

**MT. PANWALIDWAR (6663 M) EXPEDITION, 2006**  
**ORGANISED BY: MOUNTAINEERS' ASSOCIATION OF KRISHNANAGAR, W.B.**

**Leader's Report**

1. Name of the Association: Mountaineers' Association of Krishnanagar.
2. Name of the expedition: Mt. Panwalidwar (6663 Mtr. / 21860 Ft.) Expedition, 2006.
3. Name of the Himalayan peak climbed and its height: PANWALIDWAR - 6663 M / 21860 FT.
4. Date on which permit given by IMF: 01/8/2006 to 31/08/2006.
5. Nominal roll of the expedition leader and members:
  1. Shri Debasis Biswas– Leader of the expedition and climbed Mt. Panwalidwar (6663 M). He also made Videography of the expedition.
  2. Shri Basanta Singha Roy – Dy. Leader of the expedition and climbed Mt. Panwalidwar (6663 M).
  3. Shri Subrata Brahma – He act as Medical Officer of the team. He reached up to 5300 M
  4. Shri Ajoy Bhattacharya - He ferried loads up to 4800 M.
  5. Shri Supriya Chitra – He was the Equipment In-charge and climbed up to 4800 M.
  6. Shri Bijay Sarkar - He ferried loads up to 4800 M.
  7. Shri Buddhadeb Halder – He ferried loads up to 4800 M.
  8. Shri Tapan Roy – He was the Quarter Master and Manager of the expedition. He climbed up to 4800 M.
  9. Shri Souvik Sarkar – He ferried loads up to 4800 M.
6. Commencement of trek from rail head/road head: From road head – trek started on 08/08/2006 from road head Song, Bageswar, Uttaranchal.
7. Number of camps en route up to Base Camp: Before reaching Base Camp, we stayed at Loharkhet (1750 M) on 08/08/2006, Khati (2210 M) on 09/08/2006 and Dwali (2734 M) on 10/08/2006.
8. Inter-action with local administration en-route and assistance received/problems faced: There was no Government official or any Expedition Check Post at Song, Bageswar from where we had started our trek to whom we will deposit the necessary papers as directed by IMF.
9. Establishment of Base Camp:

We hired first 6 Mules to carry our loads from Song to Khati (22 K.M.) and then 14 Porters to carry our loads from Khati to Base Camp (4120 M) (23 K.M.). First day, on 8<sup>th</sup> August, 2006 we moved towards Loharkhet at 3.00 p.m. Within 40 minutes we reached Loharkhet ( 2.5 k.m.) We stayed at Loharkhet (PWD Bunglow – 1750 M) that night. On 9<sup>th</sup> August, 2006, early morning we started from Loharkhet. We took 4 hours to reach Dhakuri (12 k.m.). After taking lunch there, we moved towards Khati (2210 M) at 2.00 p.m. and within 3 hours we reached Khati ( 8 K.M.)and stayed at PWD Bunglow. Next day i.e. on 10<sup>th</sup> August, 2006 at 8.30 a.m. we started from Khati and reached Dwali (2734 M) at 2.30 p.m. Here also we stayed at PWD Bunglow. The route was through true left bank of Pindar river. On 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2006, early morning we started from Dwali

and reached Phurkia (7 K.M.) within 2 hours through the true left bank of Pindar river. After Phurkia, we moved 2 K.M. towards Pindar Zero Point and then cross Pindar River through a tiny temporary wooden bridge made by Sheep Owners. Then we moved towards north nearly 2 K.M. through the true right bank of Pindar river and established our Base Camp at an altitude of 4120 Mtr. The Base Camp was situated on a meadow and near a stream.

10. Establishment of higher camps with routes marked on the maps/sketches: Enclosed.

11. Technical/Climbing difficulty on way to higher camps:

From Base Camp to Camp-I, the route towards north and then west and northwest. We proceeded through the true right lateral moraine of Pindar river for half an hour. Then we turned towards west and started climbing through the dense long grass. Gradient was high. After a steep ascent of 1 and half hour, we reached on a gradual sloping Bugial. Then we turned towards northwest. One permanent shelter of rock and wood made by the Sheep Owner was there. We saw a group of Sheep and one local people there. Then we cross a speedy stream (Buria Nala) and then a easy walk through a comparatively low gradient grassy field for an hour. Then we walked again one hour on a steep grassy zone with boulder and reached on the top of a subsidiary rocky ridge coming down to East from the Baljuri glacier. We established our Camp – I at an altitude of 4800 M just below the Baljuri Glacier on rock. From here we clearly viewed our target peak i.e. Panwalidwar Peak. Nandakhat (6545 M), Changuch (6322 M), Nandakot (6861 M), Nandabhanar (6236 M) Peaks were viewed and Base Camp was far below towards south. No need to fix any rope upto Camp – I.

