

Editorial

*Water, water, everywhere,
Nor any drop to drink.*

Since time immemorial, man has eked out a simple living, reveling in the glories of Nature, securely nestled away within her folds. She bestowed upon his brow, the gift of Life, and crafted for him a safe haven filled with beauteous treasures; a refuge in which he could live out the rest of his days in peace. She soothed him during times of sorrow, and sheltered him from the sting of strife, never once claiming even the merest trifle as compensation for her charitable deeds.

But amidst all the riches Mother Nature has so graciously bequeathed to mankind, one stands out from amongst the rest, shining with an unsurpassed splendor, a being boasting of beauty beyond compare, without which man would have long since been spirited away to Death's subdued shores.

She is one who assumes many a guise, and is confined not to a solitary form; she is the daughter of the skies and sister to the summer breeze, the earth's betrothed and mother of the mighty ocean, the gentle shower that douses the grass and the drop of dew that glistens upon a rose. If one deigned to give a name to so valuable a prize, it would be none other, than water.

But alas, the lurking clouds of lust and greed soon cast their malignant shadows upon this blissful existence, tainting mankind's thoughts with a wicked blight that cruelly severed the poignant bond he shared with Nature. Possessed by covetous fervor, he besmirched her ethereal beauty and reduced the tokens of her generosity to a truly deplorable state. In a final act of villainy, he defiled the most sacred of her creations by emptying copious amounts of filth into various bodies of water.

Being one of the brightest jewels in Nature's repertoire, the remarkable entity is born out of a rendezvous between the river and sea; estuaries have certainly received the hard end of the bargain. Despite being economically and ecologically indispensable, man has bitten the very hand that fed him, gravely insulting the precious resource that has been conferred upon him. Rising levels of pollution have severely threatened the continued existence of estuaries, proving to be deadly for the hapless creatures that reside within their confines.

Much has changed in our world since the times of lore; new joys have been discovered and old sorrows, quelled. New inventions have come into existence, rendering obsolete, the tools of the past. But one must not get carried away by new-fangled contraptions, and must always remember in his heart of hearts, the tenets man once lived by which brought him such immense contentment. We must not spurn Nature with the name of development upon our lips, for there is naught that can justify the abominable price it has extracted from her. Though our eyes may rest on the skies of the future, our feet must be firmly planted on the grounds of the present. We must pay our dues to the all-powerful entity that has fostered us so!

-Sadhana Madhavan
Chief Editor

A JOB WELL DONE!
COUNCIL FOR EMPLOYMENT

The proceedings of day two began with a flourish, successfully tackling two of the problems raised on the previous day regarding the LIG and other stakeholders in the various economic activities.

The council proposed that the problem regarding the Low Income Group (LIG), should be addressed by involving the Chennai Corporation in providing more employment opportunities. Less skilled laborers can be employed in cleaning activities to improve the conditions of the river while fishermen can be allowed to fish in select areas. Locals engaged would be paid equal wages. In order to involve various sections of society, the council



declared that identification of stakeholders is vital. For example, students and teachers can volunteer and help promote tourism while the media can be roped in to spread awareness. After a great deal of deliberation, the council zeroed in on solutions to address the problem related to maintenance of ecological parks. They agreed that social media would prove to be a vital tool

in enhancing tourism. Many activities like bird watching, boating and setting up of an Amphitheatre for screening documentaries could be organized. The LIG could be encouraged to start cottage industries in order to improve their socio-economic conditions.

The session ended on a happy note with the presentation of a paper by the Prolocutor Tejas Parthasarathi that enumerated implementable ideas to help brighten the future. The council believed that the execution of these ideas would enhance the level of employment and speed up the restoration process of the park.

-Aditi Baskar, Yashaswini G

T3 – HOME GROUND – THE HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY DAY 2

It was another exciting day on home turf as the events of day 2 unfolded. The participants went about their task of finding a solution to the third and final question. A huge variety of ideas and solutions were presented by the delegates. They took off by reviewing the point of 'Expanding tourism without disturbing the conservation processes'.

The participants explained beautifully how the fishermen and students of colleges in and around the Adyar estuary could increase their income by conducting educational tour so that it strikes a better chord with school students. Competitions and events could be held at regular intervals at the city level to create awareness and to generate substantial revenue. The officials could run educational drives for the government



schools in the vicinity to increase awareness and sensitize them to the ecosystem of the park. The second point of discussion was based around whether 'to have tourists or not' in the Adyar estuary. They discussed how the tourists brought in revenue yet caused an ecological imbalance in the park. The solution to this problem was to limit the amount of tourists and to make it mandatory for them to be accompanied by a guide to preserve the grandeur of the park. The third and final point which they mulled over was 'the creation of awareness about the Adyar Estuary among the

people'. They plan to introduce educational programmes for locals and tourists by conducting talks and workshops. Regular seminars on the biodiversity of the park will also be hosted for students. Employing publicity measures, both digital and offline,

were explored. Proposals to have artists perform in the estuary, along with setting up stalls and souvenir shops were put forth. The discussion concluded with a paper presentation by the Prolocutor consisting of the solutions and notions on the questions that were posed and answered by the committee. The committee hoped that these ideas would help in the improvement of the hospitality industry in the Adyar estuary, lighting up the path, leading to the restoration of the splendor of the park.

-SREYA SHA

Educative Medical Camps- A Need To Restore Environment

'Thank You' is what the prolocutor Akshaya Mohan said after concluding Day 2's fruitful session. Being the School Pupil, the finesse with which led the committee just proved the fact that she's a natural leader, yet again. The committee was eager to swing back into action and the speakers were well prepared. The atmosphere within the room was enthusiastic and every speaker had the zeal to give something back to the environment without realizing the revolutionary impact that their ideas would have, if their full potential was reached.

The formal sessions, and the informal interludes led to decipher the essential measures that the Adyar Estuary needed for restoration and further sustenance. The second and third questions which were about controlling the effects of pollution on the residents and ensuring sustainable solutions were



solution suggested by the committee included organizing medical camps to spread awareness among the locals for providing preventive measures against

discussed in the committee today. The committee's resourceful inputs ignited the desire to tackle these problems effectively. One major

dreaded diseases. A permanent two-fold measure to purify water was also proposed. Other notable measures recommended were educating the locals based on their skills set, spreading awareness among illiterate adults and conducting programs on environmental education for children. The solutions were compiled into a well analyzed and well-crafted academic paper. This council of young minds has again proved that the youth, especially when they think collaboratively are a force to reckon with!

By: Samhita Srinivas