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Indians Trained to Campaign in Defense of Food

TINDIVANAM, India, NOV. 30, 2011 (Zenit.org).- Representatives from various religious congregations in the Indian states of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry recently had the opportunity to attend a workshop designed to instruct them in the skills they need so they can participate in a campaign to obtain adequate nourishment for all people.

Capuchin Father Nithiya Sagayam, executive secretary of the Office of Human Development of the Federation of Asian Bishops Conferences, conducted the two day workshop held last Saturday and Sunday.

In spite of the country's strong economic growth, a third of the population is still below the poverty line and many people do not get enough to eat.

The workshop was part of the "Right to Food Campaign," a network of organizations and individuals dedicated to the principle that everyone has a fundamental right to be free from hunger.

The campaign's foundation statement adds that bringing about this right does not only involve adequate food production but also requires other rights such as the right to work, land reform and social security.

Through popular pressure and democratic means the campaign aims at persuading state authorities to guarantee that people's basic needs are met.