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**“World Environment Day” on  
5<sup>th</sup> June, 2025, Thursday**

**Theme: End Plastic Pollution**

This year's World Environment Day comes exactly two months before countries meet again to continue negotiating a global treaty to end plastic pollution



**Plastic Pollution** is making the **triple planetary crisis**—climate change, biodiversity and land degradation, and pollution—far more dangerous. Every year, around **11 million tones of plastic waste** end up in rivers, lakes, and oceans, harming aquatic life and disrupting ecosystems. On land, **microplastics** from sewage, landfills, and plastic-based farming products are contaminating soils and entering the food chain.

The **true cost** of this pollution is enormous—between **US\$300 billion and US\$600 billion each year**—in environmental damage, economic loss, and health impacts.

As countries move closer to reaching a **global agreement** to end plastic pollution, including in our oceans, this **World Environment Day** is a timely reminder that we must act urgently. Ending plastic pollution is not just about waste management—it's about protecting life on Earth.

This year, the **Republic of Korea** is the proud **host of World Environment Day**, marking the first time in **28 years** that South Korea has taken on this role. The **main celebrations will be held on Jeju Island**, a UNESCO World Heritage site renowned for its natural beauty and its ambitious **“Plastic Zero” vision**.

On **June 5**, Jeju will welcome **international delegates, environmentalists, policymakers, and dignitaries** from around the world to engage in high-level discussions and community-driven environmental action.

The 2025 observance is especially significant, occurring just **two months before the next round of negotiations in Geneva, Switzerland**, where global leaders will meet to draft a **legally binding treaty to end plastic pollution**.

This timing adds urgency and momentum to this year's theme and global efforts. With countries intensifying cooperation and public awareness growing, **World Environment Day 2025** stands as a pivotal milestone in the journey toward a **plastic-free future**.

