# Green Rameswaram Annual Report 2024-25



"Blessed is the little squirrel; he is doing his work to the best of his ability. I simply want to be like the squirrel in the building of Rama's bridge, who was quite content to put on the bridge his little quota of sand-dust. That is my position".



Swami Vivekananda
At Shakespeare Club,
Pasadena, California
31 January 1900



#### Preface

#### Dear All

#### Namaskaram



It is with immense pride and a deep sense of responsibility that we present to you the Annual Report for the year 2024-2025. This report is not merely a compilation of activities and achievements; it is a reflection of our collective commitment to transforming Rameswaram into a model for sustainable living, rooted in its sacred geography and rich cultural heritage.

Over the past year, Green Rameswaram has continued to forge meaningful partnerships with government bodies, educational institutions, civil society, and local communities. From rejuvenating Teerthams to empowering livelihoods, from conducting awareness campaigns in schools to promoting eco-tourism and responsible waste management—each initiative has brought us a step closer to our vision of a cleaner, greener, and spiritually vibrant Rameswaram.

Our work during 2024-2025 was guided by the principles of inclusivity, environmental stewardship, and cultural preservation. Notably, the successful implementation of livelihood programs, school-level competitions, Teertha poojas, and the celebration of traditional festivals have reinforced our belief in the strength of community-led transformation.

We are particularly grateful to all our donors, partners, volunteers, and well-wishers who have walked with us on this journey. Your support inspires us to dream bigger and work harder.

As we move forward, let us reaffirm our dedication to the cause of holistic development and environmental harmony. Together, we shall continue to make Green Rameswaram a beacon of integrated sustainable living.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment.

Warm regards,

G Vasudeo

Vashing

Secretary

Green Rameswaram Trust

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# 1. Foundation Day Celebrations

The 11th Foundation Day of Green Rameswaram was celebrated on  $28^{th}$  January with grandeur, beginning with cultural performances by students. The entire event was hosted by the dedicated volunteers of Green Rameswaram, reflecting their commitment and enthusiasm.

In preparation of the foundation day celebrations, we organised competitions for school and college student along with SHG members, Teertha Mitras and Yoga participants. These competitions were held at different places starting from October 2024 to January 2025. About 1000 stakeholders participated in various events. The details are as follows:

#### Igniting students mind towards environment

#### iv. School level Competitions

 Subjects: Drawing, Essay and Elocution

 No. of participants: 270 from 4 schools

• Prizes given: 51 nos.

#### ii. College level competitions

 Subjects: Drawing, Essay, Elocution, Songs and Quiz

No. of participants: 102 from 2 colleges

• Prizes given: 40 nos.

#### iii. Village level competitions

- Subjects: Lucky Corner, Balloon Blowing, Memory Game and Uri Adithal.
- No. of participants:406
- **Prizes given:** everybody received something or the other as a prize for participation

# iv.SHG/ Teertha Mitras / Yoga participants

 Subjects: Balloon Blowing, Music chair, Uri Adithal, Rangoli, Shot put, Cooking, Elocution and Songs

• No. of participants: 251

 Prizes given: Everybody received something or the other as a prize for participation





Schools students engaged in drawing competition

The celebration was graced by our Trustee Shri. Saleem of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam International Foundation along with Shri. Rajamanoharan, RDO, Ramanathapuram district, Shri. R.Balakrishnan, Auditor from Thoottukkudi. Dr. APJM Nazeema Begum Maraikaayar (Elder Sister of Dr. Kalam) was the special guest.

The Goswami Mutt hall was packed with more than 800 students, stakeholders and locals attending the Foundation day.

#### Programme Highlights

- Welcome Address by Smt. Muthulakshmi, a volunteer of Green Rameswaram.
- Chief Guest Address by Shri. Saleem, highlighting the significance of Green Rameswaram's initiatives.
- Speech by Shri. Rajamanoharan, RDO, appreciating the remarkable contributions of Green Rameswaram.
- Experience Sharing by (i) Teertha Mitra (ii) Harit Aajeevika stakeholder and (iii) SHG Member

#### Honouring the guests and Prize distribution

- Chief guests were honoured for their presence and support.
- Prize Distribution for (i) 8 Village-Level Competitions (ii) 4 School-Level Competitions and (iii) 2 College-Level Competitions
- Shri.Pakshi Sivarajan was honoured as the Thanneegaratra Volunteer of Green Rameswaram for his contributions to Green Rameswaram in the form of literature references, map references and locating the Teerthams.

