

## Amrit Dhara – A Festival of Rivers: Uniting Communities for Conservation

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Cleanliness drive with students of Khudeja Girls M.E. School at Rani Ghat, Barjatrapur Village, Cachar

Rivers have been contributing to civilizations and livelihoods while sustaining ecosystems and cultural heritage. Thus, Amrit Dhara — A Festival of Rivers was observed across the country as a national initiative to promote river and biodiversity conservation on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2025. Spanning 39 districts across 18 states and 2 Union Territories, a total of 4747 people participated in the event. This event was organized by the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) under the auspices of the National River Conservation Directorate (NRCD) and the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), along with the local community.

The activities of the festival included biodiversity awareness workshops & lectures, river walks, clean-up drives, drawing & painting competitions, yoga sessions and cultural performances engaging students, teachers and local community members of various age groups. The festival covered rivers from Ganga to Yamuna in Uttar Pradesh to Pamba and Periyar in Kerala. School students, teachers, universities, NGOs, and local government bodies actively participated in the event. Amrit Dhara festival was not just an event but a movement to spread the message of conservation and preservation.

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Cleanliness at Annapurna Ghat, Silchar, in collaboration with Cachar College, Silchar



Yoga session for 200 students of Saraswati Shishu Mandir Higher Secondary School, Chattisgarh