

Palni Hills Conservation Council

38th Annual Report 2022-2023



Taiga Flycatcher



◆ PHCC Bee Keeping



◆ Endangered Palani Hills
Rhodiolodendron arboreum



◆ 'Michelia champaca'



◆ Fr Matthew Centre
Butterfly Garden

Palni Hills Conservation Council

The 38th Annual Report 2022 - 2023

Introduction

PHCC's thirty eighth year saw a great deal of activity—acting locally, still thinking globally: the community-based work with water in Adukkam Panchayat springs restoration and marsh nursery on the Northern Slope of the Palani range has this year extended to the Southern Slope at Patlankadu. “We are one world, we are all in the same boat together. The universe is us, if we cannot see this, woe betide!” Only if more folks around the world work on their own areas and look for change and—for the example Hannah Ritchie gives—support bringing down costs in low carbon technologies will we be able to mitigate the Climate Crisis that humanity now faces: political sloth, vested interests, and climate-change deniers notwithstanding.

PHCC native trees nurseries support ‘mitigating microclimates’ in Green-Belt afforestation numbering tens of thousands of plantings around and within the Palani range with Rare, Endangered and Threatened (RET) tree species a focus of identification, seed collection, raising and replanting scheduled from ten species at higher altitudes and five species at lower elevations. PHCC in association with other NGOs has conducted training workshops in tree nursery work, water testing, wild foods, organic agriculture, medicinal plants, and beekeeping with an eye to promotion of women’s livelihood and empowerment. Alongside community

** Head of research at Our World in Data, Dr. Hannah Ritchie strikes a positive note in her controversial new book: “Not the End of the World” A More Optimistic Approach to Climate Change <https://youtu.be/3QMDfj5g9U?si=MwNjgMptLBw-uH9>.*

work PHCC markets honey, organic coffee and turmeric, zero-smoke beeswax candles and nature made cosmetics. Afforestation is central to PHCC, and while it takes years of native trees coming up to see the results of our efforts one of the most immediately rewarding undertakings is in the restoration of natural water-bodies in the agricultural and wildlife areas quite distant and unseen from the busy commercial life of Kodaikanal town. The Wealth of the Hills is the Health of the Plains, PHCC motto, means that water conservation and research is a prime consideration in association with afforestation.—Founder member **Ms Pippa Mukherjee** reports on rainfall in her area where she maintains a PHCC Tree Nursery.

In 2006, after leaving my teaching position at Kodaikanal International School, I moved into my cottage above Vazhaikattodai, a village near Pallangi about 9 kms from Kodaikanal and began to measure daily rainfall using a rain gauge that can hold up to 80mm. Hence, I have recorded local rainfall from 2006 until Present in my garden. The Palani Hills is a unique and interesting watershed, in that as an Eastern offshoot of the Western Ghats it receives both Southwest and Northeast monsoons supplying millions of souls in the Plains of the Cauvery and Vaigai basins of Southwestern Tamilnadu.

The Northeast monsoon yields much of the heaviest rainfall from cold months in mid-September through October and November to the beginning or middle of December, whereas the Southwest monsoon pattern can vary starting in warmer April and May with fairly high summer rainfall in July and August. The dry months are January to March but with the voracity at which the Climate Crisis is affecting all parts of the world the rainfall pattern has been changing and expected to change even more over the next few years. Interesting also is that in this area of the Western Ghats rainfall is often so localised that in my little valley the precipitation on one side could be more or less than the other side! This means that measuring rainfall on each side of the mountain valley is quite varied. This applies to all parts of the Palani hills—each area its own microclimate—where, for



instance, rain in the town of Kodaikanal could be very heavy one day while the valleys may only get drizzle or sometimes no rain at all. To augment PHCC Research I record in millimetres (mm) from March 2022 until March 2023 in our valley to reveal typical peaks and troughs worthy of note from month to month: from a high in July (435mm) and November (337mm) downpours to the troubling dearth of precipitation in March of 2022 (20mm). The Hills depend on a steady gift from the clouds, as we are a watershed, that is, we shed the water that the skies provide. The conditions of the trees and grasslands are vital to capture of greenhouse carbon sequestration and production of life-giving rain-promoting oxygen as well as filaments (grasses), foliage, and common root systems retaining water for a steady release. As always I continue to measure the rainfall to the end of this year and onwards. My total report will go into a large graph to assess the impacts of the past years in relation to one another. The data gives one an idea of the general monsoon pattern. My understanding is that the "precipitation situation" cannot improve until Commerce and Industry, People and Governments really get more serious and work together locally and globally to realise policies in reducing environmental impacts.

