

Honorable Commerce Minister and Sylhet City Corporation Administrator Visit IWM

Mr. Khandakar Abdul Muktedir, Honorable Minister for Commerce, Industries, and Textiles & Jute, accompanied by Mr. Abdul Quiyum Choudhury, the Administrator of Sylhet City Corporation, visited IWM on Saturday, 6 June 2026. Mr. Md. Amirul Islam, Executive Director of IWM warmly welcomed the Honorable Minister with a flower bucket. The visit underscored the growing recognition of IWM's technical expertise among policymakers and local government leadership and offered an important platform for dialogue between the Institute and the visiting dignitaries on pressing water and climate challenges facing Bangladesh's North-East Region.

The visit commenced with an executive briefing by the Executive Director of IWM, who presented an overarching overview of the Institute's strategic vision, institutional mandates, and technological innovations. The briefing traced IWM's evolution as a national center of excellence in water resources modelling, its integration of advanced hydrodynamic and GIS-based tools into planning processes, and its expanding portfolio of work in climate adaptation, coastal resilience, and urban water management.



Md. Amirul Islam, Executive Director of IWM, briefing the Minister, Mr. Khandakar Abdul Muktedir, and the Administrator of Sylhet City Corporation, Mr. Abdul Quiyum Choudhury, on the Institute's strategic vision and technical capabilities

Following the introductory briefing, Mr. Tarun Kanti Magumdar, Director of the Flood and River Management (FRM) Division presented a comprehensive assessment of basin-scale flooding dynamics within the North-East Region. The presentation outlined predictive modelling frameworks used to anticipate flash-flood behavior in the haor and hilly catchment areas, along with structural and non-structural mitigation strategies designed to protect vulnerable communities and agricultural land across the region.

Then Mr. Tanmay Chaki, Director of the Water Supply Unit (WSU) delivered an in-depth presentation on the Sylhet Drainage Study Project, comprehensively addressing the critical urban water management challenges facing the city, including waterlogging, inadequate drainage capacity, and the impacts of

unplanned urbanization. The presentation further detailed the infrastructural requirements and strategic engineering solutions essential for building a resilient and sustainable drainage system for Sylhet.



A wider view of the session, with the Minister, the Administrator of Sylhet City Corporation, and senior officials of IWM in attendance

Both presentations generated active discussion, with the Minister and the Administrator raising questions on implementation timelines, funding avenues and coordination with local authorities. The dignitaries also inquired about opportunities to replicate IWM's modelling approaches in other flood-prone districts of the region, reflecting a shared interest in scaling up evidence-based planning for climate resilience.

At the end, Honorable Minister expressed his sincere appreciation to the Executive Director and the presenting teams. He commended the Institute for the technical rigor, depth and excellence demonstrated throughout the presentations, acknowledging IWM's vital role in national development and climate resilience planning. The Administrator of Sylhet City Corporation echoed these sentiments, expressing hope for continued technical collaboration between the City Corporation and IWM on the drainage and flood management priorities discussed during the visit.
