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# Ambala forest department to plant 9 lakh saplings this year

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AMBALA: The Haryana forest department has kept a target of planting 9 lakh saplings under different components in Ambala district, said deputy commissioner (DC), Vikram Singh on Monday.

He said under this initiative, of 9 lakh saplings, 1 lakh will be planted at the premises of the government schools of Ambala district.

The DC was addressing the students after planting saplings at Government Model Sanskriti School at Police Lines, Ambala City, where he made this announcement and inspired children to plant more and more saplings. On behalf of NGO Arihant Foundation Swami Rajeshwarnand was present on this occasion, who provided the saplings which were planted at the police lines government school.

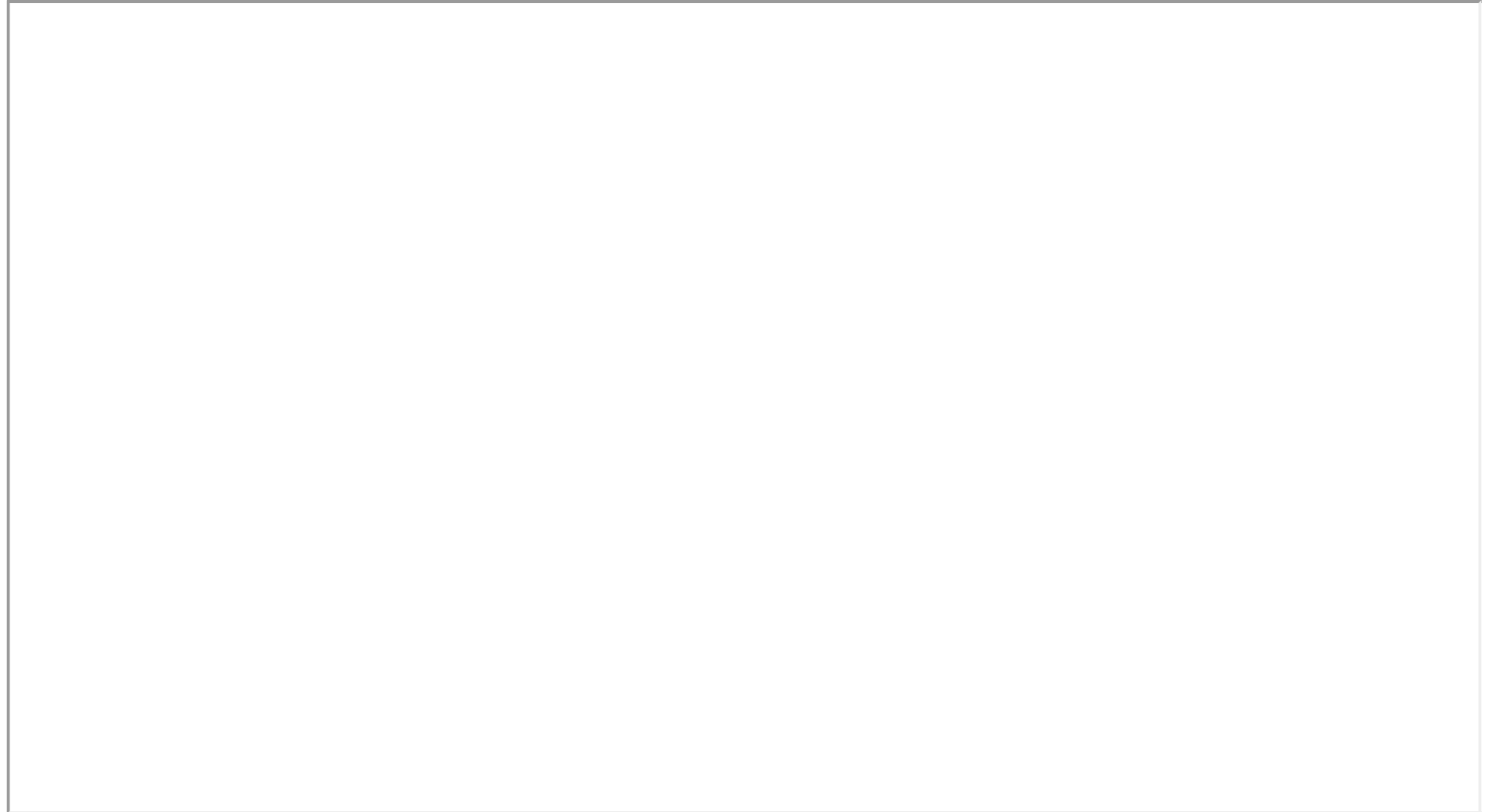
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While addressing the students, the DC held discussion with them about why the planting of saplings is important, and what are their benefits. He motivated them to plant saplings during this rainy season in the month of July and August, so that they turn into trees at fast speed.

About this green initiative, district forest officer (DFO) Hairatjeet Kaur said under different components, the department has kept a target of planting 9 lakh saplings in Ambala district during this monsoon season.



This initiative of planting 9 lakh saplings include target at institutional land i.e. schools, colleges, government offices; paudhgiri scheme under which 70,000 saplings will be distributed to children; plantation by department at panchayat land; green belt; and farm agro forestry under which clonel safeda (eucalyptus) will be planted at the land of farmers.

"Target has been kept of 2.50 lakh saplings for distribution and the rest will be planted by the forest department", said DFO Hairatjeet Kaur.

To a query about saplings of trees included in this target, DFO Kaur said this include sheesham (dalbergia sissoo), mango, jamun (syzygium cumini), jamoa, arjan (terminalia arjuna), burr (banyan), peepal (ficus religiosa), neem (azadirachta indica), jackfruit, bel patra (aegle marmelos), amla (phyllanthus emblica), and others, guava, papaya, bougainvillea, rose for free distributions to children under paudhagiri scheme.

DFO said the saplings are prepared in 10 nurseries of forest department in Saha, Naraingarh and Ambala blocks in the district and the work to raise them starts in the month of October every year.