

Women Empowerment for Sustaining Development

Seminar on
WOMEN AND GREEN MADURAI

Organized by



Madurai Symposium 2019

Thamukkam Grounds, Madurai
September 19, 2019, Thursday

Madurai

Madurai is called as “The Athens of the East” because of the long lived heritage and culture. It was having lots of heritage and sacred groves with Kadamba tree and Marutham trees because of that it was also known as “Kadamba vanam”, “Maruthai” etc. It was having a rich collection of many heritage trees which helped in balancing the ecology and environment of the city and it was said to have three time rains all throughout the year and the river Vaigai was said to have flooding water which touched both the sides of the river banks of Vaigai.

Hence this seminar on Women and Greening Madurai is aimed in bringing back the Green and Clean environment back to Madurai with the active participation and involvement of Women and other stakeholders.



Need for Greening

With the growing population and vehicles in the Madurai city, there is a clear cut demand for providing clean and safe drinking water, clean air and a good living atmosphere for the general public by the Corporation of Madurai and also the District administration.

There is a continuous pressure on the demand for the dwelling places which results in unauthorized access to the forest areas, encroaching cultivable lands and creating shelters for human beings, animals and also for the various other industrial needs. It has an impact on cutting away the well grown trees and expanding roads, occupying water bodies and ruthlessly constructing various buildings, clustering many houses in a particular place without any conscious on the negative impact on the ecosystem.

Continuous felling of trees reduces the chances of getting good rainfall. It results in less available rainwater resource and also drought conditions. Moreover Scruples exploitation of the groundwater potential also has resulted in lowering the water tables and also spoiling the quality of the available water and make the water unfit for consumption. So there is a chain of reaction in getting less rain water and also less water available to irrigate the plants and resulting in drying of plants.

Hence this seminar is aimed to cover the major areas in and around Madurai with a rich heritage plants and to create sacred groves with the enhanced awareness and ensuring participation of the general public, women, students and various other stakeholders in creating Green and Clean Madurai.

Role of women in Greening

In the Greening process, the role of women is the first and foremost aspect. Any big change should start from the individual households. The women in the house are to be made sensitive on the positive and negative aspects of our living conditions in creating a safe living environment and in turn in creating a Green and Clean Madurai. It starts from segregating the household waste into degradable and non degradable waste in their kitchen to planting and maintaining trees in and around their living places.

When we educate a person, it helps only that person. But when we educate a women, then she makes a clear impact

in her family so that her entire family will become educated. In the similar lines, when we sensitize the women in Madurai then the process of Greening Madurai will become very easy.

Other stakeholders in Greening process

The other stakeholders in the Greening of Madurai process are

- Corporation of Madurai
- District Administration of Madurai
- Various Educational Institutions
- Industrial associations
- Non Government Development Organizations
- Women Self Help Group members
- Urban Neighbor Hood Groups



- Residential Area Associations
- Students
- Common public
- Volunteers interested in Greening Madurai

Various activities envisaged

The process of making Green Madurai will involve the following activities

- Organizing Awareness programs, Campaigns, rallies and competitions among various stakeholders
- Procurement of various trees for planting in various places in and around Madurai
- Planting of trees in various Educational Institutions, Residential areas, Industrial campuses, Road side and Avenue planting, Corporation Parks and Public places wherever we get the assurance of water source, maintenance and protection of plants.
- Imparting technical training to the women SHG members and also to the selective interested common public in creating a good and green environment in Madurai.
- Producing seedlings by involving women SHG members and various women federations in and around Madurai.
- Ensuring the Periodical maintenance and care to the planted seedlings in various places by involving various stakeholders.
- Documenting the best practices in the Greening process by involving various stakeholders.

Our Vision for 2025

“GREEN AND CLEAN MADURAI”

Let us all join our hands in achieving the great vision of making Green and Clean Madurai.

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MADURAI GREEN

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