#### **Conclusion**

- The event concluded with a Shanthi Mantra, marking an inspiring end to the yearlong celebrations.
- The Foundation Day served as a testament to Green Rameswaram's sustained efforts in environmental and community development, with appreciation from all quarters.



A view of the Dias



Lighting the lamp by Chief guests



GR Report presentation by Shri.Periyanayagam



Experience Sharing by Shri. Shanmugavel



Dr. APJM Nazeema Begum Maraikayam being honoured



Winners being honoured by Shri. Rajamanoharan, RDO, Rameswaram



School students being felicitated by Shri. R.Balakrishnan, Auditor, Thoottukkudi



Kalam college students being felicitated by Shri. R.Balakrishnan, Auditor, Thoottukkudi



Winners being honoured by Shri. Saleem Sir



Dinamalar coverage

# 2. Water Management

This financial year we have Revived and Renovated two Traditional water bodies - Teppakulam and Chidamabara Teerthams. The work is carried out by Vivekananda Kendra - Nardep, Kanyakumari.

#### 1. Teppakulam

Teppakulam is located at Sandhya Nagar, behind Amrita Vidyalaya, Thangachimadam. The project is supported by Murugappa Educational and Medical Foundation, Chennai. A picture gallery shown below:



Teppakulam prior to renovation



Traditional Bhoomi pooja



Dredging - deepening of the water body after removing the top layer of the dirt



Workers putting the foundation stones after marking the area



Pond is taking shape



Inner ring well which will store water during summer



Increasing the height of the traditional water body



Strengthening the top portion by way of MS frame to withstand the pressure from the adjacent road



Raising the parapet wall to avoid sliding of mud and dust



Entire area surrounding the Teertham is leveled including the adjacent road



A full view of the Teppakulam with water



White washing and installation of Naga idols



Traditional colouring with Kavi and White



Name board fitting with a Kadappa slab



Ready Teppakulam inviting the local stakeholders and pilgrims





#### 2. Chidambara Teertham

Chidambara Teertham is a tank located inside Graveyard of Tharavaithoppu area of Pamban and falls under Thangachimadam Panchayat Union.



Chidambara Teertham prior to Renovation

#### Renovation process of Chidambaram Teertham

- Awareness programmes for developing Social Capital
- Cleaning of entire area including removing thorny trees
- De-Watering and De-silting
- Construction of Inner pond (earth work excavation, plain cement concrete, foundation, retaining wall and steps etc.,)
- Construction of Outer Tank (earth work excavation, plain cement concrete, foundation, retaining wall and steps etc.,)
- Colouring Painting
- Cleaning of the entire crematorium yard.
- Repairing and maintenance of Crematorium building.
- Repairing and maintenance of post Cremation Ritual shed
- Well construction
- Entry gate construction
- Name board installation
- Organised 9 awareness programmes with 330 attendance

#### Photo Gallery



Awareness programme on Maintenance of Traditional water bodies - Vivekananda Nagar, Pamban



Bhoomi pooja conducted on 07 August 2024



Use of JCB for desilting



Construction of inside pond is on ...



Increasing the height of the inside pond



Construction of entry point and steps to the inner pond - also view the outer wall



Ring well inside the inner pond which can be used during summer



Slowly and gradually the outer tank is taking a shape



Construction of a beautiful entry point to the Chidambara Teertham with Nagaraja mounted on the top



Complete view of both the inner and out ponds after plastering and pointing work



Traditional colouring of the Traditional water body is on ...



Pathway created by using Paver blocks to the Chidambara Teertham



Renovation of the adjutant Cremation yard which was in a dilapidated condition for years



Repairing and maintenance of post Cremation Ritual shed. Earlier it was not visible as it was covered with Oodai trees



Ring well outside the Teertham which will be useful to the stakeholders as water has started percolating in it



Construction of Name board using cement concrete



Construction of entry gate from the main road. This will prevent the drunkards roaming and utilising the area



Nicely painted entry gate with grill

#### 3. Teertha Poojas

A total of 351 Teertha poojas conducted. 2989 volunteers participated. Details are as follows:

Month	No of Teertha poojas	No of volunteers Participation	Month	No of Teertha poojas	No of volunteers Participation
April 2024	20	234	October	37	372
May	22	178	November	41	240
June	27	280	December	45	312
July	31	319	January 25	25	207
August	22	265	February	28	181
September	27	268	March	26	133



Pooja at Runavimochana Teertham





### 3. Solid Waste Management

(Hand in Hand Inclusive Development and Services, Chennai)

Throughout the year, a wide array of impactful initiatives were carried out across Rameswaram, focusing on promoting source segregation, enhancing public awareness, and fostering community-driven cleanliness. These programs have significantly contributed to a cleaner and more sustainable environment.

