Sadhguru for protecting native cattle

LAKSHMI L LUND | DC
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Sadhguru, the spiritual head and founder of ‘Isha Foundation’, participated in ‘Pongal’ celebrations organised by the Foundation near the 112-ft tall Adi Yogi statue on the outskirts of Coimbatore. Traditional games and ‘rangoli’ competitions were organised. Daylong festivities were held. A delightfully sweet ‘Pongal’ was prepared at the venue. Students of ‘Isha Samskriti and Isha Home School’ staged cultural performances, sources told DC.

In a bid to educate people about the importance of cattle in our culture, Sadhguru feeds a cow at the harvest festival celebrations at the Isha Yoga Centre near Coimbatore on Tuesday — DC

indigenous breeds of cattle were exhibited. About 11 varieties of native cattle breeds including from Kangayam, Ongole, Red Sindhi, Hallikkar, Gir, Tharparkar, Vechur, Rath, Kankarej, and Sahival were exhibited. People also saw around 300 types of paddy varieties on display at the venue.

Addressing the gathering, Sadhguru said, “The way to enrich the soil is to have the needed animals and India had about 120 different breeds of cattle. But today, only 37 of them have survived, the rest are pronounced extinct. So it is very important that what we preserve what we have.”

The revered Guru also spoke about the benefits that cattle offer. He said, “It is scientifically established that the milk, dung and urine of these cows are useful for agricultural produce. Above all it is also an expression of our gratitude to the animals,” he said. Throwing light on Isha Foundation’s initiative to save the dwindling population of native breeds of cattle, Sadhguru said, “We have about 250 cattle in Isha, all of which are of indigenous quality. We are also working towards encouraging local farmers to breed them.”