



NOYYAL PERUVIZHA



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AROGYA VANAM



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Noyyal Timmer

OCTOBER 2023



Vettiver

A Panacea for the Evils of Wastewater on Aquifers

Coimbatore is known for its salubrious climate, copious rains and the river Noyyal, the treasure of the city. In 1980 when UNDP declared that groundwater depletion in Coimbatore was the fastest in the world, and in 2003 as drought hit, Siruthuli worked meticulously to address the water mismanagement and revive the region to its original glory. Water bodies were revived, and the groundwater levels in the region saw an increase, recharging the aquifer. With increased urbanisation, the sanitation value chain and the sanitation cycle became grossly mismanaged. Aquifers, the natural reservoirs of groundwater became susceptible to contamination when wastewater is not adequately managed. This discharge of untreated or inadequately treated wastewater, containing pollutants like heavy metals, pathogens, and nutrients, seeps into the ground and can percolate through porous layers, eventually reaching aquifers. This contamination poses a significant threat to drinking water supplies, ecosystems, and human health.

We at Siruthuli, realise the urgent need to address the problem of wastewater affecting our aquifers and are working with various stakeholders to identify cost-effective and natural treatment mechanisms. We have signed an MoU with IIT Madras Aqua Map – Centre for Water Management who have come on board to provide technical guidance. We are also working with various Institutions and enterprises to arrive at possible solutions. Activity is being carried out to map the entire Thondamuthur block and identify areas where wastewater is entering the channels and reaching water bodies and drains. This activity is being carried out along with other local NGOs. Once the mapping exercise is complete, a study on the quantity and quality of water and suitable treatment solutions will be deliberated.

In our research and studies, we realised that nature has provided us with a potential solution in the form of vettiver, a versatile grass that offers promising benefits in treating wastewater and safeguarding aquifers. A pilot project has been undertaken at Sundapalayam region along with the local farming community where three locations have been identified and vettiver has been introduced to study the effects on the quality of water in these channels. The grass has a dense network of roots capable of absorbing and filtering various pollutants, making it an ideal candidate for wastewater treatment preventing the migration of contaminants from the surface to aquifers. This can thrive in waste-water contaminated environments and acts as a natural filter, it also serves as a habitat and food source for various organisms, promoting biodiversity in aquatic ecosystems.

Apart from the pilot project at Sundapalayam, we are working towards using Vettiver in constructed floating wetlands to treat the inlets of waterbodies that carry wastewater. We wish to study the change in the quality of water over a period through these pilots and document the results. The detrimental effects of wastewater on aquifers are a pressing environmental concern. However, vettiver emerges as a promising natural solution to mitigate these harms. By harnessing the power of vettiver, we hope to pave the way towards a healthier and more resilient environment.

-Vanitha Mohan

Project Nanneer enhances biodiversity - A study

5 traditional water ponds (locally known as kanmais) were rejuvenated by Siruthuli under the Project Nanneer in Sivaganga District with the financial support of AMM Foundation and M/s EID Parry Nutraceuticals during 2021-23.

An Ecological Impact Assessment study was conducted at the recently executed project sites by the Salem Ornithological Foundation who assessed the biodiversity of the region and the arrival of migratory birds. Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse, Cotton Pygmy Goose, Indian Cormorant and Little Egret are some of the rare and unique migratory bird species found at the site during the off-season period between May and August. These species, along with many others, have made the recently revived 5 traditional ponds their safe and secure homes.

A 4-month long study concluded that unique bird species which were not endemic to the region were attracted by the filled-up ponds and the adjoining wetlands abutting them. This improvement in biodiversity with the presence of 4B's - Bats, Birds, Butterflies and Bees reaffirms the bouncing back of the ecosystem.

Project Nanneer ... towards putting a smile on the farmer's face

Siruthuli is the implementing partner of Project Nanneer sponsored by the AMM Foundation. Multiple water conservation projects have been undertaken simultaneously at various locations including Pugalur (Erode) and Nellikuppam (Cuddalore).

