritual Leaders	13	8	2	3	26
Akhara Pramukh	5	-	14	4	23
Mela Prashasan	1	-	2	-	3
Pilgrims/panda			41		41
Residents(including shopkeepers & boatmen)			24		24
Shopkeepers			11*		11*
Fishermen			0		0
Boatmen			10*		10*
Total Number of Respondents	19	8	83	7	117

- *The shopkeepers & boatmen have been counted under local residents only.*

c. Activities:

1. Undertook socio-cultural surveys (focused group discussions, one to one interviews, informal interactions) at Sangam in specific and in Allahabad in general. The respondents included cultural tourists, local priests and residents, fishermen and boatmen.
2. Undertook required literature review in regard to socio-cultural aspirations of communities.
3. One to one interviews with eminent cultural and spiritual leaders to understand and assess the cultural aspirations. For these interviews leaders from Allahabad, Varanasi, Haridwar and Rishikesh were considered.
4. Preparation of draft questionnaire.
5. Preparation of a draft report describing the current situation and desired future state of river from the perspective of socio-cultural aspects and motivations for E-Flows.



d. Schedule

- a. Field Surveys
Rishikesh– 26th November, 2012
Haridwar–27th November, 2012
Allahabad–1st December to 5th
December, 2012
Varanasi– 4th and 5th December, 2012
- b. Draft Final Report Submission – 9th
December 2012
- c. Final Report Submission – 10th
December 2012



Sampling Technique

As mentioned earlier, the surveys were conducted at Haridwar, Rishikesh, Allahabad and Varanasi. Each of these selected areas has a specific relevance. For the purpose of survey, the following four categories of people were selected to be interviewed (see annexure 1):

Category 1: Spiritual Leaders (26) & Akhara Pramukhs (23)

Category 2: Mela Prashasan (03)

Category 3: Religious tourists (pilgrims), non-religious tourists (41)

Category 4: Residents of the area/ shopkeepers/fishermen/boatmen (24)

Total Number of Respondents = 117

These categories were selected as each of these categories has a different take on the issue of cultural relevance.

Type of Sampling

Purposive sampling was used to find out the views/observations of the people about Ganga's flow and their expectations in Kumbh 2013. The main goal of purposive sampling is to focus on particular characteristics of a population that are of interest, which will best enable us to answer our research questions. *Simply put, purposive sampling is a type of sampling in which the researcher decides what needs to be known and sets out to find people who can and are willing to provide the information by virtue of knowledge or experience.*



Data Collection Methodology

Interviews have been used extensively for data collection across all the disciplines of the social sciences & in educational research. In our case we used in-depth interviewing method which is also known as unstructured interviewing. It is a type of interview which researchers use to elicit information in order to achieve a holistic understanding of the interviewee's point of view or situation. This type of interview involves asking informants open-ended questions and probing wherever necessary to obtain data deemed useful by the researcher.

A draft questionnaire was prepared and shared with WWF-India for feedback. After receiving the feedback from the working group, the final questionnaire was prepared (see annexure 2) and used for surveys at Haridwar, Rishikesh, Allahabad and Varanasi to find out the views/observations of the people about Ganga's flow and their expectations in Kumbh 2013.

The interview attempted to answer the following key questions:

Social Importance of Ganga River

- How important is the river to you?
- Does the river play any role in your daily religious practice?
- Do you feel disturbed by low flows in the Ganga?
- Do you think that the natural Ganga is a divine Ganga?

Effect of Ganga on people's livelihood

- How important is river Ganga for your livelihood?
- Will inadequate flow in the river during Kumbh impact your livelihood?
- What depth and width is needed to sustain the livelihoods during kumbh?

Thresholds of probable concern

- Flow, depth and quality of Ganga River in the last kumbh (in 2001).
- Is the condition of the river changing? If so, how fast or severely?
- Can the main problem realistically be solved? If not, why not?
- Desired depth and flow of the river in the upcoming Kumbh.

