



 **Siruthuli**
Clean Kovai. Green Kovai.

Nayyal Times

January 2026



HAPPY
New Year

When Every Hand Protects, Every River Flows

A new year, a renewed promise - to protect the planet we call home

As we step into a new year, it is time to renew our promise not only to ourselves, but to the planet that sustains us. This year must be the year when environmental protection moves beyond projects and becomes a people's movement. Each of us holds the power to nurture change in every drop saved, every sapling planted, and every mindful choice made. For over two decades, Siruthuli has been working tirelessly to revive Coimbatore's water bodies by rejuvenating check dams, desilting lakes, building harvesting structures, and bringing life back to forgotten streams. Yet, even as water returns, new challenges emerge, such as plastic waste choking inlets, sewage entering channels, and improper disposal threatening to undo years of collective effort.

These are not isolated problems. They are reminders that environmental protection can no longer rest on the efforts of a few; it must become a people's movement.

Across the world, our collective demand has outgrown nature's capacity to renew. Over 80% of nations now live in ecological deficit, consuming more than their ecosystems can sustain. On average, each person produces 0.74 kg of waste daily, emits around 4 tonnes of carbon dioxide annually, and uses over 100 litres of water a day. When we include the hidden or "virtual" water used to produce food, clothing, and goods, our footprint can exceed 5,000 litres per person per day.

Closer home, the impact is visible: shrinking green spaces, erratic rainfall, rising temperatures, and vanishing biodiversity. Coimbatore, once known for its gentle climate and abundant water, now faces the threat of floods and droughts due to urban sprawl and neglect of natural systems.

But it isn't too late. If every household saves just 10 litres of water a day, Coimbatore can save 25 million litres daily. If every family planted two trees, our green cover could double within a decade. If every citizen segregates waste at home, we could prevent thousands of kilograms of garbage from entering our lakes every month.

This spirit of ownership fuels Siruthuli's Volunteer Engagement Programme. To promote participation, Coimbatore has been divided into zones where volunteers are assigned by their location. The aim is straightforward yet impactful: to create a city where everyone becomes a guardian of nature, protecting what we all share.

Environmental sustainability is not just about conserving nature; it is about securing our future. It begins when awareness transforms into action and when each of us recognises that we are not separate from nature, but part of it.

Let 2026 be the year we rise together: citizens, schools, industries, and communities, to protect the planet we call home. When people take ownership, nature begins to heal. Together, let us make this the year when Coimbatore leads by example, where every hand protects, and every river flows.

Dr. S V Balasubramaniam
Chairman, Siruthuli



WATER WATCH

REVIVING THE LIFELINES OF THE LAND

Ammatti Kanmai – Where Water Returns After Two Decades

Nestled in Thirumayam, this 9-acre Ammatti Kanmai stood dry for nearly 20 years, buried under silt and neglect. With poorly defined bunds present only on one side, the lake's boundaries had blurred leading to encroachments and significant reduction in water spread area.

Supported by the AMM Foundation & EID Parry India Ltd, Siruthuli undertook a comprehensive restoration, clearing dense vegetation, desilting, strengthening existing bund and constructing well defined bunds on all sides, and clearing the inlet channels. Additionally, catchment areas have been connected with pipes to harvest every drop of rainwater, securing water availability through the seasons.

For the first time in two decades, the first rains filled the kanmai, bringing water back to the fields that once thrived around it. This revived kanmai now supports irrigation for nearly 200 acres of farmland, ensuring that the land and its farmers regain their lifeline.



Raja Oorani – A Reborn Source of Drinking Water

For years, the Raja Oorani, Thirumayam, a key drinking water source for over 1,000 households across three villages, struggled with receding water levels during summers. Earlier, with poorly defined bunds and the absence of fencing, cattle, dogs, and other animals had unrestricted access to the pond, leading to contamination and further stressing this critical drinking water source.

