

Siruthuli
Clean Kovai. Green Kovai.

Noyyal Times

OCT 2026



Wealth in WASTEWATER

"The greatest waste is not wastewater. It is wasted water."

There was a time when every drop of water was treasured. Our grandparents drew water from wells with gratitude, rivers were the lifeblood of communities, and lakes were cherished as common treasures. Water was never taken for granted; it was respected.

Today, we use water once, send it down a drain, and assume its journey is over. Yet, every summer, as reservoirs shrink and borewells run dry, we ask, "Where has all the water gone?"

The truth is, it hasn't gone anywhere. We have forgotten how to value it.

Every day, millions of litres of wastewater leave our homes, offices and industries. We call it "waste" and let it pollute our rivers and lakes, even as we search desperately for new sources of freshwater. The irony couldn't be greater.

What if we changed the way we looked at it? What if wastewater wasn't the end of water's journey, but the beginning of its next one?

When treated responsibly, wastewater becomes a valuable resource. It can support industries, nourish green spaces, replenish lakes, recharge groundwater and reduce our dependence on precious freshwater. Every litre we reuse is a litre we don't have to extract from our rivers or aquifers.

Nature has always shown us the way. It never wastes water; it renews it. Every drop completes a cycle before beginning another. Perhaps it is time our cities did the same.

At Siruthuli, this belief is shaping our work. From restoring polluted waterways to establishing the Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Water & Waste Management, we are working with government, industry, academia and citizens to demonstrate that wastewater is not a liability but an opportunity. An opportunity to build a water-secure, climate-resilient future.

The wealth in wastewater is not just measured in litres of water recovered. It is measured in cleaner rivers, healthier ecosystems, stronger groundwater reserves and the legacy we leave for the generations that follow.

The question before us is no longer whether we can treat and reuse wastewater. It is whether we can afford not to.
The future of our rivers will depend not only on the rain that falls from the sky, but on the wisdom with which we use every drop that has already been entrusted to us.

-Vanitha Mohan

WATER WATCH

REVIVING THE LIFELINES OF THE LAND

For generations, cities' water systems depend on a network of ponds, lakes, streams and anicuts that captured rain and carried it across the landscape. Today, many of these systems have weakened through siltation, encroachment, waste and neglect.

Restoration begins by understanding what each waterbody once did, what has changed, and what it needs to do again.

Peria Pallam – Saving Every Drop That Arrives

Appanaickenpatti is a dry region where rainfall is limited and groundwater lies deep below the surface. When the rains do come, every drop matters.

Peria Pallam stream runs through the Appanaickenpatti Panchayat, but its ability to hold and retain water has reduced over time. With the support of ZF Wind Power and the Appanaickenpatti Panchayat, around 1.5 km of the stream has been cleaned, broadened and widened. Three percolation shafts have also been constructed to help the water move into the ground rather than flow away.

The aim is simple: when rain finally arrives, to keep the water within the landscape for as long as possible. The next phase of work at Appanaickenpatti is also taking shape. Following the completed intervention at Peria Pallam, Phase 2 has commenced with the rejuvenation of Kurumban Kuttai, extending the restoration effort to another important part of the local water system





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Perur – Restoring the River, Then Protecting It

At Perur, restoration has moved beyond removing what has accumulated in the water system to protecting the river from future contamination.

During the cleaning of Perur Padithurai, layers of clothes and other debris were found buried to depths of nearly six feet near the bridge. The accumulated material was cleared and the area desilted.

But cleaning once is not enough. A civil structure has been constructed at the Padithurai to prevent waste from being dumped along the Noyyal during ritual offerings. Along the Siruvani Road near the anicut and Padithurai, around 2,000 feet of fencing, nearly eight feet high, is being put in place with the support of the Water Resources Department to prevent further dumping.

During Aadi 18, when large numbers of people gathered at Perur to perform rituals for their ancestors, the focus was also on keeping the river clean. People were encouraged to avoid dumping waste, while the area was cleaned after the event to ensure that the accumulated waste did not find its way into the Noyyal.

