

**NEERI SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH DAMODAR VALLEY CORPORATION
FOR
DEVELOPMENT OF POLLUTION ABATEMENT STRATEGIES
FOR DAMODAR RIVER SYSTEM**



Mr. Ashutosh Chakravarty, Additional Secretary, DVC (extreme left) and Dr. Apurba Gupta, Dy. Director, NEERI signing the Agreement in the agreement signing ceremony at the Board Room of DVC Towers, Kolkata on December 22, 2006. Mr. S. Barari, (Center) CEO, EM&PC, DVC is assisting.

Large number of industries in Bokaro-Dhanbad region of Jharkhand and Asansol-Durgapur region of West Bengal came up in the Damodar river watershed since 1960s. The river system alongwith four major dams receive grossly polluted wastewater from the industries and towns located in the watershed. Subsequent to a similar study in 1994 carried out by several organizations including NEERI, DVC desired NEERI to evolve pollution abatement strategies under the present circumstances through detailed water and wastewater analysis as well as appropriate wastewater treatment and catchment management practices. In a joint meeting between DVC and NEERI Mr. Asim K. Barman, Chairman, DVC informed that DVC desires to prepare a detailed action plan by NEERI indicating short and long term measures for protecting the rivers and reservoirs in the Damodar River System while developing Comprehensive Water Use Policy for the basin. DVC agreed to offer Rs. 1.2 crores for this consultancy service to NEERI, which is expected to be completed within sixteen months. NEERI will utilise field laboratories at Durgapur, Dhanbad and Bokaro with assistances from West Bengal and Jharkhand Pollution Control Boards in addition to the facilities available at NEERI headquarters at Nagpur and its Zonal Laboratory in Kolkata. Er. A.K. Biswas and Er. P.S. Kelkar of NEERI will lead the field survey in the project. The overall project will be lead by Dr. A. Gupta assisted by Dr. R.A. Sohony. Dr. S. Devotta, Director, NEERI will coordinate the project activities.