

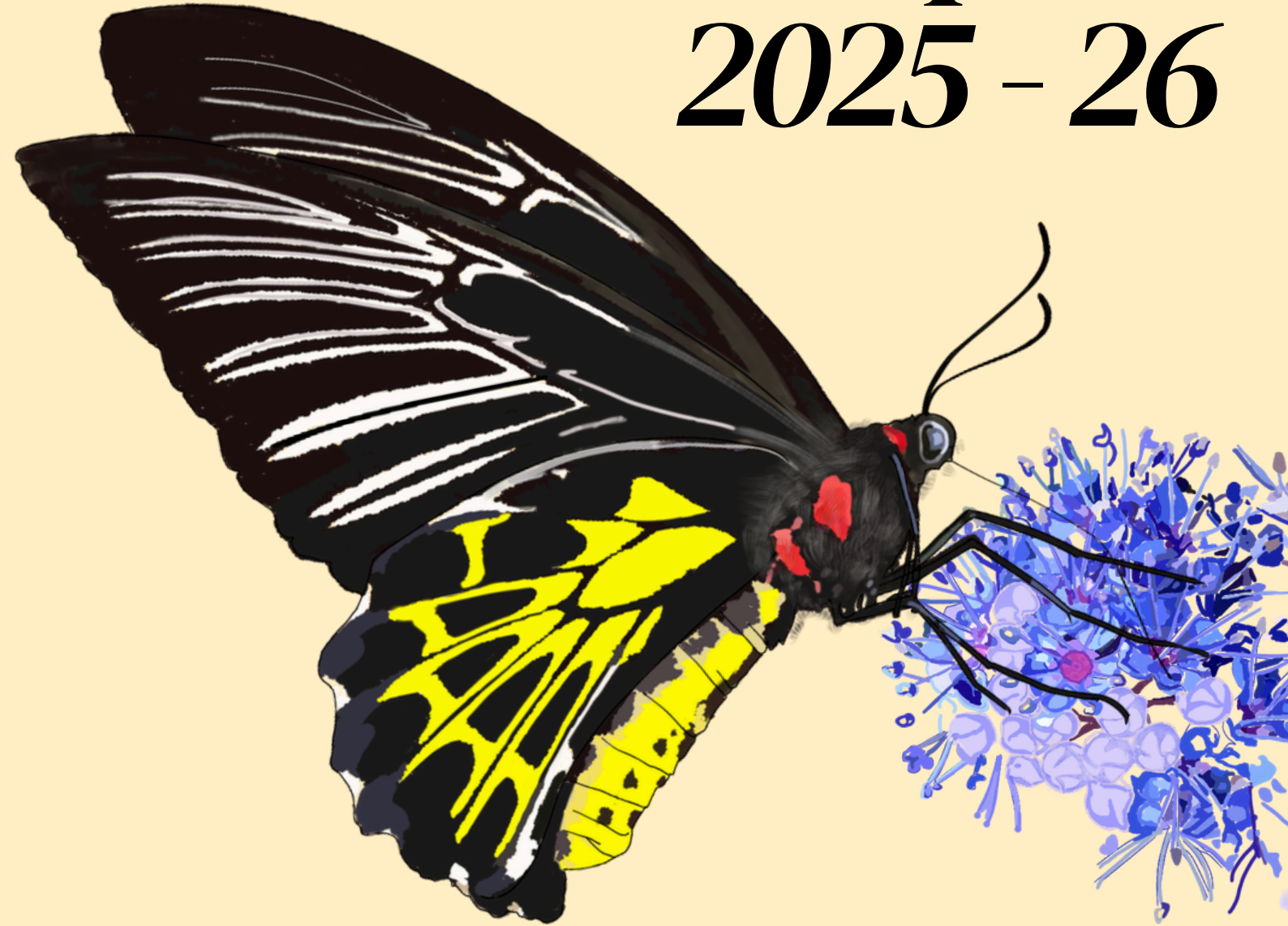


**PALLUYIR TRUST FOR NATURE
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH**

பல்லுயிர் சூழல் கல்வி மற்றும் ஆராய்ச்சி
அறக்கட்டளை

Working towards a society grounded in ecological and
human values

Annual Report 2025 - 26







Palluyir

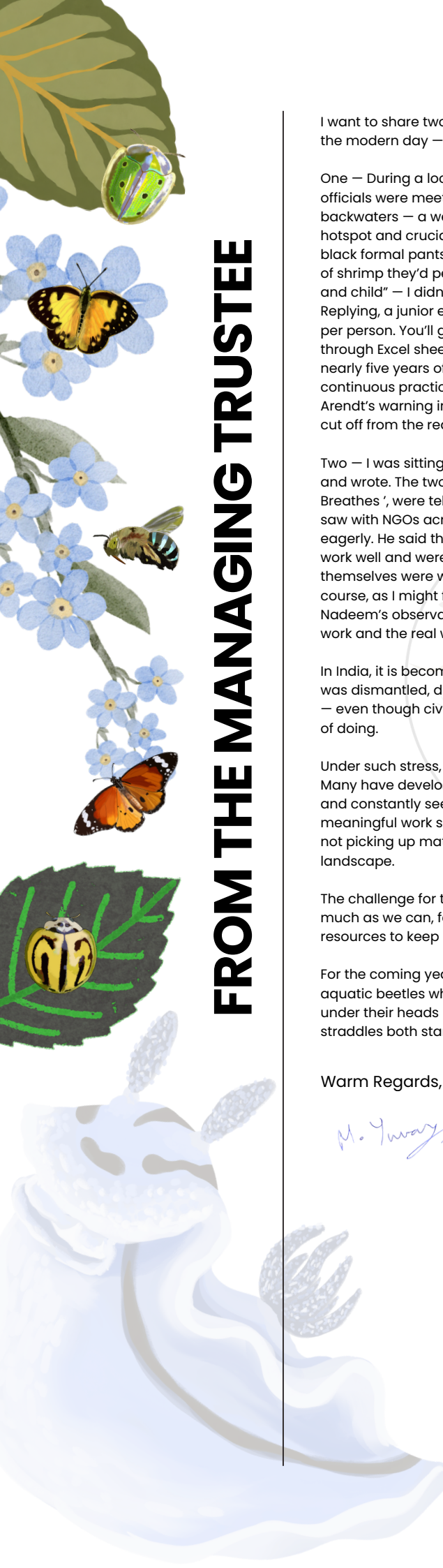


Table of Contents



1.Note from the Managing Trustee -----	01
2.Our Trustees -----	02
3.Our Team -----	03
4.Supporters and Partners -----	04
5.Palluyir in the Press -----	05
6.Direct Impact Overview-----	07
7.Nature Education Resources -----	11
8.Activity Sheets & Posters -----	12
9.Charts, Mind Maps & Bingos -----	13
10.Indirect Impact Overview -----	15
11.Local Nature-based Learning Programme -----	16
12.Sirudavoor: PBR -----	20
13.Urban Wilderness Walks -----	24
14.School Programmes -----	27
15.City Nature Challenge -----	30
16.Summer Young Naturalist Camp -----	31
17.Advocacy -----	33
18.Public Engagement -----	36
19.Team Talks -----	43
20. Financial Report 2025 - 2026 -----	44





FROM THE MANAGING TRUSTEE

I want to share two moments over the last year which made me think about what work and workplace mean, in the modern day —

One — During a local hearing at a community hall in Kovalam village, the water resources department (WRD) officials were meeting the local fisherfolk. The WRD wanted to build a reservoir on the Kovalam-Nemmeli backwaters — a wetland which 20,000 artisanal fishers were dependent on, a wetland which is a migratory bird hotspot and crucial flood drainage for a large part of South Chennai. The officials sat in white ironed shirts and black formal pants, with files in their hands. The fisherwomen had come in sweaty sarees, with the exoskeleton of shrimp they'd peeled still stuck on their fingers. One woman said, "These backwaters are both like my parent and child" — I didn't know where to even feel that emotion in my body, or that sense of place-connection. Replying, a junior engineer of the WRD said "Don't worry, we will compensate you. You'll get two lakhs to five lakhs per person. You'll get jobs in nearby apartments". This man's relationship with his waters and lands was largely through Excel sheets, printed documents, and maps. Does such a praxis like his create place-connection? In the nearly five years of Palluyir's existence, I've met a number of institutions, state-authorities, experts with no continuous practice of direct engagement with their subjects. What is the danger of this? I remember Hannah Arendt's warning in her book 'Origins of Totalitarianism' that the ground for bad governance begins with being cut off from the real world.

