

## **For Favour of Publication**

**Patna. September 15.** Speaking at an ADRI event to celebrate World Ozone Day today, Director of the artificially-created forests of **Taru Mitra**, Father Tony Pendanath, S.J., emphatically stated that we will not fall sick if we can live life closer to Nature. For doing such a thing, he suggested the use of herbal plants – like those in Taru Mitra - as medicine because they have no repercussions on the body. The program was organized by EIACP at the Centre for Studies on Environment and Climate (CSEC) of Asian Development Research Institute (ADRI). The learned Father also released CSEC's Annual Report for 2024-25. Dr. Sunil Gupta of CSEC-ADRI pointed out that the report has made a strong recommendation for Patna to follow the models of Indore and south Indian cities like Chennai and Madurai in handling solid waste.

Father Pendanath also elaborated on how to achieve sustainable development by the practice of apiculture, horticulture, etc. He revealed that his 8- acre bio-reserve is home to more than 450 species of medicinal plants. Furthermore, he stated that he was glad that the Ozone hole problem due to the use of CFCs in fridges, air-conditioners, etc. has been contained to a large extent.

Gulshan Patel, IT Officer of EIACP at CSEC-ADRI then gave an overview of the Ozone Hole story, beginning from its inception to the present times. He said that it was a great achievement on the part of all the countries of the world as they had acted in unison to solve this problem. Let it be a pre-cursor to solving the climate change crisis in future, he added. On actions that the public should take, he suggested measures like running an awareness campaign, proper waste management, curbing of pollution, support of public transport.

Dr. Mousumi Gupta, Research Lead and EIACP Coordinator at ADRI welcomed Father Tony Pendanath, who planted a sapling on the premises of ADRI to mark the Day. Also present on the occasion was Ms. Pooja Kumari of CSEC-ADRI.

(Abhishek Prasad)