

# AURO FOOTPRINTS

## NEWSLETTER

As the earth warms and blossoms unfold, so do new possibilities at Svarnim Puducherry. April has been a celebration of curiosity, connection, and creativity—from students building robots and decoding photosynthesis, to early mornings spent birdwatching by calm waters, listening to nature's quiet wisdom.

This month, we didn't just welcome summer—we welcomed new voices, bold questions, and hands-on learning across schools and ecosystems. So grab a cool drink, flip through the pages, and journey with us into the heart of action, where every idea begins to bloom.





# TABLE OF CONTENTS

STEM EDUCATION	03
ROBOTICS & DEL	04
OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO CHILDREN	05
ROOF TOP RAIN WATER HARVESTING	06
BUILDING AS LEARNING AID (BALA)	07
HARMONY OF WATERS	08
LIVELIHOODS WORKSHOP	10
WATER BODIES' SURVEY	11
AUROVANAM	12
AURO INNOVATION CENTRE	13



# EXPERIENTIAL STEM LEARNING

April brought a wave of curiosity and discovery as STEM sessions unfolded across government schools in Puducherry. Through interactive lessons in Chemistry, Biology, and Physics, students explored concepts like chemical reactions, nutrition in plants, microorganisms, and the physics of light.

Two full-day science workshops immersed students in dynamic experiments covering centripetal force, electromagnetism, combustion, and more - making science come alive beyond the classroom. Students from schools such as GHS Pillaiyarkuppam, SVRGHS Maducarai, SRSGHSS Saram, and TVTGHS Ariyankuppam were among the many enthusiastic participants.

This month, the STEM initiative continued to inspire young minds through hands-on learning and scientific exploration.

## CONCEPTS COVERED

### BIOLOGY

NUTRITION IN PLANTS  
SKELETON SYSTEM  
MICRO ORGANISM

### CHEMISTRY

CHEMICAL REACTIONS

### PHYSICS

REFLECTION & REFRACTION  
ELECTROMAGNETISM

## SCHOOLS PARTICIPATED

SVRGHS - MADUCARAI  
GHS - PILLAIYARKUPPAM  
TVTGHS ARIYANKUPPAM  
SRSGHSS SARAM

**+300**  
STUDENTS ENGAGED



# OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO CHILDREN

April was a month of active outreach and impact under the ORC program. Our team conducted 41 school visits to collect student details, coordinate IKMSS trainings, meet school heads, and schedule general awareness sessions. (IKMSS is a tool used to measure the mental health status of children – measured by the respective class-teachers)

IKMSS training sessions were held in 5 schools, equipping 32 students with tools to better understand themselves and their peers. The SMART 40 Camp at GHS – Kanuvapet brought together 40 students for an engaging three-day life skills workshop.

At IAGHSS – Muthirayarpalayam, a follow-Up camp reached 44 students, reinforcing key skills like communication, team building, and decision-making. Individual counselling sessions at KGGGHSS – Bahoor and GHS – Kuruvinthamp provided personalized guidance to 6 students.

Lastly, general awareness camps conducted at GHS – Maducarai and TVK GHS – Arumparthapuram engaged 63 students, encouraging open conversations around emotional well-being and critical thinking.

Together, these efforts reflect our continued commitment to nurturing resilient, confident, and supported young minds.

**43** SCHOOLS  
VISITED

**185** STUDENTS  
BENEFITED



# ROBOTICS & DEVICE ENGINEERING LABS

**1761**  
STUDENTS

**22**  
SCHOOLS

**56**  
SESSIONS



We conducted 56 engaging **robotics sessions** across 22 government schools, reaching 1,673 students. From Newton's Colour Disc to Balloon-Powered Cars and Line Follower Robots, students explored hands-on activities that blended science with creativity. The sessions were tailored for each grade, with orientations and assessments to support progressive learning.

Four exclusive **Weekend Robotics Club** sessions welcomed 58 students, where they explored arithmetic operations, microcontroller logic, and serial monitor-based grading systems—building a strong foundation in robotics and programming.

The **Device Engineering Labs** program conducted post-assessment sessions with 88 students, evaluating their grasp of electronic circuits, components, and basic device logic. The sessions reflected the students' improved understanding and confidence in engineering design and electronic applications.

