Swachh Survekshan Rankings 2018

What is the issue?

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- Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs have released the Swachh Survekshan 2018 ranking, which ranks cities based on cleanliness.
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- Indore as the cleanest among 4,203 urban local bodies (ULBs) in the country for the 2nd time in the row, which is followed by Bhopal.
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How did Indore retain its prime position?

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- **Statistics -** Indore Municipal Corporation (IMC) has been taking out a strong campaign through songs and outreach programs.
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- The corporation also claims to have achieved 100% segregation of wet and dry garbage at source.
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- Waste is collected once a day from residential areas and twice from commercial areas.
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- The IMC has nearly 10,000 employees and officers and they are said to be aided by socially responsible citizenry.
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- **Penalties -** Lately, the municipal body began to slap spot fines from Rs 250 to Rs 500 on those spitting on roads, urinating in the open, or littering.
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- While efforts to deter habitual offenders haven't worked in the past, a public shaming campaign by naming them in media has been initiated recently.
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- **Nudging Push -** IMC distributed free bottle shaped suitably sized dustbins to vehicle owners to encourage them to not throw waste out of windows.
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- Innovative cleanliness products for sale are also aplenty in the open markets.
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- **Technology -** Initiatives to segregate dry waste, installing recycling units in gardens, outside hotels, and marriage halls have been taken up.
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- Compost pits were built at fruit and vegetable and markets, and a bio-methanation plant has also been set up.
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- **Administrative steps -** IMC replaced garbage bins that used to overflow with suitable containers of sufficient capacity.
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- Swachhata Samitis were set up in schools and colleges, and participants in religious and other processions were encouraged to keep the streets clean.
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- Public toilets were built in large numbers.
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Source: Indian Express

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