

International Coastal Clean-up (ICC) Day 2024

Fishing Harbour Beach, Chennai



21th September 2024

Coordinators: Dr. M. Thirumurthy
Associate Professor

Department of Genetic Engineering
SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Kattankulathur-Chennai

National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR)

Ministry of Earth Sciences

ICC – Day – 2024 Questionnaire

Date: 21/09/2024

Time: 10:00am

i.	Details of the coordinator	Name: Dr. M. Thirumurthy Mobile number: +91 9944572918 Email: thirumum@srmist.edu.in
ii.	Name of the organization	SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Kattankulathur, Chennai - 603203
iii.	Name of the Beach, District, and State belonging to	Fishing Harbour Beach, Chennai, Tamilnadu
iv.	Beach usage	Fishing Harbour
v.	Beach category	Rural Beach
vi.	Beach type	Sandy and Rocky
vii.	Beach ends with	Road
viii.	Geographic coordinates	Lat.: 13°07'23"N Long.: 80°17'57"E
ix.	Dimension of beach cleaned	Length(meter) : 60 m Width(meter): 12 m
x.	Are there any food stalls or any other shops on the beach	No
xi.	Is there a harbour/fishing jetty close to the beach	Yes, Kasimedu Fishing Harbour
xii.	Is there a river/creek close to the beach	No
xiii.	Is there a fishing village close to the beach	No
xiv.	How often is the beach cleaned	Monthly
xv.	Method used for cleaning	Manual
xvi.	Authority responsible for cleaning	Corporation Of

Fishing Harbour Beach, Chennai, Clean-up report

An International Coastal Clean-up (ICC) day program was organized by The National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR) along with SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Kattankulathur, Chennai at Fishing Harbour Beach, Chennai on 21st September 2024. This event was funded by National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR), Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), Chennai. This initiative was part of Swachh Sagar Surakshit Sagar campaign, India. A total of 52 participants including students and staff of SRM Institute, Kattankulathur had registered and participated in this program (**Fig. 1**).



Fig. 1: Initial gathering before starting the clean-up drive at Fishing Harbour Beach.



Fig. 2: Location of coastal cleanup drive, Fishing Harbour Beach (Image Courtesy: Google Earth)

On the day of the cleanliness drive, all the participants gathered at the Fishing Harbour beach at around 7.30am. After reaching this point, all the participants were provided with face masks, gloves, T-shirts, and sanitiser. Dr.M.Thirumurthy Associate Professor, SRM Institute, who briefed the gathering about the initiative and the significance of such drives (**Fig.3**). Next, the participants were divided into seven groups and the marine litter collection began (**Fig 4, 5, & 6**).



