

20
Siruthuli
HAPPENING YEARS

Sewage can lead to
another disaster : disease

Nalla Thanni
can be theaviour
sewage to sage -



Siruthuli
Clean Kovai. Green Kovai.

Nayyal Times

July 2023

SIRUTHULI 20 HAPPENING YEARS

In 2003, a pall of gloom and darkness descended over the Coimbatore region when borewells spewed air instead of water even at 1200 feet and the District Administration announced that available water resources in Siruvani reservoir would only last for a fortnight.

This announcement created widespread panic among the people of the Coimbatore region. While chaos and confusions followed, there was no time for discussions and deliberations to take place. Something had to be done and done just then without wasting even a second.

Siruthuli was born at this juncture, when a few eco-conscious people came together to do something before it was too late - it was then or never. They ventured into an unknown territory with a pocketful of dreams and a heartfelt love for Mother Nature, to primarily address the water woes of the region and bring back water to a region which was on the verge of becoming a desert.

Siruthuli's first plan was initiated at Krishnampathy lake near Vedapatti situated to the west of Coimbatore, under the guidance of the Waterman of India, Dr Rajendra Singh. The lake was completely filled with silt and the city's garbage with absolutely no water storage capacity to receive and contain rain water from the monsoons.

It was an unusual sight for the people in the vicinity, to see JCBs, Hitachis and trucks working day and night on a site, which was hitherto a dumping ground for the Corporation's waste. With just 2 days of rain the entire 55 acres of the landscape became an ocean - a sight to behold and cherish! There was no looking back after that - Siruthuli moved to reclaim more and more silted up water bodies to turn them into acres of blue.

Slowly serpentine queues of colourful water pots which would wait for the Corporation water tankers to come became a rare sight. Little did we realise that our conservation activities were being watched closely and the impact felt until we came into direct contact with people.

In 2013, when Periakulam was taken up for rejuvenation, people from all walks of life turned up in thousands, on their own, to reclaim a huge water body nestled right in the middle of the city. Today our hearts brim with pride to see Periakulam becoming a meeting point for Coimbatoreans - where birds, bees and butterflies co-exist with the citizens and enjoy the huge expanse of water.

Siruthuli's rapport and goodwill with the Government of Tamil Nadu and the concerned Governmental agencies has made it a unique public private partnership (PPP) model. The long journey would have wound up long ago but for the support and acknowledgement we received from the District Administration and Coimbatore Corporation.

A school boy, gleefully beaming with joy and handing over the contents of his little piggy bank, is until today one of our most treasured donors of our activities. A widowed mother with no other means of support, except the wages brought home by her two sons, sending them on weekends for working on our project sites, pro bono, is another soul whose contribution was priceless. While most of us would avoid going past public toilets, here was this most benevolent person, who earned Rs.10,000, by cleaning public toilets and donating the proceeds to support Siruthuli. An elderly gentleman from a remote corner of the city visiting us, month after month, to donate Rs. 1000 from his savings is yet another treasure that we cherish with reverence - these kind souls and many many more have made our journey a worthwhile and meaningful one.

Moving on from water conservation to creating lung spaces through afforestation activities under the mentorship of our beloved Dr A P J Abdul Kalam has been the most soul fulfilling part of our 20 year journey into the world of blue and green.

Touching people's lives and carrying as many as possible along with us - especially students - has been possible only because of the never-say-die spirit of all the people of Coimbatore. To them we dedicate our 20 years of achievement with a promise that we shall work, with renewed vigour, to make our Noyyal river and the water bodies a haven for clean water through our project NALLA THANNI!

-Vanitha Mohan



Water Watch

Water Resource Management



Progress of Project Nanneer:

In a latest development, the team is currently carrying out varied restoration activities in 5 more water bodies. Digital survey has been completed for two of the water sources namely Big Tank at Pallathur and Panangudi Ayyanar Tank. The third, Onnaiyur Drinking Water Pond, has been drained of the water and restoration works will be carried out. In Rayar Kanmai, two defunct sluices will be repaired along with the proposed works.