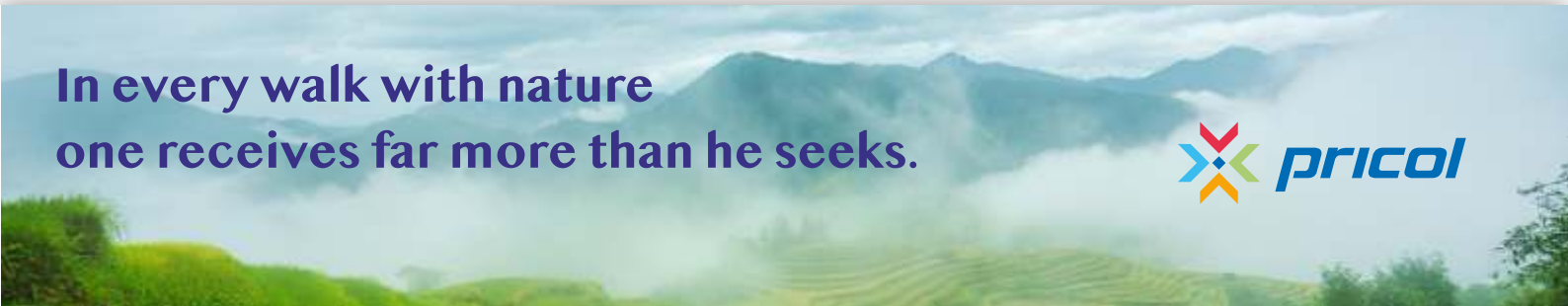
The effort at Perur is now moving towards a more sustained approach. Siruthuli, together with the Water Resources Department, Perur Town Panchayat, Noyyal Aaru Trust, Nallaram Trust and the Pateeswarar Temple Administration, is working towards a coordinated plan to prevent such issues from recurring.

The aim is to bring together the different stakeholders connected to the river and the Padithurai, so that cleanliness, responsible waste management and protection of the river can continue beyond individual events or one-time restoration efforts.

Restoration, in this case, means both cleaning what should never have entered the river and changing what happens next.







WATER WATCH

REVIVING THE LIFELINES OF THE LAND

Mylampatti – When Restoration Begins with Listening



Mylampatti Pond is spread across approximately 13.5 acres and forms part of a larger water system: overflow from Chinnavedampatti flows into the pond and eventually moves towards Achan Kulam.

Yet the pond today faces a very different reality. Wastewater has spread across large portions of the waterbody, while heavy silt accumulation has reduced its ability to allow water to percolate into the ground. The surrounding landscape is also affected by encroachment and other social challenges.

With the support of ZF Wind Power, Siruthuli is working towards reviving the pond through desilting, bund formation and wastewater treatment. The restoration has the potential to improve groundwater recharge and support the farming communities around the pond. The study is underway for this intervention after an initial stakeholder consultation meeting that was held in July with local villagers, farmers, and members from the Village Administrative Office.

Kaana Kanmai, Pudukkottai – Listening to Those Who Depend on Water

Kaana Kanmai is not new to restoration. The waterbody was desilted a few years ago, but the farming communities around it continue to depend on its water system.

It was these neighbourhood farming communities who approached AMM Foundation and EID Parry, which entrusted Siruthuli with a more specific need: the repair of the sluices.

A detailed study has now been completed, and preparation of the restoration proposal is underway. It is a reminder that water conservation does not always begin with an organisation identifying a problem. Sometimes, it begins when the people who live with the water every day come forward and ask for help.





Stay Ahead

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WATER WATCH

REVIVING THE LIFELINES OF THE LAND

Kottaiyur Sivan Kovil Pond – Bringing Water Back to a Historic Space

The Kottaiyur Sivan Kovil Pond is part of a much older landscape. Its revival was inspired by the encouraging outcome of Siruthuli's restoration work at the Pallathur Sivan Kovil Pond, where the restored water body has responded well to the intervention and demonstrated what careful restoration can bring back to a historic community space.

Seeing the outcome at Pallathur, local communities around Kottaiyur approached Siruthuli seeking support to revive their own temple pond. Responding to this request, and with the support of AMM Foundation and EID Parry, Siruthuli studied the pond and prepared a plan for its restoration.

This historic temple pond once held water, but over time its capacity deteriorated, maintenance declined, and fresh water no longer reached it as it once did. Restoration will include repairing the pond wall and working towards bringing fresh water back into the pond. An inaugural pooja was held on 23 August in the presence of the AMM Foundation and EID Parry teams and temple trustees, and dewatering & desilting is now underway.

A pond that has been part of a community's history can once again become part of its everyday life.



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WATER WATCH

REVIVING THE LIFELINES OF THE LAND

Odaikeni Vannankulam – Making Space for Water in a Growing City

In Sholinganallur, two small urban ponds, Odaikeni and Vannankulam, sit surrounded on three sides by apartment communities. Over time, wastewater and solid waste have entered the ponds, while an auto stand and livestock activity have added to the pressure on the waterbodies.

With Ford Motor Company's support, restoration has focused on addressing these problems together. The ponds have been desilted, and newly formed bunds are creating a stronger edge around the waterbodies.

A lagoon has also been created as a natural treatment space. A portion of the domestic wastewater from neighbouring households is being diverted into the lagoon, where it undergoes natural remediation before the treated water is allowed to enter the pond. Floating wetlands and vetiver will further support the natural treatment process.

The restoration is also bringing back a green buffer around the ponds. Preparatory work is underway for planting 500 trees along the newly created bunds, helping strengthen the pond edges and create a greener surrounding landscape.

