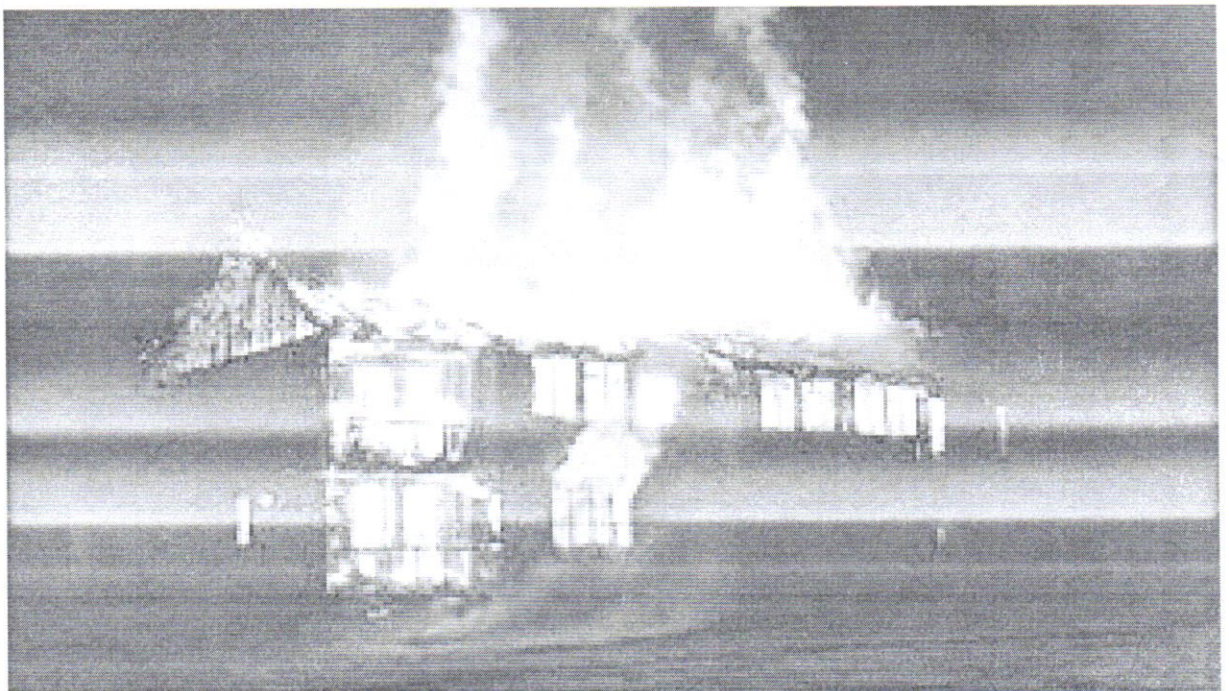




**RISK ANALYSIS OF AN EFFECTIVE FIRE HAZARD: A STUDY IN
KOLKATA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (KMC) AREA, W.B,INDIA**



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*Paper name: Hazard & Disaster
management*



TITLE

**RISK ANALYSIS FOR AN EFFECTIVE FIRE
HAZARD : A STUDY IN KOLKATA MUNICIPAL
CORPORATION (KMC) AREA , WEST
BENGAL , INDIA .**



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Bubai Nandan.



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OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

Literature of geography on fire hazards are somewhat limited. However, a number of studies mainly by the scholars of other disciplines, have been done on the hazard and its consequent disasters in the different part of the world. Hobbie et al (2007) have discussed about the remote sensing images that can be applied for environmental resources mapping and modelling. Pontillo et al (2006) have used remote sensing techniques in assessment of fire hazard as an effective technology with the assumption that it has great potential for risk dists and managers seeking to map, predict and assess the ecological effects of fire. De Vlieghe and Basigas (1995) have prepared fire hazard modelling using remote sensing and GIS with the case study in Guyana. Picot and Robertson (2010) have attempted to test the accuracy of Remote sensing technology in forest fire damages.

The present study is an attempt to focus on :

- The investigation of actual and potential fire hazard prone areas of the KMC.
- Construction of GIS data base and generation of thematic maps to study the risk and management strategies of the hazard.