Two — I was sitting with Saud and Nadeem on a bench in Tavistock Gardens, where Virginia Woolf once roamed and wrote. The two raptor veterinarians, who were the protagonists of the Oscar-nominated film 'All That Breathes', were telling me what it is like to run an NGO. Nadeem said that there seemed to be a commonality he saw with NGOs across the world which he felt were doing good work. I asked him for that nugget of wisdom eagerly. He said that among the groups he considered doing 'good work', the heads of organizations knew the work well and were in touch with the ground — whether it was conservation, surgery or education, they themselves were well-versed in the field and craft, and not merely filling an administrative role. I felt pleased of course, as I might fall in that category, though my shortcomings, I am aware, are by no means few. Still, Nadeem's observation highlighted once more, the need for administrative power to be connected with the real work and the real world.

In India, it is becoming increasingly difficult to raise funds and run an NGO. Recently the 80G tax exemption law was dismantled, disincentivising individual donors from donating to NGOs. The situation this has created is sad — even though civil society organizations contribute so much to various fields which the state can't even dream of doing.

Under such stress, NGOs are becoming increasingly funder-facing — with their back to their work and workplace. Many have developed a strange 'parent complex' with their funding bodies, deeply fearful of losing their support and constantly seeking approval and validation in their eyes. As a result a number of aspects of good meaningful work suffers — real-world engagement, staff well-being, doing intangible work, and an attitude of not picking up matters which a funder may not recognize or support, even though it is important in one's landscape.

The challenge for the NGO, in today's compounding financial and political uncertainty, is to straddle. Can we, as much as we can, face our work and workplace, lands and waters and communities, while also finding the resources to keep us afloat?

For the coming year's work I choose my daemon to be the whirligig beetle — shining, silvery, light-mimicking aquatic beetles which live in waters which are clean and thriving. Whirligigs have two sets of eyes above and under their heads — a pair set to the skies and a pair anchored to depth and flow. Theirs is an attention which straddles both stars and stream-bed, darkness and light, simultaneously far out and within.

Warm Regards,

M. Yway





MEET OUR TRUSTEES



Yuvan Aves
Founder,
Managing Trustee



Vijaya Kumar
Trustee



L Margaret
Trustee, Legal Advisor



MEET OUR TEAM



Jomi Jose
Nature Educator



Claudia Pinheiro
Nature Educator



Gowtham M
Nature Educator



Kanishka P
Nature Educator



Aravind Selvam
Nature Educator



Hemavathi P
Nature Educator



Sri P
Illustrator, Nature
Educator



Karunya Baskar
Nature Educator,
Illustrator



Tejaswini J
Nature Educator



MEET OUR SUPPORTERS



Rainmatter
Foundation



MEET OUR PARTNERS



PITCHANDIKULAM FOREST
(A Unit under Auroville Foundation)

PALLUYIR IN THE PRESS

Chennai Nature Walks See Surge in Participation Amid Urban Interest

Asha Prakash / Aug 29, 2026, 23:59 IST

AirPods 5

Available Now

24 Month No Cost EMI starting at ₹621/month*

TOI

Comments Preferred on

Asha.Prakash@timesofindia.com

A few weeks ago, environment educator's organisation Palluyir Trust announced an

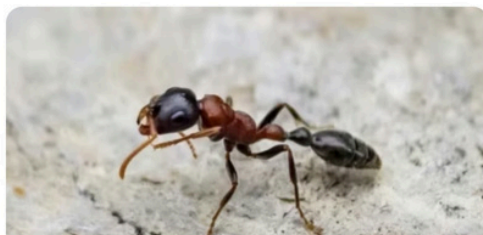
THE TIMES OF INDIA

News TOI Games Live Videos World City Inc

Hey, That's An Idli Ant. Don't Chutney It!

CITY | Kamini Mathai | TNN | May 25, 2025, 12:21 IST

Complete Transparency. Greater Value. That's a MALABAR PROMISE. EXPLORE MORE



Epaper Daily Thanthi Thanthi TV

DIANEXI

Chennai Tamil Nadu India World Enter

Chennai

Meet Chennai's new-gen ninjas for turtles

Through walks, awareness campaigns, hatchery work and nature education, Chennai's new-gen conservationists inspire people in safeguarding one of the world's most threatened marine species



Hatchlings





The NEWS Minute

Subscribe

SOUTH CENTRAL

LET ME EXPLAIN

SI

Tamil Nadu

TN Coastal authority

fines NHAI for dumping

excavated material in

Odiyur lagoon

The Tamil Nadu Coastal Zone

Management Authority has imposed a

fine on the National Highways Authority

of India (NHAI) for illegally dumping

excavated material into the

ecologically sensitive Odiyur Lagoon

during highway construction.

Over 25 environmental groups

seek independent review panel,

halt to Mamallan reservoir

work

While welcoming the government's decision to

review the project, the collective said the

credibility of the exercise would be

undermined if it was led by the department

that prepared the project

Updated – August 08, 2026 12:57 pm IST – CHENNAI

THE HINDU BUREAU

Vada Nemmeli along ECR where the Mamallan

reservoir was proposed | Photo Credit: M. Srinath

THE HINDU

SUBSCRIBE

Palluyir Trust identifies over 50

birds at Sathangadu lake, raises

concern over proposed waste-

to-energy plant

Published – May 15, 2025 10:00 pm IST – Chennai

THE HINDU BUREAU

Palluyir Trust, a Chennai-based organization for

nature education and research, has urged the

Greater Chennai Corporation to explore

alternative solutions to the proposed

Kodungaiyur waste-to-energy plant, citing

concerns about protecting and managing the

nearby Sathangadu lake. This was mentioned in

a report following a recent bird survey at the

Sathangadu lake, where over 50 species of birds

were identified. The Trust said that the area was

“unsuitable” for an incinerator plant.

The following is the impact overview for the year 2025-26, highlighting the total number of people engaged across the board

1432
Public

30
Teachers

***Direct
Impact***

Engaging with people
on the ground through
walks and sessions

944
Children

Total
2406
People



Nature Education Materials distributed



- Common Trees of Chennai guide - 117
 - Frog calls poster - 18
- Marshland migratory birds guide - 90
 - Plant observation sheet - 17
 - Coastal Fauna guide - 190
- Common Ants of Chennai guide - 196
 - Vedanthangal field guide - 65
 - Vedanthangal bingo - 25
 - Wildflowers of Chennai - 46
 - Leaf adaptation bingo - 20
- Common wasps of Chennai - 63
- Common butterflies of Chennai - 219
 - Soil guide - 25
- Common fishes of Chennai - 55
 - Bee poster - 31
- Wilderness card game - 5
- Pollination bingo - 64
 - Wasp poster - 10
 - Bee poster - 10
 - Ant poster - 10
- Insect calls poster - 55
- Back shore bingo - 65
- Butterfly behavior bingo - 27
 - Sense search sheets - 50
- Dragonfly behavior bingo and common dragonflies of chennai - 24

Total 2081



NATURE EDUCATION RESOURCES

NAMMA CHENNAI BIODIVERSITY MAP



Last August, we launched a biodiversity map of Chennai, an illustrated montage of all of Chennai's life forms. This map is an attempt at charting Chennai's wild heart, inviting Chennaites to look at the city for what it truly is – an ecologically vibrant realm. The complete bilingual biodiversity map can be downloaded in high resolution from our website for free.

BIRDS OF VEDANTHANGAL FIELD GUIDE

Our 'Birds of Vedanthangal' is a compact field guide that collates information on 34 species of waterbirds that visit Vedanthangal between October and February, with clear ID pointers and succinct notes on their fascinating behaviors. Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary is India's oldest bird sanctuary, born from the long-standing conservation efforts of local villages. So, whether you're planning a visit or simply curious about Tamil Nadu's migratory visitors, this guide is a must-have.



