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## Gamharia Village Became Plastic and Garbage Free

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### Why in News

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On August 17, 2021, **Gamharia village in Chhattisgarh's Jashpur district** became plastic and garbage-free. Earlier, it was declared an **Open Defecation Free (ODF) village**.

### Key Points

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- This has been made possible through '**Safai Mitra**', the women of Surajpur Self-Help Group in Gamharia who go door-to-door to collect garbage. Villagers now call them respectfully as '**Swachhta Didi**'.
- The group has made garbage disposal and waste management an additional source of earning. In the last one year, they earned Rs 63,000.
- Gamharia Sarpanch William Kujur said the Segregation Shed (Solid and Liquid Waste Management Center) was built in the village. Funds were provided from **Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme** and **Swachh Bharat Mission (Rural)**.
- Solid waste such as polythene, packing wrappers of food items, plastic items, iron scrap and glass are sold after segregation, said Sunita Kujur, secretary of the SHG.
- She said 12 women have been working for the group since July 2020. The group collects Rs 10 a month from each household and Rs 20 each from shopkeepers for the garbage collection.