## මධනම පරිසර අධිකාරිය

## மத்திய சுற்றாடல் அதிகாரசபை Central Environmental Authority



"පරිසර පියස", 104, ඩෙන්සිල් කොබ්බෑකඩුව මාවත, බත්තරමුල්ල, ශී ලංකාව. "பரிசர பியச", 104, டென்சில் கொப்பேகடுவ மாவத்தை, பத்தரமுல்லை, இலங்கை.

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දිනය නිසනි Date } 2023.04.10

## **Press Release**

## Plant a Sapling and Join the Programme "A Custom for the New Year – A Plant for the Environment"

The Central Environmental Authority requests all the people of Sri Lanka to plant a sapling in conjunction with the auspicious start of the New Year on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2023 and join the effort of protecting the environment with the program "A Custom for the New Year - A Sapling for the Environment" program.

Jointly organized by the Ministry of Environment and the Central Environmental Authority, the program will be rolled out, starting from the auspicious day of April 14<sup>th</sup> up to April 20<sup>th</sup> (including the 20th). Anyone can join the program by planting a sapling within that week.

A person of any age group, such as children, youth and adults can join the "A Custom for the New Year - A Sapling for the Environment" program. A medicinal plant, a plant with timber value, a fruit plant or a plant that fulfils the food requirement can be planted in relation to this program. It is important that the sapling planted is a long-lasting plant. Partakers can enroll and register with this program by sending a photograph taken at the time of planting, along with the name, age, address, district, Gramaseva Niladhari division, telephone number, name of the sapling planted, height of the sapling at the time of planting etc. to the e-mail address gamadhushika@cea.lk.

After three months of planting, a photo of the growth and maintenance of the planted sapling could be sent to the relevant email address fulfilling a performance milestone in the evaluation process and those who complete that, will be awarded an electronic certificate in recognition of their environmental contribution. Further, a survey will be conducted after one year and a panel of judges will select the best plants in each district and award prizes and certificates to those who have planted and maintained the plants properly.

Arrangements have been made to hold the ceremonial launch of this program under the patronage of the Minister of Environment, Engineer Naseer Ahamed with the participation of the Secretary of the Ministry of Environment, Dr. Anil Jasinghe, the Chairman of the Central Environmental Authority, Mr. Supun S. Pathirage, and Central Environmental Authority Director General Mr. P. B. Hemantha Jayasinghe and other officers on the New Year's Day at the premises of the Central Environmental Authority.

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