RAINFALL DATA FROM MARCH 2022 TO MARCH 2023

2022-2023—Mar 20mm—Apr 292mm—May 223mm—Jun 177mm—Jul 435mm—Aug 287.5mm—Sept 81mm—Oct 190mm—Nov 337mm—Dec 168mm—Jan 21mm—Feb 25mm—March 85mm. Total Rainfall 2341.5mm.

In the years I have been measuring rainfall the Annual Totals have obviously varied but the two years when the rainfall was at its lowest were 2006 and 2016. The Fr Mathew Centre measurements reveal that rainfall in the Hills (2341.5mm) is about three times that at the bottom of the mountain (815mm). The goal is to correlate decades-worth of findings with geological, atmospheric and other local and global effects to create a better picture for future work on the Climate Crisis.



PHCC SPRINGS CONSERVATION, FORTIFICATION AND REPLANTING

Wildlife and human populations remote from centralised amenities suffer the sullyng or even complete loss of their basic natural water resources when marshland and springs are degraded due to i) poor embankment support, ii) siltation by cyclones and agri-erosion. In an era of water stresses due to intermittent drought and destructive cyclones under the reign of Climate Crisis the activism of the **PHCC Spring Conservation Project** has facilitated in rural forested areas the restoration and protection of these many standing water-bodies. Open water-bodies maintained by PHCC—are springs fortified with masonry and replanted with well-rooted native flora—ostensibly for human use, wildlife such as elephant, deer, gaur, leopard, wild boar and other smaller species are also well-served; fortification means that wildlife (plus pack ponies and farm animals) cannot damage the embankments as before.

PHCC MICRO-FORESTRY TREE PLANTING PROGRAM

PHCC is unique in the region for its longstanding association with promoting tree planting in the South. In 2022-2023 PHCC sponsored a planting program of 75,000 indigenous evergreen trees to the North of the Palani Range at Kuthiraiyar Dam, Andipatti, Kannivadi and to the South in Viruveedu including around Manjalar Dam below Thalaiyar (Rat-tail) Falls.

The long-term (multi-generational) activity of the **PHCC Tree Planting Program** has extended forest cover for a biodiversity “Green Belt” around the degraded foothills of the Palani Range: to control erosion, alleviate drought, extend the reach of the watershed, maintain and improve natural wildlife habitat, biodiversity of flora and fauna, and provide a favourable microclimate for all.

PHCC Tree Planting Program last year (2023) is of over 50,000 trees of more than forty (40) varieties. These native trees originate purely from PHCC MICRO-FORESTRY TREE PLANTING PROGRAM TEAM efforts in native seed-collection and PHCC Nursery raising by dedicated arboriculture experts. PHCC saplings in protected



areas empower wildlife and Tribal and Farming communities with life-giving microclimates. Subsidiary benefits include income generation with Tribal and Farming Community employment in nursery tree-raising programmes and planting.

Our Micro-Forestry Tree Planting Program is to generate a self-sustaining bio-diverse habitat to benefit environment and society as a whole by 1) ameliorating water stresses (via root percolation) in age of Climate Change, 2) increasing forest habitat microclimates in the foothills. Forestation efforts contribute to carbon sequestration, reduction of local temperature, while carbon dioxide is absorbed and oxygen produced for animal life while reversing habitat loss. Water-wise trees at the foothills extend the benefits of cooling to the Plains and represent food and shelter—a lifeline for a variety of pollinators from bees, wasps, butterflies to avian and mammalian seed spreaders.

