

KUMARI ARIVIAL PERAVAI

YOUNG SCIENTISTS PROGRAMME

A REPORT ON THE COASTAL STUDY CAMP ON

22.01.2011 & 23.01.2011



DAY 1(22.01.2011)

We were all asked to gather in front of the Swamiarmadam, Vijayakumar Hospital for the MACET Bus by our organizer, Mr. Mullanchery. M. Velaian. We reached the **Marthandam College of Engineering and Technology** nearly at 8:15am. The college management gave us a warm welcome and provided us with the breakfast. Next we moved on to the Auditorium for discussing about our camp. The people who were on the dais were Mr. James Wilson, Mrs. Gladis Captain Bennet Singh, Mr. Mr. Velaian sir. After the discussion, each team was asked to plant a sapling inside the MACET campus. Then, after receiving the blessings of the management, we moved from **Kuttakuzhi** towards **Neerodithurai**.



We reached **Neerodithurai** around 11:30pm and there was **St. Nicholas High School** members to receive us. As soon as we were out of the bus, we started distributing the pamphlets to the public. They welcomed us with a series of cultural programmes. Maroon team hosted the gathering and Mrs. Subathra gave the keynote address and Er. S. Ingersol sir gave a talk on the importance of water and need for such awareness programmes. Next, Mr. Chellaswamy came on to the dais to facilitate the gathering. In order to make the coastal people to understand the need of awareness programmes, a member from Maroon Team interacted with them in Malayalam. Mr. M. Velaian provided us the time for interacting with the school students and they gave satisfactory answers. Mr. M. Velaian explained them the processes involved in the selection of Young Scientists. At last, Fr. John

Bosco gave us the essential information about the seashore life. While we were returning, we interacted with a fisherman and got direct knowledge about their lifestyles. Then we got into the bus and moved towards Nithiravilai hoping they would keep our request in mind and take proper steps.

Around 1:30pm, we reached the **Nithiravilai Patriot Sports Club (PSC)** and the secretary of the Tamil Nadu Press Club, who is the chief guest was present in the meeting. [Mr. Mullanchery. M. Velaian](#) gave the welcome speech for the gathering. [Er. S. Ingersol sir](#) thanked the Patriot Sports Club for their kind cooperation and hospitality. [Mrs. D. Stella Bai](#) told a few words about the importance of water.

Then we had our lunch and continued our study expedition towards **Irayumanthurai** to see the **Inayam** seashore where the AVM Canal, Thamirabarani River and Arabian Sea meet together forms an estuary. Then we met some fishermen who were returning from sea after fishing. They said that their everyday earning is not balanced and it is according to the yield they earn a day. They were really sad to say that the ocean resources had started to decline and it has become a threat to their life. But there was a feeling of confidence in them when they said that they were provided with **GPS (Global Positioning System) s and trackers** in order to reduce the chance of missing their way when they travel long distances in the sea.

Our next gathering was in the **St. John's Baptists Community Hall** at 4:30pm. Red Team hosted the programme and the reports for the camp were read. [Fr. Thomas](#) gave the welcome address and [Fr. Freddy Salmon](#) facilitated the gathering. Then [Er. S. Ingersol sir](#) gave a speech on water and life. Then [Mr. Johnson sir](#) facilitated the gathering and it was followed by [Mr. M. Velaian sir](#).

On our way towards Colachel, we got down near **Parthivapuram** and saw the 1000 years old University. Then around 6:20pm, we reached the **Annai Hospital at Karungal** and we were provided with tea and snacks. Blue team hosted the gathering. [Mrs. Gladis Palswamy](#) gave the welcome address. Then the report for the day was read followed by address from [Mr. M. Velaian. Er. S. Ingersol sir in his address gave a brief account regarding](#) the threats faced by seashore inhabitants and about the availability of water.

At 8:20pm, we got down at the **Colachel St. Mary's School** and a meeting was held by [Mr. Velaian](#) regarding the good role model that we must choose who can help us in our life. Then [Mr. Johnson](#) gave a speech about the motivational programme. Then [Mr. Edwin Sam](#) sir said about our right guide. [Mrs. Subathra](#) told about the exact meaning of the phrase "[the person I like most](#)". After dinner was programme was held and at 10:30pm we went to sleep.

