

Chennai youngster plants saplings in college

Jason D

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Chennai: One of the greenest spaces in the Nungambakkam in Chennai is the Loyola College, had been badly affected by the Vardah cyclone, so to say.

Following the extensive damage done to the institute, one of its students has taken the task of reviving the lost greenery, upon himself.

Viswanathan Palaniyappan, who is pursuing his second year B.A. Sociology, speaks on this to 'News Today'.

"I have donated around fifty saplings, most of which belong to different varieties. The total worth of the plants will come up to around Rs 30,000," he says.

Viswanathan who resides in the college hostel calls his initiative as a token of his gratitude to the college.

As a reciprocatory gesture, the inmates of the hostel have honoured him with the epithet- 'Maram keten vanamae thanthanai', that translates to, 'I asked for a tree, you gave me a forest.'

A large number of trees were uprooted and destroyed in the fierce storm." I hope this act of mine would motivate other students too do something similar," he adds.

The youngster gets his love for nature from his father, it is learnt.

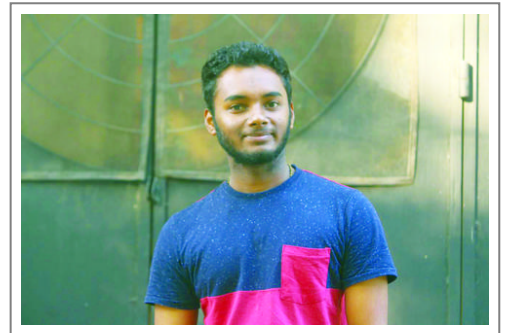
"My father is my role mode, and it was he who inculcated the compassion for the environment in me. He himself has planted several trees to his credit," he notes.

Vishwanathan has also began imparting his knowledge on trees to others.

"All of us should work towards former president APJ Abdul Kalam's dream of a green city. I hence want to ensure the plantation of several trees, as my tribute to him," he signs off.

Viswanathan can be reached at 9159073043.

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