With these interventions, the ponds will have greater capacity to receive and retain rainwater, while the natural treatment systems and green cover will support cleaner water and groundwater percolation.







Looking Ahead

The water story continues to grow. Proposals have been submitted for the restoration of Chithirai Chavadi Anicut in the Noyyal River Basin and Manjapallam Check Dam at Sugunapuram, while efforts are continuing to identify partners for new water conservation projects.

At Othakalmandapam, a proposal for the restoration of the Othakalmandapam Stream check dams has been prepared and submitted to V C Green Energy, opening the possibility of a new intervention in the stream system.

The work continues from one waterbody to the next, restoring not isolated sites, but the connections between them.

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GREEN GUARD

GROWING GREEN, RESTORING BALANCE

Water and trees are inseparable. A healthy landscape needs vegetation to hold soil, slow down runoff, support biodiversity and help rainwater move into the ground.

Across this quarter, several new green spaces moved from an idea on paper towards becoming living forests.

Madukkarai – Turning Dry Land into a Green Belt

Madukkarai is a dry, drought-prone landscape where water is scarce and the land experiences the effects of a hot and increasingly urbanising environment. On Forest Department land along the SIDCO–Sugunapuram Road, Siruthuli, with the support of eClerx Services and A G Resources, is working to transform this dry stretch into a growing green belt.

The project will see 6,500 trees planted across the site, creating more than just a plantation. The green cover is expected to help improve local air quality, support groundwater recharge and gradually create a cooler, healthier microclimate around the landscape.

To give the young trees the water and care they need, a borewell and solar-powered motor have been installed, along with a drip irrigation system. Extensive preparatory work including land levelling, marking and pitting has been completed, while a solar-powered camera has been installed to support monitoring and security.

The effort is about allowing a dry landscape to slowly become more resilient. As the trees grow, they can help hold the soil, support water infiltration, provide shade and create conditions for more life to return. From dry land to green belt, the transformation begins with giving both trees and water a place to stay.







GREEN GUARD

GROWING GREEN, RESTORING BALANCE

Noyyal Vanam 2 – A New Green Chapter Along the River

Noyyal Vanam is Siruthuli's initiative to create green belts along the bunds of the Noyyal River, strengthening the river landscape through native plantations.

The first Noyyal Vanam was established along the river bund at Kooduthurai, with around 3,000 trees. Building on this effort, Noyyal Vanam 2 is now taking shape at Iruttupallam, along Water Resources Department land.

As part of the restoration, three channels beneath the bridge, originally intended to carry water, were cleared and desilted. While only one channel was functional, the other two had been blocked. The area beneath and on either side of the bridge was also cleared, desilted and strengthened, including sections of the river bunds. A portion of the site had been used for dumping and is now being restored through the plantation of 1,700 native saplings, with the support of Pricol.

From clearing blocked channels to strengthening the river bunds and creating a new green belt, Noyyal Vanam 2 is helping restore both the river's flow and its natural surroundings.







PSG Centenary Campus, Neelambur – A Green Space for the Future

Neelambur is rapidly developing as an industrial and urban hub, with several factories and expanding built-up areas. As the landscape changes, increasing green cover is important to create a healthier and more sustainable environment.

As part of PSG's centenary initiatives, Siruthuli is working with PSG to establish a 7,000-tree plantation at the PSG Centenary Campus, Neelambur. A solar-powered motor will support the irrigation needs of the plantation, helping the trees establish and thrive.

The plantation will bring together three types of trees, native species, flowering trees and fruit-bearing trees, creating a diverse and vibrant green space. Beyond adding greenery to the landscape, the plantation is intended to contribute to better air quality, groundwater recharge and a healthier local environment. Over time, these 7,000 trees will transform the site into a thriving green space and add a valuable ecological layer to a rapidly urbanising region.







From a wellwisher...

ஊருணி நீர்நிறைந் தற்றே உலகவாம்
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GREEN GUARD

GROWING GREEN, RESTORING BALANCE

Vi Va Vanam – 25 Acres, 20,000 Trees

For years, a piece of land at Othakalmandapam had little to offer the landscape around it. During the construction of the bypass road and bridge, construction debris had been dumped here, leaving behind what had gradually become a wasteland.

Today, that same land is being given a new purpose. As part of the Green Tamil Nadu Mission, Siruthuli is working with the District Administration, Forest Department and HR&CE to contribute to the vision of increasing Tamil Nadu's green cover to 33%. At Othakalmandapam, this effort has taken shape as Vi Va Vanam, supported by Pricol Ltd.

The new initiative was inaugurated on 29 August, marking the beginning of an ambitious journey to transform this once-neglected landscape into an urban forest. The land belongs to the Perumal Temple and, after extensive cleaning and preparation, is now ready to become a forest. Around 20,000 native saplings are planned across 30 acres, creating a large urban forest in a region that is rapidly changing.

