



ECO SOCIETY INDIA ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020

Inspiring Ecosystem Protection
& Sustainable Development



A Report Prepared
by

Eco Society India

52, Dhayakar

Avenue, Kalaivanar Salai, Chitlapakkam, Chennai 600064, India.

Mobile: +919444112271

E mail: ecosociety.alliance@gmail.com

Website: www.ecosocietyindia.com



I am glad to compile our **second annual report** of our organization for the year **2019-2020**. This year we worked at full throttle to create a remarkable change in the perception of common man on ecosystem protection in our neighborhood and inspired them to come forward to work with us jointly in several weekend volunteering initiatives by joining hands with many likeminded organizations, volunteering groups, RWAs and partnering with IT companies. Altogether we have conducted **79 events** and engaged with **2453 volunteers** with **11932.5 hours** of volunteering this year. Our events have been covered **17 times** in print media and **8 times** in electronic media by leading media houses such as The Hindu, Indian Express, Puthiya Thalaimurai, and Win TV. Selaiyur lake Eco-Restoration works attracted the maximum number of volunteers due to its sheer beauty and the biodiversity the lake harbors like **Spotted Deers**, Pelicans, and other smaller birds nesting on the riparian vegetation of the lake bunds. In the next year we must strive forward to achieve greater heights in the awareness levels of people to protect the last surviving ecosystems in the city and to make this city livable for our future generations through the continuous supply of ecosystems services such as microclimate regulation, ground water recharge, flood control, noise pollution attenuation, attenuation of air pollution and giving fresh air, recreation, medicinal plants and providing habitats for numerous other life forms like birds, small mammals, reptiles, pollinators, dragon flies which can check mosquito populations, butterflies and above all improving the aesthetics of the place we live . As we embark on our next year we would be organizing more such events in the week days to achieve greater impact in a shorter time. We express our sincere gratitude and thanks to all the volunteers, supporters, partner NGOs, Media, Government officials, Companies and Corporations for making 2019-2020 an impactful year for Eco Society India.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Darwin Annadurai'.

Regards,
Darwin Annadurai, M.Sc., M.Tech.,
Founder & Managing Trustee,
Eco Society India.

Eco-Society India is a registered non-profit, non political, non religious, voluntary and professional citizen group founded to sensitize and train the communities to protect and preserve the urban ecosystems.

Our vision

Our endeavor is to be a renowned NGO in social and ecological research, education, advocacy and action. Our vision is to create awareness & capability among the communities to undertake nature conservation and restoration leading to sustainable development of communities.

Our Mission

Our mission is to create a resilient and just world for all living beings in this planet. Towards this mission we help communities from underdeveloped regions, ecological scientists and researchers, conscientious consumers and ecological entrepreneurs understand the principles of socio-ecological system through our education. The approach is rooted in holistic principles on ecological economics, environmental justice and sustainable development of communities.

Our Key Objectives

1. To impart training among communities in the protection and preservation of ecosystem by creating awareness about ecosystem functions and services to the communities.
2. To develop sustainable water resources management strategies.
3. To create awareness about low impact development (LID) and promote Eco-friendly LID.
4. To develop sustainable agricultural practices.
5. To develop a sustainable business model in Eco friendly decentralized solid waste management.

Our strategy

Working across the thematic priorities of ecosystem restoration, green cities, sustainable development, Water resources, Education, Health & sanitation.

Eco Society India aims to deliver impact through seven strategic outcomes

1. Improved health, access to clean water, sanitation and eco friendly waste management .
2. Sustainable agricultural practices.
3. Improved air quality .
4. GHG emission reduction .
5. Enhanced adaptation to climate change.
6. Improved supply of ecosystem services.
7. Increased access to clean affordable energy and sustainable public transport.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

