

● ISHA JOINS HANDS WITH BARD, LIONS

Mega afforestation drive today

ENS
Tiruchy, October 20

THROUGHOUT the world dire warnings are being issued about the effects of human activity on the natural environment. Project Greenhands (PGH), a grassroots ecological initiative established by Isha Foundation, has a deep concern for the global effects of deforestation and land degradation, particularly in Tamil Nadu.

According to a Press release, drawing extensively on community involvement and large scale vol-

unteer participation, the Project aims to plant 114 million trees state-wide - providing an additional 10 per cent to the existing level of green cover in Tamil Nadu.

Ever since its inception in 2004, PGH has successfully overseen the planting of more than five million trees by over one million people.

As part of several initiatives, PGH, in association with the Bharathidasan University, is planting one lakh saplings in 100 colleges spread across eight districts on Oct 21 in a short duration of one hour. The one lakh saplings are being do-

nated by Isha Foundation through PGH and the premier club of Lion's Tiruchy is helping the project to transport the saplings from the nurseries to various colleges.

The event will be inaugurated by the Vice-Chancellor, Dr. M Ponnavaikko. The felicitation would be offered by R Ethirajulu, Project Coordinator, Isha Foundation.

NSS volunteers of Bharathidasan University in the districts of Tiruchy, Pudukkottai, Karur, Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Perambalur, Ariyalur and Nagapattinam teamed up for a tree plantation drive in as-

sociation with Isha Foundation and Lion's Club of Tiruchy. The campaign covered about 50,000 students, from 100 colleges spread over several districts. The volunteers gave awareness talks, distributed leaflets, which carried the message of tree planting, along with instructions on locating a suitable site, planting the sapling and caring for it. Above all, the spirit shown by the students in planting, taking a vow to take care of the planted saplings and their enthusiasm to spread the message of the importance of planting trees was the highlight.