Water, too, has been part of the journey. Three borewells were drilled to support the plantation, of which one yielded water. It will now help nurture the young trees as they take root. But Vi Va Vanam is about more than planting 20,000 trees. As the trees grow, they will create shade, bring life back to the landscape, support groundwater recharge and help shape a cooler and healthier local microclimate.











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Thiruneermedu – Restoring a sacred landscape



Some places carry memories that go back much further than we can see.

Thiruneermedu, in Perur Panchayat, finds mention in the Perur Puranam, which records that yagas were once conducted here. The soil of this place was considered sacred, and people would take the mud with reverence and use it as vibhuti. Today, however, the same landscape has fallen into neglect and has come to resemble a dumping ground.

Siruthuli, together with the temple and the HR&CE Department, is working to bring back the sanctity and beauty of this historic space through a plantation initiative.

Permission for the project was received from the HR&CE Department on 3 August, and on 27 August, a Bhoomi Pooja marked the beginning of the plantation of 1,000 trees. The effort is not simply about adding trees. It is about helping a place that was once held sacred reclaim its identity bringing greenery, care and reverence back to the landscape. As the saplings grow, Thiruneermedu will slowly begin to look less like a forgotten space and more like the sacred landscape remembered in its stories.

Kembanaickenpalayam – A New Partnership Takes Root



At Siruthuli, partnerships with corporates have helped turn many environmental ideas into action. Kembanaickenpalayam marks our first initiative with Hexaware Technologies, bringing together a new partnership with a shared commitment to the environment. The area is dry and drought-prone, where water scarcity and a harsh landscape have shaped everyday life. Here, even a single tree can mean more than shade, it can be the beginning of a change that takes years to unfold.

An MoU was signed with Hexaware Technologies for the plantation of 6,500 saplings, and the journey began with a Bhoomi Pooja on 4 September. The trees planted here will take time to grow, but their impact can extend far beyond the plantation site. Over the years, they can bring more greenery to the landscape, improve the local environment and help transform the character of the surrounding region.



GREEN GUARD

GROWING GREEN, RESTORING BALANCE

J S Auto Cast – A New Forest Begins at Annur







Siruthuli and the HR&CE Department have been working together at Periamman Kovil and Chinnamman Kovil, with support from several corporates, to transform the dry landscape around these temple lands into urban forests. The journey continues to grow. With the support of J S Auto Cast, another 10,000 saplings are now being added to the landscape. The Bhoomi Pooja was held on 4 September 2026, marking the beginning of this new phase.

With this addition, the plantation effort at Annur is moving towards nearly 30,000 trees slowly changing what was once a dry landscape into a greener space with the potential to support water conservation and recharge. The work goes beyond planting. Borewells and percolation shafts have also been established to support the trees and help the land retain and recharge water.

What began as individual plantation efforts is now becoming a larger urban forest. With every new tree, Annur is gaining more shade, more green cover and a greater capacity to hold water. A forest is never created in a single day. At Annur, it is being built one partnership, one sapling and one season at a time

New Ground, New Possibilities

A forest begins long before the first sapling is planted. It begins with identifying the right land, securing permissions, understanding the site and bringing the right people together. At the Agricultural Engineering Department, that preparation has already translated into action. With the support of the Rotary Club of Coimbatore Satellite, 101 saplings were planted on 12 August 2026, adding another small but meaningful green space to the city.

At the Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (IFGTB), an important step has also been completed, with the No Objection Certificate (NOC) obtained to undertake plantation activities within the IFGTB campus. The permission opens the way for future greening initiatives in a space closely connected to forestry and tree research.

The search for new spaces is also continuing. The Siruthuli team visited Karamadai to assess identified Railway Land and study its feasibility for plantation activities. Understanding the land before planting is essential to ensuring that the right trees are planted in the right place and can be cared for over the long term.

A similar exercise took place at Itchipatti, where a 20-acre HR&CE land parcel has been identified for a proposed Rotary plantation project. On 11 August, the Siruthuli team, along with Steering Committee members, visited the site to assess its suitability and feasibility for plantation. At the same time, discussions continue around new plantation opportunities, including a proposed 10,000-sapling project within the CRPF campus with HCL Foundation.



GREEN GUARD

GROWING GREEN, RESTORING BALANCE

Lila Vanam – Celebrating Life by Planting Life

A celebration can leave behind more than memories.

In July, the families of Mr. Angamuthu and Mr. Jayamani planted 100 native saplings at the Agricultural Engineering Department to commemorate the birth of their granddaughter.

The gesture offers a simple idea that anyone can carry forward: a birthday, wedding, anniversary or family milestone can also become an opportunity to give something back to the earth.