With the support of the AMM Foundation & EID Parry India Ltd, Siruthuli has rejuvenated this vital pond through desilting, bund strengthening, and ongoing fencing work. A new gate is being installed to prevent animal intrusion, ensuring clean water throughout the year. The rejuvenation has also increased the water spread area, allowing year-round water availability.



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WATER WATCH

REVIVING THE LIFELINES OF THE LAND

Ayyanar Kovil Pond – Restoration in Progress

Over the last few years, Siruthuli in collaboration with AMM Foundation & EID Parry India Ltd has worked on the restoration of several water bodies across many districts. In continuation to the efforts, Siruthuli undertook civil works at Ayyanar Kovil Pond, Thirumayam to rebuild the steps along the bund. The rejuvenated structure has better accessibility and strengthens the pond's storage and aesthetic value.



Arimalam (Muthandi) Kanmai – A Community Effort Takes Shape

The restoration of the Arimalam Kanmai, also known locally as Muthandi Kanmai in Thirumayam is now moving forward with collective support. With the NOC received on 11th November 2025, an inaugural pooja was conducted on 20th November in the presence of E.I.D. Parry officials, AMM Foundation members, Siruthuli staff, and local stakeholders. Cleaning work has since commenced, setting the stage for desilting and bund strengthening that will soon revitalise this vital waterbody.



From a wellwisher...

**ஊருணி நீர்நிறைந் தற்றே உலகவாம்
பேரறி வாளன் திரு.**

அறத்துப்பால் / குறள் - 215

WATER WATCH

REVIVING THE LIFELINES OF THE LAND

Kuttapalayam Pond – Restoring a Historic Stream for the Future

In Erode, Siruthuli has begun rejuvenating Kuttapalayam Pond, once part of a stream system created to irrigate 12,000 acres of Zamindar farmland centuries ago. Over time, the vast irrigation system shrank to just 1,000 acres due to water scarcity. Supported by the AMM Foundation & EID Parry India Ltd, Siruthuli is transforming the scattered water holes that farmers once relied upon into a larger, consolidated water body with improved holding capacity and retention. As the pond is situated in a hard rock formation, natural percolation is restricted, leading to declining water levels at depths of 600 to 800 ft. To address this, 2 percolation shafts will be introduced to facilitate aquifer recharge. Additionally, a check dam is planned to further enhance storage capacity and ensure sustained water availability.

This intervention will ensure year-round water availability and revitalise agriculture in the region. This has paved the way for the introduction of additional cash crops over and above the yams and corn that were cultivated.



CRPF Percolation Ponds – Water Security in Dry Terrain

In the arid stretches of Coimbatore's CRPF campus, water scarcity has long been a challenge due to low groundwater and heavy daily demand from training personnel. Partnering with the HCL Foundation, Siruthuli established five percolation ponds with a combined capacity of 19,757 cubic metres which can store and harvest up to 20 million litres of water. These ponds now serve as vital structures for rainwater recharge and surface water retention. The site also features rooftop rainwater harvesting systems and plantations, collectively ensuring better water availability and ecological balance in this dry zone. On 28th October 2025, the technical team conducted a comprehensive study of the natural streams within CRPF premises, mapping their course and identifying potential locations for new percolation ponds to enhance groundwater recharge.



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

WATER WATCH

REVIVING THE LIFELINES OF THE LAND

Wildlife Waterhole – Proposal for Conservation

The Microsoft Giving Program, an initiative of Microsoft, has supported the creation of 8 wildlife waterholes in the foothills of the Coimbatore region. This initiative has helped reduce damage to agricultural farmlands and mitigate human–animal conflicts involving elephants in the area. To add to the efforts, a detailed proposal has been submitted for the construction and restoration of additional wildlife waterholes. This initiative aims to enhance water availability for fauna in forest fringes and promote ecological balance.

Noyyal River Anicuts – Reclaiming Ancient Water Structures

For close to two decades, Siruthuli has worked to bring life back to the Noyyal and its tributaries. This year marked a meaningful milestone as attention turned to the ancient anicuts, timeless weirs that once guided the river’s flow into Coimbatore’s interconnected tank systems.

