



PALANI MISSION UPDATE

The Long-Awaited Well is Finally in Place!

After much debate and several permit submissions to the local authorities by Reverend John, the drilling machine was finally allowed to position itself over the chosen site adjacent to Palani Mission Church.

The first photo shows the machine which drilled the 700 foot borehole down to the potable quality water table; this could only take place once the monsoon season was over and the ground was firm enough to take the full weight of the rig.



Photo 1: Drill

Reverend John gathered with several members of the church to offer prayers that the project would be safe and successful, with thanksgiving that the work was about to commence (Photo 2).

The capped well head is shown in the third photo, adjacent to the deep hole dug for the cistern, which will hold the supply of fresh water. Photo 4 shows the concrete leakproof tank, with its permanent access steps to allow cleaning and maintenance of the sump.



Photo 2: Prayers for the Project

Finally, in Photo 5, a roof is cast over the tank, completely sealing it from the external environment, with the only access via the brick-lined manhole.

From the very outset, and with God's help and grace, we had hoped to transform the lives of as many people as possible within the local community, and none more so than this project. The well supplies fresh water every minute of the day, tested and safe to drink, free of contamination and disease.



Photo 3: Capped Well Head



Photo 4: Concrete leak-proof tank



Photo 5: Tank with roof

Reverend John coordinates the regular chemical analysis from his pharmacy at the hospital.

The need to walk a great distance upstream along the river for a container of invariably soiled water has been removed, at a cost of just over £1,000. Everyone, Christian, Hindu, or of no faith, is welcomed to the well.

John Gibbons, Fleet URC

(There are more photos of the well, and some recent photos of the work of the Mission on the Fleet URC website (<https://fleet.urb.org.uk/palani-mission/>) and on the Friends of Palani Mission Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/friendsofpalanimission/>).