SI.No	Events	No of	No of wards
		programmes	covered
1.	Source Segregation programme	112	All the 21 wards
2.	Door to Door Awareness	124	All the 21 wards
3.	Mass cleaning campaign	19	At various places

#### Health Support for Workers

Recognizing the health hazards faced by sanitation staffs, free medical camps were conducted, benefiting hundreds of municipal workers and green friends.

#### Sustainable Innovations: E-Vehicles & Training

The introduction of e-vehicles for waste collection marked a significant step toward eco-friendly operations. Simultaneously, specialized training sessions on hazardous cleaning practices and efficient waste processing equipped workers with the skills needed to manage waste safely and professionally.

#### Notable Highlights & Achievements

- A special sanitation drive was carried out to ensure high standards of cleanliness in preparation for the ISRO Chairman's visit, showcasing the team's dedication and efficiency.
- As a part of Swachhta League 2.0, Rameswaram saw spirited participation in beach clean-ups, human chains, and street plays, raising mass awareness on marine litter and the importance of sustainable waste practices.

#### Building a Culture of Sustainability

The year was defined by proactive solid waste management, meaningful public participation, and innovative solutions. Through consistent efforts by Hand in Hand Inclusive Development and Services, Chennai, Rameswaram is steadily evolving into a model town of environmental responsibility and community-driven change.





Door to Door Collection





Awareness programmes



Segregation of waste demonstrated in a house



Health camps for Green Friends





Mass cleaning camps





#### 4. Green Health

#### International Yoga Day celebrations

On June 21, 2024, International Yoga Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm and participation across multiple locations. The event was coordinated by Shri. Kalanjiam and the yoga team, with additional support from Sister Saraswathi and SHG Associates. The details of the celebrations are as follows:

Date	Place	No of Participants	Responsibility
21 June 2024	District Magistrate, Rameswaram	50	Yoga team
21 June 2024	Vivekananda Matriculation School, Rameswaram	120	Yoga team
21 June 2024	Green Rameswaram Office	120	Yoga team
21 June 2024	Panchayat Union no 1 school, Rameswaram	50	SHG Associates
21 June 2024	Annai Scholastica Arts and Science College, Thangatchimadam	130	Shri.Thillaipushpam
21 June 2024	Dr.Ilayaraja Global Academy, Pirappanvalasi, Mandapam	130	Shri.Sanjay Upadhyay and Sister Selvi
	Total	600	

In total, 600 participants engaged in the International Yoga Day activities, benefiting from the expertise and guidance provided by the organizing teams. The events fostered a sense of community well-being, highlighting the importance of yoga in daily life.

#### Photo Gallery



Participants posing in-front of the District Court



Dr. Ilayaraja Global Academy, Pirappanvalasai



Children at Vivekananda School going to start yogasana practice



Regular yogasana class students at Green Rameswaram Office



Yoga Students performing the art in front of the audience



Sister Saraswathi and SHG Associates guiding the school students



At Annai Scholastica Art and Science College

ராமேஸவரம் ந	திமன்றம் முன்	யோகா பயிற்சி
ராமேஸ்வரம், ஜூன் 23-	ராமேஸ்வரத்தில் உள்ள	பாலசுப்ரமணியன் உட்
உலக யோகா தினத்தை	மாவட்ட குற்றவியல்	பட பலர் பங்கேற்றனர்.
யொட்டி ராமேஸ்வரம்	நீதிமன்றம் முன்	மேலும் பசுமை ராமேஸ்
நீதிமன்றம் முன் நீதிபதி,	யோகா பயிற்றுனர்	வரம் அமைப்பு மூலம்
சமூக ஆர்வலர்கள் யோகா	களஞ்சியம் யோகா பயிற்சி	யோகா பயிற்றுனர்
பயிற்சி செய்தனர்.	அளித்தார்.	களஞ்சியம் ஏற்பாட்டில்
உலக யோகா தினத்தை	நீதிபதி இளைய	ராமேஸ்வரத்தில் மங்
யொட்டி நாடு முழுவதும்	ராஜா சுப்பையா	கம்மா சத்திரம், சுவாமி
முக்கிய பிரமுகர்கள்,	தலைமையில் சமூக ஆர்	விவேகானந்தர் வித்யா
சமூக ஆர்வலர்கள் யோகா	வலர்கள் தில்லை	லயா பள்ளி மாணவர்கள்,
பயிற்சியில் ஈடுபட்டனர்.	பாக்கியம், சுடலை,	இளைஞர்களுக்கு யோகா
இதனை தொடர்ந்து	பெரியநாயகம், மதன்,	பயிற்சி அளித்தார்.

