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THIS STORY IS FROM SEPTEMBER 21, 2019

Mangaluru: Coast Guard spearheads cleanup along beaches

[Jaideep Shenoy \(https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/toireporter/author-Jaideep-Shenoy-479200604.cms\)](https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/toireporter/author-Jaideep-Shenoy-479200604.cms) | TNN | Updated: Se

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Volunteers cleaning up a beach in Karnataka as part of International Coastal Clean Up Day on Saturday.

MANGALURU: [Coast Guard \(https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/topic/Coast-Guard\)](https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/topic/Coast-Guard) district headquarters in Karnataka under the aegis of [South Asian Cooperative Environment \(https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/topic/South-Asian-Cooperative-Environment\)](https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/topic/South-Asian-Cooperative-Environment) Programme (SACEP) in South Asian region planning co-ordinated [Coastal Cleanup \(https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/topic/Coastal-Cleanup\)](https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/topic/Coastal-Cleanup) as part of [International Coastal Cleanup \(https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/topic/International-Coastal-Cleanup\)](https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/topic/International-Coastal-Cleanup) (ICC) - 2019 at Panambur, Tannirbhavi, Surathkal, Sasihithlu, Malpe and Rabindranath Tagore, Baithkol and Kodibagh beaches all along the coast of Karnataka on Saturday.

ICC was started by the Ocean Conservancy in 1986 to engage volunteers in collecting marine debris. The ocean covers 71% of the earth. The ocean helps produce the water we drink and the air we breathe. It absorbs carbon dioxide and lessens the effect of global warming. It also produces food and recreation opportunities for millions of people. Despite its importance, the ocean is still not fully explored or understood.

Coast Guard's effort of coastal clean-up drive was multiplied by joining the hands of Coastal Security Police, Indigo Airlines, Mangaluru, Par Eco Solutions, Mangaluru, New Mangalore Port Trust, Central Industrial Security Force, MRPL, Rotary Club Mangaluru, college Students, NCC Cadets, NSS volunteers and enthusiastic volunteers from all walks of life in association of Coast Guard Wives Welfare Association, New Mangalore.

Presence of dignitaries and leaders brought waves of enthusiasm and motivation amongst the volunteers. A V Ramana, chairman, NMPT graced the occasion as chief guest at coastal cleanup drive at Panambur beach. Other dignitaries who encouraged volunteers at Panambur beach were MV Subba Rao, CMD, KIOCL, G V Hegde, MD, DKMUL, Ashwin, BPCL, Archana Sachit, Indigo, Mangaluru among others.

DIG S S Dasila, commander, Coast Guard Karnataka said, "We all need to serve as a voice for the ocean for working towards a trash-free ocean. We can really make a difference and help others to do the same by empowering people to take an active role in the preservation and cleaning up of our ocean. Let's all be part of smart ocean planning so as to avoid risk conflict and crises

The participants of the drive collected waste in Mangalore, Goa, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Jammu & Kashmir. The waste in Mangalore consisted of wrappers of food articles and plastic bottles thrown by tourists. The collected waste materials were put in garbage bags for proper disposal. The cleanliness drive helped create awareness amongst people and hope they continue to come forward to keep the coastal environment clean for the years to come, Dasila said.

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