

QUEEN MARY'S COLLEGE(A),CHENNAI-600 004.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

SOCIOLOGICAL FIELD VISIT REPORT Dhanushkodi

Rameshwaram – Dhanushkodi

Date of Field Visit: 18 September 2026

Class & Department: II PG, Department of Sociology, Queen Mary's College, Chennai.

On **18 September 2026**, we undertook a sociological field visit to **Rameshwaram and Dhanushkodi** to understand the socio-economic, cultural, occupational, environmental and historical dimensions of coastal life. Through interactions with local residents and direct observation, we gained insights into diverse livelihoods, particularly fishing, tourism and small-scale trade, along with local food practices and everyday lifestyles. We observed that access to essential facilities such as **education, healthcare and drinking water** was largely dependent on Rameshwaram town. We also learned about restricted mobile-network connectivity during certain hours, reportedly as part of measures related to preventing trafficking and maintaining security. The remains of the **1964 cyclone**, including damaged and abandoned buildings, provided a striking understanding of disaster, collective memory and community resilience. We documented the coastal environment, including marine growth, sea mosses, fossil-like formations and other ecological features. Our visit to **Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam's house/memorial site** also helped us understand the region's educational and historical significance. Overall, the field visit enabled us to connect classroom concepts with real-life observations and understand how **livelihood, environment, infrastructure, culture, history, tourism and resilience** are closely interconnected in coastal communities.