

Samudra Manthan: World's Biggest Ocean Bound Plastic Churning Initiative Reclaims 70 Thousand Metric Tons of Ocean-bound Plastic

- ~ Recykal's Samudra Manthan Spans 207 Districts Across India Championing its Journey towards Responsible Recycling
- ~ Recykal has announced that, 'Samudra Manthan' will be scaled up to all 66 coastal districts in India

Plastic accumulating in our oceans and beaches has become a global crisis. Recykal, an Indian Tech Leader for Sustainability and Circularity, believes that the problem and solution for ocean plastic lie on land. The ocean-bound plastic needs to be diverted from the oceans to recycling centres. Recykal also understand the value of plastic waste and consider it as a resource. Hence, Recykal has taken the initiative to beat the ocean-plastic pollution issue with its project 'Samudra Manthan'. This initiative is inspired by the Indian mythological tale of 'Samudra Manthan' where the nectar came out from the ocean churning.

Under this initiative, Recykal has collected over 70 thousand metric tons of plastic from 207 districts from 19 states across India. Among these districts, 33 districts have coastal areas, and 173 districts are located on the banks of major rivers. A 10 km radius from the ocean and river coasts is covered in this activity. On the occasion of National Pollution Control Day, Recykal has revealed plans to scale up the 'Samudra Manthan' project to cover all 66 coastal districts across India.

Here's the detailed report of plastic collected through the pilot project:
(Coastal districts are written in bold and are also underlined)

State	Districts	Plastic collected (in MT)
Assam	Sibsagar, Kamrup, Nalbari, Karbi Anglong, Morigaon, Sonitpur, Darrang	665.82

State	Districts	Plastic collected (in MT)
Bihar	Bhojpur, West Champaran district, Muzaffarpur, Purnea, Sahebganj, Madhepura, Bhagalpur, Saharsa, Patna, Gaya, Motihari, Sitamarhi, Katihar, Rohtas, Madhubani, Supaul, Vaishali, East Champaran, Siwan, Samastipur	2090.02
Chhattisgarh	Bilaspur-CG, Raipur	136.265
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	<u>Dadra and Nagar Haveli</u>	411.707
Delhi	Delhi NCR, East Delhi, North East Delhi	8097.121
Gujarat	<u>Surat</u> , <u>Valsad</u> , <u>Anand</u> , Sabarkantha, <u>Morbi</u> , Rajkot, Vadodara	1122.258
Haryana	Kurukshetra, Kaithal, Gurgaon, Hisar, Sirsa	3769.381
Himachal Pradesh	Kangra, Una, Bhopoo, Hamirpur	1082.25
West Bengal	Birbhum, <u>Purba Medinipur</u> , Darjeeling, Murshidabad, Purulia, Hooghly, North 24 Parganas, Paschim Medinipur, <u>South 24 Parganas</u> , <u>Howrah</u> , Bankura, Paschim Bardhaman, Nadia, Malda, Hoogly	4782.146
Jharkhand	Ranchi, Giridih, Hazaribagh, Dhanbad, Lohardaga, East Singhbhum, Palamu, Purbi Singhbhum, Koderma, Sahibganj	1457.936
Karnataka	Dharwad, Ramanagara, Mandya, <u>Dakshina Kannada</u> , Gadag, Belagavi, Mysuru, Chitradurga, Bangaluru, <u>Uttara Kannada</u> , Davanagere, Bagalkot, <u>Gulbarga</u> , Tumkur	8463.278
Kerala	<u>Malappuram</u> , <u>Kozhikode</u> , <u>Ernakulam</u> , <u>Kasaragod</u> , <u>Kannur</u> , <u>Thrissur</u> , <u>Alappuzha</u> , Wayanad, Palakkad, <u>Thiruvananthapuram</u>	2791
Madhya Pradesh	Gwalior, Jabalpur, Bhopal, Bhind, Ujjain, Indore, Chhatarpur	849.47

