



GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY  
LT. GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT

No.LGS/2017

Oct 21, 2017

**PRESS RELEASE**

Based on Newspaper report that the check dam at Kommanthanmedu near Bahour is under risk of breach following the discharge of water from Sathanur dam into Thenpennai river and also an e-mail complaint on the same matter, Hon'ble Lt. Governor dedicated the 113<sup>th</sup> Weekend Morning round for visit to that site.

Hon'ble Lt. Governor had also received another representation regarding encroachment of public land, canals and channels in Pillaiyarkuppam village of Bahour commune. As such, Hon'ble Lt. Governor combined the weekend round for visit to Pillaiyarkuppam village too.

At the Kommanthanmedu site, Hon'ble Lt. Governor was received by Shri Shanmugasundaram, Chief Engineer, PWD, Shri Udaykumar, Deputy Collector (South) and Shri Sundararajan, Commissioner, Bahour Commune Panchayat and other officers.

The Chief Engineer, PWD stated that the protection works to the left bank and right bank of River Pennaiyar at Kommanthanmedu was sanctioned in year 2007. The work was partially carried out for a length of 240.0 m out of 265.0 m and due to paucity of funds the work was foreclosed. The remaining portion was connected using earthen bund which was getting washed out during every rainy season. The Chief Engineer, PWD said that administrative approval for availing Negotiated loan from NABARD has been obtained for construction of remaining and damaged portion and before next monsoons the work would be completed so that the rain water is protected and doesn't drain into the sea to enable better recharge of ground water.

Hon'ble Lt. Governor said to the people who had gathered at the spot that the weekend rounds are made based on problems brought to her attention. Visits are made with intent to serve public cause and all the 113 weekend rounds have been made for productive purpose. It was only through field visits, the ground reality could be ascertained and solutions could be found efficiently through collaborative and collective team work.

Hon'ble Lt. Governor said that Raj Nivas is open to Public from Mondays to Wednesdays. People are welcome to Raj Nivas to present grievances of any kind. Hon'ble Lt. Governor said that Government and Public are like two hands and have to work together for solutions. The People of the region thanked her for the visit and also for having caused the opening of the way on the other side of the Kommanthanmedu anicut.

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Hon'ble Lt. Governor thereafter visited Pilliyarkuppam village and inspected the Ooralkulam (Pond). It was alleged in the complaint that the channel leading to the pond was encroached and the soil was being illegally extracted from the land abetting thereof. Hon'ble Lt. Governor asked the Deputy Collector (South), the Commissioner, Bahour Commune Panchayat and the Superintendent of Police (South) to look into the complaint and inform of the action being taken to ensure justice and fairness.

Following the visit, the public of area informed through Lt. Governor's Grievance Redress System that there is two acre Government land near the erstwhile Paper Mill that could be converted into a Play ground for development of rural sports in the village. This would be beneficial for the young and the next generation of the people of that area. The Pond (ooralkulam) is getting polluted by the waste disposed after the rituals are performed in the Karumadhi Kotta (Last Rites Ritual Performing Shelter). The complaint has also been forwarded to the Deputy Collector (South) and Commissioner, Baour Commune Panchayat for appropriate action.

At the site, Hon'ble Lt. Governor was received by Shri Shanmugasundaram, Chief Engineer, PWD, Mr. Udaykumar, Deputy Collector (South), Mr. Rahim, Supdt. of Police (South), Mr. Tamarai Pugazhendi, Executive Engineer(Irrigation), PWD, Mr. Soundararajan, Commissioner, Bahour Commune Panchayat and other officers. Hon'ble Lt. Governor was accompanied by Mr. R. Sridharan, Private Secretary to Lt. Governor, Mr. Baskaran, Inspector of Police / Grievance Officer and Mr. Karthikeyan, Additional ADC to LG