

Vayalagam Movement Day & World Water Day

Compendium of Celebrations

March 7 – 22, 2025



Dear Colleagues,

As we often admire the word 'Water unites everyone', the Vayalagam Movement Day and World Water Day 2025 celebrations have united entire colleagues and community in DHAN for celebrating water everywhere. A range of field actions were consistently continued not only for celebrations but also for taking the mission into next mile. We convey our sincere gratitude to all the team and community in DHAN who place their outstanding efforts in making the celebrations much more enriching. Here is an attempt to consolidate the celebrations happened across DHAN Collective. Hope this update will expand our synergy and make the mission 'Mainstreaming water' a grand success.

Happy reading and keep your hands connected to the mission!

Team

DHAN Vayalagam (Tank) Foundation

A month-long Celebrations in March 2025**Where?**

Everywhere in DHAN Collective. All the people institutions belong to various subsidiaries of DHAN Collective celebrated it at multiple levels like village, Panchayat, Block, District and State. The celebrations were observed across all the states where DHAN is present.

Why?

Conserving water for future is everyone's responsibility. The changing lifestyle in the society is predominantly contributing for climate change. The theme of the world water day 2025 envisages protecting the environment from the adverse effects of climate change. This demands a drastic change in the behavioural pattern of the present society. The increased emission of CO₂ through extensive burning of fossil fuels, solid waste, trees, and other biological materials contributes significantly to the climate change. It has implication on the per capita availability of water.

Based on the study titled "Reassessment of Water Availability in India using Space Inputs, 2019" conducted by Central Water Commission, the average annual per capita water availability for year 2021 and 2031 has been assessed as 1486 cubic meter and 1367 cubic meter respectively. Annual per-capita water availability of less than 1700 cubic meter is considered as water stressed condition whereas annual per-capita water availability below 1000 cubic meters is considered as a water scarcity condition. In the similar line, a report from Niti Aayog says that currently 600 million Indians face high to extreme water shortage and about two lakh people die every year due to inadequate access to potable water. At this juncture, striving for water conservation in a collective mode and adopting a climate friendly life style are the need of the hour.

Who?

The leaders and members from the federations triggered the celebrations predominantly. The celebrations have laid platform for the entire segment in the society like women, youth, partners, philanthropist, etc, beside general public.

Celebrations

The event was celebrated across the states through various activities as follows

- People Seminar
- Awareness Event
- Vayalaga Pongal
- School competitions
- Tree Plantations
- Shramadan

People Conference and Awareness Event: People Conference were organised with our community members and stakeholders for raising awareness on importance of conservation of Traditional Surface water bodies, Sustainable agriculture practises, impact of climate change, best practises and effective water usage

Vayalaga Pongal: Pongal is one the important and culturally integrated with Tamil Nadu. Keeping Pongal on this day signifies the integration of culture and our conservation activity. It underscores the importance of collective identity and the strength derived from shared traditions and values.

School Competitions: Educating school students about water awareness is essential for building a responsible and sustainable future. As the next generation of leaders and decision-makers, students need to understand the importance of conserving water, protecting water bodies, and using water responsibly.

Shramadan and Tree Plantations: Doing shramdan, an selfless vountary activity on this day signifies the people commitment to our conservation activities. Planting trees and promoting bio diversity is need of the hour. Deforestation and losing the green cover is one of the leading cause of climate change.

This compendium comprises of the activities carried out at **32 events** and reaching out to **1243 participants** including farmers, women members, villagers and school students

Blessings from the Benchmarker

On March 7, 2002, with the auspicious presence and blessings from Padma Bhushan Anna Hazare, the Vayalagam Movement was launched.



Vayalagam Mutual Movement Launch event on March 7, 2002

The DVTF team was fortunate to meet Padma Bhushan Anna Hazare on March 8, 2025 in the midst of Vayalagam Movement Day 2025 celebrations. The meeting brought back pleasant memories of the Vayalagam Movement's launch and community declarations.



His message are as follows

“Namaskar!

Villages are backbone of our Indian economy. One village can contain 4-5 watersheds, it may be big or small or in an one big watershed cover to 10-15 villages. The meaning of water shed is not only conservation of running water but also conserving top soil, which flows with rainwater, the conservation of top soil s very important. For formation of 1 inch of top soil, it takes more than 100 years. Every year a lot of top soil runs out due to rain. It is very important to keep the top soil in villages. Yearly this much crucial top soil eroding. Watershed development program is very important as we conserve water as well as top soil by this program. In villages where people don't have water to drink, don't have food to eat there we have to do water shed program, by this program people will get food to eat, water to drink and so they will not migrate. People are migrating to cities, but watershed development can give labour opportunities in village itself.

Mahatma Gandhi used to say "Watershed is revolutionary program which will stop people to migrate from rural to urban, and people will get work within village", so this is very revolutionary program. We must work together to sustain our villages protecting our water and soil.