Interview Technique

Individuals vary in their ability to articulate their thoughts and ideas. With good questioning techniques one can obtain quality data from the respondents. For this purpose, open-ended questions were asked. Such questions do not pre-determine the answers and allow room for the informants to respond in their own terms. The questions were clear, easy to understand and properly sequenced. Probing was used wherever necessary to obtain relevant information.

Sample Size

Overall the sample size was 117 which included 08 respondents from Rishikesh, 19 respondents from Haridwar, 83 from Allahabad and 07 from Varanasi. See annexure 1

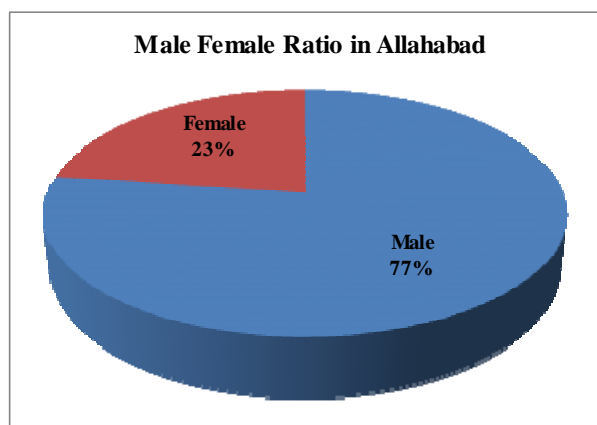
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Summary of Respondent Groups

1. **At Haridwar and Rishikesh:** Data was collected by conducting one to one interviews with eminent spiritual leaders to find out about their experience of the last Kumbh at Allahabad. For this purpose we basically visited different ashrams and akharas in Haridwar and Rishikesh. As per the rituals and beliefs/customs the spiritual leaders have to visit Kumbh to take a holy dip in Ganga River. So they are the best people to be interviewed in order to understand and assess the cultural aspirations.
2. **At Allahabad:** Since the focus of the entire exercise is Kumbh at Allahabad, we could find and interview all the 4 four categories of people here including spiritual and akhara leaders, religious and non-religious tourists, boatmen etc.

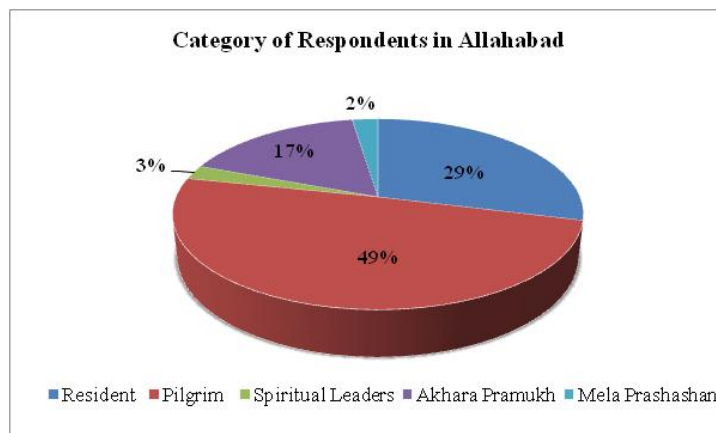
Male: Female Ratio

Every effort was made to maintain a gender balance. However, most women were unwilling to give interviews and would usually direct us to the men in the family. As it stands, out of total respondents, 77% were male and 23% were female.



Category of respondents

Four categories of respondents were to be interviewed. Religious tourists (pilgrims), non-religious tourists, sages and residents of the area, each category has a different take on the issue of cultural relevance. We could not find any non-religious tourists in Allahabad. Most of the respondents comprised of mainly residents, sages and pilgrims.



3. **At Varanasi:** Data was mainly collected from the spiritual leaders.



