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VISAKHAPATNAM

Good response to coastal clean-up



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Volunteers pick up waste at different locations from Jalaripeta to Rushikonda

The 34th International Coastal Clean-up was taken up by various organisations in the city at different locations along the coast from Jalaripeta in the Old Town area to Rushikonda beach.

Indian Coast Guard organised the clean-up at Rushikonda and about 1,800 volunteers from the Coast Guard, CISF, NCC and Andhra University participated. They collected about 3,250 kg garbage comprising plastic and glass bottles, cigarette butts, food wrappers and beverage bottles.

Inspector General of ICG A.K. Harbola, Chief of Staff, Headquarters Coast Guard Eastern Seaboard, and Vice-Chancellor of Andhra University P.V.G.D Prasad Reddy, led the event.

The International Coastal Clean-up day is observed across the globe on the third Saturday of September, every year, under the aegis of United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP).

Eastern Naval Command (ENC) took up the drive in Ramakrishna Beach, Tenneti Park, Yarada Beach, Jalaripeta, Jodugulla Palem and Kalinga Beach in addition to other areas under the jurisdiction of Indian Navy.

Over 3,000 naval personnel, defence civilians, family members, KV School students, NCC and SCC cadets, divided into 14 teams, took part in the programme at various places.

The clean-up drive was formally inaugurated by Vice Admiral Atul Kumar Jain, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, ENC at R K Beach.

Volunteers of India Youth For Society (IYFS) and for about 70 employees of Amjur Technologies observed International Coastal Cleanup Day.

In another programme organised by World Wildlife Fund, about 100 citizens, including volunteers, came together and collected 337 kg litter from Lawson's Bay beach.

The waste comprised about 237 kg plastic, 30 kg glass and 27 kg footwear.

The event was inaugurated by Rahul Pandey, CCF (WL), Forest Department.

Speaking at the programme he said, "We need to make a conscious effort to reduce the consumption of single-use plastics. The Forest Department of Andhra Pradesh has been trying to find an alternative to single-use plastics, even in instances such as the plant wrapping used in our nurseries."

Volunteers of India Youth For Society (IYFS) and for about 70 employees of Amjur Technologies also conducted a drive.

A letter from the Editor