Dinamalar has captured the yoga event before the District Court Participation of Justice Ilaiyaraja Subbaiah was appreciated for the event

Apart from International Yoga day many gents and ladies are attending morning and evening classes of Yogasana at Green Rameswaram project office and continues the legacy of the Late. Shri.Hegdeji who introduced yoga in their daily life





## 5. Eco-tourism & Green Transport

District administration is not allowing the regular four wheelers and tempos etc. to operate in the four Sannathi streets because of heavy traffic of pedestrians. However for the benefit of elders and sick people, they allow E-autos. For the last several years, we are plying six e-autos with a nominal fees of Rs.10/- per person. This service is very popular among the pilgrims. In addition it gives livelihood to the auto drivers by operating eco friendly vehicles.

In an emergency, the auto drivers also take care of the sick patients and in an emergency admit them in the nearby government hospital. In the year 2024 - 25 we provided service to more than one and half lakks pilgrims. The details are given below:

Served adults	16425 6	Cost service
Elders	546	Free Service
Childrens'	414	Free Service
Differently-abled	356	Free Service
Total	16557 21655 72	





Auto drivers carrying the patients in an emergency to the nearby hospital



### 6. Livelihoods

#### Overview

In 2024, Green Rameswaram successfully executed a series of integrated Livelihood Development Programs focused on sustainable agriculture, waste management, and animal husbandry. The project empowered local communities by building capacity, distributing resources, and promoting eco-conscious livelihoods. The project is supported L & T Technology Services, Bangalore.

#### Awareness Programmes

Green Rameswaram organized 11 awareness programmes across various locations in Rameswaram to spread knowledge about organic farming, and sustainable lifestyle practices.

Date	Venue	No. of Participants
22-04-2024	Manthoppu	30
25-04-2024	Pamban	21
26-04-2024	Therkkuvadi	21
27-04-2024	Ramakrishnapuram	20
17-05-2024	Malligai Nagar	18
24-05-2024	Periyapallivasal	40
25-05-2024	Thoppukadu	20
25-05-2024	Akkalmadam	21
27-05-2024	Pudhuroad	20
30-05-2024	Parvatham	22
31-05-2024	Olaikuda	50
	Total	283

#### Training Programmes for Beneficiaries

To develop skills and practical knowledge, two 5 days training was held at Green Rameswaram office for 120 stakeholders.

#### Distribution of Livelihood Kits

Post-training, livelihood kits were distributed to enable beneficiaries to implement what they learned and generate sustainable income. The kits included the following:

1. Mini Vermi Bed

3. 20 Grow Bags

2. Azolla Bed

- 4. Fish Amino Acid Preparation Bucket
- 5. Two Goats

- 6. 10 Chicks
- 7. Sprayers
- 8. Gardening Tool Kit

#### Follow-Up Programmes

3 Follow-up programmes ensured that beneficiaries received ongoing support and guidance for effective implementation. 120 members attended.

#### Case Study:

Title: Empowering Rural Communities through Sustainable Agriculture: A Case Study of Sister Saratha from Pudhu Road

Introduction: Sister Saratha, a resident of Pudhu Road, embraced the opportunity to participate in the Harit Aajeevika training program, seeking guidance on effective plant cultivation techniques. Through the program, she gained invaluable insights into planting and nurturing nurseries, which ultimately led to her remarkable transformation from a novice to an exemplary figure in plant raising.



