

Dr. Swaminathan

"In the Mangrove forest, various kinds of prawns and fish live and many kinds of birds gather. The ecosystem of growing trees is the one which we should make a great effort to protect."

Aiming at the conservation and re-growing the Mangrove, a Non Government Organization "International Society for Mangrove Ecosystem" was established, and Dr. Swaminathan was elected for the first president. With his moderate personality and aggressive activities, he has never ~~been~~ failed to be chosen in very important position whenever international conferences on Environment are held.

— Why is it necessary for us to protect the Mangrove?

Answer: "Because it will enhance and bring ~~out~~ the human beings' life prosperity. The forest is the very fundamental of agriculture."

• Before and after the world war II, severe famines visited India several times and millions of people were killed by starvation.

• Why on earth should we suffer from hunger in spite of the blessing of this rich nature?

Having visited and researched places to places, he could find out the reason. Where the forest is healthy, the agriculture in that area is sound.

• "Mangroves protect the farmland in a coastal area from the flood. If the temperature on the earth continues increasing, ~~to~~ and the level of the sea surface goes up, it will certainly become much more important to have the Mangroves as breakwaters."

• Dr. Swaminathan is also a world-famous cytogeneticist who has been contributing to breed crops for more than 40 years. His consistent efforts to breed rice, wheat and potatoes have

led the great success to make major scientific advances and to introduce high-yielding varieties of crops. Later, the result was called the "Green Revolution". For this outstanding work, he awarded the Albert Einstein World Science Award by the World Cultural Council in 1986, and The General Foods World Food Prize (which is said to be an Nobel Prize in Agriculture) in 1987.

"In order to keep the stable food supply in the future, it is very important to make the best use of biotechnology for varieties of crops. When the technology of recombination of genes improved, we can expect a great possibility ~~to~~ to create crops which grow with brine taking good advantage of Mangroves' tolerant genes for salinity."

He said with a look of scholar in his eyes.