Works include desilting of the tank beds, construction of surplus weirs & sluice gates, installing cement pipes at all inlet points, and repairing the check dam at Chinnaveerasangilli. Drone & digital survey have been completed for all the Pugalur projects. For the first time, discussions are on to construct percolation shafts, that is constructing Rainwater Harvesting Structures within tank beds.

Recorded observations during the biodiversity study

Traditional Ponds	No of Unique Species
Chettiyan Kanmai	32
Vadakudipatty Kanmai	28
Panangudi Kanmai	26
Kaana Kanmai	13
Onaiyur Drinking Water Pond	12

Recorded observations during the migratory bird species study

Traditional Ponds	No of Unique Species
Onaiyur Drinking Water Pond	104
Vadakudipatty Kanmai	93
Panangudi Kanmai	82
Chettiyan Kanmai	73
Kaana Kanmai	61



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WATER WATCH

Water Resource Management

Every drop of effort and sweat expended on this project has been a rewarding experience while looking at the excitement and hope on the faces of the local farmers who have been fervently waiting for the skies to open up and fill their ponds which were their only source of livelihood.



Project Locations	Ongoing	Completed	% Completed	# of Tanks
Thirumayam (Pudukottai)	3	1		4
Kaana Kanmai			100%	
Rayar Kanmai			100%	
Panagudi Kanmai			82%	
Pugalur (Erode)	8	1		9
Chinnaveerasangilli			61%	
Nathankaattu Kulam			99%	
Pudhu Kulam			89%	
Kaasikaadu Kulam			66%	
Kanniyampalayam Kulam			22%	
Kagam Kolathupalayam			66%	
Kallukadaimedu Kulam			106%	
Elavanatham Kulam			93%	
Karavalasu Kulam			45%	
Nellikuppam (Cuddalore)	1			1
Periya Eri			95%	

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Rain Water Harvesting Structures (RWHS)

Harvesting rainwater is the dire need of the hour considering the rapid urbanisation and industrialisation that is taking place all around us. Siruthuli, as part of its efforts to conserve every drop of water that comes our way, has constructed more than 850 RWHS in open spaces and road sides. This initiative, besides harvesting precious rainwater, has also helped to prevent flooding and water stagnation to a very large extent.

With 100 mm of rainfall falling on 1 sq m of surface area, 100 litres of water can be harvested. With 650 mm of average rainfall received in Coimbatore district, spanning an area of 250 sq kms, a huge quantity of water can be harvested.

Working towards conserving rainwater and improving the quality of ground water, Siruthuli has initiated the following projects during this quarter.....

- 3 RWHS have been constructed at Chandra Textiles premises.
- A preliminary field visit was undertaken to study the feasibility of constructing a roof top RWHS at the City Police Commissioner's office, SP Bungalow and CRPF campus. This project has been aptly named as '**Maadi Thanni**'.



Compressed Air and Gas Treatment Solutions



GREEN GUARD

Forest First Forum

Garuda Vanam:

Garuda Vanam, a new plantation project was inaugurated on 17th July as a mark of gratitude to our guardian eagle. This site is abutting the Nandangarai check dam and is home to 2000-odd native plants.

A solar-powered motor has been installed to draw water from the check dam and to nurture the plantation at the site. Financial support from the benevolent Kaschit Group helped to make the project a possibility. The members of the Kaschit group belong to various places from across India, and abroad. Their contribution to society through their sponsorship for the plantation at Garuda vanam is well appreciated by the Siruthuli team. The inauguration was well-attended by members of Kaschit Group, Trustee Shri Kanaklal Abhaichand, Managing Trustee Ms Vanitha Mohan, members of Madhvarayapuram Panchayat, Apex members and staff of Siruthuli, local residents of Kalkothi hamlet and volunteers. The participation and active involvement of the staff and students from Dr. NGP Arts & Science College added color and vibrancy to the event.