KOVALAM-NEMMELI COFFEE TABLE BOOK



We've curated a photobook that captures 46 species, including common, migratory, and rare species, along with protected flora and fauna that call the Kovalam–Nemmeli wetlands home. From migratory avifauna that winter in these waters to the smaller insects and benthic fauna that sustain the ecosystem, each species occupies a unique role in the sophisticated interplay of interactions that collectively breathe life into this landscape.

Find a simple and compound leaf tree in your school - description (location, cardinal direction, describe the tree)

உங்கள் பள்ளியில் உள்ள தனி மற்றும் கூட்டு இலை மரத்தைக் கண்டறியவும் - (இடம், திசை, மரத்தை விவரிக்கவும்)

Find and describe an ant and its nest

உங்கள் பள்ளியிலுள்ள ஏறும்பு மற்றும் அதன் கூட்டைக் கண்டறிந்து அதைப் பற்றி விவரிக்கவும்

Match the insect name to the call

பூச்சியின் பெயரை அதன் ஒலியுடன் பொருத்தவும்

Pick a microhabitat and list down the creatures that you see there

ஒரு நுண்ணுயிர் வாழிடத்தை கண்டறிந்து அதில் வாழும் உயிரினங்களை எழுதவும்

Categorise seeds as dispersed by wind/water/animals. Find seeds around your school, how are they dispersed?

காற்று/நீர்/விலங்குகள் மூலம் பரவும் விதைகளை வகைப்படுத்தவும் மற்றும் உங்கள் பள்ளியைச் சுற்றி விதைகளைக் கண்டறிந்து அவை எவ்வாறு பரவுகின்றன என்பதை எழுதவும்.

Find the names of these shells. Do they belong to gastropods or bivalves?

சிற்பிகளின் பெயர்களை எழுதவும். இவை இருமேட்டுடையவா அல்லது வயிற்றுக்காலியா என்று குறிப்பிடவும்.

Find and draw these nature patterns:

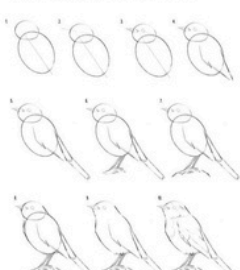
- Vornoi
- Tessellation
- Spiral
- Fractal

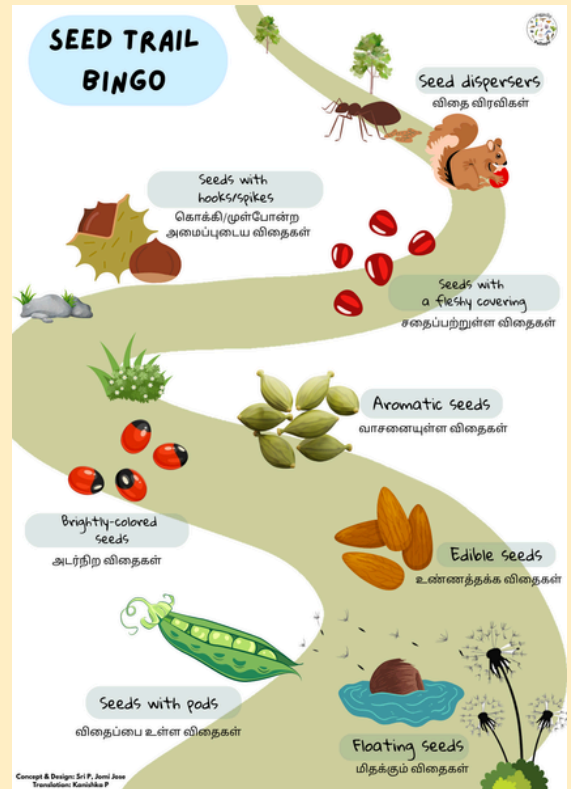
கீழே கொடுக்கப்பட்ட இயற்கை வடிவங்களை கண்டறிந்து வரையவும்:

- வோர்னோய்
- பலவண்ணக் கட்டமைப்பு
- சுருள்
- வடிவப்பகுப்பியல்

Draw a bird using the shown steps.

கொடுக்கப்பட்டுள்ள அறிவுறுத்தல்களை பயன்படுத்தி பறவைையை வரையவும்.





ACTIVITY SHEETS & POSTERS

Date: _____ Name: _____

1. Find the names of different fish that have the following characteristics:

Forked tail



Prominent lateral line



Rounded tail



Silvery scales



Square tail



Dorso-ventrally flattened body
(from top to bottom)



2. Which fish do you think can swim very fast?

3. Which fish do you think lives in a coral reef?

Ants/ஏறும்புகள்

Use the following words to describe your observations:
கீழ்க்கண்ட சொற்களை பயன்படுத்தி நீங்கள் கவனித்தவற்றை விவரிக்கவும்

Solo/தனியாக	Trail/பாதை	Scouting party/ கூட்டமாக செல்லும் ஏறும்புகள்	Size variation/ அளவு மாறுபாடு
carrying larvae/ இளங்களை கொண்டு செல்வது	_____	_____	foraging/ உணவு தேடுவது
_____	_____	_____	scavenging/ இறந்தவற்றை உண்ணுவது

