



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE
CHIEF MINISTER'S GREEN FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME

Compendium of Newsletters 2025

TNPCB MASSIVE PLASTIC WASTE COLLECTION DRIVE



Mayiladuthurai



Villupuram

The TNPCB Massive Plastic Waste Collection Drive, carried out by TNPCB and Green Fellows across Tamil Nadu, was successfully conducted with participation from officials, NGOs, students and volunteers. Significant quantities of plastic waste were collected and responsibly disposed of through recycling and co-firing in cement plants. Clean-up efforts targeted water bodies, residential areas and public spaces, accompanied by awareness campaigns promoting waste management and reducing single-use plastics. Public engagement included rallies, pamphlet distribution and educational initiatives to encourage sustainable practices. Large-scale events involved school students, volunteers and local workers, with key stakeholders leading the drives. Extensive coordination and logistical planning ensured the success of the initiative, which resulted in significant plastic waste collection and reinforced environmental responsibility. Participants also pledged to support sustainability, highlighting the importance of collective action in environmental conservation.

Districts involved : Ariyalur, Chengalpattu, Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Dharmapuri, Kallakurichi, Kancheepuram, Kanniyakumari, Krishnagiri, Karur, Madurai, Mayiladuthurai, Nagapattinam, Namakkal, Perambalur, Pudukkottai, Salem, Theni, Tiruvarur, Thoothukudi, Tirunelveli, Tirupathur, Tiruppur, Tiruvannamalai, Vellore, Villupuram, Virudhunagar.

PLANTATION DRIVES ACROSS TAMIL NADU

A series of impactful plantation drives were conducted across Tamil Nadu carried out by the Green Fellows, bringing together various stakeholders to promote environmental sustainability and afforestation efforts.

In a significant initiative, NSS students from Lady Doak College, along with volunteers and NGO Ilam Makkal Iyakkam, led by founder Chozhan Kubendran, planted around 150 native tree species along a lake bund. The Green Fellow played a crucial role in coordinating the provision of saplings and educating participants on the GTM mission and geotagging techniques.

Additionally, the Indian Coast Guard Station, in collaboration with the District Administration, organised a large-scale tree plantation program at a fishing harbour. This initiative resulted in the planting of 5,000 saplings over an area of one acre, with active participation from 700 individuals, including government officials from the Forest, Fisheries, TNPCB and Revenue departments, as well as school students and fishermen. In addition, 1200 saplings relevant to the sand dune ecosystem were planted in the area of 2 hectare.

Further emphasising the importance of tree plantation, a drive was conducted across 40 children welfare homes, engaging 50 students who planted 450 saplings. This initiative aimed to instil a sense of environmental responsibility among young participants. In addition to the plantation activities, an awareness program was held for the girl children of Arumugam Children Welfare Home, focusing on education and empowerment.

Districts: Madurai, Mayiladuthurai, Nagapattinam, Ramanathapuram, Thoothukudi, Tirunelveli



From the fellows!



“ As I reflect on my journey of 15 months as a Chief Minister Green Fellow, I am struck by the unique and transformative nature of this experience. This fellowship has placed us in a space unlike any other—we are not government officials, nor are we private stakeholders. Instead, we exist in a dynamic buffer zone, where we get to witness and engage with the intricate workings of the government machinery. From the grassroots level, starting with petition letters and RTIs, to the macro level of mega projects, this fellowship has provided me with a rare opportunity to understand how policies are shaped, implemented, and refined. One of the most enriching aspects of this role has been the ease with which we interact with high-level district officials. These interactions have allowed us to serve as vocal observers, sharing our perspectives and insights, which in turn have contributed to meaningful interventions in existing policies. This fellowship has not only deepened my understanding of governance and sustainability but has also empowered me to be an active participant in driving change. It is a privilege to be part of a program that bridges the gap between ideas and action, and I am excited to continue contributing to this transformative journey.. ”

- Nattarkani M
Green Fellow, Krishnagiri

BHOGI AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

A comprehensive Bhogi Awareness Campaign was conducted to promote environmental consciousness and encourage smokeless Bhogi celebrations. The campaign, spearheaded by Green Fellows, involved multiple awareness activities across various institutions and public spaces.

Schools actively participated in the initiative, with students taking a pledge during morning prayers, followed by awareness talks delivered by teachers. Some schools extended their involvement by organising rallies and other activities to further spread the message of sustainable Bhogi celebrations.

As a part of the campaign, an awareness drive using a mobile message dissemination system was launched, reaching out to the public with informative materials. Officials, environmental advocates and the general public took part in this initiative. Awareness was created through the distribution of informative materials and audio messages were played to educate the public on the environmental impact of traditional Bhogi celebrations.

Under the Environment Education Programme, a rally was organised to emphasise the importance of smokeless Bhogi. Additionally, competitions were conducted for school students to engage them in creative ways and reinforce the message of environmental responsibility. Another awareness rally was held in collaboration with NSS students, further amplifying the campaign's reach and impact.

Through these efforts, the campaign successfully educated and encouraged communities to adopt eco-friendly practices during Bhogi, fostering a culture of sustainability and responsible celebrations.

Districts :Chengalpattu, Pudukkottai, Tiruvarur, Tiruppur.



Pudukkottai

WINTER NATURE CAMP

The Winter Nature Camp, carried out by Green Fellows, provided a valuable educational experience for government school students across multiple districts. Designed to enhance environmental awareness, the camp included various activities such as nature excursions, awareness sessions and interactive competitions.

In one of the camps, students visited historical and ecological sites, such as Gangaikonda Cholapuram Temple and a Ramsar-listed bird sanctuary. Experts educated students on climate change, biodiversity and conservation. Each participant received an eco-friendly camp kit and interactive activities like birdwatching, quizzes and competitions enriched the learning experience.

Another camp took students to Kolli Hills and Aagaya Gangai Waterfalls, where they engaged in supervised outdoor experiences. Officials and experts conducted awareness sessions on climate change and plastic pollution. Students participated in quizzes, with winners receiving prizes and all attendees were awarded with participation certificates.

A trekking camp led students through Gudiyam Caves, guided by foresters who explained the region's history, flora and ecological significance. Throughout the trek, students received necessary provisions, ensuring a safe and enjoyable experience. Feedback from participants was overwhelmingly positive, reinforcing the importance of hands-on environmental education.

In another session, students explored incubation centers, wildlife sanctuaries and natural landmarks. They took part in adaptation games, trekking and birdwatching, with experts leading discussions on wildlife conservation and environmental responsibility. The top-performing students were awarded and all participants received nature camp kits and certificates.

Districts: Ariyalur, Nagapattinam, Namakkal, Tiruvallur, Virudhunagar



Ariyalur



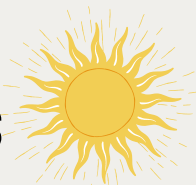
Namakkal



Virudhunagar



Tiruvallur



OTHER SIGNIFICANT INITIATIVES

Ariyalur: An awareness programme on wheels was launched at Anna Silai and flagged off by DFO & DEE. Manjappai was distributed and a street play was conducted to raise awareness.

Dharmapuri: The Meendum Manjappai Awareness Programme at Government Arts College for Women, Karimangalam was conducted comprising lectures by officials, an exhibition of traditional seeds and medicinal plants and an art function on plastic pollution. All the students received Manjappai bags and they formed the words "Meendum Manjappai" to promote sustainability.

Kancheepuram: A Nature Walk at Vichanthangal Horticulture Farm educated 120 students and 15 teachers on sustainable farming, tree planting and climate change. Experts demonstrated organic practices and students received saplings to encourage green habits.

The Millet Food Festival at Sekkizhar Boys Govt HSS showcased millet-based dishes. Students were awarded in three categories and a session on the nutritional benefits of millets was conducted. Participation certificates were issued.

A Community Campus Cleaning Drive engaged 180 students and 18 teachers in cleaning the Chief Educational Office. The event promoted cleanliness and environmental responsibility, instilling a sense of ownership among participants.

Kanniyakumari: A Seed Ball Preparation session at GHSS, Arumanai, engaged students in making seed balls after an interactive workshop and quizzes. The event encouraged environmental conservation efforts among students.

A Mini Marathon organised by Bairavi Foundation raised environmental awareness. Participants received caps and winners were awarded by officials, including the Inspector and school representatives.

A Poetry Competition by Bairavi Foundation had students create environment-themed poems. The Green Fellow highlighted the link between poetry and conservation. A rapid-fire quiz session was also conducted and winners were awarded.

A Nature Walk at GHSS, Vazhaithuvayal, led by NGC and Bairavi Foundation, included expert sessions, a Reserve Forest trek, and a quiz competition. Students actively engaged, making the programme a success.



From the fellows!



“

As a Villupuram District Green Fellow in a coastal region, I have had the invaluable opportunity to engage with diverse communities, from fishermen to farmers. The CM Green Fellowship Programme has allowed me to work closely with government agencies and policymakers to implement sustainable and eco-friendly initiatives.