Analysis of Collected Data

Table 1: Percentage calculations for different responses (see page 4 for categories)

	Present State of Ganga River At Allahabad			
I	Purpose of Visit	No. of Responses	Percentage	Type of Category & Question No. in the Questionnaire
	Temple visit	7/90		Category 1(Q. 4) & Category 3 (Q. 2,4)
	Business	3/90		
	Site seeing	6/90		
	Religious rituals	31/90		
	Bathing	76/90		
	Preaching	17/90		
	Meeting other saints	16/90		
	Any other	4/90		
II	Quality of Water in 2001 Kumbh			Category 1(Q. 5) Category 3 (special comment)
	Poor	75/90	83	
	Satisfactory	12/90	14	
	No Response	3/90	3	
III	Male/Female Ratio of Respondents At Allahabad	M=64/83 F = 19/83	77 23	Category 1,2,3 & 4 at Allahabad
IV	Water Level In 2001 Kumbh			Category 1(Q. 6)
	Adequate	08/51	16	
	Inadequate	43/51	84	
	Desired State of Ganga River At Allahabad			
V	Desired Depth At Kumbh 2013			Category 1(Q. 8) Category 4 (Q. 8)
	Up to 3 feet	18/75	24	
	More than 3 feet	57/75	76	
VI	Type Of Respondents*			Category 1,2,3,4

	(from Allahabad)			
	Resident	24/83	29	
	Pilgrim	41/83	49	
	Spiritual leaders	2/83	2.5	
	Shopkeeper*	11/83*	-	
	Boatman*	10/83*	-	
	Akhara Pramukh	14/83	17	
	Mela Prashasan	2/83	2.5	
VII	Desired Ganga At Kumbh 2013			Category 1(Q. 7) Category 3(Q. 5) Category 4(Q 8)
	Free Flowing	20/114	18	
	Clean	16/114	14	
	Free Flowing & Clean	34/114	30	
	Free Flowing, Clean & Pristine	29/114	25	
	Pristine	12/114	10	
	No Response	03/114	03	
VIII	Desired Velocity At Kumbh 2013			Category 1(Q. 8) Category 3(Q. 5) Category 4(Q 5)
	Normal(neither fast nor slow)	82/114	72	
	Fast flowing	14/114	12	
	Still water	1/114	01	
	Slow flowing	15/114	13	
	Don't know	2/114	02	

* The shopkeepers & boatmen have been counted under local residents only.

Table 2: Views of the residents/shopkeepers and boatmen about Ganga at Sangam Allahabad - (Analysis of Category 1 & 4 Responses)

S.No.	Question	Response
1	What the river is like now compared to the natural state?	A vast majority of the respondents stated that the water is very dirty now and the flow has reduced as compared to the natural flow. At many locations it is now possible to walk across the river. There is a variation seen in the trend of the river as well.
2	How important is the river to you?	The respondents in Allahabad said that Ganga river provides everything to sustain their livelihood and it also has a lot of spiritual significance.
3	Is the condition of the river changing? If so, how fast or severely?	A vast majority of the respondents (21 out of 24 respondents in category 4) in Allahabad said that Ganga's flow is reducing, there is change in its quality and there is a frequent change in its trend which is noticed after every 2-3 years. However, a few also said that variation in the trend of rivers is a common phenomenon.
4	What are the main causes of changes in the river?	According to the responses received, the changes in flow variations are due to construction of dams particularly Tehri dam, Ganga Canal, discharge of untreated sewage and effluents, poor administration and laxity on part of the government. <i>“Discharge of effluents from Kanpur tanneries is a big problem. It makes the water of Ganga red. There are 57 sewage lines entering Ganga in Allahabad itself”.</i>

