



ISSUE 10

SEPTEMBER '25

BE THE CHANGE



An Inspiring Session with Dr. K. Satyagopal

Thuvakkam headquarters, Chennai

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Volunteers turn Waste into Wonder

Chennai

More on Page 09

Highlights of September 2025



Lunch with Love

Annai Anbalayaa Home

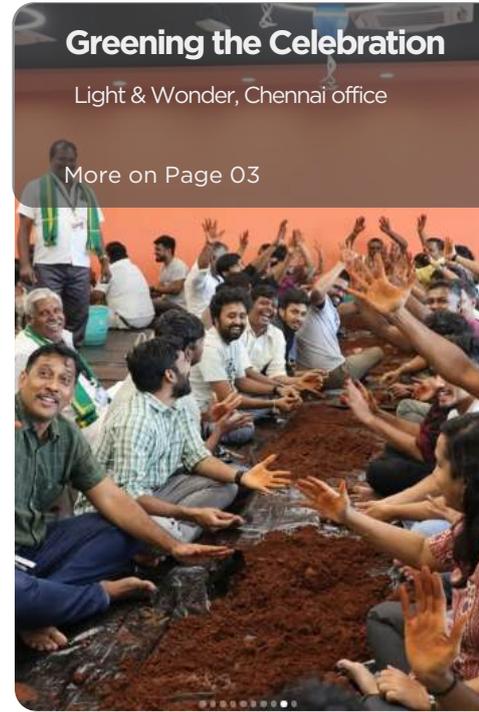
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Empowering Youth Changemakers

Hyderabad

More on Page 06



Greening the Celebration

Light & Wonder, Chennai office

More on Page 03

Request for Partners



Project focus

This project is a comprehensive restoration plan designed to convert the space into a sustainable, climate-resilient, and community-friendly green zone. The initiative will align with the goals of improving urban ecology, reducing pollution impact, and promoting public engagement in environmental conservation.

Location

28°30'30.3"N 77°16'59.1"E
Okhla Landfill,
Tughlaqabad- New Delhi

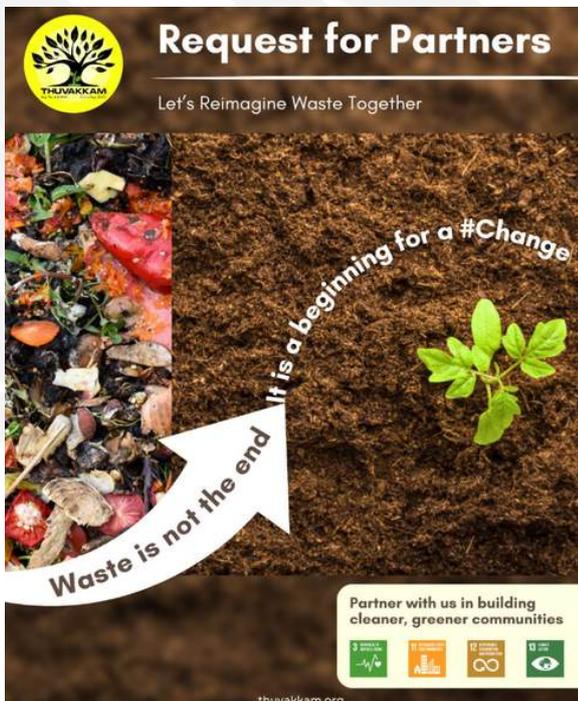


Contact us at er@thuvakkam.org for more details

Request for Partners || Afforestation Development in New Delhi

Tughlaqabad, New Delhi

- Development of a 1.72-acre green space in the heart of New Delhi.
- Plantation of 11,000 indigenous saplings to restore local biodiversity.
- Aims to revive ecological balance and improve air quality around the Okhla region.
- Marks Thuvakkam's first afforestation project in New Delhi, expanding our environmental impact nationwide.



Request for Partners || Solid Waste Management (SWM) Initiatives

Sustainable Waste Management
and Environmental Stewardship

- Implementing long-term solid waste management interventions across schools, workplaces, coastal areas, and communities.
- Promoting waste reduction, segregation, and recycling through project- and event-based models.