Sis. Saratha posing with her new born poultry

Implementation: Armed with newfound knowledge and determination, Sister Saratha embarked on her journey to cultivate plants. Starting with just six plants, she meticulously applied the techniques learned during the training program, nurturing them with care and dedication. Leveraging the available space in her surroundings, she gradually expanded her nursery until it flourished with hundreds of thriving plants.

Results: Sister Saratha's commitment to plant raising yielded impressive results:

- 1. **Significant Expansion**: From a modest beginning of six plants, Sister Saratha's nursery now boasts hundreds of healthy plants. Her ability to efficiently utilize the available space showcases her resourcefulness and dedication to sustainable agriculture.
- 2. **Diversified Usage:** Sister Saratha's plants serve various purposes, catering to her kitchen and other household needs. The diversity in her plant selection reflects her practical approach to utilizing resources effectively while promoting self-sufficiency.
- 3. Exemplary Devotion: Sister Saratha's journey from initial doubts to exemplary devotion in plant raising serves as a testament to the transformative impact of education and perseverance. Her success story inspires others in the community to embrace sustainable agricultural practices and strive for self-improvement.



Awareness programmes at Malligai Nagar



Azolla cultivation - good for poultry and cattle



Terrace garden - Nutritional security







## 7. Landscaping and Beautification

#### 1. Establishment of Nandavanam Sacred Groves in Sri Ramanathaswamy temple



National Botanical Research Institute from Lucknow has approached us to establish flower parks in temples and public places. Hence we showed them Sri Ramanathaswamy temple, Sri Parvathavarthini Amman Girls Higher Secondary school as well as Kendriya Vidyalaya Mandapam. They agreed with the choice. We followed up with the

concerned authorities and obtained approvals to this effect and the work commenced in Sri Ramanathaswamy temple. Dr.N.Kalaiselvi, Director General, NBRI, Lucknow inaugurated the Flower park on 30 October 2024 and gave awareness to NSS Students of Sri Parvathavarthini Amman Girls Higher Secondary school.







As a mark of inauguration Dr.N.Kalaiselvi, Director General, NBRI, Lucknow planted

#### a flowering tree



Certificates were distributed by CSIR NBRI in collaboration with Green Rameswaram to the participating students

The other two parks at KV Mandapam and Sri Parvathavarthini Amman Girls Higher Secondary school, Rameswaram were established in the month of January 2025. Shri. CJ Rao, HOD of NBRI Lucknow visited Rameswaram and inaugurated the parks on  $24^{th}$  January at both the places.



Shri.CJ Rao of NBRI with students at KV Mandapam



Shri.CJ Rao at Sri Parvathavarthini Amman Girls Higher Secondary school,
Rameswaram

#### 2. Micro forest establishment at Arjuna and Bhima Teertham



On November 5, 2024 District Collector Shri.Simranjeet Singh Kahlon IAS launched the Micro forest initiative of Green Rameswaram supported by National Medicinal Plant Board of Thrissur. Collector planted a couple of saplings symbolising the inauguration of the Micro forests. Several District officials and

Rotary club members, Shri.Saleem of Dr.APJ International foundation and many other locals attended the programme.



#### Collector doing the plantation at Bhima Teertham



District Collector visiting Arjuna Teertham

- Continuing the program, a tree plantation drive was conducted on November 22,
   2024 at Arjuna and Bheema Theertham.
- Besides this, the Plantation drive was conducted at Arjuna Theertham on November 24, 2024 in collaboration with the Akhila India Yathirai Paniyalar Sangam and Nanbargal Vattam.



Plantation drive at Arjuna Teertham



#### 3. Palm Seed plantations at Brahma Teertham

All the collected seeds were planted in Brahma Teertham on October 15, wherein nearly 3000 palmyra seeds were planted. Engineers of HR&CE staff took part in the event. On October 24 another 500 seeds were planted in the bunds of Brahma Teertham

# HR&CE Officials planting the Palm Volunteers' photograph after

#### 4. "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam"

Dr.N.Padmakumar Asst advisor Rtd Dr.U.M.Chandrasekara, Deputy medicinal plants Board Thrissur programme. 130 students from the participated.

- i. Middle School No.1,
- ii. Amirta Vidyalaya,
- iii. Sri Parvathavarthini
- iv. Vivekananda Vidyalaya

#### Seeds

#### plantation

#### Special Plantation drive Programme



NMPB New delhi and Director, National Participated in the following Schools

Amman Girls Higher Secondary school

The programme was organized on  $14^{th}$  December 2024.

