

## **Puducherry Beach Restoration Project**

To restore the lost beach along Puducherry a hybrid solution with two reefs and beach nourishment is proposed based on the learning from experimental beach nourishment, process based measurements and numerical studies. The northern Reef will be implemented by MoES and the Southern Reef along with beach Nourishment will be implemented by Puducherry Government. The Bhumi Pooja was performed in the presence of honorable Chief Minister of Puducherry in March, 2017 and the project execution has commenced. The filter layer, core layer, laying of geotextile for working platform is completed and inside is being filled with sand. The rock/concrete base for steel reef is being constructed by piling up of stones above sea level to form an offshore working area, this work is under progress. These stones will be later distributed over seabed using cranes ensuring that the stones are well below sea level.

The beach nourishment using 3 lakh m<sup>3</sup> is implemented by the Puducherry government in two ways. i) Rainbow nourishment for offshore profiles using suction dredger and ii) Pipe line nourishment for nearshore profiles using cutter suction dredger. The sand for both the schemes is dredged from port mouth. The Puducherry government is also planning to cover existing stone walls with 1.5 lakh m<sup>3</sup> of sand. A Beach is already taking shape near the seawall and with the steady progress of the beach restoration project the city's coastline could soon travel back in time to its sandy past.



Rainbow dredging for beach nourishment



Construction of working platform and reef base



Aerial view of present status



Formation of beach



General public rejoicing in the newly formed beach