Being an agriculture student, this fellowship provides a platform to apply my academic knowledge to practical challenges, such as climate-resilient farming, organic agriculture, water conservation, agroforestry, waste management, and biodiversity conservation. Through this programme, I have been able to develop leadership skills, connect with experts, and contribute to impactful projects that enhance farmer livelihoods, promote sustainable practices, and support environmental conservation.

This fellowship is a valuable opportunity to bridge the gap between scientific research and on-the-ground implementation, driving meaningful change in the agricultural sector.

”

-Pavithra R
Green Fellow, Villupuram

OTHER SIGNIFICANT INITIATIVES



Krishnagiri: The Tide Turners Plastic Challenge Induction Session was conducted for Eco and NGC Coordinators at Government Girls HSS, guiding them through all three challenge levels.

A Plastic Cleanup Drive was organised by TNPCB - Hosur and SBM-G at Devasamudram Lake and Chinna Eri, with rallies and waste collection conducted across the district.

Karur: A Sustainable Lifestyle Habitat Workshop for NGC teachers and students was conducted in Tiruvarur featured a Green Fellow as a resource person, discussing climate change, TN Government initiatives and sustainable practices.

The Message on Wheels program used cultural performances like Karagattam and Oyilattam to raise environmental awareness. It was inaugurated by the District Collector, with sessions at schools and public locations, distributing pamphlets and yellow bags.

World Wetlands Day was celebrated in three green schools, with an awareness session at GBHSS, Pugalur. Students learned about wetland categories, conservation, Ramsar sites and the TN Wetlands Mission.

Madurai: Wetland Day Competitions, themed "Protecting Wetlands for Our Common Future," were organised by the District Forest Office. Students participated in elocution, speech and drawing contests, receiving prizes, certificates and tree saplings.

A Plastic Waste Cleanup Rally was conducted on Tamizh Sangam Road with college students, organised by the Green Fellow, DEE and TNPCB. Public awareness efforts included pamphlet distribution and signature campaigns across town panchayats and municipalities.

Mayiladuthurai: A Capacity Building Workshop on "Climate Change Effect on Earth Temperature" was held at TBML College, Tharangambadi, with 140 participants. Experts discussed biodiversity conservation and lifestyle changes to combat climate change.

An Awareness Programme on Sea Turtle Conservation was conducted in Thiruchampalli by the Forest Department, featuring expert talks and cultural performances emphasizing turtle protection.



Karur



Mayiladuthurai

OTHER SIGNIFICANT INITIATIVES



Nagapattinam: A DCCM Training Programme on Wildlife Conservation was held at Point Calimere Wildlife Sanctuary for government officials and their families.

A Workshop on Energy-Efficient Buildings was conducted for 50 engineers by IIHS, Trichy, organised by PWD Buildings.

A Sustainable Lifestyle Awareness Rally from the PCB office to ITI Campus was held and concluded with pamphlet distribution in Nagore Market.

A Sea Turtle Awareness Sand Art Competition had participation from 20 teams across 8 colleges, organised by the Forest Department with Green Fellow coordination.

A Sustainable Lifestyle Program included a rally for 100 ITI students and an environmental drawing competition at ADM College for Women.

World Wetlands Day & Winter Nature Camp at Point Calimere Wildlife Sanctuary featured drawing and speech competitions, with 100 students from 8 schools participating.

A Climate Awareness Workshop on Climate Change, SWM and Marine Pollution was conducted for 150 municipal middle school students by Nagapattinam Municipality.

Perambalur: A District Pre-Fire Season Workshop on forest fire prevention was held with various departments, including a fire prevention demo and "Meendum Manjappai" distribution.

The "Message on Wheels" Environmental Education Program was launched by INDO Trust and inaugurated by the MLA, with a session on plastic pollution for students.

On Republic Day, 750 plant saplings and "Meendum Manjappai" bags were distributed to the public, government staff, NCC and students by the District Collector and DFO.

A Sustainable Lifestyle Workshop was held by NGC and the School Education Department, featuring discussions on water-based lifestyles and conservation.

Pudukkottai: World Wetlands Day on Feb 3rd included competitions and awareness programs for school and college students on wetland conservation.

Ranipet: An Environmental Awareness Competition, organised by the NGC Coordinator, included a talk on climate change and sustainability, followed by a competition with the distribution of prizes and certificates.



OTHER SIGNIFICANT INITIATIVES



Salem: A sensitization programme on the Tide Turners Plastic Challenge was held for 200 government school teachers at Cluny Matric HSS. Organized by District Eco-Coordinator, the event featured insights from the State Coordinator and the Green Fellow.

A Tide Turners Plastic Challenge awareness program was conducted at Padmavani Arts and Science College for 400 government school teachers. Green Fellow led the session by encouraging sustainable practices.

Wetland ground truthing training was conducted for Forest Range Officers, Village Administrative Officers and Revenue Inspectors of Omalur Taluk and Mettur Taluk, as per Collector's instructions.

Tenkasi: A vulture conservation awareness trek to Shenbagadevi was conducted, including a speech by the Green Fellow on climate change.

Theni: A nature film festival showcased a documentary on tiger conservation. The event, inaugurated by the District Collector, included a quiz competition for students, with winners receiving books.

The "Project Nilgiri Tahr - Message on Wheels" campaign was flagged off at Govt. HSS, Allibagam. The event featured a drama on Nilgiri Tahr conservation, coordinated by the Green Fellow.

An environmental education programme was organised with competitions by the School Education Department and District NGC Coordinator. The Green Fellow addressed the audience on SUP and its harmful impacts.

Tiruvarur: A capacity-building workshop on EPR & CSR was held at Collectorate GDP Hall, featuring an online session by Dr. Vidhya Lakshmi. Cloth bags were distributed by ONGC.

Thoothukudi: A single-use plastic awareness programme at Govt. HSS, Uthupatti, engaged 300 students in pledges, exhibitions and seed ball preparation.

A sea turtle conservation workshop was conducted at CMFRI for 120 fishermen, featuring expert sessions and a Marine Animal Museum visit.



OTHER SIGNIFICANT INITIATIVES



Tiruchirapalli: Wetland Day was celebrated with a cleanup drive at Guntur Lake , involving volunteers, Forest Dept and Voice Trust. The event was broadcast on All India Radio.

Tirunelveli: A DCCM capacity-building workshop on water resource management was held at Thiruvalluvar College, Pabanasam, featuring technical sessions on river conservation.

A DCCM workshop on forest & biodiversity was conducted at Dohnavur Fellowship, covering topics like climate change, endangered species and wetlands.

Tirupathur: An awareness programme on forests and climate change was conducted in Alangayam Range for MGNREGA workers.

Hands-on training in nursery development for MGNREGA workers was held in Vaniyambadi Range. A waste management workshop was conducted at Ambur Range, emphasising Manjappai use and plastic reduction.

Tiruvallur:

A Green School session covered climate change impacts, food production, millet benefits, and a success story on preserving native seeds, with interactive activities.

3R's for Ecological Balance, A poster competition and awareness session engaged 50 students on waste reduction. Bisleri Ltd. demonstrated plastic upcycling techniques.

Tiruvannamalai: A "Meendum Manjappai" awareness programme was held at the Collectorate, encouraging sustainable practices.

Vellore: An awareness programme on SUPs was held at Trinity School, Katpadi, including plant and Manjappai distribution.



Tiruchirapalli



OTHER SIGNIFICANT INITIATIVES



Villupuram: A climate literacy programme for Child Care Institutions featured documentary screenings and discussions with students.

A workshop on empowering organic farmers covered farm-stay management and sustainability, with a farm tour at Vaksana Farms.

A mobile awareness program on Manjappai, SUP ban, and tree plantation was inaugurated by the Chief Education Officer.

Virudhunagar: A solar energy workshop was held at AAA Engineering College, featuring expert talks and a rooftop solar plant visit.

A regional climate resilience agricultural fair was held at KVK, Aruppukottai, with 3,000 farmers participating in exhibitions and seminars.

A DCCM training programme on AI tools for climate sustainability was conducted at AAA Engineering College, Sivakasi, for 150 participants.

International Squirrel Appreciation Day was celebrated with workshops, nature trails and expert sessions for 50 students in Srivilliputhur.