BEFORE



AFTER

Siruthuli now at Erode, Karur and Cuddalore districts:

After Sivagangai and Pudukkottai districts, Siruthuli will carry out restoration activities in the water bodies located in and around Pugalur and Nellikuppam areas in Karur and Cuddalore districts respectively. In Pugalur, the team is undertaking works including de-silting and strengthening of bunds in Kallukkadaimedu. EID Parry Pugalur team performed a Bhoomi Pooja on 19th May to commence the pond rejuvenation works. In Nellikuppam, works are underway in Periya Eri after receiving NOC from the Public Works Department (PWD). Project Nanneer team conducted a Bhoomi Pooja on 8th June to commence pond rejuvenation works.



Seengapathy Village - Purified drinking water project:

In an attempt to implement UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) - 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), Siruthuli is jointly working with the Enviro Global Water India (EGWI) to provide access to purified water for the tribal villagers living in Seengapathy hamlet. EGWI is involved in the installation of filters while Siruthuli is implementing the construction of pre-cast tank. The Australian High Commission is funding the project under Direct Aid Program (DAP).

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Water Watch

Water Resource Management



RWHS for bountiful harvests:

Rainwater Harvesting Structures (RWHS) have been installed at multiple places, aiming to make Coimbatore a water surplus region.

Location	Sponsor
Fire Station Coimbatore South	M/s BOSCH
Peedampalli Government High School	M/s AppViewX
Sreevatsa Garden Thudiyalur	Sreevatsa Garden Residents' Welfare Association
Police Recruitment School (PRS), Avinashi Road	M/s AppViewX
Chandra Textiles	M/s Chandra Textiles Pvt Ltd.
Periyanaickenpalayam police station	M/s Pricol Limited.



The Elephant Whisperers:

While the gentle animal is making noise for all wrong reasons in the recent times, Siruthuli has stepped in to mitigate the human-animal conflicts in four locations, which fall under the reserve forest zone. Teaming up with the Forest Department, Siruthuli has identified four tanks for redeveloping into waterholes, aiming to quench the thirst of animals and minimize the conflicts with humans in the longer run. The identified locations are Palamalai, Devayampalayam, New Bannari Temple and Old Bannari Temple. The project will be implemented in the near future, with the financial assistance from Ms.Uma Coimbatore as part of Microsoft's matching grant initiative. Siruthuli has already implemented its first Water Hole project at Mullangadu Check Post in Boluvampatti Forest Division earlier this year.



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Green Guard Forests First Forum



World Environment Day Celebrations:

As a celebration of World Environment Day, Siruthuli organised plantation and awareness drives in various parts of the city. On 3rd June, 2023, a plantation drive was organised at Thudiyalur afforestation site along with M/s BOSCH and M/s Apexon, a solution provider in digital technology.



On 5th June, 2023, Siruthuli and Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) initiated works at a new plantation site at M.R Garden in Perur Chettipalayam. Senior officials from IOC planted saplings to mark the commencement of the project. Upon completion, the new site with 1,000 native trees, will be an abode to the 4 B's - Birds, Bees, Butterflies and Bats, thanks to IOC.

Siruthuli organised a plantation drive on 5th June 2023 at Valankulam, aiming to create more lung space in the heart of the city, as part of World Environment Day celebrations. District Collector, Mr. Kranthi Kumar Pati, and Corporation Commissioner of Coimbatore, Mr.M.Prathap kick-started the drive, after planting first two saplings along the northern portion of the water body.



Thereafter, Siruthuli conducted an awareness camp at Valankulam to highlight the importance of water bodies and the need to conserve them for posterity. More than 100 volunteers from PSG College of Arts and Science and officials from Axis Bank participated.

100 saplings were planted at the site, to improve air quality and restore biodiversity of the region. The event was well attended by the staff and Apex members of Siruthuli.



