



RAMANATHI

Ramanathi (ராமநதி) is a river flowing through Ravanasamudram in Tenkasi district of Tamil Nadu and originates from Agasthyamalai Biosphere Reserve from the western ghates at an altitude of 5150 feet and runs through the forest areas for a length of 7 km and reaches in plain areas.

In the foot of hills, the Ramanathi Reservoir has been constructed across the Ramanathi

river in the year of 1974 in Melakadayam village of Tenkasi district. . This reservoir was constructed with earth and stone masonry structures to a length of 839 m .The height of the storage is 84 feet to a capacity of 152 Mcft and registered ayacut benefitted is 4953.51 Acres .

The reservoir is having 2 fillings per year and two river sluices and one controlled spillway arrangement .Under this reservoir are 9 anicuts and through the anicut channels 33 tanks are benefitted for irrigation.

This river joins Gadanathanathi River after Kizha Ambur. . This river flows through many villages like Alwarkurichi, Ravanasamudram, Pottalpudur, Pillaukulam.

The Gadanathanathi is fed by Thekkaru and Ramanathanathi Rivers. It is told where these three rivers join it is also called Mukkudal. (not the village by this name). This is to be verified.

As a chikd I have heard that when Seetha was thirsty, Rama placed his hand on the ground and created this river. Normally all rivers are considered female. We however have a few exceptions. Well known is the mighty Brahmaputra. and one of the others is our own Ramanathi.

This Ramanadhi is called Veeranadhi when it crosses Veerasamudram. There is a small story attached. Our RVS agrahara residents and some from Alwarkurichi were having their Agraharam just by the side of the present Kasiviswanathar temple of Veerasamudram. Once Ramanadhi was in spate and swallowed the agraharam. So called Veeranathi during this part. Railways also mentioned it on their bridge here.

People had to rush to the adjacent places like Ravanassamudram and Alwarkurichi. Then

only the present Agraharam was created by Sri Ravanappa Naicker for them to reside.

Ramanadhi was a perinial one. It used to occupy even half of the present children's park. When sand smuggling started, this was also a target. For more smuggling not to take place, the children's park was constructed.

It is a pity, it has lost its original beauty and lots of bushes are hiding the water. It becomes dry when the water level in the reservoir is less.