From Camp-I to II – First we cross the boulder zone below the Baljuri glacier towards west. In between that boulder zone we cross the same stream (Buria Nala), which we cross en-route to Camp-I and reached on the Baljuri Glacier. At that time no snow deposition on the glacier and then cross the Baljuri glacier diagonally towards northwest. We planned to reach on the south ridge of Panwalidwar through a subsidiary southeast rocky ridge, which is coming from the south-ridge of Panwalidwar. So we avoid Baljuri Col., which is towards west. After one and half hour climbing towards northwest, crossing moraine ridges and glaciers, we established our Camp - II on a steep rocky ridge at an altitude of 5300 M. At our camp-II area, there was hardly any place to pitch any tent. One side of it is very steep rocky slope goes to Baljuri glacier, through which we climb to Camp-II and another side is a snow field of 30 to 45 degree gradient. We do not need to fix any rope upto Camp-II. We do not also use Crampon. Total time taken from Camp-I to Camp-II was 3 hours. From here we viewed clearly our targeted peak Panwalidwar towards northwest, towards northeast is Nandakhat, towards east Changuch, Nandakot, Nandabhanar and towards south and southwest is Baljuri glacier and Baljuri Peak (5922 M).

From Camp-II to III – First we traverse the snow field towards north. After 30 minutes we reached near a rocky ridge, which is coming down as a subsidiary ridge from the south ridge of Panwalidwar. There we fix a small rope of 30 M for safety and reached the top of the ridge. This point is near the south wall of Nandakhat Peak. Again we moved towards west and gained height. After nearly two hours steep climbing over the loose boulder, we cross a small snow ridge and then again steep climbing through the loose boulder for 20 minutes and we reached the area of Camp-III at an altitude of 5800 M. Camp-III area also same as Camp-II. It is on a steep rocky ridge of loose boulders. One side of it is very steep rocky slope and another side is snow wall. By placing boulders and cutting snow / ice, we could prepare for pitching only one tent.

From Camp-III to summit was the most difficult part of climb to Panwalidwar. The main difficulties were a steep rock-wall of loose boulders through which we have to move nearly two hours and then many knife-edge snow ridges and very steep snow upto summit. We able to fixed ropes on this route in two days. Snow Stakes, Rock Pitons and Ice-pitons were used and we fixed ropes all along. First we climbed a steep snow wall. We do not fix any rope because the snow condition was favourable. Then we fixed ropes on rock wall. Loose rocks are coming down whenever we placed our foot. Very cautiously we climbed this part. Again we climbed another 300 M snow wall with the help of fixed rope and reached to the top of main south ridge of Panwalidwar. From here we clearly viewed peaks of Sundardunga side i.e. towards west of Panwalidwar. Mighty Miketoli, Debtoli, Devimukut peaks are viewed and towards northeast Nandadevi (East) clearly viewed. Now we turned towards north. This part is very dangerous because we negotiated three times (nearly 30 M) over the sharp-corniced ridge and high gradient snow slope (nearly 80°). All along we fixed ropes and never use Crampon. In this route we could not found any suitable place for establishing a small camp. Only Bivouac Camp may be established. But we favoured to direct approach from Camp-III to summit instead of a Bivouac.

12. Snow and rock condition: We faced soft snow from Camp-III i.e. summit camp. Crampon was not required because we have not faced any hard ice throughout the expedition. We negotiate corniced snow ridge 3 times before summit. We also faced rock wall, which was loose.

13. Weather condition: Each and every day from Song to summit and back to Kathgodam Railway Station after completion of expedition, the weather was worst and we faced almost each day rain, some days heavy shower. In some days we got good weather upto 10 to 11 a.m. but thereafter fully whiteout with rain / snowfall.

14. Summit report:

On 22<sup>th</sup> August, 2006 myself, Basanta Singha Roy, Pemba Sherpa and Pasang Sherpa prepared ourselves for Panwalidwar summit at 2.30 a.m. Because we know that the approach of summit is very long from this camp. Ultimately we moved for summit at 3.45 a.m. After one hour climbing on snow, we reached at the foot of a loose rock wall with the help of Head Torch. We faced lot of problem due to verglass and loose rock and also for darkness. As rope was fixed earlier on the rock wall, we are able to reach the top of the rock wall at 7.00 a.m. with the help of Jumar.