Thus, The Methodology includes:-

- Preparation of fire zoning map of the KMC area based on fire frequency.
- Identification of the class of fire situated within the fire zone as well as

Water body ;.

- Preparations of road maps according to their width and also produce the alternative road during the traffic congestion, applying different shades or colours.

Geospatial analysis techniques are used to process the collected data (both spatial and non spatial) to represent various parameters. Network analysis for FSM has been prepared and a large scale LULC Map (Anderson et al, 1971) (Table-1) has been prepared with the help of the base map.

TABLE 1 : Remote sensing data products used in the study.

SL	DATA TYPE	RESOLUTION (m)	SOURCE	YEAR	DATA FORMAT	APPLICATION
1.	LANDSAT (MSS, TM, ETM+)	15/30	USGS	2016	Raster	urban LULC map.
2.	ASTER	15	USGS	2011-15	Raster	Preparation of the image.
3.	IRS (LISS-III, LISS-IV, IRS-P3 PAN, RESOURCESAT-2A)	2.5/5.6	USGS	2011-14	Raster	Identification of the inland water bodies
4.	GOOGLE EYE	0.5	Google Earth	2015-18	Raster/ vector.	Identification of the location of fire events, network analysis.

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THE STUDY AREA

The KMC is located at $22^{\circ}12'$ N of latitude and $88^{\circ}20'$ E of longitude and is one of the oldest urban centres developed by the British.

Kolkata is a pioneering city in India in terms of industrialization, and also one of the most important cities of the country to serve the national economy, polity and culture. It is characterized by a large number of migrants, perhaps due to communal harmony and political stability (Basu and Sil, 2000). Due to growth of population the land use pattern has been changing with the shrinkage of agricultural to be replaced by the ever increasing residential commercial as well as industrial and international institutional areas. It is very important to have clear knowledge about the physical structure of the city to reach quickly to the fire-affected places. The Kolkata city may be conveniently divided into two clear segments:

1. The relatively older parts of the city located in the central and northern parts.
2. The peripheral built up areas in the east, south and the south-western parts.

These two areas have different urban characteristics. The older parts are characterized by poor urban infrastructure, although having close proximity to the CBD. On the other hand the 'outer crescent of the city', exhibits planned urban developments with primarily residential built up areas (Phan, 2013). It seems difficult for the quickest arrival of the fire fighters at the fire affected place in Kolkata because road space is very less in the city, but vehicular density is very high (about 600 vehicles/km). which often creates traffic congestion in the major roads.

In general, there is an individual fire extinguishing system is almost every apartment, hospital, industry and other installations against small fires at the nascent stage. But unfortunately, there is major infrastructural lacking and communication gap between fire events and their management especially for the large scale fires. In many cases it is noticed that the department of fire and emergency services is not properly informed. Sometimes narrow roads do not permit to enter the big fire engines and very often fire fighters have to fetch water from distance place.

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It is not very uncommon that there were two fires in the same year. such in Ward no. 31 (2006, 2011), Ward no. 01 (2009) and Ward no 02 (2012). There were many wards which experienced only single fire event. the fire events in hospital only were four (2.28% of the total), but it had a great impact on the society. The victim hospitals included SKM Hospital (in Ward no 43, A-type fire) in 2012, Anni Hospital (Ward no. 06, A-type fire) in 2011). Chittaranjan cancer Hospital (Ward no 50, C-type fire) in 2014), and Kolkata collage and Medical collage and Hospital (Ward no. 30, C-type fire) in 2018.

From the zoning map (fire zoning map) (fig-), we can delineate the fire prone areas of the KMC into four zones, Zone-I; 0 fire in 01, Zone-II, 2-4 no. of fire, Zone-III, Number of fire 5-9; 1 zone-IV, No. of fire 10-14, for the time period of 2006-2018. Under the KMC area, 50.60% wards belongs to zone-I, which lies mainly in the South and Western parts of the city. (Table -).