Together, Robotics and DEL programs are fostering a culture of innovation and problem-solving—preparing students for a future driven by technology and creativity.



# AUROVANAM

April at AuroVanam was all about exploration, restoration, and inclusive learning. On 20th April, nature lovers gathered at dawn for a serene Bird Watching Trail, discovering local avian species around the Ousteri Wetland region. In preparation for the upcoming Auro Joy Inaugural Event on 27th April, the team has also been actively enhancing the space with new plantation-supported water management ponds, promoting biodiversity and sustainable landscape design.

In collaboration with Spinal Warriors, a meaningful Mobile Photography Workshop was hosted for the patients of Sanjeevan, encouraging creativity and connection with nature. Additionally, a paid visit welcomed 15 participants, offering them an immersive experience into AuroVanam's green learning environment.

With each step, AuroVanam continues to grow as a hub for healing, harmony, and hands-on environmental education as well as a resource centre for TDEF species and traditional vegetable seed bank



# AURO INNOVATION CENTRE

Auro Innovation Centre successfully installed three rain gauges across key locations—AuroVanam, Mettupalayam, and Bahour. These low-cost, in-house designed devices will help monitor rainfall patterns and support data-driven water management in the bioregion. By enabling localized tracking, the initiative strengthens climate resilience and supports ongoing ecological restoration efforts.



A rain gauge is a simple scientific instrument used to measure the amount of rainfall over a specific period. It typically consists of a cylindrical container that collects rainwater, allowing for accurate recording of precipitation levels. This data is crucial for understanding local weather patterns, planning agricultural activities, and improving water resource management.

## CHAMP - A CHILD-CENTRIC HEALTH INITIATIVE

This month under CHAMP, the team focused on two key activities—BMI data analysis and compiling the Annual Report. The BMI (Body Mass Index) data collected from participating students is being carefully reviewed to understand health patterns across schools. This analysis helps tailor future interventions in nutrition, fitness, and wellness support.

Meanwhile, the CHAMP Annual Report is in progress, documenting the year's efforts, outcomes, and impact across schools and communities. Together, these efforts will guide the next phase of holistic child health programming rooted in prevention, awareness, and empowerment.



# BIODIVERSITY SURVEY

A biodiversity survey in the Chunnambar estuary and a bycatch assessment at Kalapet and Pillaichavady fish landing centres revealed rich species diversity and ecological challenges. Native and economically important species like green chromide, river prawn, mud crab, and Indian white shrimp were recorded alongside invasive species such as Nile tilapia and African catfish, indicating ecological stress.

The bycatch survey highlighted a wide range of non-target marine life—including sea squirts, electric rays, hermit crabs, and juvenile fishes—reflecting both the ecological richness and the need for sustainable fishing practices.





# WATER HYACINTH TRAINING (LIVELIHOOD)

As part of our sustainable livelihood program, participants of the Water Hyacinth Handicraft Training successfully produced a range of handcrafted items to the tune of ₹24,000 marketed through the Aura Experience Stores. These beautiful and functional products, made from an invasive aquatic plant, reflect both ecological creativity and skill development.

To ensure deeper engagement, the Aura Stores team (10 members) was given a detailed orientation about the raw materials used, the step-by-step crafting process, and the environmental impact of repurposing water hyacinth. The session highlighted how this initiative contributes to wetland restoration by removing invasive species and converting them into valuable income-generating products.

To support visibility and outreach, professional product photography was completed, and the images are now ready for use across promotional platforms. This initiative continues to blend conservation with commerce, empowering women and local artisans while contributing to ecological health and sustainable economies.





## JOIN US IN CREATING A LASTING IMPACT!

At Svarnim Puducherry, every effort counts in building a more sustainable and inclusive future. Your support—whether through contributions, ideas, or collaboration—helps us drive meaningful change in education, environmental conservation, and community well-being.



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[svarnim@aurosociety.org](mailto:svarnim@aurosociety.org)

+91-413-2332232

[www.svarnim.aurosociety.org](http://www.svarnim.aurosociety.org)

Puducherry, India