



WED Celebrations at DA's *Karbhoomi*

Development Alternatives (DA) celebrated the World Environment Day with much fervour, at its *karbhoomi*, Bundelkhand, Madhya Pradesh, on 5th June 2018. Women and youth leaders spearheaded the celebrations in Hastinapur village of Jhansi (Uttar Pradesh) through a variety of activities, but with a common resolution of 'greening the blue'. The celebration started with a rally with participants rendering slogans on environment protection. This was followed by a discussion on realising everyone's responsibility in taking care of the planet, and for encouraging local leadership as change makers in taking up Green Good Deeds to conserve the environment and to hand over a better future to our successors. Post this, a quiz competition was organised on the dos and don'ts of environmental practices, in which the children participated with gusto. They put up pledges on a board, as a symbol of their actions in helping to protect our bountiful home. In keeping with the recurrent drought situation in Bundelkhand, a game representing information on water conservation and waste minimisation was organised to engage the youth and women and catalyse actions for preserving the existing natural resource base. With messages on simple and effective methods of water conservation and minimum usage, the game observed great enthusiasm among the participants. The celebration ended with the winners of the game planting trees of their names in the village, and taking up a pledge for looking after these saplings that will grow as an exemplar of their ownership and responsiveness. The leadership demonstrated by the community in the event showed a positive attitude towards taking little steps in combating climate change today, and securing a Green Planet for tomorrow. The event inculcated in the participants a sense of making responsible choices in their lives, and shouldering the responsibility of taking action and influencing others to make a difference too.