Villupuram

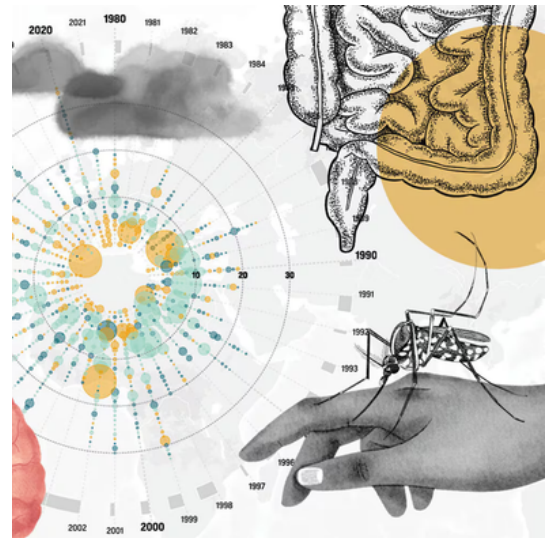


- World Wetlands Day - February 2
- World Ostrich Day - February 2
- World Whale Day - Third Sunday of February
- World Lizard Day - February 8
- World Hippopotamus Day - February 15
- International Polar Bear Day - February 27



INTERESTING FACTS

Meeting the goals of the Paris Agreement could save about a million lives a year worldwide by 2050 through reductions in air pollution alone. Avoiding the worst climate impacts could help prevent 250,000 additional climate-related deaths per year from 2030 to 2050, mainly from malnutrition, malaria, diarrhoea and heat stress. The value of health gains from reducing carbon emissions would be approximately double the global cost of implementing carbon mitigation measures. Source: UN



CLIMATE TERMINOLOGIES

- »» **Secondary Forest:** A degraded forest is a secondary forest that has lost through human activities, the structure, function, species composition or productivity normally associated with a natural forest type expected on that site.
- »» **Silviculture:** Development and care of forests or the art of producing and tending a forest by manipulating its establishment, composition and growth to best fulfill the objectives of the owner is known as silviculture. Silviculture is the science, art and practice of caring for forests with respect to human objectives.

Only 0.5 percent of water on Earth is useable and available freshwater. Climate change is dangerously affecting that supply. Over the past twenty years, terrestrial water storage – including soil moisture, snow and ice – has dropped at a rate of 1 cm per year, with major ramifications for water security.

Source :UN

DO YOU KNOW?



Team
EDITORIAL

G Glory
PROGRAMME LEAD

ADVISOR

S Kamali
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Prof. R . Saravanan
COORDINATOR - CMGFP

K Vijaya Charumathi
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

M Anusuya
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

V Chelsea Sindhu Priya
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Comments / Feedbacks : cmgfp@annauniv.edu

Monthly
NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2025

TNCGFP / VOL 18 / 2025



TN Climate Summit 3.0



The Tamil Nadu Climate Summit 3.0 served as a crucial platform for discussions on climate resilience and sustainability, bringing together policy makers, scientists, industry experts and community representatives. Over two days, participants explored various aspects of climate change mitigation and adaptation, emphasizing Tamil Nadu's commitment towards achieving carbon neutrality before the national target of 2070. Key topics included energy transition, climate-resilient agriculture, sustainable urban transport, circular economy models and nature-based solutions. The summit facilitated knowledge-sharing and policy innovation, with experts highlighting the need for clean energy adoption, enhanced climate governance, and community-driven initiatives. Special focus was placed on climate literacy, with initiatives to integrate environmental education into schools and train government officials in climate adaptation strategies. The Green Schools Program, supporting 197 schools with green infrastructure funding, stood out as a significant initiative to instill environmental consciousness among students. Among the key announcements were the launch of several documents, including the Action plan for decarbonization of Rajapalayam and voluntary green rating system for industries. Additionally, Tamil Nadu's pioneering efforts in wetland conservation were recognized, with the release of a compendium on prioritized wetlands and an ecosystem health card for 65 wetlands.



The summit also highlighted community engagement initiatives, such as the Online Waste Exchange Bureau, which promotes circular economy practices, and the Tamil Nadu Fish Net Initiative, aimed at addressing marine pollution. **Compendium of Best Practices in Environment, Climate Change and Sustainability** curated by the Chief Minister's Green Fellowship Programme was released during the Summit. Panel discussions covered topics such as disaster preparedness, climate finance, biodiversity conservation and low-carbon industrial pathways. Experts stressed the importance of public-private partnerships in financing and implementing climate-friendly policies. Chief Minister's Green Fellows participated and coordinated the summit. The summit reinforced Tamil Nadu's leadership in climate governance, setting a model for other states in India with its proactive and integrated approach to sustainability.

MASSIVE PLASTIC COLLECTION DRIVE ACROSS TAMIL NADU

A large-scale Plastic Awareness and Collection Drive was conducted across all districts in Tamil Nadu, including educational institutions and religious sites, emphasizing the Meendum Manjappai Scheme. The event was coordinated by Green Fellows in collaboration with the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, with active participation from volunteers, students, government officials and the public in cleanup efforts and awareness campaigns.

- College students, sanitary workers and MGNREGA workers played a major role in waste collection.
- Awareness initiatives included a pledge, rallies, street plays, wall paintings and public education on the impact of plastic pollution.
- The Meendum Manjappai campaign was promoted through a human chain formation, symbolizing the shift towards eco-friendly alternatives.
- Cloth bags were distributed to the public, encouraging the reduction of single-use plastics.

Led by the District Collector and key government officials, Chief Minister's Green Fellows coordinated the event which witnessed participation from the public, students, and local body representatives. The Green Pledge reinforced the commitment to sustainability, marking this drive as a significant step in combating plastic pollution. With the support of TNPCB and local bodies, this initiative successfully raised awareness and promoted sustainable waste management practices, driving collective action toward a cleaner, greener future.



Tirupathur



Sivagangai



“ The Chief Minister's Green Fellowship is a new age experience to me both personally and professionally giving greater exposure by working with diverse group of people and personalities right from the grassroot level to the apex authority which improved my understanding on the governance perspective. One of the most valuable aspects of this fellowship is the mentorship, where I have the privilege of working closely under the District Collector which I felt invaluable in shaping my approach and idea towards a work. Another highlight of this fellowship was the cohort of fellows who shared their thoughts and experiences which helped me to perform better at the district level. From entering the fellowship with a set of skills and ambitions and now going to leave with a broader perspective and a clear trajectory, new competencies and network of people, I'm truly grateful for the opportunity that has been provided by the Department of Environment and Climate change, GoTN.

- Karthikeyan M
Green Fellow, Erode



From the fellows!

WORLD WETLANDS DAY CELEBRATION

World Wetlands Day was celebrated across various schools and institutions, raising awareness about the importance of wetlands, biodiversity, and ecosystem services. Students participated in educational sessions, bird watching and photography activities, while also discussing conservation ideas using social media.

Green Fellows conducted awareness talks at schools, covering topics like wetland categories, Ramsar sites, biodiversity, conservation and Tamil Nadu's wetlands mission. Various competitions such as drawing, essay writing and quizzes were organized across schools and colleges, fostering student engagement and creativity. A prize distribution function was held at the Collector's office, followed by a photography exhibition open to the public and government staff.

Additionally, a workshop was conducted to enhance coordination among line departments, local bodies, and NGOs for wetland conservation. The event concluded with a field visit, where students observed diverse bird species, reinforcing the significance of wetlands in sustaining biodiversity.

This initiative successfully promoted wetland conservation and environmental awareness, inspiring students and stakeholders to protect these vital ecosystems.

Districts : Coimbatore, Dharmapuri, Karur, Mayiladuthurai, Namakkal, Perambalur, Pudukkottai, Theni, Tiruchirapalli



Tiruchirapalli



Theni



Coimbatore



WINTER NATURE CAMP

The Winter Nature Camp, carried out by Green Fellows, provided a valuable educational experience for government school students across multiple districts. Designed to enhance environmental awareness, the camp included various activities such as nature excursions, awareness sessions and interactive competitions.

The Winter Nature Camp was organised to provide school students with hands-on learning experiences in biodiversity conservation, climate change and wildlife protection. Participants engaged in birdwatching, nature walks, interactive sessions and field visits, fostering a deeper connection with nature.

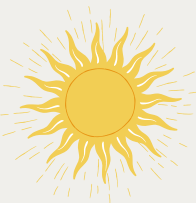
Experts and Green Fellows led sessions on migratory birds, wetland ecosystems, human-wildlife interactions and conservation strategies. Students explored protected areas, eco-tourism centers and biodiversity hotspots, gaining insights into sustainable practices and environmental stewardship.

Various educational activities such as quizzes, painting and awareness discussions encouraged students to express their learning creatively. Prizes, certificates and participation kits were distributed to recognize their enthusiasm.

The camp successfully enhanced awareness about ecological preservation and inspired young minds to take active roles in protecting the environment.

Districts: Chengalpattu, Coimbatore, Dharmapuri, Erode, Kancheepuram, Krishnagiri, Karur, Perambalur, Pudukkottai, Salem, Tiruchirapalli, Tirunelveli, Tirupathur, The Nilgiris.





OTHER SIGNIFICANT INITIATIVES

Chengalpattu - Awareness camp was conducted for fishermen on the protection of marine animals that are protected under Schedule I & II and Olive Ridley Turtle conservation.