Fig . 3 : Briefing the participants regarding the cleanup drive

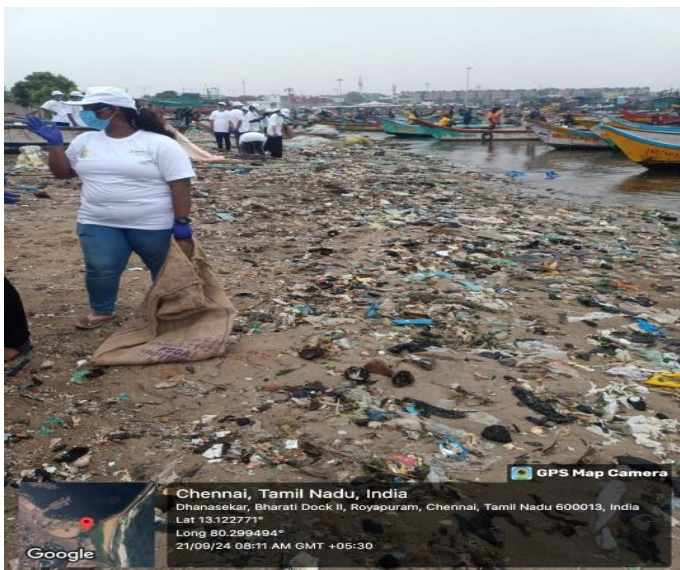
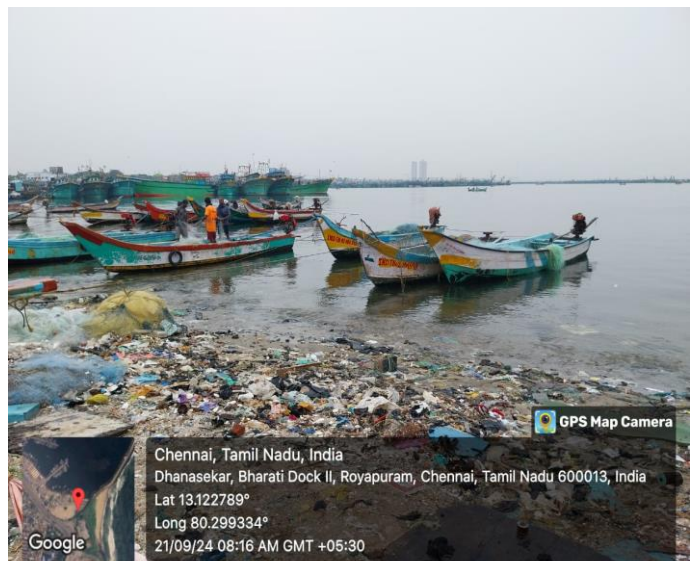
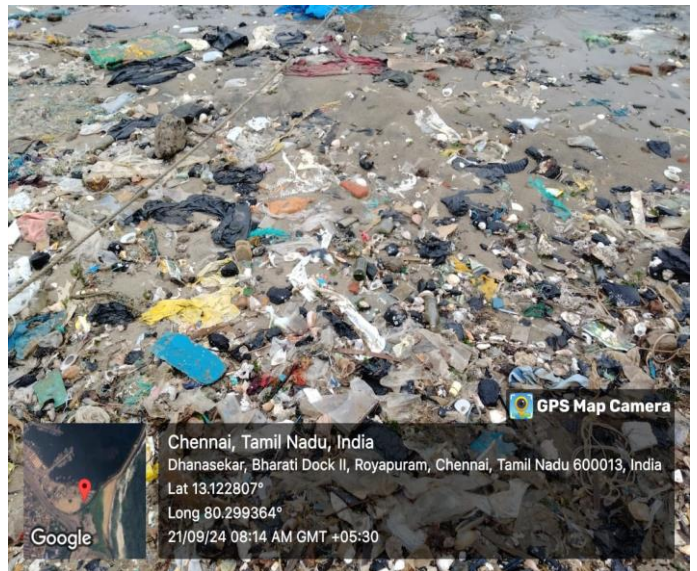