Tree Planting on the North side of the Palani Range is in an ancient corridor for the Indian Elephant and, to be noted, visited by the endangered Bengal Tiger. Mammals great and small, associated reptiles, insects and amphibians and birds are ever ready to re-occupy these once pristine foothill areas on the fringes of Kodaikanal Wildlife Sanctuary. The outcome of native species in **Protected Tree Planting** can only bring back areas deforested over many decades, increasing the range of critical wildlife, indicators of a healthy atmospheric template around the Hills. Implementing the Tree Planting Program communities are now sensitised against tree felling, wildlife trade, poaching, and hunting. The good will around this Program is palpable and the community feedback and enthusiasm is highly encouraging for the future in such a vital endeavour.

RET RESTORATION

Rare and Threatened/Vulnerable Plant Species In Palni Hills (RTVPS) Pallangi research Project Upper Hills—PHCC is at the forefront of protecting and developing endangered native trees for distribution and afforestation. PHCC RTVPS Project is the only conservation Team in High Altitude Tamil Nadu with experience in collecting and sharing endangered seed for propagation



against the stresses of Climate Crisis. Seed germination of “the rarest tree in the world” *Elaeocarpus blascoi* is looking very good and we are anticipating positive results with out-planting. The Forest Department is interested in this work now that they are apprised of the crisis around such trees. They have offered full cooperation in protecting these rare species.

In 2023 PHCC contributed thousands of native tree (shola) saplings from our nurseries to the **Tamil Nadu Forest Department** efforts in replacing exogenous Wattle by replanting hundreds of acres in pilot project areas in the Palani Range with Shola.

A NOTE ON TOURISM AND WILDLIFE

PHCC member Satheesh Muthugopal:— Nature provides a suitable habitat for many creatures, while there continue to be huge disturbances from humans. The Palani Ghat Road is a noisy one, used and abused, littered by the casual visitor with little thought of the sensitive environment he is entering. Once I came across the body of a once beautiful Grizzled Giant Squirrel that had been run over and left by a callous driver. Let us please take more care. Signboards relevant to not just fire hazards from tossed cigarettes but sensitivity to wildlife are welcome. For example honking of traffic causes high decibel levels of noise heard deep in the forest; known from my silent bird-watching activities. The Government must soon limit traffic into the Hills according to the carrying capacity. Vehicles must be scrutinized for disposable bottles and plastic bags, while gaily tossing garbage out of bus and car windows ought not to be tolerated and fines imposed if caught in the act. Thankfully, a few signboards discourage folks from feeding Grey Langur and Bonnet Macaque at the roadside with junk-food snacks. Until we take the responsibility to protect our “paradise”—do we really deserve to enter?



The PHCC Annual Report

The outgoing Executive Committee of PHCC—constituted with the following office bearers and Executive Committee members—hereby submits its Report for the 38th year of functioning of the Palni Hills Conservation Council. The Executive Committee met seven times during the past year.

Emeritus President	Mr M S Viraraghavan
President	Mr Mark Antrobus
Vice President	Mr Madhu Ramnath (Projects)
Secretary	Mr Ramji Srinivasan
Joint Secretary	Ms Janani Krishnamurthi
Treasurer	Mr Sankar Chatterjee
Executive Committee Members	Ms Pippa Mukherjee Mr George Roshan Mr G Bala Ms Iti Maloney Mr Aftab Ahmed Ms Krishna Bauer
Membership details	Life and Annual 151



PHCC Centres, Reports & Activities

Upper Hills 2000 m / 6000 ft

PHCC KODAIKANAL LAKE water testing is ongoing in selected areas and finds pollution potential from various land use patterns that determines quality of water. Kodaikanal has been given another reprieve this past year (2022) with strong late rains with the Lake is at full capacity. The Lake is controversial and citizens are working with authorities on solutions for protecting the Lake (which is a reservoir to Palani in the plains) from abuse.



Kodaikanal waters impact the Plains. There are plenty of opportunities for pollutants such as fertilisers, pesticides, mercury, and sediment to accumulate as the water courses downhill. PHCC tests the water at lower elevations in addition to testing at high-elevation Lake and Gymkhana marsh below commercial establishments and residences.

