

Issue-3

Apr 01, 2021

#HereToServe

# நம்ம CHENNAI

● A Monthly Newsletter by the Greater Chennai Corporation ● Free Copy





**Before Restoration**

Anai Lake, Zone 14

**During Restoration**

L. Nandakumar CE (General), GCC inspects the work at Villivakkam Lake, Zone 15

**During Restoration**

G. Prakash I.A.S, Commissioner, GCC inspects the work at Anai Lake, Zone 14

**After Restoration**

Anai Lake, Zone 14

**Waterbodies Restoration Funds**

GCC	-	8.19 Cr
CSCL	-	69.08 Cr
CMCDM	-	109.89 Cr
CSR	-	6.58 Cr

**Editorial Team**

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Public Engagement and  
Partnerships Officer, CSCL

**“Harmonising with Nature, we seek community participation in maintaining the rejuvenated waterbodies”****G PRAKASH I.A.S**

Dear Readers

It's my pleasure to bring to you GCC's 3rd issue of the 'Namma Chennai Newsletter' that focuses on rejuvenation of Chennai's waterbodies.

The growing population of the city poses both environmental and administrative challenge. Although Chennai underwent rapid urbanisation in the last two decades, it continues to be one of most livable cities in India.

As a measure towards making Chennai a flood and drought resilient city, as well as self-sufficient for its water needs, 210 waterbodies are being rejuvenated with an aim to achieve a water storage capacity of more than 1 TMC.

GCC has adopted a community based conservation model for maintaining the waterbodies. I invite the citizens of Chennai to join hands together with GCC in cherishing, conserving and valuing these rejuvenated waterbodies.

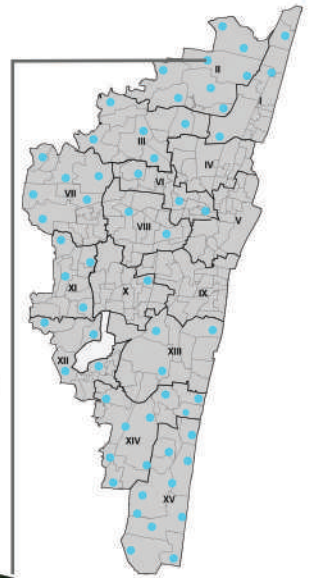
**Commissioner - GCC & Chairman - CSCL**



## Restored 210 Waterbodies Assures 1 TMC Water



A survey of the waterbodies was carried out, then, dewatering of the waterbodies were done, followed by the process shown below. The inlets from the stormwater drains and the outlets of the waterbodies were also cleared to ensure unhindered waterflow. The outlets of these waterbodies were let into the adjacent marshlands, canals, and lakes, ensuring flood resilience.



### 5 Beautification

Most of the waterbodies were beautified, converted into eco-recreational spots with boating, gym, and play area for children.



Khathaa Kuzhi kulam, Kosapur.  
(Zone 2)

### 4

#### Recharge Well

The waterbodies were widened and deepened. Rain water recharge wells were provided in each waterbody to facilitate ground water recharge.



### 3

#### Formation of Bunds

The soil excavated was evenly spread across the waterbody. Then, primary and secondary bund formation were done for strengthening, ensuring water holding capacity, and preventing soil erosion. For further strengthening the bund, native species of flora were planted along them, protected by fence.



### 2

#### Desilting Waterbodies

As indicated in the silt survey results, the waterbodies were desilted, solid waste was removed, allowing better percolation and groundwater recharge.



### 1

#### Removal of Debris

Firstly, the bushes, invasive species (weeds), and garbage littered across the space were removed. In some cases, encroachments were also cleared.





**3** ways to connect  
with Greater  
Chennai  
Corporation

Complaint Helpline  
number: **1913**

### Namma Chennai App

To register all your queries  
and complaints, use the  
below link to download  
Namma Chennai app.



GCC WhatsApp Number  
**94999 33644**

### Project Status

**1240** acres

Waterbodies area under intervention

**141**

Projects completed

**38**

Projects under progress

**25**

New proposal

**6**

To be taken up



### Eco-restoration for Community Benefit

#### Leisure and Fitness Space

Footpaths for people to enjoy a leisure walk, and outdoor gyms for exercise have been established. To motivate people to visit and to promote community participation in maintaining and conserving the waterbodies, extensive landscaping, see through walls and lighting have been installed.



