

The Miani Issue

Some influential including a high police officer are trying to grab the Forest land over 4000 acres comprising on Miani, Khanpota, Shah Bukhari inland forests near Hyderabad. This land starts from Miani rest house and ends near JJVL plant. Bulldozers, cranes and tractors are working faster for leveling the land. There are more than 20 villages and thousands of people living in these villages depend on livestock.

After deforestation some years ago these villagers conserved this land as rangeland but after this land grabbing activity on one hand the existence of villages is under threat and on other hand their livelihood is also fear to be finished. IDO also feel the involvement of builders related to a political group.

Indus Development organization (IDO) a non government organization working with environment particularly in forestry sector and has reforested over 3300 acres forest land in Khebrani and Raees Mureed forests of district Matyari Sindh with the support of UNDP-GEF-SGP and WWF. Now it has inaugurated 'Forest protection and rehabilitation program' in all over Sindh (not funded), through this program forest protection committees (FPC) will be established comprised on local people. After completion this process a campaign/ movement will be started against forest land grabbing and rehabilitation of forests through local people. Pressure will also be developed on government to review the forestry policy bearing strong role of local community and civil society.

IDOs Miani forest protection committee comprising on these local communities staged protest rally on this issue on 12 January, 2010 from old campus to press club Hyderabad. IDO requests you all to support its program (not funded) specially the Miani issue.
Thanks

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