State	Districts	Plastic collected (in MT)
Maharashtra	<u>Mumbai City</u> , Pune, <u>Thane</u> , <u>Palghar</u> , Aurangabad, <u>Raigad</u> , Dhule, Nagpur, Akola, Nashik, Nanded, Chandrapur, Ahmednagar, Latur	6914.674
Odisha	Khordha, <u>Puri</u> , Jajpur, Cuttack, <u>Ganjam</u> , <u>Jagatsinghpur</u> , Angul, Mayurbhanj	3737.26
Punjab	Kapurthala, Amritsar, Hoshiarpur, Gurdaspur, Patiala, Sangrur, Ludhiana, Mohali, Bathinda, Jalandhar, Faridkot, Moga, Malerkotla, Muktsar, Fazilka	4980.259
Rajasthan	Jaipur, Nagaur, Barmer, Jodhpur, Kota, Bikaner, Udaipur, Hanumangarh, Sri Ganganagar, Sikar, Alwar, Churu, Jaisalmer	2073.985
Tamil Nadu	<u>Kanyakumari</u> , <u>Chennai</u> , Coimbatore, Kanchipuram, <u>Chengalpattu</u> , Krishnagiri, Tiruchirapalli, <u>Cuddalore</u> , Karur, Dindigul, Tiruppur, <u>Tirunelveli</u> , Virudhunagar, <u>Thoothukudi</u> , <u>Nagapattinam</u> , Madurai, Salem, Perambalur, Theni, <u>Villupuram</u>	7370.98
Uttar Pradesh	Muzaffarnagar, Kanpur Nagar, Gorakhpur, Moradabad, Lucknow, AZAMGARH, Varanasi, Saharanpur, Basti, Maharajganj, Shahjahanpur, Prayagraj, Gazipur, Meerut, Balrampur, Siddharthnagar, Unnao, Ghaziabad, Gautam Buddh Nagar, Shamli, Agra, Bulandshahar, Mirzapur, Ghazipur, Jaunpur, Firozabad, Ayodhya, Etawah, Shajhanpur, Barabanki, Deoria	9297.232
Total ocean-bound plastic collected		70093

Ocean-bound plastic pollution is a pressing environmental issue with far-reaching consequences. When plastic waste enters the ocean, it takes hundreds of years to

break down, posing a significant threat to marine life, ecosystems, and human well-being. Plastic debris is a vector for harmful substances, absorbing and accumulating toxic chemicals from the surrounding seawater. This leads to bioaccumulation through the food chain and ultimately affects humans who consume seafood. Coastal communities, especially those reliant on tourism and fisheries, experience negative consequences as their beaches and marine habitats become littered with plastic debris.

Recykal's Samudra Manthan Initiative combines modern technology and sustainable practices to combat ocean plastic pollution. Through this initiative, Recykal is empowering local ragpickers by providing them with access to a comprehensive network of recyclers across India. This not only offers financial security to the ragpickers but also enables them to expand their income by adding additional categories of plastic waste to their portfolio through specialised training provided by Recykal. As a result, their income has significantly increased.

Recykal emphasizes prevention and reduction by advocating for reduced single-use plastics, improved waste management, recycling practices, and raising awareness. This initiative highlights corporate responsibility and collaboration to conserve marine biodiversity and benefit coastal communities.

Following the collection efforts, the plastic collected through the Samudra Manthan Initiative undergoes recycling processes. Recykal ensures that the extracted plastic is properly managed and sent for recycling. Through recycling, plastic can be transformed into new products, reducing the demand for virgin plastic and promoting a circular economy.

Abhishek Deshpande, Co-founder and COO, Recykal said, "The broader objective of this initiative goes beyond simply removing plastic debris from the environment. It encompasses the goal of regenerating and sustaining the natural balance of marine ecosystems by preventing further damage caused by plastic pollution. By collecting ocean-bound plastic, Recykal aims to restore the integrity of marine environments, protect biodiversity, and safeguard the well-being of both marine life and humans which depend on healthy oceans. With this initiative, we are giving back to nature by

reducing the negative impact of plastic pollution and promoting a more sustainable and resilient ecosystem for future generations. Collecting ocean-bound waste has also contributed to the socio-economic development, particularly in coastal communities. This initiative has generated employment opportunities in waste management, cleanup operations, recycling facilities, and related sectors contributing to the overall well-being and prosperity of the coastal regions.”

About Recykal:

Recykal is a cleantech startup, headquartered in Hyderabad, India, formalizing the circular economy in India. We are the pioneer of the managed marketplace for the Circular Economy in India, enabling all stakeholders across waste management and recycling with a digitized waste management ecosystem. We operate in these categories offering circularity & sustainability solutions: plastic, paper, metal, e-waste, tyre, and batteries.

Recykal is a first-of-its-kind technology-driven solution provider for the waste management ecosystem and forms a key link between producers, waste generators, facilitators, and the different stakeholders in the waste management industry in India.