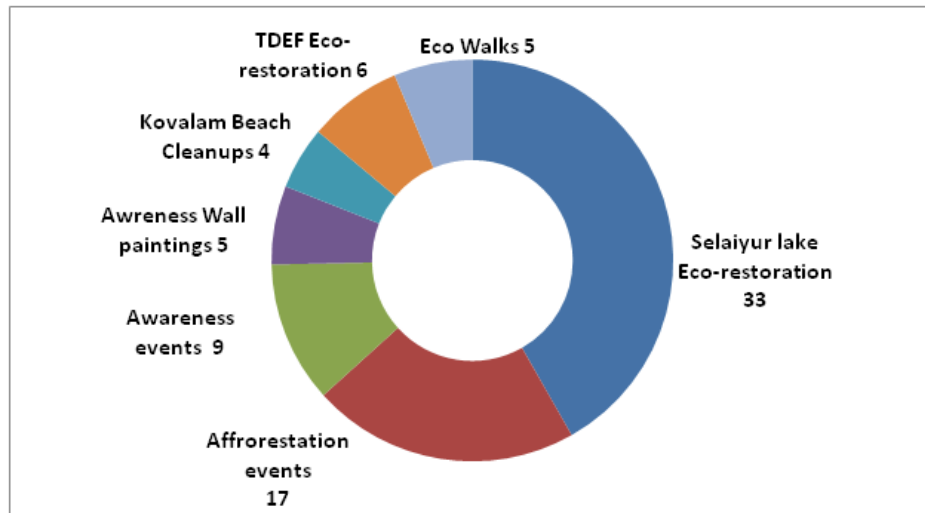


Figure 1: Number of events by type

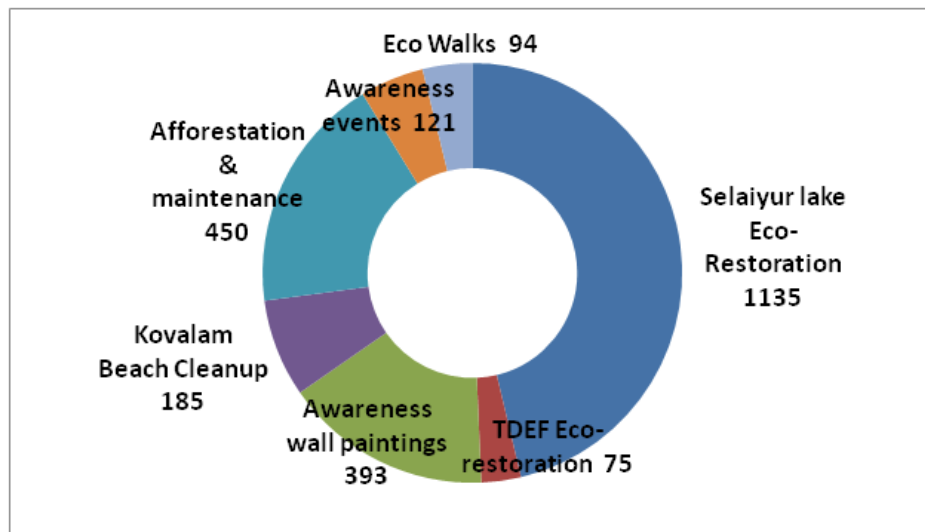


Figure 2: Number of Volunteers by events type

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

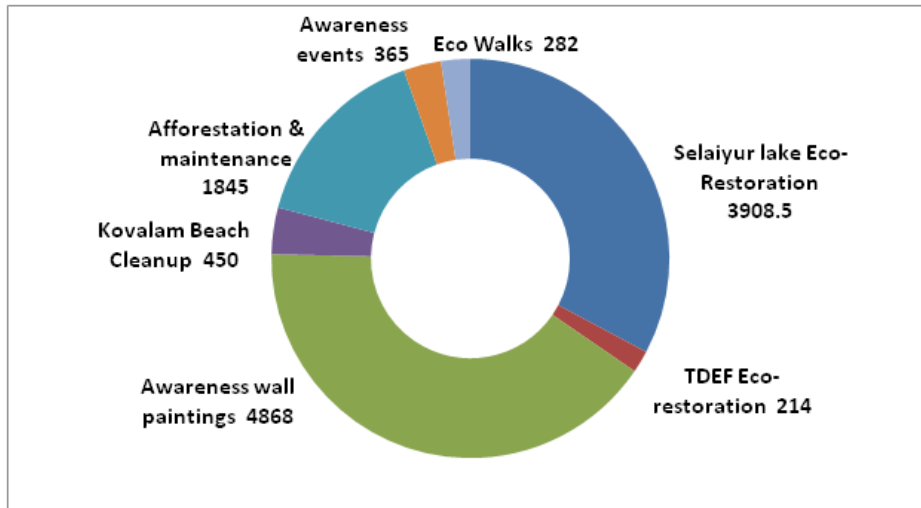


Figure 3: Number of Volunteering hours by event type

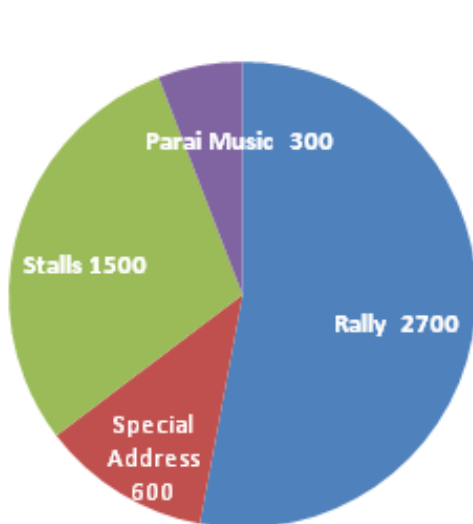


Figure 4: Number of people reached during awareness events

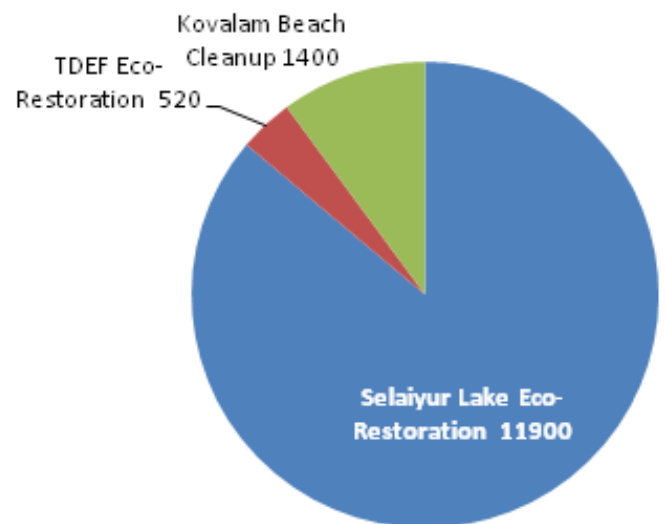


Figure 5: Waste collection by events in kg

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

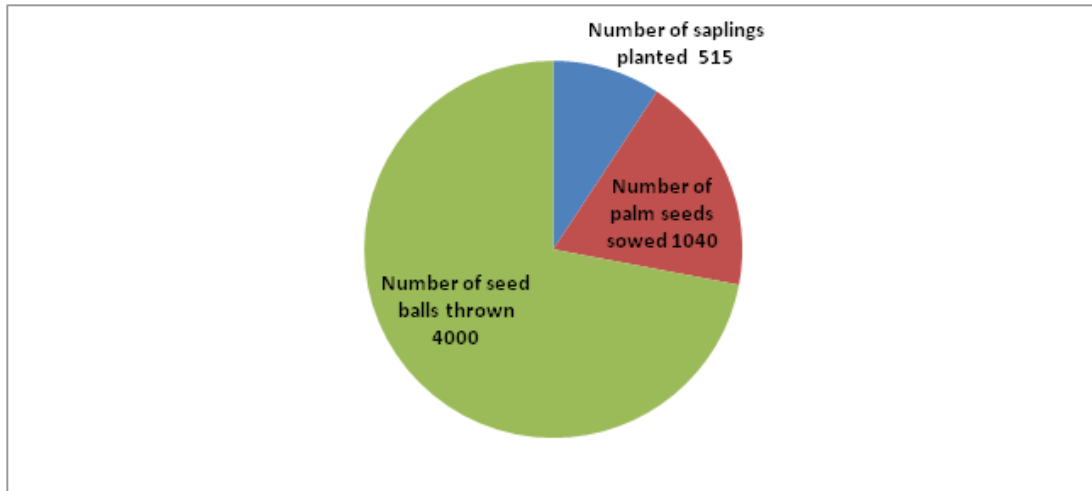


Figure 6: Afforestation outcomes



SELAIYUR LAKE ECO-RESTORATION

During the Year 2019-2020 Eco Society India actively worked to restore the 177 acre Selaiyur lake by organizing **33 cleanup and eco-restoration events** involving volunteers from IT companies, NSS students, volunteers from like-minded organizations, youth groups and Resident Welfare associations in and around Selaiyur lake area. The weekly Eco-restoration started with removal of invasive plants manually by using chopping knives and by using petrol powered chain saw along the 1.5 km lake bund and by deploying JCB machine to remove large invasive *Prosopis juliflora* trees and *Lantana camera* shrubs.

