

### Reaching your Roots

The "Reaching Your Roots" programme was conceptualised under the guidance of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, with a view to reconnect 2nd and 3rd generation Tamil Diaspora youth aged between 18 to 30, to their cultural heritage in Tamil Nadu. Implemented by the Non Resident Tamils Welfare Department, this programme is designed as cultural tour across Tamil Nadu, providing participants with a firsthand experience of Tamil Nadu's rich history, and traditions. The inaugural batch, consisting of 58 dynamic youngsters, start the tour on 26th December 2023.

Hailing from countries such as Australia, Canada, Fiji, and Sri Lanka, the youngsters in this first batch represent a microcosm of the global Tamil Diaspora. The participants will get to learn about Tamil Nadu's detailed architecture, pioneering local governance methods, historical Tamil cuisine, and many more key facets of Tamil history.

The tour will culminate in the World Tamil Diaspora Day 2024 celebrations, at Chennai, which will be presided over by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. The youngsters, upon their return to their home countries, will play a crucial role in propagating Tamil culture as Cultural Ambassadors: sharing their experiences, and fostering a deeper appreciation for the heritage they have explored.

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