



*Government of Puducherry  
Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat*

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No. LGS/PRO/2017

7<sup>th</sup> May, 2017

**PRESS RELEASE**

*'Involve Local Residents To Plant One Tree by One Family'.*

*...Tweet of Dr. Kiran Bedi, Hon'ble Lt. Governor*

Dr. Kiran Bedi, Hon'ble Lt. Governor dedicated the 75<sup>th</sup> weekend morning round visiting the Kuruvintham Tank and Kirumambakkam Tank on Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> May, 2017.

Hon'ble Lt. Governor reviewed the progress of the work with the PWD officials and thereafter interacted with the members of Tank Users Associations. Key challenges to conserve the water bodies were identified and the solutions were evolved to address these challenges.

Budget to be specifically earmarked for desilting and maintenance of the 84 tanks to recharge the ground water level and to improve the water quality. Crop cultivation, which is solely dependent on bore wells, would have adequate water sources for agriculture and thereby ensuring farm employment and food security.

Hon'ble Lt. Governor observed and heard from local community, that the water bodies are contaminated by the release of sewerage water. Government Departments to work in coordination to prevent pollution of these tanks and ponds, by providing alternatives to drain sewerage water.

The bund around these water bodies to be strengthened and secured by planting trees with the participation of local community to ensure ownership and sustainability. This would empower the rural community, besides making them responsible and engaged in water conservation.

Hon'ble Lt. Governor impressed upon the need for training programme for all the stake holders, to share and promote good practices in conservation of water bodies.

Hon'ble Lt. Governor stated that agriculture is the major employment provider for the rural community. Availability of water and its quality are the key aspects for sustainable agriculture. Hon'ble Lt. Governor appealed to all the stakeholders to work collectively to make Puducherry self reliant in water and food, as the right measures executed today would benefit the present and future generations as well.

G. Srinivas, Addl. Secretary to Lt. Governor, Dr. Amrita Bahl, OSD to Lt. Governor, Thiru Thamarai Pugazhendi, EE, Irrigation along with PWD officials, Thiru Souderarajan, Bahour Commune Panchayat, S. Karthigayan, Addl. ADC to LG accompanied Hon'ble Lt. Governor.