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Sugathakumari Flays Frantic Run for Development

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Poet Sugathakumari honouring fisherman Thomas of Poonthura at a function organised by the K UWJ and Friends of Fishermen in Thiruvananthapuram on Friday. Fishermen Alex of Kochuthoppu and Aloysius of Anchuthengu, K UWJ district president C Rahim, Friends of Marine Life office-bearers Robert Pani Pillai and Ramesh are also seen | B P Deepu

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Expressing concern over the man's frantic run for development at the cost of environment, poet Sugathakumari said on Friday that the government had sold out the Vizhinjam sea to Adani.

Honouring the traditional fishermen who had contributed to the know-how on deep sea marine life at a function organised jointly by the Friends of Marine Life (FML) and Kerala Union of Working Journalists (K UWJ) here on Friday, she said that man had grown into an all-powerful destroyer. But a small change in the atmosphere would be enough to wipe out the human race from the universe.

She said that the sea had become a dumping yard for all types of pollutants. It had also been converted into a garbage yard of plastics.

Coming down heavily on the government and political parties which had jointly tried to implement the Vizhinjam project, she said she had the last hope that the fishermen community would block the move.

"I had even requested Bishop Susapakyam to persuade the government against implementing the Vizhinjam project as it would be detrimental to the interest of the fishermen community. But everybody, including fishermen, accepted the money surrendered to Adani," she said. She reminded the fishermen community that once they were evicted, their culture would be lost. Fishermen Thomas of Poonthura, Alex of Kochuthoppu and Aloysius of Anchuthengu were honoured and a cash award of 10,000 each was presented to them. Robert Pani Pillai of the FML,

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Ramesh of Sasthra Sahithya Parishad and KUWJ district president C Rahim spoke. KUWJ secretary B S Prasannan welcomed the gathering.



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