Again we started climbing on a snow wall, which is directly hit south ridge of Panwalidwar about 200 M. above. Rope was fixed earlier and the snow condition was very favourable. So we have no problem to reach the top of the south ridge weather was very good. From here we clearly viewed peaks of Sundardunga side i.e. towards west of Panwalidwar. Mighty Maiktoli (6803 M), Debtoli (6788 M), Devimukut (6648 M) and many other peaks were viewed and towards northeast Nandadevi (East) (7434 M) clearly viewed. Nandakhat (6545 M), Changuch (6322 M), Nandakot (6861 M), Nandabhanar (6236 M) also clearly visible from here. Baljuri (5922 M) is visible below towards southwest. Now we turned towards north. Three rock towers are seen on the summit ridge of Panwalidwar from the lower camps. We negotiated two towers one by one. From one rock wall to another wall there is a corniced ridge, which is very dangerous. We negotiated these two corniced ridge very cautiously because there were sheer fall in both the sides. Again we climbed a steep snow wall. This time weather became very dull. Visibility was very poor. At last at 3.00 p.m. we reached the top of the Panwalidwar (6663 M). Taking photograph and hoisting National Flag and Club Flag, we performed Puja and after spending 15 minutes on the top we came down slowly but steadily to Summit Camp at 10.30 p.m. At that time we were very exhausted.

15. Camp site cleaning activities and disposal of garbage:

Garbage from Camp-I, II and III area was collected and taken back at Base Camp. The area of Base Camp was cleared and all the biodegradable garbage was burnt and left non-bio-degradable garbage taken back and dumped the same at Bageswar.

16. Maximum height attained and its date: 6663 mtr. / 21860 ft. (i.e. Summit) of Panwalidwar Peak on 22/08/2006.

17. Names of Summitter : 1. Shri Basanta Singha Roy, 2. Shri Debasish Biswas, 3. Shri Pasang Sherpa and Shri Pemba Sherpa.

18. Name of LO, if any: Not applicable.

19. Total expenditure incurred for the expedition (i.e. on food, porter, equipment etc.) along with Chartered Accountant's audited statement of accounts:

Chartered Accountant's Audit Report enclosed.

Food	-	17489.00
Mule/Porter charges	-	32285.00
Sherpa/HAP charges	-	42090.00
Equipment hire charges	-	6900.00
Transport	-	15958.00
Photography	-	5250.00
Equipment purchase/repair	-	2965.00
Booking fees & others	-	11500.00
Postage/Insurance & others	-	<u>1764.00</u>
Total expenditure	-	<u>136201.00</u>

20. Details of day-by-day events to be attached: Enclosed.

21. Suggestions/complaints: Nothing.

22. Survey of India Map or sketch, marking accurately the route, campsite and their heights: Separate sheet enclosed.

23. Photo evidence: 31 Pcs of 4" x 6" colour print photo with caption enclosed (2 sets).

Date : 23/10/2006.

(Leader's particulars and signature)

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## DETAILED REPORT OF DAY-BY-DAY EVENTS OF MT. PANWALIDWAR (6663 M) PEAK EXPEDITION, 2006

Panwalidwar is one of the most challenging peak in the Kumaon Himalaya. Very few expeditions had organized in this peak earlier. The first ascent was made in this peak by a Japanese team in 1980 and a Bombay team made the second ascent in the year 1991. After that in the year 1983, a Japanese attempted this peak but failed due to accidents and also in the year 1989, an American team could not scale due to bad weather.

Last year the members of Mountaineers' Association of Krishnanagar had climbed Mt. Shivling (6543 M). Our plan for this year was Mt. Nilkantha (6597 M) but due to some problem we took the decision to climb Panwalidwar (6663 M).

Panwalidwar peak is on the outer wall of Nanda Devi Sanctuary. It is situated at the head of Pindar valley spreading it from the Sundurdunga valley. West ridge of this peak leads to the Sundardunga Khal and is full of vertical walls. Whereas East Ridge leads to Nandakhat and is difficult for climbing. There is an easier route to Panwalidwar from the north i.e. from the Nanda Devi Sanctuary side through the Purbi Rishi Bamak. But this area being inside the Nanda Devi Sanctuary has been closed since 1982. We decided to make an attempt along the Sough ridge. The successful Japanese and Bombay team scaled this peak through this ridge. Here we want to mention that in the year 1991 we had climbed Baljuri (5922 M) Peak and viewed this peak very closely.