TABLE 3: DISTRIBUTION OF WARDS IN DIFFERENT FIRE PRONE ZONES

FIRE ZONE	WARD NUMBERS OF KMC	TOTAL	IN PERCENT
ZONE-I	1, 4, 5, 8, 12, 14, 17, 23, 24, 28, 30, 36, 41, 47, 48, 51, 52, 65, 71, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 89, 91, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 101, 103, 104, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 126, 127, 129, 130, 132, 134, 135, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144,	73	50.60
ZONE-II	2, 3, 7, 9, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 25, 26, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 38, 39, 40, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 50, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 61, 63, 64, 66, 67, 69, 71, 73, 75, 80, 81, 82, 88, 90, 92, 102, 105, 106, 107, 108, 125, 128, 131, 136, 137, 138,	65	45.13
ZONE-III	34, 60, 65	03	2.08
ZONE-IV	6, 22, 32, 62	04	2.77

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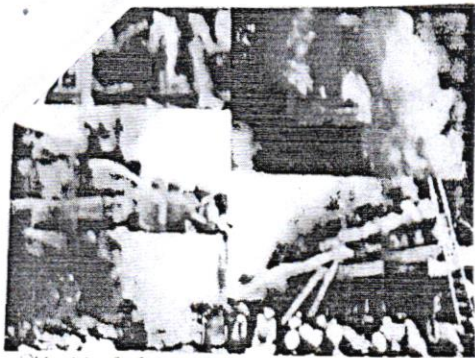


FIG-1: FIRE IN KOLKATA HUKAMCHUR

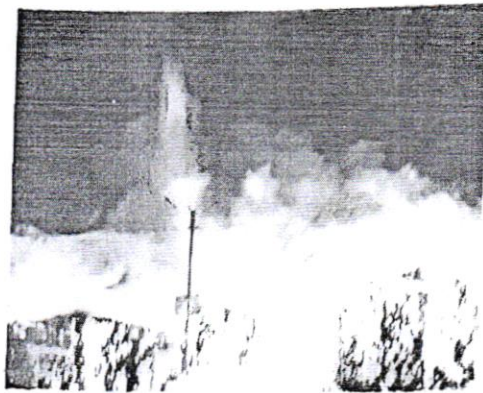


FIG-2: FIRE IN KOLKATA LUMI AREA

(III) FIRE IN HOSPITAL:

Within the KMC area there are about 62 well known hospitals, large number of patients and their companions used to go for treatment. Unfortunately this important place are also not secure in the sense of fire event as the city has experienced different life threatening fire events in hospital during the recent past. Among them four events are significantly memorable as discussed earlier.

(IV) FIRE IN MARKET AREAS AND SHOPPING COMPLEXES:

The fires of such type are mostly common in the KMC area, which mostly damage property. The market area and shopping complexes are mostly vulnerable because in market area people are seldom aware about fire safety process and a market usually maintains the minimum fire safety norms. The important markets in KMC area are: sin Gunudas Market (ward no - 30), sin charlen Allen Market (ward no. 18), Uttadanga Municipal Market (ward no. 13), Manton super Market (ward no. 130), Bakultala Market (ward no. 128), Santoshpur Municipal Market (ward no. 106), Ram Lal Municipal Market (ward no. 106), Kalitala Bansdroni Municipal Market (ward no. 113), Genda Municipal Market (ward no. 57), Jiban Mohan Ghosh Market (ward no. 112) Baba Haat (ward no. 128), Jabbar Haat (ward no. 138), Binod Chamania & Brothers (ward no. 42), Ganesh properties Pvt. Ltd (ward no. 43), Bangun charitable Trust (ward no. 43), Kolay properties Pvt. Ltd. (ward no. 50), Churu Market (ward no. 80), New Market (ward no. 46), Gariahat Market (ward no. 68), Maniktala Market (ward no. 15) etc.

The fire types in the market area and shopping complexes are A, B, C and D. The total number of A type fire is 79 (46.19%), B is 31 (18.12%), C is 55 (32.16%), D is 3 (1.75%), K is (1.75%) during 2016-2022. A clear idea about this type of fires has been gathered (Fig-) through intensive field work during this time period.