5	Can these causes be negated? How?	The people interviewed felt that the above causes can be negated by maintaining proper flow and by stoppage of waste discharge into the river. However, some also said that looking at the present pathetic state of the river we feel that we will never be able to see our Holy Ganga in its original pristine form again.
6	What will happen to the river condition if the main problem is solved?	As per the responses received, if the main problems of reduced flow and bad quality are solved by taking some effective measures then the river flow will improve, it will become clean and the livelihood will improve.
7	Can the main problem realistically be solved? If not, why not?	As per the responses, the main problem of reduced flow and bad quality of water can be solved if adequate water is released all the time from the dams into the river and if proper measures are taken by the government to stop discharge of untreated waste into the river. According to one respondent, “ <i>All activities in Ganga should be banned except for bathing</i> ”.
8	What will be the river condition if nothing is done on a priority basis?	Number of tourists visiting Allahabad will reduce and this will affect their livelihood. Water quality and flow will further deteriorate. The poor quality of water will also lead to feelings of revulsion among the pilgrims and Ganga may gradually lose its spiritual significance in future.
9	What was the main problem related to flow in the last Kumbh at Allahabad?	84% respondents said that the flow in Ganga River was very less initially and later on water was released into Ganga River. Now this kind of thing is not fair with the pilgrims who come from far off places to Allahabad just to take a holy dip in Ganga with a lot of faith and spiritual belief. On such religious occasions like Kumbh, government should make sure that it is Ganga water only in which people are taking bath. In the last Kumbh the water was very dirty also with a lot of floating material in it.
10	What should be the flow and depth in Kumbh 2013?	The flow of water during special snan days (14 th Jan.,27 th Jan.,10 th Feb.,15 th Feb.,25 th Feb & 10 th March) should be two times more than the flow of water in the magh mela last year around 14 th January. The flow of water during other days of Kumbh should be one and a half times more than the flow of water in the magh mela last year. The depth of the water at both the banks (upto 25 m) and in the sangam area (upto 50 metres) should be 3-4 feet.

Table 3: Effect on People’s Livelihood at SangamAllahabad(Category 4 Responses)

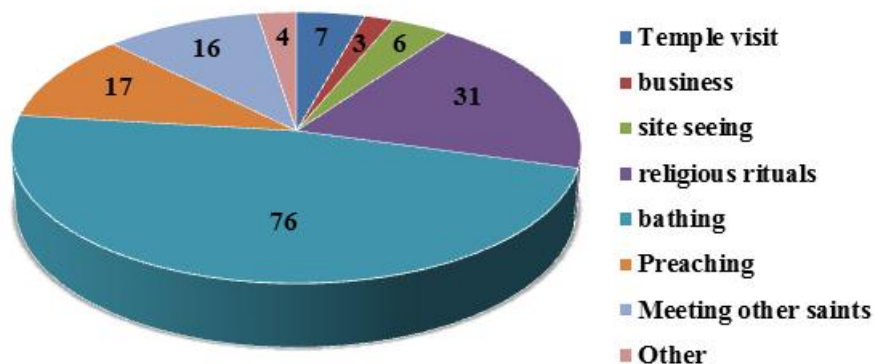
S.No	Question	Response
	How important is river Ganga for your livelihood?	People are engaged in various occupations for their livelihood. There are pandas, boatmen, vendors, flower sellers, coin-collectors, shopkeepers and boatmen. All the boatmen interviewed responded that river Ganga is very important for them as it is their only source of livelihood. Local residents informed us that there are no fishermen as fishing is not allowed in the sangam area.
	Is boating a problem in the Sangam area? If yes, what kind of problems do you face?	Extremely low levels of water (less than 2ft) create a problem in boating.

	Will not having adequate flow in the river during Kumbh impact your livelihood?	The fishermen responded that adequate or inadequate flow during kumbh does not affect them because as it is the kumbh mela administration does not allow boating during the entire kumbh. However, a few shopkeepers responded that low flow during kumbh will reduce the number of tourists and less number of tourists will have an impact on their sales.
	What depth and width is needed to sustain the livelihoods during kumbh?	According to the boatmen, the ideal depth for boating is between 2 to 3 feet. If the depth is less than 2 feet then there is a problem in sailing the boat and if the depth is more than 3 feet then the flow also increases in Ganga and boating becomes dangerous. The width should be roughly 20-25 metres in sangam area.

