

AKASH GANGA TRUST - RAIN CENTRE
ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2009-2010
(April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2010)

1. VISITORS TO THE CENTRE

1. A graduate student from Johns Hopkins University, U.S.A. visited the centre on January 8.
2. Eight officials from the Water Board, Government of Sri Lanka visited the centre on March 3 to learn about the activities. They were also shown a few other places, which had implemented RWH.
3. Dr. Jayalakshmi, National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad visited the centre on March 5 and expressed a desire to collaborate.
4. Two members working for the CII Water Institute, Jaipur visited the centre on March 12. They were also shown a few other places including Saint Gobain factory, Sriperumbudur, where RWH has been implemented.
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2. PARTICIPATION IN SEMINARS, CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

POWER POINT PRESENTATIONS...

1. Made a PPT presentation on “The Need, relevance and Importance of Rainwater Harvesting” to a group of fifty students in the Tamil Nadu Government I.A.S. Training Institute in Anna Nagar on January 22.
2. On “Water and Sanitation in Tamil Nadu – Issues and Solutions” in the state level workshop on “Achieving MDG7 by accelerating access and use of quality drinking water and sanitation facilities in Tamil Nadu- Challenges and way forward” organized by UNICEF on January 27, 28 at Hotel GRT.
3. On “The Need, relevance and Importance of Rainwater Harvesting” to a group of students of Kodaikkanal International School in Kodaikkanal on February 19.
4. Visited Maharashtra Centre for Entrepreneurship Development (MCED), Aurangabad on February 24, 25 and conducted a two-day brainstorming workshop on “Salient features of Rainwater Harvesting Efforts in Tamil Nadu” to a group of 20 Project officers and Regional officers from all the districts of Maharashtra. This initiative was from Shri V.Giriraj, I.A.S.

3. MEDIA REPORTS

1. An article *Tips on Sustainable use of Groundwater* written by Sekhar Raghavan and Indukanth Ragade appeared in the Propertyplus Supplement of The Hindu dated January 9.

<http://www.hindu.com/pp/2010/01/09/stories/2010010950010100.htm>

2. NDTV Hindu telecast the Director's interview on "The relevance of RWH in cities" in their program Property Matters on January 23. This was re-telecast on January 26.

4. RWH IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITIES

1. Visited the Kodaikanal International School in Kodai hills on February 19 for exploring the possibility of harvesting the rainwater falling within their premises.
2. Visited the Prototype Training Centre for Nuclear powered submarines, an Indian Navy complex in Amaipakkam (near Kalpakkam) on March 9 for advising them on RWH implementation within their 70 acre premises.
3. Visited the factory premises of Vestas in Sholinganallur on March 17 for advising them on RWH implementation within it.
4. Advised the following multi-storeyed apartment complexes on RWH implementation:
 - a) Navin's Annapoorna in Valmiki nagar, Thiruvanmiyur
 - b) Green Acres in Perungudi – a 200 apartment complex
 - c) Jain's Green Acres – a 600 apartment complex in Zamin Pallavaram
 - d) Serene Acres – a 300 apartment complex in Perungudi
 - e) Ceebros Orchid – a 160 apartment complex in Velachery

5. OTHER ACTIVITIES

1. Addressed a group of students studying in the Institute of Printing Technology on "RWH and its significance in sustaining the water sources" during their NSS camp at Thoraipakkam on January 1.
2. Visited Coimbatore on March 21, 22 as a guest of Siruthuli, a NGO working in water issues for the past seven years. Was shown some of the projects carried out by Siruthuli in and around Coimbatore on March 21. Also participated in the following programmes organized by Siruthuli:

March 21

- a. Addressed a group of Siruthuli volunteers in their office on "The Role of Rain Centres in popularizing RWH in urban areas".

- b. Participated in the live Question and Answer session in a local TV channel.
- c. Addressed a group of farmers on the “Importance of RWH and Ecological Sanitation”.

March 22

- a. Visited Sankara Eye care Hospital to advise them on RWH. Met Dr. R.V.Ramani, who requested Sekhar Raghavan to visit their other hospitals in India.
- b. Addressed a group of Agricultural students of T.N. Agricultural University on Various aspects of RWH
- c. Addressed a group of Civil Engineering students of PSG College of Engineering on RWH.
- d. Gave a public talk on RWH and its Importance (being World Water Day) organized by Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industries and held in their auditorium. (This was reported in the Coimbatore edition of a few Tamil and English dailies.)