The Pudukaadu and KilChithiraiChavadi anicuts had lost much of their water holding capacity, prompting local farmers to seek Siruthuli’s support. With the backing of Karur Vysya Bank, rejuvenation began through careful desilting, channel clearing, and strengthening of bunds to restore their original function.

On 20th November 2025, the restoration began with an inaugural pooja, a moment that felt both symbolic and hopeful, honouring the river’s past while preparing it for a resilient future. The ceremony was graced by District Collector Mr. Pavankumar G. Giriappanavar, representatives from Karur Vysya Bank, Ms. Nadhiya Mali & Mr. Krishnan, officials from the Water Resources Department, farmer association leaders, and Siruthuli’s Trustees, Apex Members, and staff, along with local communities whose livelihoods depend on these waters.



Rainwater Harvesting – For a secure tomorrow

Siruthuli continues to promote simple, effective, and long-lasting solutions to strengthen groundwater recharge. Rainwater Harvesting Structures (RWHS) remain at the heart of this effort capturing every drop, allowing it to percolate, and restoring the aquifers that sustain our communities.

This quarter, our team conducted field assessments at two locations, Tamil Nadu Special Police IV Battalion - Kovaipudur, and Seemozhi Poonga Conventional Hall. Suitable spots were identified for RWHS and a percolation pond at TNSP IV Battalion, while Seemozhi Poonga was found to have strong potential for a tailored RWHS system using its large roof area. Together, these interventions will help create meaningful recharge zones and strengthen the city’s groundwater resilience.



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Green Interventions in Dry Zones with Agricultural Engineering Department

In partnership with the Agricultural Engineering Department, Siruthuli has planted 5,500 trees supported by eClerx and AG Resources India Pvt Ltd, transforming dry, barren terrain into a budding green zone. On 15th November 2025, 85 volunteers from eClerx joined hands in planting support-sticks for the saplings, ensuring that they withstand winds and weather. Plans are underway to add more saplings and integrate new water retention measures, ensuring long-term sustainability for the plantations and the surrounding ecosystem.



Celebrating Love, the Greener Way - Mireya Vanam

Some celebrations fade with time, but some grow.

When Athreya and Mirdhula began their life together on 1st December 2025, the Apex Members of Siruthuli, chose a gift that would outlast their wedding day celebrations : the planting of 300 native saplings at Thudiyalur Railway Station through Mireya Vanam. We wish that this thoughtful gesture inspires more families to celebrate their happiest milestones by planting trees. Because while flowers wilt and lights dim, a tree continues to grow quietly, holding memories in its branches.



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Pasumai Vijayam – A Living Tribute to Love and Legacy

Sometimes, the most meaningful acts of conservation begin with love. At Kothari Layout in Ramanathapuram, a quiet park maintained by the Coimbatore Corporation is being transformed into Pasumai Vijayam, a green sanctuary that carries the memories of Smt. Vijayalakshmi and Shri Parthasarathy. On 6th December 2025, an esteemed Apex member of Siruthuli chose to honour his beloved parents by dedicating, instead of traditional rituals, the plantation of 250 saplings that will stand as living symbols of gratitude, affection, and legacy.

The inaugural gathering was intimate and moving. Siruthuli members, the Apex member's family, local stakeholders, and well-wishers came together to plant hope, one sapling at a time. Their collective hands turned remembrance into renewal.



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Tamil Nadu Special Police IV Battalion, Kovaipudur – Growing Green, Together

On 10th December 2025, the grounds of the Tamil Nadu Special Police IV Battalion came alive with purpose as 1,000 saplings were planted with the generous support of Coimbatore Round Table 9, Coimbatore Ladies Circle 1, Coimbatore City Round Table 31, Coimbatore City Ladies Circle 16

The drive was inaugurated by Mr. T. Senthilkumar, Commandant, in the presence of members of the Round Table and Siruthuli.

What made the day truly inspiring was the overwhelming spirit of youth participation. 200 students from VLB Janakiammal College of Arts and Science, 100 students from Sri Krishna Aditya College of Arts and Science, and 8 members from Team Sea Sakthi, KCT all joined hands to green the land.