The following competitions were conducted.

#### i. Drawing:

Theme - Green Rameswaram

#### ii. Essay Writing:

Subject - Green Rameswaram iii. Quiz:

Plant and Bio - Diversity



Students engrossed in the drawing competition



Dr.N.Padmakumar, and Dr.U.M.Chandrasekara addressed the audience



Students posing for the photograph with the dignitaries on the occasion of "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" programme





## 8. Archeology and History

#### 1. International Tourism Day Celebrations

Department of Tourism in collaboration with Green Rameswaram Trust celebrated International Tourism day with a Heritage Walk on September 27, 2024. Occasion was graced by Shri.Murugesan, DSP, Smt.Nithya Kalyani, District Tourism Officer, Shri.Rameshkumar, Principal, Kalam College of Arts and Science, Rameswaram and Shri.G.Vasudeo, Secretary, Green Rameswaram Trust.

More than 100 people participated including Students from Kalam College attended the programme. After the function heritage walk stated from Green Rameswaram project office. Then participants went to House of Kalam followed by Kalam School, and then the walk concluded at Vivekananda Bhaskaram.



Inaugural event at Green Rameswaram project office



Shri.Murugesan DSP Ramanathapuram interacting with the participants



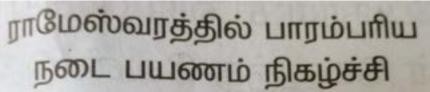
During the Walk



In the House of Kalam



In the school



ராமேஸ்வரம், செப். 28-உலக சுற்றுலா தினத் தையொட்டி ராமேஸ்வ ரத்தில் சுற்றுலாத்துறை மற்றும் பசுமை ராமேஸ் வரம் அமைப்பு இணைந்து பாரம்பரிய நடை பய

நேற்று ராமேஸ்வரம் மங்கம்மா சத்திரத்தில் பாரம்பரிய நடை பயண வீழிப்புணர்வு நிகழ்ச்சி நடந்தது. பின் அங்கிருந்து நடந்தது. பின் அங்கிருந்து நடந்தது. பின் அங்கிருந்து நடை பயணத்தை துவக்கி முன்னாள் ஜனாதிபதி அப் துல் கலாம் வீடு, அவர் படித்த துவக்கப்பள்ளி வழியாக ராமேஸ்வரம் கோயில் கிழக்கு ரத வீதி யில் உள்ள விவேகானந் தர் பாஸ்கர மண்டபத்தில் முடிந்தது.

இதில் சுற்றுலாத்துறை மாவட்ட அதிகாரி நித்திய கல்யாணி, ராமநாதபுரம் டி.எஸ்.பி.,முருகேசன், அப்துல் கலாம் கல்லூரி ரமேஷ்குமார், முதல்வர் ராமேஸ்வரம் பசுமை செயலாளர் அமைப்பு நிர்வாக வாசுதேவ்ஜி, ஸ்ரீதர், கல்லூரி என்.எஸ். எஸ்., மாணவர்கள் பங் கேற்றனர். பின் மாணவர் களுக்கு சான்றிதழ் வழங் BULL L. SI.

Dinamalar has given a good coverage on 28 September 2024

#### 2. Pongal Festival & Traditional Games Celebration

A grand Pongal Festival and Traditional Games Celebration were conducted at Kalam College of Arts and Science, bringing together culture, tradition, and festivity. The programme was organised on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2025 by Green Rameswaram Trust in collaboration with Tourism Department, Government of Tamil Nadu. The event was marked by vibrant performances and exciting competitions. The details are as follows:

#### Competitions Held

- 1. Rangoli Showcasing artistic talent and creativity through colourful designs.
- 2. Lucky Corner A fun and engaging game enjoyed by participants.
- 3. Uriyadi Game A traditional test of strength and coordination.

#### Cultural Performances

- Oyilattam A rhythmic folk dance with graceful movements.
- Karagattam A balancing dance performed with pots on the head.
- Poikkal Kuthirai Aatam A folk dance featuring performers on wooden horse stilts

The Tourism Department extended its heartfelt appreciation to Green Rameswaram and Kalam College for their excellent arrangements, making the festival a grand success. The celebration not only revived age-old traditions but also strengthened community participation and cultural pride. Winners of the competitions were honoured by Tourism department



Traditional Dance performance at Kalam College of Arts and Science



Rangoli competition is on ...