A NOTE ON BOMBAY SHOLA

The Shola Forest is pleasant in the morning hours rather than in the evening. While bird watching in silence one can find the ambient sounds of Nature in the Shola to be quite soothing to the soul—due to vehicular traffic in upper and lower Shola Road, there is a lot of disturbance during the daytime. High decibel horns from heavy vehicles like big buses disrupt the ambiance of the forest as well as resorts and visitors blindly abusing their tourist destination with littering. To protect and preserve the Bombay Shola and its species, the Government and Public should work hand in hand to enact a “cease and desist” policy around littering and noise pollution. Noise pollution is recognized as such by the Government when it comes to cone speakers, but high decibel horns in forested areas must be included. We need to think about the most vulnerable amongst us, birds and other creatures and their ability to tolerate such noxious intrusions into the ancient life. — Satheesh Muthugopal.

PHCC Upper Hills Nursery has been shifted to Pallangi where we raised and distributed saplings of 3600 numbers of thirty (30) varieties in sholai (indigenous, birdlife and insect supportive) species to local residents and institutions. PHCC maintains a stock of more than 6000 saplings. PHCC appeals as always to members and well-wishers for support by volunteerism or direct funding this valuable ongoing project of native tree propagation in tune with the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change of greening up the country.

The Tamil Nadu Forest Department expressed its appreciation for PHCC's contribution of many thousands of high altitude native



trees in a variety of biodiversity support species in its Wattle replacement program.

The PHCC RTVPS Project Team conducted a Research Survey in our montane area (2000m/6000ft above mean sea level) as well as the Lower Hills (below 800m/2400ft) and Plains using GPS marking with monthly monitoring of each stage of tree and shrub flowering, seed production, leaf shooting etc. The Team identified the "rarest tree in the world" *Elaeocarpus blascoi*, and *Elaeocarpus munronii* as the most endangered flora in the Palni Hills in particular at Kodaikanal Shola Region. To effectuate *E. blascoi* and *E. munronii* seed germination takes great care. Other varieties of RET (Rare, Endangered, Threatened) seeds are always being sought out through the PHCC connection with the Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP) Network.



Pallangi Tree Centre

2000 m / 6000 ft

Pallangi Tree Centre supported by PHCC Founder Member Ms Pippa Mukherjee maintains three colonies of *Apis cerana indica* in Newton hives for demonstration and observation of conditions in bee life. The area is a high pesticide agricultural community, and the heavy rains meant the bees stayed close to the hive. It is up to the consumer to demand organic produce.

PHCC Pallangi Nursery supplied 3600 fruiting, ornamental and RET sholai trees to the community. The fruiting varieties (peaches, avocado) especially are prized by local farmers. Pallangi Nursery is a useful and productive tree base for locals living in the villages around and is constantly stocked with plant cuttings of shrubs and trees grown in Ms Pippa Mukherjee's Garden.

Pallangi Nursery Staff: Ms Pothumponnu. Supervisor, Mr S Antony.



Middle Hills Centres

1000 m / 3000 ft

PHCC Adukkam Resource Centre and Marshland Nursery

PHCC Adukkam Centre is located in Adukkam village of the Palani Hills, about 25km from Kodaikanal, at an altitude of 900-1100m, in a Shade Coffee estate with tropical vegetation. The Centre hosts a wild-food garden, marshland species nursery, a nursery of useful native plants and native trees including RET species for middle altitude propagation set in a surrounding forest.

WATER TESTING AND RESULTS PUBLICITY

The PHCC Spring Conservation Project posts the clear scientific results of monthly water testing across fourteen parameters at thirteen major springs. This is in order to engage the public more directly to deepen community understanding of the need to keep tidy these vital natural resources!

Based on the results, what emerged was lower levels of pollution in rainy months and higher levels of pollution in summer months, agricultural and pesticide wastes in the water and the need to address open defecation near springs. PHCC Spring Conservation team's efforts at publicising results raised awareness for activists about herbicides, pesticides and farm waste and has increasingly discouraged their sullyng by tourists and communities.

