

5,000 students prepare record 5 lakh seed balls

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CHENNAI: About 5,000 Class VIII government school students from across the city have prepared five lakh seed balls that will be used to plant by the forest department. On Saturday, the students also planted 5,000 saplings inside Queen Mary's College on Kamarajar Salai.

The World Records Union along with the Asian Records Academy, India Records Academy and Tamilan book of records handed over a certificate to the group for setting the record by preparing five lakh seed balls and planting 5,000 saplings.

Under the programme, 'Conserve Nature', the students were led by nodal officers of the city police as part of the 'Students in responsible police initiatives (SIRPI)'. The event was presided over by Tamil Nadu minister for environment and pollution control Meyyanathan V and Chennai commissioner of police Shankar Jiwal. The seed balls were later handed over to the forest officials.

During the stone age, Maiyyanathan said, people got food from the trees. "Later, human beings started chopping the trees. Now, an enormous change is set to be effected in the atmosphere in the state. The Tamil Nadu state government has decided to increase the forest area by 33%. We should avoid using plastic material as this would endanger future generations. This would devastate the presence of animals, nature, trees and other all living beings on the earth," said the minister.

Police said the seed balls will be nurtured into saplings and distributed to people .