Fig. 4: Before cleaning the Fishing Harbour Beach Kasimedu

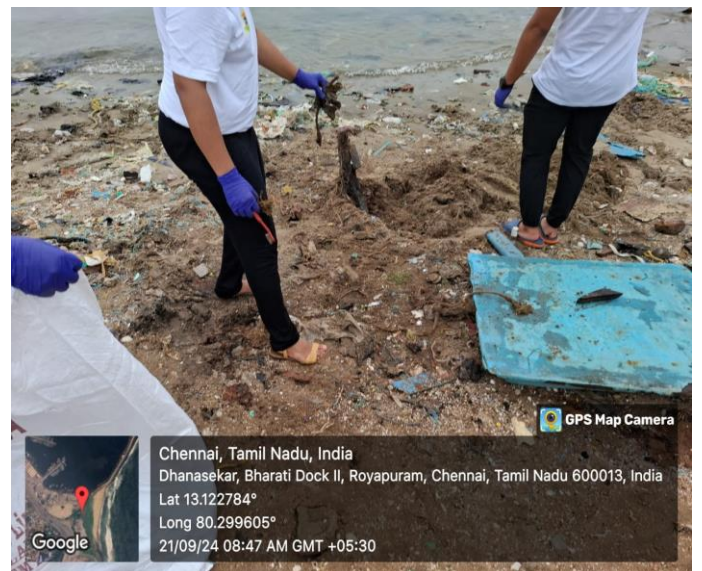
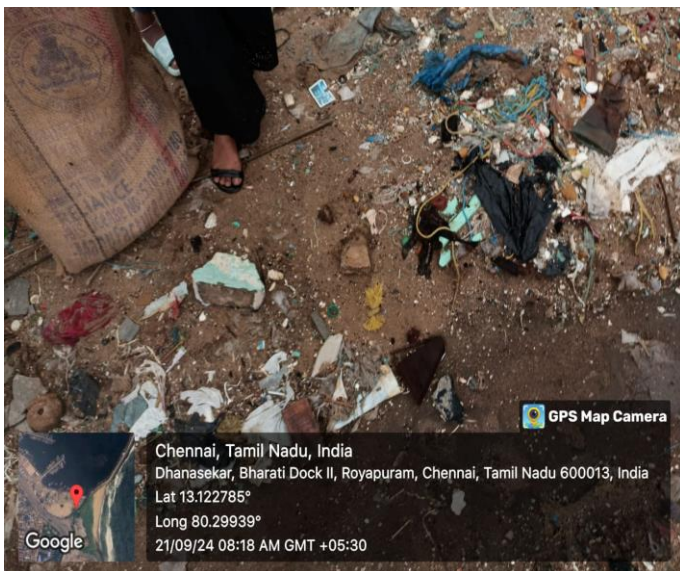


Fig. 5: During Marine litter collection from the beach.



Fig. 6: Segregation of Waste .

Simultaneously, the waste collected was brought to a common segregation point. The details of the number of items and weight of each component are given in Table 1. The marine litter collected comprised majorly of plastic (37%) and glass (26%). The other waste which was collected included foam plastic, metals, rubber, medical waste, papers, clothes, wood and coconut shells (**Fig.7, 8 & 9**).

Table 1: ICC Day 2024 datasheet

Types	Description	Number of items	Weight (kg)
Plastics	Plastic bottle	80	6.2
	Plastic cups	45	2.5
	Food containers (box)	62	4.7
	Plastic rope	90	18.5
	Fishing net	60	35.6
	Plastic bags	350	67.2
	Cigarette packs	27	1.5
	Mix plastic	200	14
Glass	Liquor glass bottle	300	90.5
	Medicine glass bottle	20	8
	Light bulbs	10	1.8
	Other glass items	15	6.5
Foam plastics	Foam (Thermocol)	75	2.5
Metal	Tin cans & others	22	1.1
Paper	Cardboard boxes & others	80	6.8
Clothes	Face mask	28	0.4
	Other clothes	65	18.2
Wood	Wood (others)	20	10.2
Rubber	Footwear	25	3.7
Others	Medical waste (Diapers & sanitary pads)	10	1.7
	Appliances & Electronics	10	3.5
Total		1594	305

