

Mt. Bhagirathi II (6512 M) Expedition 2012

Organized by:

South Calcutta Trekkers Association

14 Chakraberia Lane, Kolkata 700020

Expedition Report

Information as required in format specified by IMF	
1. Name of the Association	South Calcutta Trekkers Association
2. Name of the Expedition	Mt. Bhagirathi II (6512 Mt) Expedition 2012
3. Name of the Peak with height in metres and six figure co-ordinates	Mt. Bhagirathi II Height: 6512 meters Co-ord: 30°52'57" N, 79°08'00" E
4. Date on which permit given by IMF	15 th June 2012
5. Nominal role of the team	Leader – Sayantan Dutta Quarter Master – Pradeep Kumar Bar Treasurer – Sunita D'Sa Prabhu Equipment In-charge – Ashish Gupta Member – Ardhendu Rakhsit
6. Commencement of Trek	22 nd Sep '12 from Gangotri(10,420 ft)
7. Number of camps en route to Base Camp	One transit camp - Bhujbas (12,540 ft)
8. Interaction with local administration and other agencies	1. District Magistrate Office, Uttarkashi 2. Superintendent of Police Office, Uttarkashi 3. Forest Office, Uttarkashi 4. ITBP check-post, Kopang 5. Forest Office, Gangotri 6. Mr. Pitambar Singh Panwar (C/O High Land Trek n Tours, Uttarkashi) No assistance was required and no problems were faced
9. Establishment of Base Camp	Nandanvan (14,300 ft) 23 rd Sep '12
10. Establishment of higher camps	A B C – Upper Nandanvan (15,470 ft) on 25 th Sep '12 Camp – I (17,169 ft) on 26 th Sep '12 Summit Camp – (18,773 ft) on 27 th Sep '12
11. Technical difficulty on way to higher camps	<u>Base to A B C</u> No technical difficulty faced. Trek with gradual height gain. <u>A B C to Camp – I</u> Easy ascent through boulders and rocks at a gradient of 30 – 45 deg. <u>Camp – I to Summit Camp</u> Difficult mix of boulders and slate type rock slabs, at 45 – 75 deg gradients. Very poor rock and condition.
12. Snow & Rock condition	<u>Snow</u> No snow up to Summit Camp. Summit ridge: Moderate stable snow deposition along the ridge. <u>Rock</u> Boulders and broken rocks till Camp-I. Camp-I to Summit Camp: Very poor rock condition. Unstable rocks on the way at 45-75 deg gradients. Summit ridge: First part consists of slate type broken rocks at 60-75 degree gradient.
13. Weather Condition	Throughout the entire expedition weather was fine. Only on 27 th Sep in the afternoon weather became bad and it

	<p>started snowing. It was white out all around. Fortunately by 11 p.m. weather was clear.</p> <p>Temperatures were more or less as per expectation. The lowest recorded was on the very early morning of 28th Sep at 7 deg below Zero.</p>
14. Summit Report	Attached
15. Camp site cleaning activity & disposal of garbage.	All non bio degradable garbage were carried down and submitted at the forest office at Gangotri, where the garbage was disposed off in presence of concerned forest officials.
16. Maximum height attained and its date	6512 m (21480 ft approx), 28 th Sep '12, 09:45 hrs
17. Name of Summiteers	Sayantana Dutta and Tashi Sherpa
18. Name of LO	Not applicable
19. Total Expenditure	Attached
20. Details of Day by Day events	Attached
21. Suggestion / Complain	Suggestion – Rules and regulations for all sorts of permits should be informed properly in advance.
22. Survey of India map or sketch marking accurately the route, camp site and their heights.	Attached

Sayantana Dutta

Leader

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Date: 26th Oct, 2012

Place: Kolkata

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Details of Day-wise Events

DATE	ACTIVITIES
17 Sep, 2012	Departure from Howrah Station by Doon Express
18 Sep, 2012	In Train
19 Sep, 2012	Reached Haridwar in the morning. Reached Uttarkashi by jeep in the afternoon. Finished administrative work and marketing.
20 Sep, 2012	Started for Gangotri early morning by jeep. Reached Gangotri in the afternoon.
21 Sep, 2012	Rest day at Gangotri for acclimatization.
22 Sep, 2012	Trekking to Bhujbasa (12540 ft).
23 Sep, 2012	Trekking to Nandanvan (14300 ft).
24 Sep, 2012	Took Rest at Base Camp for Acclimatization & Load arrangement.
25 Sep, 2012	Trekking to ABC: Upper Nandanvan (15470 ft). 2 members and 2 sherpas ferried load to Camp-I (17169 ft) and returned to ABC.
26 Sep, 2012	2 members and 2 sherpas occupied Camp-I (17169 ft). They ferried load to Summit Camp (18773 ft) and returned to Camp-I.
27 Sep, 2012	2 members and 2 sherpas occupied Summit Camp (18773 ft). Sherpas started opening route and rope fixing for summit.
28 Sep, 2012	At 2:00 a.m. 2 members and 2 sherpas commenced summit attempt. At around 3:15 a.m. one member reported that his right hand fingers were getting cold and numb. He was sent back to summit camp along with a sherpa. Another member and the sherpa continued towards summit. At 09:45 a.m. they reached summit. They reached back at summit camp at around 01:00 p.m. After that all of them trekked back to Camp-I. Cook was sent down to Gangotri in the morning itself for arrangement of return porters.
29 Sep, 2012	All members and sherpas trekked back to Base camp. Return porters reached Base Camp in the afternoon.
30 Sep, 2012	Camp cleaning was carried out. All members and sherpas trekked down to Gangotri.
01 Oct, 2012	Full team reached Uttarkashi by jeep. After lunch full team started for Haridwar by jeep. Reached Haridwar at night.
02 Oct, 2012	Full team started for New Delhi in the morning. Reached New Delhi in the afternoon. Boarded train for Howrah in the evening.
03 Oct, 2012	Team reached Howrah.

