

Swachh Survekshan Awards 2022

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[GS Paper 2 - Govt. Policies and Interventions]

Context - Madhya Pradesh's Indore city was adjudged India's cleanest city for the sixth time in a row followed by Surat and Navi Mumbai on the next two spots in the Central government's annual cleanliness survey, the results of which were announced recently.

The awards were presented by the honorable President Droupadi Murmu at an event also graced by the Union Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Singh Puri.

Key Highlights of the Awards

- Madhya Pradesh has secured the first position, followed by Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra in the category of the 'Best Performing States.'
- In the big cities category this year, Indore and Surat held on to their top spots while Navi Mumbai leapfrogged Vijayawada to bag the third position.
- As per the Survey results, Tripura bagged the highest honors among the states having fewer than 100 urban local bodies (ULBs).
- Maharashtra's Panchgani bagged the top honors in the category of cities with a population less than 1 lakh. It was followed by Chhattisgarh's Patan and Maharashtra's Karhad.
- The Cleanest Ganga town honor was taken by Haridwar followed by Varanasi and Hrishikesh. While Maharashtra's Deolali was adjudged the country's cleanest cantonment area.

About the Awards

- The Swachh Survekshan Awards is an annual survey of cleanliness, hygiene and sanitation in the cities and towns across India. It was launched under the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan Scheme, which aimed to make India clean and free from open defecation.
- The very first survey was undertaken in the year 2016 in the radar, which has gone upto covering 4354 cities for the year 2022.
- The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) is the nodal ministry for this survey and the overall scheme.
- This year, it was the 7th edition of the Swachh Survekshan Awards which was conducted to study the progress of the Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban) and rank the ULBs as per the stated parameters of sanitation and cleanliness.