



“Revival and Renovation of Traditional Water Bodies” Parameswara Teertham



**By
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Land Ownership

Green Rameswaram has got the approval to do this renovation works from the District Administration however still the land ownership is a critical issue here. We could sense that many portion of this Teertham land has been encroached.

Land does not belong to HR&CE

We could manage to find out that the land does not belong to HR&CE since they are not having any records related to this Teertham.

Land does not belong to Panchayat

It is located in Mandapam Panchayat union but the land ownership does not rest with the Mandapam Panchayat Union.

Land does not belong to Diwan

Then we wrote a letter to diwan related to the land and we came to know that the land is not in the name of the Raja of Ramnad. Diwan Thiru.Raja Mannar visited the site twice on 27th August 3rd September and had a discussion with the local stakeholders.



Land belongs to Rani

However after contacting Ramanathapuram Samasthanam, we could understand that it belongs to Ramanathapuram Rani Rajeswari. Then we spoke to Rani Rajeswari. She orally

agreed for the approval of the work and promised to give formal approval during her visit to Rameswaram.

Road blocks by local stakeholders

Many of the locals were not interested in the Revival and Renovation of the Traditional water body although it will help them in multiple ways such as (i) the entire area getting properly cleaned after removal of garbage (ii) no menace of pigs, dogs and stray animals coming to the area (iii) recharge of their wells and tube-wells due to renovation of the water body.

Unfortunately, they have their own vested interest as it seems that some of the surrounding area is illegally encroached. However, our team met the members and after proper dialogue, we could continue the work.

District Collectors Visit to Green Rameswaram Renovated Teerthams

On August 23, 2021 Dr.J.N.Chandrakala IAS, District Collector, Ramanathapuram visited Parameswara Teertham along with Shri.K.J.Praveenkumar IAS, Additional Collector and other officials. Following were her observations and direction to the panchayat officials:

1. Immediately clean the sewage
2. Take steps to stop dumping the waste in the vacant area
3. Provision of compound wall covering the entire area and raising of ground level
4. Source of water is springs, hence the water body should be properly protected for the use of all - local community.



Shri.Kadiresan, Supervisor, Vivekananda Kendra – Nardep Kanyakumari explaining the purpose of the well outside the Traditional water body to the team headed by District collector



District Collector Dr.Chandarakala inspecting the renovated Parameswara Traditional water body



Sister Saraswathi, Green Rameswaram Coordinator explaining the authorities about the garbage problem near Parameswara Traditional water body

District collectors visit to other Teerthams

After visiting Parameswara water body, the team visited Kapi Teertham and Mangala Vanam.

Comments at Kapi Teertham:

1. Teertham should be cleaned regularly
2. Land Ownership and the encroachment issues to be sorted out



Sister saraswathi explaining the weeds growth in the Kapi Teertham

Observations at Mangala Vanam:

1. More manpower for overseeing the park
2. Toilets were not in good condition
3. Mangala Vanam can be maintained properly as it will help the tourists



District Collector at Mangala Vanam