During the eco-restoration activity we organized community awareness programmes, Do not litter campaigns, Parai drum awareness events, public consultation, pamphlet distribution to prevent littering and dumping of solid waste again in to lake shore and lake bund.

To achieve this objective Eco Society India joined hands with like-minded organizations such as Sabari Green Foundation, Nammal Muddiyum Kuzhu of Puthiya Thalaimurai TV, Makkal Paathai, Seva Bharathi Tamil Nadu, Yer Kalappai Arakkattalai, 360 Youth Group, Makkal Oodaga maiyam, Chennai Trekking club, Lions club Tambaram Central and Vithaipathu Vidhi and Win TV as the Media partner for Selaiyur Lake Eco-restoration.

Eco society India partnered with IT companies such as Cognizant Outreach team, Tata consultancy services – Maitree, for volunteers support during the weekly cleanup and restoration activities. Volunteers of other IT companies like Ensono technologies and Amazon India also participated for the weekly cleanup. Student volunteers from Madras Christian College (MCC) and Easwari Engineering College actively participated in the Eco-restoration activities. We conducted a mass cleanup involving 220 volunteers with the participation of 150 NSS volunteers from Madras Christian College and 70 volunteers from Chennai trekking club and other NGOs on 16th March 2019.

Objective: To restore Selaiyur lake to its original condition.

Impacts so far in Selaiyur Lake Eco-restoration:

Garbage removal:

Removal of 11.9 tons of plastic and glass bottles from the lake shore.

Removal of Invasive plants: Selectively removed dense vegetation of invasive *Prosopis Juliflora* trees and *Lantana camera* shrubs for over 1.5 km. Biodiversity protection - . Increased foraging ground for Spotted deer.

Outcome: People have stopped dumping at 13 out of the 15 spots we cleaned.

Number of volunteers participated: 1135

Number of hours of volunteering: 3908.5



Before



During



After



Before



During



After

Volunteers

9





TROPICAL DRY EVERGREEN FOREST ECO-RESTORATION

During the Year 2019-2020 Eco Society India actively worked to restore the 2 hectare Tropical Dry Evergreen forest patch located in Agaramthen Village in South Chennai. **A total of 6 cleanups and restoration events involving 105 volunteers was conducted.**

Tropical dry evergreen forests (TDEFs) occur as patches along the Coromandel coast of peninsular India. TDEFs are unique forest type characterized by short statured highly branched evergreen species with few deciduous and brevi-deciduous species, and have considerable density of lianas with coriaceous leaves well adapted to the erratic monsoon and long dry season (3-6 months) prevailing in the region. In spite of the harsh environment these forest types are high in productivity, and are known for their bioresource potential. Conservation of wild flora in this forest patch will help to preserve potentially important and useful genes for crop plants. The plants growing naturally in these forest types are known for their medicinal values. These forest patches are conserved by the local people on religious ground as sacred groves, although they are also subjected to various levels of anthropogenic impacts like over-grazing, illegal felling of native trees, dumping of solid waste (sludge, medical waste, domestic waste and e-waste), hunting of birds, over extraction of ground water from the nearby wells, growth of invasive plants and slow and systematic encroachments along the edges of the forest and mud quarrying. During a botanical exploration study conducted by us we recorded a total of 100 angiospermic species belonging to 96 genera and 46 families. Restoring the disturbed sites with characteristic TDEF species, and revitalizing the cultural traditions associated with sacred groves by promoting awareness of the ecological and bioresource values of TDEFs will help to conserve this unique forest patch with abundant native plants well adapted for the local climate. The forest patch selected for eco-restoration is the only Sacred grove TDEF patch in Chennai which is easily accessible and located very close to the city and therefore conserving this sacred grove TDEF will pave way for the forest patch becoming a wonderful study site for students studying in schools and colleges to learn about this unique native plants surviving in this sacred grove.

