STATES

The Rajasthan Government - banned certain categories of Pan Masala and flavoured Tobacco products made of magnesium, carbonate, nicotine and mineral oil

- It becomes the third state in the country after Maharashtra and Bihar to impose the ban on Tobacco products and Pan Masala
- The government has banned the production, storage, distribution, transportation, demonstration and sale of these items under the Food Security Act
- Earlier, Rajasthan had banned Tobacco based Gutkha, e-cigarettes and hookah-bars

NATIONAL

Tamil Nadu - has been adjudged the best overall, among larger states, in terms of rural cleanliness in the annual sanitation survey 2019

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi presented the award to Tamil Nadu municipal administration minister S P Velumani at the Swacch Bharat awards function in Ahmedabad on October 2
The state jumped to the top spot from the 11th rank in 2018, pushing Haryana and Gujarat to the second and third spots, which had the top two slots last year.

Peddapalli in Telangana moved up by two places in the annual sanitation survey to become the cleanest district, replacing Satara in Maharashtra.

Faridabad and Rewari, both in Haryana, ranked second and third.

This year the Swachhata Survey was carried out in 17,200 villages and 690 districts across the country.

Ranks were allocated based on quantitative and qualitative sanitation parameters, which included feedback from people, direct observation by third party assessors and service level progress by local administration.

Feedback from more than three crore citizens was received through mobile app and more than 12 lakh responses were received via telephone calls.

**Railway minister Piyush Goyal – released the railways’ cleanliness survey in New Delhi on October 2**

Three railway stations from Rajasthan - Jaipur, Jodhpur and Durgapura - finished as the Top 3 among 720 railway stations in the country.

A total of 7 stations from Rajasthan’s North Western Railways (NWR) are in the list of top 10 in the country in terms of cleanliness.

**List of top 10 clean railway stations in India:**

1. Jaipur (Rajasthan)
2. Jodhpur (Rajasthan)
3. Durgapura (Rajasthan)
4. Jammu Tawi (Jammu)
5. Gandhinagar-Jaipur (Rajasthan)
6. Suratgarh (Rajasthan)
7. Vijayawada (Andhra Pradesh)
8. Udaipur City (Rajasthan)
9. Ajmer (Rajasthan)
10. Haridwar (Uttarakhand)

Tamil Nadu has the most worst ranking having 6 out of 10 dirtiest stations in the country.

**List of top 10 dirty railway stations:**

1. Perungalathur (Tamil Nadu)
2. Guindy (Tamil Nadu)
3. Delhi Sadar Bazar
4. Velacheri (Tamil Nadu)
5. Guduvancheri (Tamil Nadu)
6. Singaperumalkoil (Tamil Nadu)
7. Ottappalam (Kerala)
8. Pazhavanthangal (Tamil Nadu)
9. Araria Court (Bihar)
10. Khurja (Uttar Pradesh)

✓ Among suburban stations, 9 out the top 10 are railway stations in and around Mumbai.
✓ The Western Railway station of Andheri was ranked number 1, followed by Virar and Naigaon.
✓ In all, six of the 9 stations are on the Western Railway and 3 are on the Central Railway.
✓ The only non-Maharashtra entrant in the top 10 is Santragachi in Howrah, West Bengal, which is at number 5.
✓ Last year’s topper, The North Western Railway was adjudged the best railway zone this year too
✓ It was followed by South East Central Railway and East Central Railway
✓ Southern Railway has dropped to the 12th place this year among the 16 railway zones from 7th in 2018.
✓ In the 611 non-suburban category of railway stations, the Dindigul station has been ranked 39, the highest in Southern Railway.
✓ In the suburban category, the Chennai Beach station is ranked 103 among the 106 stations in the country.
✓ Railways had been conducting third-party audit and cleanliness ranking of 407 major stations annually since 2016.
✓ This year, the survey was taken across 720 stations.
✓ Suburban stations were taken into account for the first time.
✓ The survey was done by Quality Council of India (QCI) wherein stations of various zonal railways were divided into suburban and non-suburban categories.
✓ Jodhpur railway station finished at the top place in last year’s rankings

**SPORTS**

♦ India’s top javelin thrower Annu Rani – finished at eighth place in the IAAF World Athletics Championships, Doha

✓ Earlier, Annu became the first Indian woman javelin thrower to qualify for the final round of the World Championships
✓ She broke her own national record in the qualification round earlier with a throw of 62.43m, but could produce a best of 61.12m only in eight attempts in the final
✓ The 27-year-old Annu had failed to qualify for the finals in the last edition in 2017 in London where she delivered a best throw of 59.93m to finish 20th overall in the qualification round.