

APPSC PULSE — IAS with Dr Ravi

STEP 1: CURRENT AFFAIRS NOTES

22 May 2026 (Friday)

Source: Eenadu & The Hindu — Andhra Pradesh Edition

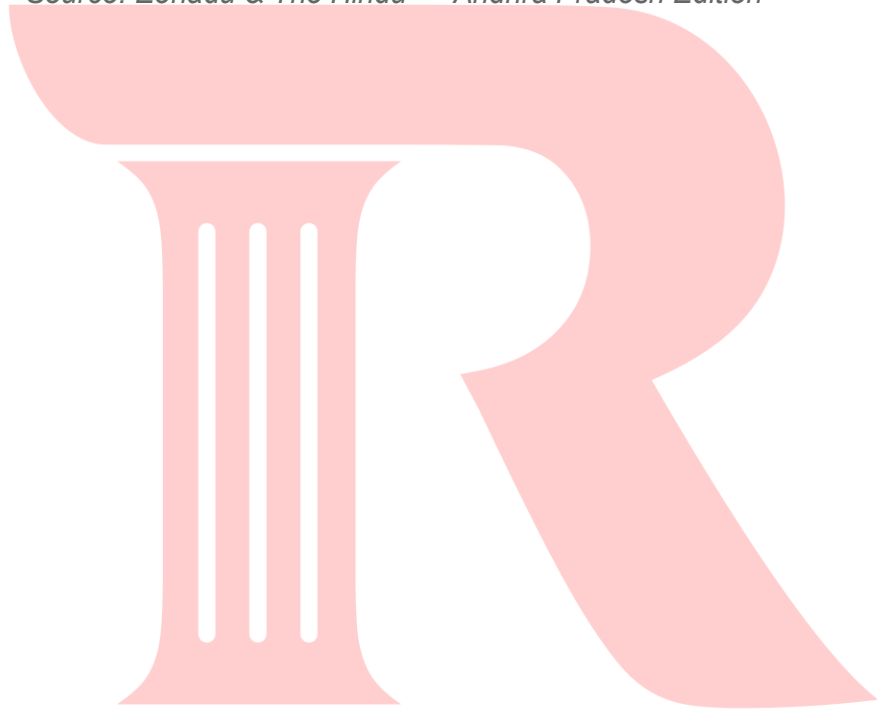
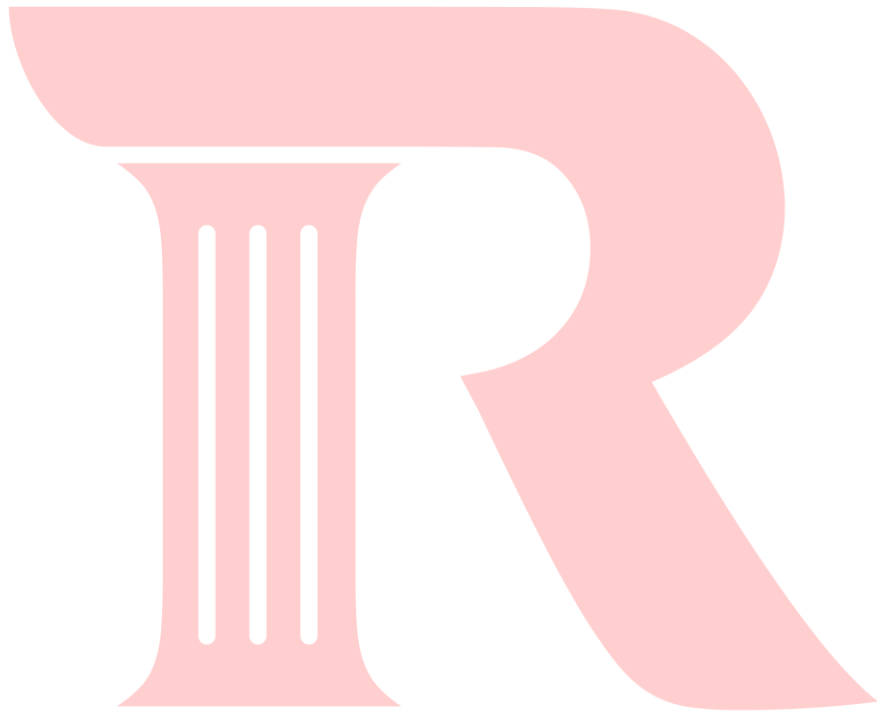


