

Campaign begins to clean 75 sea beaches for 75 days: Dr Jitendra

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

HYDERABAD: Beginning today, the Ministry of Earth Sciences, in collaboration with voluntary agencies, has launched a unique and the first-of-its-kind campaign to clean 75 sea beaches across the country for 75 days, commemorating Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav (AKAM).

This was disclosed here on Sunday by Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh while briefing the media.

He said, 75 days' campaign will consist of renovation, rejuvenation and beautification of the sea beaches and the campaign will culminate on 17th of September, which happens to be "International Coastal Cleanup Day" and incidentally coincides with the birthday of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Dr Jitendra said, India is blessed with the unique feature of having a



coastline which is longer than 7000 Kilometres and also includes some of the world's largest beach areas like the Marine Beach, Chennai and some of the most tourism popular beaches like the Goa Beach. This campaign, he said, will also be an extension of the Swachhata Campaign, which was initiated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

India has a rich marine history. The marine activities were first mentioned in the Rigveda and references to the interrelationships of the ocean, sea and rivers can be found in the Indian Puranas. The diverse evidence from Indian socio-spiritual

traditions, literature, poetry, sculpture, painting and from archaeology attest to the great marine traditions of India.

India's coastline of more than 7,500 km reflects our vast ocean resources. Most importantly, the Indian Ocean is the only ocean named after a country, that is, India, the Minister noted.

Reiterating Prime Minister Modi's concern, Dr Jitendra Singh observed that in recent times, the plastic litter mostly from the land based activities, tourism and fishing reach the coast and ocean through rivers and different waterways, posing a serious threat to the marine ecosystem. R&D efforts will be undertaken to collect scientific data and information on Marine Litter in various matrices, such as coastal waters, sediments, biota, and beaches, he said.

Globally, "International Coastal Clean Up Day" is celebrated on the third Saturday of September, every year.

This year on 17th September 2022, the Government of India

along with other voluntary organisations, and the local society will run a cleanliness campaign "Swachh Sagarr, Surakshit Sagarr" along India's entire coastline.

This campaign will include Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Indian Coast Guard, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) along with other social organisations and educational institutions. This campaign will see massive public participation both physically and virtually, mainly to make awareness about reducing marine litter, minimal use of plastics, segregation at source and waste management.

A mobile app "Eco Mitram" has been launched to spread awareness about the campaign and also for the common people for voluntary registration for the beach cleaning activity on the 17th September 2022.

Through this campaign, a mass behavioural change among the masses is intended by raising awareness about how plastic usage is destroying our marine life.

Gatka introductory camp held at MA Stadium



Chief Guest starting Gatka introductory camp.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Gatka Association of Jammu and Kashmir on Sunday conducted day-long introductory camp at Wushu Hall of the new Indoor Complex, MA Stadium, here.

"During this special activity, technical team of the Association introduced the game and related aspects with the sole motive to engage them into regular training," informed General

Secretary of the Association, Ravinder Singh.

A good number of Gatka enthusiasts from different age groups of boys and girls took part in the introductory camp and learned the basic techniques of various events of the traditional sport.

"After getting a very positive response, it has been decided by the Association to hold such brief camps on a regular basis so as to spread

the game," further said Ravinder.

Important to mention here that Gatka has been included as one of the disciplines in the Khelo India Youth Games. In the recently held Khelo India Games at Haryana, J&K team excelled winning medals.

Among those present during the camp were Manmeet Singh (chairman), Ravinder Singh Bittu (president), Jatinder Singh and Nairam Singh (vice presidents) as also Lovpreet Singh (coach), Tarunveer Singh and Mandeep Singh (referees).

Later, speaking to the trainees, chairman of the Association, Manmeet Singh expressed thanks to Divisional Sports Officer of the J&K Sports Council for support and help in conduct of the activity at MA Stadium.

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'Say No To Single Use Plastic' awareness held at GGM Science College

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: NSS GGM Science College under the patronage of Principal Dr. Ravender Tickoo and guidance of NSS PO Dr. Deepali Mahajan organized an awareness workshop 'Say No To Single Use Plastic' under Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav celebrations.

The International Plastic Bag Free Day is celebrated every year on 3rd July, with an aim to raise awareness about the issues of plastic pollution and its harmful impact on the natural environment.

NSS volunteers made posters on 'Say No To Single Use Plastic'.

They said that plastic waste is dumped in landfills and proves harmful to the marine creatures if it gets washed into oceans.

