

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Forms 19 Teams to Undertake Cleaning of Beaches, River Fronts and Lakes

In the build-up to the World Environment Day 2018, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, has formed 19 teams to take up cleaning of beaches, river fronts and lakes in the country. Cleaning up of around 24 beaches in nine (9) coastal states (list attached) and cleaning of river fronts in 24 identified polluted stretches in 19 states (list attached) will be undertaken. Besides the listed rivers, a special cleanliness drives will be carried out at Yamuna riverfront in Delhi. Certain lakes and water bodies have also been identified for cleaning.

The 19 teams will include senior officers of MoEF&CC, state nodal agencies in-charge of eco-clubs of schools, State Pollution Control Boards, district administration, college of fisheries located along the coastal stretches and other educational/research institutions. The teams will involve school children, college students and local communities in the cleaning exercise. The Ministry will be engaging Eco-club schools, which are being provided assistance from MoEF&CC under the National Green Corps programme.

An amount of Rs. 10 lakh has been earmarked for each stretch of beach, river front and lake. Cleaning up around important archaeological sites will also be taken up. The clean-up activities have started from May 15 and will conclude on June 5. During this period, various cultural programmes, quiz competition, debate, awareness rallies will also be organized.

State Nodal Agencies (SNAs) are the nodal points for implementing the programme of the Ministry in every State. For the cleaning the water bodies, the Ministry has identified the stretches in consultation with SNAs and institutional heads from College of Fisheries, which are near the water bodies in each State. The cleaning programme will involve students from various schools and colleges and will also include members from NGOs, National Cadet Corps (NCC), Border Security Force (BSF), Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), Coast Guard and citizens. Cleaning equipment such as brooms, baskets, gloves for children and dustbins will be provided, as well as transportation arrangements will also be made. The waste collected from the beaches and river fronts will be safely disposed off to identified sites, in coordination with local municipal authorities.

The Ministry will certify schools that become plastic free and publicize the harmful effects of plastics in a mission mode by undertaking following activities like -

- No plastic items may be used in schools such as plastic water bottles, plastic bags, plastic cups, plastic plates, plastic water jugs, plastic folders/trays/penstands etc.
- Adopt a water body, pond, wetland, beaches or eco-sensitive area etc. in or around schools/colleges and make them plastic free.
- Cleanliness drives to be undertaken on prescribed holidays between April to May.

Besides the above mentioned cleanliness drives, the Ministry will organize a mini-marathon at Vinay Marg on June 3, to spread awareness on proper utilization of plastic. The marathon will be attended by students from Delhi-NCR. Around 10 thousand to 15 thousand people are expected to participate in the mini-marathon. Simultaneously, marathons will also be organized in five other cities - Bengaluru, Ahmedabad, Gangtok, Bhopal and Bhubaneswar the same day.

India is the global host of World Environment Day celebrations 2018, the largest UN-led celebrations on environment. The theme of this year's edition of World Environment Day is - "Beat Plastic Pollution". In this regard, the Ministry has drawn up several programmes and activities scheduled to begin from May 2018 onwards.

State-wise list of river fronts:

S.No.	States	River Front
1	Andhra Pradesh	1. Godavari
2	Goa	2. Mandovi
3	Gujarat	3. Sabarmati 4. Tapti
4	Karnataka	5. Pennar 6. Cauvery
5	Kerala	7. Bharatpurra
6	Madhya Pradesh	8. Narmada
7	Maharashtra	9. Krishna, 10. MulaMutha
8	Odisha	11. Mahanadi
9	Punjab	12. Satluj
10	Sikkim	13. Rani Chu
11	Tamil Nadu	14. Vaigai
13	Uttar Pradesh	16. (Kanpur) Ganga, 17. (Varanasi) Ganga
14		18. Ganga
15	Bihar	19. Ganga
16	Himachal Pradesh	20. Beas, 21. Satluj
18	Rajasthan	23. Chambal in Kota
19	Haryana	24. Ghaggar

State-wise list of beaches

S.No.	States	Beaches
1	Andhra Pradesh	1. Mypadu 2. Pulicate Lake 3. KothaKoduru
2	Goa	4. Calangute 5. Miramar 6. Colva
3	Gujarat	7. Veraval 8. Porbandar 9. Mangrol
4	Karnataka	10. Panambur, 11. Malpe, 12. Gokarna, 13. Karwar
5	Kerala	14. Kanur 15. Calicut
6	Maharashtra	16. Mirya, 17. Ganpatipule

7	Odisha	18. Puri,
		19. Paradip
8	Tamil Nadu	20. Palavakkam,
		21. Kanyakumari
		22. Thiruvotriyur/Ennore
9	West Bengal	23. Bakkhali,
		24. Tajpur

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