Total area = Length * width = 60m * 12m = 720 m²

Total number of litter items collected = 1594

Total weight of litter items collected = 305 kg

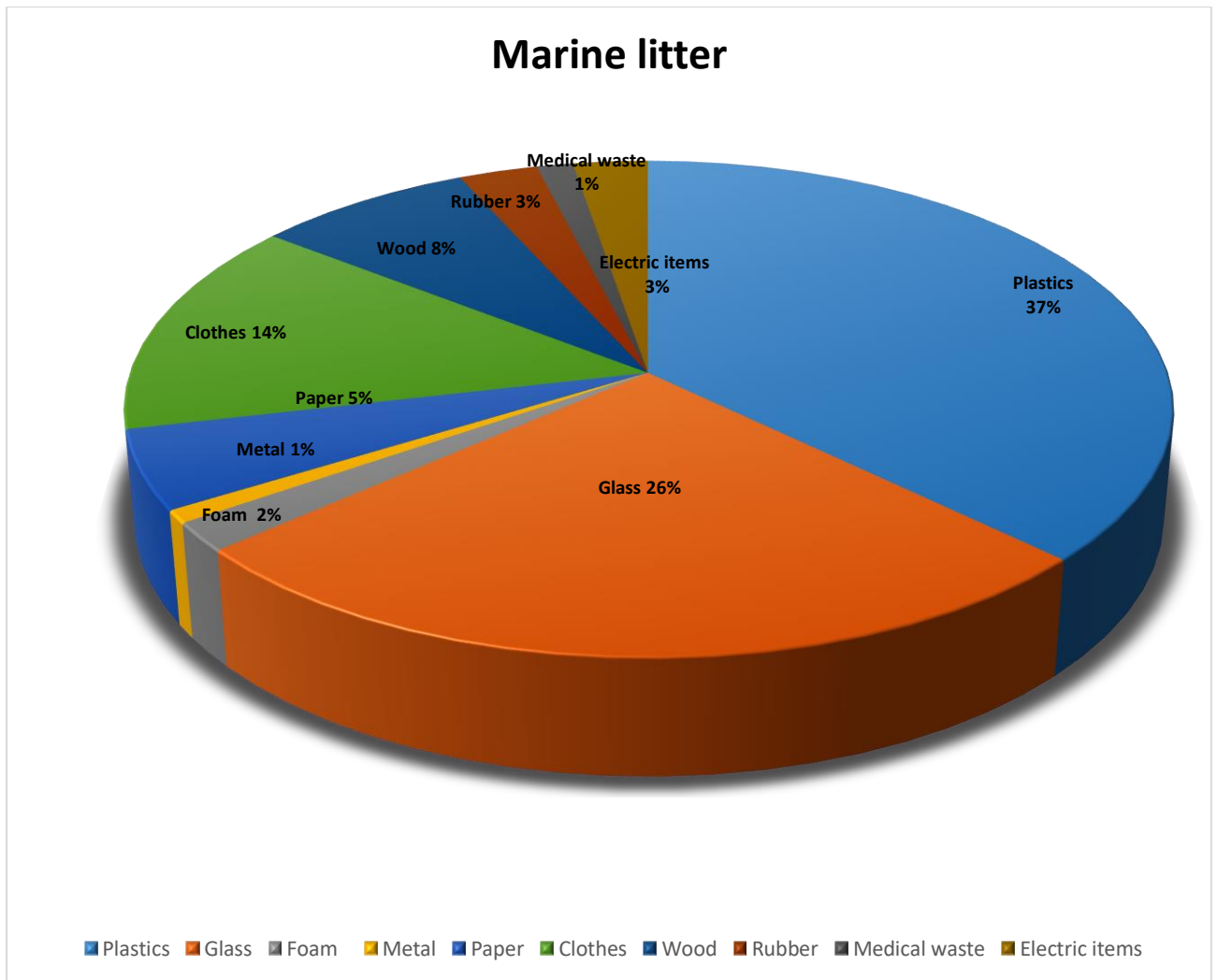


Fig. 7: Types of marine litter collected from the Fishing Harbour beach clean-up program.