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Green Guard Forests First Forum



HCL Foundation Project:

Siruthuli and HCL Foundation jointly inaugurated a plantation drive on 10th June, 2023, to mark the commencement of an afforestation site on a plot of land adjacent to Singanallur Railway Station. Upon completion, the site will be an abode to 500 native trees and will be maintained by Siruthuli with financial support from HCL Foundation.



Sustainable Afforestation through regular maintenance activities:

Siruthuli's afforestation sites are flourishing as the saplings that were planted are now growing into a thick dense forest cover. Regular maintenance activities such as de-weeding, mulching, pruning, fixing damaged pipelines and watering practices are being adopted to nurture the trees. Following are the plantation sites: Hope Vanam, SPB Vanam, Panai Vanam, SITRA, EXPLEO 2, Peedampalli and Ondipudur. Dried leaves falling from trees were collected during summer and utilized for mulching.



Siruthuli aligns with Green Tamil Nadu Mission:

During the 8th District Green Committee meeting held at the District Collectorate on 25th May, 2023, Siruthuli offered to plant 50,000 plus trees at various locations to achieve the District's target under the Green Tamil Nadu Mission.





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Waste Wise



Nalla Thanni - From sewage to usage:

Siruthuli's endeavor over the past 2 decades has been to restore and bring back water to the city of Coimbatore. Now, the focus is on ensuring potability of the water. This mission has been aptly named **Nalla Thanni**. Efforts are underway to connect with various stakeholders, technical partners and educational institutions to find solutions to the issue of wastewater that is pervading the environment in more ways than one.

1. Institutional Connect - Solutions for Nalla Thanni:

Regular meetings are being conducted with educational institutions and social entrepreneurs to study the feasibility of wastewater treatment using natural processes or technologies as part of the rejuvenation of River Noyyal. Siruthuli is closely working with Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU), Kumaraguru College of Technology, Avinashilingam University, Kongu Engineering College, PSG College of Technology, PSG Institute of Technology and Applied Research (PSG iTech) and Sri Shakthi Institute of Engineering and Technology.



2. Achan Kulam - A Case Study:

Siruthuli has been closely working with subject matter experts of PSG College of Technology, PSG Institute of Technology and Applied Research (PSG iTech) and Sri Shakthi Institute of Engineering and Technology, to find a sustainable solution for discharge of sewage into Achan Kulam lake, which forms a part of Noyyal River Basin, located at Neelambur in the outskirts of Coimbatore city.

The water body has three inlets which carries domestic and industrial effluents along with the solid waste. The team, involving local stakeholders and representatives of institutions, has decided to find a sustainable solution using Constructed/Floating Wetlands using Vetiver and other reeds. Under this pilot project, each inlet has been assigned to an institution for study purposes. Currently, institutions are involved in the process of mapping of streams and identifying possible locations for the installation of wetlands along the Channel.

3. Nalla Thanni - Pilot Projects:

A) Constructed Wetlands Using Vetiver in Sundapalayam Channel.

While plenty of studies are ongoing across the globe related to use of Vettiver in the field of wastewater treatment, Siruthuli along with the Save Agriculture Association (SAA) has implemented a pilot project of Constructed Wetland using Vettiver across Sundapalayam Channel. This channel spans 1.9 km. and discharges the sewage of the neighboring Vedapatti Panchayat and Dhaliyur Panchayat into Chithrai Chavadi Channel.

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Waste Wise



On 8th May, 2023, 3 wetlands along the channel have been set up using Vetiver. 15,000 Vettiver slips were planted in sand bags all along the channel. Educational institutions were invited to review the structures and suggestions were invited for making the project more effective.



B) Experiments with Floating Wetlands at Valankulam

The use of wetlands for bioremediation to capture and remove contaminants and nutrients in the water is widely practiced around the world in water bodies. On May 19th, Siruthuli set afloat a Vettiver mat in Valankulam. Earlier, a meeting with Mr. Maravalam Vincent and Mr. Babu from TNAU was held on 17th April to understand the implications and benefits of installing floating wetlands in water bodies using Vettiver and other plant varieties.

