

## Press Release on State Level World Environment Day-2025 & Prakruti Mitra Award Distribution

---

While Republic of Korea is celebrating globally World Environment Day, 2025 as the host country, with a theme of “Ending Plastic Pollution”, the State Level World Environment Day- 2025 was celebrated at Krushi Shiksha Sadan, OUAT Campus, Siripur, Bhubaneswar on 5th June, 2025 with joint collaboration of Forest, Environment & Climate Change Dept., Govt. of Odisha, State Pollution Control Board, Odisha & Center for Environmental Studies.

Shri Mohan Charan Majhi, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Odisha graced the occasions as the Chief Guest on this event. Sri Ganesh Ram Singh Khuntia, Hon'ble Minister, Department of Forest, Environment & Climate Change and Department of Labour and Employees Insurance was Guests of Honour for making the event successful. Hon'ble Chief Minister and Hon'ble Minister of FE & CC have planted saplings in the campaign of “**Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam**” on this occasion.

On this Day, Presidential address was given by Sri Manoj Ahuja, IAS, Chief Secretary-cum-Chairman, State Pollution Control Board, Odisha while Shri Satyabrata Sahu, IAS., Additional Chief Secretary, Forest, Environment and Climate Change Department, Shri Suresh Pant, IFS, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief of Forest Force, Forest Department participated as distinguished guests.

Shri Satyabrata Sahu, IAS., Additional Chief Secretary, Forest, Environment and Climate Change Department delivered the welcome speech and highlighted the importance and significance of the Day.

On this occasion, a Mobile Water Testing Van VARUN (Van for Analysis and Research on Urban –Drains & Natural -Water course) was flagged off by Hon'ble Chief Guests. Also an Online Web Portal for fly ash management developed by the National Highways Authority of India & State Pollution Control Board, Odisha was launched during the event.

Looking at the growing industrialization and urbanization, the State Clean Air Programme (SCAP) prepared by the State Pollution Control Board for improving air quality in 12 major cities was also launched. During the event, various research-based books along with FAQs on environment prepared by the Board for the general public were also released.

On this occasion, 03 Eco-Model Award, 03 Eco Club Award and 185 nos. of Prakruti Mitra Award were presented to those who have shown outstanding and exemplary work in the field of environmental protection.

Various industries, Waste Management Companies, and Technical Institutions in the field of environmental protection have presented the best practices and innovation through 17 nos. of exhibition stalls. Apart from this, various exhibition stalls and models based on environmental protection awareness were displayed by school students from all the 30 districts of the State. Artists from Lalita Kala Akademi have performed live painting.

Smt. Uma Nanduri, IFS, Member Secretary, State Pollution Control Board, Odisha and Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Kendu Leaf) and Dr. K. Murugesan, IFS, Director, Centre for Environmental Studies delivered the vote of thanks in two phases of the programme.