The plastic typically used in bottles, bags and food containers contains chemical additives such as endocrine disruptors, which are associated with negative health effects including cancers, birth defects and immune system suppression in humans and wildlife, they added.



40th Sai Lanjan Dangal on July 10

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KATRA: Sai Lanjan Dangal Committee shall organise 40th Sai Lanjan Kesari Annual Dangal at venue near Salal Dam in district Reasi on July 10.

This was decided in a meeting of the organisers which held under the chairmanship of Shiv Kumar Sharma, president J&K Indian Style Wrestling Association.

Members of the organising committee, who attended the meeting included

Joginder Singh, Ravinder Singh, Sikander Singh, Surjeet Singh, Vidhwan Singh, Numberdar Jagdev Singh and Devinder Singh. Meanwhile, interested wrestlers of Jammu region have been advised to contact Shiv Kumar Sharma (94191-61880, 99069-72888) and Joginder Singh (99061-25114) for their participation.

Dr. Jitendra felicitates two NIT Students for bagging SDI awards



■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Two students from National Institute of Technology Srinagar (NIT) Srinagar along with their team 'TEJASVI' bagged Solar Decathlon India awards' at Solar Decathlon India Design Challenge 2021-22 held in New Delhi.

Sartaj Sagroo and Khubaan Kullah from Chemical Engineering Department, their team 'TEJASVI' have won Solar Decathlon India Design Challenge 2021-22.

They were felicitated on Friday by the Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of

Rajinder of Kathua qualifies NIS coaching course



■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: A dedicated and devoted young coach of district Kathua, Rajinder Singh Bhadwal has completed the six-week coaching course in Football with grade 'A' from Sports Authority of India (SAI) Centre Kolkatta in West Bengal.

Already done with Masters degree in Physical Education (MPEd),

Rajinder has to his credit Grassroot-D and C licences. Now, he pursues Grassroot-B license from the All India Football Federation (AIFF) with the sole motive to train those talented youngsters.

Rajinder has already been in the profession of training footballers and has been encouraged by the J&K Sports Council (JKSC) and J&K Football Association (JKFA) in pursuing his passion from Sports Stadium, Kathua.

Coaching since 2015 as an eligible coach, a native of Kathua, Rajinder Singh is associated with JKSC Football Academy since 2018. "I express my sincere thanks to the Sports Council, its manager and staff posted at Sports Stadium Kathua for being so supportive helpful during all these years. The JKFA also guided and helped me in my professional growth," said Rajinder.

Ananya of DPS Jammu wins gold in 30th Jr national fencing c'ship



Ananya Sharma with other team members and officials.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Ananya Sharma of 12th G of Delhi Public School (DPS) Jammu brought laurels to the school and her parents by winning gold medal in 30th Junior National Fencing Championship 2022 organized by Fencing Association of India held at Cuttack, Odisha from June 29 to July 3, 2022 in Sabre girls team event.

J&K UT women's team

also declared as overall run-

ner up of the championship. Another student Raghi

Verma of 12th G also participated and represented UT

opportunity.

Minutes later, skipper Savita made a fine save in front of the goal to deny the English women.

After a neck and neck fight it was England who took the lead through Petter in the ninth minute before Vandana Kataria equalised for India in the 28th minute.

India responded brilliantly and secured back-to-back penalty corners seconds later, but Gurjot Kaur was first denied by the post and then by English goalkeeper Hinch.

The Indians kept up their tempo and continued to press hard on the English defence and secured their third penalty

corner in the 17th minute, but once again Gurjit faltered.

Three minutes later, Savita once again

came to India's rescue to keep her side in

the match.

In the 28th minute, India secured their fourth penalty corner when Vandana sounded the board from a rebound.

India secured another penalty corner just at the stroke of half time, but once again, England goalkeeper Hinch made a brilliant save.

England started brightly after the change of ends but it was India who managed a shot at the goal, only to see Neha Goyal's shot being saved by Hinch.

J&K boys overall Champion, girls finish 3rd in Fencing



Winner fencers posing for a photograph with dignitaries.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu and

Kashmir boys emerged

overall champion

while girls team

finished third in the

30th Junior National Fencing (boys and girls) Championship which concluded at JN Indoor Stadium, Cuttack in Odisha.

The J&K contingent will include

gold medal

followed by

the girls too

repeating their last year's performance of a Gold thus showing their complete domination in the event.

The boys' gold winning

team

bagged

five medals,

including three in team events,

two gold and a bronze. In

individual competition,

J&K girls earned two

medals of a Silver and

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