

Native Tree Planting Project at Akmeemana

November 14, 2015 -- <u>Rainforest Protectors of Sri Lanka</u> successfully completed a native tree planting project at a privately held land in Akmeemana within close proximity to Kottawa Rainforest in Galle District on November 14, 2015. A total of 209 native and endemic trees were planted to increase the bio-diversity in the area such as Hora (*Dipterocarpus Zeylanicus*), Wal Del (*Artocarpus nobilis*), Kumbuk (*Terminalia arjuna*), Godapara (*Dillenia retusa*), Domba (*Calophyllum inophyllum*) and Kohomba (*Munronia pinnata*). Twenty five volunteers from Rainforest Protectors of Sri Lanka participated in this project.

Endemic rainforest tree species in Sri Lanka such as Hora (*Dipterocarpus Zeylanicus*) are currently on verge of extinction due to illegal felling of rainforests for tea and palm oil cultivation. Dorana (*Dipterocarpus glandulosus*) another rainforest tree that is only found in Sri Lanka is critically endangered with no viable population of mature trees in Sri Lanka and hence plants not available for reforestation projects. Due to lack of action by responsible authorities to plant endemic and native trees and continued destruction of rainforest reserves is causing our once bio-diverse country to lose many rainforest species at an alarming rate.



Rainforest Protectors of Sri Lanka is a group of volunteers and sponsors dedicated to protecting Sri Lanka's last remaining rainforests through conservation, education and restoration. Visit us at

http://www.RainforestProtectors.org