#### Play Area for Children

The eco-recreational spaces provide a safe play area for children with play apparatus installed in the landscape.



#### Anai Lake



#### Beauty of Nests and Nature

The restorations provide a valuable habitat for birds such as the brown shrike and native species such as herons, and ducks which would further help in improving urban forest and vegetation around the waterbody.

## Nature's Bounce Back



### Water Sufficient Chennai

Each waterbody is provided with recharge wells to improve groundwater levels. Water quality was improved by bioremediation, and the dissolved oxygen levels were also increased through ozonation technique.



Ozonation



### Preventing Flood by Effective Monitoring

Rain gauges were installed in the restored waterbodies, to monitor waterflows in the event of heavy rain and release of excessive water to marsh lands and canals. The restored bunds will prevent overflow and flooding of local areas. This can help save lives and property.



### Ecological Balance



### Bringing Back the Native

A restored habitat is provided to the local fauna, including birds, turtles, and fish. These species will check algal growth and keep the waterbody healthy.

To restore some of the ecological interactions and revive the food chain, fish such as Freshwater Pomfret (*Tamil: Eri Vavval*) and Grass Carp (*Tamil: Kendai*) have been released into the waterbodies.



### Helps Improve Soil Fertility

Native varieties of riparian vegetation like palm trees were planted to strengthen the bunding, preventing soil erosion, naturally equipping to improve groundwater levels. Additionally, the low walls built on the lake edge, called toe walls were engineered to prevent soil from slipping into the lake.



## ● Playfield



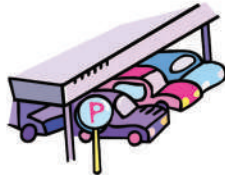
## ● Water Fountain



## ● Outdoor Gym



## ● Play Area for Children



## ● Car Parking



## ● Food Court



## ● Cycle Parking



## ● Bike Parking

## Rejuvenated Villivakkam Lake : An Amusement Spot

### Capacity rises from 20MLD to 300MLD

The Villivakkam Lake Restoration Project is undertaken by Chennai Smart City Limited and Greater Chennai Corporation. Since the restoration, the water capacity of the lake has increased to 300MLD from 20MLD. The water spread area of Villivakkam Lake is now 17 acres providing quality water to the residents 5kms around. The lake has played a major role in preventing rainwater stagnation in the neighbourhood during the recent rains in Nov 2020.

Now, GCC is converting the Villivakkam Lake area into an eco-recreational plaza with boating facilities, and an amusement park through Public-Private Partnership (PPP) in an area of about 27.55 acres.

Apart from the amenities shown in the above picture, the amusement park will be created with amenities such as musical water fountain, amphitheater with simulation, open-air theatre, sport fishing, toy train, water sports, aquarium,

machines for amusement rides, hanging bridge, walking tunnel, indoor game facilities like bowling, and more.

An amount of Rs.45 Crore is being spent by CSCL on restoring and rejuvenating the lake with an eco-recreational plaza. A minimum amount of Rs.10 Crore will be invested through the PPP for the amusement park, and GCC will earn a yearly revenue of Rs.1 Crore through this amusement park.

***We acknowledge and appreciate our partners who made this possible!***





## Chennai Waterbodies



Anna Nedunsalai Lake



Area: 1,59,700 sq.m

Puzhuthivakkam Lake



Area: 79,933 sq.m

Periya Lake



Area: 66,482 sq.m

Madipakam Pond



Area: 18,720 sq.m

Thandu Kurai Kulam



Area: 10,500 sq.m

Jeyachandran Nagar Pond



Area: 5,868 sq.m

Tharamani Pond



Area: 1,730 sq.m

Naasan Kulam



Area: 607 sq.m



Chennai speaks..



**Shashank Shekhar** @shekhar7 · 6d  
Replying to @cscloofficial @chennaicorp  
and 7 others

Awesome work 🙌👍 thanks for giving me  
such a great view from my balcony.



**M Saravanan** (எம் சரவண... · 5d  
Replying to @cscloofficial @chennaicorp  
and 7 others

Superb work, we need more of this. 🍌



Rettaikuttai Kulam,  
Zone 14

## Dear NGOs and CSR Organisations

*Your purposeful partnership will help build a better Chennai!*



Adopt a  
waterbody for  
maintenance



Fund to  
rejuvenate more  
waterbodies



Create awareness  
among the Citizens  
on the importance  
of waterbodies

Contact

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## Credits

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