C) Vedachi Pallam - A Pilot Project with ICCW

A location has been identified to treat the wastewater entering into Vedachi Pallam located at Arumuga Goundanur. This pilot project will be carried out jointly with ICCW - International Center for Clean Water, IIT Chennai. The work includes dewatering, cleaning, digital survey and desilting of the water body and is expected to commence soon. Youth Red Cross volunteers have been engaged to conduct a baseline study under the guidance of ICCW.



4. Assessment of Noyyal River Basin under Nadandhai Vazhi Cauvery Project:

Honourable Member of Parliament, Pollachi Constituency, Mr.K.Shanmugasundaram, spearheaded an assessment study of the Noyyal River Basin falling within the Thondamuthur Block. The study of the river will be covered in 3 phases - the first phase will span for 16 km of the river from Saadivayal to Chithirai Chavadi Anicut. Further, the first 16 km has been segmented into four parts and assigned to four Coimbatore-based NGOs Vellingiri FPO, Siruthuli, Kovai Kulangal Pathukappu Amaippu and Noyyalaaru Trust for a micro level study. Under this study, streams and sewage inlets connected to River Noyyal besides solid waste dumping sites are being identified.



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Waste Wise



5. Nalla Thanni Campaign: Sewage to Usage.

Siruthuli, as part of its efforts to tackle contamination of water bodies, has initiated a campaign to spread an awareness among the general public through a programme - **"Nalla Thanni Nanban"**. District Collector Mr.Kranthi Kumar Pati officially inaugurated the campaign at the 15th edition of Nurture Nature Camp at VOC Park on 18th April,2023. Under this project, volunteers from different walks of life, who are identified as "Nalla Thanni Nanban", will be involved in the campaign. In order to mobilize students' community, members of Youth Red Cross have been roped in for sustaining the active movement. An online meeting was held on 27th March, 2023 and the first meeting for the campaign was held at Siruthuli Noyyal Life Center on 3rd April, 2023.



6. Siruthuli and Fraunhofer - a partnership for progress:

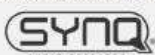
Siruthuli has been working with M/s Fraunhofer Society, a German-based research organisation, to install a real-time data monitoring system, to study wastewater entering into various water bodies. As part of data monitoring the software installation of GW Base (desktop application) was completed on 26th May, 2023 with the help of M/s Ribeka, a German-based software company. This will enable the team to access data provided by the data monitoring systems in the future.

7. Vellalore Dump Yard: A Field Visit

In an effort to find solutions for solid waste management, Managing Trustee, Siruthuli, Ms.Vanitha Mohan, along with the two-member team comprising Dr Nimmi Damodaran, Environmental Policy Consultant and Ms. Adithi Ramola Technical, Director-ISWA met the Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation, Commissioner, Mr.M.Prathap, on 23rd May, 2023. The meeting was aimed towards exploring possible scientific ways for tackling solid waste management effectively. Earlier, the team along with Ms. Girija Ramesh, Program Manager, Siruthuli, made a visit to Vellalore Dump Yard and observed the prevailing situation on the ground.



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ADDRESSING WASTEWATER WOES

Rejuvenation of the Noyyal River System has been a cherished dream of Siruthuli. While working on rejuvenation of water bodies and raising awareness of their importance, we have come face-to-face with the alarming mismanagement of our sanitation system, which has led to this dire situation we currently face. Most of the waterbodies are filled with wastewater, posing a grave challenge affecting groundwater and our health.

To combat the harrowing problem, we have launched Nalla Thanni - an initiative to address the problem of wastewater. Through Nalla Thanni we collaborate with various stakeholders including NGOs, Institutions, Social Enterprises and local farming communities. Together we strive to understand the situation, study the regions affected and identify suitable natural solutions. To support this cause, we have enlisted youth volunteers - Nalla Thanni Nanban who passionately engage in spreading awareness on the importance of tackling the issue of wastewater.

Adopting a holistic approach that involves multiple stakeholders, we are confident that we can achieve our goal of ensuring quality water, leading to better health. As we celebrate 20 years of impactful environmental work, Siruthuli remains committed to its mission of preserving and restoring our precious natural resources. With the continued support and participation of individuals, organisations, government and communities we are optimistic about the positive changes we can bring forth in the years to come.

