

## Hindu Environment Week

Earlier, the task of environment protection was carried out by the United Nations on the basis of science. Later they realized that more than science, spiritual organizations can play a better and significant role in awakening people on this subject. Thus, the General Secretary of United Nations, Mr. Ban Ki-Moon and Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, from UK decided to work together with various religious and spiritual organizations across the globe. To this effect, Hindu Environment Week is being organized through Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies in temples and spiritual organizations throughout the world.

Under this campaign, Holistic Environment Exhibition was organized in Gyan Sarovar complex of the Brahma Kumaris at Mt.Abu, from 17<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2014. To bring awareness on this matter, a public programme was organized on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2014 for national and international guests.

Addressing the gathering in this programme, Sister Jayanti, Director of Brahma Kumaris centers in Europe and Middle East, in her speech said, *“Global warming and climate change are causing imbalance in the environment. Natural calamities are on the rise across the globe. Internal pollution (pollution of the human mind) is the reason for external pollution in the atmosphere. In today’s world, vices are not letting us make the best use of science. The one and only way to attain victory over the vices is spirituality.”*



Sister Jayanti added, *“Environment can be protected through conservation of energy, renewable energy, reuse and recycling programmes. The various activities carried out by Brahma Kumaris for protection of environment are regularly presented in the conferences of the United Nations for the last 7 years.”*



The Chief Administrative Head of the Brahma Kumaris, Dadi Janki, said that spirituality brings truthfulness, cleanliness and simplicity in one’s life and that these values form

the basis for the protection of environment. She also mentioned that the practice of Rajayoga Mediation brings about transformation in one's life and that this spiritual path of non-violence, love and benevolence can rejuvenate the environment.

The coordinator of Scientists and Engineers Wing of the Brahma Kumaris, Brahma Kumar Brother Mohan, presented details of the various conferences and campaigns on environmental protection held by Brahma Kumaris till date in India. In the last few years, 19 campaigns were held in India to bring awareness on this subject to lakhs of people. As a fruit of such efforts, awards like Paryavaranshri, Green Idol were conferred on the Brahma Kumaris.



The coordinator of Rural Development Wing of the Brahma Kumaris, Brahma Kumar Brother Raju, presented details of the various efforts undertaken through Sustainable Yogic Agriculture to make agriculture pollution-free. Thousands of farmers have benefitted globally and they realize that they can make land, water and food free from pollution through this technique of agriculture. Brother Raju emphasized on the re-establishment of bio-diversity through yogic agriculture.

The advisor of the Solar One Project of the Brahma Kumaris, Brahma Kumar Brother Golo said that Brahma Kumaris are the pioneers among various spiritual organizations in the usage of solar energy. For many decades, Brahma Kumaris have been using solar cooking system to serve thousands of people.

Brother Jignesh Patel of Bhoomi Project threw light on the purpose of this programme. The Director of Gyan Sarovar - Academy for a Better World of the Brahma Kumaris, Brahma Kumari Dr. Nirmala, gave her good wishes for the programme. Sister Valerian conducted guided meditation and BK.Srinidhi compered the programme.