Tribals participate in Honey Festival

By Our Staff Reporter

UDHAGAMANDALAM, FEB. 18. Men and women from various tribal communities such as Kurumbas, Irukas, Kattunayakans, Chollanaickens, Mullukurumbas, and Jenu Kurumbas numbering about 75 came together at Kotagiri today.

The occasion was the inauguration of the two-day 'Jenu Habba' (Honey Festival) organised by a Kotagiri-based non-governmental organisation, Keystone.

Delegates

In the event billed as the first of its kind in this part of the country, the tribal delegates representing various parts of the Nilgiris Biosphere Reserve (NBR) including Wynad, Bandipur, Nagerhole, Nilambur, Gundlur and Kotagiri, took part.

Market scenario

Stating that the festival was part of a Honey Gatherers Conservation and Development Programme sponsored by the International Union for Conservation of Nature, the Director, Keystone, Snehalata Nath told The Hindu that it was aimed at facilitating sharing of information and issues in each of the zones of the NBR.

It would deal with quality and threats to the bee population and shed light on the market scenario with regard to honey.

Pointing out that the techniques and methods adopted by different tribal communities in collecting honey varied from place to place, she said that the quality also differed.

Preferences of the consumers changed from one area to another.

The rules governing collection of honey from the forests also differed from State to State.

Refresher course

By Our Staff Reporter

COIMBATORE, FEB. 18. PSG College of Arts and Science will conduct a five-day quality improvement refresher course in English Language Teaching Skills for the Government college teachers from February 21 to 25. It is sponsored by the Directorate of Collegiate Education and Department of English of the college.

Alumni day

Sri Ramakrishna Engineering College will organise its annual alumni day on February 20 at the Seminar Hall. In the function, alumni of the college will conduct placement and training workshops.