Together, we look to build a sustainable future for generations to come.

Nalla Thanni Sewage to Usage

கொங்கு மண்ணின் நீர்நிலைகள்...
காணும்போதே மன வலிகள்...

கொங்கு மண்ணின் நீர்நிலைகள்
காணும்போதே மன வலிகள்
சிறு துளி காத்த குளங்களும்மா
குளங்கள் எல்லாம் இன்று
கலங்கல் அம்மா...2

சாடி வயலில் பாய்கையில்
தெளிந்த நீராய் வருகிறதே
நீர்நிலை வந்து சேர்ந்த பின்னே
குப்பை கூளம் நிறைகிறதே

அலைகள் துள்ளும் குளங்களிலே
கழிவும் குப்பையும் சேருவதோ
மலர்கள் சிமிக்கும் குளங்கள் எல்லாம்
நெகிழி மிதந்து நாயுவதோ

கழிவு நீரை தான் நன்னீராய்
மாற்றும் திட்டம் வெல்லடும்
மூல்கள் எல்லாம் பன்னீராய்
பொலிந்து நம்மை வாழ்த்தடும்

குப்பைத் தொட்டியா நீர் நிலைகள்
குழந்தைகள் நாகை ஏசுவதோ
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கை கொடுக்க நாம் தீரண்டிடுவோம்
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Spread the Word

Awareness Generation



1. Summer Camp at Siruthuli:

The 15th edition of the Nurture Nature Camp (NNC), which was held between 18th and 22nd April, gave an opportunity to 100 students of Classes 7th-8th, belonging to 18 different schools, to connect with Nature.

District Collector, Mr. Kranthi Kumar Pati, inaugurated the camp at VOC Park, in the presence of Chief Education Officer, Ms. M.S.Sai Geetha, Siruthuli Convenor – Spread the Word, Mrs. Sujani Balu, NNC Project Convenor, Ms Uma.K.Rao, Apex members and staff of Siruthuli. Based on the theme “Deep into Nature”, students were engaged in a wide range of hands-on activities and workshops, to impart awareness on various eco-conservation initiatives.



2. Mottukaludan Siruthuli:

Mottukaludan Siruthuli is an initiative of Siruthuli to engage and spread awareness among the college students. Students from Mepco Schlenk Engineering College - Sivakasi visited Siruthuli's Noyyal Life Centre on 7th April, 2023. Mr.C.Chinnasamy, Chief Coordinator, Siruthuli, took them on a journey of various eco-conservation activities undertaken by Siruthuli in the past 2 decades.



3. Internships:

Students of Amritha Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Sri Ramakrishna Mission Vidyalaya CAS and Stella Maris College underwent an internship programme for 1 month during April, 2023. They were actively engaged in various activities of Siruthuli.



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Spread the Word

Awareness Generation



4. Volunteers Galore:

59 students from the Department of Computer Science, PSG College of Technology, worked at the Thudiyalur plantation site during April.

Green Warriors - Anna University was engaged in a wide range of activities - Planting of saplings, mulching, de-weeding and pruning at the Anna University plantation site.



5. Community Engagement - PSG College of Arts and Science:

Managing Trustee, Ms. Vanitha Mohan, was felicitated at an event held at PSG-CAS on having received a Governor's award for environment protection this Republic Day. In the same event, an MOU was signed between the PSG-CAS and Siruthuli to engage students in a Social Immersion and Community Engagement programme. Apex members Mrs. Sujani Balu, Mr. V. Chandrashekar and Mr. Ramesh Babu gave an orientation about Siruthuli and its related activities to 3000 students of PSG College on 11th April, 2023.



6. Road rally to safeguard River Noyyal:

On May 3rd, students of Chinmaya Mission Vidyalaya and the cadets of NCC took part in a road rally from Singanallur to Alandurai, aiming to spread awareness about the plight of River Noyyal, as part of the Noyyal Peruvizha, which will be held in August.