After completion of all formalities, a 9 member team of Mountaineers' Association of Krishnanagar along with 2 Sherpas from Darjeeling left Krishnagar on 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2006 and reached Howrah by local train and then availed Bagh Express at 9.45 p.m. Well-wishers, friends and members were present both at Krishnagar Rly. Station and Howrah Rly. Station to convey their wishes for our safe return and success.

6<sup>th</sup> August : We spent the whole day at train.

7<sup>th</sup> August : Reached Haldwani at 8.30 a.m. and then availed Bus at 11.30 a.m. for Bageswar. We reached Bageswar at 7.30 p.m. and stayed at Hotel Siddharth. There we met our Guide, Rup Singh, who was waiting for us.

8<sup>th</sup> August : Members were busy for marketing like grocery and other vegetables from Bageswar market. After taking breakfast, we hired two Jeep for Song (road head) at 10.30 a.m. with all loads and reached there at 1.00 p.m. In between at Bharari we also made some marketing. At Song we hired 6 Mules to carry the load up to Khati as due to landslide after Khati, mules could not ferry the loads upto our base camp. After taking our lunch at Song, we began our trek to Loharkhet at 3.00 p.m. and reached there within 40 minutes. We may also reach Loharkhet (upper) by Jeep. We stayed at lower Loharkhet PWD Bunglow (2 K.M. / 1750 M) that night.

9<sup>th</sup> August : At 8.00 a.m. we began our trek from Loharkhet and reached Dhakuri at 12.00 noon (12 k.m.). After taking our lunch at Dhakuri, we began our trek to Khati (8 K.M.) at 2.00 p.m. and reached at Khati at 5.00 p.m. We stayed at Khati (PWD Bunglow / 2210 M) that night. Weather was cloudy.

10<sup>th</sup> August : At Khati we made our last marketing. Everything is available here. We purchased rice, sugar, atta and potato etc. almost at the same price. Mules could not go thereafter. We hired 14 Porters to carry the load up to Base Camp. At 8.30 a.m. all of us started from Khati after taking our breakfast. We took pack lunch for our route. We reached Dwali (11 K.M.) which is situated at the junction of Pindar and Kafni Nala at 2.30 p.m. We stayed at Dwali PWD Bunglow (2734 M) that night. Weather was cloudy with light rain sometimes.

11<sup>th</sup> August : At 7.30 a.m. we started from Dwali and we reached Phurkia (7 k.m.) within 2 hours, through the true left bank of Pindar river. Then we moved 2 k.m. towards Pindar Zero Point and then cross Pindar river through a temporary wooden bridge. Then we moved nearly 2 k.m. through the true right bank of Pindar river and established our Base Camp at 11.30 a.m.. We pitched tents on grassy grounds. Kitchen had already there and we repaired it for our use. Water source was a nearby stream. We also re-arranged loads for upward journey. Equipments also checked. Porters returned to Khati. Now we were 14 (9 members + 2 Sherpas + 2 HAPs + 1 Cook). Weather was cloudy all day and heavy rain started at 1.30 p.m. which stopped after 2 hours.

Here I want to mention that Pindar Glacier Zero Point (Snout Point), which is 45 K.M. from road head i.e. from Song, Bageswar is a very popular trekking route. Many trekkers visited frequently in this route from all over India and abroad. So the route from Song to Pindar Zero Point is well maintained by PWD. For staying at Loharkhet, Dhakuri, Khati and Phurkia – PWD Bunglow are available and the last village in this route is Khati and all rations are available here.

12<sup>th</sup> August : All of us except Iswar (Cook) ferried loads to Camp – I. We started trekking towards northwest at 8.30 a.m. after performing Puja. First we cross a small stream and then proceeded towards north through the true right lateral moraine of Pindar Glacier in a fair weather. After half an hour trekking we turned towards west and started climbing. The route was full of long grass and then reached on a gradual sloping Bugial. One permanent shelter of rock and wood made by the Sheep Owner was there. We saw a group of Sheep and one local people there. Then we cross a wide and speedy stream (Buria Nala) and then a easy walk through a comparatively gradual grassy field. Then we again climbed on a steep grassy zone with boulder and reached on the top of a subsidiary rocky ridge coming down to East from the Baljuri glacier at 1.30 p.m.. Dumping our loads, we returned to Base Camp at 4.30 p.m. It took 8 hours.

