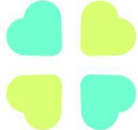




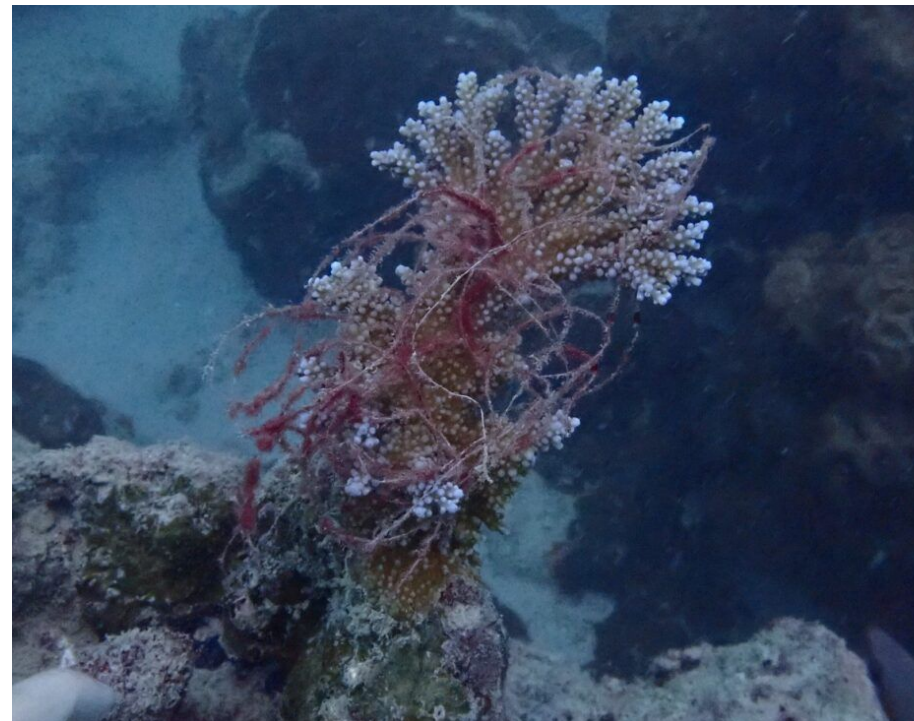
**September, 2023**  
**QUARTERLY REPORT**  
*for*



**MAKEMYTRIP**  
**FOUNDATION**

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# ABOUT

## KACHREWAALE FOUNDATION

The Kachrewaale Foundation started as the Kachrewaale Project in 2018, with the aim of addressing plastic pollution in the Andamans. The Foundation has grown to design and implement end-to-end waste management systems in multiple parts of these ecologically fragile areas. The organization has initiated, for the 1st time in the island's history, data backed strategy and framework for ocean plastics. For Kachrewaale, collaborative action through stakeholder and community engagement have been key elements in developing solutions for and reducing plastic pollution.



## MAKE MY TRIP FOUNDATION



MakeMyTrip Foundation's vision is to be a catalyst for positively impacting destinations, people and the environment by promoting sustainable travel and tourism. The Foundation was established with the aim of working with key stakeholders and implementation partners to improve the state of tourism destinations and elevate awareness amongst travellers. MMTF promotes sustainable and responsible travel by actively collaborating with organizations working towards inspiring responsible tourism, supporting local communities, helping maintain ecological balance, and restoring and preserving heritage.

[https://www.makemytrip.com/csr/mmt\\_foundation.html](https://www.makemytrip.com/csr/mmt_foundation.html)

## WASTE MANAGEMENT IN ANDAMANS

MakeMyTrip Foundation and Kachrewaale Foundation have been independently implementing waste management campaigns on the islands. In 2023, the organizations partnered for a collaborative impact to tackle the problem of waste in the Andamans. The project aims to increase recovery of ocean plastics and reducing plastic pollution on land through partnerships with local stakeholders, residents, and tourists. For long term participation and ownership of the movement, the project includes interactive and engaging activities that aim to empower locals and tourists with the knowledge of their marine ecosystems in order to build a deeper appreciation for the pristine environment.

# KEY ACTIVITIES & LEARNINGS IN SEPTEMBER 2023

## ACTIVITIES

**20 kgs** of material recovered from **5 underwater cleanup dives** at the following locations. (6-12 meters depth)

- Goldies reef (two dives)
- Lighthouse reef (two dives)
- Fish Slate reef (1 dive)

