

# Forest Department to distribute 5.50 lakh saplings in Ramanathapuram district

For free-of-cost saplings, people need to register with Forest Range offices

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THE HINDU BUREAU

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“We have fruit-bearing trees for houses and trees with timber value like teak and redsanders for farmers. However, people can choose among the varieties without any conditions,” she said. Educational institutions and factories can also get the saplings free of cost.

“We are also recommending those saplings which are suited better for the climatic conditions and soil condition of Ramanathapuram district,” Ms. Hemalatha said.

Ramanathapuram does not get much rain and has a hot climatic condition. Redsanders and casuarina could suit the best for the district.

Casuarina can be grown as shelterbelt to prevent damages caused by strong wind for any plantation. It can also serve as a bioshield against ocean wave and prevent land erosion.

The DFO said that priority would be given to those institutions who have water facility and also fencing.

“We need to ensure that the saplings are used to serve the purpose of increasing the green cover,” she added.

In some cases, the officials would assist in plantation and also monitor the growth.

“The details of the beneficiaries would be uploaded in the Green Tamil Nadu Mission App and monitor the growth,” she added. Interested people can call the forest officials and register their names with the varieties and number of saplings required.

They can call the Forest Range Offices, Ramanathapuram (90259-52577), Sayalkudi (84387-71496), Paramakudi (80726-68033); R.S. Mangalam (82481-49270) and Forestry Extension, Ramanathapuram (63839-40433).

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