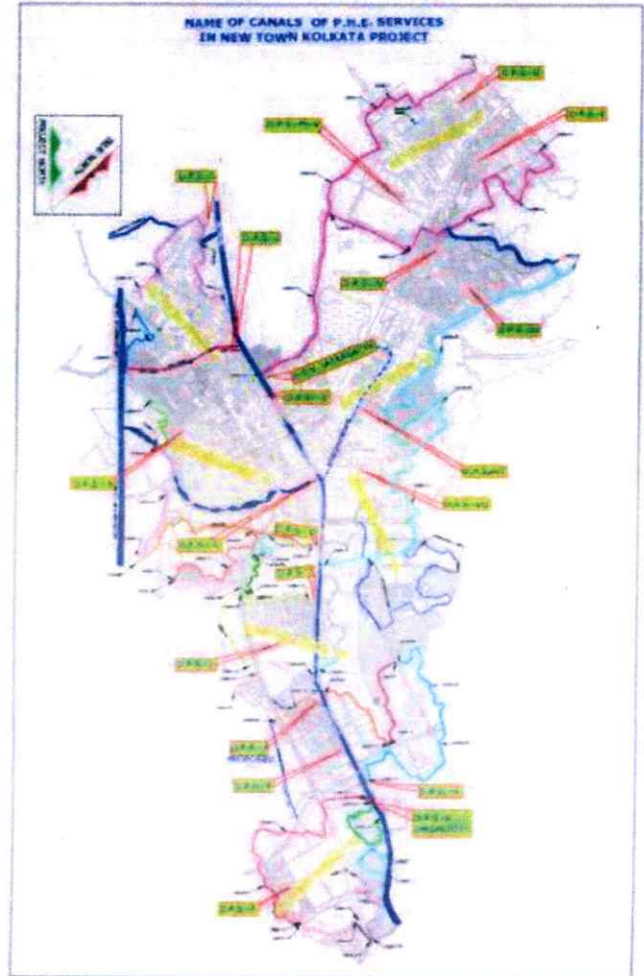


Canal-Centered Initiatives by the New Town Kolkata Development Authority for Dengue Prevention

To enhance the effectiveness of drainage system in New Town and the adjoining areas, more than 20 drainage channels/ peripheral canals (with well-equipped drainage pumping stations), have been excavated along the boundary of New Town, having an approximate length of 52 kms. The details of the canals in AA-I, II & III that are maintained by the New Town Kolkata Development Authority (NKDA) are-

Names of the Canals	Approx Length (in Mtr.)	Approx Width (in Mtr.)
C- Canal, D- Canal, E- Canal, F- Canal, G- Canal, Link Canal, Upasana Canal, A- Canal, B- Canal, M- Canal, N- Canal, P- Canal, Q- Canal, QX- Canal, R- Canal, RY- Canal, S- Canal, T- Canal, TX- Canal, U- Canal	51776 (or 51.76 kms)	Ranging from 5 mtr. to 40 mtr.



While these canals have significantly enhanced New Town's drainage system, they also pose a challenge as potential breeding grounds for mosquitoes, contributing to the spread of dengue.

In a commendable effort to combat dengue and enhance overall public health of New Town, NKDA has successfully implemented a series of strategic interventions over the past year. In addition to periodic desilting operation, NKDA has undertaken various other special cleaning drives for these peripheral canals. These actions have significantly reduced the outbreak of dengue in New Town by 90% last year. Only 37 dengue cases were reported in New Town in 2024.

Building on the success of these measures, NKDA has outlined a proactive action plan for the upcoming year to further mitigate the risk of mosquito-borne diseases. As part of this plan, beside regular spraying of larvicide in the Bagjhola Canal and Krishnapur Canal, the authority will carry out a comprehensive cleaning drive for the peripheral canals. This will involve the systematic removal (both manual and mechanical) of jungles, bushes, water hyacinth, silt, and other obstructions from the canal beds and slopes at regular intervals — scheduled for May 2025, September 2025, and January 2026.

In addition to these efforts, NKDA has also initiated the work of covering portions of these canals using concrete box structures. The installation of such covered sections will play a crucial role in keeping the canals tidy, minimizing the accumulation of waste, and significantly reducing mosquito breeding sites by limiting stagnant water exposure.

NKDA's commitment to make such continuous strides towards a dengue-free city is noteworthy.



Figure 1 Manual Cleaning of Garbage and Water Hyacinth from Peripheral Canals of New Town



Figure 2 Mechanical Cleaning of Peripheral Canals of New Town