

EDITORIAL

Environmental degradation and the linked social inequity are powerful issues that challenge the very existence of Man. Local, indigenous communities - the environmental refugees of the modern world - require conscious effort from the part of educated human community for restoration and protection of their rights and freedom. Many international summits have been staged addressing the concerns of environment of the indigenous community. UNDRIP (2007) emphasize the rights of the local people to land resources and decision making rights. The International Covenant on Human Rights 2015 has focused on economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights of the local communities. The Paris Climate Conference of 2015 stressed the need for sustainable development and the fostering of a green environment.

It thus becomes the solemn duty of each one of us to create a safe and healthy environment in this planet. It is the bounden duty of all humanity to weave the web of life finely and smoothly. As individuals let us maximise our potentials and create environments that contribute to the evolution of a healthy society.

With this issue, as Meridian relaunches itself with a new layout in design and style, it reaffirms its commitment to the cause of human rights and respect and protection of environment. The new issue takes up on the politicization of the rights of the individual, even as it touches on the problematics of nationalism, gender, conservation and the unique culture of the local marginalised tribes like Paniyas and Kadaras. Let new patterns of thought and lifestyle emerge to make this universe a better place to live in.

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