Sayantana Dutta

Leader

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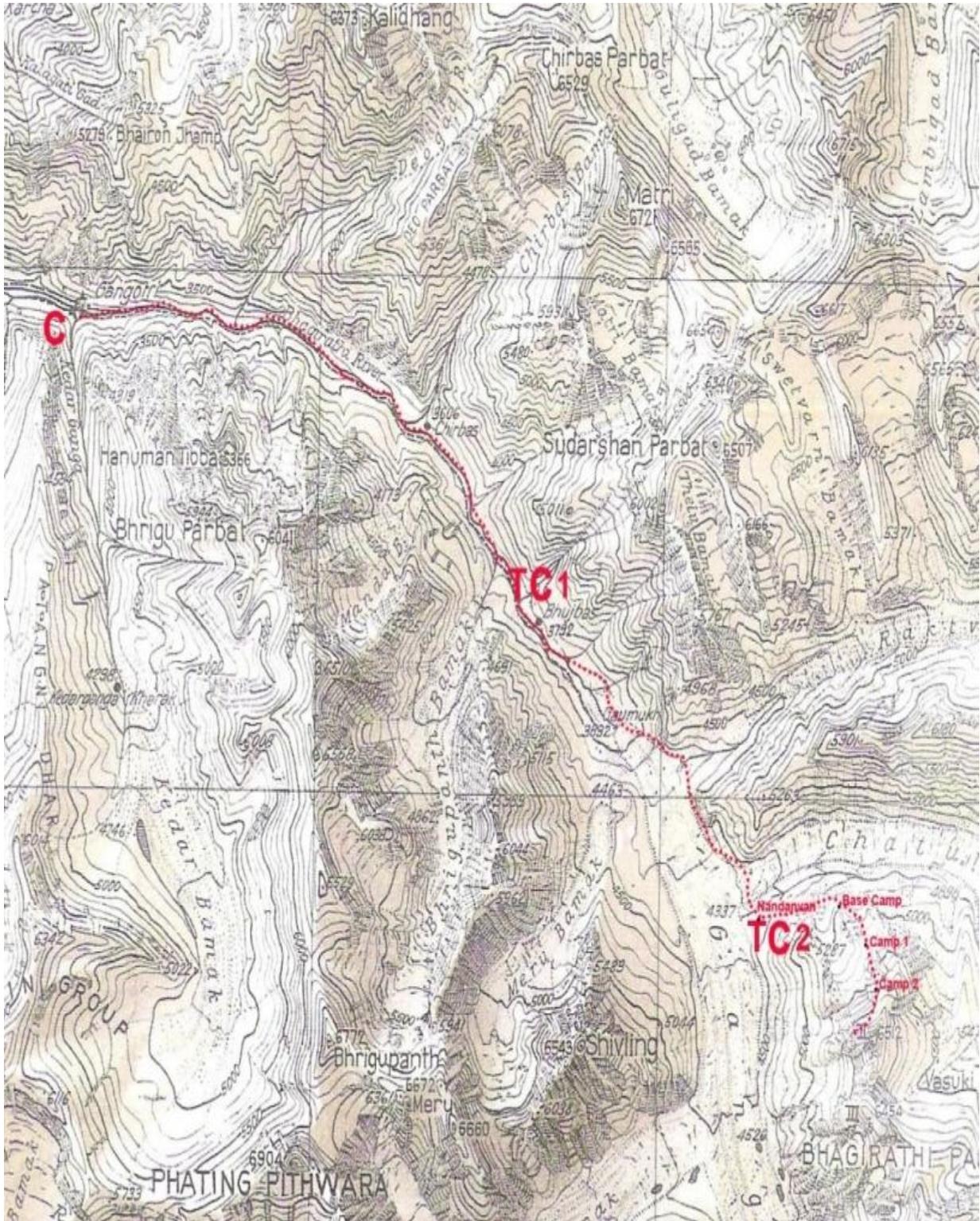
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Route Map



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Summit Report

On 27th September 2 members and 2 Sherpa started moving towards the summit camp (Camp-2) from Camp-1 at 10:30 a.m. The route to the summit camp consisted of continuous rocky zone with an average gradient of 60-75 degrees. Summit Camp was reached at 1:30 p.m. Initially the weather was clear but soon it started getting cloudy. One tent was pitched at the summit camp location.

At around 2 p.m. Tashi and Norbu left for fixing rope on the summit route. 8 mm polypropylene rope was used for rope fixing. But in the meantime weather got really bad. Heavy snowfall started with high wind. Soon it was completely white-out. Fortunately by 6 p.m. weather started getting better. Tashi and Norbu returned at 7 p.m. We decided that we would start for summit attempt at 1 a.m. provided weather was clear.

On 28th September at 2 a.m. Sayantan, Ashish, Tashi and Norbu started for summit attempt. Weather was clear. Though it was a moonlit night yet they had to use their head torches. The route was full of broken slate type rock with a gradient of 60-75 deg. At around 3:15 a.m, Ashish complained that his right hand fingers were paining and getting numb. He was immediately sent down to summit camp with Norbu. There were a few rockfall zones enroute to summit. Snow was available only during the last 500 ft stress. Sayantan and Norbu reached summit at 09:45 a.m. All along the route to the summit climbing rope of 08 mm diameter was fixed using mostly blade rock pitons of various sizes.

Sayantan Dutta

Leader

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