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## Andhra Pradesh



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### 'Patapantala panduga' celebrated

Staff Reporter

*Procession of decorated bullock carts in Pastapur*



**Traditional ceremony: Biodiversity festival organised by the Deccan Development Society in Pastapur, Medak district, on Friday.**

SANGAREDDY: The farming community formally launched 12th 'Patapantala Panduga' celebrations at Pastapur in Zaheerabad mandal of Medak district on Friday on the occasion of Bhogi.

Earlier in the day, a procession of colourfully decorated bullock carts, sporting traditional crops, was taken out in the village.

'Handing over ceremony'

This is a 'handing over ceremony' at the centre being run by the Deccan Development Society (DDS). As part of the programme, seven representatives of elder generation of women, who have preserved, protected and nourished the heritage of agro-biodiversity for a generation, handed it over in the form of a seed pot (a copper pot in which a variety of seeds were

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mixed) to the daughters/daughters-in-law of their communities for safe keeping, preserving and nourishing in their generation.

Addressing the gathering, Mr. Chandrasekhar, Joint Director, (Agriculture), said that the people slowly understood the importance of agro-biodiversity and even in urban areas the awareness levels had increased.

Continuing tradition

Mr. P.V. Sateesh, Director, DDS, said that this was in continuation of 'Kodalla sangham', which was established as part of protecting the traditional crops and handing over the tradition to the next generation. Basantapur area research station scientist M. Vijaya Kumar, Sangareddy DSP S. Satyanarayana and others participated in the programme.

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