

## Initiative for Right View (IRV) Observed the World Wetlands Day with Indigenous Community

Like other areas in the Bangladesh indigenous community also live in the southwest region. Though they have been living here long time, they are neglected and oppressed in the society. On one hand, indigenous people have been evacuated from their eternal own land; have been deprived of from their civic and human rights too. On the other hand, they are deprived from economic and cultural facilities and facing social oppression, the live of indigenous people has become full of lifelessness, negligence and dreamlessness. Indigenous people living different places in this region are still deprived of their dignity and human rights. Till today, no mentionable any initiative has been taken to develop their fate; these people still have been there where they were in respect of education. In this region, there are also problems regarding attitude to identify the indigenous people. They are recognized as Munda, Mahato, Bagdi Bedia or Burnia at different places. Indigenous communities are the conservator of the environment and they treat nature with respect. Initiative for Right View (IRV) has been working with the community for raising their voice for their rights. As a part of on going activities IRV observed the wetlands day with Munda and Mahato community.



For celebrating the World Wetlands Day a rally was organized on 2 February 2012 at Koera upazilla, Khulna, Bangladesh with the participation of Munda and Mahato community. In the rally they demanded their right to land and access to natural resources and wetlands. As they are living adjacent to the mangrove sundarban one of the Ramsar sites they also demanded that their participation should be ensuring management of Sundarbans. The rally was led by Motilal Mahato, Chairman Indigenous Community and representatives' form Munda and Mahato take part in the rally. Posters on World Wetlands day also distributed among the participants. Kazi Zaved Khalid Pasha and Merina Juthi of IRV participated in the rally. At the beginning a solidarity meeting was also organized with the Munda and Mahato community which was facilitated by Merina Juthi.