Kadamba Vanam:

Kadamba Vanam was inaugurated last year at Irugur and 1000 saplings were planted thanks to the sponsorship of our Apex member, Mr Bharathan Srinivasan. Exactly a year later on the same date - 03/08/2023, 143 saplings were added to enhance the value of the Vanam.

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GREEN GUARD

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Thulir Vanam:

Thulir Vanam at Perur-Chettipalayam is a plantation project housing 5200 saplings sponsored by Rotary club of Coimbatore Central. During the 1st phase 2500 saplings of 91 varieties of native species were planted on a Miyawaki model at a picturesque site located at the foothills of the Western Ghats. The Vanam was inaugurated by Mr. Ashwin, President, Rotary Club of Coimbatore Central and Mr. Vijay Kumar, District Governor, Rotary Club of Coimbatore Central on the 5th of August, 2023. The active participation of 70 students from Chinmaya Vidyalaya, Rotarians, Rotaractors, Perur-Chettipalayam Panchayat President Mrs. Shanthi Prasad, and Mr. Prasad, Council members, Apex members and staff of Siruthuli, besides the local residents, added warmth to the already beautiful natural setting. Palm trees are proposed to be planted all along the boundary as part of Siruthuli's Panai Payanam. 40 students from PSG College of Arts & Science helped plant support sticks for the saplings.



HCL Plantation Drive

On the occasion of the 47th HCL Day, an initiative to plant 10,000 saplings was sponsored by the HCL Foundation. Mr. Vinith Jain, Associate Manager, HCL Harit along with 30 staff members of HCL Foundation participated in the drive. The saplings were planted at CRPF, Coimbatore and was inaugurated by the IGP of CRPF, Mr. Ajay Bharatan.



Shuba Vanam:

On 18th of August, 110 saplings were planted at Peedampalli project site. Panchayat will provide water from a nearby tank. This project has been possible thanks to the support of convener of Awareness vertical- Mrs. Sujani Balu.

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Kaaval Vanam:

Kaaval Vanam was inaugurated by the Coimbatore Police Commissioner, Mr. V Balakrishnan at the PRS campus on the 22nd of August, 2023. A total of 750 saplings have been planted based on the Miyawaki Model. It was heart-warming to see a huge contingent of members from the police force participating in the event and pledging their support to this critical lung space in their midst.

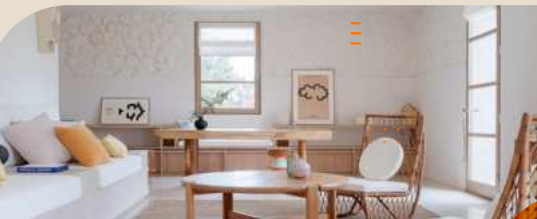


Arogya Vanam:

“தாயினும் சிறந்தது கடுக்காய்,” is an age-old saying in Tamil that signifies Kadukkai (*Terminalia Chebula*) being more precious than a mother who takes care of her child. Dating back to 1200 BC- 900 BC, the Atharvaveda, one of the oldest Vedas of Indian Civilization, contains several hymns that speak highly of medicinal trees and plants indicating the use of plants and herbs as the only source of cure in our civilization during the ancient times.

After visiting the Kerala Research Institute in Thrissur, Managing Trustee, Vanitha Mohan, was greatly inspired by the extensive studies and research about the medicinal plants and trees that were being carried out at the Institute besides documenting their benefits. She felt that the younger generation was rapidly losing out on the rich heritage that our 63 Nayanmars and Siddhars had advocated to heal not only human beings but also other living beings. This resulted in a deep desire to bring to focus the vast wealth of health benefits that were lying unnoticed in our native plant life. As a result, Arogya Vanam started taking shape as a CSR initiative of Pricol Ltd, which later became associated with Siruthuli, to create more awareness among people.

