



**GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY
LT. GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT**

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PRESS RELEASE

Hon'ble Lt. Governor, Dr. Kiran Bedi, had called on Hon'ble President of India, Hon'ble Vice President of India and Union Ministers to present the picture book of the 100 Rounds of Week end Morning Rounds, which had received all round appreciation for the works carried out. In order to ensure that the changes brought during the earlier visits for maintenance of Water bodies, Canals, Drains and other infrastructure are sustained, Hon'ble Lt. Governor proposed to re-visit the important areas.

The Departments concerned are given prior intimation of the site of review visit along with the observations then made by Hon'ble Lt. Governor and points of actions that had to be implemented by the Departments. The progress made thereof would be reviewed on site. Accordingly, the review visit of today, dedicating the 104th Morning round for visit to Kanakan eri was intimated to the departments / agencies concerned.

Hon'ble Lt. Governor, on site took a review of the points of action that was proposed during the initial visit made on 18th Sept 2016. Hon'ble Lt. Governor impressed upon those present that intent of review visit was to sustain the change through co-ordinated working of the Departments, the NGOs and Resident Welfare Association. The review visit revealed that some of the works had been completed while few others remained to be completed. The Water Hyacinth that had clogged the lake had been partially removed and the drain from Indira Gandhi Govt. Medical College Hospital had been plugged. However, the lake was still getting contaminated by drain water from adjacent residential localities.

Hon'ble Lt. Governor also noted with concern the large number of dead fish found on the lake periphery due to contamination of the lake and lack of oxygen. Shri Ragunathan, Chief Engineer, PWD said that the Sewage Treatment Plant would be given power supply and energised by October end and thereafter it would be made operational. The drains would thereafter be diverted to the treatment plant, which would relieve the lake of contamination to a large extent. Shri Ramesh, Environmental Engineer of Pollution Control Board said that Indira Gandhi Medical College had constructed 16 soak pits for liquid medical waste. During the rains, the soak pits overflow resulting in draining into the lake. He said that the College would be directed to ensure zero discharge of liquid waste into the lake. Also the waste discharged by Modern Laundry would also be checked.

The NGOs, "Environmental Foundation of India" and "Num Pasumai Veedhi" were told to work in co-ordination Public Works Department and Forest Department for maintenance of the lake. The water hyacinths to be disposed by utilising it for manufacture of compost manure through PASIC. The Forest Department to arrange tree plantation in co-ordination with the NGOs and the Resident Welfare Association.

Since the bund was clayey, construction of walkway had to be structured to meet the contracting and expanding nature of the soil. The Resident Welfare Associations to also assist the Public Works Department in the construction of the walkway. The Resident Welfare Association represented by one Mr. Sridhar and Mr. Purushothaman assured of their active participation to work in co-ordination with Public Works Department, Forest Department and also the NGOs.

The public of the area complained of Open defecation and liquor being consumed by miscreants at the lake site during late evening hours. The representatives of Resident Welfare Association were requested to submit a formal request for a Public Toilet to the Commissioner, Oulgaret Municipality. The Police were requested to arrange for beat patrol during the late evening hours to check the menace of public consumption of liquor at the lake site

Hon'ble Lt. Governor said that each review visit will be documented and communicated to all concerned to enable the departments to work on the proposals and ensure that the change is sustained.

Shri Ragunathan, Chief Engineer, PWD, Shri Tamarai Pugazhendi, Executive Engineer-Irrigation, Ms. Rachna Singh, Supdt. of Police (North), Shri Ramesh, Environmental Engineer, Representatives of Resident Welfare Association and NGOs were present at the site. Hon'ble Lt. Governor, was accompanied by Team Raj Nivas comprising of Shri R. Sridharan, PCS, Private Secretary to Lt. Governor, Ms. Amirta Bahl, OSD to Lt. Governor, Mr. Bascarane, Inspector of Police cum Grievance Officer, Ms. Asha Gupta, Comptroller of House Hold, Mr. Kumaran, Public Relation Officer, and Shri Karthikeyan, Addl. ADC.