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'Saving forest, water & land vital issues'

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Rohtak: Prominent environmentalist Medha Patkar delivered the Prof. D R Choudhary memorial lecture in the city on on Saturday, in which she said that the farmer movement was the living example of tremendous capacities inherent in the ordinary people of our country.

Speaking on 'Peoples Movement in Social Restructuring', she reminded that saving water, forest and land were the most urgent issues today.

Being part of the Samyukta Kisan Morcha (SKM) leadership, which spearheaded the farmers' movement,

Patkar said that the essence of the 13 months movement was actually to save the lands belonging to millions of poor cultivating farmers from being

taken over by the corporate sector.

Despite withdrawal of three farm laws, the government was blindly pursuing the pro-corporate bankrupt policies from the back door, she alleged.

"Raising flyovers and highways alone was not the real development but the country can be strengthened by ensuring permanent livelihood of the people. Therefore, it is imperative to challenge the ongoing bankrupt concept of development and moving towards radical change by mobilizing the millions of toiling masses," Medha Patkar added.