13<sup>th</sup> August : We decided to occupy Camp-I (4800 M) today. We took the decision that 3 member, 2 Sherpas and 2 HAPs occupy Camp-I and others ferry load upto Camp-I as per requirement. Weather was clear till 11.30 p.m. Today we started at 9.30 a.m. and took only 3 hours to reach Camp-I and pitched two Tents here and also made a Kitchen. From here for the first time we clearly viewed our target peak i.e. Panwalidwar. Nandakhat, Changuch, Nandakot, Nandabhanar Peaks were viewed towards east and Base Camp was far below towards south. No need to fix any rope upto Camp – I.

14<sup>th</sup> August : All of us opened the route and also ferried loads to Camp-II. First we cross the boulder zone below the Baljuri glacier. In between that boulder zone we cross the same stream (Buria Nala) that we crossed en-route to Camp-I and then reached on the Baljuri glacier. Weather was all along cloudy. We planned to reach on the south ridge of Panwalidwar through a subsidiary south-east rocky ridge which is coming from the south-ridge of Panwalidwar. So we avoid reaching the Baljuri Col., which is towards west. We diagonally cross the Baljuri glacier towards northwest. At that time there was no soft snow. After one and half hour, we left Baljuri glacier, then we negotiated three moraine ridges and reached on a steep rocky ridge at an altitude of 5300 M. After dumping loads we returned to Camp-I. We took 6 hours to return Camp-I.

15<sup>th</sup> August : Sherpas, Rup Singh and Nandan ferried loads to Camp-II. Myself, Basanta Singha Roy and Subrata Bramha took rest. Weather was cloudy.

16<sup>th</sup> August : Sherpas occupied Camp-II and HAPs ferried loads to Camp-II. Due to bad weather we decided not to move to upper Camp.

17<sup>th</sup> August : Myself, Basanta Singha Roy, Subrata Bramha, Rup Singh and Nandan occupied Camp-II (5300 M). Weather was cloudy all over the day and drizzling started after 9.30 a.m. and continued all day. Pasang and Pemba moved for searching route for Camp-III. At our camp-II area, there was hardly any place to pitch any tent. One side of it is very steep rocky slope goes to Baljuri glacier, through which we had climbed to Camp-II and another side is a snow field of 30 to 40 degree gradient. We do not need to fix any rope upto Camp-II. We do not also use Crampon. We took 3 hours to reach Camp-II. From here we viewed clearly our targeted peak Panwalidwar towards northwest and observed about the possible route for summit, towards northeast is Nandakhat, towards east Changuch, Nandakot, Nandabhanar and towards south is Baljuri glacier and southwest is Baljuri Peak (5922 M).

18<sup>th</sup> August : Pasang, Pemba and myself occupied Camp-III. Rup Singh and Nandan ferried load to Camp-III. Weather was not good. We left Camp-II at 7.30 a.m. First we traverse the snowfield towards north. After 30 minutes we reached near a rocky ridge, which is coming down towards east as a subsidiary ridge from the south ridge of Panwalidwar. There we fix a rope of 30 mtr. for safety and reached the top of the ridge. This point is near the south wall of Nandakhat Peak. Again we moved towards west and gained height. After nearly two hours climbing over the loose boulder, we cross a small snow ridge and then again climbing through the loose boulder for 20 minutes and we reached the area of Camp-III at an altitude of 5800 M. Camp-III area also same as Camp-II. It is on a steep rocky ridge of loose boulders. One side of it is very steep rocky slope and another side is snow wall. By placing boulders and cutting snow / ice, we could prepare for pitching only one tent.

19<sup>th</sup> August : Rup Singh and Nandan ferried loads to Camp-III and returned back to Camp-II. As decided earlier, Basanta Singha Roy occupied Camp-III and Subrata Brahma stayed at Camp-II. Pasang and Pemba today also moved for recce. From this Camp we clearly viewed Panwalidwar Peak and we able to find out our possible route to climb our targeted peak. Now we stand on a parallel line with Baljuri Peak (5922 M), which is towards our south-southwest. Peaks like Nandakhat, Changuch, Nandakot, Nandabhanar clearly visible from here.