Mail at er@thuvakkam.org

GREENING THE CELEBRATION

Chennai - As part of Light & Wonder India's 20th anniversary celebrations, Thuvakkam collaborated with the team to host a Seedball Making Event on 18th August 2025 at their Chennai office. The initiative brought together 85 employee volunteers and 8 farmers from Olakkur, Villupuram District, who are beneficiaries of Thuvakkam's Apiculture Project.

Over the course of the event, participants created more than 2000 seed balls using native seeds, soil, and clay. Beyond being an engaging and hands-on activity, the event emphasized the importance of enhancing green cover, conserving native species, and promoting climate action. The farmers shared valuable insights on sustainable practices, while employees experienced the joy of contributing directly to eco-restoration — making this milestone celebration both impactful and inspiring.



COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS MEETING AT HANUMANTHAPURAM

Chengalpattu- On September 4, 2025, Thuvakkam organized a Community Stakeholders Meeting in Hanumanthapuram, Chengalpattu District, to present ongoing project interventions and future plans to the local community. During the meeting, the No Objection Certificate (NOC) was officially submitted to the Village Administrative Officer and the Village President.

Details of the working sites — Vinayagar Kovil Pond, Koppulam MI Tank adjacent pond, and the connecting channel — were shared, along with an overview of Project Phase 2. The meeting saw the participation of 19 members, including the Village President, Village Administrative Officer, Ward Member, and the Hanumanthapuram Village Panchayat AARO, marking a collaborative step forward in community engagement and project progress.



NUTRITION WEEK CELEBRATION



Ramanthapuram - As part of the Nutrition Week celebrations, Thuvakkam conducted an engaging session on “Nutrition – Healthy Food for a Healthy Life” at the Government Higher Secondary School, Kadalaadi, on 4th September 2025.

Over 90 students from Grades 6, 7, and 12 enthusiastically participated in various interactive activities aimed at raising awareness about the importance of healthy eating habits. The session also included a fun competition and a prize distribution segment, encouraging students to adopt and maintain a nutritious lifestyle.



PROJECT UPDATE- ANDICHIKULAM KANMAI IN SIKKAL

Ramanthapuram - Thuvakkam, in collaboration with Kaleesuwari Foundations, is proud to announce the successful rejuvenation of the Andichikulam Kanmai in Sikkal, Ramanthapuram through the impactful Project BlueZone initiative.

This minor irrigation tank, spanning 25 acres, has undergone extensive desilting and dewatering to restore its full potential. By removing accumulated silt and excess vegetation, the project will reclaim a vital water capacity of 29,925 cubic meters — equivalent to 2.19 crore liters. This significant restoration effort is set to become a crucial resource supporting agriculture and domestic water needs for surrounding communities.

Beyond just restoring the water body, Project BlueZone aims to rejuvenate local livelihoods, enhance groundwater recharge, and secure sustainable water availability for farming and everyday use. Through this initiative, Thuvakkam is fostering environmental resilience and empowering rural communities with reliable access to essential water resources.





EMPOWERING YOUTH CHANGEMAKERS

Hyderabad - It was an absolute honor for Mr. Krishna Kumar Suresh (Founder & President of Thuvakkam) to participate in the NSS Day 2025 celebrations at St. Pious X Degree & PG College for Women, Hyderabad, a valued institutional partner of Thuvakkam for the past two years. The event featured inspiring moments including a parade, flag hoisting, certificate distributions, speeches, and cultural performances, all beautifully embodying the NSS spirit of "Not Me, But You."



Mr. Krishna Kumar Suresh shared thoughts with the enthusiastic NSS volunteers, who exemplify how youth can lead in service and sustainability. Their energy and dedication offer hope for a brighter future.



Heartfelt thanks were extended to the Dean, Faculty, NSS Program Officers, and all volunteers for their warm hospitality and for inviting Thuvakkam.



ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING 2025



Chennai- Thuvakkam held its Annual General Body Meeting for the year 2025 at the organization's headquarters in Chennai on 22nd September 2025. The day was dedicated to reflection, celebrating past achievements, and presenting the vision for the future.