Species name/ஏறும்பின் பெயர்: _____

What does the ant look like? இந்த ஏறும்பு பாற்பதற்கு எப்படி இருக்கிறது? _____

Observations: _____

Species name/ஏறும்பின் பெயர்: _____

What does the ant look like? இந்த ஏறும்பு பாற்பதற்கு எப்படி இருக்கிறது? _____

Observations: _____

Species name/ஏறும்பின் பெயர்: _____

What does the ant look like? இந்த ஏறும்பு பாற்பதற்கு எப்படி இருக்கிறது? _____

Observations: _____



Tree walk



Columnar



Rounded/Oval



Vase



Spreading



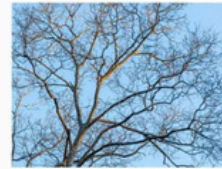
Drip tip



Hem-margin



Hanging leaf



Deciduousness

ACTIVITY SHEETS



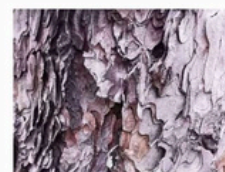
Peeling



Smooth



Ridged



Scaly



Leaf galls



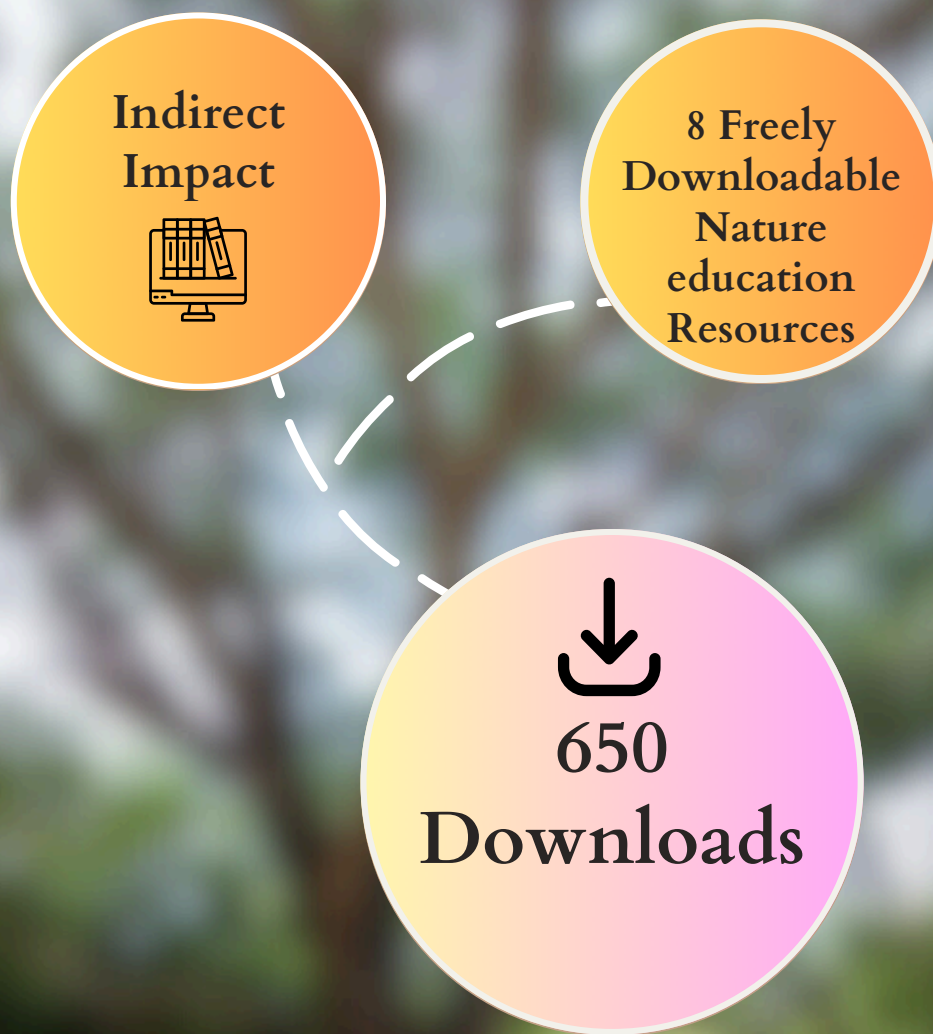
Herbivory



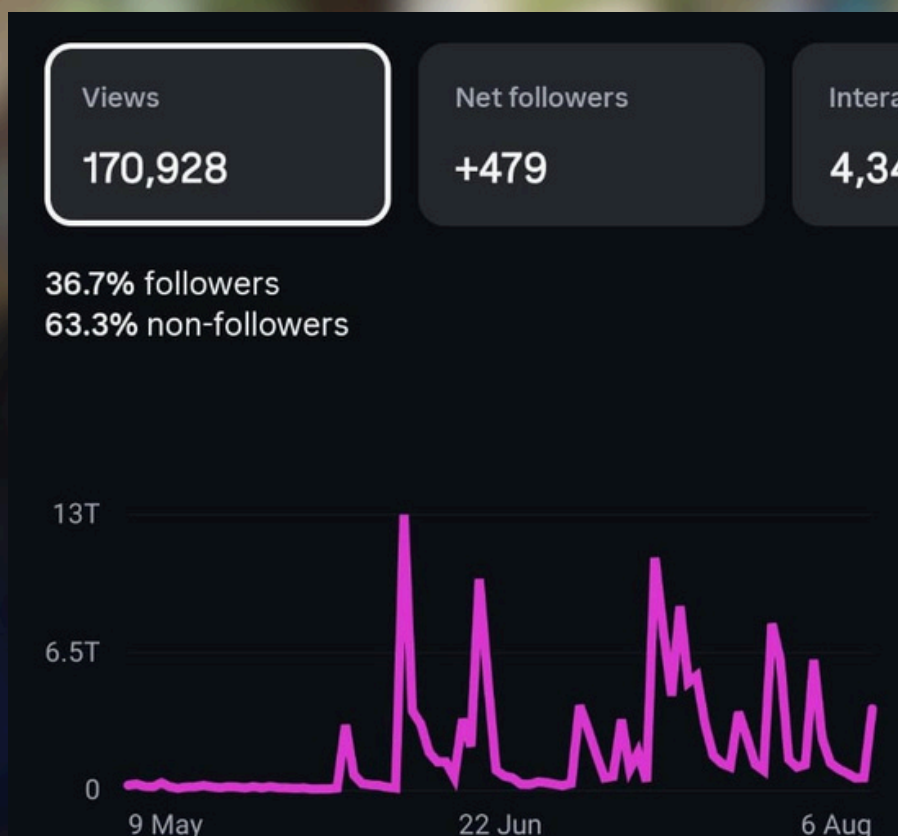
Root nest



Hollow nest



SOCIAL MEDIA OUTREACH & IMPACT





LOCAL NATURE-BASED LEARNING PROGRAMME

TIMELINE: July 2025 - March 2026

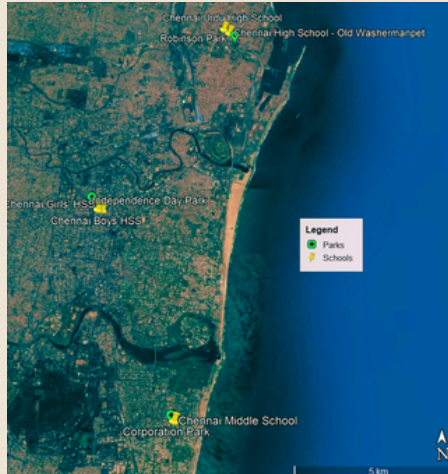
In partnership with the Greater Chennai Corporation, the program ran in 6 government schools.

9 Months - 67 Sessions

6 Government Schools : Grade 8

1.5 Hours each

08 Nature Educators



North Chennai

Chennai High School, Old washermanpet 60

Chennai Urdu High School 55

Central Chennai

Chennai Girls Higher Secondary School, 45 Nungambakkam

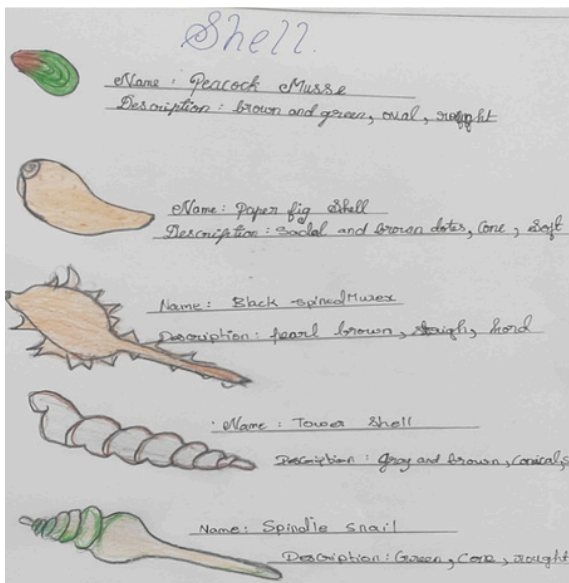
Chennai Boys Higher Secondary School, 17 Nungambakkam

South Chennai

Chennai Middle School, Kalakshetra Colony 40

Chennai Middle School, Jaladianpet 67

HIGHLIGHTS



- In all schools, students requested an increase in the frequency of sessions.
- During the activity, students' observation skills could be seen distinctly improving, as is noticeable in their work.
- Students' conservation attitude and connection towards nature have improved.
- Students were able to enhance their critical thinking skills via nature observation and form concrete connections between nature learning and scientific concepts.
- Visiting Vedanthangal was a great learning experience for most students. They were thoroughly engrossed in watching birds and shared their thoughts and questions during post-session discussion.
- Playing the Wilderness Card Game was loved by most students and it has helped them understand different ecosystems of Chennai in a fun and engaging way.
- The teachers showed interest and involvement in several of the activities.
- We were able to observe a great improvement in most students' language skills and ability to perceive nature, through the analysis of data obtained through baseline and endline surveys conducted and direct one-to-one engagement.



LOCAL NATURE-BASED LEARNING PROGRAMME

OUR ACTIVITIES



FIRST TERM



- 1. Baseline Survey** - to understand pre- and post-intervention changes in students.
- 2. Tree Mapping** - to acquaint students with the local tree ecology, and cultivate nature-connectedness.
- 3. Microhabitats** - to understand the importance of small habitats in and around their school campus and organisms living there.
- 4. Patterns in Nature** - to introduce the students to four commonly seen patterns in nature: tessellation, fractals, Voronoi, and spirals and to help improve their observation skills.

SECOND TERM



- 1. Insect calls** - a sound-based activity designed to instill a sense of fascination for insect calls and improve listening skills in learners.
- 2. Nature journaling** - an illustration-based activity to help them focus on the importance of paying attention to detail.
- 3. Seeds** - to help students learn about the different types of seeds they come across in their day-to-day lives and to understand their importance.
- 4. Shells** - to introduce the students to various commonly seen bivalves and gastropod shells found along the Chennai coast.

