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Cauvery Calling: Dharmapuri farmers lead the way in sapling plantation

15 September 2020, Dharmapuri: Forest Range Officers and police personnel planted saplings to inaugurate a plantation drive in the taluks of Kariamangalam and Pappireddipatti of Dharmapuri district today. The drive was organized as Cauvery Calling volunteers mobilize the farming community to adopt tree-based agriculture in the first planting season since the launch of the Cauvery Calling movement last September.

In Thiru. Venkatsan's farm in Kambainallur village, 2400 timber saplings of cash crops like Vengai, Teak, Maghony and Rosewood were planted. An event organized to mark the plantation was attended by Forest Ranger Thiru. Vedyappan, Inspector Thiru. Rangasamy and village administrative officer Thiru. Ravichandran who inaugurated the planting drive.

In Thiru. Ezhumalai's farm in Kottaimedu village, 2000 timber saplings of Sandalwood and Mahogany were planted. Cauvery Calling volunteers shared their expertise with farmers on soil preparation and other factors that enhance sapling survival rate.

Three-day plantation drives are being conducted in 20 districts of Tamil Nadu including Pudukottai, Thanjavur, Nagapattinam, Cuddalore, Kovai, Salem, Madurai and other districts. A total of 331 acres of land will be covered during the three days.

Cauvery Calling is dedicating the 3-day drive to the memory of Thiru. Maram Thangasamy who dedicated his life to creating awareness and inspiring the people of Tamil Nadu to take up tree plantation. 1.26 lakh saplings will be planted over 3 days all over the state.

Across Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, a total of 83 lakh saplings have been planted by farmers in the first planting season of Cauvery Calling.

Cauvery Calling will enable over 5 million farmers to plant 2.42 billion trees on their farmlands over a 12-year period. The high-value trees will be planted on private farmlands in the river basin. Cauvery Calling promotes tree-based agriculture, an economically remunerative model of farming which has a significant ecological impact. Isha has worked with over 70,000 over the last 15 years to assist them in adopting tree-based agriculture. These farmers have reported an increase in their income between 3 and 8 times in 5-7 years.

If you would like to know more about this, please write to mediarelations@ishafoundation.org.