All Board members, senior members, and employees of Thuvakkam attended the meeting. The gathering also provided a special opportunity for the transfer of the organization's rich history and culture from the senior members to the newer generation, highlighting how Thuvakkam's values have evolved over time.

Key learnings from 2024–25 were discussed, and the roadmap for 2026–27 was outlined, setting a clear pathway for continued growth and progress.



EMPOWERING FARMERS THROUGH BEE APIARY 2.0



Villupuram - Following the success of Project Bee Apiary, we've partnered again with Light & Wonder India to launch Bee Apiary 2.0. As part of the initiative, 600 bee boxes will be distributed to 300 farmers across Olakkur and Vanoor blocks in Villupuram district. On 8th September 2025, 200 bee boxes were distributed to 100 farmers in Karuppur, Yeppakkam, Nolambur, Olakkur, and Ulagapuram villages. This project boosts crop yields through cross-pollination and supports farmer livelihoods through honey production and sales.

GEARING STUDENTS WITH KARKA KASADARA SESSIONS

Chennai- As part of Thuvakkam's Karka Kasadara initiative, two interactive sessions were held at Avvai Nidhi Middle School, Tambaram, in September. On 2nd September 2025, the "**Healthy Food for a Healthy Life**" session, supported by volunteer Ms. Ranjitha from Cognizant, helped students understand the importance of nutritious eating through activities and a fun Healthy Food vs. Junk Food debate. Another session on **Foundational Literacy**, led by Ms. Bhavya Vasan, Associate – Education, focused on building speaking and listening skills. Through games and skits, students learned to use polite classroom language and communicate confidently. Both sessions encouraged healthy habits, respect, and confidence — reflecting Thuvakkam's mission to build a foundation for Quality Education and a Healthy Life.

Thuvakkam is conducting regular Karka Kasadara classes in the school every Friday! Interest Volunteers can be a part of the event. Contact us at program@thuvakkam.org



VOLUNTEERS TURN WASTE INTO WONDER

Chennai- On 17th September 2025, 60 enthusiastic volunteers from Light & Wonder India participated in “Tiny Shells, Lasting Impact – Turning Waste into Wonder”, an event centred on Solid Waste Management (SWM) and creative upcycling. The highlight of the event was a DIY activity where volunteers transformed discarded coconut shells into artistic planters, demonstrating how everyday household waste can be repurposed into eco-friendly products. Following the creative session, participants engaged in a plantation activity, planting saplings in the coconut shells to symbolize giving “new life” to waste. Volunteers were also guided on transferring the plants to larger pots as they grow, allowing the shells to be reused for new saplings, thereby promoting a sustainable cycle. This initiative not only encouraged hands-on upcycling and responsible waste management but also fostered long-term behavior change, supporting eco-friendly lifestyles and contributing to the UN Sustainable Development Goals by reducing landfill waste.



MENTORSHIP MEET WITH DR. SULTAN AHMED ISMAIL



Chennai - We were honoured to meet our advisor, Dr. Sultan Ahmed Ismail, Member of the State Planning Commission, Government of Tamil Nadu, at Ezhilagam. Our Thuvakkam team had an enriching discussion with him, gaining valuable insights on community development, waterbody rejuvenation, plantation initiatives, and resource management. We are truly proud to have a mentor like Sultan sir, whose remarkable contributions to the nation’s development continue to inspire and motivate us to serve society with greater impact.

WELCOMING AND ENGAGING WITH DR. K SATYAGOPAL IAS (Retd.)

Chennai - Thuvakkam is delighted to welcome Dr. K Satyagopal IAS (Retd.) as one of our esteemed Advisors. A distinguished civil servant of the 1987 Indian Administrative Service batch and former Expert Member of the National Green Tribunal, Dr. Satyagopal has been instrumental in promoting Climate Resilient Agriculture methods, contributing significantly to water conservation, plant health, and sustainable growth. His expertise and guidance are set to help Thuvakkam scale its initiatives and create a greater societal impact.

In line with his advisory role, Dr. Satyagopal visited Thuvakkam's Headquarters in Chennai on 26th September 2025. The meeting brought together our Directors and team leads, focusing on Thuvakkam's progress in the Environment domain. Discussions explored innovative approaches, future opportunities, and potential projects, making it an insightful and enriching session that combined practical experience with strategic expertise.



EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES SAFE WORKSHOP ON SNAKE AWARENESS

Chennai- Vaishnuva Devi, Associate- Agronomist, recently attended the “Snake Awareness For Everyone (SAFE)” workshop organized by HCL Foundation in partnership with the Madras Crocodile Bank Trust. Held on September 10th at Kannagi Nagar PBGC, Chennai, the workshop focused on three key modules: Snake Safety and Ecology, Snakebite Prevention & Evidence-Based First Aid, and Snakebite Mitigation & Community Capacity Building.

The session was highly interactive and informative, featuring awareness on various snake species, first aid demonstrations for snakebites, and hands-on training on safely rescuing snakes. Vaishnuva shared that the knowledge gained from the workshop will be particularly useful for our gardeners, enabling them to handle snake encounters safely and pass on awareness to the community.



EVENT PARTNER WITH SEED AWARDS 2025

Chennai - We're thrilled to announce that Thuvakkam proudly joins hands as an Event Partner for the prestigious SEED Awards 2025. This collaboration celebrates innovation, creativity, and excellence, reflecting our commitment to supporting transformative ideas and outstanding talent





SERVING SMILES - A HEARTFELT DAY WITH THUVAKKAM AND PERTONASH

Chennai - On September 27, 2025, volunteers from Pertonash partnered with Thuvakkam to bring warmth and compassion to the residents of Annai Anbalayaa Home in Royapettah. The event, themed “Lunch with Love,” was a heartfelt initiative where volunteers served nutritious meals and spent quality time with 85 mothers, caretakers, and staff across both homes.

Beyond sharing food, the volunteers engaged in joyful conversations, listened to inspiring life stories, and spread smiles that brightened many hearts. These simple acts of kindness fostered dignity, emotional well-being, and a profound sense of belonging among the residents.

The day beautifully highlighted how compassion can transform lives—both of those who give and those who receive. A special thanks to the Pertonash volunteers for embodying the spirit of care and community through their meaningful contribution.



ARTICLES ON THUVAKKAM

INSPIRING EXPERIENCES AND SOCIAL IMPACT



Our Aspiration in nurturing the Next Gen.

By Dinesh Babu Sakthivel – General Secretary, Thuvakkam

We Thuvakkam has been actively collaborating with colleges and educational institutions as a knowledge partner, helping plan and support conferences on key topics such as environmental sustainability, leadership, and social change. Our team provides guidance on event content, engages students as volunteers, and ensures that every program offers valuable learning experiences. Beyond conferences, we also encourage students to participate in volunteering activities and rural development camps. Through these initiatives, students work closely with communities on projects such as clean-up drives, awareness campaigns, and educational support programs.



These hands-on experiences not only enhance their understanding of social issues but also help them develop a strong sense of responsibility and empathy. To further strengthen youth engagement, we are in the process of launching the Thuvakkam Youth Club across colleges. This platform aims to nurture leadership qualities, initiative, and teamwork, enabling students to design and implement meaningful social projects. Through all these efforts, We Thuvakkam remains committed to empowering young people to become active, responsible, and confident leaders of tomorrow.



My Volunteering Experience with Thuvakkam

By Nagendra – Cognizant Volunteer

Volunteering with Thuvakkam was a truly heart-touching experience. Donating food packets to those in need made me realize how a small act of kindness can bring so much happiness. The smiles and gratitude I received filled my heart with joy. I also had the chance to meet wonderful new volunteers, it was a beautiful moment of connection, teamwork, and shared purpose. This experience reminded me that when we come together to serve, we not only help others but also grow as individuals.



