Hand in Hand has partnered with Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC), a public enterprise under Government of India, through a CSR initiative to implement solid waste management at four wards of Rameswaram at Ramanathapuram District. The project is jointly implemented by ONGC, Hand in Hand and Rameswaram municipality benefitting about 3000 residents.

ONGC has come forward to improve infrastructural facilities and recurring expenses at four wards of the town under CSR initiative. The project aims at reducing the quantum of waste that ends up in the dump yards through sustainable solid waste management practices. It will strive for maximum waste recovery through composting, recycling, and reuse, and aims at minimizing the waste being dumped in the dump yards. The project components also include sensitization on
source segregation of waste among the residents of Rameswaram Island. The capacity of local government body, community and students will be built.

During phase I, the location for developing and constructing decentralized composting facility was identified. The construction of the decentralized composting facility about 2500 sq. ft. was completed in the month of May and this facility will soon be operational to handle the waste of 3000 residents every day. In addition to this, a shredding machine will be installed to handle the recyclable wastes from the households.

Phase 2 - the preparatory phase will involve purchase of vehicles, dustbins and bags for door to door waste collection. The actual implementation of the project across 4 wards covering a population of nearly 15,000 residents will be done in Phase 3 of the project, which also involves sensitising the locals on the importance of waste segregation at source.

Hand in Hand India's Solid Waste Management team already operates in 10 wards in Rameshwaram as a part of the Green Rameswaram project. The ONGC-collaborated project in 4 additional wards will be a boost to Rameswaram in achieving 100% waste segregation at source.

EVENTS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2016 UNDER GREEN RAMESWARAM PROJECT

Students from Nettur Technical Training Foundation (NTTF), Thootukudi visited Rameswaram Solid Waste Management Project for an exposure visit
Mass cleaning activity was carried out by our Green Friends in the sea shore on 30th May 2016

A week long announcements and campaigns were made to invite residents to participate in Rangoli Competition to be held to commemorate World Environment Day 2016. Door to Door, auto campaigns were conducted to invite residents for the mega event. Also, handbills and posters were placed at important locations to spread the message.

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