



**Government of Puducherry**  
**Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat**

No. LGS/PRO/2017

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

**PRESS RELEASE**

*'Just like children, our elders also need more care'.*

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

Dr. Kiran Bedi, Hon'ble Lt. Governor visited Thamaraiikulam, the Elders Village run by Help Age India in Periyakanganakuppam near Kanniakoil in her 76<sup>th</sup> weekend morning round on Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> May 2017 along with Team Raj Nivas to see the best practices in water conservation adopted. Hon'ble Lt. Governor was accompanied by Shri PT Rudra Goud, Project Director, DRDA, G. Srinivas, Addl. Secretary to LG, Dr. Amrita Bahl, OSD to LG and officials of PWD.

Hon'ble Lt. Governor interacted with the inmates of the Home and thereafter visited the water conservation facilities. The lotus pond located within the campus of the Home has been designed by the architect of Help Age India and maintained by the inmates of the Home, through periodical desilting and cleaning. A bund was also provided around the pond, for walking facility.

Hon'ble Lt. Governor observed that this cost effective practice should be emulated in the adjoining villages of Bahour Commune. Accordingly, the representatives of community based organisations like Self Help Groups of elderly, Women Self Help Groups and Tank Associations of Bahour would visit this cost effective pond maintenance facility for four weekends, starting on 20<sup>th</sup> May, 2017 to study the best practice and customize a model specific to each village pond for its revival and maintenance.

Consequent to the visit of the stakeholders for four weekends, a film on the lotus pond, would be made and shown in another rural areas, to emulate for revival of respective village ponds.

Hon'ble Lt. Governor stated that the sharing and wide adoption of this best practice, would lead to revival of water bodies in rural areas viz. tanks and ponds and significantly improve water table in the rural areas. This would augment agricultural productivity and have a visible change for the better, in the living standards of our rural population.