MARSH AND TREE NURSERIES

PHCC Spring Conservation Project team maintains two marshland nurseries with twelve (12) species of aquatic flora with an inventory of around four thousand (4000) plants. Outreach species for spring and marsh replanting include *Acorus sp.*, Marsh mint, Wild ginger, Vetiver, Galangal, *Juncus sp.*, Cana, etc. Regular activities include general spring restoration, village meetings, and water resource discussions between farmer and planter communities. Activities include health and hygiene awareness promotion, gender equality advancement, and children's value-education promotion.





✦ Community Water Testing - Adukkam



✦ Community Water Testing - Patlankadu



✦ Native Tree Seeds - Nursery Workshop



✦ RET Seed Germination



◆ Greenbelt Tree Planting – Dharmathapatti



◆ Greenbelt Native Tree Planting – Kuthiraiyar



◆ PHCC Native Trees Nursery



◆ Tribal-managed Community Tree Nursery - Kuthiraiyar



◆ Patlankadu Community Meeting



◆ PHCC College Workshop



✦ PHCC Outreach Village



✦ PHCC Wildfood Meeting



◆ Restored Spring with Test Report



◆ Well-fortified Roadside Spring - Adukkam



◆ Silver Cascade Trisection - Agri, Grassland, Forest



◆ Adukkam Marsh Nursery

PATLANKADU THANDIKUDI –Spring restoration project was extended to the Southern Slopes to the village of Patlankadu with water testing awareness and other conservation meetings ongoing with the community.



Plains Centres Activities

Sea Level

Father K M Matthew Environment Centre

Gengubarpatti / Kamakapatti Law's Ghat Road

Precipitation 2022-2023: 815mm

In our 38th year PHCC Father Matthew Centre sold and distributed 7500 saplings to farmers and the wider community and afforded the tree planting program 25,000 saplings.

In the Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP) project wild food species are raised at the Centre: twenty (20) types of wild yam and other edible wild species are maintained at the Centre for research into genetic viability for cultivar breeding and cultivation techniques. PHCC distributed seventy (70) native tree saplings gratis for planting on "Tree Day" to Krishna Agricultural College, Usilampatti, Theni Dt.–PHCC engaged students in Youth Awareness Workshops to explain the value of medicinal plants, and the importance of afforestation and bee cultivation to the environment.

Wild Organic Honey Sales Centre includes sales of organic *Apis dorsata* wild honey, locally-grown Palani Hills' pepper, organic shade coffee, organic pickles, lotions and creams from organic materials. Equipment and training was afforded to local women for processing honey and making bee products like pure beeswax candles, soaps and organically-produced pickles, herbal powders etc, for community financial improvement.



The PHCC Butterfly Garden at the Fr Matthew Environment Centre is maintained on the western side of the campus with sprinklers and food plants for Butterfly (*Lepidoptera*) research.

PHCC Arboretum at Kamakapatti, Fr Matthew Centre, is rich with native trees acting as a centre for Handbook Distribution around community awareness of watershed resources. More than a hundred species of native trees, with new species added yearly are accompanied by ground signs of descriptions of their uses and history for research and education.

The Endangered Tree Conservation Project: The following RET species we are protecting and developing in the PHCC Low Altitude Nursery below 900m are: *Diospyros ebenum*, *Pterocarpus santalinus*, *Putranjiva roxburghii*, *Toona ciliata*, *Dalbergia latifolia*.

PHCC Medicinal Plants Nursery comprises many dozens of species of traditional herbs at the Centre, initiated for schools and colleges to gain an understanding of our Nature Cure heritage. Locals take an interest in the Nursery and replant at home for folk medicine and health. This past year around two hundred (200) medicinal plants have been distributed free of cost to interested local public and schools. For the Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP) project twenty (20) types of wild yam and other varieties of edible wild species are maintained at the Centre, for research into genetic viability for cultivar breeding.