THIRD TERM



- 1. Ants** - to acquaint students with local and most commonly seen species of ants and help them understand their behaviors.
- 2. Vedanthangal Bird Trip** - to help students understand the significance of wetlands, learn about common water birds, their behaviors, and names.
- 3. Wilderness Treasure Hunt Game** - an attempt at gamification of the learning process to help students understand different species of organisms on their school campus and surrounds.
- 4. Endline Feedback Survey** - to analyse students' level of engagement - their preferences and aversions across all sessions conducted.
- 5. Distribution of resource materials** - students were provided complimentary guides and posters to inculcate the habit of observing the environment and local ecology beyond classrooms.

FEEDBACK FROM STUDENTS



"I like all the classes taken by palluyir. I learnt a lot that I didn't know. Thank you for teaching what nature is."

- Pragathi P, Grade 8

"I know trees before but now I know names and I can explain."

-Sanjana M, Grade 8



"We used to not respect nature, but now I am taking care of it too."

- Mohammed Younus M, Grade 8



"I like all the sessions, I learnt its very interesting, Please do continue in 9th grade, teaching teachers are very kind."

-Subashini A, Grade 8





SIRUDAVOOR: PEOPLE'S BIODIVERSITY REGISTER



In March 2026, we concluded the People's Biodiversity Register (PBR) for Sirudavoor village in Chengalpattu district, under the Biological Diversity Act (2002). The PBR was developed through a participatory process led by the local BMC, local youth, and a women's Self-Help Group (SHG). The SHG, spearheaded by Mrs. Thilagavathi, played a pivotal role in regularly coordinating and ensuring continued community engagement throughout the documentation process. 13 local youth volunteers – whom we supported through a modest stipend – actively participated in biodiversity mapping, uploading observations of flora, fauna, agricultural practices, and traditional ecological knowledge. The process was also supported through collaboration with volunteers from the Madras Naturalists' Society, who generously offered their scientific guidance and time.

Subsequently, the completed PBR was formally submitted to Ms. Mita Banerjee, IFS – PCCF, and Member Secretary, Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board. The initial impetus for us to make PBR in Sirudavoor was the threat it faced from sand mining and the conversion of its wetlands to real estate. Through this project, we generated a robust biodiversity document – identifying species across multiple taxa, including wild flora, cultivated crops, aquatic vegetation, avifauna, amphibians, reptiles, insects, and mammals alongside traditional ecological knowledge on food, fodder, and medical uses of plants that helped us garner protection for the village.



One of the unique provisions of the BD Act (Section 37) provides for ecosystem conservation by legally declaring areas of biodiversity importance as a Biodiversity Heritage Site (BHS). The Tamil Nadu State Biodiversity Board has initiated discussions for declaring the Sirudavoor Lake as a Biodiversity Heritage Site (BHS), owing to the comprehensive documentation that our work has resulted in. In the coming year, we hope to implement the PBR process across four ecologically sensitive and threatened habitats in North Tamil Nadu and evolve innovative ways of working with these communities and their ecologies long-term.







URBAN WILDERNESS WALKS



Urban Wilderness Walks is a one-of-a-kind internship we offer, in collaboration with the Madras Naturalists' Society (MNS), to college students from the Life sciences. This program, facilitated by Yuvan Aves, is designed to encourage students to look at their neighborhoods with a renewed sense of appreciation for urban biodiversity and to become ardent advocates for the wilderness around their neighborhoods.

Palluyir offered material support to the interns to enhance the facilitation of the program — complimentary field guides, posters, bingo sheets, survey sheets and several allied resources were provided to help equip interns with necessary aids to enhance their observation skills and to ensure increased receptivity. These pedagogical implements were also utilized by the interns to facilitate generic and themed nature walks that they spearheaded as part of the internship.



We began the Urban Wilderness Walks Internship (in collaboration with the Madras Naturalists' Society) for the 6th Batch in July 2025. The introductory session was held at Olcott Memorial School, followed by a series of sessions in multiple bio-hotspots in and around the city. We also have a similar ongoing project, a collaboration with Pudiyador, wherein we organize periodic nature education sessions for fisher-kids from Urur and Olcott Kuppam.



Glimpses from Walks by UWW Interns

Our 6th batch of Urban Wilderness Walks trainees led their own independent nature-walks in different localities across the city – from Mannivakkam to Nungambakkam, Guindy Children’s Park to Independence Day Park – over the course of the internship. Each intern engaged 10 to 15 members of the public, spanning different age groups, helping participants connect newly with familiar landscapes, through fresh perspectives. From background research and publicising their walks to holding attendees’ attention and fielding questions, our UWW interns—themselves college students—practiced their nature-guide skills, and in the process taught Chennaiites about leaf adaptations, marine taxonomies, plant origins, the importance of sandy habitats, and more.



SCHOOL PROGRAMMES



Beyond our GCC project, we extended nature education to schools across Chennai, creating opportunities for children of all ages to experience, observe, and build a deeper connection with the natural world. Through hands-on explorations across diverse habitats, we encouraged children to move beyond simply learning about nature to engaging with it firsthand.

- With Hive Montessori, we conducted a guided visit to Vedanthangal and a butterfly walk at Pachaimalai, preceded by an in-school orientation on insects and supported by field guides and activity sheets to facilitate a richer learning experience. The kids were accompanied by their parents for both sessions.
- For Banyan Kids, we hosted a shore walk at Kovalam and an ant walk at Ambattur Lake. For many children, this was their first meaningful engagement with nature. Their initial curiosity towards insects sometimes translated into attempts to handle or harm them – however, the walk created fertile ground to foster gentler ways of observing and interacting with other forms of life. Through guided exploration, they began discovering the fascinating lives and ecological roles of even the smallest creatures.
- This year, via the school-wide Farm, Environment and Society programme for Abacus Montessori, we had periodic on-farm nature sessions for students, and hands-on training modules were also facilitated for teachers across bio-hotspots in Chennai.



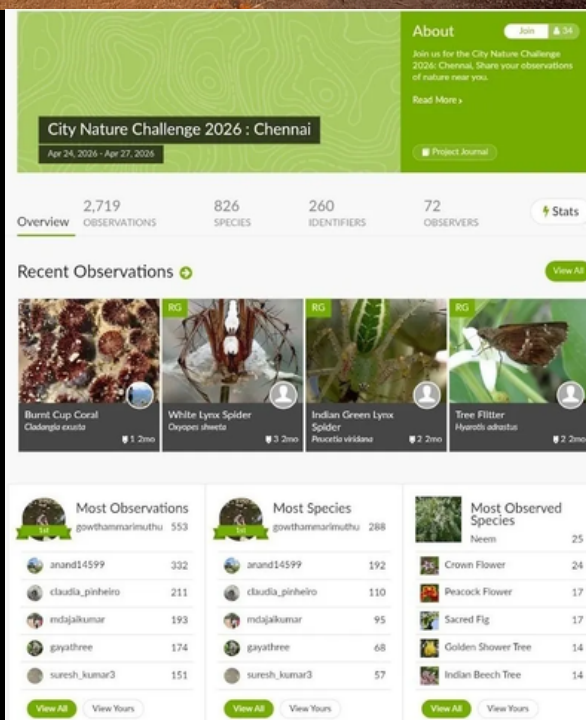


CITY NATURE CHALLENGE



We organized the City Nature Challenge in Chennai for the fourth consecutive year, from April 24–27, 2026. Chennai joined cities across the world for the City Nature Challenge – an annual global event that brings communities together, encouraging people to step outdoors, explore their surroundings, and document local biodiversity.

This year, Chennai's nature enthusiasts collectively recorded 2,719 observations documenting a staggering 826 species, with contributions from 72 observers and 260 identifiers on iNaturalist. From burnt cup corals to white lynx spiders, the observations recorded during the challenge have spotlighted the incredible diversity of life thriving across the city and its surrounding landscapes. Every observation – whether of a neighborhood tree or a rarely noticed insect – adds to our understanding of Chennai's ecological richness and helps build a robust database that can aid long-term conservation.



SUMMER YOUNG NATURALIST CAMP



This summer, we conducted the Summer Young Naturalist Camp – in collaboration with Yein Udaan and Travel with Kids – an immersive nature education program designed to nurture children’s curiosity and passion for the natural world. Through the program, we guided young participants (aged 7–14 years) through a series of experiential outdoor learning sessions across Chennai’s diverse habitats, encouraging them to observe, explore, and engage deeply with urban ecological spaces.