What began as a plantation drive became a moment of shared resolve. Institutions, volunteers, and protectors of the land standing together to gift the city a greener tomorrow. Today, these saplings stand as symbols of partnership, service, and our collective promise to nurture the earth.



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Strengthening Partnerships with HCL Foundation

Siruthuli's tree planting efforts received a significant boost with the HCL Foundation expressing interest in partnering to plant 1 lakh saplings, a major stride toward city-wide afforestation and climate resilience. During her field visit, Ms. Deepthi from HCL reviewed progress at Thudiyalur, Singanallur, and CRPF plantation sites. Three students from Bharathiar University also contributed through pruning activities at the CRPF site. As part of the ongoing review, Mr. Shyam Sundar from HCL Foundation visited Siruthuli on 11th and 12th November 2025, engaging in detailed discussions on upcoming joint initiatives.

Alongside these partnerships, Siruthuli is also enhancing habitats for urban wildlife. Mud-puddling patches at Singanallur Railway Station and sparrow box installations at CRPF and Singanallur are helping attract bees, butterflies, and small birds, strengthening pollination, enriching biodiversity, and bringing nature a little closer to the city.



Approvals, New Beginnings & Expanding Green Frontiers

This quarter brought encouraging momentum with the HR&CE Department granting NOC approval, including clearance for 51 acres across 11 temple lands. Earlier, on 12th November 2025, Siruthuli met with the Joint Commissioner, Mr. P Ramesh at Siruthuli Office to seek permissions for plantations across HR&CE sites. These temple lands now hold the promise of transforming into vibrant green zones and sacred groves rooted in heritage and ecology.

A proposal for planting 1 lakh saplings across HR&CE lands has been formally submitted to potential sponsor Airports Authority of India (AAI), marking yet another step toward forging meaningful partnerships for large-scale greening. Building on these new opportunities, groundwork has begun across emerging project sites.



j engineering agencies

GREEN GUARD

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Noyyal Vanam - A green beginning at the River's origin

At Kooduthurai, the sacred confluence where the Chinnar and Kanchimadani rivers give birth to the Noyyal, Siruthuli is restoring the river's original course while nurturing new life along its banks. Noyyal Vanam is steadily taking shape with marking, pitting, pipeline installation, and drip irrigation works underway, laying the foundation for a thriving green forest that will enrich biodiversity and symbolise renewal at the very source of the river.



Strengthening Green Cover & Nurturing Plantation Sites

Siruthuli's greening efforts focus not only on expanding tree cover but also on strengthening the foundations that help every sapling survive, grow, and thrive.

Siruthuli was happy to partner with KPK Mill, Annur in planting 1,000 new saplings, thereby strengthening their campus's tree cover.

At the Coimbatore Golf Club, 38 Nagalingam saplings donated by Mr. Gandhi now add to the biodiversity of the serene landscape.

At Sundakkamuthur Government Hospital, fencing work is underway to safeguard young saplings from grazing and external disturbances, ensuring they receive the protected space they need during their early stages. At the Cognizant project location, paver block work has now been fully completed, improving access and preparing the site for enhanced landscape development.

Routine upkeep continues to remain a priority across all green zones. Pruning activities are progressing at Thudiyalur, the Golf Club, and KV School, helping the trees gain better structure and healthy new growth. Weeding work is also ongoing at the Golf Club, Vidhyaranyam, Arogya Vanam, Sundakkamuthur Government Hospital, Shanthi Vanam, and Quadra System plantation sites. To enrich the soil further, mulching has been initiated at the Vidhyaranyam project and the Agricultural Engineering Department's plantation area, preserving moisture and improving soil health.

Together, through expansion, protection, and meticulous maintenance, Siruthuli ensures that every plantation site continues to grow stronger, greener, and more resilient with each passing season.