20<sup>th</sup> August : After taking breakfast we started at 9.30 a.m. for route opening to summit. At first we faced a steep snowfield. After one hour climbing on snow, we reached at the foot of a rock wall. Then we started rope fixing on the loose rock, which is approx. 300 M. It took three hours. It was a very difficult task because loose rocks are coming down whenever we placed our foot on the rock. Very cautiously we fixed rope on this part. Again we reached near a snow wall, which hit directly to main south ridge of Panwalidwar. Due to high gradient we fixed another 300 M rope. The approach was very long from Camp-III to Summit of Panwalidwar. But in this route we could not found any suitable place for establishing a small camp. Only Bivouac Camp may be established. But we favoured to direct approach from Camp-III to summit instead of a Bivouac. We could not moved further due to poor visibility and returned Camp-III at 4.30 p.m. Heavy snowfall started and it continued all the night.

21<sup>st</sup> August : We had planned for summit attempt but due to bad weather condition and heavy snow, we changed our plan and stayed at Camp-III. Snowfall continued all over the night but within 12.00 noon all the fresh snow disappeared.

On 22<sup>nd</sup> August, 2006 myself, Basanta Singha Roy, Pemba Sherpa and Pasang Sherpa prepared ourselves for Panwalidwar summit at 2.30 a.m. Because we know that the approach of summit is very long from this camp. Ultimately we moved for summit at 3.45 a.m. After one hour climbing on snow, we reached at the foot of this loose rock wall with the help of Head Torch. We faced lot of problem due to verglass and loose rock and also for darkness. As rope was fixed earlier on the rock wall, we are able to reach the top of the rock wall at 7.00 a.m. with the help of Jumar. Weather was good.

Again we started climbing on a snow wall which is directly hit south ridge of Panwalidwar about 300 M above. From here we saw the Nandadevi (East) (7434 M) Peak raising her head over the Panwalidwar east ridge. Rope was fixed earlier and the snow condition was very favourable. So we have no problem to reach the top of the south ridge. From here we clearly viewed peaks of Sundardunga side i.e. towards west of Panwalidwar. Mighty Maiktoli (6803 M), Debtoli (6788 M), Devimukut (6648 M) and many other peaks are viewed and towards northeast Nandadevi (East) (7434 M) clearly viewed. Nandakhat (6545 M), Changuch (6322 M), Nandakot (6861 M), Nandabhanar (6236 M) also clearly visible from here. Baljuri (5922 M) is visible far below towards southwest. Now we turned towards north. Three rock towers were seen on the summit ridge of Panwalidwar from the lower camps. We negotiated two towers one by one. From one rock wall to another wall there is a corniced ridge, which is very dangerous. We negotiated these two corniced ridge very cautiously because there were sheer fall in both the sides. Again we climbed a steep snow wall. This time weather became very dull. Visibility was very poor. At last at 3.00 p.m. we reached the top of the Panwalidwar (6663 M). Taking photograph and hoisting National Flag and Club Flag, we performed Puja and after spending 15 minutes on the top we came down slowly but steadily to Summit Camp at 10.30 p.m. At that time we were very exhausted.

23<sup>rd</sup> August We started our return journey at 7.30 a.m. Pasang and Pemba started one hour later after cleaning the area and we reached Camp-II at 10.00 a.m. Only one Tent was there. After taking some rest we moved towards Camp-I and reached at Camp-I at 12.30 p.m. Before Camp-I we met Rup Singh and Nandan, they were going upwards to carry back loads left for them. At 1.00 p.m. after taking some rest we cleared the area of Camp-I and carried all the garbage on our back and came down to Base Camp at 4.30 p.m. All members and Iswar received us. It was a very joyful moment. We enjoyed our success and safe return.

24<sup>th</sup> August We cleaned the Base Camp area and packed all equipments, tents, utensils etc. 6 Porters carry our loads upto Khati. We proceeded for Khati at 9.30 a.m. after taking breakfast and reached at Khati at 8.00 p.m. amidst heavy rain. We stayed at Khati (PWD Bunglow) that night.

25<sup>th</sup> August We proceeded for Song at 6.30 a.m.. From Khati we took 3 Mules to carry our loads. Amidst heavy rain we reached at Song 4.30 p.m. We stayed in a hotel at Song that night.

26<sup>th</sup> August Early morning we left Song by 2 hired Jeep and reached Bageswar at 8.00 a.m.. We took Bus from Bageswar but due to local student strike we could not move till 1.30 p.m. The Bus left Bageswar at 1.30 p.m. and reached Kathgodam at 9.30 p.m. We availed Bagh Express that night and reached Krishnagar on 28<sup>th</sup> August, 2006 safely.

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