

## Meri Maati, Mera Desh program

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Why is in news? J&K: LG Manoj Sinha attends 'Meri Maati, Mera Desh' program in Srinagar

Meri Maati Mera Desh", with the **tagline `Mitti ko naman, veeron ka vandan`**, is a nationwide and people led "Jan bhagidari" initiative to commemorate 75 years of India's independence.

It is the finale of Azaadi ka Amrit Mahotsav program.

Under this campaign soil collected from different parts of the country in August will be used to develop a garden along the Kartavya Path in Delhi.

Events have been planned at the panchayat, village, block, urban local body, and State and national levels, respectively.

The **five-point agenda** includes the **installation of a shilaphalakam** (memorial plaque), as per specifications, bearing the "names of those who have made the supreme sacrifice".

Work for the shilaphalakam may be executed through the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), leveraging local materials and resources.

**'Vasudha Vandhan'** envisages every gram panchayat or village renewing "Mother Earth by planting 75 saplings of indigenous species and developing an Amrit Vatika".

'Veeron Ka Vandan' will felicitate freedom fighters, and the families of deceased freedom fighters.

Young volunteers and others will collect soil from every panchayat/village and bring it to the block, from where the 'Mitti Kalash' will be transported to Delhi.

In urban areas, events will be organised at local bodies, notified area councils, Cantonment Boards, and town panchayats from August 9 and 15, and in bigger municipalities and municipal corporations from August 16 to 20.

The 'Mitti Kalash' are to be brought ceremoniously to the larger municipalities/corporations and transported to Kartavya Path.

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