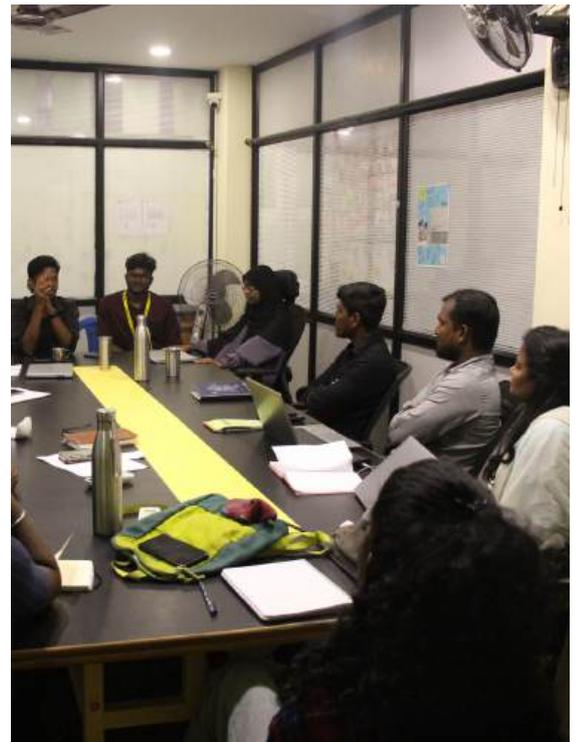


Learning the Thuvakkam Module- the Volunteer way

By Mahesh K – MSC Technologies, TKM Module Batch 1 Student

As a Volunteer, I had the opportunity to take part in the Thuvakkam Fundamentals of Project Design module. Before this, I had very limited understanding of how a non-governmental organization actually functions and manages its projects. This module provided me with a clear, structured, and step-by-step understanding of the entire process, right from the different types of NGO registrations, legal requirements, and organizational frameworks, to the stages of project design, execution, and evaluation. What I found most valuable was how it connected theoretical learning with real life practice. The field visit helped me observe the community dynamics directly and understand the importance of effective stakeholder engagement.

I learned how to communicate with local beneficiaries, build trust with partners, and identify challenges that arise in fieldwork. It was eye-opening to see how teamwork, coordination, and empathy come together to create social impact. This experience also helped me bridge my corporate background with my passion for social work. Coming from an MNC environment, I had always been used to structured workflows and measurable goals. Through this module, I realized that similar principles planning, monitoring, and evaluation are equally vital in the development sector. It has given me clarity on how to design and handle a project effectively, ensuring both impact and sustainability. Overall, the Thuvakkam Fundamentals of Project Design module has been a turning point in my journey as a volunteer. It expanded my perspective, strengthened my confidence, and equipped me with the knowledge and practical skills to contribute more meaningfully to community projects in the future.



NEWS UPDATE

Chennai comes together to celebrate Daan Utsav

■ MERIN JAMES

Daan Utsav, formerly known as the Joy of Giving Week, is India's festival of giving. Since its launch in 2009, it's been observed every year from October 2 to 8, beginning with Gandhi Jayanti. People of all ages and backgrounds participate by sharing their time, money, skills, or resources in their own way. In Chennai, NGOs and local organisations are gearing up to mark the festival with purpose.

One such group is Thuvakkam, which is organising Eegai Thiruvizha 2025. Durga Prasad, a volunteer from Thuvakkam, says, "As part of the Daan Utsav celebrations, we are hosting a series of events under Eegai Thiruvizha. This week-long festival is dedicated to the spirit of giving and volunteering. We aim to inspire people from all walks of life to come together for a noble cause. This is designed as a collec-

tive celebration, combining events that foster kindness, gratitude, community bonding, and environmental awareness," says Durga.

The inaugural event is happening on September 30 at Hindustan College of Arts & Science. "We are expecting 450-500 student volunteers to participate, where we will take a collective pledge towards kindness and service. On October 2, we will have 'Warmth of Kindness' at Thuvakkam Headquarters, an evening to reflect on acts of giving, marking Gandhi Jayanti with service and compassion. One of the highlights will be the community food drive on October 5 at Avvai Nidhi Middle School, Tambaram. We plan to serve nutritious meals to around 400-500 underserved people," shares Durga.

He has noticed that over the years, many people have come forward to support those in need. "Some show their humanitarian side by donating money, while others

are interested in volunteering. That's the joy of giving."