Growing Is Only the Beginning

More than 100 companies now participate in employee engagement activities connected to Siruthuli's projects. Employees and volunteers take part in activities such as bund strengthening, pruning and mulching.

At Vellakinar, Federal Bank employees participated in mulching, an opportunity not only to care for the plantation, but to understand why retaining moisture around a young tree mattered.

At the same time, Sai Lakshmi Event Management has been reusing wastewater and nurturing saplings, showing how environmental responsibility can become part of everyday organisational practice.

Across all plantation sites, regular watering, weeding, replacement planting and maintenance continue.

Planting creates a beginning. Caring creates a forest.





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WASTE WISE

Restoring Water Through Nature

When Wastewater Becomes Part of the Water Story

Our cities produce wastewater every day. What happens to that water before it reaches a river or lake can determine whether it becomes a resource, a burden or a threat to the ecosystem.

Siruthuli's Waste Wise work is increasingly focused on finding nature-based ways to treat wastewater and bring polluted water systems back to health.

Gandhima Nagar Stream – Following the Journey of Wastewater

Gandhima Nagar Stream receives surface runoff from the adjacent areas. It then passes through the PSG Hospital area before eventually reaching Irugur Lake.

The stream, filled with bushes, solid waste, and wastewater, requires intervention. The challenge is significant, but so is the opportunity.

Around 3.6 km of the stream has been cleaned and desilted. During the cleaning process, clothes, beds and other debris were removed from the stream. Three retention structures have been created as part of the nature-based wastewater treatment intervention.

The next phase is now underway. Gandhima Nagar Stream Phase 2 has commenced, with cleaning currently in progress to prepare the bunds for plantation. Vetiver and flowering trees will be planted along the restored stretch, while dosing will be undertaken as part of the wastewater treatment approach. Once the plantation is completed, fencing will be installed to protect the restored landscape.

A flow meter has also been installed near the PSG IMSR Entrance Bridge to enable regular monitoring of water flow. The work is not simply about making a stream look cleaner. It is about understanding the water that flows through it, restoring the landscape around it and creating conditions where nature can play a greater role in treatment.



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Sundapalayam – Watching the Water Change

At Sundapalayam, the journey of restoring water quality is showing encouraging signs.

Wastewater treatment through regular dosing using bio-remediation methods continues at the stream. In August, water samples were collected from two points—upstream, before dosing, and downstream, approximately 390 metres after the dosing point. The samples were submitted to SITARC and PSGR Krishnammal College for detailed water-quality analysis.

The results showed that seven parameters were within the permissible limits, indicating the positive impact of continued bio-remediation and regular dosing.

The change is particularly meaningful for the surrounding community. Water from wells and borewells in the area had earlier been affected by contamination. With the ongoing treatment, water quality is now improving, bringing back the possibility of these groundwater sources being used again.

But restoring water takes patience. Continued treatment and regular monitoring will be essential to sustain these improvements and ensure that the water remains safe and usable over the long term.

SUNDAPALAYAM STREAM

Water Quality Analysis Data

No	Parameter	Unit	Standards	Results	Reduction %
1	pH	-	5.5 - 9.0	7.01	14.41
2	TSS	mg/l	20	14.29	13.39
3	BOD	mg/l	10	6.5	66.84
4	COD	mg/l	50	19.2	60
5	Total Nitrogen	mg/l	10	7.21	39.82
6	Total Phosphorus	mg/l	1	0.02	93.33
7	Dissolved Oxygen	mg/l	>4.0	7.7	-





WASTE WISE

Restoring Water Through Nature

Vellakinar – From Restoration to the Next Phase

Vellakinar is becoming more than a restored pond. It is becoming a model for how an urban water body can be brought back to life and then cared for over time. Once in poor condition, the pond was taken up by Siruthuli for restoration. The previous phase focused on desilting, and the work is now moving forward through several interconnected stages from bund formation and wastewater treatment to plantation and regular water-quality testing.

Regular dosing continues as part of the treatment process. An EB connection has also been obtained, enabling water from the pond to be pumped for irrigating the plantation site. Inlet and outlet water samples are being collected regularly to understand how the water quality changes through the treatment process.

What makes Vellakinar particularly important is that the work does not stop once the pond is cleaned. Water treatment, plantation, monitoring, irrigation and continued maintenance are all being brought together, with different stakeholders playing a role in the process.

It is a reminder that restoring an urban pond is only the beginning. Keeping it healthy requires continued attention, collaboration and shared responsibility.







Chithra Nagar Kuttai – Looking at Water and Waste Together

On 16 July 2026, the Siruthuli team visited Chithra Nagar Kuttai in Saravanampatti to understand the site's restoration potential. The visit looked beyond the waterbody alone, recognising that the health of an urban pond is closely linked to what enters it.