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AP Urban Governance

1. Operation Clean Sweep — 123 ULBs, 4-Week Mission-Mode Sanitation Drive

Source: The Hindu, 22/05/2026 | Subject: Urban Governance / Sanitation / Solid Waste Management / ULBs / Swachh Bharat

📌 APPSC SYLLABUS MAPPING Paper III: Governance, Urban Local Bodies, Solid Waste Management, Public Health | Paper II: AP Society, Urban Development | Paper IV: AP Economy, Human Development, Urban Infrastructure

◇ PRELIMS FOCUS

[ENGLISH]

1. Initiative: Operation Clean Sweep — intensive cleanliness campaign across all 123 Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in Andhra Pradesh.
2. Duration: May 23 to June 20, 2026 — four weeks.
3. Announced by: Municipal Administration and Urban Development (MAUD) Department Principal Secretary S. Suresh Kumar on Thursday 22 May 2026.
4. Objectives: Improve urban sanitation; strengthen solid waste management; institutionalise cleanliness as a daily civic responsibility; mission-mode approach — outcome-oriented, not routine.
5. Programme linkage: Part of Swarna Andhra-Swachh Andhra (SASA) programme — converting growing public participation into visible improvements in cleanliness across urban areas.
6. Week 1 (May 23-30): Remove garbage black spots + improve cleanliness on roads and at public places.
7. Week 2: Desilting storm water drains + cleaning nallas + cleaning backlanes — prevent water stagnation ahead of monsoon season.
8. Week 3: Segregation of waste at source + ensuring compliance among bulk waste generators (hotels, markets, institutions).

9. Week 4: Cleaning public toilets + elimination of garbage vulnerable points.
10. Implementation: District Collectors supervise at district level. Municipal Commissioners oversee city-level execution through geo-tagged reporting systems.
11. PS quote: 'Shift from routine sanitation work to an outcome-oriented mission, aimed at improving cleanliness and promoting sustained behavioural change among citizens.'

[తెలుగు]

1. చోరవ: ఆపరేషన్ క్లీన్ స్వీప్ — AP 123 ULBలన్నింటిలో తీవ్రమైన శుభ్రత ప్రచారం.
2. కాలం: 23 మే – 20 జూన్ 2026 — నాలుగు వారాలు.
3. MAUD PS S. సురేష్ కుమార్ ప్రకటన. స్వచ్ఛాంధ్ర-స్వచ్ఛాంధ్ర (SASA) కార్యక్రమం భాగం.
4. 4 వారాల దశలు: వారం 1: చెత్త బ్లాక్ స్పాట్లు + రహదారులు | వారం 2: నాలాలు/వరద కాలువలు — వర్షాకాలం ముందు | వారం 3: మూలం వద్ద వ్యర్థ వర్గీకరణ + హెటాటెక్స్/మార్కెట్ల అనుపాలన | వారం 4: పబ్లిక్ టాయిలెట్లు + చెత్త హాని బిందువులు.
5. అమలు: జిల్లా కలెక్టర్లు జిల్లా స్థాయిలో. మునిసిపల్ కమిషనర్లు జియో-ట్యాగ్డ్ రిపోర్టింగ్ ద్వారా నగర స్థాయిలో.

◇ MAINS FOCUS

[ENGLISH]

Context

AP government announced Operation Clean Sweep — a four-week intensive cleanliness drive across all 123 ULBs from May 23 to June 20, 2026. Four weekly phases target: garbage black spots, monsoon drain desilting, waste segregation, and public toilet maintenance. District Collectors supervise; Municipal Commissioners execute through geo-tagged reporting systems. MAUD PS S. Suresh Kumar: shift from 'routine sanitation to outcome-oriented mission' for sustained behavioural change. Part of Swarna Andhra-Swachh Andhra (SASA) programme.