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Awards, Events and Meetings

1. Carbon Neutral Coimbatore - A workshop was organised by Mrs. Supriya Sahu, additional Chief Secretary, Environment Climate Change & Forests, for Government of Tamil Nadu at The Residency on 29th April, 2023. Many NGOs took part in it. Managing Trustee, Ms. Vanitha Mohan spoke in a panel discussion on behalf of Siruthuli, and emphasised the need for sewage treatment to bring about carbon neutrality. A model Maadi Vanam was displayed in the Siruthuli stall besides other activities. Honourable Minister for Environment & Climate Change, Government of Tamil Nadu, Mr. Siva. V. Meyyanathan visited the stall and appreciated activities of Siruthuli and assured us of his support to our carbon neutral activities.



2. Hope Vanam - Sponsor Visit: Dr. Nilima Sabharwal, President of Home of Hope, U.S.A, who sponsored Hope Vanam at Ondipudur on 7th April. She was highly appreciative of the forest which has been created within a short span of 2 years in a garbage dump yard and emphasised the need to create more such urban forests to mitigate ill-effects of climate change.



3. Siruthuli at Brookefields Mall: Siruthuli presented the Nalla Thanni initiative at the 2-day environment conservation expo held at Brookefields Mall on 17th and 18th June. As part of it, visuals and posters highlighting the pathetic plight of River Noyyal were showcased to bring awareness among the public and to elicit their support to protect water bodies and waterways from sewage.



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Awards, Events and Meetings

4. On 11th May, Prof Dr. Snehal Donde from Shri Krishna Education and Cultural Trust, Mumbai visited Siruthuli's Noyal Life Center, to exchange ideas and knowledge in the field of Conservation of environment.

5. On 8th May, a meeting was organised with Ms. Rajni Yadav and Mr. Taj Kumar of Himadri Energy International, who are currently working on carbon reduction projects through nature-based practices. They expressed their interest in working with Siruthuli.



6. On 17th May, members of the Rotary Club – Coimbatore Central visited NLC and expressed their interests in funding an afforestation project in the immediate future.

7. Y20 Talk for Climate Change: Siruthuli Ms.Sujani Balu (Convenor, Awareness) took part in a panel discussion titled "Climate Literacy for Climate Action" in Y20 Talk, to foster sustainable practices for countering the perils of Climate Change. The key speaker was Mr. Erik Solheim, the sixth Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Program and a Governing Council member of the Tamil Nadu Climate Action Committee. Talk was co-organised by Siruthuli along with Kumaraguru Institutions and The Planterraa.



8. On 10th June, the former Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Program and a Governing Council member of the Tamil Nadu Climate Action Committee, Mr. Erik Solheim, visited Siruthuli's Noyal Life Centre along with Mr.Kavin Kumar Kandasamy, Chief Executive Officer, ProClima, and Mr. Nishaanth Balashanmugam, India representative, The Green Hydrogen Organisation, to understand the activities of Siruthuli.



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Awards, Events and Meetings

9. On 11th June, a fun-filled and meaningful Sunday morning was celebrated in the company of Trustees, staff and apex members of Siruthuli in the presence of the Pollachi constituency MP Mr. K.Shanmugasundaram, District Collector, Mr. Kranthi Kumar Pati and Corporation Commissioner, Mr. M.Prathap, to mark the 20th birthday of Siruthuli. It was an emotional event for all as we reminisced the long journey made so far, the landmark events and projects executed so far and also was a moment of pride and disbelief.



10. On 30th June, the first Technical Committee meeting was held to discuss the way forward to have clean water (Nalla Thanni) flow through the region. Pilot projects at Krishnampathy lake and Kalapatti pond will be taken up with the support of TNAU, educational institutions of the region and subject matter experts.



11. Afforestation Convener V.Chandrasekar receives Green Champion Award-2022:

Convener of Siruthuli's Green Guard vertical, Mr.V.Chandrasekar received an award of Rs. 1 lakh and citation, under the Green Champion Award - 2022, instituted by the Environment, Climate Change and Forests Department. District Collector, Mr. Kranthi Kumar Pati, gave away this award on World Environment Day, acknowledging his relentless efforts towards nurturing 32,000 trees last year in various parts of Coimbatore city.