NTFP-EP PHCC NURSERY TRAINING AND BEEKEEPING PROGRAM

A Three-day Nursery Training Workshop was conducted with the support of NTFP under the auspices of PHCC in July, 2023, at the Fr. Matthew Environmental Centre and Nursery, Genguvarpatti. Attending the Nursery Training Workshop were twenty-eight (28) participants from amongst the NTFP-EP partnership: GSMT, RCDC, PRERAK, LEAF, SEEDS TRUST, KEYSTONE FOUNDATION and PHCC. Experts shared hands-on knowledge of beekeeping and nursery



raising theory and methods including seeds collection, treatment, mother-bed prep, seed sowing in addition to grafting and layering methods of propagation.

PHCC Staff at Fr Matthew Environment Centre. Supervisor, Mr R Jayaram. Group leader, Ms Selviswari.



Viruveedu Tree and Beekeeping Centre

Viruveedu, Vaigai Basin, Batlagundu

Viruveedu Tree and Beekeeping Centre was reopened last year, with top bar hives for the propagation of bees, to increase colonies. A stock of 15000 native trees are in stock and the micro-forest at Viruveedu is looking healthy with extra precautions put on around fencing and watering. Honey collection from the surrounding area has been reinitiated from last year with almost two hundred kilos purchased, and processing taking place at the Centre itself for sales at Fr Matthew Centre. Mr Vairan conducted a one-day Beekeeping-training Workshop for the RVS Agricultural College, Sempatti.—The groundwater situation has improved from the past and the well is serving the mini-forest of 5200 native trees with income generating fruit trees like amla, chikku, mango and grafted Jamun—in around 13 acres.

Our own team donated and planted around ten thousand (10,000) native (hardwood) and fruiting trees for farmers in the villages surrounding Viruveedu. Like the autumn of 2021 again in 2022, the southwest monsoon brought heavy rains which has brightened the Centre after some years. The trees that will come up will hold the cool of their shade in the soil and contribute to organic life around, no matter the coming conditions. The micro-forest saplings are of good size due to strict protection from browsers and water availability. These mini-forests are cooling microclimates; stimulate soil percolation, to support bird and insect life in their neighbourhoods. We are projecting for after



March with saplings being raised for the ongoing micro-forest tree-planting project.

Viruveedu Staff: Mr Vairan, Ms Rasatthi, Ms Sumathi, Ms Pavun.



Kuthiraiyar Tree Growing Centre

**Next to Kuthiraiyar Dam, Cauvery Basin
Kookal Forest nr Palani**

The Centre supports Tribal Development with fifty (50) Tribal Community families supported in PHCC nursery raising and planting programs. This year the Tribal Community planted around ten thousand (10000) native trees from the PHCC nursery Andipatti and Pappampatti at schools and community and government lands and at Mannthittu Tribal Colony with 3000 protected saplings. The present stock of native trees stands at around seven thousand (7000) saplings of twenty-five varieties of native trees.

Wild foods at Kuthiraiyar nursery PHCC is raising fifteen (15) species of forest food including yams with preservation of the wild food gene pool and awareness to the coming generations of Tribal Community. A Wild Food festival was conducted with the participation of three Tribal Community villages—where wild foods were collected and demonstrations of processing and cooking were carried out and meals were made and had to the enjoyment of all. Our Wild Food expert Mr Madhu Ramnath attended and went deeply into the health value of wild food to create an appreciation in the younger generation.

Habitat loss due to degradation and deforestation in recent times is a major conservation issue for the region and the nurturing of flora and fauna of forest and grasslands. The local villages of Andipatti and environs need more trees for shade and



microclimate support. Many fine trees are safe from depredation and have been maintained to the point of coming up in height from the autumn of 2022 already. The many-layered aspects of tree-life from shade delivery to soil interaction support wildlife in regulating the ecosystem and its services through rewilding. We point out that regeneration of above-soil animals and subsoil microbial life links with wild foods and direct engagement by locals to improve the sensitive economy with enhanced forest-based livelihood options. The mini forest planted three decades ago by PHCC has received admiration from birders who visit Kuthiraiyar at the base of the Kookal forest.

