

## World Wetlands Day 2019 celebrated at Madurai, Tamil Nadu

Forty six National Green Corps students of Government High School, Anaiyur, Madurai along with A.C. Senthilkumar, Headmaster and Haribabu, NGC, Co-ordinator observed the World Wetland Day 2019 at Karuppasamy temple pond, Anaiyur. After the welcome by the headmaster, Jessie Jeyakaran, Member, CEC-IUCN explained about the history, objectives, theme of World Wetland Day and conducted two sessions on observing and recording the pond life, collection of live forms from the pond and its study. Garbage collection and cultural programme in folk arts, were conducted by Haribabu.

Students of 6-9th standard listed out the plants, birds, buildings and the shore in different areas. From this they were able to learn more about the water bed. Through the sample water collected from the pond, the students were able to study the water clarity, the types of fishes, tiny particles etc. Some of the students along with the NGC coordinator collected the garbage in and around the pond.

Kasi, Police Officer of Koodalnagar voluntarily joined in this event and encouraged the students and advised them to keep water bodies clean wherever they go. Puthiya Chelam, Headmaster of Meiglarpatty and Folk Art trainer Thangapandi spoke to the students how to create awareness through folk arts. Vigneswaran trained the students in Parai and Silambam which were the centre of attraction to the passer-by, as the students performed these arts in the waterbed itself. Haribabu along with the students sang a song about the earth with action which attracted the general public. The programme came to an end with vote of thanks by NGC Coordinator. The day's programme along with the photo was published in The Hindu, Tamil edition.



**Learning about the life forms collected from the pond**

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**Students were trained in local folk arts**