SIP - Daily Report

Date: 2026-05-21 (Thursday)
Day: 05
Time: 09:30 AM – 03:15 PM
Location: Dhaka WASA Bhaban (15th floor, Kazi Nazrul Islam Ave, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh), Pagla Sewage Treatment Plant (Pagla, Dhaka, Bangladesh)

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Overview

Today was the 5th day of our Student Internship Program (SIP). The day mainly focused on a field visit to the Pagla Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) project under Dhaka WASA.

Chronological Activities

1. Arrived at the DSIP office at approximately 9:30 AM.
2. At around 10:15 AM, departed for Pagla STP along with four personnel from the DSIP office.
3. Reached Pagla STP at approximately 11:15 AM.
4. Participated in an introductory session at the Pagla STP office accompanied by snacks.
5. Attended a presentation describing the current and proposed reconstruction plan of PSTP through videos and design layouts.
6. Received a short safety training briefing where we were provided with personal protective equipment.
7. Visited the construction site.
8. Departed for the DSIP office at around 1:20 PM.
9. Arrived at the DSIP office at approximately 2:25 PM.
10. Left at around 3:15 PM after taking snacks provided at the office.

Insights into Pagla STP

We learned that the existing Pagla STP currently operates with 16 waste stabilization ponds with a treatment capacity of 120 MLD. Under the reconstruction project, it will be upgraded to a conventional activated sludge process using only 2 ponds while increasing the treatment capacity to 200 MLD.



Figure 1 Proposed reconstructed view of PSTP



Figure 2 Participants attending the presentation

Note on photography constraints: A strict "no-photography" policy was in place inside Pagla STP. Consequently, we were unable to capture live photos of the active construction site or treatment systems. Visual documentation is therefore limited to the official layouts shared during the presentation.

We also learned that the project contractor is VA Tech Wabag Ltd and that the overall project progress is currently around 32%.

The wastewater treatment sequence was explained as:



An important learning point was the utilization of generated biogas for electricity production. The produced electricity is expected to meet the operational energy demand of the treatment plant, and any surplus electricity may be supplied to the national grid.

As with current setup, the upgraded treatment plant is designed to receive and treat municipal wastewater collected from the three primary trunk sewers of Dhaka city which are also under reconstruction through the eight work packages.

Next Steps

Report to the DSIP office at Dhaka WASA Bhaban.

Schedule: May 23, 2026, at 10:00 AM.