

NET(Nilambur Ecotourism) is a promising step intending the up-liftment of the local community through the concept of Eco-Tourism. Eco-tourism, gives the general public , a chance to enjoy the natural beauty without harming its natural worth. In many places, it could arrange the replacement of forest dependency of the people by other useful means.

Nilambur , the home of golden teak, is gifted with rivers like Chaliyar, Kanjirappuzha, Karimbuzha etc. It is one of the charming ecotourism spots in Malappuram district. Two territorial divisions , Nilambur North and South forest divisions, comprise the forest area in the district. Altogether, there are five territorial forest ranges in Nilambur region. The area is famous for the quality of teakwood that it produces. Nilambur teak is famous as 'super quality' teak around the world.

Conolly's Plot



During the second world war , large quantity of teak wood were transported to Britain in order to meet the requirements of British Royal Navy. Large scale felling of Teak trees from natural forests had been continued for a long period . Bulk quantity of teak wood were extracted from Nilambur forests also. Nilambur-Shornur railway was constructed mainly for the transportation of the teak wood from Nilambur . Due to this indiscriminate felling, the teak species came close to extinction in Kerala. Realizing this fact , the then British Government planned to raise teak plantations in Kerala.

Even well before the world wars, the Britishers came to know about the quality and importance of teak wood. They could forecast the demand for such a super quality wood in future. As a result, during middle of 19th century , the then Malabar Collector Sri H.V .Conolly initiated raising of the first ever teak plantations in the world. The then Forest Conservator, Sri.Chathu Menon was entrusted this work of raising teak plantations. In the year 1846, first teak plantation in the world were raised. All the extent, except 5.675 acres of the plantation was extracted for commercial purpose. The present 5.675 acres of the plantation popularly known as 'Conolly's plot' is being conserved as a Permanent Preservation Plot for research purpose

Conolly's plot is the oldest teak plantation in the world. The biggest planted teak in the world is standing here. Presently, there are 117 trees standing in this plot, of which tree no 23 is the biggest and its height is 46.5 metres and Girth at Breast Height is 4.2 metres. Conolly's plot comes under the territorial jurisdiction of Edavanna range of Nilambur North Forest Division. It is located at Aruvacode, 25 kms from Manjeri along Ooty road .

Suspension Bridge



The suspension bridge across Chaliyar river, that connects the Conolly's plot to the main land of Nilambur . The 143 metres long suspension bridge was constructed by M/S SILK, Kannur. Cost of construction of the bridge is Rs. 37.6 lakh. Now, this suspension bridge is one of the main attractions of Nilambur Eco-tourism project.



Reception Centre

The reception cum Amenity centre at Aruvacode provides the visitors with the basic information about the Eco-Tourism points in and around nilambur and other Eco-Tourism destinations in Kerala. The centre receives the visitors with a unique experience of cane thatched interior. The centre provides the visitors a chance to avail eco-friendly products designed and manufactured at various eco-tourism destinations of Kerala

The Eco-shop located at Aruvacode provides the visitors a chance to have pure and quality forest produce at reasonable price. The forest produce mainly include honey, wax, damar, shikakai etc..



DFO'S Bungalow at Chandakkunnu

Nedumkayam



Girdar Bridge

Nedumkayam is another major attraction of Nilambur Eco-tourism project. The ancient wooden rest house now known as Dawson Bungalow constructed during the British era, along the banks of Karimpuzha, provides immense pleasure to the visitors. The graveyard of Mr. Dawson, IFES, the then British Forest Engineer is situated here. The Girdar bridge across Karimpuzha was constructed by him. Nedumkayam elephant kraal had been one of the main elephant training camps. Here elephant Kraal is still preserved in its old splendor. The area comes under the jurisdiction of Karulai Range of Nilambur south division. It is situated about 15 kilometers from Nilambur town via Nilambur - Chandakkunnu - Karulai - Nedumkayam.



Elephant Kraal

The Nilambur Ecotourism Project covers so many beautiful landscapes and other monuments which include Chaliyar Mukku, Adyanpara water falls, Kozhippara waterfalls, Kodinji waterfalls, Old DFO'S Bungalow, KFRI Teak subcentre and Bioresource plot and so many other Eco-Tourism spots. The ultimate aim of NET is the Social, Economical and Cultural development of the area, mainly environmental stability.



Dawson Bungalow (Nedumkayam Wood House)



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