Eco society India partnered with IT companies such as Cognizant Outreach team, Tata consultancy services – Maitree, for volunteers support for the cleanup and eco-restoration activities.

Objective: To restore the original vegetation by replanting method for biodiversity conservation and achieving sustainable delivery of ecosystem services such as microclimate regulation, recharge of ground water, and provide livelihood for the local communities.

Impacts so far in TDEF Eco-restoration:

Quantity of waste collected (kg): 520 kg. Prevention of littering by people visiting the sacred grove for worshipping.



AFFORESTATION EVENTS

During the Year 2019-2020 Eco Society India actively worked for afforestation of vast open land area adjacent to Agaramthen lake area.

Two mass plantation was conducted - during 28th July 2019 and during October 2019. A total of 17 events was conducted to plant the saplings and maintain it.

Eco society India partnered with IT companies such as Cognizant Outreach team, Tata consultancy services – Maitree, for volunteers support for the plantation and maintenance activities. Volunteers from Easwari Engineering college participated for Palm seed planting events.

Objective: The Objective of Afforestation initiative is to improve the green cover in the city, to improve the biodiversity in the region and to create awareness about the importance of protecting trees and offering a habitat for birds, insects and other living beings.

Impacts so far in afforestation events

Number of saplings planted: 515

Number of palm seeds sowed: 1040

Number of seeds balls thrown: 4000



Afforestation events

14



KOVALAM BEACH CLEANUP

During the Year 2019-2020 Eco Society India actively worked for cleanup of Kovalam beach.

One mass cleanup was conducted during 21st September 2019 as part of **world cleanup day. A total of 4 cleanup events was conducted at Kovalam Beach.**

Eco society India partnered with educational institutions such AMET University, IT companies such as Cognizant Outreach team, Tata consultancy services – Maitree, for volunteers support for the cleanup.

Objective: To disseminate scientific knowledge to the general public, children, men, women and the elderly to bring out behavioral change to avoid littering in public places, avoiding and refusing single use plastics and to bring primary segregation of their waste.

Impacts so far in Kovalam beach cleanup

Quantity of waste collected: 1400 kg.





AWARENESS EVENTS

During the Year 2019-2020 Eco Society India actively worked for creating awareness about ecosystem protection and advocated against using single use plastics.

One mass awareness event was conducted at Koyambedu flower market on 19th September 2019. in which 80 students of Dr. MGR University participated. **Altogether 9 awareness events was conducted.**

Eco society India partnered with educational institutions such as Dr. MGR University and AMET University and IT companies such as Cognizant Outreach team, Tata consultancy services – Maitree, for volunteers support for the awareness outreach activities.

Objective: To disseminate scientific knowledge to the general public, children, men, women and the elderly to bring out behavioral change for avoiding single use plastics.

Impacts so far: Reached 5150

Quantity of waste collected: 1400 kg.





AWARENESS WALL PAINTINGS

During the Year 2019-2020 Eco Society India actively worked for creating awareness about ecosystem protection, and advocated against using single use plastics and educated people through awareness wall paintings

Eco society India partnered with IT companies such as Cognizant Outreach team, Tata consultancy services – Maitree, for volunteers support for the awareness wall painting activities. Altogether we conducted **5 awareness wall painting events.**

Objective: To convey awareness and social messages to people of all ages. The site selected for wall painting is usually a public place where people gather in large number or places where large number of people passes through. Generally we focus on drawing awareness messages in the walls of Governments school, Colleges, and public buildings.







ECO WALKS

During the Year 2019-2020 Eco Society India actively worked for creating awareness about various types of ecosystems present around us by organizing **5 Eco walks to Tropical dry evergreen forest, Agaramthen lake, Agaramthen Savannah and Kovalam mangroves.**

School and college students, IT professionals working in companies such as Cognizant, Tata consultancy services benefited and gained knowledge about the various types of ecosystems found around us. The Eco walks gave an opportunity for the volunteers to spend time amidst greenery, and enjoy observing nature, flowers, birds, insects, reptiles, and marine organisms and gain knowledge about various medicinal plants found growing around us.

