



स्मार्ट सिटी
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**Ideas/ Designs
are invited for
“One-step innovative solution for Cleaning and
Filtering the still water of Pishach Mochan Kund at
Chetganj, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh”.**

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INTRODUCTION

A serene surrounding of a water body with an aged old temple dedicated to the Lord Kapardishwara Mahadev, Gates decorated with skulls and various small temples dedicated to Brahm- the lord of another world welcomes you into a time of prayers for your forefathers waiting for their liberation from a forbidden state so that they can attain moksha by entering into core of Kashi - The Siddhi Kshetra of Lord Vishwanath.

Pishach Mochan Kund is a pond with sacred beliefs attached to it, located in Chetganj area of Varanasi, India. It has stairs all around it where the holy rituals and traditions are held. It is believed to be a place where the souls of those who have died an untimely death can be freed from the cycle of reincarnation. In recent times it has been facing issues related to its proper organization, lack of cleanliness & hygiene and the degradation of the natural habitat situated there. We are looking for smart and innovative one-step solution to all of these problems.

Thus, we are inviting proposals to renumerate over these issues and contribute in providing ideas to improve the situation.

LEGEND OF PISHACH MOCHAN

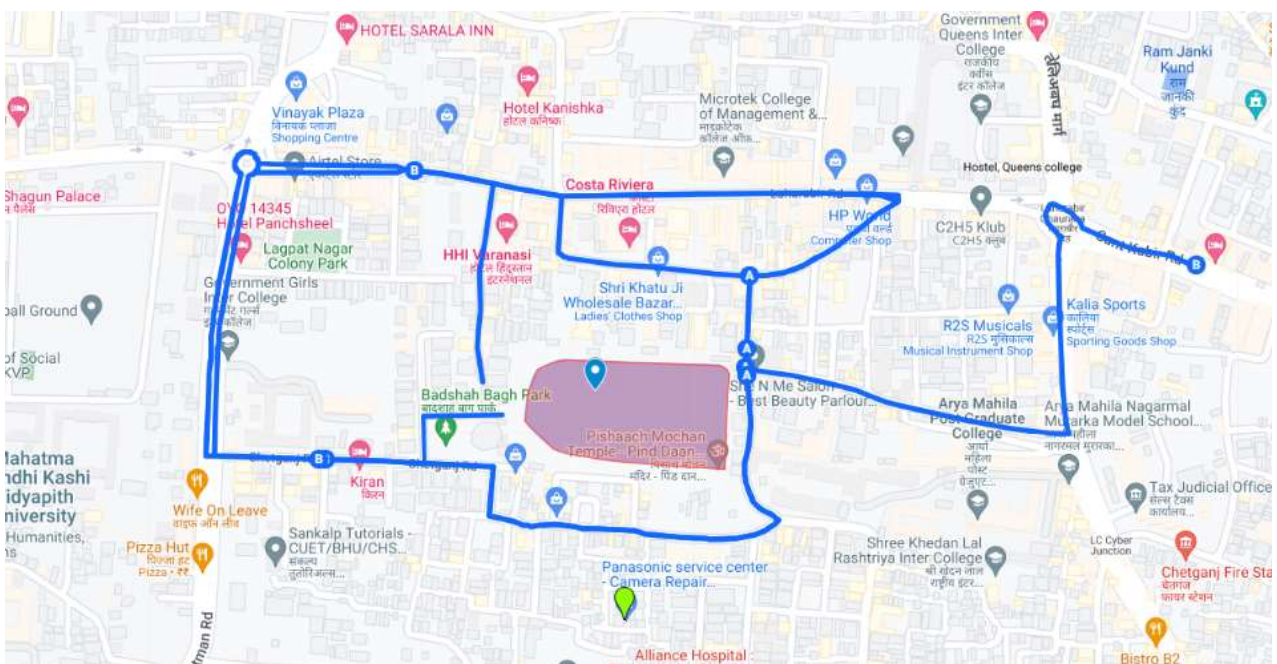
As per Kashi Khanda - The Pishach Kund is originally known as "Vimal Tirth / Vimlodak Tirtha." A Shiv Gana named Kapardi created a water body- "Vimal Tirth" and worshipped Shiva at this place hence Kapardiswara Mahadev came into existence. Over the period of time, the place became famous as a place for penance. Once a Pashupata sage- was meditating at the bank of Vimal Tirth, suddenly a Pishach who was a brahmin but due to his Karma of past birth got the Pishach(Ghost) Yoni.

Initially, he tried to frighten sage Valmiki but after much effort, he bowed down to Sage and asked him for liberation. Sage Valmiki asked him to bathe in the pond and worship Lord Kapardishwara. Hence Pishach got liberation from Pishach Yoni and tirtha became Pishach Mochan. Since then Pishach Mochan tirtha became a famous place for Pind Daan and Tripindi Sraadh apart from Gaya, Bihar.

As per Hindu beliefs after the death of a person, his/her souls reside in the Pitriloka - the realm between heaven and earth, governed by Yama "The Lord of Death". The three generations of ancestors remain in the Pitriloka and visit the earth during Pitri Paksha (The Lunar month of Bhadrapada) so that they can get water, offering from their lineage. If they get it, they get liberation but if they don't get the offering, they get the punishment of rebirth. When a person of the next generation dies, the first generation shifts to heaven and attains moksha/rebirth depending upon Karma and above said reason. That is why Shraddh rituals are done for only three generations of ancestors. The troubled souls of ancestors have an effect on their loved ones on earth if they are not happy in Pirtaloka hence the rituals of Pind Daan and Shraddh Karam become important.

