

Press Release

The World Mangrove Day is being celebrated on July 26th every year with the objective of protecting and sustainably managing Mangrove Forest by creating awareness among the Public. The theme for international day for conservation of Mangrove Ecosystem, 2025 is *protecting wetlands for our future*. The theme underlines the vital importance of mangrove as nature-based solutions for sustainable future, especially their effectiveness in carbon storage and sequestration.

The State of Tamil Nadu with the coastline of about 1076 km, is vulnerable to natural disasters such as tsunami, cyclone and coastal erosions. The Government of Tamil Nadu has initiated the *Rehabilitation of Coastal Habitats through the formation of Bio-Shield (2023-24 – 2025-26)* in the Coastal districts of the State at an outlay of Rs.25.00 crore under Climate Change Mission.

So far, about 2436 ha of new mangrove plantation have been done under various schemes and 1207 ha of degraded Mangrove Forests were restored in collaboration with Village Mangrove Councils comprising local communities. About 6 lakh mangrove seedlings are proposed to be planted during the year 2025-26 under TN-SHORE Project, Creation of Bio-Shield to protect from Sea Level Rise & Coastal Erosion in Cuddalore and Thoothukudi districts. The Hon'ble Minister for Finance and Environment Climate Change Thiru.Thangam Thennarasu is today initiating the Mangrove Plantation Drive at Adayar Estuary, Chennai on the occasion of World Mangrove Day 2025. The Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Environment, Climate Change and Forests Tmt. Supriya Sahu, I.A.S, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force), Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Chief Wildlife Warden), Chairman, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Director, Department of Environment and Climate Change and other Officials were present during the celebration. The Non-Governmental Organizations, people of the local communities, students were also participated on the occasion.

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