Coimbatore – As part of the Green School Climate Literacy activities, students learned about waste management and plastic waste types. Recycled products were showcased and a representative from Bisleri CSR briefed on recycling and plastic pollution.

Eco-Friendly Crafts Workshop: Students from various schools, along with NGC coordinators, participated in a workshop on creating art from waste and eco-friendly materials. The Green Fellow emphasized sustainable living and climate action. Meendum Manjappai awareness was rendered and manjappais were distributed by AEE TNPCB.

Cuddalore – A turtle walk from Silver Beach to Akkarai Gori was conducted on 28.02.25 under the District Climate Change Mission, followed by a workshop on coastal biodiversity conservation. A total of 359 turtle eggs were collected from three nests.

Dharmapuri – A three-day nature camp was conducted for 50 NGC students, focusing on environmental conservation, biodiversity, and sustainability. The camp featured interactive sessions, field visits, hands-on activities, and expert talks to inspire proactive environmental stewardship.

Erode – Green School Scheme Awareness program: An "Art from Waste" program was organised and drawing session, where students created environment-themed artwork and quotes, promoting sustainability and creativity.

Additionally awareness sessions in phase 1 and phase 2a schools was conducted by coordinating with school HMs for a visit to Vellore Bird Sanctuary to enhance understanding of environment, climate change and biodiversity.

Kancheepuram – Palar River Bed Cleanup: A cleanup drive was organized by Vidhaigal NGO and Lions Club Walajabad in collaboration with the Environment and Climate Change Department and the School Education Department. Students, teachers and volunteers participated, collecting over 500kg of plastic waste. Meendum Manjappai awareness was spread through an awareness song.

Environmental Awareness – Eco clubs organized sessions on Pangolin Day, Hippopotamus Day, and a Paper Bag Making Workshop. Students learned about the ecological significance and conservation challenges of these species through interactive discussions and IEC materials. The workshop promoted sustainable alternatives to plastic, engaging students in hands-on paper bag making to encourage eco-friendly practices.

Kanniyakumari - A webinar was conducted on ecosystem components, interactions, threats, restoration, and technology in ecosystem studies. The Green Fellow led the session, engaging students in interactive discussions, making it a successful awareness initiative.

From the fellows!



“

Being a Green Fellow for three months, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the incredible opportunity and support I've received through the Green Fellowship Program. I feel incredibly grateful to be part of a community dedicated to driving positive environmental change.

This fellowship has provided me with invaluable resources, mentorship and hands-on experience at the field level, helping me grow both personally and professionally. I'm deeply thankful for the trust placed in me and for the opportunity to contribute to meaningful environmental solutions.

I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to all the program organizers, mentors and fellows who have shared their wisdom, ideas, and encouragement. Your support has inspired me to push my limits and continues to motivate me in my pursuit of a sustainable future.

A special thanks to the Green Fellowship Program team for providing me with this incredible opportunity.

- Bharath. S
Green Fellow, Tirupathur

”

OTHER SIGNIFICANT INITIATIVES



Karur - Sustainable Lifestyle Workshop – A one-day eco-friendly craft workshop was conducted for NGC teachers and students, focusing on sustainable living, plastic awareness, and eco-friendly crafts using natural materials. Awareness sessions on climate action and NGC programs were held, with cloth bags distributed to participants.

Awareness Talk at NSS Camp – An awareness session on eco-friendly living and reducing carbon footprint was conducted under the Mission Life program. Students engaged in a task-oriented activity, creating songs on sustainability themes like biodiversity, plastic, climate change and energy conservation.

Madurai - Plastic Waste Cleanup Awareness – In collaboration with Madurai Corporation SBM Coordinator, a plastic waste awareness session was conducted for school students at CSI School, Pasumalai.

Nagapattinam - Green Exhibition for Sustainable Lifestyle – A Sustainable Lifestyle Green Exhibition was organized by the District NGC Coordinator, with 300 students from 50 schools showcasing exhibits on renewable energy, healthy living, plastic alternatives and sustainability. The Green Fellow served as one of the judges.

Namakkal - National Pollution Control Awareness and Cloth Bag Rally – Coordinated with Gnanamani College of Technology for a 4 km awareness rally with 120 students in Rasipuram. Medical kits and police protection were arranged. Manjappai were also distributed to the public.

Pudukkottai - Coastal Ecosystem Management and Biodiversity Conservation – A workshop was conducted for Naina Mohamed College and school students in Aranthangi. Biodiversity conservation books were distributed and students actively participated. Each student received a sapling. An Environment and Climate Change Awareness Training program was conducted for all Eco Club teacher coordinators on climate awareness, solid waste management and plastic pollution alternatives.



Cuddalore



Nagapattinam



OTHER SIGNIFICANT INITIATIVES



Nagapattinam: DCCM Training Programme on Wildlife Conservation was held at Point Calimere Wildlife Sanctuary for government officials and their families.

Workshop on Energy-Efficient Buildings was conducted for 50 engineers by IIHS, Trichy, organised by PWD Buildings.

Sustainable Lifestyle Awareness Rally from the PCB office to ITI Campus was held and concluded with pamphlet distribution in Nagore Market.

Sea Turtle Awareness Sand Art Competition had participation from 20 teams across 8 colleges, organised by the Forest Department with Green Fellow coordination.

Sustainable Lifestyle Program included a rally for 100 ITI students and an environmental drawing competition at ADM College for Women.

World Wetlands Day & Winter Nature Camp at Point Calimere Wildlife Sanctuary featured drawing and speech competitions, with 100 students from 8 schools participating.

Climate Awareness Workshop on Climate Change, SWM and Marine Pollution was conducted for 150 municipal middle school students by Nagapattinam Municipality.

Perambalur: District Pre-Fire Season Workshop on forest fire prevention was held with various departments, including a fire prevention demo and Manjappai distribution.

The "Message on Wheels" Environmental Education Program was launched by INDO Trust and inaugurated by the MLA, with a session on plastic pollution for students.

On Republic Day, 750 plant saplings and "Meendum Manjappai" bags were distributed to the public, government staff, NCC and students by the District Collector and DFO.

A Sustainable Lifestyle Workshop was held by NGC and the School Education Department, featuring discussions on water-based lifestyles and conservation.

Ranipet: An Environmental Awareness Competition, organised by the NGC Coordinator, included a talk on climate change and sustainability, followed by a competition with the distribution of prizes and certificates.



OTHER SIGNIFICANT INITIATIVES



Salem: A sensitization programme on the Tide Turners Plastic Challenge was held for 200 Government school teachers at Cluny Matric HSS. Organized by District Eco-Coordinator, the event featured insights from the State Coordinator and the Green Fellow.

A Tide Turners Plastic Challenge awareness program was conducted at Padmavani Arts and Science College for 400 Government school teachers. Green Fellow led the session by encouraging sustainable practices.

Wetland ground truthing training was conducted for Forest Range Officers, Village Administrative Officers and Revenue Inspectors of Omalur Taluk and Mettur Taluk, as per Collector's instructions.

Tenkasi: A vulture conservation awareness trek to Shenbagadevi was conducted, including a speech by the Green Fellow on climate change.

Theni: A nature film festival showcased a documentary on tiger conservation. The event, inaugurated by the District Collector, included a quiz competition for students, with winners receiving books. The "Project Nilgiri Tahr - Message on Wheels" campaign was flagged off at Govt. HSS, Allibagaram. The event featured a theatrical play on Nilgiri Tahr conservation, coordinated by the Green Fellow. An environmental education programme was organised with competitions by the School Education Department and District NGC Coordinator. The Green Fellow addressed the audience on SUP and its harmful impacts.

Tiruvarur: A capacity-building workshop on EPR & CSR was held at Collectorate GDP Hall, featuring an online session by Dr. Vidhya Lakshmi. Cloth bags were distributed by ONGC.

Thoothukudi: A single-use plastic awareness programme at Govt. HSS, Uthupatti, engaged 300 students in pledges, exhibitions and seed ball preparation. A sea turtle conservation workshop was conducted at CMFRI for 120 fishermen, featuring expert sessions and a Marine Animal Museum visit.



OTHER SIGNIFICANT INITIATIVES



Tirunelveli: DCCM capacity-building workshop on water resource management was held at Thiruvalluvar College, Papanasam, featuring technical sessions on river conservation.

A DCCM workshop on forest & biodiversity was conducted at Dohnavur Fellowship, covering topics like climate change, endangered species and wetlands.

Tirupathur: An awareness programme on forests and climate change was conducted in Alangayam Range for MGNREGA workers.

Hands-on training in nursery development for MGNREGA workers was held in Vaniyambadi Range.

A waste management workshop was conducted at Ambur Range, emphasising Manjappai use and plastic reduction.

Tiruvallur: Green School session covered climate change impacts, food production, millet benefits, and a success story on preserving native seeds, with interactive activities.

3R's for Ecological Balance, A poster competition and awareness session engaged 50 students on waste reduction. Bisleri Ltd. demonstrated plastic upcycling techniques.