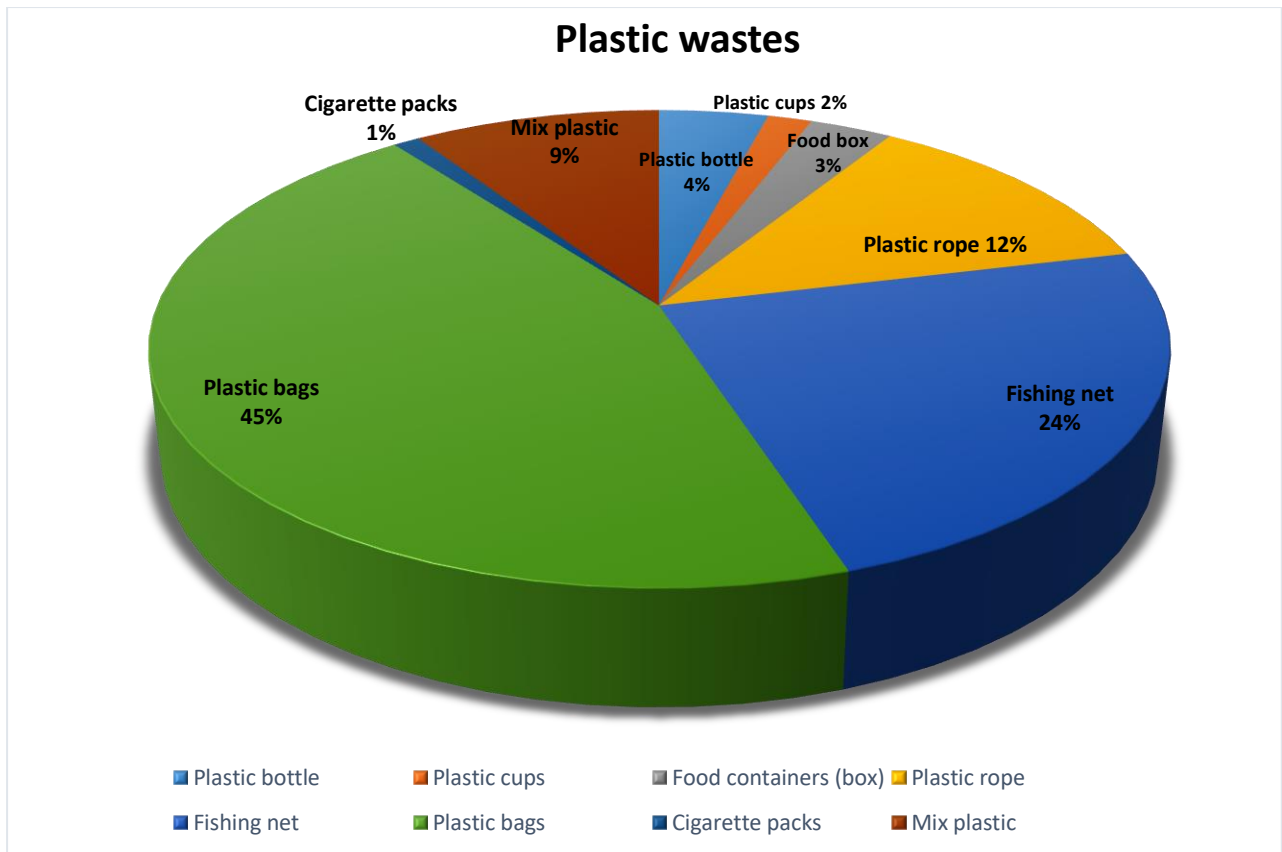


Fig 8: Types of plastic collected from the Fishing Harbour beach clean-up program.

