

Planet Green

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NFEH & Arts Council holds Earth day celebrations

Karachi : National Forum for Environment and Health(NFEH) & Education Committee Arts council organized Earth day celebration 'Earth Day with New Generation' to observe Int'l Earth Day at the Pakistan Arts Council, Karachi Sindh Environment and Alternative Energy Minister Sheikh Muhammad Afzal, who was the Chief guest, said in his address that all creatures depend on earth for living their lives.

"We should safeguard our earth and its environment in order to protect our upcoming generations", he said.

Environment Minister Shaikh Afzal said not only the future of human beings depended on planet earth but many other creatures also relied on it. He said God made it with a sense of balance but we did not take care of it. He said Pakistan was endowed with all kinds of natural resources.



Children performing tableau

He said urban areas in Sindh were terribly polluted and told the gathering that we're using 'scrapped transport' as public transport in cities which was affecting the environment. He said if trees hadn't been cut in Sindh, the (recent) floods wouldn't have turned towards populated zones. He claimed his ministry intended to plant 150 million trees in Sindh.

He also hailed the role of NFEH and congratulated the organisers for spreading awareness among people through such programmes. Naeem Qureshi President NFEH informed the audience that Karachi was the 20th largest city in the world and the eighth most polluted. He said untreated water was being dumped into the sea from 800 industries and argued insufficient communication between the institutions relevant to the subject was causing problems for the city.

He said that the coordination of all relevant institutions was essential for betterment of environment and earth. He said that 35 percent



Picture Shows Minister Environment Sindh Shaikh Muhammad Afzal, A Majeed Abdani, Chairman Education Committee, Naeem Qureshi, President National Forum for Environment, Saleem Uzzaman, Moiz Ahmed and Others seen on the occasion of Earth Day Celebration held at Arts Council.

vehicles present on the roads of metropolis were not only violating the maintenance rules for vehicles but also were a severe threat to the environment. Qureshi said rising noise pollution was another challenge to the society. He said that the standard volume of sound should be of 75 decibels but the organisation has recorded more than 110 decibels in several areas of the city.

A large number of students participated in tableaux and other performances including songs. Parents, teachers and members of the arts council also present on the occasion. Abdul Majeed Abdani, Dr. Kaiser Waheed All Private Schools Management Association President Khalid Shah, and Shahid Masroor also spoke. Sindh Environment Secretary Mir Hasan Ali, DG EPA Naeem Moughal Saleem uzzaman Chairman KATI, also attended the function

Various schools participated in the programme. Starting with a 'welcome' song, the first tableau performed by children tried to show the different factors that were causing the earth to suffer. Boys appeared on stage representing smog, litter, atom bomb, toxic waste, deforestation and the depleted ozone layer, while a girl playing the role of the earth spoke on the effects of the aforementioned factors on her existence.

The presentation was a bit shoddy as a couple of students fluffed their lines and one completely forgot his. Still, the audience was generous enough to applaud their effort.

The second presentation was relatively better in which the solar system (students as different planets) appeared to be worried about the plight of the earth. Then the earth made its entry, all bruised and burnt, but in the end got saved by conscientious youngsters. The act was followed by a song: Khuda ka tuhfa kitna haseen hai/Teen hisse pani ik zameen hai. ■

NFEH to Support Plantation for green Karachi

10,000 saplings to be planted in Korangi Industrial Area



Former Chairman KATI presenting a flower bouquet to President NFEH Naeem Qureshi during launching Green KIA campaign. SM Muneer, Minister Environment Sheikh Muhammad Afzal, Mian Zahid Hussain and Salim uz Zaman also seen in the picture

KARACHI: Sindh Minister for Environment, Shaikh Muhammad Afzal has said that around 10,000 saplings would be planted in the first phase under Model Green Zone in Korangi industrial Area (KIA). this campaign supported by National Forum for Environment & Health

Inaugurating the KIA Green Zone project on April 23 at Korangi Association of Trade and Industry (KATI), he advised industrialists to plant one sapling in their industrial units to protect environment and make the industrial area green. He said that Korangi industrial area comprises of around 4500 units, which means similar number

of trees will be planted here. The minister also urged upon the industrialists to comply with the environment regulations as pressure to make pollution free industry is mounting from world organisations.

The Acting Chairman, KATI, Salimuz Zaman said in his welcome address that NFEH & KATI would provide saplings and fertilizer to the KATI members. Former Chairman, KATI, Gulzar Firoz, Naeem Qureshi President NFEH, also spoke on the occasion. ■



Picture Shows Minister Environment Sindh Shaikh Muhammad Afzal, SM Muneer, Salim uz Zaman, A Rashid Godial, Naeem Qureshi and others planting saplings in Korangi Industrial Area.