DAY 2(23.01.2011)

The next day of our camp began. We were all asked to wake up and clean ourselves. We did yoga and few breathing exercise, eye exercises and dhyana. But the dhyana was more useful for the day as we had to move more distances in our camp. We left to **Colachel harbor after breakfast**. [Mr. Bensigarajan sir](#) was waiting for us in **Colachel**. He had a wide knowledge about Colachel and he liked to share it with us. He said that:

- Colachel is a natural harbour.
- Government did not adopt steps to develop the harbour.
- An estuary is formed by a small river, called Pamburi Channel which enters in to the sea.
- The four uses of dykes ([தூண்டில் வளைவு](#)) are:
 - Breaking the velocity of the waves.
 - Reducing sea erosion.
 - Decreasing the force of sea waves.
 - Increasing yield of calm fishes.
- Mrs. Lurthamma Simon of Simon Colony recommended for the education for fishermen.
- About three hundred ships can be made to stand in the natural harbour of Colachel.
- There were two types of sea shores:
 - Sandy sea shores
 - Rocky sea shores

Then we saw **the Victory symbol of Travancore** when our king, Marthandawarma succeeded the Dutch militants. Next we were taken to **the church** built in memory for the 414 innocents who died in the tsunami disaster and continued our journey towards **Mondaikkadu** where we were supplied with our tea and met the Principal of Marthandam Hindu Vidhyalaya School, [Dr. Sreekumar](#)

and the Professor of the Zoology department in the Ayyappa College for women, [Dr. Jayashree Sreekumar](#).

At Kadiyappattinam the sand is rich in minerals. [Mr. Bensigarajan](#) was our information provider and he said that:

- There is ilmunitite, rutoil, Silicon etc. in the soils of Periyakulam to Kadiyappattinam.
- Valliyar
 - Originates from Velimalai.
 - There is no delta.
 - It fills the Periyakulam.
 - It drains into the Arabian Sea.
- The name of the shining material in the sand is Thorium which can be changed into Uranium just by adding an atom of it to Thorium.
- Thorium is widely available in the coasts of Manavalakurichy, Chavara and Orissa. The largest concentration of Thorium is in Manavalakurichy.
- More amounts of fishermen reside in the coastal areas of Kadiyappattinam and Muttom.

Then we arrived at **Muttom** around 10:50am. We saw the anemometer used to find the direction of the wind but unfortunately, we were not able to see the light house of Muttom. At 12:05pm we reached **Periyakkadu**. There [Er. S. Ingersol sir](#) said about the role of naturally formed rocks in controlling the velocity of ocean waves. Then we got down at the **Sankuthurai Beach** at nearly 12:35pm. There we met the Principal of the Pechiparai Tribal School, [Mr. Balakrishnan and his wife](#). We could find the same mineral containing soil in Sankuthurai Beach also. After a long journey with hunger and thirsty, we were taken to the **Chothavilai Beach** and we were provided with a delicious lunch by the members of the Siva Travels. All the teams were asked by our organizer to read the reports of the camp.

Then around 2:40pm we reached **Manakkudi**. [Mr. Balakrishnan](#) gave some additional information about the bridge at Manakkudi . He said that:

- A temporary bridge connects Mael Manakkudi (மேல் மணக்குடி) and Keezh Manakkudi (கீழ் மணக்குடி).
- There is an estuary formed by Pazhayaru and Arabian Sea in Manakkudi.
- There are many species living in Pazhayaru river.

- It is the one of the most populated river in Kanyakumari District.
- Amazon is the largest river in the world and it is habitat of many marine organisms.

Around 4:15pm we entered into the **vattakkottai** (வட்டக்கோட்டை) which was the end point of our study camp. A nice tea and snacks were arranged and we met two senior students of Kumari Arivial Peravai. We were astonished to hear their achievements after the completion of the Young Scientists Programme. Thus, we got a confidence in our mind that we shall become well civilized and social thinkers if we do our best if we work hard.

By,

R. Akhil

Blue Team