Durga also mentions that alongside adults, many children are actively participating in the events. "We've noticed more children attending with their parents, and it's heartening to see parents encouraging such involvement. The kids often tell us that giving isn't just for a week; they want to help others in any way they can, every single day. Events like these spread kindness, gratitude, and hope, reminding us that giving is truly the greatest celebration of all."

In another corner of Chennai, children from EuroKids, Kotturpuram, celebrated Daan Utsav in their own simple, heartfelt way. They distributed sweets and snacks to community helpers, made thank-you cards for the local police station, and held a music and movement workshop at the Anna Centenary Library. Maya Pradeep, the centre

manager, points out that children learn and develop empathy when exposed to such activities. "These kinds of activities promote natural development. We provide an environment where children develop empathy towards their fellow beings," shares Maya.

One All Trust is an organisation that uses the mixed-gender sport of Ultimate Frisbee to bring young people together, build leadership, and create safe spaces where children learn to trust themselves and each other. This Daan Utsav, they're launching Frisbees for Futures, a donation campaign to raise funds. "Over the years, we have trained over 4500 marginalised children from Chennai and Gudalur. But to reach more young people, we need basic equipment and well-organised, safe events. That's why we've launched this campaign," shares a member of One All.

This year, the team is focusing on raising funds to buy around 500 practice discs, provide training kits that include jerseys and bags, and organise community tournaments. With adequate support, they hope to directly reach over 600 children and youth across Chennai and Gudalur. The team believes that campaigns like this not only help expand their impact but also encourage more people to take part in the joy of giving.



The kids often tell us that giving isn't just for a week; they want to help others in any way they can, every single day. Events like these spread kindness, gratitude, and hope, reminding us that giving is truly the greatest celebration of all
 — Durga Prasad, volunteer, Thuvakkam



Children from EuroKids Kotturpuram participating in Daan Utsav, (above) From Thuvakkam's Daan Utsav celebrations last year



One All has launched a donation campaign called Frisbees for Futures



We're proud to share that Thuvakkam's Eegai Thiruvizha 2025 was featured in DT Next's 30 Sep edition!

The article, titled "Chennai NGOs take the lead in 2025," highlighted our initiatives promoting kindness pledges, food drives, and youth engagement during Daan Utsav. Published on September 30, 2025, the feature is available online at www.dtnext.in. This recognition celebrates the collective spirit of giving and community action that continues to drive Thuvakkam's mission.

Chennai NGOs take the lead in 2025

- Thuvakkam's Eegai Thiruvizha features kindness pledges, food drives & youth engagement.
- One All Trust launches Frisbees for Futures to empower underserved children through sport and leadership.