Tiruvannamalai: "Meendum Manjappai" awareness programme was held at the Collectorate, encouraging sustainable practices.

Vellore: Awareness programme on SUPs was held at Trinity School, Katpadi, including plant and Manjappai distribution.



OTHER SIGNIFICANT INITIATIVES



**GREEN
FELLOWSHIP
FABLES**

Villupuram: A climate literacy programme for Child Care Institutions featured documentary screenings and discussions with students. A workshop on empowering organic farmers covered farm-stay management and sustainability, with a farm tour at Vaksana Farms. A mobile awareness program on Manjappai, SUP ban, and tree plantation was inaugurated by the Chief Education Officer.

Virudhunagar: A solar energy workshop was held at AAA Engineering College, featuring expert talks and a rooftop solar plant visit. A regional climate resilience agricultural fair was held at KVK, Aruppukottai, with 3,000 farmers participating in exhibitions and seminars. A DCCM training programme on AI tools for climate sustainability was conducted at AAA Engineering College, Sivakasi, for 150 participants. International Squirrel Appreciation Day was celebrated with workshops, nature trails and expert sessions for 50 students in Srivilliputhur.

FELICITATION OF GREEN FELLOWS

On the eve of Republic Day, the District Administration felicitates the employees who have been making significant contributions in the district. In the recent Republic Day celebrations, the Green Fellows of Chengalpattu- Varruneshwaran G K, Karur- Gopal N, Tiruvannamalai - Saranya Kumari R, Theni - Priyanka B, and Thoothukudi - Ashok Balaji N received a Certificate of Appreciation from the District Collector for their contributions in their respective districts.



Chengalpattu



Thiruvannamalai



Karur



Theni



Thoothukudi



Gnana Sri Bhavani G, Tenkasi District Green Fellow participated in the Regional Youth Parliament on Climate Action (RYPCA) 2025, engaging in policy discussions and climate adaptation planning. Representing India among 14 selected members, they contributed to thematic sessions on climate finance, policymaking, renewable energy and disaster risk reduction. Their advocacy focused on youth and women representation in India's climate policies and the need for solar panel recycling guidelines.

GREEN DAYS OF MARCH 2025!

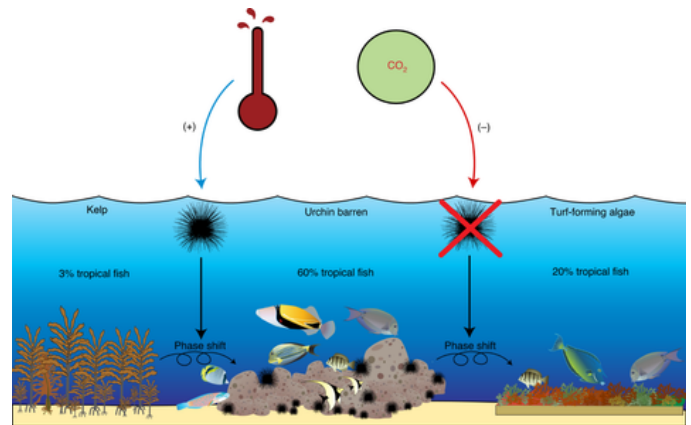
World Wildlife Day - March 3
 International Day of Action for Rivers - March 14
 Global Recycling Day - March 18
 World Sparrow Day - March 20
 World Frog Day - March 20
 International Day of Forests - March 21
 World Planting Day - March 21
 World Wood Day - March 21
 World Water Day - March 22
 International Seal Day - March 22
 World Meteorological Day - March 23
 International Day of Zero Waste - March 30



**GREEN
FELLOWSHIP
FABLES**

INTERESTING FACTS

Ocean Acidification: Beyond climate change, increased carbon dioxide emissions are causing ocean acidification. This process lowers the pH of seawater, adversely affecting marine life, particularly organisms like corals and shellfish that rely on calcium carbonate to form their shells and skeletons. *Source: listverse.com*



CLIMATE TERMINOLOGIES

- »» **Stimuli:** All the elements of climate change including mean climate characteristics, climate variability and the frequency and magnitude of extremes is known as stimuli.
- »» **Transhumance:** Seasonal movement of people with their livestock over relatively short distances, typically to higher pastures in summer and to lower valleys in winter is known as transhumance

Microplastics and 'Forever Chemicals' in Rainwater: While acid rain has been largely mitigated since the 1990s, modern rainwater now contains pollutants like microplastics and per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), known as "forever chemicals." These substances persist in the environment and contaminate rainwater globally, including remote areas, posing significant health risks.

Source: vox.com

DO YOU KNOW?



Team
EDITORIAL

ADVISOR

Prof. R. Saravanan
COORDINATOR - CMGFP

G Glory
PROGRAMME LEAD

S Kamali
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

K Vijaya Charumathi
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

M Anusuya
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

V Chelsea Sindhu Priya
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Comments / Feedbacks : cmgfp@annauniv.edu

Massive Plastic Collection Drive



A district-wide Massive Plastic Collection Drive was successfully conducted, engaging sanitary workers, student volunteers, local body representatives, NGOs and government officials. The initiative focused on large-scale plastic waste clean-up across municipalities, town and village panchayats, covering public spaces such as bus stands, parks, markets, temples and water bodies. The campaign also integrated extensive awareness activities, including environmental exhibitions, plastic eradication rallies, drawing and essay competitions and street-level outreach using electric vehicles and audio messages on plastic pollution.

As part of the drive, 'Meendum Manjappai' cloth bags were distributed to vendors and the public to encourage the shift away from single-use plastics. Participants were also registered on the Meendum Manjappai mobile application to monitor engagement and progress. Waste collected during the drive included several tons of dry and wet waste, which was channelled for proper segregation and disposal.

Coordinated by the Green Fellow in collaboration with the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB), local administrative units and Urban Local Bodies (ULBs), the drive was meticulously planned through preparatory meetings, briefings and timely communication with stakeholders. The event was supported by District and Municipal Authorities, with officials including the District Environmental Engineer, Assistant Engineers and Sanitary Inspectors leading local campaigns. The initiative not only enhanced public understanding of plastic pollution but also reinforced collective responsibility in sustaining cleaner, greener communities.

WINTER NATURE CAMP

A series of Winter Nature Camps were successfully organised across the state, aiming to foster environmental awareness among school students and encourage interest in biodiversity, sustainable practices and conservation efforts. These camps, conducted under the National Green Corps and with the support of Forest and School Education Departments, offered students immersive learning experiences in diverse ecological settings.

Students engaged in a range of activities, including guided treks, nature walks, beach explorations, boating in lagoons and visits to biodiversity-rich areas such as mangrove forests, bird sanctuaries, zoological parks, and reserve forests. Expert-led sessions covered topics like herpetology, butterfly and floral species identification, reptile and marine conservation, mangrove ecosystems, forest ecology, climate change and sustainable mining practices. These were complemented by demonstrations, hands-on learning with tools like binoculars, and visits to historical and ecological landmarks.

Interactive environmental sessions, beach clean-ups, shell collection, quizzes and feedback circles helped deepen students' understanding of ecosystem dynamics and human impact on nature. In addition, activity booklets, eco-kits with items like seed pens, reusable bags, caps, and stainless steel bottles, were distributed to promote sustainable habits.

Forest officials, district authorities and Green Fellows played a key role in coordinating these camps, ensuring logistical support, and designing tailored educational materials. The initiative provided a platform for students and teachers to appreciate the importance of conservation, understand the balance between development and ecology and commit to environmentally responsible behaviour. Certificates, prizes and saplings were distributed to all participants as a token of encouragement.

Districts : Cuddalore, Dindigul, Kancheepuram, Madurai, Mayiladuthurai, Ranipet, Sivagangai, Theni, Tiruvarur and Tiruvannamalai



From the fellows!



“ I'm truly excited to contribute to sustainable and eco-friendly initiatives at the grassroots level. With a background in agriculture and doctorate in Agricultural Entomology, I now have the opportunity to apply my academic knowledge to practical challenges, such as climate-resilient farming, organic agriculture, water conservation, agroforestry, waste management and biodiversity conservation. It's inspiring to be part of a mission that aligns with my passion for environmental protection. I'm especially eager to collaborate with higher officials, as I believe this exposure will broaden my perspective and enhance my practical knowledge in governance and policy-making. I feel proud and privileged to be part of a program that promotes green innovation and community engagement.

