



# The state of lakes and waterbodies of southern India: Threats, Challenges and Opportunities

Date: February, 29, 2016

Venue: Alliance Francaise, Puducherry



**9.00 – 9.30 Tea and registration**

## Inaugural session

**9.30 – 9.45 Welcome note**

Probir Banerjee, All for Water for All

**9.45 – 10.00 Overview**

Chandra Bhushan, Deputy Director General, Centre for Science and Environment

**10.00 – 10.15 Briefing note**

Dr. A. Vaidyanathan, Former Member, Planning Commission

**10.15 – 10.20 Release of e-book**

Why urban India floods – A publication by Centre for Science and Environment

## Session 1: State of urban lakes in India: The crisis

**Chairperson:** Dr. A. Vaidyanathan, Former Member, Planning Commission

**10.30 – 11.00 Loss of urban sponges and consequent flooding**

*An analysis by Centre for Science and Environment:*

Sushmita Sengupta, Centre for Science and Environment

**11.00 – 11.15 Role of wetlands and lakes in Chennai and current threats of flooding**

Dr. Indumathi M. Nambi, Indian Institute of Technology, Chennai

**11.15 – 11.30 Hyderabad's lost waster wealth:** Dr. Jasveen Jairath, Save our Urban Lakes, Hyderabad

**11.30 – 11.45 Can Bengaluru avoid urban floods**

Dr. T. V. Ramachandra, Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru

**11.45 – 12.00 Madurai tank crisis and restoration:** N. Venkatesan, Dhan Foundation, Madurai

**12.00 – 12.15 State of Puducherry lakes:** Aravindan Govindassamy, Sebadugai Nanneeragam, Puducherry

**12.15 – 13.00 Q & A**

**13.00 - 14.00 Lunch**

## Session 2: Policies and laws: Loopholes

**Chairperson:** Dr. R. S. Lal Mohan, Conservation of Nature Trust, Nagercoil

**14.00 – 14.20 Fighting lakes in court**

*Existing laws to save the waterbodies:*

Leo F. Saldanha and Bhargavi S. Rao, Environment Support Group, Bengaluru

**14.20 – 14.40 Government initiative on conservation and protection of waterbodies in Puducherry**

V. Radhakrishnan, Puducherry Water Resources Organisation

**14.40 – 15.00 Legal protection of the Tamil Nadu lakes:** T. K. Ram Kumar, Advocate, Chennai

**15.00 – 15.45 Q & A**

**15.45 – 16.00 Tea break**

## Session 3: Panel discussion

**Chairperson:** Chandra Bhushan, Deputy Director General, Centre for Science and Environment

### Panel Members

Dr. A. Vaidyanathan, Former Member, Planning Commission

Architect A. K. Lavanya, Crescent School of Architecture, Chennai

Architect Suhasini Ayer, Auroville Design Architect, Auroville

M. Dwarakanath, Department of Science, Technology and Environment, Puducherry