Sholinganallur

A Model for Urban Ecological Restoration

For over fifty years, the Sholinganallur Lake was heavily neglected. Spread across 23 acres and situated so close to the sea, it should have been a vital resource for the surrounding communities. Instead, wastewater from three inlets gradually filled it with sludge, polluting its waters, contaminating the underlying aquifer, and compromising the region's water security.

With steadfast support from Infosys, Sholinganallur began its journey back to life. Nearly 3 metres of sludge were carefully removed through gentle dewatering and desilting. As the lake bed was exposed, its forgotten purpose was rediscovered. Floating vetiver islands were designed to naturally treat incoming wastewater, ensuring only clean water entered the revitalised basin.

In July, senior leaders from Infosys visited the site and witnessed the lake's awakening. Their presence strengthened the resolve of the field teams working tirelessly on the ground. By September, Sholinganallur welcomed Chennai's leadership, Hon'ble Chief Secretary of Tamil Nadu, Hon'ble Mayor Mrs Priya Rajan, GCC Commissioner Mr Kumaragurubaran I.A.S., MLA Mr Aravind Ramesh, and other officials, whose appreciation reaffirmed the importance of this restoration and encouraged Siruthuli to expand its efforts. The project saw regular visits from leadership teams from both Infosys and Siruthuli.



Today, with desilting completed, Sholinganallur Lake is moving forward towards its next chapter. Bund strengthening, fencing, surplus weir constructions, pathways and children's play area, and lagoon creation have all been finished, transforming the lake into an urban oasis. A lake that once struggled to survive is now set to replenish aquifers, protect downstream lakes, and restore the ecological balance of South Chennai.

Around the bund, a young forest is developing. Over 1,500 native saplings, planted by Infosys volunteers, now form a protective bioshield around the water. Biodiversity islands, habitat zones, and green pathways are turning the lake into a refuge, not just for birds and butterflies, but for people seeking a connection with nature.

In continuation of transparent project management, Infosys engaged EY for a third-party audit, which was conducted in the second week of December 2025, ensuring all interventions meet the highest standards. Sholinganallur Lake is no longer a lake burdened by its past; it is a lake restored and reborn.



Thozhilsalaiyil Siruthuli

Sustainability from the Factory Floor

On 17th December, Siruthuli took a meaningful step toward industrial sustainability through Thozhilsalaiyil Siruthuli, an initiative that works with industries to embed eco-conscious practices into everyday operations. In collaboration with Titan, Siruthuli is shaping a holistic model that reimagines how factories can function in harmony with nature.

The proposed interventions span rooftop and surface rainwater harvesting, native plantations, green energy adoption, wastewater treatment and reuse, and sustained employee awareness on environmental stewardship. Together, these measures aim to transform industrial spaces into environmentally sensitive ecosystems.

The meeting was held at Titan's Kallampalayam office in the esteemed presence of Mr. C.K. Venkataraman, Managing Director, Titan, along with Siruthuli's Chairman, Managing Trustee, Trustees, Apex Members, and the Titan team. This collaboration marks the beginning of a shared journey toward building industries that grow responsibly while giving back to the environment.



Volunteers

The driving force of Siruthuli

Every movement begins with a few hearts that care deeply. For Siruthuli, those hearts are its volunteers, people who give their time, energy, and expertise to keep Coimbatore's environment thriving. They are the invisible threads that hold together every initiative, the quiet strength behind every tree planted and every drop of water saved.

As Siruthuli's work grew wider, so did its vision for volunteer engagement. On 25th October 2025, Siruthuli hosted a Volunteer Engagement Programme, inviting individuals from across Coimbatore to join hands in creating a cleaner and greener environment through small yet meaningful contributions. To bring people closer to the places they protect, Coimbatore has now been divided into five zones: North, South, East, West, and Central. Volunteers are grouped by their locality, guided by Apex members and Siruthuli's staff representatives. This zonal model helps every volunteer act meaningfully within their own neighbourhood in reviving a water body, greening a barren patch, or spreading awareness among children.

Through this community-driven model, Siruthuli hopes to expand its family of changemakers who not only dream of a greener Coimbatore but take steady, hopeful steps to make it real. Because when people come together with a shared purpose, even the smallest act becomes a ripple of transformation.