Objective: To disseminate information on the significance of native plants, various types of ecosystems found around us and protecting it to maintain ecosystem function.





AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Best Volunteers 2019 of Eco Society India were awarded for their service to environment and humanity.

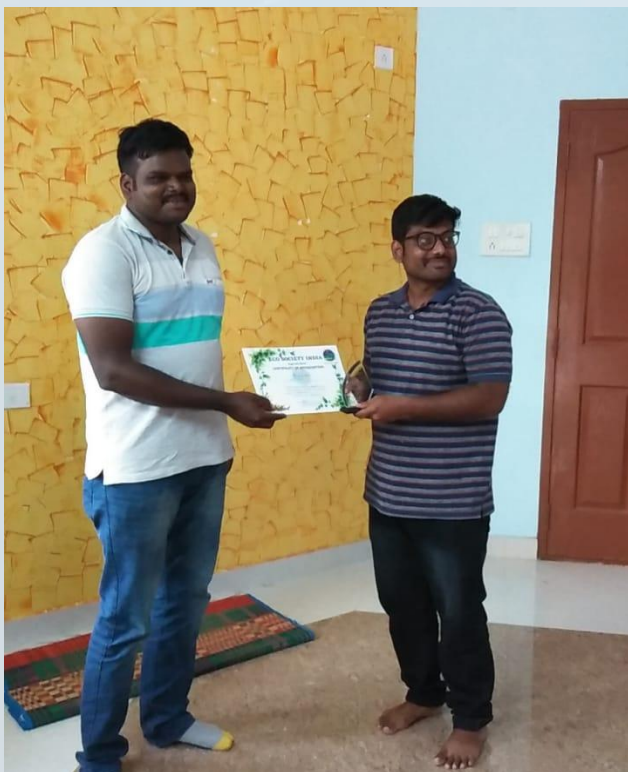
The award was given in 3 categories:

- 1. Eco - Warrior Award**
- 2. Youth Organizer Award**
- 3. Diamond Volunteer Award**

This year the award was given to:

1. Eco-Warrior Award (2019) to Mr. S. Arun Kumar for his phenomenal contribution in raising 200 saplings planted during the 1st Phase of Afforestation at Agaramthen Lake area.
2. Youth Organizer Award (2019) to Mr.P. Karthikeyan for his phenomenal contribution in organizing youth during our various volunteering activities.
3. Diamond Volunteer Award (2019) to Mr. Raghul Muthukumar for his phenomenal output as a volunteer at the Mass wall painting activity at Chennai Airport Compound wall.

The 3 achievers were congratulated by the team for being selected for the award. On behalf of Eco Society India, I express my heartfelt thanks to all the volunteers for their support extended in many of our volunteering activities and wished to reach many more milestones in their life.



Awards and Recognition



COVERAGE ON MEDIA

Print media

1. <https://www.dtnext.in/News/City/2019/01/15033032/1102888/Residents-NGOs-take-up-restoration-of-Selaiyur-lake.vpf>
2. <https://www.dtnext.in/News/Citizen/2019/01/24060238/1103928/Q-and-A-Drum-beats-to-create-awareness-on-ecosystem.vpf>
3. <https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/chennai/do-you-want-to-volunteer-at-selaiyur-lake/article26089231.ece>
4. <https://newstodaynet.com/index.php/2019/09/18/eco-society-india-organises-mass-seed-planting-event-in-chennai/>
4. <https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/chennai/two-blue-ticks-to-lake-volunteering/article27194332.ece>
5. <https://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-features/tp-downtown/ngo-residents-join-hands-to-revive-selaiyur-lake/article29792113.ece>
6. <https://www.dtnext.in/News/City/2019/10/23020919/1193560/Screening-mesh-put-up-in-drains-to-prevent-plastics-.vpf>
7. <https://www.dtnext.in/News/City/2019/11/03035900/1195405/Volunteers-cheer-as-cleanup-drives-reduce-waste-in-.vpf>
8. <https://www.google.com/amp/www.newindianexpress.com/cities/chennai/2019/nov/04/change-through-colour-2056566.amp>
9. <https://www.dtnext.in/News/Citizen/2019/12/21035311/1205054/Citizen-Connect-Unscientifically-converted-landfill-.vpf>
10. <https://www.vikatan.com/news/miscellaneous/chennai-youngsters-team-holiday-painting-awareness>

