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Many takers for products from home

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A variety of home-made products on display and training in the making of these have been drawing crowds to the ongoing Swadeshi festival organised by the Gandhi Centre for Rural Development (GCRD) and Gandhi Centenary Society at Mahatma Mandir here.

The 15-day event will conclude on December 15. On display and sale are a host of products from across the State including soaps, hair oils, shampoos, washing liquids, face packs and oils, coffee powder, pickles, powdered ragi and corn, raw and beaten rice, and products made out of jackfruit.

There is a separate section for ornaments and takers are many for training in ornament making, the organisers say. The training imparted to people in rural areas have helped them, representatives of the GCRD say. The group has imparted training to over a lakh people across the State since inception in 2000.

A fee of Rs.200 is charged from the candidates. They are taught to make umbrellas, paper bags, soaps, food products, and ornaments. There are many exclusive items here such as the tapioca pappad, asparagus (shatavari) pickle, and jackfruit jelly, they say.

There will be seminars on, 'Swadeshi — an alternative to globalisation' and 'Swadeshi and sustainable development,' on December 4 and 9 respectively.