LOCATION

This Kund is situated at the heart of city, easily approachable by road from all major landmarks in the city. It is located exactly at Ramakanth Nagar, Chetganj, Varanasi, 221001, Uttar Pradesh. Its latitude and longitude being $25^{\circ}19'17''\text{N}$ and $82^{\circ}59'43''\text{E}$.



PROBLEM

Pitra Paksha (The Lunar month of Bhadrapada) is the month known for the rituals of Pind Daan and Shraddh Karam which is organised at Pishachmochan, where approx. 1,00,000 people perform these rituals in the period of 14 days. As per the mythologies, the Pindas (a religious offering in the kund made of rice/wheat) are disposed off in the water at kund.

Due to this disposal, stinking smell in the surrounding, water contamination/pollution is generated and aquatic bodies including fishes die in large number deprived of oxygen. The authorities face a major challenge for the retrieval and disposal of these waste.

PROPOSAL

VSCL proposes to organize a competition wherein one-step and innovative ideas for the cleanliness and betterment of the auspicious Pishach Mochan Kund will be mainstreamed and promoted. We seek to demonstrate an easy to apply, install, commissioned and executed solution. Major deliverables are- a proper plan for the waste disposable and retrievable mechanism specially for the disposal of Pinds (a religious offering in the kund made of rice/wheat) in form of powerpoint presentation, document compiling the technology/civil treatment/modifications and specifications .

Plans with lower cost, with better sustainability and execution will be preferred. We also seek easily adoptable plan which can be used in future at other places too. Ultimately, we envision to foster an environment of research and development in the country with a will to preserve the unique heritage of the country.

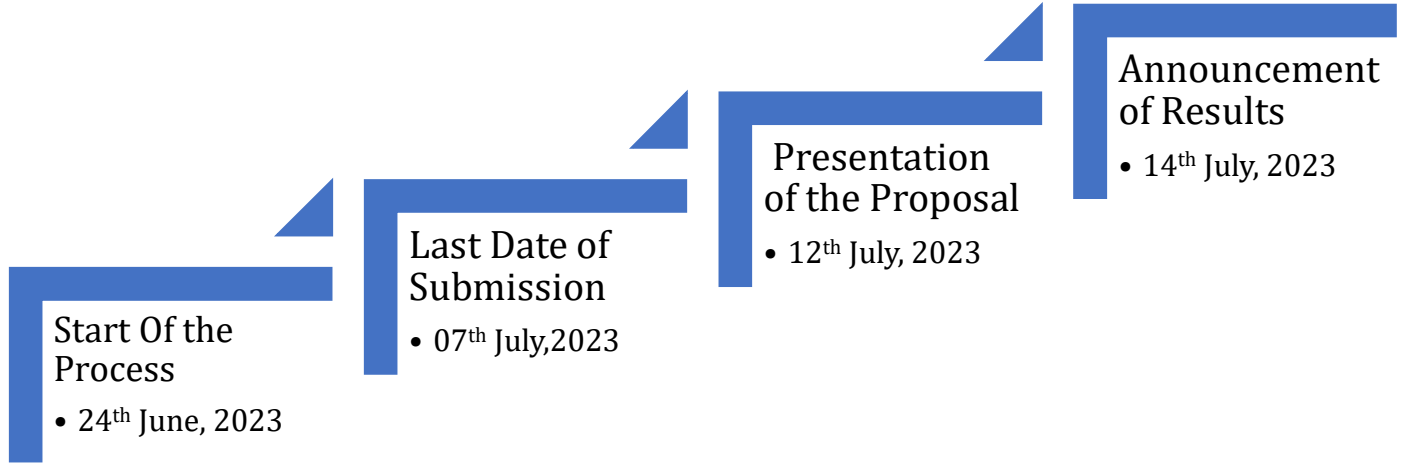
Existing Photographs



About the Competition

- **Who can participate:** Students, research-scholars, professors etc from all IIT's, Universities and other institutions are humbly invited to participate and presents their ideas in this initiative. Start-up firms and entrepreneurs with unique and innovative vision are also welcome.
- **How to participate:** Kindly mail your proposal with all documents included ideas@varanasismartcity.gov.in along with a physical copy via post at VSCL's office, 2nd floor, Trinentra Bhavan, Sigra, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh-221002.
- **Review Process:** A committee consisting of eminent architectures, engineers, town planners and specialists will be reviewing the proposals to judge their content, framework and its practicality & sustainability to execute the plan in long term.
- **Awards & Honors:** A cash prize and recognition certificate will be issued to the selected proposal for execution. Also, they will get a famed role in the execution process of the plan (or any other projects where their research will be implemented). Documentation and publication of their work along with proper statuesque is added in this.

Timeline



Awards & Honors

A cash prize and recognition certificate will be issued to whoever's proposal gets selected to be executed. Consolation prizes will also be given to other innovative and creative ideas. Documentation and publication of their work along with proper statuesque is added in this.

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