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Andhra Pradesh

Eco-friendly villagers lead by example

R. Avadhani

40 villages in Medak district take pledge to protect environment

— Photo: MOHD ARIF



Need of the hour: District Collector Suresh Kumar administering pledge at Deccan Development Society at Pastapur in Medak district on Saturday.

MACHNOOR (MEDAK DISTRICT): It's a real commitment towards world environment and eco-friendly living. Instead of paying lip service, they exhibited their passion for environment friendly living and promised to live like that.

Community leaders from as many as 40 villages from four mandals -- Zaheerabad, Jharasangam, Raikode and Nyalkal-- in the district on Saturday gathered at Deccan Development Society (DDS), Pastapur, on the occasion of World Environment Day and took pledge to protect the environment. The entire pledge narrated the link between the human being and farming and how it became integral part of living without harming the environment.

The pledge read like this: "We proudly declare that our villages have a fantastic agro biodiversity. This has been an intrinsic part of our heritage, culture and agriculture. Jonna, korra, saama, sajja and a host of pulses and oilseeds that grow on our farms are also the mainstay of our food. We use our crops as sacred elements in our rituals surrounding births, weddings and festivals. These crops have constantly nourished our health, our animals and our soils. They have also helped us to preserve our agricultural environment not only for ourselves but also for our children, grandchildren and many future generations. It is our honour to be the heirs to this magnificent heritage. It is with this sense of pride and honour that we declare today that

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we will put all our stake to preserve, protect and enhance this biodiversity in our agriculture .We demand that the government accord us the recognition of Agro-biodiversity Heritage Site according to the National Biodiversity Act.”

District Collector S. Suresh Kumar who attended the programme was impressed with the efforts made by the community leaders for the protection of bio-diversity and environment.

“The methods they are following in crop diversification should be emulated by others,” he said while addressing the gathering.

P.V. Sateesh, director, DDS, also spoke.

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