A comprehensive proposal combining water conservation and waste management interventions has since been prepared. The site is now poised to move from assessment and planning towards implementation, once the appropriate partnership is secured.







We have tree saplings and vermicompost available for sale in our nursery located at the Noyyal Life Centre, Coimbatore.

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WASTE WISE

Restoring Water Through Nature

Mylampatti – A Center for Excellence in Nature Based Solutions

A polluted stream can be a problem. But sometimes, it can also become the starting point for a solution. A tripartite MoU between Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation, PSG & Sons' Charities and Siruthuli has been signed to establish a Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Water and Waste Management. The Centre has a clear purpose: to explore and develop nature-based, decentralised and affordable solutions for wastewater treatment. Finding solutions that work in real-world conditions requires more than ideas, it requires research, testing, monitoring and learning from what happens on the ground.

The Centre brings together field experience, research and laboratory capabilities, with PSG's facilities supporting the development and testing of new approaches. The work is already underway. Two water samples were collected from the inlet and outlet of the Mylampatti pond, and Prof. Alagar and the PSG iTech team will analyse the samples as part of the effort to develop a sewage-treatment product.

The larger ambition is to develop solutions that are not only effective, but also simple, nature-based and affordable enough to be adopted in other communities and locations. Mylampatti is therefore becoming more than a place to study polluted water. It is becoming a place to ask an important question: Can nature, science and local experience come together to create wastewater solutions that more communities can afford and adopt? The Centre of Excellence is where that search begins.





Replacing Canna – Strengthening Nature-Based Treatment

The Canna plants in the existing floating wetlands at Vellakinar, Urumandampalayam and Kandigounden Kuttai have been replaced with a native Canna variety sourced from Chithra Nagar Pond. The move strengthens the use of locally adapted plant species within Siruthuli's nature-based wastewater treatment interventions.

To support this work over the long term, a dedicated Canna nursery is also being established at NLC, creating a future source of plants for floating wetlands and other treatment systems.



KURICHI ANICUT

Reopening a Path for Water

Water has always found its way through Coimbatore's landscape along paths shaped by generations before us. Across the Noyyal basin, anicuts were built to slow the flow of water, guide it towards tanks and lakes, and give more time for it to seep into the ground.Kurichi Anicut is one such link in this old water network. Water flowing through the anicut makes its way towards Kurichi Lake, helping sustain a larger system of water storage and groundwater recharge.

But over the years, the anicut and the channels around it have faced increasing pressure. Encroachments on either side have narrowed the available space, while silt accumulation and other obstructions have restricted the movement of water. A structure built to guide water was slowly losing its ability to do so. Recognising the importance of the anicut, Siruthuli has taken up its restoration with the support of the Government and Rotary Club of Coimbatore Central.

The work focuses on clearing the accumulated silt and obstructions and restoring the flow through the channel. By reopening the pathway for water, the intervention aims to allow freshwater to move towards Kurichi Lake and create greater opportunities for water to percolate into the surrounding ground. The objective is not simply to clean an anicut. It is to restore its role within the larger water system.

When water is allowed to move freely, reach the lake and remain longer in the landscape, its benefits extend beyond the channel. Better percolation can contribute to groundwater recharge, while improved water flow strengthens the connection between the anicut and the lake it serves. The restoration was formally inaugurated on 16 August, bringing together members of Rotary Club of Coimbatore Central and their families, Siruthuli trustees and Apex Body members, along with local stakeholders.

But the inauguration is only the beginning. The real measure of the work will come when the rains arrive, when water once again travels through a pathway that had gradually been narrowed and obstructed, moves towards Kurichi Lake, and begins its journey back into the earth. Sometimes, restoring a water system is not about creating something new. It is about clearing the way for something that was always meant to flow.





SPREAD THE WORD

BUILDING AWARENESS, INSPIRING RESPONSIBILITY

Because Restoration Needs People

A restored pond can hold water. A planted forest can grow. A treatment system can improve water quality.

But lasting environmental change happens when people understand why these things matter and begin to see themselves as part of the solution. Through programmes such as Sittukkaludan Siruthuli, Mottukaludan Siruthuli and Nurture Nature Camp, along with awareness events, campaigns and community initiatives, Siruthuli takes environmental awareness to schools, colleges and communities.

Sittukaludan Siruthuli – Seeing Conservation Up Close

In July, 200 students from 11 schools participated in Sittukaludan Siruthuli. In August, the programme reached another 239 students from nine schools, introducing them to Siruthuli's work and the importance of environmental stewardship. The programme allows young minds to move beyond environmental lessons in textbooks and encounter conservation through real stories and real places.







SPREAD THE WORD

BUILDING AWARENESS, INSPIRING RESPONSIBILITY

When Students Step into the Field

Students and faculty from PSG College of Arts & Science, Bharathiar University, Sri Ramakrishna College of Arts and Science and Avinashilingam University visited project sites to understand what environmental restoration looks like on the ground.