A NOTE ON BIRD LIFE AT KUTHIRAIYAR

Kuthiraiyar is another great birder area in the foothills of the Palani hills. When the forest canopy received more sunshine at around 9 am the flycatchers appeared. The beautiful white Indian Paradise Flycatcher, a male, was perched on a tree. Other flycatchers then turned up. The Tickell's Blue Flycatcher, the Brown Breasted Flycatcher, the Blue-throated Blue Flycatcher, Asian Brown Flycatcher and the Taiga Flycatcher were at the same spot. This was the first time that the Taiga Flycatcher (see cover Annual Report) was recorded in the Palani Hills. These birds migrate from East Asia to South India during the winter. I kept moving gingerly into the jungle and started observing the Tickell's Blue Flycatcher, which was "on call". The song of the Flycatcher crescendos was delightful. Then I started towards the water catchment, to the open area where the waders were. The Red Wattle Lapwing communicated my presence to their counterparts. I noticed several more bird species such as the White-bellied Drongo and the Black-hooded Oriole in the PHCC tree nursery. The full-grown trees and shrubs planted thirty years ago within the PHCC Centre provide a welcome habitat for the birds. – Satheesh Muthugopal.

Kuthiraiyar Staff: Mr S Krishnamurthy, Ms G Mariamma, Mr Kuppi.



Environmental Books by PHCC Members

Madhu Ramnath and Ramon Razal, *Wild Tastes in Asia: Coming Home to the Forest for Food*, NTFP Exchange Programme, 2020
Illus. <tinyurl.com/wildtastes>

Madhu Ramnath, *Woodsmoke and Leafcups: Autobiographical Footnotes to the Anthropology of the Durwa people*, Harper Litmus, 2016. Illus.

Madhu Ramnath, *A Nursery Manual*,
Kodaikanal: PHCC, 2019. Illus.

Pippa Mukherjee, *Flora of the Southern Western Ghats and Palnis*, New Delhi: Niyogi, 2016. Illus.

Pippa Mukherjee, *Thenmeyrkkku Thodarchi Malai Mattram Pazhanimalai Thaavaraviyal: Oru Kala Vazhikaatti*, Tamil tr Dency Michael, Chennai: Palaniappa Bros, 2023. Illus.

Trees of India, New Delhi: WWF-OUP Nature Guides, 2014.

Robert Stewart, *Meet the Trees of Kodaikanal, An Island in the Sky*, ed Jayashree Kumar, Kodaikanal: INTACH, 2019. Illus.

Satheesh Muthugopal, *Yarukkanathu Bhumi?—Earth, for Whom?*
Chennai, Crownest, 2018, illus. <<http://ivansatheesh.blogspot.com/2019/08/blog-post.html?m=1>>



PHCC's Invaluable Donors

Both ENDS, The Netherlands. **GROW-TREES**, Mumbai.

One Tree Planted Inc., Vermont, USA.

Van Tienhoven Foundation, The Netherlands. **People and Nature Fund (PNF): Keystone Foundation**, Kotagiri.

NTFP-EP: Non-Timber Forest Products, Asia.



THT: The Habitats Trust, New Delhi. **Social Welfare Centre**, **Johan Maasbach World Mission**, Chennai. **Ms Nivedita Ram**, Bengaluru. **Ms Deborah Thiyagarajan**, Chennai. **Sownaka Finance Pvt. Ltd.**, Chennai. **Ms Bhagya**, Kodaikanal. **Ms Pippa Mukherjee**, Kodaikanal. **Mr Satheesh Muthugopal**, Palani.

Many Thanks to the Volunteer work of our PHCC Members.

Photo Credits

S Antony | Azad Reese | Satheesh Muthugopal | Mark Antrobus

Donations to PHCC from Members and Well-wishers are as always most Welcome.



INDIAN Contributions

Palni Hills Conservation Council

State Bank of India, Kodaikanal.

Acct No. 11079329862

IFSC Code SBIN0000799

SWIFT SBININBB454

FOREIGN Contributions

Palni Hills Conservation Council

State Bank of India, Kodaikanal.

Acct No. 11079329884

IFSC Code SBIN0000799

SWIFT SBININBB454

"Stay Safe! Eat Healthy! Give back to Nature!"

PHCC President - Mark Antrobus, <vibusgo@gmail.com>

Kodaikanal, December 15, 2023



MADHAVAN & ELANGO, CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS.