Background

AP has 123 ULBs — Municipal Corporations (Visakhapatnam, Vijayawada, Guntur etc.), Municipalities, and Nagar Panchayats. Urban sanitation faces three structural challenges: (1) Rapid urbanisation — AP's urban population growing 2.5-3% annually, infrastructure lagging; (2) Monsoon readiness — AP receives intense monsoon (June-September); clogged drains caused severe flooding in Vijayawada (2024); (3) Behavioural patterns — littering, bulk generators not segregating, low public toilet usage are chronic. Swachh Bharat Mission Urban Phase II (SBM-U 2.0, 2021-2026) is the national framework with ODF++, SWM, and grey water management targets. SASA is AP's state-specific vehicle, with Operation Clean Sweep as the structured execution plan. Geo-tagged reporting — photos with GPS coordinates via mobile app — enables real-time verification, superior to self-reporting.

Key Dimensions

- 1. 4-Week Phase Design — Operational Intelligence:** Week 1 (black spots = visible quick wins, builds public confidence) → Week 2 (monsoon drain desilting = time-critical public health — perfect pre-monsoon timing) → Week 3 (waste segregation compliance = hardest behavioural change, placed mid-campaign when momentum established) → Week 4 (public toilets + vulnerable points = most neglected, placed last for sustained attention). Sequencing maximises early visibility while building toward hardest institutional changes.
- 2. Monsoon Timing — Deliberate Planning:** AP monsoon arrives June. Clogged drains + monsoon = urban flooding (Vijayawada 2024). Operation Clean Sweep May 23 – June 20 = immediately pre-monsoon. Week 2 drain desilting directly reduces urban flood risk. This is deliberate planning, not opportunistic scheduling.
- 3. Geo-tagged Reporting — Governance Innovation:** Photos + GPS coordinates = real-time supervisor visibility; cannot be easily falsified unlike self-reporting; creates CAG audit trail; enables public accountability (photos can be made public); creates performance incentive for Municipal Commissioners (data visible to Collectors and PS). Replicable beyond sanitation — AP Cyber Guard uses similar geo-tagged monitoring (16 May).
- 4. Waste Segregation — Hard Behavioural Target:** SWM Rules 2016 mandate source segregation (wet/dry/hazardous). Bulk generators (hotels, markets) compliance remains low nationally. Mixed waste contaminates recyclable stream and overwhelms landfills. AP targeting bulk generators with compliance enforcement authority is the correct policy lever for sustainable SWM.
- 5. SASA to Operation Clean Sweep — Policy-Execution Speed:** SASA announced at Narasannapeta (17 May, Pillale Sampada edition). Operation Clean Sweep announced 22 May — five

days later. Structured, time-bound, outcome-oriented execution plan within 5 days of CM-level announcement reflects the administrative speed AP is signalling with #ChooseSpeedChooseAP.

6. SBM-U 2.0 Alignment — National Funding Access: ODF++ (Week 4 — public toilets), SWM (Weeks 1,3,4), water body cleanliness (Week 2 — drain desilting) directly address SBM-U 2.0 indicators. Demonstrating progress unlocks AP ULBs' access to SBM-U 2.0's ₹1.41 lakh crore national allocation. Mission-mode execution creates the documented outcomes needed for Central grant applications.

7. Post-Campaign Sustainability — The Critical Challenge: India's history: intensive sanitation drives produce short-term improvements followed by rapid reversion. Without structural changes — adequate sanitation worker staffing, scientific SWM infrastructure (transfer stations, composting plants, sanitary landfills), ongoing SWM Rules enforcement — Operation Clean Sweep risks being another high-visibility, low-sustainability campaign. Four weeks of geo-tagged accountability cannot substitute for year-round institutional infrastructure.

Critical Analysis

Operation Clean Sweep is well-designed: four-week phase sequence is operationally intelligent, monsoon timing is deliberate, geo-tagged reporting is a genuine governance innovation. The SASA-to-execution speed (5 days) reflects the administrative agility AP is demonstrating across sectors (compare: AMCA cleared in 36 days, SAEL solar 11 months, Clean Sweep planned in 5 days).

The critical challenge is sustainability. Behavioural change requires more than four weeks. Sustained norm change needs: regular enforcement (not just campaign periods), community ownership (Ward Sanitation Committees as permanent monitors), infrastructure adequacy (publicly accessible toilets, sufficient dustbins), and positive incentives (clean ward awards, neighbourhood competitions). Going forward: institutionalise geo-tagged reporting as a permanent daily ULB accountability tool; establish AP Urban Sanitation Index (APUSI) with quarterly public rankings; create Ward Sanitation Committees with formal oversight; fast-track SBM-U 2.0 applications for ULBs demonstrating Operation Clean Sweep outcomes; link MAUD budget allocations to ULB sanitation performance.

