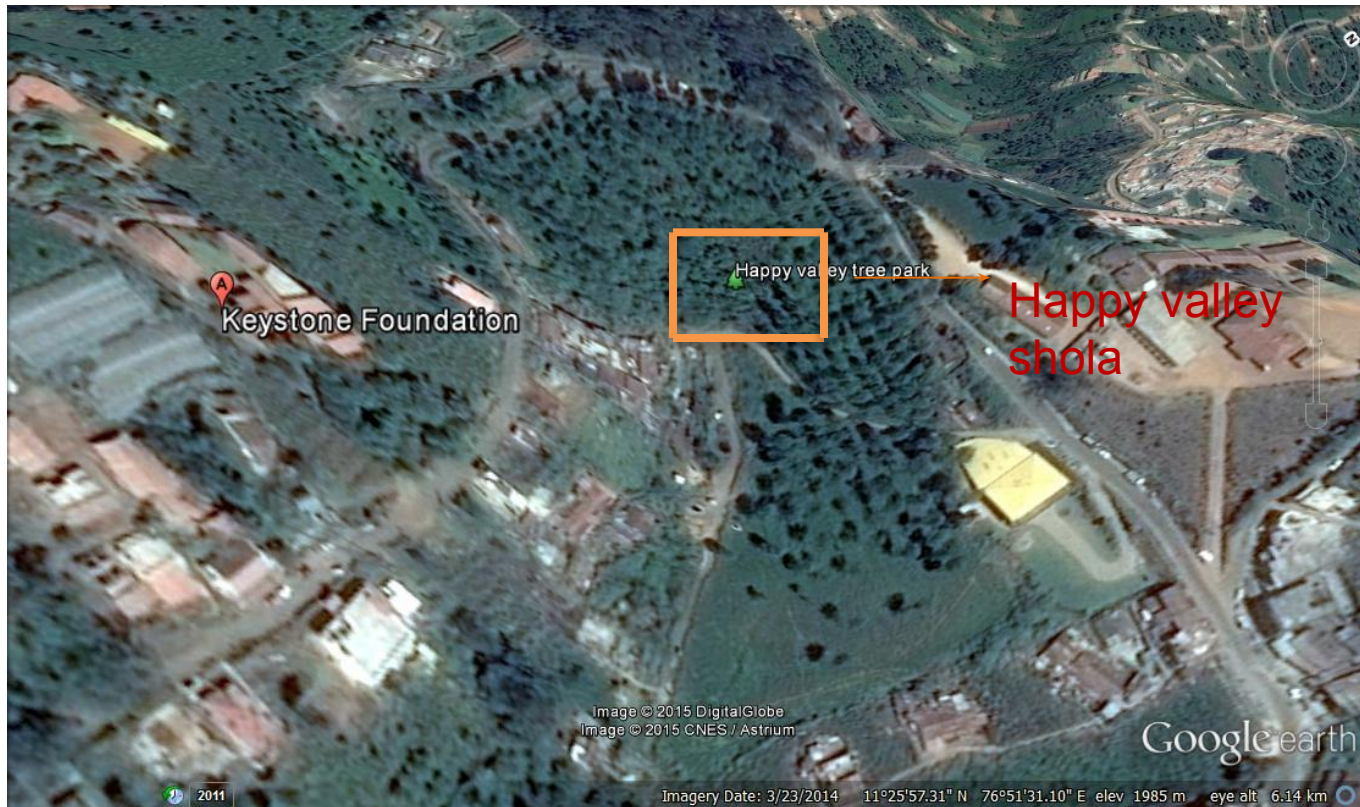


# HAPPY VALLEY-KOTAGIRI

*Participation in restoration*

*Keystone Foundation*

# Location of Happy valley



- Located at the outskirts of Kotagiri village near the KMF hospital.
- Panchayat land – 1 acres
- Prime source of water for the households living downstream and the hills surrounding it.
- The source of the wetland is a spring which runs off, as a small stream.
- A part of the catchment area has been fenced. However, fencing has been violated in parts has become a central dumping yard and a centre for attending nature's call.
- Vegetation:-
  - Shrubs like *Lantana sp.*, *Eupatorium sp.*, *Cestrum sp.*, *Solanum sp.*, *Ricinus sp.* and *Pteris sp.* - Colonisers.
  - Along the course of the stream *Polygonum sp.* *Cyathea spp.* were found.
  - The agriculture belt had *Rumex sp.* and *Plantago sp.*
- Tea with silver oak plantation is seen in the upland portion of the wetland.



# In to Action...

- To raise awareness the following action points were decided upon:
  - A walk through the wetland was planned
  - As part of the restoration initiative, a nursery on Shola and wetland plants was developed in the campus.
  - Garbage was collected





*Transitions...*

**WETLAND-SHOLA RESTORATION PROJECT**  
**சதுப்பு நிலம்-சோலைவனம் புனரமைப்பு திட்டம்**

**UNDERTAKEN BY:**

**KOTAGIRI PANCHAYAT , CITIZENS & KEYSTONE FOUNDATION.**

**திட்டம் ஏற்பொர் :**

**கொத்தகிரி சதுப்பு சிறுநீராட்சி, பொதுமக்கள், கீஸ்டோன் பவுண்டேஷன்.**

**JUNE 2006.**

**ஜூன் 2006**





	2006	2015
Native plant species	5	>26
Invasive species	6	3
Birdlife	2	10
Mammals	0	3
Wells	15	>30
Water level	Less in summer	Adequate in summer

**HAPPY VALLEY RESTORATION PROJECT**  
 The Happy Valley wetland is a prime source of water for more than a thousand households living downstream and the life-sustaining life in 2005. Krishna Foundation took on the restoration of the wetland. Since the wetland, following its restoration, is now the happy town Panchayat. Since then the soil has been restored and successfully maintained. This was achieved by the act, spreading our care, as home to more than 500 native bird species and abundant Wildlife. It has been observed that the water quality and quantity has improved considerably since the restoration activity has started. It is therefore important for all to ensure the permanent success of the wetland. The active participation of the Community towards the conservation is a must.

KRISHNA FOUNDATION      KOTAGIRI TOWN PANCHAYAT

- *Trees: Ligustrum perrottetii, Syzygium sp. Elaeocarpus variabilis, Turpinia nepalensis, Daphniphyllum neilgherrense*
- *Liana: Elaeagnus kologa*
- Total planted - 600
- Survived - 487

# Peoples reactions

## ● 2006

- *'What are these Keystone people doing, we need to stop them?'*
- *'Haha, it's a huge joke, nothing is going to change'*
- *'Where do we graze our cattle now?'*
- *'We don't have a toilet now!'*
- *'We don't care!'*
- *'Let their trees grow, we can collect firewood'*

## ● 2013

- *'What we thought was a joke, is not true'*
- *'We have more than enough water now'*
- *'We will not use the space as a toilet'*
- *'It's a forest now'*
- *'Oh my god, the forest is now home to bears, gaurs, leopards, birds and what not!'*
- *'Keystone Kadu'*

Thank you