



## Renovation of Traditional Water bodies (TWB) in the Island of Rameshwaram Work in the month of June 2016



By Vivekananda Kendra – nardep

In India water harvesting has been part of our culture from time immemorial. Each region in India has developed its own local technology suitable to the terrain as well as the rain fall available. Without building costly dams with low efficiency, Indian tradition stores water in eri, kulam, jheel, sagar, johad, talab, sar, madi, khadin, kundcheruvu, kunta, voddu, ketta, kere pukur, bandh, dighi or ahar. Rain water is also stored in irrigated fields especially in paddy fields, within their high bunds. They are for very large part, man-made-lakes. Tamilnadu is famous for its water bodies. As per records there are 39000 water bodies in Tamilnadu. Unfortunately, many of the water bodies have disappeared due to several reasons including the so called development, encroachment etc. Vivekananda Kendra – Nardep is trying to preserve the water bodies of Rameshwaram Island. Renovation of Jnanavapi Teertham is one such attempt.



*Jnanavapi Teertham – Inauguration followed by digging work*



*Jnanavapi Teertham – Local children and stakeholders enthusiastically participating in the cleaning work*



*Jnanavapi Teertham - Removing the water and cleaning the sludge and construction of side wall*



*Jnanavapi Teertham – the water body is slowly taking a shape*

\*\*\*\*\*