For many, this is the first time they see the realities behind words such as desilting, groundwater recharge, wastewater treatment and afforestation.

An interactive session on the Role of NGOs in Environmental Conservation was conducted for students of the Department of Social Work, Bharathiar University, on 8 July 2026

Students from ELGI School visited a farm at Periyanaickenpalayam as part of their Humus to Humans project. For many students, it was their first experience of farmland and an opportunity to understand soil, agriculture, cultivation and the challenges faced by farmers.

SSVM Ruh students were taken to conservation sites including Sadivayal Check Dam, SPB Vanam and Panai Vanam. A stream full of waste, a dry piece of land becoming a forest, or a check dam holding water can teach a lesson that a classroom sometimes cannot.









SPREAD THE WORD

BUILDING AWARENESS, INSPIRING RESPONSIBILITY

Taking the Conversation Forward

On 12 September, Siruthuli, together with the Rotary Club of Anns and Annettes, conducted an awareness programme for nearly 50 children. The programme created another opportunity to introduce young minds to environmental conservation and show them that caring for their surroundings can begin with simple, everyday choices.





Growing a Community of Volunteers

Environmental work needs people who are willing to stay involved.

A meeting with Zone Coordinators in August focused on strengthening volunteer engagement, gathering suggestions and identifying new ways for people to participate. The outreach is also expanding to schools that have not yet participated in Sittukaludan Siruthuli, opening the door for more young people to discover the environmental story of their own city.

Looking Beyond Borders

In August, discussions also took place with Tokyo Tamil Sangam, which expressed interest in working with Siruthuli.Japan's experience with advanced technologies opens possibilities for exploring how suitable technologies could be adapted for environmental challenges in Coimbatore.

It is another reminder that environmental problems may be local, but ideas and solutions do not have to be.

Shaping Conversations for a Sustainable Future

On 18 July 2026, Siruthuli was part of a significant dialogue organised by Coimbatore Next, bringing together leaders and stakeholders to explore pathways for the city's continued growth.The gathering was attended by Mr. V. Sampath Kumar, Minister for Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities Welfare, and Mr. K. Vignesh, Minister for Prohibition and Excise, Government of Tamil Nadu.



Siruthuli presented its journey and ongoing initiatives. The interaction provided an opportunity to showcase Siruthuli's continued efforts towards creating a greener, more resilient and environmentally conscious Coimbatore.

MEETINGS & EVENTS

BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS FOR SUSTAINABILITY

Restoration on the ground is strengthened by the conversations around it. Across this quarter, Siruthuli's engagements brought together government, communities, institutions, students, researchers and partners to understand challenges, explore solutions and build the support needed for long-term environmental action.

Bringing Waterbodies Into the Conversation

The health of Coimbatore's waterbodies was a recurring focus through this quarter. On 13 July, a stakeholder meeting on the rejuvenation of Singanallur Lake brought together Thiru K. S. Sri Giri Prasad, MLA, Singanallur; Thiru Katta Ravi Teja, IAS, Commissioner, CCMC; representatives from PSG Institutions; government officials; fishermen's association members; farmers; local stakeholders; and Siruthuli members. Discussions centred on the lake's present condition, water quality, ecological restoration and the need for long-term conservation. The following day, the CCMC Commissioner, Corporation officials and the Siruthuli team visited the lake to assess the site and review the interventions required.

Government engagement extended to other water systems as well. Mr. Pavankumar G. Giriyappanavar, IAS, District Collector, Coimbatore, along with officials from various departments, visited Kuniyamuthur Anicut on 14 July to review the impact of restoration work done by Siruthuli.









MEETINGS & EVENTS

BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS FOR SUSTAINABILITY

Looking at Coimbatore' water security

Coimbatore's drinking water security is closely connected to three major sources: Siruvani, Pillur and Aliyar. Together, these systems supply more than 350 million litres of water, but declining storage capacity and changing conditions are making water security an increasingly important concern.

In August, the Siruthuli team visited Pillur Dam with Mr. Sunil Anand, MLA, Mettupalayam, to understand the challenges on the ground and explore possible interventions. Local communities had approached the MLA seeking support for improving the water security of the region. Siruthuli, which has also been undertaking desilting and water-security work in the area, joined the conversation to explore how these efforts could be strengthened.The visit led to discussions on the larger question of how Pillur's water resources can be protected and its capacity strengthened for the future. The focus was not only on restoring what exists, but on ensuring that the region continues to have a secure source of water for the years ahead.