Happy World water Day wishes to all"

Mainstreaming Water in DHAN Collective

In Beed Region, Launched a project under HDFC financial support as “Women and Water”



Vayalagam Movement Day and World Water Day Celebrations

Venue: DHAN People Academy (DPA)

People Conference on “Usufruct rights on Irrigation Tanks”**WORLD WATER DAY**
Celebration





Vayalagam Movement Day Celebration



Sub-group discussion on water themed topics



People Conference on **“Usufruct rights on Irrigation tanks”**

State: Tamil Nadu**Region:** Pambar

Location: Alangudi, Kalaiyar kovil



Vayalaga Pongal and Tree Plantation

No of Participants: 31

State: Tamil Nadu**Region:** Pambar

Location: Vaiyapuripatti, & S.Mathur, Singampuneri



Vayalaga Pongal

No of Participants: 50

State: Tamil Nadu**Region:** Pambar

Location: Natham



Vayalaga Pongal

No of Participants: 20

State: Tamil Nadu**Region:** Pambar

Location: Vettivayal panchayat, Devakottai



Awareness Event: Fish Rearing Activity Training

No of Participants: 25

State: Tamil Nadu**Region:** Pambar

Location: Ponamaravathi



Vayalaga Pongal

No of Participants: 60

State: Tamil Nadu**Region:** Pambar

Location: Tirupathur



Vayalaga Pongal

No of Participants: 20

State: Tamil Nadu**Region:** Pambar

Location: Piranpatti village, S Pudur



Shramadan and Vayalaga Pongal

No of Participants: 26

State: Tamil Nadu**Region:** Pambar

Location: Udavayal, Kalaiyar kovil



Vayalaga Pongal

No of Participants: 10

State: Tamil Nadu**Region:** Pambar RFDP

Location: Paganeri, Kallal



Vayalaga Pongal

No of Participants: 10

State: Tamil Nadu**Region:** Pambar RFDP

Location: Kurichivayal village, Chithanoor panchayat, Kannakudi



Vayalaga Pongal

No of Participants: 10

State: Tamil Nadu

Region: Gundar Upper

Location: S Perumalpatti, Kallikudi



Shramadan activity: Cleaning - Kasthuri Rettayar Oorani

No of Participants: 23

State: Tamil Nadu

Region: Gundar Lower and Middle

Location: Kallakurichi, Manamadurai



Vayalaga Pongal

No of Participants: 29

State: Tamil Nadu**Region:** Gundar Lower

Location: Pallamerkulam, Tirupulani



Awareness Event

No of Participants: 100

State: Tamil Nadu**Region:** Gundar Lower

Location: Manikkaneri, Tirupulani



Awareness Event

No of Participants: 76

State: Tamil Nadu**Region:** Agniyaar

Location: Marungapuri

**Shramadan activity:** Cleaning of Tank

No of Participants: 15

State: Tamil Nadu**Region:** Thiruvallur

Location: Nedumaram, Thiruvallangadu

**Awareness Event**

No of Participants: 112

State: Tamil Nadu**Region:** Thiruvallur

Location: Devanthavakkam village, Poondi



Chief guest Indian Bank manager Mr.Thangavel, Agriculture Engineering department Mr.Ganesh (EE), Devanthavakkam Headmaster and planted saplings in the Periya Aari Vayalgam, distributed the tree saplings to 52 members.

No of Participants: 70

State: Tamil Nadu**Region:** Vaippar

Location: V Pudhur

**Awareness Event**

No of Participants: 30

State: Tamil Nadu**Region:** Pudukottai

Location: Thirumayam



Vayalaga Pongal

No of Participants: 11

State: Bihar**Region:** Lakhisarai

Location: Lakhai Panchayat



Rangoli competition

No of Participants: 30

State: Bihar**Region:** Lakhisarai

Location: Sisma village of Kachiyana Panchayat

**Padyatra**

No of Participants: 41

State: Bihar**Region:** Lakhisarai

Location: Khaira village

**Plantation Drive:** Tree plantations along the bunds of farm ponds

No of Participants: 21

State: Bihar**Region:** Munger

Location: Afjalnagar

**Padyatra: Walk for a Change**

No of Participants: 36

State: Bihar**Region:** Lakhisarai

Location: Manapur, Chanan

**Padyatra and Drawing competition**

No of Participants: 151

State: Andra Pradesh**Region:** Champavathi

Location: Samba Village, Garividi



Tree Plantation

No of Participants: 50

State: Karnataka**Region:** Kolar

Location: Malur, Madiwala

**Essay Writing Competition:** Madiwala Chokkandahalli Government School.

No of Participants: 40

State: Karnataka

Region: Kolar

Location: Sakkanahalli village of Bangarpet



Shramadan: Cleaning Activity.

No of Participants: 21

State: Karnataka

Region: Kolar

Location: Hosakere Tank in Mulbagal Block



Shramadan: Cleaning Activity.

No of Participants: 26

State: Karnataka

Region: Kolar

Location: Madaghatta Village of Mulbagal taluk



Shramadan: Temple Cleaning Activity.

No of Participants: 19

State: Karnataka

Region: Kolar

Location: Thotli Village



Shramadan: Cleaning Activity of temple pond.

No of Participants: 32

State: Karnataka**Region:** Kolar

Location: Nernahalli

**Shramadan:** Cleaning Activity of temple pond.

No of Participants: 19



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