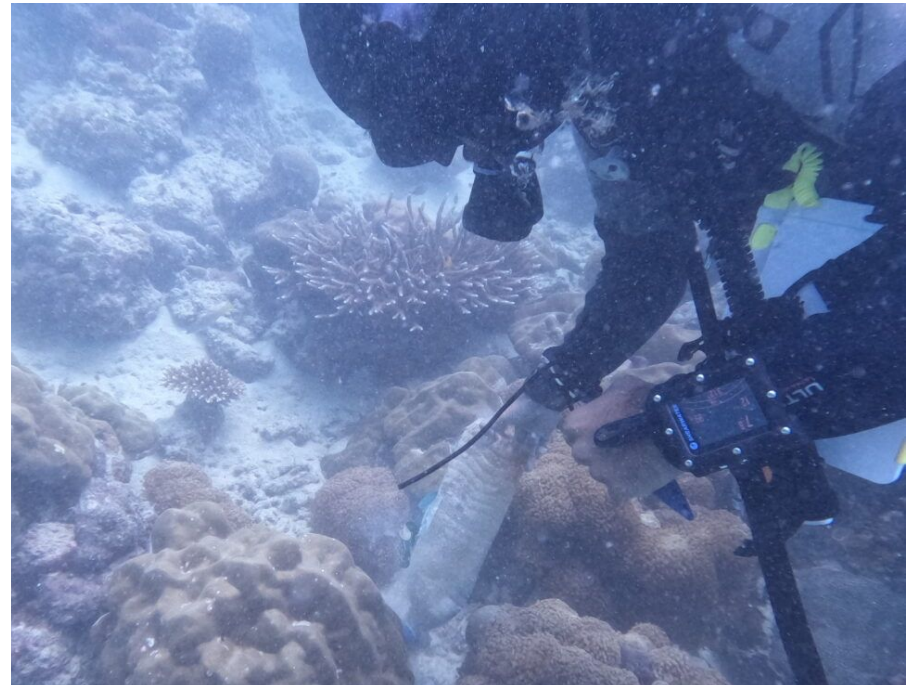
Meetings were conducted with **administrative officials** towards gathering support and collaboration for effective implementation:

- Deputy Commissioner, South Andaman
- Chief Secretary, Andaman and Nicobar Islands
- Principal Chief Conservator Forest and Deputy Conservator Forest (PCCF), Andaman and Nicobar Islands Forest Department
- Local Village Panchayats, Neil and Havelock

## LEARNINGS : STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Several dive centers organise underwater cleanups in the Andamans. However, they are organised in an ad hoc manner, the waste is not analysed, and usually ends up unprocessed and does not go for recycling.

Kachrewaale's underwater drives are setting up proper procedures when conducting cleanups. Divers are explained what happens to the waste, how the data is used, and the impact of diverting waste from water and land. This knowledge sharing has become an important part of the cleanups and empowers the divers with deeper admiration for their efforts.



# FINDINGS AND PERSPECTIVES

## CLEANUP FINDS

During underwater cleanups, we have recovered an entire tarpaulin sheet and several cement bags, usually found at dive sites closer to the shore. This suggests mismanagement of construction waste and open dumping at shore. The data and observations from underwater dives will be used for policy recommendations to promote best practices when managing construction waste and anti-littering/dumping campaigns.



## A CLEAN-UP DIVER'S PERSPECTIVE

### Saw Mai Taiscon, Dive Master, Dive India



कचरेवाले संस्था के साथ क्लीनअप डाइव करके बहुत अच्छा लगता है। हम डाईव्स के द्वारा कचरा बहुत अच्छे से उठा रहे हैं। हमें कोरल्स को बचाना बहुत ज़रूरी है क्योंकि कोरल्स हमारे मछली और पानी के लिए अच्छे होते हैं। हमे टर्टल जैसे समुद्री जानवरों के लिए पानी से फिशिंग लाइन्स और प्लास्टिक निकालना ज़रूरी है। टर्टल कोरल्स को साफ़ रखते हैं जिससे हमारा पानी भी साफ़ रहता है। हमें इन जानवरों और कोरल्स को सुरक्षित रखना ज़रूरी है।

I really enjoy diving with Kachrewaale. We are collecting underwater waste very effectively. We need to save the corals because they are important for our fishes and water. It is important for us to remove fishing lines and plastics from the water to protect animals and corals. If turtle population keeps dropping then our water won't stay clean because turtles keep the corals clean. Therefore, we need to keep our marine animals and corals safe.

# NEXT STEPS

## CHALLENGES

- Heavy rainfall until mid-October deterred the organisation of all outdoor activities and workshops
- During underwater clean ups, the visibility was very low, and there was presence of strong currents, thereby making the dives very challenging and the footage murky.

## MOVING FORWARD

- Sustainable tourism workshop with hotels
- Awareness raising workshops including beach cleanups with local children and community
- Tourist engagement with launch of survey on water consumption during travel
- Continued underwater cleanups

## MEET THE TEAM



*Garima Poonia*  
Program Lead



*Shareena Purty*  
Associate - Community  
Outreach and Engagement



*Subal Biswas*  
Field Expert

THANK YOU  
LET'S DISCUSS!

FIND US ON

 @kachrewaale\_thewastepeople

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WATCH! **TRASH PIRATES : THE  
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