

# Tamil Nadu Water Week 2023

## *Accelerating Change*

Date: March 20 -22, 2023  
DHAN Foundation, Madurai



## Water: The Lifeline

Water is the elixir of life. Every day, the need for water is escalating to produce food and also to meet the demands of increasing population. Tamil Nadu constitutes 4 percent of India's land area and is inhabited by 6 percent of India's population, but has only 2.5 percent of India's water resources. More than 95 percent of the surface water and 80 percent of the ground water have already been put into use. Major uses of water include human/animal consumption, irrigation and industrial use.

The demand for water in Tamil Nadu is increasing at a fast rate both due to increasing population and also due to larger per capita needs triggered by economic growth. The per capita availability of water resources however, is just 900 cubic meters when compared to the national average of 1,500 cubic meters. Agriculture is the largest consumer of water in the State using 75 per cent of the State's water resources. The State is heavily dependent on monsoon rains. The annual average rainfall is around 930 mm (47 percent during the north east monsoon, 35 percent during the south west monsoon, 14 percent in the summer and 4 percent in the winter).

There are 17 major river basins in the State with 61 reservoirs and about 39,000 tanks. Of the annual water potential of 46540 million cubic metres (MCM), surface flows account for about half. Most of the surface water has already been tapped, primarily for irrigation which is the largest user. 24 lakh hectares are irrigated by surface water through major, medium and minor schemes. The utilisation of surface water for irrigation is about 90 per cent.

### Challenges faced by the state

1. Rapid urbanisation
2. Degradation and/or reduction of cultivable lands
3. Lack of integrated approach on water management for using surface and ground water judiciously
4. Lack of strategies towards sustainable management and maintenance of water bodies.
5. Cost effective technologies to treat or reuse waste water generated at households
6. Limited encouragement for water saving technologies
7. Lack of effective management and governance on water sector

## Tamil Nadu Water Week 2023

DHAN Foundation is hosting Tamil Nadu Water Week from March 20 – 22, 2023 at Madurai on the theme of World Water Day 2023 called 'Accelerating change to solve the water and sanitation crisis'. This is the third edition which focuses on demand management of water resources and sustainable

solutions to address contemporary challenges in water and agriculture. The first edition of Tamil Nadu Water Week was held in the year 2013 at TNAU, Coimbatore and the second edition was held at Madurai in 2014. The events aim to promote collective actions from various stakeholders working on the water resources of the State for addressing the future challenges of Water Scarcity and its implication on food production and food security in Tamil Nadu. It also envisages to provide space for the primary stakeholders especially the farming communities to share their experiences of collective action at various regions of the State for water resources management and food security.

### Purpose of the Tamil Nadu Water Week 2023

- a. To take stock of water supply and demand gaps and list out the challenges thereof
- b. To showcase proven experiences and success stories from the grassroots, academia and research
- c. To highlight the voice of the unheard community in the last mile and find alternative solutions for the issues faced
- d. To understand the water supply & demand gaps and list out the challenges or identify the challenges
- e. To evolve framework and integrated approaches for sustainable water demand management

Themes & Sub Themes	
<b>1</b>	<b>Partnership for accelerating change</b>
1.1	Mainstream partnership for water
1.2	Financing for water livelihoods
1.3	Partnership for clean water and social security
<b>2</b>	<b>Water and Agriculture: Challenges and way forward</b>
2.1	Demand Management
2.2	Technological solutions for challenge
<b>3</b>	<b>Water commons and Community Collective</b>
3.1	Social capital for sustainable development
3.2	Women and water commons
<b>4</b>	<b>Water and SAWAS</b>
4.1	Water for sanitation and hygiene
4.2	Safe drinking water and health

Date and Venue
<b>Participants</b>
The Tamil Nadu Water Week 2023 invites experts, practitioners and water aspirants from academic institutions including water experts, faculties and students, CSR units, mainstream institutions, and community institutions to showcase and exchange their success stories in sustainable water management.
Date : <b>March 20 – 22, 2023</b>
Venue : <b>DHAN Foundation</b> , Madurai No. 1A, Vaidyanathapuram East, Kennet Cross Road, Madurai 625 016, Tamilnadu Ph: +91-452-2302580, Email: dhantank@dhan.org

## Events list

Day 1: 20.03.2023 (Monday)	Day 2: 21.03.2023 (Tuesday)	Day 3: 22.03.2023 (Wednesday)
I. Global Inauguration II. Convention on Accelerating Water and Livelihoods security through Corporate-Community partnership III. Workshop on Advancing mainstream linkages for sustaining rural livelihoods and ecosystem IV. Round table on graduating financing for water livelihoods V. Workshop on natural resource management with Panchayat Presidents	I. Seminar on GIS and agro advisory services in combating water and agricultural challenges II. Convention on Advancing agricultural practices: coping up climate change III. Workshop on water for sanitation and hygiene	I. Convention on accelerating water and food security through upscaling social capital II. Workshop on safe drinking water and health III. Global Closing

### DHAN Foundation

DHAN Foundation is a professional, not-for-profit and secular development organization working with 3 million people. The operations are spread in more than 20000 villages covering 16 states in India. The themes of focus include women empowerment (Kalanjiam Community Banking Programme), Water Conservation (Vayalagam Tank-fed Agriculture Development Programme), Agriculture, Information Communication Technology for Poor, Education, Climate Change, Local Governance, Youth and Development, and Migration. Through its 3 decades of community-led water conservation models, the institution has restored around 4500 waterbodies at National level benefitting around 4 Lakhs poor farming families. DHAN Foundation has implemented over 100 watershed development works and served as Resource Support Organisation and supported cultivation in 1.5 lakhs hectares of agriculture land. Besides restoration of Ooranis, about 10000 farm ponds were constructed to support farmers in combating climate change and also to provide life-saving irrigation.

*For further details, please contact:*

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