The inauguration of Arogya Vanam took place on the 24th of September 2023, at Pachapalayam in Perur Chettipalayam Panchayat. Thanks to the support of the local Panchayat. Dr. G Sivaraman, MD, Arogya Healthcare, Chennai, the Chief Guest, inaugurated the project in the presence of Mrs. Shanthi Prasad Panchayat President, Mr. Prasad, and other Councillors. Mrs. Kanakavalli Shanmughanathan along with members of the Ganga Hospital family, Chairman of Siruthuli, Dr. S V Balasubramaniam, Trustees, Apex members and staff of Siruthuli, Mr. Vijay Mohan, Founder of Pricol, Mr. P M Ganesh, CEO and Executive Director and members of Pricol group, representatives from Vanam India Foundation and Vanathukkul Tiruppur besides the local stakeholders and general public participated in this prestigious event. Dr. G Sivaraman, in his address, stressed the relevance of this novel initiative based on the research carried out by his organization, Arogya Healthcare, and experiences in the field of Siddha medicine.



GREEN GUARD

Forest First Forum

Towards making the Perur Chettipalayam Panchayat clean, which has worked very closely with Siruthuli on environmental activities, Pricol Ltd and Bannari Rural Foundation, through Siruthuli, donated 2 battery operated vehicles to collect segregated garbage and assist in their waste management programs.

To honour the life and legacy of Dr. J G Shanmuganathan, founder of Ganga Hospital, Coimbatore, 93 medicinal plants and trees to celebrate his 93 years of meaningful life were planted at the site. Dr. Raja Sabapathy, Director of Ganga Hospital, on behalf of his family, expressed his gratitude for the gesture shown by Siruthuli and Pricol and said the planting of 93 trees and plants was a touching tribute to his father who lived a purposeful 93 years with a strong eco-consciousness. Being a totally new arena of plantation, Siruthuli was supported largely by Mrs. Thenmozhi Mohankumar of Sivam's Thulir to identify and procure the plants and trees besides helping to document them. The initiative was also supported by the Head of Herbal Medicines of Arya Vaidya Pharmacy, Dr. Ajayan and Dr. Devidas Varier, MD, Arya Vaidya Pharmacy.

The aim was not only to create a lung space but also to create awareness on the rich medicinal properties of native plants. Arogya Vanam is one of its kind plantation containing over 100 species of medicinal herbs and trees with invaluable benefits from the root to the bloom. In order to make it easier to understand, the site has been divided into 6 parts - plants which are special for the various organs such as the heart, stomach, lungs, bones, and skin. Besides these 5 sections, there is also a general section that has a variety of species with space for future plantations. In the midst of each section, a name board has been planted with a QR code which when scanned will provide information about the health benefits of the various plants. The four corners of the site consist of medicinal trees planted on the Miyawaki model. On the periphery, palm trees will be planted to propagate Siruthuli's Panai Payanam, showcasing the rich benefits of the palm tree. The fencing will have creepers such as pirandai, modakathan keerai etc., which also have rich healing properties.

Madhampatty Thangavelu Hospitality Pvt Ltd. provided a sumptuous and healthy 'Arogya breakfast' to everyone present with native ingredients like millets, herbs, etc., topped with a tasty herbal tea consisting of 63 herbs and spices. Arogya Vanam, in the future, will serve as an experiential learning center for future generations to include native herbs and roots in their diet to mitigate the ill effects of environmental degradation. We hope that this Arogya Vanam will spread its wings throughout the length and breadth of our region fostering good health and well-being.



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Noyyal Peruvizha 2023



was organised as an offering of reverence to the river Noyyal which is all set on the path of rejuvenation, said Mr K Annamalai, Tamil Nadu BJP State President, while drawing references from similar initiatives held for the revival of rivers - Palar and Vaigai - in recent times. Speaking on the 5th day of the event on 29th August at Perur Adheenam Thirumadam, which was a week-long program starting from the 25th up till the 31st of August, he said, "Marvellous efforts of Siruthuli in the rejuvenation of water bodies gained attention of people across the country. It has developed a new sustainable model of eco-conservation, where many are eagerly awaiting to be a part of it".