Electronic media

1. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NyEVBpp-vZ0> Selaiyur lake activity telecasted as News in Win TV
2. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ctXYox9N2NA&t=11s> Puthiya Thalaimurai TV Nammal mudiyum programme on 22/06/19
3. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ctXYox9N2NA&t=38s> Puthiyathalaimurai TV Nammal Mudiyum mass cleanup at Selaiyur lake coverage on 22/06/19
4. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XUCE5_S7vNA Murasu Tv News coverage on public consultation held at Selaiyur Anandhapuram held on 19th March 2019.
5. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NPAGq39b_CU&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR1ii3rQlknK1o0WqpskMW11rwpsVgEzsnC3dqe1H6GlivCvLQoH9bj9a0 Win TV Coverage of Mass plantation on 2nd Oct 2019.
6. <https://youtu.be/skwP7npU-ZE> Polimer news coverage on Airport wall painting event on 27/09/2019.
7. <https://youtu.be/wPyBeJotgG8> Win TV news coverage on Airport wall painting event on 27/09/2019.
8. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xzW_ttPiphk Puthiyathalaimurai TV Nammal Mudiyum Single Use Plastic pollution awareness at Koyambedu Market telecasted on 23rd November 2019. Add a little bit of sdfs text

NGO Partners



Media Partners



Corporate Partners



BALANCE SHEET & FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 2019-20

Income & Expenditure Statement 1st April 2019 - 31st March 2020

Particulars	1 st April 1 st April 2019 - 31 st March 2020	Particulars	1 st April 2019 - 31 st March 2020
Indirect Expenses	221163.00	Indirect Incomes	226411.00
Audit & Accounting charges	15000.00	Discount Received	985.00
Brush and others	26834.00	Donation	224743.00
Conveyance	2722.00	Interest	683.00
Labour Charges	6805.00		
Lake Restoration	32412.00		
Printing Charges	2114.00		
Staff Welfare	8300.00		
Travelling Expenses	9000.00		
Tree Plantation Expenses	103980.00		
Wall Painting	9446.00		
Website Renewals	4550.00		
Net profit	5248.00		
Total	226411.00	Total	226411.00

Balance Sheet 1st April 2019 - 31st March 2020

Liabilities	As at 31 st March 2019	Assets	As at 31 st March 2020
Capital account	6957.00	Current Assets	43812.00
Carpus Fund -	<u>6957.00</u>	Closing Stock	
Loans		Cash-in-hand	470.00
(liability)		Bank Accounts	43342.00
Current liabilities	36855.00		
Sundry Creditors	8300.00		
Audit Fees Payable	1000.00		
Printing Charges	1550.00		
Website Renewals Charges	4550.00		
Travelling Expenses	6150.00		
Labour Charges	6305.00		
Total	43812.00	Total	43812.00

BOARD MEMBERS

S.No	Name	Role	Year of joining	Occupation
1.	Mr. Darwin Annadurai	Founder & Managing Trustee	2018	Director, Eco Society India
2.	Ms. Cynthia Stephen	Member	2018	Founder, President at TEDS Trust
3.	Mr. Rajendran Prabhakar	Member	2018	Founder, at Maarga Society
4.	Arivazhagan Rayan	Member	2018	Founder, Roots Trust
5.	Ms. Sangeetha Kathan	Treasurer	2018	--

- None of the Board Members have any blood relations with any other Board Member.
- None of the Board Members made any International travel trips funded by Eco Society India during this period.
- None of the Board Members receive any remuneration from Eco Society India.

CONTACT INFORMATION

**Darwin Annadurai,
Founder and Managing Trustee,
Eco Society India.
Mobile: 9444112271
Email: ecosociety.alliance@gmail.com**

**Registered Office Address:
52, Dhayakar Avenue,
Kalaivanar Salai,
Chitlapakkam, Chennai 600064, India.
Website: www.ecosocietyindia.com**