

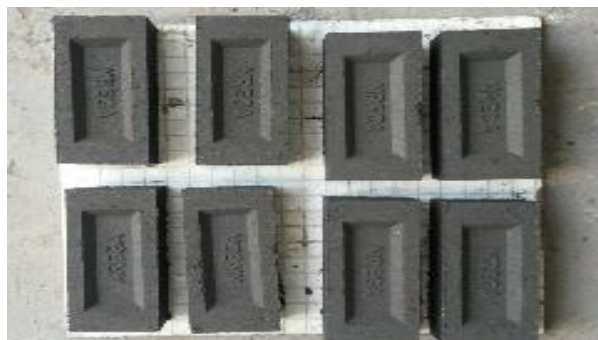
Country's second eco-friendly brick manufacturing unit to come up in Nadia

KOLKATA: The country's second eco-friendly brick manufacturing project is coming up in Nadia.

The project will benefit around 52 scheduled tribe families of a village under Silinda I gram panchayat, Chakdah block. The project is likely to be inaugurated on January 25. It may be mentioned here that the country's first such project has been set up in Bankura. According to information, three more projects will also come up in Nadia.

It may be recalled that Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee had asked the officials of Panchayat and Rural Development Department to come up with schemes that will help economically challenged families. The second project will come up at Silinda II gram panchayat.

A brick manufacturing machine worth Rs 6.5 lakh has been purchased for the project



which will come up on one acre land.

Sources said fly ash will come from Bandel thermal power station. Along with fly ash, sand, lime and gypsum will be used to produce bricks and pavement tiles. The bricks have been named NREGA as they are being funded under National Rural Employment Guarantee Act.

Thirty lakh bricks will be produced annually and the cost of production of each brick is Rs 2. The bricks will be used to construct rural roads and the excess bricks will be sold for Rs 4 each, which is even cheaper than the bricks available in the market. The price of bricks varies anything between Rs 8-10 per piece.

The families which had faced abject poverty will be getting Rs 10,000 per month and this economic regeneration has become possible under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA scheme.