Students being honoured by Tourist office Sister Nithya Kalyani





## 9. Social Capital

#### 1. Visit of Shri.Bibhu Prasad Kar, CEO, NAB Foundation



On 23 May 2024, Shri Bibhu Prasad Kar, CEO of NAB Foundation, accompanied by Shri Arunkumar, District Development Manager (DDM) of NABARD, visited the Green Rameswaram project office to review the ongoing Click Rameswaram project supported by NAB Foundation.

Sister Saraswathi presented a hard copy of the Coffee Table book - "Rameswaram: A Congregation of Tides and Blessings" to Shri Bibhu Prasad Kar and Shri Arunkumar. This book encapsulates the essence and achievements of the Click Rameswaram project, serving as a tangible representation of the project's progress and impact.



Shri Bibhu Prasad Kar, CEO of NAB Foundation receiving the coffee table book

#### 2. Gurupoornima celebrations

Date	Venue	No of participants
21.7.2024	Green Rameswaram office	100
22.7.2024	Mangadu	15
26.7.2024	Ekanta Ramar Temple	20
26.7.2024	Vivekananda Nagar, Pamban	15
	Total	150

Along with Guru Poornima celebrations at Green Rameswaram office, the best performers (i) Sister Shanthi and Sister Ajitha for their good work under Harit Aajeevika and (ii) Sister Nambu Rani for her work in yoga were felicitated by the forest ranger.



Sister Shanthi of Erakadu felicitated by way of certificate



Sister Namburani getting the certificate from the forest Ranger



Guru Poornima event near Ekantaramar temple



Guru Poornima celebrations in Vivekananda Nagar Pamban

#### 3. Visit of Kanchi Sankaracharya at Rameswaram

On July 17 Shri. Vijayachandrasekara Swamigal made a visit to Rameswaram. Our staff and well wishers received the blessing from the Acharya. He appreciated our Coffee Table Book - Rameswaram: A Congregation of Tides and Blessings"



Sankaracharya of Kanchi Kamakoti with Green Rameswaram Coffee Table Book

#### 4. Gita Jayanthi Celebrations

Date	Venue	No of participants
21 December 2024	SPGH School	24
27 December 2024	Pamban	22
28 December 2024	Palsuvai nigalchi	54
	Total	100



Sister Lakshmi Vardhini speaks on Gita Jayanthi



Gita jayanthi at Pamban

#### 5. SHG Leaders Meeting

SHG Leaders meeting was conducted on 17 February 2025. 17 members belonging to different groups attended the meeting. Shri.Ramakrishnan, Director, VK-Nardep addressed the meeting.



A view of the meeting

#### 6. Punya Tithee of Late Shri. Hegdeji

On 29th March 2025, a heartfelt Remembrance Day was organized to honour the memory and legacy of Late Shri. Hegdeji (who passed away on this day in year 2024) a revered yoga teacher and guiding light for many. The programme was mainly organised by his students: (i) Shri. Kalanjiam (ii) Shri. Periyanayam and (iii) Shri. Balasubramaniam.

- The event began with a prayer and observing two minutes silence
- Many participants reflected on Shri. Hegdeji's contribution to yoga, health, and community well-being.
- Some of the participants shared moving memories and personal experiences, highlighting the impact he had on their lives.
- The programme ended with Annadana



Offering flowers to the photo of Late. Shri. Hegdeji

#### 7. Free Tailoring Classes

From October to March 2025, free tailoring and cutting classes were organised on every Sunday (total 17 nos.) at Green Rameswaram office. It was a wonderful way to empower women and youth, with a skill that can lead to self-employment, financial independence, and sustainable livelihoods.



Free Tailoring cutting class pictures

#### 8. Shri. Krishnamoortiji's Webinars

As part of our continuous learning and awareness initiative, Shri. Krishnamoorthyji, fondly known as Annaji, has been conducting insightful webinars every Tuesday throughout the year. These sessions have been a source of deep learning, thoughtful discussions, and spiritual inspiration for many.

All the sessions are recorded and uploaded to YouTube, making them accessible to a wider audience for revisiting and sharing.

Topic	No of episodes
Periyapuranam - 17 to 25 Parts	9
Ananda Thayagam Andhra Maanilam	21
Kalaigal Anithirgum pirappidam	10
Chidambaram	
Total	40