Summary of Important Findings (based on Table 1&3)

Purpose of Visit to Allahabad (In number)

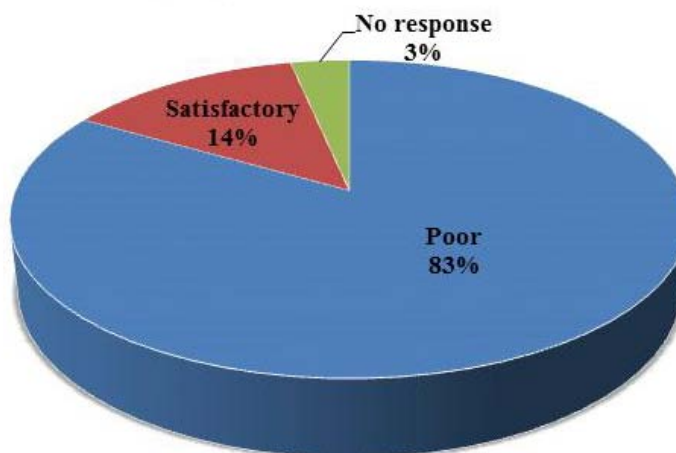
- 84% people are going to visit Kumbh for taking a holy dip, i.e. for bathing.



Total number of respondents 88 (Multipurpose visit)

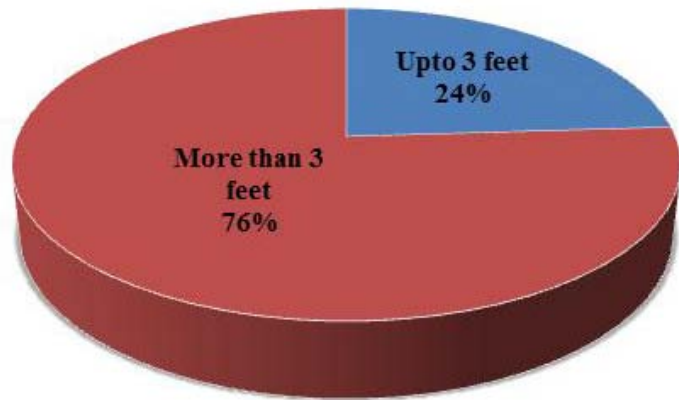
- 83% people observed bad quality of Ganga water and inadequate water level last time in Allahabad Kumbh (11 years ago in 2001)

Quality of Water in 2001 Kumbh



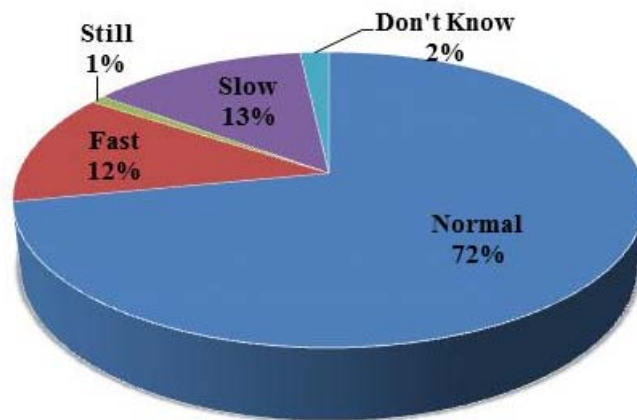
Desired Water Depth in Kumbh 2013

- 76% people (category 1 & 4 respondents) expect more than 3 feet water level at sangam/triveni and bairagi camp area.

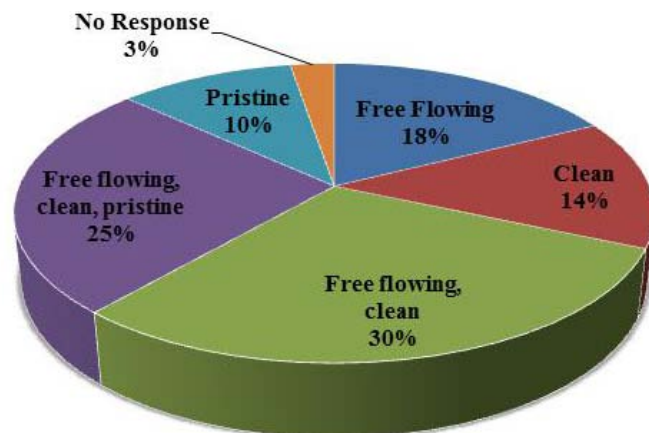


Desired Velocity at Kumbh 2013

- 72% people (category 1, 3 & 4 respondents) wish to see the velocity of Ganga water to be normal (neither too fast nor slow) at Allahabad Kumbh.



