

# CM's London dreams punctured

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**KOLKATA:** Everybody remembers chief minister Mamata Banerjee's famous promise of turning Kolkata into London as one of a series of extravagant assurances, others being the pledge to turn Darjeeling into Switzerland and Digha into Goa.

This dream, however, received a rude reprisal when Ray Morgan, a district chief from London, criticized the city's infrastructure and lack of vision to make it a sustainable city "We were inspired to make our borough a beautiful and sustainable place to live in by taking a cue from your country, why cant you do the same?" he said.

Banerjee, in her election manifesto, claimed she would turn the city into London and on the

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**RAY MORGAN**  
Borough head

eve of her government's first anniversary, the Trinamool Congress chief claimed that 90% of the work has been done.

"Gandhi said, the future lies in the things you do today and this was our motto behind making our borough the way it is today," continued Morgan, adding, "We were inspired by an Indian, why cant the Indians do the same?"

Morgan's initiatives in the Woking borough have garnered

remarkable achievements with the municipalities waste management, climate change strategy, asset management, and various other sectors including earning him the Queen's Award.

He deeply criticised the development and corporation authorities present at the event saying, "You seem to have lost the concept of community, you must intend to work with the community, involve them in your undertakings rather than only working for them. Everybody must be a part of the plan."

Morgan also slammed the lack of environment consciousness among the city's authorities being unable to see very much greenery in the city, compared to his borough. There 60% of the land is protected area, where no construction is allowed.