”
-SAAI VIGNESH B.
GREEN FELLOW, KRISHNAGIRI

WORLD FOREST DAY

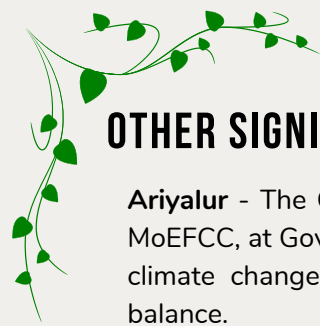
International Day of Forests was commemorated across districts with a variety of educational and participatory activities involving school and college students. Awareness painting competitions were organised to creatively engage students on forest conservation themes. Tree planting drives were conducted in schools with the active involvement of forest officials, teachers and students, highlighting the importance of native species and community involvement. In certain districts, eco-awareness rallies were held in nearby villages to sensitise the public about the role of forests in climate regulation and biodiversity preservation. Interactive sessions were conducted by forest personnel and Green Fellows on topics such as the significance of bioshields, climate change mitigation and the ecological value of forest ecosystems. Special lectures and demonstrations on nursery development, Miyawaki forest techniques and seed sowing methods were also held. Fruit-bearing saplings and eco-kits were distributed to students to encourage long-term stewardship. These celebrations not only emphasised forest protection but also instilled a sense of responsibility and environmental leadership among the youth.

Districts : Chengalpattu, Pudukkottai, Ramanathapuram, Salem, Thoothukudi, Virudhunagar



id: 10.374191
tude: 78.820019
tion: 98.77±2 m





OTHER SIGNIFICANT INITIATIVES

Ariyalur - The Green Fellow judged a district-level environmental awareness exhibition, organized by MoEFCC, at Government Model School, Asthinapuram. An awareness speech was delivered on ecology, climate change, pollution, industrial emissions and their impact on climate change and ecological balance.

Chengalpattu - World Sparrow Day was conducted with painting competitions in schools to raise awareness about sparrow conservation and the importance of protecting urban biodiversity. World Water Day was observed through painting competitions in schools to promote awareness on water conservation and its vital role in sustaining life.

Chennai- A workshop on "Climate Change and its Impact on Human Health" was conducted for NGOs by DMRHS, focusing on the effects of climate change on public health and the necessary steps to mitigate its impacts.

Coimbatore – A national symposium on Western Ghats biodiversity conservation was conducted at Kongunadu College in association with ZSI. The event featured exhibitions by eco-entrepreneurs, NGOs, students and research institutions. Sessions were led by experts from BSI, ZSI, and SACON and students presented research on biodiversity. The Green Fellow highlighted the importance of the Western Ghats and encouraged student engagement in related projects. Saplings were distributed to exhibitors and volunteers.

The Green Ideas and Awareness Creation Programme under the Green Schools – Climate Literacy initiative engaged students from classes 6 to 8. They were introduced to sustainable practices and alternatives through interactive discussions led by the Green Fellow, Technical Assistant and a Bisleri resource person.

An eco-friendly crafts workshop was held at PSGR Krishnammal HSS, where students learned sustainable craft-making and alternatives to plastic, while the Green Fellow led a discussion on sustainable lifestyles and identifying daily practices that contribute to carbon footprint. Manjappais and certificates were distributed.

As part of the Green School Programme, students at Corporation Higher Secondary School, Ramalingam Colony and Ramanathapuram, participated in a discussion and chart activity to identify local environmental problems and explore possible solutions.

An exhibition on “Art from waste” was held on World Recycling Day, featuring students from 14 schools. The event showcased creative projects made from plastic waste and discarded materials. The CEO of corporation schools and ACFs attended, with winning teams receiving science kits and certificates.

Another similar exhibition was held with students from 44 schools, showcasing their team projects. Students gave speeches on the role of citizens in environmental protection. The Green Fellow discussed government initiatives to mitigate climate change and the significance of Recycle Day. Prizes and certificates were awarded to the participants.

The Green Fellow gave a lecture on disaster risk management, covering risk assessment, emergency planning, and youth's role in resilience. Students discussed recent man-made disasters in the district.





OTHER SIGNIFICANT INITIATIVES



Cuddalore –The Green Fellow coordinated a session at the TNCCM workshop on climate action, covering topics like carbon neutrality and carbon footprints. The event included a field visit to the Sothikuppam Casuarina forest, Turtle hatchery and Dolphin Viewpoint.

Dharmapuri - The Green Fellow participated in the National Level Workshop on Tamil Nadu Wetlands Restoration, held on 28th March 2025 at Periyar University, Dharmapuri. The session focused on the role of wetlands in climate change mitigation, carbon sequestration and biodiversity conservation. A demonstration at Ramakkal Lake highlighted key wetland parameters like water quality and biodiversity, emphasizing scientific restoration approaches.

An Environmental Exhibition was held, featuring stalls on topics like waste recycling, water conservation, and alternatives to single-use plastics. Students presented their exhibits and three schools were awarded prizes for outstanding contributions. The event concluded with a session on climate change awareness.

"Iam Perum Vizha" was organised at Government Primary School, Gundalahalli, to mark five key environmental observances. The event featured drawing, speech and poetry competitions focused on environmental protection, with prizes for the winners. Awareness sessions and interactive activities were held, alongside promoting the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme to highlight the importance of educating and empowering girls.

Dindigul- The Green Fellow judged a district-level exhibition on "Alternatives for Single-Use Plastics & Waste-to-Wealth," with 24 schools and 110 students. The event raised awareness about plastic pollution and sustainable waste management. Students presented eco-friendly alternatives and upcycling ideas, evaluated on creativity, feasibility and impact. The Green Fellow also delivered a speech on reducing plastic usage and promoting sustainable habits, encouraging students to take action for environmental conservation.

A workshop on "Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Measures" was conducted at the Forest Extension Office, Dindigul, with around 60 participants from industries and local bodies. The session covered environmental laws, regulations, and individual environmental responsibility. Meendum Manjappai bags were distributed to participants and speeches were delivered by experts on environmental issues.

Erode- A training program on Climate Resilient Agriculture and Natural/Organic Farming was conducted, focusing on climate-resilient agricultural practices and government schemes. The session included discussions led by a 4-member team from TNAU, highlighting effective farming methods and resource utilization.

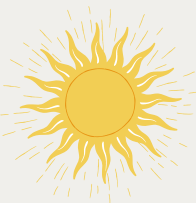
A capacity-building session on building resilience was conducted for eco-club teachers and students, focusing on sustainable practices and strategies for enhancing climate literacy. The session was led by a 3-member team from CAG & WRI, aiming to improve overall resilience through effective climate education.



Erode



OTHER SIGNIFICANT INITIATIVES



Kancheepuram - World Wildlife Day was celebrated at Panchayat Union Middle School, Neervallur, with students in animal costumes sharing habitat information. The event included a discussion on wildlife conservation, competitions and eco-friendly prizes like seed pencils were distributed. The day concluded with a pledge to protect wildlife.

The Green School Awareness Programme on International Day of River Action was conducted at Kaliyampoondi GGHSS, Uthiramerur, with 57 students and 5 teachers. The Green Fellow discussed the importance of rivers and sustainable water management. The event concluded with certificate distribution.

The Green School Programme Phase 1 was conducted at Thiruputkuzhi School on World Forest Day, engaging 100 participants, including students, teachers and coordinators. The event focused on environmental conservation, sustainable practices, and tree plantation. Discussions were held on the importance of forests, with active student participation. The programme concluded with certificate distribution to all participants.

Events for World Sparrow Day, World Forest Day and World Water Day engaged 300 students from 15+ schools through rallies, drawing, fancy dress, storytelling and rangoli. These activities raised awareness on biodiversity, forest conservation and water management.

The Nature Camp at Mamallapuram involved 50 students and 5 teachers. Activities included exploring coastal ecosystems, visiting the Crocodile Park, Tiger Caves and historical sites and a final session on climate change and sustainability led by the Green Fellow.

The Eco Library at Thiruputkuzhi Green School was inaugurated as part of the Under-10 Awareness Programme. The mini-library, featuring books on environmental topics, was launched with 40 books distributed to students, along with eco-friendly jute bags and certificates. The event aimed to foster a reading habit focused on sustainability.



From the fellows!



“

As a Green Fellow, I have had the unique opportunity to work at the intersection of sustainability, innovation, and community engagement. This role has not only deepened my understanding of environmental challenges but also empowered me to take meaningful action toward climate resilience and sustainable development. One of the core aspects of my fellowship has been identifying and implementing sustainable practices within the institution. I've also collaborated with teams to promote waste reduction, enhance recycling programs, and encourage eco-conscious behaviors through awareness campaigns and workshops. This journey has not only strengthened my leadership and project management skills but has also affirmed my passion for environmental advocacy. In the end, being a Green Fellow is not just a title—it's a commitment to making sustainability not just a goal, but a way of life. I am truly thankful for the opportunity that has been provided by the Department of Environment and Climate Change.

”

- Sree Sruthy
Green Fellow, Namakkal



OTHER SIGNIFICANT INITIATIVES

Kanniyakumari - A Capacity Building Workshop was held at the Shola Awareness Centre in Kalikesam Eco Camp with 60 forest staff, including Foresters, Guards, and Anti-Poaching Watchers. The session focused on climate action and practical solutions for everyday life. Participants received kits with notepads, pens, and caps, followed by interactive discussions.