At Siruthuli, volunteers are not just participants in change; they are the change. Interested in joining Siruthuli's volunteer network? Write to us at info@siruthuli.com.





WASTE WISE

Cleaner water through natural innovation



Across Vellakinar, Urumandampalayam, Arivoli Nagar, and Airport stream, Siruthuli has been piloting innovative natural wastewater treatment techniques to restore polluted waterbodies and reduce treatment costs.

At Airport stream, the Miracle in Water (MIW) technology was tested with excellent results. The success of this pilot has paved the way for its introduction at Valankulam Lake, where it promises to become a sustainable solution for wastewater remediation.

Vellakinar – Steady Progress, Cleaner Water

At Vellakinar South Solai Pond, regular dosing has already resulted in cleaner, odour-free water. In addition to regular dosing, other activities like the completion of protective fencing, gate installations on the south and east sides, and ongoing Swachh Plus dosing have been completed. Samples have been sent for quality analysis.

Encroachments cleared by the Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation have now opened up space for plantation activities that will serve as natural filters around the pond.

Siruthuli is assessing several kinds of wastewater treatment solutions keeping in mind its feasibility, and sustainability at low cost.



Sundapalayam Stream – A Step Toward Cleaner Waterways

Among the many rivulets feeding the Noyyal River, the Sundapalayam Stream, originating from the Marudhamalai Hills, has long sustained local agriculture. Traditionally, farmers would traverse the stream to reach their fields during the dry season.

However, rapid urban expansion has brought a daily influx of sewage into the stream, disrupting its natural flow and causing health hazards, visual pollution, and groundwater contamination.

In a significant step toward cleaner waterways, Siruthuli has been studying the stream, assessing sewage quality and quantity, and exploring feasible treatment interventions. Building on these efforts, Indo-Tech Transformers Limited has partnered to implement a wastewater treatment initiative along the Sundapalayam Stream.

With the support of Ms. Leena Sathyanarayanan in coordinating this partnership, the MoU has been formally signed, marking the beginning of a transformative revival for this vital urban waterway.





WASTE WISE

Cleaner water through natural innovation



Gandhima Nagar Stream - Reviving a Vital Urban Waterway

Coimbatore’s streams were once lifelines, channeling surface runoff during the monsoon and sustaining local ecosystems. Today, rapid urbanisation has transformed many of these waterways into conduits for sewage. The Gandhima Nagar Stream, originating near the Gandhima Nagar Police Station and flowing 13 km towards Irugur Lake, is a stark example. Daily sewage discharge and indiscriminate dumping of solid waste have created a heavy stench along its length, posing serious health risks and causing visual pollution.

For the past two years, Siruthuli has been closely studying this stream. Real-time flow measurements using ultrasonic sensors over three days revealed an average sewage flow of 21 million litres per day, with water quality exceeding TNPCB standards.

In partnership with PSG Institute of Medical Sciences & Research (PSGIMSR), Siruthuli is now planning the stream’s rejuvenation. The focus is on identifying suitable sewage treatment technology to control odour and ensure treated water safely flows downstream. A 15-day trial is scheduled to test the effectiveness of the proposed interventions.



Field Visit

Siruthuli is piloting different wastewater treatment technologies in several kinds of water bodies to treat sewage water. The Siruthuli Technical Team undertook a field visit on 17th November 2025 to Sundapalayam, Semmedu, Alandurai, and Kalampalayam to study the sewage ingress and assess next-stage interventions.

Each of these pilots serves as a learning ground, documenting performance, refining methods, and setting benchmarks for urban wastewater management. The journey from pollution to purification is ongoing, and with each project, Coimbatore edges closer to becoming a model city for natural water restoration.

Regular review meetings across the Waste Wise programme ensure continuous learning, refinement, and scaling of successful models.