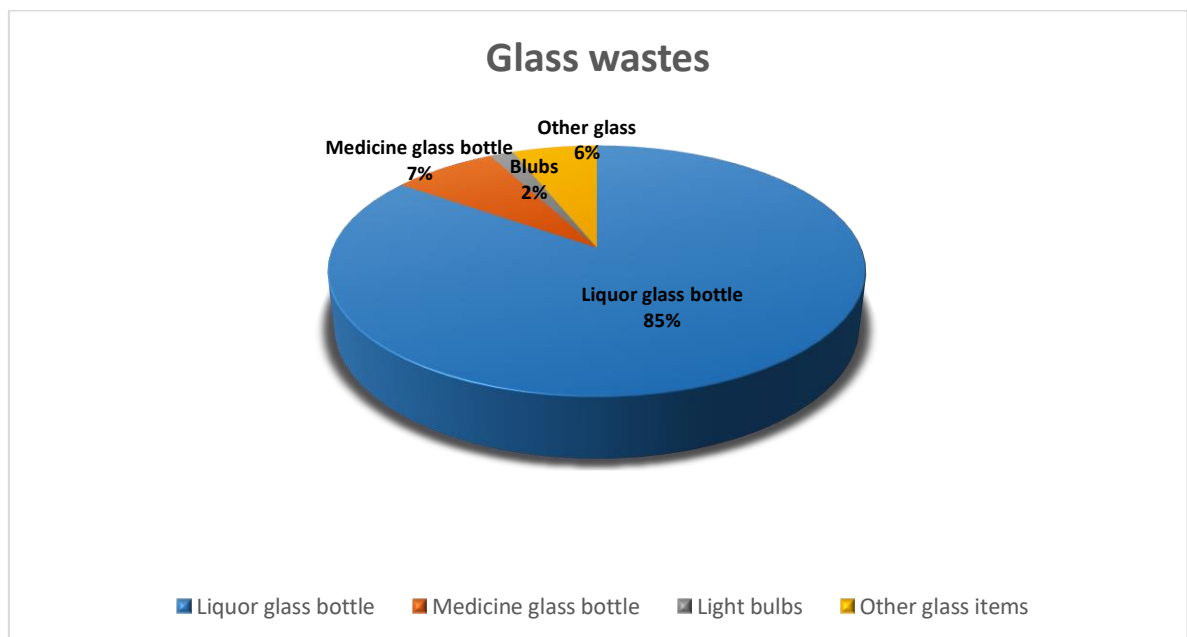


Fig 9: Types of glass collected from the Fishing Harbour Beach cleanup program



BEFORE



AFTER



BEFORE



AFTER

Fig. 10: Condition of the beach, before and after the clean-up drive.

Each segregated marine litter type was weighed and filled in bags. A total of 305 kg of marine litter (both biodegradable and non-biodegradable) was collected and sent for disposal. The difference after cleanup is clearly visible in Fig which shows the significance of such cleanup drives. In the end, an awareness campaign was initiated. The locals and Fishermen who had gathered on the beach were made aware of the impact of waste menace to the marine

ecosystem and its implications on human beings (**Fig.11**). The students and staff of SRM Institute participated in this cleanup drive enthusiastically and made it a grand success.



Fig.11: Awareness campaign organized after the cleanup.

Acknowledgement

I express my sincere gratitude to Dr. M.V. Ramana Murthy, Director, NCCR for making this initiative of beach cleaning activity in Fishing Harbour, Chennai. Special thanks to NCCR and MoES for funding International coastal clean-up day-2024. I thank Dr. Pravakar Mishra & Dr.S.R.Marigoudar for giving the responsibility and opportunity to conduct this event. I would like to thank Mr.Thanigaivel, who helped in choosing the coastal site. My humble thanks to Mr. John for their support in the execution of the plan. A special thanks to Mr. Ajay Anand, Assistant Director, fisheries department for accepting our invitation and delivering the introductory speech.

Special thanks to Dean CET, SRM IST, Dr.T.V.Gopal Sir, and Dean, School of Bioengineering Dr.Vairamani Sir and HOD, Dr. Kiran Kumar and SRM management for the continuous support and encouragement to complete the program successfully. My thanks and appreciation to Mr.Premraj (SRF) & Ms.Preethi (JRF) for helping the entire event to conduct the program, and thanks to all the faculties and students and local people who have participated in this clean-up activity and made it a grand success.

Media Coverage

- 1) <https://youtu.be/CjSP-T02NIw?si=RClls4AwTu21dMKs>



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