September 30, 2025 | www.dtnext.in

▶ SCAN (OR) CLICK TO WATCH



Thuvakkam- Community Based Organizations



Project Greenergize- energizing schools with Solar Energy



Thuvakkam Greenery at Ramnad



PICTURE OF THE MONTH

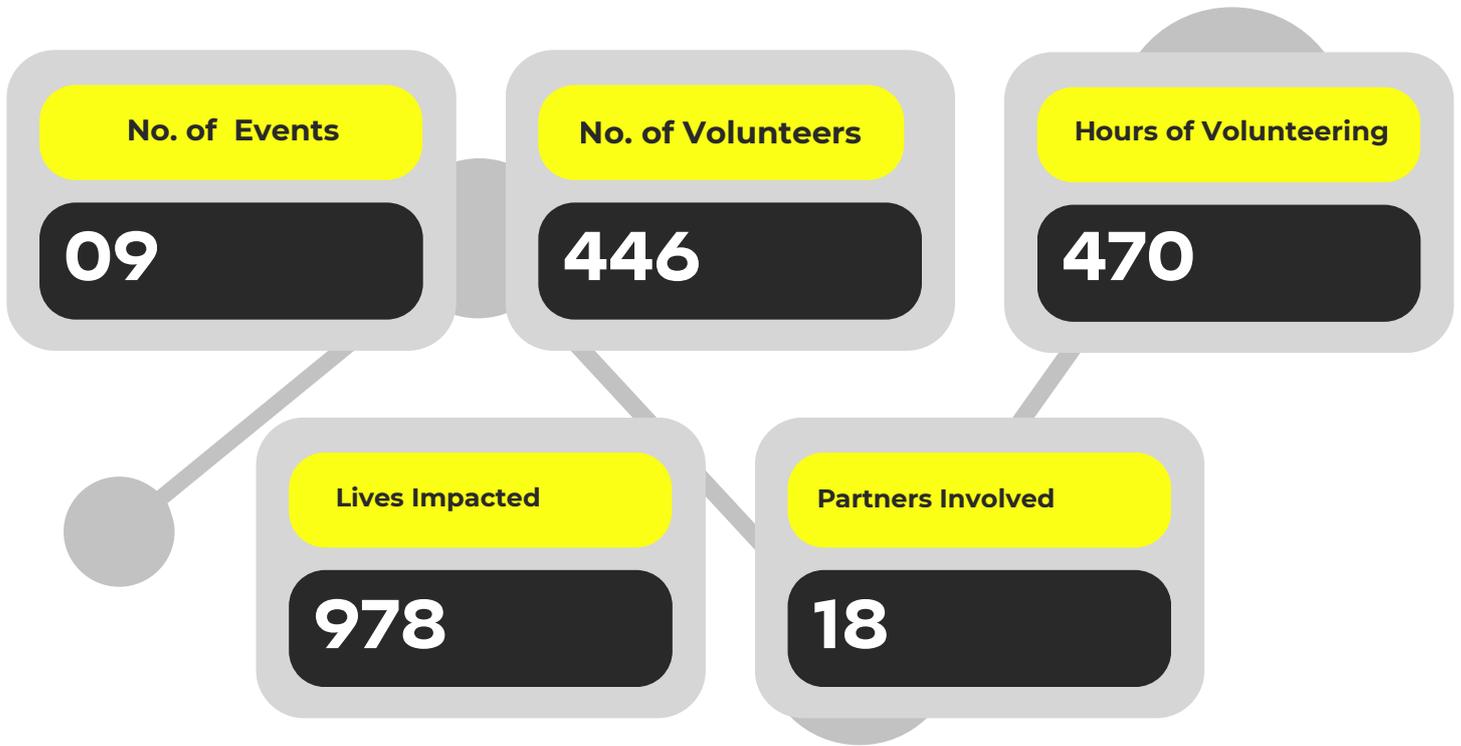
Caring for young saplings ensures their healthy growth and strengthens our urban forests. Regular watering, mulching, and de-weeding help them thrive, while protection from pests and damage supports long-term survival. With community participation and consistent care, these saplings will grow into a vibrant green canopy for future generations.



PICTURE OF THE MONTH

Sep '25

VOLUNTEERING WALL- SEP 2025



PARTNERS WE COLLABORATED FOR SEP 2025

HCLFoundation

SGP The GEF Small Grants Programme

Chennai Willingdon Corporate Foundation

LIGHT & WONDER

AstraZeneca

ALTIMETRIK SIMPLIFY TECHNOLOGY | AMPLIFY POSSIBILITY

tag.

rri

Ford

xoriant

firstsource

cognizant

Kaleesuwari Foundations

VPG

GENESYS

GRUNDFOS

NORTHERN ARC

PETRONASH



I am Thenuka, K. studying in my final year of B.Com at Ethiraj College for Women, Chennai.

I come from a single-parent family. My mother works very hard to take care of me and my sister.

Sometimes, it was very hard for me to continue my studies. From the time I applied to college until now, Thuvakkam has been helping me a lot. They gave me financial support and also gave me confidence and mental support to keep going. Thuvakkam played an important role in my success. Because of their help, I could focus on my studies and I am happy to say I am doing well in college. Thuvakkam's support has made my life easier and encouraged me to build a better future. I am very thankful to Thuvakkam for believing in me and helping me all along.

Thank you,
Thenuka



SCAN TO
DONATE

Through our 'Sponsor for Success' initiative, you have the power to change lives by supporting the education of underprivileged children. Your contribution can open doors to quality learning, helping young minds rise above challenges and work towards a brighter, empowered future.

PARTNER WITH US

Would you like to create an impact in the society through a collaboration?

Then reach us at er@thuvakkam.org
Call us at **+91 94448 88937**



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