

Otteri Eco Park

Otteri in North Chennai is a well known garbage dumping site under the control of the Corporation of Chennai. In 2006 PFC was approached by the Corporation authorities to transform the 12 acre dumping site and create a 'green lung' for the residents of North Chennai. Garbage dumped over 50 years at the site, to the height of some 40m, was covered with the layer of red soil. In keeping with the project's biodiversity restoration aim, over 3500 seedlings belonging to 105 indigenous species were planted. A circular pond was created towards the rear end of the site. Around it, three bean shaped medicinal plant gardens were planted. Signage on stone were installed at various parts of the site to impart basic information on flora and fauna of the TDEF. Kiosks and security huts were erected at three different points in the site. The site was successfully transformed from a garbage dumping site into a lush green eco park. The site lacked maintenance by the Corporation authorities and thus gave way to wild plant growth. As part of a maintenance contract, a work order was issued to PFC in January 2008 to begin a 3 month exercise in clearing the site of unwanted species, pruning, landscaping, creating pathways, installing stone benches and more educational signage.