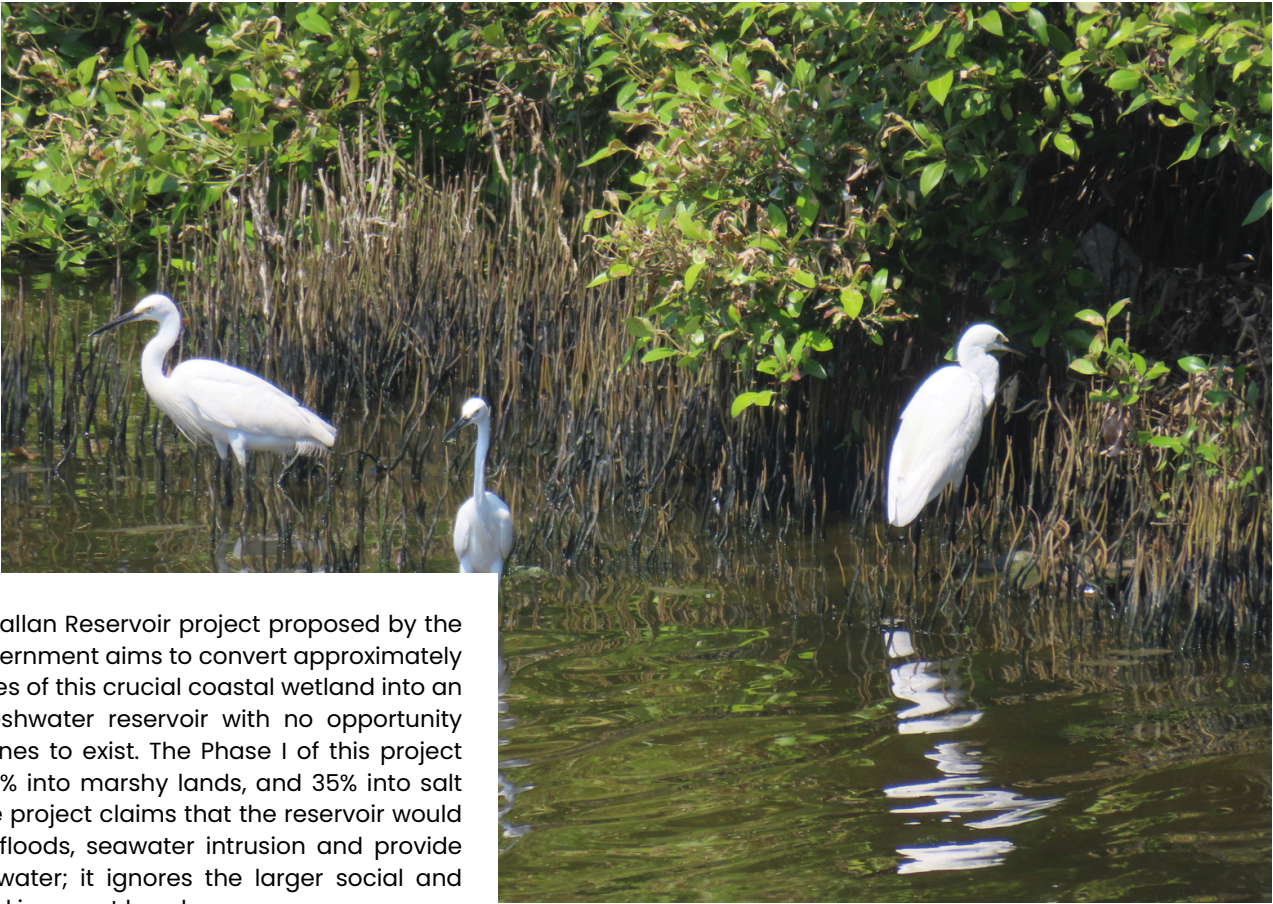
Through explorations of trees and their cultural connections, pollinators and their role in food security, ants and soil ecosystems, natural soundscapes, wetlands, and coastal biodiversity – children developed a deeper understanding of the intra-connectedness of life in nature. Accompanied by hands-on field activities, discussions, and learning resources, the camp also helped participants carry their observations forward, beyond the field and into their everyday lives – cultivating a long-abiding relationship with the more-than-human around them.



ADVOCACY: MAMALLAN RESERVOIR



The Kovalam-Nemmeli backwaters in South Chennai are a critical, and complex coastal wetland ecosystem that spans more than 8000 acres. The landscape is hydro-ecologically connected to the Kovalam Creek/Kovalam backwaters, the Buckingham Canal, the Muttukadu estuarine and backwater habitats, and the Bay of Bengal through tidal exchange and seasonal drainage channels. Such hydrological connectivity supports nutrient cycling, salinity gradients, sediment transport, and the maintenance of estuarine ecological functions, making the area a biologically rich ecotonal zone for several migratory avifauna and mangroves.



The Mamallan Reservoir project proposed by the state government aims to convert approximately 5000 acres of this crucial coastal wetland into an entire freshwater reservoir with no opportunity for ecotones to exist. The Phase I of this project spans 65% into marshy lands, and 35% into salt pans. The project claims that the reservoir would mitigate floods, seawater intrusion and provide drinking water; it ignores the larger social and ecological issues at hand.

Contrary to what the project suggests as benefits of the reservoir, the tidal marsh ecotone already provides flood mitigation, prevents hypersalinization of ground water through tidal exchange, and protects inland regions from storm surges. The sea water exchange maintains a delicate balance of salinity that allows for the mangrove, salt marsh, and estuaries to survive. These habitats act as breeding grounds for prawn, and fish that support local communities' livelihoods.





As part of our efforts to garner protection for the wetlands, we focused on documenting the landscape's biodiversity and building irrefutable ecological evidence .

We also hosted a screening of our documentary, "Ezhilum Azhivum", which explores the rich life of this wetland landscape and the everyday lives of the artisanal fisherfolk who depend upon it. The screening was followed by a panel discussion with members of the fisher-communities, bringing their experiences and perspectives to the forefront.

With legal proceedings concerning the project presently ongoing, we continue to document, communicate, and build public awareness around the ecological indispensability and livelihood significance of these wetlands.



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT



From wandering the sandy stretches of Marina Beach, teeming with protest movement histories and coastal life, to birdwatching at Pallikaranai Marsh as migratory birds touch down after long journeys—every wild space in Chennai has unique place-stories to tell.

We took members of the public on a shorewalk along Elliots Beach, exploring the common intertidal fauna seen strewn along the shoreline.



Coastal Walk at Elliots Beach



Nature & Psyche Walk at NIMHANS

At the National Mental Health Festival in Bangalore, we conducted a first-of-its-kind walk, around a concept we call the 'co-evolved psyche.' On the walk, we guided the 150 attendees through a set of 6 practices of direct nature-observation, intended for people to experience that there are paths to understanding ourselves that only other beings can let us enter.

We spoke about the linkages between forests and language – how trees linger in our vernacular not just as metaphors, but also in the recurring sounds we use. We encouraged the participants to adopt a novel lens through which to understand the cultural relevance of our natural environment and centuries-old tree legends and myths that still continue to shape and mould our perception of trees.



Tree Walk at Chitlapakkam

We organized a game session featuring our Wilderness Cards for the public at Quest Learning Center. Participants expressed infectious enthusiasm, had cutthroat competition with fellow players and had absolute fun playing the game.



Wilderness card game session at Quest



Wasp walk at CRRT Park

A field training session for nature educators of Pitchandikulam Forest at Blue Green Center, Olcott Memorial School: we explored the school campus and spotted a smorgasbord of creatures and delved into their amusingly mysterious lives.



Session at BGC

We hosted a Bird Walk at Sholinganallur – exploring the world of migratory birds, their annual migratory circuits and the criticality of wetlands in serving as key roosting and feeding sites.



Bird Walk at Sholinganallur



Wildflower Walk at Pachamalai

We facilitated a Public Walk at Pachaimalai for about 25 participants, helping them appreciate the wildflowers and their associated pollinators on the hillock. Complimentary wildflower guides were also distributed to everyone.

We took participants on a dragonfly walk around a lake in Medavakkam, observing everything from territorial chases to sun-basking perches with the help of a custom-made dragonfly bingo sheet. Along the way, the group also spotted a few aquatic invertebrates.