C-17, 10-B CROSS, THILLAI NAGAR (WEST), TRICHY-620018.

PH:0431-7961697, 9345076200, 8903076200.


PALMI HILLS CONSERVATION COUNCIL, WODAIKARAL.

CONSOLIDATED RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31.03.2023

<u>RECEIPTS</u>		<u>PAYMENTS</u>	
Opening balance	851449	LC Project exp	1473824
F C received	4806128	F C Project exp	2078034
Bank interest	61847	FC FD	1600000
Donation	1151000	Closing balance	2488144
Income from main objects	769578		
	-----		-----
	7640002		7640002
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CONSOLIDATED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31.03.2023

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>INCOME</u>	
LC Project exp	1473824	F C received	4806128
F C Project exp	2078034	Bank interest	61847
Surplus	3236695	Donation	1151000
	-----	Income from main objects	769578
	6788553		-----
	-----		6788553
	-----		-----

As per our report of
even date annexedFor Madhavan & Elango
Chartered Accountants (F.R.N.:0054485)Trichy
25.09.2023

 R. Madhavan (M.No.:022257)
 Proprietor

UDIN: 23022257BGTFLT2704



MADHAVAN & ELANGO, CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS.
C-17, 10-B CROSS, THILLAI NAGAR (WEST), TRICHY-620018,
PH:0431-7961697, 9345076200, 8903076200.

PALMI HILLS CONSERVATION COUNCIL, KODATRANG.


CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31.03.2023

LIABILITIES		ASSETS	
Capital fund		Land & building	3199164
Opening bal	4784146	Tools & equipment	849147
Add: Surplus	3236695	Furniture	237789
	-----	Debtors	36448
		PC PD	1600000
Life Membership fee		Close balance	2488144
Advance from members			
		-----	-----
		8330692	8330692
		-----	-----

As per our report of
even date annexed

For Madhavan & Elango
Chartered Accountants (F.S.N.:0054483)

Trichy
25.09.2023


R. Madhavan (M.No.:022257)
Proprietor

UDIN: 23022257BCTPLT2704



MADHAVAN & ELANGO, CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS,
C-17, 10-B CROSS, THILLAI NAGAR(WEST), TRICHY-620018.
PH:0431-7961697,9345076200,8903076200.

CERTIFICATE TO BE GIVEN BY CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

We have audited the accounts of

accounts of

**PALNI HILLS CONSERVATION COUNCIL, ENDHAWIN, LOWER SHOLA,
ROAD, KODAIKANAL Reg No 88/1985**

for the period ending 31.03.2023 and examined all relevant books and vouchers and certify that according to the audited accounts:-

(i) The brought forward Foreign contribution at the beginning of the year 01.04.2022 was Rs.204490/-

(ii) Foreign contributions of worth **Rs.4806128/-** were received by the Association during the period from 01.04.2022 to 31.03.2023.

(iii) Interest accrued on foreign contribution and other income derived from foreign contribution or interest thereon of worth **Rs.18662/-** was received by the association at the end of the year.


(iv) The balance of unutilised Foreign Contribution with the Association at the end of the period 31.03.2023 was **Rs. 2951246/-**.

(v) Certified that the Association has maintained the accounts of Foreign Contribution and records relating thereto in the manner specified in section 19 of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010 read with rule 16 of the foreign Contribution (Regulation) Rules, 2011.

(vi) The information furnished above and in the Balance Sheet and statement of Receipt and Payment is correct as checked by us.

(vii) The association has utilized the foreign contribution received for the purpose(s) it is registered/granted prior permission under foreign contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010

For Madhavan & Elango
Chartered Accountants (F.R.N.:0054488)


R. Madhavan (M.No.:022257)
Proprietor
UDIN: 23022257BGTFLT2704

Trichy
25.09.2023





✦ Common Coot



✦ Kodaikanal Lake - Overview

Pied Bushchat ◀
(Male)



Palni Hills Conservation Council

(Regd. Soc. 88/1985) P.O. Box 34, Endhavin,
Lower Shola Road, Kodaikanal - 624 101, TN, India.
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▶ *Clouds on the Forest 2000 meters*

