

Lko 3rd among India's cleanest big cities

State capital gets full marks on key parameters such as Garbage-Free City and ODF certification despite civic challenges

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LUCKNOW: The state capital Lucknow has secured the third rank among the cleanest cities in the country in the million-plus population category in the Swachh Shahar Awards 2024-25 under the Swachh Survekshan, trailing only Ahmedabad and Bhopal, which bagged the first and second positions respectively.

Lucknow earned full marks on key parameters such as Garbage-Free City and Open Defecation Free certification.

President Droupadi Murmu presented the award during a ceremony at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi, on Thursday.

Strong citizen engagement, improved waste segregation, smart sanitation infrastructure, and active public-private partnerships have been key to Lucknow's achievement.

While the state has achieved the third rank in a new category (there was only one category earlier), challenges remain. Issues like waste dumping, poor street

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“Congratulations to the people of the state on Noida and Lucknow receiving awards in various categories under the Swachh Survekshan Awards! Under the leadership of the Prime Minister, cleanliness has today become a part of our social ethos.”

— Yogi Adityanath, CM



Million-plus category: Five UP cities in top 20

LUCKNOW: Two Uttar Pradesh cities ranked in the top 10 and five in the top 20 in the Swachh Shahar Awards (million-plus cities category) under the Swachh Survekshan 2024-25. While Lucknow ranked third, Agra was 10th, Ghaziabad 11th, Prayagraj 12th and Varanasi 17th. In addition, Prayagraj was declared

cleanest city in Ganga town category and was honoured with a special national award for the Mahakumbh. Gorakhpur stood out with two major achievements— third in Safai Mitra Surakshit Shahar for sanitation worker safety and fourth among cities in 3-10 lakh category. →P2

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