WASTE WISE

Cleaner water through natural innovation



Noyyal River Study - Mapping Sewage Ingress for Targeted Action

The Noyyal has long been the lifeline of the region, quietly carrying water, memories, and livelihoods. Recognising its growing distress, the District Collector initiated a focused effort to address sewage ingress and wastewater challenges within the district. Siruthuli, in partnership with the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB), began a comprehensive study to understand where and how the river is being burdened.

Accordingly, the river stretch from Sadivayal to Somanur has been divided into three segments, with detailed mapping and measurement of sewage inlet points. This study will serve as a technical foundation for future river restoration and wastewater management interventions.



Sanganur Stream - Reviving a critical feeder channel

Special attention has been given to the once-vibrant feeder channel that rises in the Thadagam Valley and flows for nearly 16.5 km to the Singanallur Lake. Originally meant to feed Singanallur Lake, the stream is currently diverted to join the river directly. Over time, encroachments along its banks, unchecked sewage, and solid waste have choked the stream, slowing its flow, breeding mosquitoes, stagnating water, and allowing contamination to seep into the ground below.

Determined to reverse this decline, Siruthuli will be undertaking a detailed, ground-level assessment, identifying sewage entry points, studying blockages, evaluating existing and needed check dams, and exploring suitable treatment solutions. This study is more than a technical exercise; it is a step toward giving the river back its breath, restoring clean flow, and protecting the fragile ecosystem that depends on it.



SPREAD THE WORD

NURTURING AWARENESS, INSPIRING ACTION

Sittukaludan Siruthuli is a learning experience that combines environmental education with interactive sessions on water conservation, afforestation and waste management. This quarter 149 students from 6 schools participated with enthusiasm, vowing to take up conservation.



A special highlight was the visit by students from Singapore under the India Experience Programme of the Singapore-India Partnership Foundation (SIPF). The delegation explored Coimbatore's eco-restoration efforts, visiting Vellakinar Pond, Thudiyalur Urban Forest, and Valankulam Lake. They witnessed firsthand the transformation of degraded landscapes into living ecosystems and expressed admiration for Siruthuli's partnership-driven approach. Many shared their interest in volunteering or interning with Siruthuli, recognising the value of environmental action that goes beyond textbooks.



Siruthuli's Seed 2 Sapling Program

Siruthuli works closely with school and college students through the Seed to Sapling program. At a young age, students are enriched with practical knowledge about planting saplings and understanding their significant impact on the climate.

Native variety seeds collected from various Siruthuli plantation sites are provided to the students, along with grow bags and soil. The students carefully grow and nurture the saplings until they reach a height of about two feet, after which they are returned to Siruthuli. There, the saplings continue to flourish as trees at one of the plantation sites.

While many children discard seeds after eating fruits, some children go a step further by showcasing their deep bonding with nature. They take the initiative to grow saplings on their own and donate them to Siruthuli. Two young students—Joshna and Chinna from Kikani Global Academy, Coimbatore—chose a different path. After enjoying mangoes, they lovingly nurtured the seeds into saplings using waste plastic materials and later donated the two mango saplings to Siruthuli.

Initiatives like these strengthen Siruthuli's mission and inspire hope, helping create a better tomorrow.



MEETINGS & EVENTS

Jal Shakti Abhiyan - Award and Recognition for Siruthuli

Under the nationwide “**Catch the Rain – Where it falls, When it falls**” campaign, Coimbatore’s efforts in water conservation have earned national recognition. The district secured 2nd Rank in Category 3 (Southern Zone) under Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari 1.0 for its exemplary work in water storage and recharge. On 11th December, Siruthuli was honoured by the District Administration for its long-standing contribution to water conservation, which played an important role in Coimbatore achieving the national honour. This acknowledgement reflects over two decades of close collaboration with the District Administration, Water Resources Department, the Ministry of Jal Shakti and other NGOs.