- As far as their imagination about ideal Ganga at Allahabad Kumbh is concerned, majority of the people (category 1, 3 & 4 respondents) would like to see a free flowing clean Ganga.



- Ganga is a major source of livelihood for a vast majority of people residing at the banks of Ganga in Allahabad. Reduced flows will affect their livelihood.

Conclusion

A vast majority of the people interviewed found the water level in Ganga inadequate and of bad quality during the last Kumbh at Allahabad which was held almost 12 years. Over the years the spiritual purity of Ganga has remained unchallenged but her physical purity has deteriorated as India's booming population imposes an ever-growing burden upon her. There have been major water abstractions from river Ganga for the purpose of irrigation. In addition there has been significant increase in industrial activities at the banks of river at various points and this has led to diminishing water quality. Both these factors lead to considerable dissatisfaction among both the residents and the visitors. The spiritual leaders interviewed in Haridwar and Rishikesh had the opinion that the flow of Ganga at Haridwar Kumbh2010 was adequate as compared to the Allahabad kumbh in 2001.

According to the data collected since most of the people are going to visit the Kumbh this year essentially for bathing and are expecting its water to be free flowing and clean it makes it absolutely vital to assess and maintain the E-Flows for the Ganga River at Allahabad especially near sangam. Maintaining an acceptable flow will control pollution and will help in cultural functions of the river.

The following needs to be done on a priority basis:

- The flow of water during special snan days(14th Jan.,27th Jan.,10th Feb.,15th Feb.,25th Feb & 10th March) should be two times more than the flow of water in the magh mela last year around 14th January.
- The flow of water during other days of Kumbh should be one and a half times more than the flow of water in the magh mela last year around 14th January.
- The depth of the water at both the banks (upto 25 m) and in the sangam area (upto 50 metres) should be 3-4 feet.
- The velocity of water should be normal (neither too fast nor too slow).
- The discharge of untreated waste into the river should not be allowed.

S.NO	Category 1		
	Spiritual Leader	AkhadaPramukh	Panda
1	Ram Bhushan, Sangam	Mahant HarGovindPuri, NiranjiniPanchayatiAkhada	Gauri Shankar Tiwari
2	Swami Vishwanath, Sangam	MahantRavinderPuri, NiranjiniPanchayatiAkhada	BrijBihari Mishra
1	Swami Vishnu Chetan, KelashNath Ashram	MahantAshishGiri, NiranjiniPanchayatiAkhada	
2	Swami TatwaNishta, Shivanand Ashram	MahantAmbikaPuri, NiranjiniPanchayatiAkhada	
3	ShriNirmal Das, Ram Ashram	MahantPremGiri, NiranjiniPanchayatiAkhada	
4	MahantGovind Das, SantSewa Ashram	MahantRadheGiri, NiranjiniPanchayatiAkhada	
5	Swami KrishnanandTirth, Parmarth Niketan	Ramanand Swami, Mansha Devi, Haridwar	
6	Dr.R.S.Bajpayee, Parmarth Niketan	MahantNarendra, Shri Math BaghambariGaddi-Prayag	
7	Swami Darshanand, Parmarth Niketan	Swami MukanantSaraswati, Swami VasudevanandSaraswatiMandir	
8	Mahadevanand, lakshmanJhula		
1	Swami ShivanandSaraswati, MatriSadan	MahantDurga Das, UdasinPanchayatiBadaAkhada	
2	JagatguruShankaracharya, Raja Rajeshwar Ashram	MahantJagtarMani, PanchayatiAkhadaNayaUdasin	
3	Swami KalyanandSaraswati. ShriManavKalyan Ashram	MahantDevendra Singh, NirmalPanchayatiAkhada	
4	Swami Mukundanand, ShriGeetaMandir	Mahant Vijay Giri, JunaAkhada	
5	Shri Devi Prasad, ShriHaridwar Ashram	Swami JeevanNathGoswami, BhuthnathGaddiAkhada	
6	Swami Ramgiri, Swami SwaroopanandSanyas Ashram	MahantRavindra Das, BrahmbutaAkhara	
7	ShriV.C.Chaudhary, Shanti Kunj	Mahant Mohan Das, MahrajChetandev Ashram	
8	MahantShriMahendraPandey, ShantiKunj	Bhagat Ram, ShriPanchayatiAkhara	
9	BrahmswaroopBrahmchari	MahantJagdeeshNand, JunaAkhara	
10	ShriKasturiLal Sharma, Prabhutanand Ashram	MahantBhagat Ram, PanchayatiAkhara	
11	ShriVallabh Das, Swami Narayan Ashram	KarpatrijiMaharaj, Dharmasangh, Varanasi	
12	Swami SureshanandJi, Mangal Ashram Trust	AcharyaJeetendra, AwahanAkhara	
13	Swami KamalanandaGirjiMaharaj,Kalyan Kamal Ashram	NarendraNathSaraswati, Sumer Peeth, Varanasi	
1	Govind Sharma, Ganga Mahasabha, Varanasi	Dandi Swami Ravindra, Chaushathi Math	
2	ShriBhramVidhanand, Shankracharya Swami Saraswati		
3	Swami IshwaranandTirth, AkhikBhartiyaDandiMahasabha		

