

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 Sagar, Surakshit Sagar" 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 17thSeptember 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.

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, Cuttak in Odisha.

The J&K contingent 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 Bronze.

Earlier, during this week-long National event, J&K boys Sabre team clinched 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 comprised Mayank Sharma, Suryansh Sharma, Lakshya Sharma and Tarun Salaria. While gold winning

girls Sabre team included Kritarti Kotwal, Shreya Gupta, Chavvi Sharma and Anaya Sharma.

In the meantime, J&K boys Epee team bagged Bronze. The team included Ajay, Suffice, Sohit Thakur and Jasdev.

In the individual event, talented young international fencer, Shreya Gupta won Silver in Sabre while the Bronze medal came through Kritarthi Kotwala Kritarthi kotwal in the same event.

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 Nairman Singh (vice presidents) as also Lovpreet Singh (coach), Taranveer 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.

‘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.



Arun Chowdhary declared President of Arya Pratindhi Sabha J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The elections of Arya Pratindhi Sabha Jammu & Kashmir were held on Sunday at Arya Samaj Rehari Colony, Jammu and attended by executive members. The proceedings of previous meetings and achievements of Arya Pratindhi Sabha were also highlighted in the meeting. A lot of deliberations and debates were held pertaining to agenda where in the pros and cons were ascertained which led to modifications and rectifications in due course of time. After presenting the achievements and agendas, the whole cabinet was dissolved and Chain Lal Shastri was appointed as convener to conduct elections. Arun Kumar Gupta,



Arya Pratindhi Sabha J&K members during election process.

President Arya Samaj Dayanand Marg Jammu proposed name of Arun Chowdhary for post of President, which was seconded unanimously by all executive members. The convener announced the name of Arun Chowdhary as unopposed President of Arya Pratindhi Sabha J&K. The second time unopposed elected President Arun

Chowdhary expressed gratitude to all members for imposing their trust in him. Newly elected President Arun Chowdhary was authorised to choose his cabinet accordingly in due course of time and he pledged to work tirelessly for the betterment of humanity and overall betterment of the Arya Pratindhi Sabha J&K.

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

State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh at Taj Mahal Hotel, New Delhi.

Dr. Singh, who was chief guest on the occasion, congratulated the participants and winners of Solar Decathlon India for taking up real, live-building projects and developing innovative solutions.

Director NIT, Prof. (Dr.), Rakesh Sehgal extended his greeting to both students for bagging the prestigious award. He said it is a proud movement for the entire Institution.

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

■ 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 runner up of the championship.

Women's Hockey WC: Fighting India hold England to 1-1 draw

■ AGENCY

NETHERLANDS: The Indian women's hockey team played out a hard-fought 1-1 draw against England in its opening match of the FIH World Cup here on Sunday.

England took the lead through Isabella Petter in the ninth minute before Vandana Kataria equalised for India in the 28th minute.

There was hardly anything to differentiate between the two sides in the first two quarters as they matched each other stick for stick.

The Indians had the first sly at the goal as early as in the first minute in the form of a penalty corner; but they wasted the

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 who neatly deflecting in a ball from outside the 'D'.

India responded brilliantly and secured back-to-back penalty corners seconds later, but Gurjit 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.

Sapana qualifies Ph.D

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Sapana Sharma, daughter of Ashok Kumar Sharma and wife of Dr. Rajesh Kumar Sharma, resident of Kotli Shah Doula, R S Pura, Jammu has been declared qualified for the award of Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) in Education by Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University, Rajouri. She worked on the topic 'Impact of Role Stress, Burnout and Coping Strategies on the Organisational Commitment of College Teachers', under the supervision of Dr. Nayyar Jabeen, Assistant Professor and Prof. G.M Malik, Former Dean & Head, School of Education, BGBSBU.



Gold hat trick for J&K women in Junior Fencing

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The women fencing team of J&K UT completed hat trick of gold medals in Sabre event in the Junior Nationals. The third back to back gold won by J&K women Sabre team on the concluding day of the 30th Junior National Fencing Championship at Cuttack. The team which helped make it a gold hat trick included Shreya Gupta, Kritarthi Kotwal, Ananya Sharma and Chavvi Sharma. All of them gave a splendid display offencing and defeated Haryana 45-44 in nail biting finish in the semifinals. And, in the final, J&K team trounced the opponent 45-38 thus creating history. President of J&K Amateur Fencing Association, M J Sharma lauded the extraordinary achievement of Women fencing team. He was all praise for J&K Sports Council coaches, Shotu Lal and Rachna Janwal for their tireless efforts.

Anantnag Pencak Silat meet begins

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Two-day District Anantnag Pencak Silat (Martial Art) Championship got underway at Nilandrus Stadium Bijbehara in Anantnag on Sunday. The competition is being held in different age groups of boys and girls. As per a handout issued here today, around 260 participants have entered themselves for the competition across various age and weight categories. Earlier, the event declared open by Manager of Nilandrus Stadium, Mohammad Shafi in the presence of office bearers and parents of those participating in the event.



JU Skating team bags Silver in Inter-University

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The skating team of University of Jammu bagged Silver medal in the All India Inter-University Competitions which held at Vishakapatnam in Andhra Pradesh. As per the reports reaching here, the team overall second place in terms of points earned out of different medals won by the skaters from the institution of higher learning of J&K. Accompanied by Volleyball coach of JU, Vikas Karlopia as official incharge, the team took part in the competition under the banner of Directorate of Sports and Physical Education JU.



Winner skaters posing for a photograph.