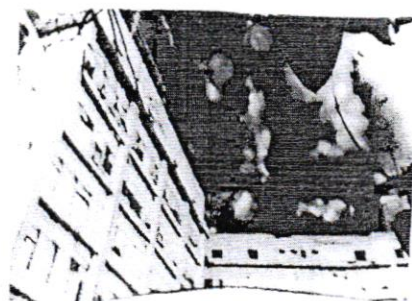


FIG-3: KOLKATA SSKM HOSPITAL FIRE

TABLE 4: TABLE of Different types of fire in KMC Market area:

TYPES OF FIRE	A TYPE	B TYPE	C TYPE	D TYPE	K TYPE
NO. OF FIRE EVENT	79	31	55	3	3
% OF FREQUENCY	46.19 %	18.12 %	32.16 %	1.75 %	1.75 %

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FIRE MANAGEMENT

A. PREPAREDNESS AND QUICK RESPONSE

Planning is one of the most efficient tools to deal with disasters. The quick response indicates the two step methods to include the identification of the vulnerable area and the response to it. A disaster preparedness plan should be clear, realistic, flexible, and easy to use and it must be covered every stage of disaster management up to (Joshi and Joshi, 2005). Identification of vulnerable area and selection of appropriate measures should be the first stage of disaster preparedness.

Identification of the fire victim place can be done through Gps and GPRS. The response of fire disaster demands a quick rescue operation as soon as possible. And time is a very important factor to control the fire impact. So the duration of the gap between a fire events and its rescue operation is very crucial. Moreover, the response to fire disaster is a systematic damage assessment process to restore the utilities.

B. PREPARATION OF THE ROUTE MAP :

An attempt has been taken to find out the shortest route between the fire victim wards and its nearest fire stations. Beside this, during the office time a number of alternative routes have been proposed to reach the fire affected ward to avoid road congestion. There are two wards, which have been identified for their highest fire occurrence or frequencies (to) Ward no. 32, (frequency 18) and 34 (frequency 0).

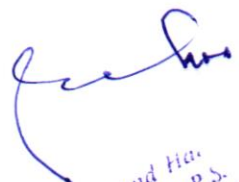

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CHART FROM FIRE STATION TO WARD NO 32 AND 34 :

The nearest fire station at these wards is Maniktala fire station (Ward no. 32). The shortest route direction between Maniktala fire station and ward no 32 is given below (Fig-7).

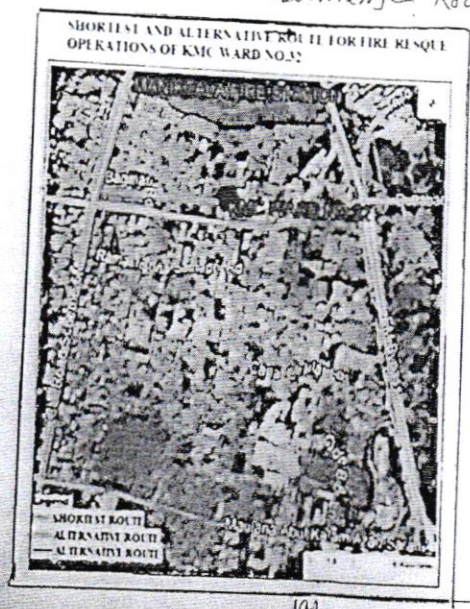
Maniktala fire station → CIT Road (W: 15 M) → Ward no. 32

In the case of traffic jam at shortest route, so the alternative route between Maniktala fire station and Ward No 32 is (Fig-7)

Maniktala fire station → Maulana Abul kalam Azad Road → EM Bypass → Maniktala Main Road → CIT Road → Ward no. 32.

The shortest Route direction between Maniktala fire station and ward no 34 (Fig-7).
Maniktala fire station → CIT Road → Hem chandra Bannerjee Road → Ward no. 34.

The Alternative route / routes between Maniktala fire station and ward no. 34 (Fig-7).
Maniktala Fire station → CIT Road → Nankel Langha road → Kavi Sukanta Sarni → Dr. Sunilk chandra Bannerjee Road → Ward no. 34.



(a)



(b)

FIG-7

C. SELECTION OF THE APPROPRIATE FIRE ENGINES :

The selection of the fire engine for the fire events is an important task. The Layout of the Road is an important factor for the quick rescue operation. The selected fire engine is too big for the selected Road it can be easily operated. The appropriate fire engine to be selected according to the road width presented below (Table -).

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