Stating that the nature of problems encountered along the river Noyyal are different across its length and breadth, he said, "A representation has been made with the Central Government to create a special project in the future, for the restoration of River Noyyal."

Setting the context for the program, Managing Trustee, Siruthuli, Ms Vanitha Mohan, said that any threat to River Noyyal has a direct impact on the survival of mankind. "Since 2003, Siruthuli has been working on the water conservation front. Owing to rampant industrialisation and urbanisation, the contamination of surface water and groundwater is happening at an alarming level. It requires the immediate attention and collective action of all", she said. She further extolled the benefits of the new project launched by Siruthuli- Nalla Thanni- to explore possibilities of treating sewage water and making it potable and usable for farming. This will also mitigate the high levels of ground water contamination caused by seepage of sewage into the aquifers.

At the event, Mr Annamalai released the first copy of a 14-page booklet containing the rich heritage of the Noyyal River and efforts initiated by Siruthuli towards rejuvenation of River Noyyal. It was received by Perur Adheenam Thavathiru Santhalinga Marudhachala Adigalar and other dignitaries on the dais. Noyyal Peruvizha-2023 is a joint initiative of Perur Adheenam, Akhil Bharatiya Sanyasi Sangam and Noyyalaaru

Trust.



NOYYALIL NALLA THANNI - CONCLAVE

A wide range of topics covering civilisation on the banks of River Noyyal to rampant urbanisation and industrialisation, and from Vettiver to recharge wells were the topics that were discussed at the conclave "Noyyalil Nalla Thanni" as a part of Noyyal Peruvizha - 2023 on 30th August.

The event was aimed to spread awareness among general public as well as the student fraternity about the current plight of the river. It was jointly organised by Siruthuli, Perur Adheenam and Noyyalaru Trust.

Momentum for the conclave started with setting a historical context of River Noyyal, where writer and historian, Mr C R Elangovan said, "Rich evidences were abundantly found on the banks of river Noyyal indicating the presence of international trade, metallurgy, yarn, urban cities, coins and pearls dated 3000 years ago. We are building our edifice on the foundation laid during the period of civilization."

On elaborating the prevailing situation of River Noyyal, Mr.K.Rajagopal, Junior Engineer, PWD, made an appeal to students to take concrete measures to bring a fresh lease of life to the river by lending their volunteering services whenever and wherever needed. A panel discussion on Noyyalil Nalla Thanni was organised, where speakers Dr M Maheshwari, Head of Department, Environmental Sciences, TNAU, Mr. K Rajagopal, Junior Engineer, PWD, Mr. R Manikandan, Kovai Kulangal Pathukappu Amaippu and Mr. R S Krishnaswamy, Convenor, Water Watch-Siruthuli participated. The session was moderated by Trustee, Siruthuli, Mr. J Sathish.

A total of 328 students from PSG College of Arts and Science, Dr. NGP College of Arts and Science, Avinashilingam College of Home Science, Kumaraguru College of Arts and Science and Sri Sai Ranganathan College of Arts and Science took part in it. A 12th standard student G.V. Pavitra from Sri Ramakrishna Vidyalaya, Tiruppur won the 1st prize in the school level elocution competition on the topic river Noyyal.



SPREAD THE WORD

Awareness Generation

Sittukaludan Siruthuli:

Sittukaludan Siruthuli is our weekly programme aimed at spreading the message about eco-conservation among the student fraternity. Learning more about River Noyyal, water conservation, afforestation, waste management and nature walks are pivotal features of the programme.

A total of 723 school students belonging to 47 educational institutions across Coimbatore participated in this in-house session which happens every Friday. The students were encouraged through our programme to become eco warriors.



INFO DROPS . . .

