

## *Vanamahotsava 2016*

Plant a Sapling, Save the Planet  
30<sup>th</sup> December 2016



Vanmahotsav, a movement towards sustaining the environment by preserving the greenery, was initiated in 1950 by K. M. Munshi, the then Union Minister for Agriculture and Food to create enthusiasm among masses for forest conservation and planting trees. It was apt that Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan's MPBIM, celebrate this environmental visionary's birthday by symbolic Vanamahotsava Plant a Sapling Save the Planet initiative.



Inaugurating the event Dr. B N Vishwanath former Professor, University of Agricultural Sciences and now known as father of organic farming and terrace gardening in the state said that objective of plant a sapling is first for man's survival and later saving the planet. Depletion of greenery has resulted in water table going down. According to a report of IISC, Bangalore will face water famine in the near future.

Dr. Vishwanath gave up a lucrative career as Professor UAS and plunged into the green area of promoting terrace gardening for the land-starved residents of Bangalore where they could grow not merely decorative plants but accommodate whole garden which could give them vegetables and greens. His concept of Oota from Thota has been a resounding success. An authority in Organic farming he is also lends service as an guider for such activity.



Sri. H N Suresh, Director Bhavan's Bangalore Kendra, Guest of Honour at the event also cautioned against abuse of the environment. Dr. G S D Babu Director M.P. Birla Institute of Fundamental Research spoke on maintaining the plants and trees and recalled how in his school, the children would be allotted a plant and given the responsibility of maintaining the plant during their stay in the school.



Chairman in his message gave a call to join hands and save mother earth by doing this small contribution of planting the sapling.



Prof. K L Ramadas presided over the event. The Chief Guest and Guests of Honour and Prof. K L Ramadas planted saplings in the premises.

Dr. Hemanth Kumar, Associate Professor with his team of volunteers and Student Council coordinated the event.

