



Gulf of Mannar

[Source: TH](#)

The **Gulf of Mannar (GoM)** in Tamil Nadu, severely affected by [coral bleaching](#) has implemented **artificial reef restoration** using **triangular and perforated trapezoidal modules** placed underwater via **divers**.

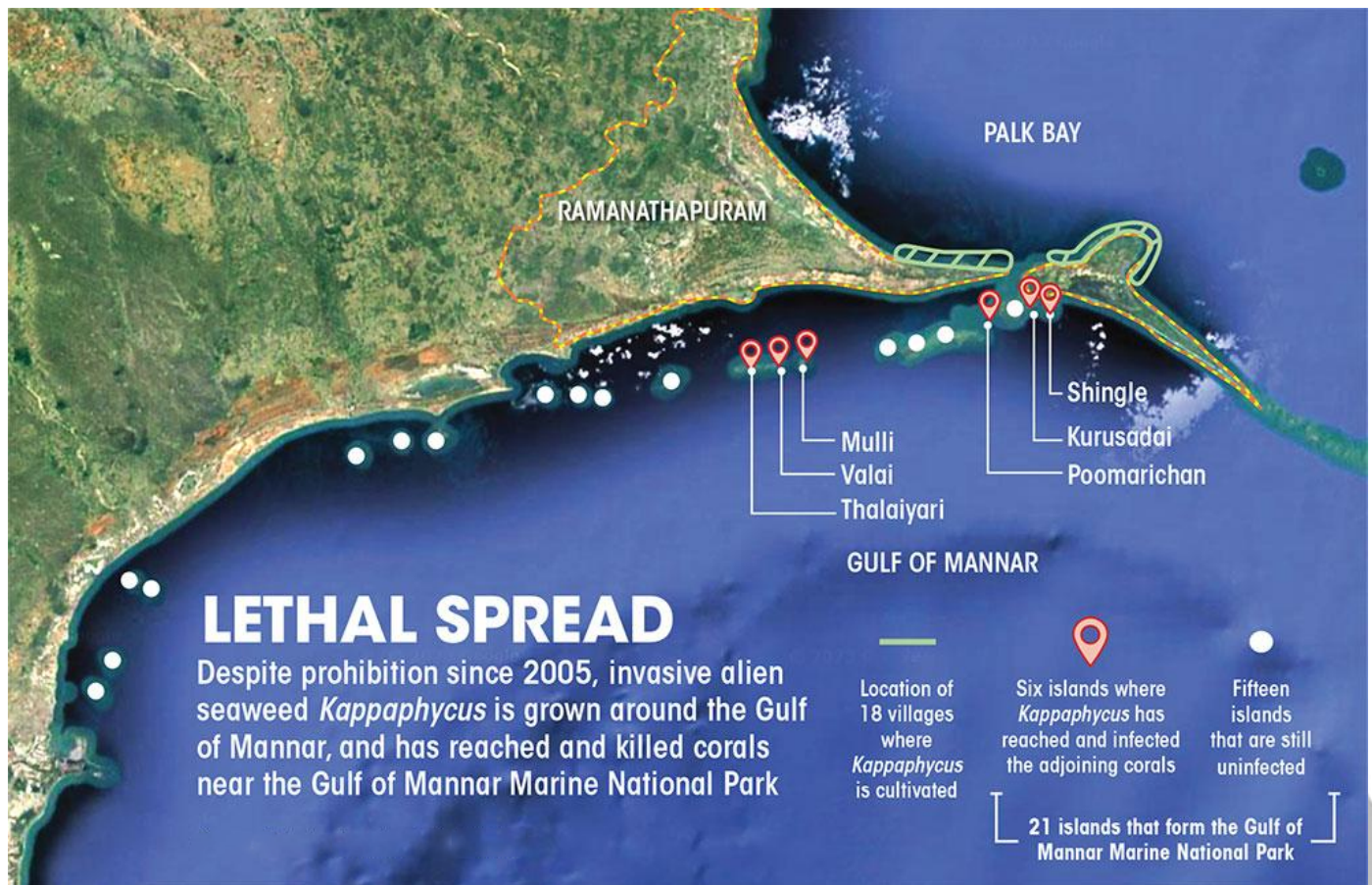
- **Concrete frames** successfully hosted various **coral species**, boosting **coral cover**, **survival rates**, and **fish density**, while **reducing bleaching impacts** and **enhancing community awareness, capacity, and livelihoods**.

Gulf of Mannar

- The [Gulf of Mannar](#) part of the **Laccadive Sea** in the **Indian Ocean**, lies between the **southeast coast of India** and the **northwest coast of Sri Lanka**, encompassing **21 islands**.
- It is bounded by **Rameswaram**, **Adam's (Ram setu) Bridge**, and **Mannar Island (Sri Lanka)**, and rivers like the **Tambraparni** (India) and **Malvathu Oya River** (Sri Lanka) flow into the gulf.
- The gulf hosts the **Tuticorin port** and is known for **pearl banks** and the **sacred chank** (a **gastropod mollusk**).

Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park & Biosphere Reserve:

- The **Marine National Park** (162.89 km²), established in **1982** under the [Wildlife \(Protection\) Act, 1972](#), hosts **coral reefs, mangroves, seagrass beds, estuaries, mudflats, sandy shores, marshes, and rocky coasts**, supporting **117 coral species, over 450 fish species**, and threatened species like [sea cow \(Dugong dugon\)](#), **whale sharks**, and [sea turtles](#).
- The [Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve](#) (10,500 km²) established in **1989** and recognized by [UNESCO](#) in **2001** includes **21 islands** and surrounding coastal areas.
 - It encompasses the **Marine National Park** and is the first **Marine Biosphere Reserve** in **South and South-East Asia**, serving as a crucial hub of **marine biodiversity**.



Read More: [Hydrocarbon Exploration in Gulf of Mannar](#), [Coral Breach in Gulf of Mannar](#)

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