Taking Environmental Awareness to Students

On 7 July, Siruthuli, together with TSA Arts, Science & Tamil College, Perur Aadheenam, RAAC Alagana Kovai, and Noyyalaaru Trust, conducted a Solid Waste Management Awareness Programme. Inaugurated by Mr. Sanket Balwant Waghe, IAS, Additional Collector, Coimbatore, the programme introduced students to source segregation, recycling, reducing single-use plastics and sustainable waste management, encouraging them to carry these practices into their homes and communities.

The engagement with educational institutions continued in August and into September. On 31 August, MoU Coordinators from KPR Institute of Engineering and Technology visited Siruthuli to discuss upcoming programmes, student activities and opportunities for collaboration in environmental conservation.

This was followed by the signing of an MoU with Avinashilingam University on 2 September, further strengthening the connection between Siruthuli and academic institutions. The partnership will create opportunities for student engagement and collaborative initiatives in environmental conservation. Together, these institutional partnerships create pathways for young people to move beyond classrooms and experience environmental challenges, solutions and action on the ground.





MEETINGS & EVENTS

BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS FOR SUSTAINABILITY

From Field Challenges to Research and Solutions

The Symposium on Sustainable Water & Waste Management, held on 31 July, brought together academicians, researchers, government officials, industry representatives, environmental practitioners and students.

With Thiru Katta Ravi Teja, IAS, Commissioner, CCMC Mr. L. Gopalakrishnan, Managing Trustee, PSG Sons' & Charities; Ms. Vanitha Mohan, Managing Trustee, Siruthuli; and Dr. Vinod Tare, Former Professor, IIT Kanpur and Founding Head, Ganga, among the participants, the symposium explored sustainable approaches to water management, wastewater treatment, solid waste management and ecological restoration. The event also marked an important step towards the Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Water & Waste Management, bringing government, academia and civil society closer to developing research-driven, field-tested solutions.





Sharing Coimbatore' Environmental Needs

On 15 July, Siruthuli Chairman Dr. S. V. Balasubramaniam, Managing Trustee Ms. Vanitha Mohan, Steering Committee Member Mr. R. S. Krishnaswamy, and Chief Operating Officer Mr. C. Chinnasamy met the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru C. Joseph Vijay.

The meeting provided an opportunity to present Siruthuli's contribution to Coimbatore's environmental development from waterbody restoration and afforestation to the Noyyal River, waste management and environmental awareness.

Siruthuli presented the work already undertaken across Coimbatore and the larger interventions that are needed to protect the city's environmental future. The discussion also brought together the connected challenges of the Noyyal system, urban waste management and water security, highlighting the need for coordinated and sustained action.

On behalf of the people of Coimbatore, Siruthuli placed before the Chief Minister the environmental efforts required across the city and its water systems, and the support needed to take them forward. The Chief Minister assured complete support for Coimbatore and its environmental development.

MEETINGS & EVENTS

BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS FOR SUSTAINABILITY

Siruvani - Beyond the city

On 21 July, Shri Apu John Joseph, Government Chief Whip of Kerala, visited the Siruthuli office to understand its 23-year journey and explore possibilities for collaboration in water conservation. A significant part of the discussion focused on Siruvani, one of Coimbatore's most important drinking water sources. Siruthuli presented the importance of protecting the Siruvani catchment, the challenges affecting the water source and the steps needed to strengthen its long-term security.

The discussion also highlighted the importance of continued cooperation and support from Kerala, given the source and catchment's location and the dependence of Coimbatore on this water system.





Strengthening the Systems Behind the Work

Environmental work also depends on strong organisational systems. In August, the Siruthuli team participated in a meeting organised by the BJP Professional Cell on proposed FCRA amendments, alongside auditors, NGOs and other professionals.

On 3 August, a team from Ernst & Young visited Siruthuli to review statutory compliance and projects implemented with the support of Infosys Ltd. Give Foundation also conducted a due diligence on Siruthuli's process as part of the Hexaware partnership.

The team also explored new approaches to resource mobilisation through a virtual interaction with Dhaan Veda, an AI-enabled platform for fundraising, CSR and proposal automation. This was followed by a two-day Fundraising Masterclass organised by Right Dots and Tamuku on 28–29 August, covering fundraising avenues, strategies and platforms for strengthening resource mobilisation.





Reviewing, Recognising and Preparing for What Comes Next

The period also brought recognition for environmental work. On 15 August, Siruthuli received an Appreciation Certificate from the District Collector of Erode, Mr. S. Kandasamy, for its water conservation initiatives in the district. with the support of AMM Foundation and ELD Parry.

Siruthuli was also honoured as Winner – Decarbonisation Excellence Award 2026: Local Champions of Coimbatore, presented by ISHRAE – Coimbatore Chapter under the COOL Conclave initiative.

Environmental action was recognised at the community level as well. Siruthuli recommended Mr. Balu from Kaniyur and Sai Lakshmi Event Management for the Dharmic Nursery Awards, and both were subsequently honoured for their contributions to afforestation and environmental conservation.





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