💡 VALUE ADDITION Constitutional: Art 243W (Powers of Municipalities — Schedule XII includes sanitation) | SWM Rules 2016 (source segregation mandate) | Environment Protection Act 1986 | Municipal Solid Wastes Rules 2000 || SDGs: SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities — Target 11.6: reduce adverse environmental impact, waste management) | SDG 3 (Prevent waterborne diseases) | SDG 6 (Prevent drain/water body contamination) || Policy: SBM Urban Phase II (2021-2026, ₹1.41 lakh cr) | ODF++ target | National Urban Sanitation Policy 2008

| AMRUT 2.0 | SASA programme AP || Cross-ref: SASA announcement Narasannapeta (17 May) | Swachh Andhra plastic ban hint (17 May) | AP Cyber Guard geo-tagged monitoring (16 May) — same technology || Institutions: MAUD Department AP | 123 ULBs | District Collectors | Municipal Commissioners | SBM-U (MoHUA) | AMRUT Mission | CAG

[తెలుగు]

సందర్భం

AP ప్రభుత్వం 123 ULBలలో ఆపరేషన్ క్లీన్ స్వీప్ — 23 మే – 20 జూన్ 2026. 4 వారాల దశలు: చెత్త బ్లాక్ స్పాట్లు → నాలాలు/వరద కాలువలు → వ్యర్థ వర్గీకరణ → పబ్లిక్ టాయ్లెట్లు. జియో-ట్యాగ్ రిపోర్టింగ్. SASA భాగం. 'రోటీన్ శానిటేషన్ నుండి ఫలితం-ఆధారిత మిషన్ కు మార్పు.'

ముఖ్య అంశాలు

- 4-వారాల దశ క్రమం:** వారం 1: కనిపించే శీఘ్ర విజయాలు → వారం 2: వర్షాకాల ముందు నాలా స్వచ్ఛం → వారం 3: కష్టమైన వ్యర్థ వర్గీకరణ → వారం 4: అత్యంత నిర్లక్ష్యమైన పబ్లిక్ టాయ్లెట్లు. క్రమం = ప్రారంభ ప్రజా దృశ్యత → క్రమేణా కష్టమైన మార్పులు.
- వర్షాకాల సమయం:** AP వర్షాకాలం జూన్ లో. 23 మే – 20 జూన్ = ఉద్దేశపూర్వక ముందస్తు వర్షాకాల శుభ్రత. విజయవాడ 2024 పట్టణ వరద = నాలా అడ్డంకుల పరిణామం.
- జియో-ట్యాగ్ రిపోర్టింగ్:** GPS + ఫోటో = నిజ-సమయ ధృవీకరణ. స్వయం-నివేదన అవినీతి నివారణ. CAG ఆడిట్ ఆధారాలు. AP సైబర్ గార్డ్ (16 మే) మాదిరిగా ఇతర రంగాల్లో నకలు చేయదగిన పాలన ఆవిష్కరణ.
- SBM-U 2.0 అనుగుణం:** ODF++ + SWM = జాతీయ ₹1.41 లక్షల కోట్ల SBM-U 2.0 నిధులకు యాక్సెస్. నిరూపించబడిన ఫలితాలు = AP ULBలకు కేంద్ర గ్రాంట్ల మార్గం.

విమర్శనాత్మక విశ్లేషణ

సరైన రూపకల్పన — 4 వారాల క్రమం + వర్షాకాల సమయం + జియో-ట్యాగ్ జవాబుదారీతనం. SASA నుండి అమలుకు 5 రోజులు = AP పరిపాలనా వేగం. కీలక సవాలు: కాంపెయిన్ అనంతర నిలకడ. నిర్మాణాత్మక మార్పులు: తగిన SWM మౌలిక + నిరంతర SWM నియమాల అమలు + కమ్యూనిటీ ప్రమేయం. ముందుకు: జియో-ట్యాగ్ రిపోర్టింగ్ శాశ్వత సాధనంగా + AP పట్టణ పరిశుభ్రత సూచిక + వార్డ్ శానిటేషన్ కమిటీలు.