

2011 / 07 / 2020

## Fire destroys 100 shanties in Rajarhat's Atghara

**STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE**  
KOLKATA, 2 JUNE

A massive fire engulfed around 100 shanties in Atghara area of Rajarhat today. Nobody was injured in the incident, fire officials said today.

The fire broke out in one of the shanties at around 12pm triggering havoc in the slum area. The blaze that was reported to have erupted out of electric wires spread to the adjacent homes in no time while tongues of flames shooting from one shanty to another, triggered fear among the residents. Thick clouds of smoke billowing out of the slum, covered the area, making it difficult for the firemen to work properly. Sounds of LPG cylinders bursting every few minutes, added to the agony of the local residents who gathered in large numbers to save their life-long savings.

Several youths from the

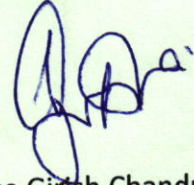
shanties plunged into action for rescuing their neighbours. The local youths along with the teams of firemen struggled for hours to bring the flame under control. Five fire-engines were also pressed into action to douse the flame. After toiling for more than three hours, the firemen were able to bring the fire under control at around 3pm.

The inferno, engulfed around 100 shanties in the area. Some of the houses were completely charred into ashes forcing residents to spend their day in the open sky with several others, at a time when social distancing is the priority and need of the hour. "My house is now a pile of ashes and everything is lost," said a wailing resident of the slum. "With almost no income for the last few months of the lockdown and without a home to live, we do not know what to do now," lamented the woman resident of the area.

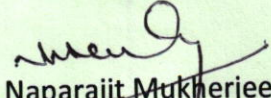
03-06-2020

Enclosed is the news item clipping of *the Statesman*, an English daily dated, 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 2020 the news is captioned "Fire destroys 100 shanties in Rajarhat's Atghara."

Commissioner of Police, Bidhannagar Police Commissionerate and Director General, West Bengal Fire and Emergency Services are directed to submit detailed report about the incident within 4 (four) weeks from the date of receipt of this direction.



( Justice Girish Chandra Gupta )  
Chairperson



( Naparajit Mukherjee )  
Member

Encl : News Item dt.02-06-2020

Ld. Registrar to keep NHRC posted about cognizance taken on the subject by WBHRC.

Upload in website.

Asstt. Secy.(L & R Wing) / S.O.  
is to take immediate action

03.06.2020

Done/sent  
AS