1. Ozone layer is present in which layer of the atmosphere?

a) Stratosphere b) Lithosphere c) Troposphere

2. What type of soil is found near rivers and streams?

a) Sandy Soil b) Alluvial Soil c) Red Soil

3. Akira Miyawaki is a renowned

a) Architect b) Botanist c) Photographer

4. Farming that extensively focuses on vegetables is known as

a) Viticulture b) Sericulture c) Truck Farming

5. Which of the below mentioned is the most efficient form of irrigation?

a) Pump b) Drip Irrigation c) Furrow Irrigation

6. Which mammal absorbs around 33 tons of carbon dioxide throughout their lifetime?

a) Giraffe b) Whale c) Rhinoceros

7. Which of the following is the first dam ever built in India?

a) Kallanai Dam b) Aliyar Dam c) Mettur Dam

8. Which of the following does not have roots and is a bio-indicator?

a) Peepal Tree b) Lichens c) Weeds

9. Which of the following is referred to as 'Black Gold' by farmers as it adds rich nutrients to the soil?

a) Fertilizer b) Compost c) Water

10. Which of the following is an example of Anthropogenic Pollution?

a) Volcanic Eruption b) Desert Dust c) Fossil Fuel Combustion

ANSWERS: 1.Stratosphere | 2.Alluvial Soil | 3.Botanist | 4.Truck Farming | 5.Drip Irrigation | 6.Whale | 7.Kallanai Dam | 8.Lichens | 9.Compost | 10. Fossil Fuel Combustion



From a wellwisher...

**வான்றின்று உலகம் வழங்கி வருதலால்
தான் அமிழ்தம் என்றுணரற் பாற்று.**

அறத்துப்பால் / குறள் - 11

SPREAD THE WORD

Awareness Generation

Mottukaludan Siruthuli:

This is our outreach programme for college students. Lecture demonstrations, field visits, experts' interactions and discussions form part of this programme.



DATE	NAME OF INSTITUTIONS	# OF STUDENTS	TOPIC
11-07-23	Bharathiyar University	38	NGO Orientation for MSW Students
19-07-23	PSG CAS	23	Conducted Orientation on "Seed to Saplings" at college.
01-08-23	Dr. NGP Arts and Science College	100	Orientation on Waste Management conducted at college.
07-09-23	Dr. NGP Arts and Science College	10	Orientation on NGO for MSW Students.
12-09-23	PSG College of Arts and Science	51	Orientation on "Seed to Saplings" at NLC.
13-09-23	Avinashilingam College of Home Science	12	Orientation on NGO for MSW Students.

Internship:

Siruthuli closely interacts with college students across the country through its internship programme. 2 students from Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education & 1 student from Anna University, Chennai joined.

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SPREAD THE WORD

Awareness Generation

Social Immersion Program:

Siruthuli has been able to carry on its various initiatives with the support of a strong volunteer base. Students from different schools across Coimbatore, engage in various initiatives of Siruthuli.

DATE	NAME OF INSTITUTIONS	# OF STUDENTS	TOPIC
05.06.2023	PSG College of Arts and Science	103	World Environment Day at Valankulam
17.07.2023	Dr. NGP Arts and Science College	64	Garuda Vanam Plantation with NSS Students
08.08.2023	PSG College of Arts and Science	40	Support stick placing at Thulir Vanam.
30.08.2023	Dr. NGP Arts and Science College	90	Noyyalil Nalla Thanni at Perur Temple Campus
	Avinashilingam college of Home Science	59	
	PSG College of Arts and Science	99	
	Kumara Guru College of Arts & Science College	40	
	Sri Sai Ranganathan Polytechnic College	16	
	Sri Sai Ranganathan Engineering College	13	



*"Study nature, love nature, stay close to nature.
It will never fail you"*

Technical Committee Meeting:

On 16TH August, a meeting was held with Dr Thava Palanisamy from the University of New Castle, Australia, to explore sustainable solutions to mitigate water contamination in water bodies caused by inflow of the sewage.

Field Visit to Krishnampathy Lake:

On 18th August, Mr Aruchamy, Ms Girija Ramesh and Mr Cibi Mahiban accompanied Dr Thava Palanisamy on a visit to Krishnampathy Lake for initiating a pilot project for waste water treatment.



