

1)The **Swachh Survekshan 2018** results have been announced. It was **organized by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)**, under the aegis of the **Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban)**, assessed 4203 Urban Local Bodies. Compared to the previous surveys, this year's exercise allocated substantial weightage to the feedback from citizens based on their daily experience.

Performance of various cities:

- Indore has emerged as the cleanest city, followed by Bhopal and Chandigarh. Indore was the cleanest city last year as well.
- Jharkhand has been adjudged as the best performing state, followed by Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh.
- Cleanest State Capital/UT: Greater Mumbai.
- India's 'Cleanest big City': Vijaywada (Andhra Pradesh).
- India's 'Fastest Mover' big City: Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh).
- India's Best City in 'Citizens Feedback': Kota (Rajasthan).
- India's Best City in 'Innovation & Best Practices': Nagpur (Maharashtra).
- India's Best City in 'Solid Waste Management: Navi Mumbai (Maharashtra).
- India's Cleanest Medium City: Mysuru (Karnataka).
- India's 'Fastest Mover' Medium City: Bhiwandi (Maharashtra).
- India's Best City in 'Citizens Feedback': Parbhani (Maharashtra).
- India's Best City in 'Innovation & Best Practices': Aligarh (Uttar Pradesh).
- India's Best City in 'Solid Waste Management: Mangalore (Karnataka).
- India's Cleanest Small City: New Delhi Municipal Council.
- India's 'Fastest Mover' Small City: Bhusawal (Maharashtra).
- India's Best City in 'Citizens Feedback': Giridih (Jharkhand).
- India's Best City in 'Innovation & Best Practices': Ambikapur

(Jharkhand).

- India's Best City in 'Solid Waste Management: Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh).

2) **WHO** has published its first Essential **Diagnostics List**, a catalogue of the tests needed to diagnose the most common conditions as well as a number of global priority diseases. The aim is to provide a tool that can be useful to all countries, to test and treat better, but also to use health funds more efficiently by concentrating on the truly essential tests.

3) The World Health Organization (WHO) has raised the **Ebola health risk assessment to "very high"** in the Democratic Republic of Congo. While the WHO raised the national public health risk to 'very high,' it said the global risk level is "currently low."

Ebola virus disease (EVD), formerly known as Ebola haemorrhagic fever, is a severe, often fatal illness in humans.

4) **Asia's first stock exchange, the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE)** has become the **first** stock exchange in India to have received recognition as a '**Designated Offshore Securities Market (DOSM)**' from the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). An **IDR** is a **depository receipt** denominated in Indian rupees issued by a domestic depository in India. Much like an equity share, it is an ownership pie of a company. Since foreign companies are not allowed to list on Indian equity markets, IDR is a way to own shares of those companies.

5) NASA's **GRACE mission** has confirmed that a massive redistribution of freshwater is occurring across the Earth, with middle-latitude belts drying and the tropics and higher latitudes gaining water supplies.

A combination of the effects of climate change, vast human withdrawals of groundwater and simple natural changes are behind this.

- The GRACE mission was selected as the second mission under the **NASA Earth System Science Pathfinder (ESSP)** Program in May 1997. Launched in March of 2002, the GRACE mission mapped variations in Earth's gravity field. Designed for a nominal mission lifetime of five years, GRACE operated in an extended mission phase till 2017.
- GRACE is a joint **partnership between the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)** in the United States and Deutsche Forschungsanstalt für Luft und Raumfahrt (DLR) in Germany.

6) **NASA** is planning to deliver **RainCube** to the ISS on the **OA-9 resupply mission**.

- RainCube (Radar in a CubeSat) is a **technology demonstration mission** to enable **Ka-band precipitation radar technologies** on a low-cost, quick-turnaround platform. RainCube will demonstrate the feasibility of a radar payload on a CubeSat platform.

7) **Cyclone 'Sagar'** is a **tropical cyclone** in **Arabian Sea**. It is the first cyclonic storm of the season to develop in the Indian waters. Presently in Gulf of Aden, Cyclone Sagar is also expected to affect Somalia; Ethiopia, Djibouti.