A training programme at Adhiran Agro Farmz focused on agriculture, climate change and conservation. It covered topics like weather challenges, environmental stewardship, and sustainable farming practices, encouraging collaboration between speakers and farmers.

A training programme on "Climate Change – A Global Emergency" was held at Corpus Christi School for grade 10 students. The session, conducted in three batches, covered the current state of climate change, its causes and solutions. The Green Fellow presented on natural and human-induced causes of the Global warming and the students actively engaged throughout the event. Participants received kits with notepads and pens.

Karur- International Women's Day was celebrated at GBHSS Pugalur Green School with the Municipality Commissioner as the Chief Guest. Arecanut saplings were distributed to women staff from nearby schools and a paradise tree was planted to mark the occasion.

World Sparrow Day was celebrated at GBHSS Pugalur Green School with the installation of 12-holed mud pots to support sparrows. The event featured awareness activities, with Chittukuruvi Aarvalar Thiru. Rajasekaran as the guest, and students actively participated in conservation efforts.

A one-day Capacity Building Programme for Revenue and Rural Development officials in Karur District was organised focusing on climate-smart governance and disaster mitigation. The event featured sessions on climate change and sustainability, with the Green Fellow discussing Climate Resilience and Government initiatives. Cloth bags and pamphlets were distributed promoting sustainability.

Madurai - On Women's Day, a tree planting initiative led by "Ilam Makkal Iyakkam" was inaugurated by the Minister of Commercial Tax. The Forest Department, Town Panchayat, Green Fellow and Rotary Club Madurai Women's Wing coordinated for planting 8 lakh trees at "Mahalir Kaadu," Vadipatti.

A one-day workshop and exhibition on sustainable lifestyles was held in Madurai, featuring student displays on environmental issues and eco-friendly solutions. The event was inaugurated by the ACF, Forest Department, with a senior professor awarding prizes. The Green Fellow spoke on sustainable lifestyles and coordinated the event.



OTHER SIGNIFICANT INITIATIVES



Mayiladuthurai- The District Climate Change Mission and Water Resources Department held a workshop on climate change mitigation and action plans, with 50 government participants. The eco-friendly event emphasized water resource conservation, and attendees received sustainable kits.

The Green Fellow and NGC Coordinator organized an Environment Exhibition at Dharmapuram Aadhinam School, Mayiladuthurai, with 25 schools participating. Students displayed eco-friendly exhibits on forests, mangroves, green energy, plastic alternatives and sustainable living. An awareness talk was given, followed by a pledge.

The Green Fellow, in collaboration with Mayiladuthurai Municipality, organized a Mini Marathon for plastic collection, with over 300 participants. The event was held separately for men and women, with participation from local officials.

Nagapattinam-A wall painting competition on environmental awareness, organized by TNPCB and VANAM NGO, was held at Kilvelur Town Panchayat. Around 100 college students participated, with prizes awarded by the District Collector.

A district-level quiz competition was held for students of classes 7, 8, and 9 as part of the DCCM training programme. Around 160 students participated, with topics covering environment, climate change, biodiversity and sustainability.

Perambalur- The District Level Environment Exhibition, organised by Voice Trust and the School Education Department, featured 60 schools and 120 students presenting ideas on sustainable food, clean energy and waste management. Certificates were awarded to all participants, with winners receiving special recognition.

A workshop on "Ban on Single-Use Plastic and Solid Waste Management" was held in Perambalur, organized by TNPCB and coordinated by the Green Fellow. Over 100 students attended, with a session on waste management and carbon emissions. Eco-friendly kits were distributed to all participants.

Pudukkottai- A training programme on 'Climate Smart Agriculture' was held at the Agricultural and Research Institute, Kudumiyamalai, Pudukkottai. Scientists deliberated on topics like mulching, soil covering and the harmful impacts of chemical fertilizers.

A capacity-building workshop on 'Building Climate Resilience for Sustainable Action' was held for industry officials in Pudukkottai. Experts from NIT and Government College discussed global warming, climate change, industrial waste management and sustainable practices.

A training programme on 'Climate Change Impact and Mitigation by Industries' was held for SIPCOT industry officials in Pudukkottai. Experts from Anna University and entrepreneurs discussed vehicle electrification, sustainable fuels and safe disposal of industry effluents.

A capacity building workshop on 'Ecological Balance - Improvement of Environment and Climate' was held for Zoology students at Govt College, Pudukkottai. Professors from an agricultural college covered topics such as forest and wildlife conservation, climate change mitigation, rainwater harvesting and pollution prevention.

A capacity building workshop on 'Our Planet, Our Responsibility: Climate Change and Sustainability' was held for small-scale industries in Pudukkottai. Experts discussed topics like land and water pollution mitigation, environmental best practices for industries and "Marama Thavamai".

A training on 'Treating Algal Blooms and Aquaculture Techniques' was held for fishermen and aquaculture farmers in Manamelkudi, Pudukkottai. Experts discussed climate resilience, algal bloom treatment and feed management practices.

An exhibition on Sustainable Lifestyle was held for students in standards 6th to 8th. Students showcased innovative models on mushroom cultivation, energy conservation, health foods, upcycling plastics and wealth from waste.



OTHER SIGNIFICANT INITIATIVES



Ranipet- A World Water Day awareness program was held at Arignar Anna Govt. Arts and Science College for Women, Walajapet, in collaboration with Nehru Yuva Kendra. The Green Fellow spoke on "Glacier Preservation" and Water Conservation. The District Youth Officer also addressed the significance of water. The memento was provided to the Green Fellow.

Salem - The "Waste to Wealth Exhibition" at Government Engineering College, Salem showcased 150 innovative projects by 39 schools, promoting environmental awareness and sustainable practices among students.

The "Clean, Green Yercaud" capacity building programme for NGOs was organised by the District Climate Change Mission, Salem, in collaboration with the District Child Protection Unit and Social Welfare Department. The session aimed to raise awareness about climate initiatives and encourage NGO participation in building a climate-resilient Salem.

The Net Zero Farming workshop in Salem, organised by the District Climate Change Mission with Agriculture and Horticulture departments, focused on climate-resilient farming, sustainable water use, and soil conservation. The session aimed to equip farmers with practices for a sustainable and climate-resilient future.

The District Rural Development Agency, in collaboration with the District Climate Change Mission, Salem, conducted a workshop on Climate Smart Office Practices for government staff. Officials from various blocks attended the session, gaining insights from experts on sustainable and eco-friendly practices at workplaces.

A capacity-building workshop was held for engineers from the Town Panchayat and Regional Municipal Administration departments, focusing on net zero goals and sustainable practices in future projects. The session aimed to equip officials with climate-smart strategies to help build a climate-resilient Salem.

A capacity-building session was organised for industry stakeholders in Salem by the District Climate Change Mission, TNPCB and District Industrial Centre. Participants were guided on strategies to reduce carbon emissions and adopt sustainable industrial practices.

A capacity-building workshop on mindful cleaning was held for Yercaud Panchayat Union sanitation workers. Officials discussed innovative methods and technologies to improve sanitation practices and reduce carbon emissions.

A capacity-building session on solid and liquid waste management was held for hoteliers and restaurant owners in Salem. Organised by the District Climate Change Mission and the Food Safety Department, the event focused on sustainable waste management practices.

A workshop on "Climate Literacy and its Role for a Sustainable Future" was conducted for government school teachers at Periyar University. Organised by the District Climate Change Mission and the Education Department, the session focused on equipping teachers to raise climate awareness among students and promote sustainability.



OTHER SIGNIFICANT INITIATIVES



Sivagangai- A drawing competition was organised by the NGC Eco Club at Maruthupandiyar Hr. Sec. School, Sivagangai, with around 80 students from Classes 6 to 9 participating under the theme of environmental awareness.

The "Makkal Thodarbu Mugaam" event at Munaivendri village was led by the District Collector, along with officials from DRDA, RDO, PRO, DSO and Tahsildar. The event focused on Meendum Manjapai awareness, distributing 150 cloth bags to the community in collaboration with TNPCB.

The Bird Census Orientation Programme at Vettangudi Bird Sanctuary, organized by the Forest Department, included awareness on Meendum Manjappai, with cloth bags distributed to students.

The National Green Corps Eco Coordinator, Madurai, organized a Sustainable Lifestyle Exhibition at Mannar Higher Secondary School, Sivagangai. Around 100 students from various schools participated, showcasing innovative environmental ideas and winning prizes.

Tenkasi- A training program on Climate Literacy, Forest and Biodiversity Awareness was conducted for 150 students at Kamarajar Government Arts College, Surandai. The Green Fellow delivered a session on Climate and Justice and Climate and Future Jobs.

The Green Fellow also coordinated a capacity-building workshop on Sustainable Eco-Tourism and Climate-Responsive Tourism Development. Delivered a speech on "Climate and Forest" as one of the resource persons.