Floating Wetlands at Valankulam:

Floating wetlands using polypropylene materials were set afloat in Valankulam by using Vettiver and Cannas as a part of our initiative to finding suitable wastewater treatment.



Noyyal Restoration as a part of Nadanthaai Vaazhi Cauvery Scheme:

A study was undertaken by Siruthuli team to identify and examine the 3 sewage streams at Gandhi Colony, Semmedu, and Noyyal Nagar at Thondamuthur block, Coimbatore. A Proposal has been given by MAK India Limited for setting up a treatment process using Aerobic Bacterial Digestion (ABD) technology at Semmedu. This will be submitted to the Government of Tamil Nadu shortly.

MEETINGS & EVENTS

On 3rd of July, during his visit to Noyyal Life Center, the Principal Conservator of Forest, Mr Deepak Srivastava acknowledged Siruthuli's contributions towards eco-conservation and inspected all our activities in detail. He expressed his deep appreciation through a written testimonial and extended the support of his entire team for all our future projects.

Website Development

Siruthuli's revamped website has gone live with upgraded features, propelling us towards better reach and larger community engagement from July of 2023. Please do connect with us at siruthuli.com and become a Siruthuli volunteer to make our earth clean & green.

Workshop: Elephant Conclave 2023

- A two-day conclave was organized by the Tamil Nadu Forest Department to primarily draw the attention of the public towards the issues faced by elephants due to man-animal conflict, climate change, and habitat loss. The meeting was organized by Dr. M Mathiventhan, Minister of Forests, Tamil Nadu, Mrs. Supriya Sahu I.A.S, Additional Chief Secretary, Environment, Climate Change, & Forests, and Tamil Nadu Forest officials.

Mr. S. Muthusamy, Minister of Housing & Urban Development, Mr. Kranti Kumar I.A.S, District Collector, Coimbatore, and bureaucrats from various other forest departments, and non-governmental organisations belonging to Coimbatore participated in the conclave. Mrs. Supriya Sahu, Additional Secretary, enunciated the importance of elephants in her captivating keynote address. She mentioned that elephants being the emperors of the forest are sentient beings just like us humans, as they celebrate, and express emotions.

The high point of the event was when Mahouts (Elephant Keepers) from various elephant reserves across the state shared their monumental life experiences and knowledge. The presence of the crew of the most acclaimed movie, 'Elephant Whisperers', Bomman and Belli created a huge impact among the gathering. The entire crew shared their meaningful experiences and expressed their gratitude.

A variety of stalls were set up by the forest officials from different reserves. Each stall had items created out of the plants grown in their respective reserves signifying the different biodiversity. Ms. Girija Ramesh, Mr. Boopal S, and Ms. Raksha V, attended the conclave and represented Siruthuli. They gathered a lot of knowledge on elephant conservation by listening to the different speakers present at the event.

Coimbatore Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Conclave 2023

To acknowledge 'Ten Years of CSR', on the 5TH of August a conference was organized by CSR Spark & Lakshyaa Foundation to create awareness on the latest changes and nuances of the CSR legislation. The conference was attended by various CSR Stakeholders from across the state.

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MEETINGS & EVENTS

Mr. R S Krishnaswamy, Founder & Chief Patron, CSR Spark & Siruthuli's Steering Committee Member addressed the gathering on the CSR legislation & analysis of the current CSR scenario. Mr. V Chandrasekhar, Steering Committee Member, Siruthuli gave a brief presentation on the process of Siruthuli's afforestation drives within Coimbatore.

Mr. P P Subramanian, member of the Steering Committee, Siruthuli extended his support in organizing the event. Ms. Girija Ramesh, Program Manager, Siruthuli and Ms. Raksha V, Program Associate, Siruthuli, attended the conclave.