Dragonfly Walk at Medavakkam

We anchored a walk around ants on IMSc campus for students and faculty, orienting them to ant anatomy, trophic cascade, and exploring the various ant species found on campus.



Ant walk at IMSC



Shore Walk at Nochikuppam

We introduced the participants to the Tropical Dry Evergreen Forest (TDEF) vegetation – a rare and distinct type of forest native to the Coromandel coast, characterized by dense, multi-layered canopies adapted to thrive in low rainfall and coastal conditions.



TDEF Walk at Sithalapakkam

In collaboration with Nature Conservation Foundation, a bioblitz for Cisco corporate company was conducted. The employees were introduced to Citizen science, using iNaturalist for documentation and the importance of citizen science initiatives. We had a nature walk on their campus, observing and clicking pictures of biodiversity.



Bioblitz at Cisco



Soundscaping at Sholinganallur

Soundscaping is a newly curated nocturnal walk-experience, exploring amphibian and insect-soundscapes around Chennai's lakes and wetlands that come alive post-sundown.

We went shorewalking with participants at Elliots Beach, inviting them to look beyond the obvious and witness the coast in all its glory.

From observing ghost crabs scuttling into and out of their burrows, gulls bobbing far out at sea to tower snails screwing themselves into the sand and crows attempting to snag wedge clams, we watched nothing short of an ecological drama unfold.



Shore Walk at Besant Nagar





TEAM TALKS

“

“Working at Palluyir has brought me immense joy. Learning constantly and developing a new NBL curriculum for children has been a very rewarding experience!”

– Aravind Selvam

”

“

“I love working with palluyir trust this is the place where I learned a lot more about nature in the aspect of earthly blessing. Working with Palluyir gave me an opportunity to know more about nature and the connect which we have with nature. Palluyir trust helped me to engage well with children. And that more belief will strengthen us in all ways possible!!”

– Hemavathi P

”

“

“It's a long term dream for me to work for environment and kids. And working with Palluyir turned my dreams into reality. Daily learnings, lots of exploration, like-minded people in team. Grateful for the opportunity.”

– Kanishka P

”

“

“An incredible amount of knowledge exchange happens here at Palluyir on a daily basis. I'm glad to be part of a space that encourages creative thinking, new ideas, and that each individual grow and learn at our own pace, and on our own terms.”

– Karunya Baskar

”

PALLUYIR'S AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2025 – 26



INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To

The Trustees
Palluyir Trust

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Palluyir Trust, which comprise the Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2026, and the Income and Expenditure Account for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the financial statement of Palluyir Trust, for the year ended 31st March 2026, give a true and fair view in conformity with the accounting principles generally accepted in India:

- a) In the case of Balance sheet, of the state of affairs of Palluyir Trust as at 31st March 2026;
- b) In the case of Income and Expenditure account, of the **Excess of Expenditure over Income** for the year ended on that date.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with the Standards on Auditing (SAs) issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Trust in accordance with the Code of Ethics issued by the ICAI and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the Code of Ethics. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.



Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. This responsibility includes the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility for the Audit of Financial Statements

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with the Standards on auditing issued by The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and the disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Trust's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Trust's internal control.

An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of the accounting estimates made by the management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

For Menon & Pai
Chartered Accountants
Firm Regn. No. 008025S



Kiran R
Partner

Chennai, 1st September 2026

Mem. No. 225616
UDIN: 26225616URJEVQ4410

PALLUYIR TRUST

No. 32, Flat 5A, Sree Shakthi Flats, Seshadripuram, Velachery, Chennai - 600 042

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2026

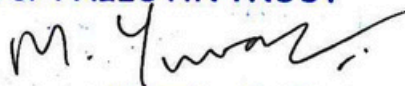
Sl. No.	Particulars	Notes	As at 31 st March 2026 ₹	As at 31 st March 2025 ₹
I	FUNDS AND LIABILITIES			
1	NPO Funds			
(a)	Restricted Funds			
	- Corpus Fund	3	63,000	63,000
(b)	Unrestricted Funds			
	- General Fund	4	2,76,254	15,21,379
2	Current liabilities			
	Other Current Liabilities	5	7,080	4,04,610
	Total		3,46,334	19,88,989
II.	ASSETS			
1	Non-current assets			
(a)	Fixed Asset			
	- Tangible & Intangible Assets	6	69,481	80,058
2	Current assets			
(a)	Cash & Cash Equivalents	7	44,025	17,88,931
(b)	Short-term Loans and Advances	8	1,20,000	1,20,000
(c)	Other Current Assets	9	1,12,828	-
	Total		3,46,334	19,88,989

"The Notes referred to above form an integral part of the accounts"

As per our report of even date attached

For Palluyir Trust

For PALLUYIR TRUST


Managing Trustee

Yuvadeeban Margaret
Managing Trustee

For Menon & Pai

Chartered Accountants

Firm Regn No. 008025S





Kiran R
Partner

Mem. No. 225616

UDIN: 26225616URJEVQ4410

Chennai, 1st September 2026

PALLUYIR TRUST

No. 32, Flat 5A, Sree Shakthi Flats, Seshadripuram, Velachery, Chennai - 600 042

STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2026

Sl. No.	Particulars	Notes	Year ended 31 st March 2026 ₹	Year ended 31 st March 2025 ₹
I	Income			
(a)	Unrestricted Funds			
	- Voluntary contribution	10	50,49,537	44,08,897
II	Other Income	11	-	1,340
III	Total Income (I+II)		50,49,537	44,10,237
IV	Expenses			
(a)	Expenditure on Charitable Activities	12	57,55,668	29,39,615
(b)	Repairs & Maintenance	13	1,12,503	97,570
(c)	Administrative & General Expenses	14	3,90,428	4,54,098
(e)	Subscription & Registration Expenses	15	-	17,085
(f)	Other Expenses	16	25,487	17,624
(g)	Depreciation and Amortisation Expenses	6	10,577	12,256
	Total Expenses (IV)		62,94,662	35,38,247
	(Deficit) / Excess of Income over Expenditure transferred to General Fund (III-IV)		(12,45,125)	8,71,989

"The Notes referred to above form an integral part of the accounts"

As per our report of even date attached

For Palluyir Trust

For PALLUYIR TRUST

Managing Trustee

Yuvadeeban Margaret

Managing Trustee

For Menon & Pai

Chartered Accountants

Firm Regn No. 008025S



Kiran R

Partner

Mem. No. 225616

UDIN: 26225616URJEVQ4410

Chennai, 1st September 2026

PALLUYIR TRUST

No. 32, Flat 5A, Sree Shakthi Flats, Seshadripuram, Velachery, Chennai - 600 042

STATEMENT OF RECIEPTS & PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2026

Particulars	Year ended 31 st March 2026		Year ended 31 st March 2025	
	₹	₹	₹	₹
<u>Receipts:</u>				
Opening Balance:				
Cash & Cash Equivalents	17,88,931	17,88,931	5,20,726	5,20,726
Voluntary Contribution	50,49,537		44,08,897	
Other Receipts	67,000	51,16,537	1,340	44,10,237
Total Receipts		69,05,468		49,30,963
<u>Payments:</u>				
Expenditure on Charitable Activities	62,43,397		26,21,615	
Repairs & maintenance	1,12,503		97,570	
Administrative & General Expenses	4,58,218		3,88,138	
Subscription & Registration Expenses	20,376		17,085	
Other Expenses	26,949	68,61,443	17,624	31,42,032
Closing Balance:				
Cash on hand	-		37,185	
Savings Deposit Balances with Bank	44,025	44,025	17,51,746	17,88,931
Total Payments		69,05,468		49,30,963

As per our report of even date attached

For Palluyir Trust

For PALLUYIR TRUST



Managing Trustee

Yuvadeeban Margaret
Managing Trustee
For Menon & Pai
Chartered Accountants
Firm Regn No. 008025S



Kiran R
Partner

Mem. No. 225616

UDIN: 26225616URJEVQ4410

Chennai, 1st September 2026

PALLUYIR TRUST

No. 32, Flat 5A, Sree Shakthi Flats, Seshadripuram, Velachery, Chennai - 600 042

NOTES FORMING PARTS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2026

1. Background

Palluyir Trust for Nature Education and Research, a Trust registered under Section 12A(1)(ac)(i) and 80G of the Income Tax Act, 1961 vide certificate number AAETP8946JE20216, is engaged in working towards a society grounded in Ecological and Human Values by rendering services in the field of nature, environment, bio-diversity, ecological conservation, protection of environment and work for environment justice and social justice. Established in the year 2021, the Trust conducts internship, apprenticeship programmes, nature walks and also publishes journals.