12. CII-EHS - Excellence Awards 2023 for Project Nanneer:

It was a proud moment for M/s Parry Nutraceuticals, Pudukottai as they bagged the third position at the national level in the CII-EHS - Excellence Awards 2023, for undertaking a wide range of restoration measures, including de-silting and strengthening of bunds of the water bodies located in the districts of Sivagangai and Pudukkottai. It is a matter of pride for Siruthuli to have been the implementation partner of Project Nanneer.



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கோவை சூழல் அமைப்புகளின் தூயகம்

மதுரையின் தல்லாகுளம், பீபிகுளம் எல்லாம் கான்கிரீட் களமாகி விட்டன; வில்லாபுரம் கண்மாயை, கால் நூற்றாண்டுக்கு முன்பே, வீட்டு வசதி வாரியம் விற்றுத் தீர்த்து விட்டது. சென்னையில் 1906 ல் இருந்த 474 நீர் நிலைகளில், இப்போது 40 நீர் நிலைகள்தான் இருக்கின்றன; அங்கிருந்த 29 ஏரிகளை ஆக்கிரமித்து, 20 ஆயிரம் வீடுகள் கட்டப்பட்டுள்ளதாக ஒரு புள்ளி விபரம் கூறுகிறது.

நதியாக இல்லாமல் நாறினாலும், சென்னைக்கு கூவம், அடையாறு, கொசஸ்தலை என பல ஆறுகள் உள்ளன. மதுரைக்கு வைகை இருக்கிறது; திருச்சியில் காவிரி பாய்கிறது; திருநெல்வேலியை வற்றாத தாமிரபரணி கடக்கிறது. கோவை நகருக்கென்று வற்றாத ஜீவநதி ஏதுமில்லை. இருக்கின்ற ஒரே ஒரு நீர்நிலை, நொய்யல் மட்டுமே. சங்கனூர் பள்ளத்துக்கு சமாதி கட்டி பல ஆண்டுகளாகிவிட்டது.

புதிய நூற்றாண்டு துவங்கியபோது, நொய்யலுக்கும் அழிவு ஆரம்பமாகியிருந்தது. ஏற்கனவே அம்மன் குளம், புலியகுளம் எல்லாம் குடியிருப்பாகி விட்டன. மிச்சம் மீதி இருந்தது, மாவட்டத்தில் 23 குளங்கள்தான். அதிலும் நகருக்குள் இருந்த குளங்களெல்லாம் சாக்கடைகளின் சங்கமமாகி விட்டன. இன்னும் சில ஆண்டுகளில், அதுவும் இருக்குமா என்ற நிலையில்தான், 2003 ல் உதயமானது சிறுதுளி அமைப்பு.

நொய்யல் நதியின் நாகரீகத்தை, அதில் நனைந்த உயிர்களை, அதனால் காக்கப்பட்ட பயிர்களை, ஈரம் படிந்த நதியின் வரலாற்றை, இந்த மண்ணின் மைந்தர்களிடம் எடுத்துச் சொல்லி, நொய்யலைக் காக்கும் பணியில் களம் இறங்கியது சிறுதுளி. தொலைநோக்குடன் கூடிய அதன் தொலைதூர பயணத்துக்கு, 'தினமலர்' உள்ளிட்ட ஊடகங்கள் கை கொடுக்க, மக்களும் கரம் கோர்த்தனர்.

நொய்யலைக் காக்க பேரணி, ஆரத்தி விழா நடத்தி, அரிதான தகவல் பரிமாற்றங்களால், மக்களுக்கு நொய்யல் குறித்த விழிப்புணர்வை 'சிறுதுளி' ஏற்படுத்தியது. இருப்பதை வைத்து, இணைந்தவர்களின் உதவியுடன் நொய்யல் குளங்களை, அதன்



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