Launch of Communities of Practice in Coimbatore on Moving Towards Circular Economy

A workshop was jointly organized by the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), Integration, and members of Coimbatore Corporation. GIZ is an international enterprise owned by the German Federal Government, operating in many fields across 130 countries.

Integration is an alliance of independent companies for project management and technical assistance for emerging markets in developing countries.

The meeting was attended by Mr. M. Prathap, I.A.S, Commissioner, Coimbatore who requested the stakeholders present to develop a tailor-made plan for Coimbatore, and officials from Coimbatore Corporation and participants from other states of India. The workshop launched 'Communities of Practice' thereby aiding in moving to a circular economy. The workshop primarily focused on solid waste management and its impending effect on the environment.

Ms. Girija Ramesh, Program Manager, and Ms. Raksha V, Program Associate from Siruthuli participated in the workshop and highlighted the challenges of solid waste while treating sewage along the channels & water bodies. The relentless work of Siruthuli was appreciated at the workshop in the field of water conservation and afforestation standing by their tagline 'Clean Kovai, Green Kovai'.



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MEETINGS & EVENTS

Stakeholders' Meet

Vellakinar located near Thudiyalur in Coimbatore is a small village with a population less than 22,000 people. Siruthuli aims to treat waste water in Vellakinar South Kuttai, a 2.45 acre pond entirely filled with sewage and solid waste. This can be possible only with the help of different stakeholders situated in and around the neighbourhood. As a way forward, on the 4th of September, 2023 a stakeholders' meet was organised at Kongunadu College of Arts & Science. Deputy Commissioner, Coimbatore Corporation Mr. K. Sivakumar, members of Coimbatore City Corporation, TNAU, Management and Staff of Kongunadu Arts and Science College, local stakeholders of Vellakinar, and members of Siruthuli participated in the meet.

Dr. C A Vasuki, Secretary, Kongunadu Arts & Science College extended her wholehearted support by generously hosting the event. In her speech, she ensured that the Eco Club members of Kongunadu College will help create awareness on waste management in Vellakinar and provide the necessary help with water quality testing. Mr. K Vishwanathan, Managing Director of Vishwanathan Constructions Private Limited (VCPL), Vellakinar assisted with the preliminary water quality assessment for sewage water treatment. Representatives from VCPL attended the meeting and shared their opinion. Dr. Maheshwari, HOD, Environmental Science, TNAU, helped in designing the structure of the constructed and floating wetlands. Nalla Thanni Technical Committee members of Siruthuli, Mr. V Sundaram and Mr. E K Ponnusamy suggested for a collaborative participation from the local communities for a responsible waste management initiative. Mr. Prashanth from the NGO-Recompose offered to study the solid waste issues of the area and provide solutions.



Mr. Marc Beckett of Fraunhofer IGB, Germany

visited the Noyyal Life Centre on the 5th of September, 2023 to further discuss on the real-time monitoring systems for waste water treatment. The system will be installed in the inlets of the Krishnampathy Lake & in Selvachinthamani Lake to monitor the quality of water.



Letter to our Chairman, Dr. S V Balasubramaniam from
Miss Dharshini from Nehru Nagar, Peelamedu.

Letter writing

Coimbatore

12/9/2023

Dear sir,

I hope this letter finds you in good health and high spirits. My name is R. Dharshini and I am a student from class III studying at S.S.B. school in Coimbatore. I am writing this letter to express my heartfelt appreciation for the incredible work you have been doing...

your efforts through the organization Sivuthuli have had a significant impact on our city and its surroundings. I have learned about the various initiatives taken by Sivuthuli such as tree plantation drives, river restoration projects and rainwater harvesting campaigns. These initiatives have not only beautified our city but also improved the quality of our environment.

You have become a role model for me and many others. Your efforts have made a significant impact in Coimbatore, and I hope that your work continues to inspire others to contribute towards a greener and more sustainable future.

If you read this letter, please reply me sir. I am eagerly waiting for your response.

Thanking you,

Yours truly,
R. Dharshini


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