Strengthening Collaborations through New MoUs & Emerging Partnerships

- © This quarter also marked significant progress in forging new alliances for ecological restoration. M/s Ford signed an MoU with Siruthuli for the restoration of Odaikeni Vannankulam in Sholinganallur.
- © M/s Titan Ltd formalised their support for Phase 2 of the Masaorambu Stream restoration. These partnerships reinforce a shared commitment to safeguarding vital water systems.
- © Siruthuli also welcomed promising new collaborations, with Tirunelveli Vayu Energy Generation Pvt. Ltd., Shuka Consultancy Services Pvt. Ltd., Shiva Distilleries Pvt. Ltd., and Cetex Petrochemicals Ltd. expressing interest in supporting eco-conservation initiatives.
- © In addition, a meeting with Kovan Labs explored the rollout of innovative rainwater harvesting systems across Coimbatore, paving the way for future urban water sustainability efforts.

Field Visit to Restored Waterbodies

Siruthuli has been consistently working in the Noyyal River Basin, and to evaluate the impact of these efforts, the Siruthuli technical committee conducted a post-monsoon field visit to inspect the storage levels and inflow, ensuring that rejuvenation measures are functioning effectively.

Engagement with CRPF Officials

Since 2020, Siruthuli, in collaboration with the CRPF, has implemented several eco-conservation initiatives, including the construction of rooftop and surface rainwater harvesting structures, plantations, and the creation of percolation ponds, leading to improved groundwater levels, increased green cover, better air quality, and enhanced biodiversity. Further to this, a meeting was held with the Inspector General and senior officials of CRPF to identify new collaboration opportunities. Siruthuli also requested suitable land parcels for the proposed plantation of 1 lakh saplings.



MEETINGS & EVENTS

Coordination with Corporation Commissioner

Siruthuli continues to work closely with the Coimbatore Corporation Commissioner across multiple urban greening and water conservation initiatives. One of the current focus areas is Race Course, a prominent residential zone in the city. While the area already benefits from existing plantations, additional tree planting has been planned to enhance green cover and improve urban liveability with the support of Racecourse and Neighbourhood Association.

A decade ago, Siruthuli constructed roadside rainwater harvesting structures along the Race Course to prevent water stagnation and support groundwater recharge. As part of ongoing stewardship, four such structures have now been identified for rejuvenation, ensuring they continue to function effectively with the support of Racecourse and Neighbourhood Association.

In addition, an existing park at Ramanathapuram is set to be revitalised through new plantations, improved pathways, and the development of a children's play area. This remodelling will enhance accessibility and transform the park into a welcoming green space for the community.

Furthermore, Siruthuli has identified a 0.5-acre pond in Urumandampalayam that currently functions as a cesspool due to wastewater from nearby households and toilets. Plans are underway to clean the pond and introduce wastewater treatment, marking the initial step in its restoration for improved water quality and environmental safety.

Coordination with the Railways – Expanding Green Corridors

Railway-owned spaces are largely barren and have been used as dump yards. Siruthuli, in collaboration with the Railways, has restored these open areas by planting 62,800 native saplings across eight different locations, creating urban forests within the city. To keep the momentum going, On 8th November 2025, Siruthuli met the Divisional Railway Manager, Shri Panna Lal and Additional DRM, Shri A Saravanan of the Salem Division during the inauguration of the Ernakulam–Bengaluru Vande Bharat Express. A detailed report on railway-side plantations was submitted, along with a formal request seeking allocation of land for future green corridors along rail tracks.



MEETINGS & EVENTS

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Siruthuli at Nāgrika Round Table, New Delhi

Siruthuli was represented by Apex Members Mr. R. S. Krishnaswamy and Mr. Ramesh Babu at the Nāgrika Round Table held in New Delhi on 5th & 6th November. Nāgrika, a network of urban practitioners and researchers, focuses on empowering India's smaller cities through shared learning, citizen engagement, and sustainable urban solutions.

During the discussions, Coimbatore and Udaipur were spotlighted for their rich lake systems and the common urban challenges they face. Siruthuli presented its restoration work and community-led models that reconnect people with their environment. The team was honoured to receive the Citizen Stewardship Recognition, acknowledging Siruthuli's role in nurturing collective responsibility and inspiring citizen-driven conservation.



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