Category 2	Category 3	Category 4		
MelaPrashasan	Pilgrims	Local Resident	Shopkeeper	Boatman
Sh. D.D. Sharma, Haridwar	Dr.VishwanathLal Nigam	Captain MahendraNath	Anita Devi	PapuNishad
Sh. Ashutosh Kumar Dwivedy, Allahabad	Shravan Kumar Yadav	AshaNath	Suman Devi	Hari Chand
Sh. Laxmikant Mishra, Allahabad	Gyan Singh	NeerajJaiswal	Bimla Devi	Rajan Prasad
	Sohanlal Joshi		Lajwanti	PapuHari
	Sunil Kumar Agarwal		Muna	Rajesh Shah
	Dr.Kamla Singh		Rajendra Kumar Nishad	BhurilalBhagat
	Sonu	Shopkeepers(11)	Shiv Prasad Pandey	Subhash Chand
	Anvita Singh	Boatmen(10)	Suresh Bihari	Rihana
	Ashok Kumar		Sanjay Nisha	Shiv Karan
	Jitendra Kumar Dubey	Total = 24	Rashmi	Kallu
	SumanPandey		Guddi	
	Shalini Mishra			
	R.C.Gupta			
	Dharm Raj Dubey			
	Vishnu Chaurasiya			
	MamtaNavait			
	RameshwarShukla			
	Pream Kumar			
	PankajPandey			
	Rohit			
	AshuPandit			
	Harish Chand			
	D.K.Singh			
	AvnishRanjan			
	JitinPratap Singh			
	AdhayPratapChaturvedi			
	MadhuTiwari			
	RanuPandey			
	Snatosh Kumar			
	Geeta Devi			
	Dinesh Pandey			
	N.P.Tirpathi			

	R.K.Agarwal			
	NeelamAgarwal			
	Smiriti Singh			
	Santosh Kumar			
	Abha Singh			
	Ashok Vajpayee			
	Mohini			

Colour Coding: *Allahabad* *Rishikesh* *Haridwar* *Varanasi*

Socio-cultural Survey Questionnaire for E-Flow Assessment of Ganga River at Allahabad during Kumbh, 2013

WWF-India and PSI is trying to assess the required E-Flows in Ganga at Allahabad during Kumbh 2013. For this exercise, understanding of socio-cultural aspirations from Ganga is a crucial step and the same is underway through this survey.

