

To preserve environment in Sivaganga district



GREEN EFFECT: *The Union Finance Minister, P. Chidambaram, distributing sapling to a boy at Karaikudi.*

C. Jaishankar

SIVAGANGA: It might be a small function. But it certainly was a big initiative. The Isha Foundation did the right thing in inviting the Union Finance Minister, P. Chidambaram for the launching of planting of 5,000 saplings in Sivaganga district basically to popularise the motto of creating an awareness among the people of preservation of the environment.

The initiative is part of the Project Green Hands, an ecological project of Isha Foundation to preserve the delicate ecology and increase

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the percentage of green cover in the country.

The project aims at planting and nurturing 114 million saplings in 10 years in Tamil Nadu.

As a first step, a massive sapling planting drive was organised in the State and a whopping 8,52,587 saplings were planted on a single day

in 2006. The Chief Minister, M. Karunanidhi, flagged off the second mass planting in Chennai a few months ago to achieve the target.

Appreciating the efforts of Isha Foundation, Mr. Chidambaram said people of all walks of life should join hands with the organisers to achieve the target. He launched the planting of saplings near the bus stand at Karaikudi on Saturday.

Pankaj Kumar Banzal, District Collector, N. Sundaram, MLA, Muthu Durai, Chairman, Karaikudi Municipality and others also planted saplings on their part.