2. Significant Accounting Policies

2.1. Basis of preparation

- a) The Financial statements are prepared under historical cost.
- b) Income are accounted for on cash basis and Expenditures are accounted on accrual basis.

2.2. Fund recognition

a) Corpus fund:

Corpus funds are restricted fund, based on the purpose defined by the Donor.

b) General fund:

General fund includes Donation other than corpus fund and accumulation of excess or shortfall of Income and Expenditure account.

2.3. Income recognition

The Trust has a policy to recognize income as follows:

- a) Donation, Project income and Grants are recorded as and when received on cash basis.
- b) Interest income from bank as and when accrued and as per the confirmation / statements from banks.

2.4. Fixed assets and Depreciation

- a) The Fixed Assets have been capitalized at acquisition cost, with all identifiable expenditure incurred to bring the asset into present condition. Fixed Assets are shown at its written down values and depreciation thereon is charged as per the rates prescribed in the Income Tax Act, 1961.



PALLUYIR TRUST

No. 32, Flat 5A, Sree Shakthi Flats, Seshadripuram, Velachery, Chennai - 600 042

NOTES FORMING PARTS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2026

2.5. Employee benefits

a) Provident fund:

Eligible employees receive benefits from a Provident Fund, which is a defined benefit Plan. Both employee and the Trust make monthly contributions to the Provident Fund Plan equal to the specified percentage of the covered employee's salary.

b) Employees state insurance scheme:

Eligible employees receive benefits from Employee State Insurance, which is a social security program. Both employee and the Trust make monthly contributions to the Employee State Insurance equal to the specified percentage of the covered employee's salary.

2.6. Provisions

A provision is recognized if, as a result of a past event, the Trust has a present legal obligation that can be estimated reliably, and it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation. Provisions are determined by the best estimate of the outflow of economic benefits required to settle the obligation at reporting date.

2.7. Contingent liabilities

Where no reliable estimate can be made a disclosure is made as contingent liability. A disclosure for contingent liability is also made, when there is a possible obligation or a present obligation that may, but probably will not, require an outflow of resources. Where there is a possible obligation or a present obligation in respect of which the likelihood of outflow of resource is remote, no provision or disclosure is made. There are no Contingent Liabilities.

2.8. The balances of creditors, loans, advances, deposits etc., as shown in the Financial Statements as on 31.03.2026, are subject to confirmation.

2.9. Corresponding figures for previous year presented have been regrouped, where necessary, to confirm to the current year's classification.



PALLUYIR TRUST

No. 32, Flat 5A, Sree Shakthi Flats, Seshadripuram, Velachery, Chennai - 600 042

Notes forming part of Financial Statements - (continued)

Particulars	As at 31 st March 2026 ₹	As at 31 st March 2025 ₹
-------------	---	---

NOTE - 3

Corpus Fund		
Opening balance	63,000	63,000
Closing balance	63,000	63,000

NOTE - 4

General Fund		
Opening balance	15,21,379	6,49,390
Add: (Deficit) / Excess of Income over Expenditure	(12,45,125)	8,71,989
Closing balance	2,76,254	15,21,379

NOTE - 5

Other Current liabilities		
Outstanding expenses	-	3,48,000
Sundry creditors	7,080	56,610
Total	7,080	4,04,610



PALLUYIR TRUST

No. 32, Flat 5A, Sree Shakthi Flats, Seshadripuram, Velachery, Chennai - 600 042

Notes forming part of Financial Statements - (continued)

NOTE - 6

Sl. No.	Particulars	Depn. Rate of (%)	Balance as at 01.04.2025	Additions / (Disposals) for the year	Total as at 31.03.2026	Depreciation for the year	Balance as at 31.03.2026
1.	Plant & Machinery	15%	51,415	-	51,415	7,712	43,703
2.	Furniture & Fixtures	10%	28,643	-	28,643	2,864	25,778
	Total Asset		80,058	-	80,058	10,577	69,481



PALLUYIR TRUST

No. 32, Flat 5A, Sree Shakthi Flats, Seshadripuram, Velachery, Chennai - 600 042

Notes forming part of Financial Statements - (continued)

Particulars	As at 31 st March 2026 ₹	As at 31 st March 2025 ₹
-------------	---	---

NOTE - 7

Cash & Cash Equivalents		
Cash on hand	-	37,185
Balances with Bank;		
Indian bank	44,025	17,51,746
Total	44,025	17,88,931

NOTE - 8

Short-term Loans and Advances		
Rental advance	1,20,000	1,20,000
Total	1,20,000	1,20,000

NOTE - 9

Other Current Assets		
Advance to vendors	1,12,828	-
Total	1,12,828	-



PALLUYIR TRUST

No. 32, Flat 5A, Sree Shakthi Flats, Seshadripuram, Velachery, Chennai - 600 042

Notes forming part of Financial Statements - (continued)

Particulars	Year ended 31 st March 2026 ₹	Year ended 31 st March 2025 ₹
-------------	--	--

NOTE - 10

Voluntary Contribution		
General donation	50,49,537	44,08,897
Total	50,49,537	44,08,897

NOTE - 11

Other Income		
Interest on Income Tax Refund	-	1,340
Total	-	1,340

NOTE - 12

Expenditure on Charitable Activities		
Education fee	75,765	25,953
Printing and Stationery	1,33,816	1,17,470
Workshop fee	-	1,000
Entry fee	3,035	4,245
Food expenses	1,35,920	15,688
Honorarium expenses		
- CSR Projects	21,51,000	10,92,000
- General	21,44,400	13,88,000
Tarvelling & Conveyance	6,95,092	2,59,880
Boarding & Lodging	45,045	-
Postage & Courier	6,899	2,827
Zoom subscription	20,376	15,002
Project related expenses	3,44,320	17,550
Total	57,55,668	29,39,615



PALLUYIR TRUST

No. 32, Flat 5A, Sree Shakthi Flats, Seshadripuram, Velachery, Chennai - 600 042

Notes forming part of Financial Statements - (continued)

Particulars	Year ended 31 st March 2026 ₹	Year ended 31 st March 2025 ₹
-------------	--	--

NOTE - 13

Repairs & Maintenance		
Vehicle hire charges	51,300	37,010
Office maintenance	34,403	39,961
Software / Website maintenance	26,800	16,149
Others	-	4,450
Total	1,12,503	97,570

NOTE - 14

Administrative & General Expenses		
Bank charges	1,462	973
Electricity charges	1,139	4,606
Management services	1,08,560	1,59,300
Audit fees	25,960	23,600
Rent	2,40,000	2,39,321
Staff welfare	278	2,880
Telephone & Internet expenses	13,029	23,418
Total	3,90,428	4,54,098

NOTE - 15

Subscription & Registration Expenses		
Books & Periodicals	-	9,535
Registration fees	-	7,550
Total	-	17,085



PALLUYIR TRUST

No. 32, Flat 5A, Sree Shakthi Flats, Seshadripuram, Velachery, Chennai - 600 042

Notes forming part of Financial Statements - (continued)

Particulars	Year ended 31 st March 2026 ₹	Year ended 31 st March 2025 ₹
-------------	--	--

NOTE - 16

Other Expenses		
Insurance & Other expenses	25,487	17,624
Total	25,487	17,624





PALLUYIR TRUST FOR NATURE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

பல்லுயிர் சூழல் கல்வி மற்றும் ஆராய்ச்சி
அறக்கட்டளை

**Working towards a society grounded in
ecological and human values**



palluyirtrust@gmail.com



044 - 22431142



www.palluyirtrust.org



@palluyir_trust



No: 13/2, 7th Street, TANSI
Nagar, Velachery,
Chennai – 600 042