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Isha Agro Movement to organize 9-day Training on Natural Farming

Natural Farming Exponent Padma Shri Subhash Palekar to train 3000 farmers

24 January 2019, Madurai: Isha Agro Movement will organize a nine-day training program on natural farming from 2 February to 10 February 2019 at S.R.M. Medical College, Tiruchy. The training will be conducted by natural farming exponent Padma Shri Shri. Subhash Palekar. Around 3000 farmers are expected to participate in the program. Sadhguru, Founder, Isha Foundation, will inaugurate the program in Tiruchy. Sadhguru has often spoken about the need to revolutionize the practice of agriculture in India to make it more profitable and sustainable for the farmer.

Representatives from Isha Foundation interacted with the press at the Madurai Press Club and briefed the media about the program. Swami Srimuka, Coordinator, Isha Project GreenHands, said that the comprehensive program conducted by Shri. Palekar will include training in all aspects of natural farming. Farmers will be educated in input preparation, necessity of country breed cattle, importance of traditional seeds, steps to enrich the soil and selling the goods with added value. Shri. Palekar will also train farmers in Tamil Nadu's market rate for paddy, sugarcane, coconut, banana and include crop cultivation training as well.

Food and accommodation will be provided for participants as part of the program. Following the 9-day program, farmers will receive guidance on converting their farms into model natural farms. Isha Agro Movement also plans to organize Train the Trainer programs for interested farmers so that the methods of natural farming may be disseminated more quickly to a larger segment. With the support of this trained group,

Isha Agro Movement aims to create 10 lakh natural farmers in the next five years, said Swami Srimuka.

Three successful organic farmers were also present at the meet. Smt. Chandra Prabha (Theni), Shri. Subramanian (Tirunelveli) and Shri. Vishagakumar (Nagercoil) converted to natural farming methods several years ago and have reaped the benefits in terms of improved produce, increased income and better health. Isha Media Coordinator for Madurai, Shri. Murali, and a volunteer for the Isha Agro Movement, Shri. Muthukumar, were also present.

Isha Agro Movement

The Isha Agro Movement was established in 2007 under the guidance of Shri. Nammalvar, the pioneer of organic farming movement in Tamil Nadu. It was established as a platform to develop and promote collective farming. Since 2015, Isha Agro Movement has also focused on reviving natural farming methods that were traditionally followed in India up until four decades ago. It provides practical support to farmers in all aspects of natural farming including training in efficient organic farming methods, value addition, marketing and procurement. Till date over 4200 farmers have been trained in Tamil Nadu in natural farming methods and over 70% of trained farmers have converted to organic farming leading to improved produce, price and health.

Sadhguru - Founder, Isha Foundation

Ranked amongst the fifty most influential people in India, Sadhguru is a yogi, mystic, visionary and a New York Times bestselling author. Sadhguru was conferred the; Padma Vibhushan; by the Government of India in 2017, the highest annual civilian award, accorded for exceptional and distinguished service.

Three decades ago, Sadhguru founded Isha Foundation, a non-profit human-service organization, with human well-being as its core commitment. Sadhguru has initiated powerful yoga programs for human transformation as well as various outreach projects to uplift under-served communities in rural India.

Isha Foundation

Isha Foundation, founded by Sadhguru, is a volunteer-run, international non-profit, human service organisation dedicated to cultivating human potential. Isha Foundation is operated by over 9 million volunteers from more than 250 city-based centers spread worldwide. The Foundation is headquartered at Isha Yoga Center, set at the base of the Velliangiri Mountains in southern India, and at the Isha Institute of Inner Sciences on the spectacular Cumberland Plateau in middle Tennessee, USA.

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