Thanjavur- A workshop on Dugong conservation was conducted with the participation of line departments, including the District SP, DRO, DFO, and other relevant officials.

Theni- The Green Fellow coordinated Synchronized Wetland Bird Census with Theni Forest Division, involving activities such as organizing volunteers, location mapping, vehicle arrangements, material preparation, and conducting orientation programmes. At Boothipuram Kanmai assisted bird identification with forest officials.

The Theni Forest Department division organised "Synchronized Terrestrial Bird Census". The Green Fellow assisted with volunteer mobilisation, logistics, and bird identification at Oothukadu alongside forest officials.

Tiruvallur - The District Climate Change Mission (DCCM) conducted a workshop on the topic "Impact of Climate Change on Women" at Sri Ram College, Perumalpattu, Tiruvallur. The session focused on how climate change disproportionately affects women and emphasized the importance of integrating gender perspectives in climate action.

Tiruvarur- A capacity building workshop on "Estimation of Wetland Birds and Climate Change Impact on Migratory Birds" was conducted at Vaduvoor Bird Sanctuary for college students and forest officials. The session covered bird census methods and the effects of climate change on migratory birds.

Thoothukudi- A birdwatching and counting programme was held across 20 wetlands in Thoothukudi, engaging enthusiasts and students to document bird diversity and support ecological monitoring. The DCCM training programme on wildlife census was conducted at Vallanadu Blackbuck Sanctuary for the public and college students. A total of 80 volunteers were divided into 15 teams, with 13 teams actively participating in data collection during the field exercise.



OTHER SIGNIFICANT INITIATIVES



Tiruchirapalli- A capacity-building program on Climate Smart Agriculture was held in Tiruchirapalli for Agricultural Officers. It covered climate change impacts, climate-smart practices and precision farming technologies. Participants received jute files, notepads and refreshments.

A training program on Climate Smart Agriculture, Water Management and Forest Conservation was held for farmers, SHGs and NGOs at M.R. Palayam. Topics included plastic reduction, tree planting, forest conservation and sustainable farming, with practical sessions on nursery establishment. Participants received seedlings, cloth bags and refreshments.

An Environmental Exhibition organized by Voice Trust and the Department of Environment and Climate Change at Srirangam East Ranga Middle School saw 120 students and 60 teachers from 60 schools. The Mayor visited the event, where participants displayed exhibits and prizes were awarded. All attendees received cloth bags and certificates.

Tirunelveli- The Thamirabarani River cleaning initiative, led by the Minister for Municipal Administration and District Collector, focused on removing *Prosopis Juliflora*. The event was coordinated in collaboration with local communities, NGOs and NSS students from Rani Anna College. ExnoRA distributed foot mats made from waste cloth collected from the river.

A Sustainable Lifestyle Exhibition was held at the District Science Centre, showcasing 25 student stalls on energy saving, waste recycling, healthy food, pollution control and climate change. Students presented their projects, promoting sustainability and environmental awareness.

An NSS camp was held at Thulukkarkulam village, where a presentation on climate change and government mitigation measures was given. A plastic awareness rally was conducted with local children, and Meendum Manjappai cloth bags were distributed to households. College students encouraged villagers to avoid plastic bags.

A Capacity Building Workshop on Sustainable Habitat was conducted by DCCM, Tirunelveli, for Sanitary Inspectors, Officers, Junior Engineers, Supervisors, Block Coordinators, Zonal Deputy BDOs, and NGOs. Sessions covered Health & Sustainable Habitat and Environmental Sustainability, with best practices from two villages shared by block coordinators. Participants received sustainable kit.

A Training Program on Climate Literacy for Eco Club teachers was conducted by DCCM, Tirunelveli, with teachers from government and aided schools participating. The program featured sessions on climate literacy, biodiversity and the role of eco clubs in protecting endangered species. Participants were provided with eco-friendly items.

A capacity-building workshop on Green Energy and energy efficiency was conducted by DCCM, Tirunelveli, with participation from builders, hotel owners, solar panel vendors and engineering students. The workshop covered Tamil Nadu Government's initiatives on renewable energies, decentralized renewable energy and balancing green energy with ecosystem health. Participants received eco-friendly items.

A plastic awareness rally was held at Melappalayam Uzhavar Santhai, with participation from NSS students, corporation officials and teachers. Yellow cloth bags were distributed and the harmful effects of plastic bags were highlighted.

A training program on solid and liquid waste management was held at the DRDA conference hall. Best practices for liquid waste treatment, such as In-Situ BioRemediation and Phytoremediation, were discussed, followed by solid waste management techniques. The event was coordinated by the Green Fellow as directed by the District Collector.



Tiruchirapalli

OTHER SIGNIFICANT INITIATIVES



Tirupathur- An awareness program on green transport was held in Ambur range, Tirupathur district, with 100 college students participating in a 5 km cycle rally. The event, supported by the Forest Department and Green Fellow, highlighted green transport and the use of Manjappai in daily life.

An awareness program on soil conservation in the context of climate change was conducted in Singarapettai range, Tirupatur district, with 80 farmers. The session, organized by the Forest Department and Green Fellow, focused on the impact of climate change on agriculture, soil moisture conservation and drought management practices.

A DCCM awareness program on climate change was conducted for 100 sanitary workers at Vaniyambadi range. The session covered their role in society, climate change impacts and preventive measures. The event lasted 3 hours and included food and refreshments.

Tiruvannamalai- The first DCCM workshop was conducted by the Forest Department for students of Dr. Kalaignar Karunanidhi Government Arts and Science College, focusing on "Environment, Climate Education, and Agroforestry." The District Forest Officer was the chief guest, with sessions on green cover, agroforestry, and the importance of tree planting, followed by a talk on environmental awareness.

The Nilgiris- On Sparrow Day, awareness was created through All India Radio about the importance of sparrows and their connection to human lifestyles.

On Water Day, awareness was raised among school students about the importance of water conservation.

Vellore: An Environmental Awareness Art Festival was held at Venkateshwara Higher Secondary School, Vellore, with the School Education Department. Inaugurated by the Chief Educational Officer and District Eco Coordinator, the event focused on climate change, plastic ban and waste management. Students engaged in drama and dance performances to raise awareness on environmental issues.

Villupuram - A Sustainable Lifestyle workshop was organised with Green Fellow and a Biologist delivering an awareness speech on SDGs and sustainability. A session on mushroom cultivation was also presented to the students.

Virudhunagar- A one-day Environmental Training Program on food packaging waste and climate resilience was held at Sri Vidya Engineering College. The District Collector highlighted the harmful effects of food packaging waste on landfills, water, air and biodiversity, stressing the importance of waste management and climate resilience strategies.

The Virudhunagar District Capacity Building Workshop addressed climate change and air pollution. The District Collector highlighted the dangers of plastic burning and poor waste management, urging minimal plastic use and proper waste segregation, while stressing the need for collective action to combat climate change.

The DCCM Capacity Building Workshop on "Solar Energy as Green Energy" was held by the Agriculture Engineering Department. The District Collector inaugurated the session, highlighting solar energy as a clean, renewable power source that helps reduce pollution and reliance on non-renewable energy, playing a crucial role in combating climate change and ensuring sustainable power for the future.



GREEN DAYS OF APRIL 2025!

Zoo Lovers Day - April 8
Bat Appreciation Day - April 17
Earth Day - April 22
International Pallas's Cat day - April 23
World Day for Laboratory Animals - April 24
World Tapir Day - April 27
International Hyena Day - April 27
Day of Remembrance for all Victims of Chemical Warfare - April 29



**GREEN
FELLOWSHIP
FABLES**

INTERESTING FACTS

One of the Largest Organisms on Earth is a Fungus! That's right! In Oregon's Blue Mountains, you'll find a fungus that occupies an astounding 2,384 acres of soil. That's equivalent to 1,665 football fields—nearly four square miles.

Discovered in 1998, this mass of *Armillaria ostoyae* could be anywhere from 2,400-8,650 years old. That means it potentially is older than Methuselah, a 4,800-5,000 year old Great Basin bristlecone pine that is widely considered the oldest tree in the world.



Source: One Tree Planted

CLIMATE TERMINOLOGIES

»»» **Eco-anxiety**

Fear, worry and/or a sense of dread about the climate crisis and the possible impacts of not taking early and effective action to manage it.

»»» **Climate forcing**

Climate forcing refers to how climate affects the physical, chemical and biological attributes of a region.

Paper from trees can be recycled 6 times.

Paper comes from trees and can be recycled a maximum of six times, after which, its fibers become too weak to hold together.

DO YOU KNOW?



Source: KPWB

ADVISOR

Prof. R. Saravanan
COORDINATOR - CMGFP

Team
EDITORIAL

G Glory
PROGRAMME LEAD

S Kamali
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

K Vijaya Charumathi
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

M Anusuya
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

V Chelsea Sindhu Priya
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Comments / Feedbacks : cmgfp@annauniv.edu