Conducted By: People's Science Institute, Dehradun

Sponsored By: WWF-India

Name of the surveyor: _____

Date: _____

Location: Please (✓) tick the location (Haridwar/Rishikesh/Allahabad/Varanasi)

Category 1

Spiritual Leader: _____

Akhara Pramukh: _____

Organization and place: _____

1. Do you visit every kumbh mela at Allahabad? (Yes/No)
2. Will you be visiting Allahabad this time during Kumbh 2013? (Yes/No)
3. What will be the duration of your stay?
4. What are going to be your activities in Allahabad during the mela?
 - i.) Penance ii.) Preaching iii.) Meeting other saints iv.) Bathing v.) Any other
5. Are the arrangements made for bathing usually adequate? If not, what are the problems?
 - i.) Hygiene ii.) Lack of adequate water iii.) In sufficient depth iv.) Bad water quality v.) Crowd management
6. Was the water level (adequate/inadequate/don't know) in Ganga during the last kumbh and Magh Mela at Allahabad?
7. What is the Ganga of your imagination that is ideal for kumbh? Or what is the natural state of the river that you want for the Kumbh?
 - i.) Mighty ii.) Pristine iii.) Free flowing iv.) Clean v.) Other
8. How much water should be there in Ganga during the kumbh and at which location(s)?
 - i.) Depth: 1 feet: 3 feet: 4 feet: 5 feet: 6-7 feet ii.) Width iii.) Water quality iv.) Velocity of water? slow: fast: still: normal flow
9. What were your observations about flow of Ganga at Haridwar during the last kumbh?
 - i.) Adequate ii.) Inadequate iii.) Don't know

Mela Prashasan (Haridwar)

1. How many pilgrims came here in the last kumbh?

2. How many people took a holy dip in river Ganga on special bathing days_____ and how many during other days (average)? _____
3. What arrangements do you have to make during kumbh?

4. Why do you have to stop the people from bathing during the procession/akhara snaan'? Is the kumbh area insufficient/the flow of water less in Ganga or there is some other reason?

5. What are the arrangements this time in Allahabad for the Kumbhmela?

6. How much depth of water is needed during snan days and other days during kumbh?

7. How much width of water is needed to satisfy the requirements of pilgrims?

8. What needs to be done to ensure adequate depth and width of flow during kumbh?

Special Comments (if any):

Religious tourists (pilgrims), non-religious tourists

1. Name: _____ Sex(M/F): _____
2. Purpose of visit: _____
3. Number of people in group (including yourself): _____
4. Please (✓) tick the following motives for visiting:

Temple visit(), Business(), Sightseeing(), Religious rituals(), Bathing in Ganga(), Visit to a family panda/priest(), other(Please specify)

5. Please check whatever is applicable:

	Yes	No
The Ganga does not play any role in my daily religious practice		
The Ganga only plays a role in religious rituals on festive/special occasions		
I feel disturbed by low flows in the Ganga		
I do not feel like worshipping the Ganga where it is polluted		
The cleanliness of the water does not affect its divine purity		
I believe that the surroundings of the river should be clean		
The banks should be paved and made accessible to worshippers		
A natural river is a divine river		

6. Have you ever visited Kumbh Mela at Allahabad? (Yes/No)
7. How many Kumbh have you attended (1/ up to 5 / up to 10 / more than 10)
8. Number of days you stay there (1/ up to 5 / up to 10 / entire Kumbh period)
9. What are your activities during Kumbh
 - a. Penance b. Preaching c. Meeting other saints d. Any other _____
10. Do you take bath in the rivers ometimes /often / regularly _____
11. Are you planning to visit Kumbh 2013? If not, why not? If yes, what will be the duration of your stay? And what activities do you involve in ?

12. Ask what according to them will give them satisfaction during Kumbh snan?

Special Comments (if any):

Resident of the area/ shopkeeper/fisherman/boatman (Please (✓) tick the category)

1. Name: _____

2. What the river is like now compared to the natural state?

3. How important is the river to you?

4. How important is it for your livelihood?

5. Is boating a problem in the Sangam area? (Yes/No) If yes, what kind of problem(s) do you face?

6. Is the condition of the river changing, and if so, how fast or severely?

7. Will not having adequate flow in the river during Kumbh impact your livelihood? If no, why not? If yes, how?

8. What depth and width is needed to sustain the livelihoods during Kumbh?

What are the main causes of the change? (flow variations/any other)_____

9. Can these causes be negated? How?

10. What will happen to the river condition if the main problem is solved?

11. Can the main problem realistically be solved? If not, why not?

12. What will be the river condition if nothing is done on a priority basis?

