



Swachhta Pakhwara

Why in News?

Recently, the Ministry of Railways has launched “**Swachhta Pakhwara**” across Indian Railways.

- The Ministry also released the **Annual Report on Environment Sustainability**.

What are the Key Highlights?

- The Ministry of Railways is observing Swachhta Pakdwara from 16th September 2022 to 30th September 2022.
- Special focus will be given **on cleanliness of tracks at stations, approach to major stations and elimination of plastic waste** in Railway premises.
- During the Pakhwara, intensive cleaning and sanitization of stations, trains, tracks, colonies and other railway establishments **is being carried out with special focus on [plastic waste management](#)**.
- Extensive awareness campaigns are planned to be carried out **through digital media/public announcement through Public Address systems** to educate people about the use of bio-toilets, avoiding single-use plastic, and observing cleanliness habits.

What is Swachhta Pakhwara?

- It was started in April 2016.
- It aims **to bring a fortnight of intense focus on the issues and practices of Swachhta by engaging** GOI Ministries/Departments in their jurisdictions.
- The Ministries observing Swachhata Pakhwada are **monitored closely using the online monitoring system of Swachhata Samiksha** where action plans, images, videos related to Swachhata activities are uploaded and shared.

What are the Initiatives related to Cleanliness?

- [World Environment Day \(5th June\)](#)
- [Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016](#)
- [India Plastics Pact](#)
- [Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0.](#)
- [National Mission for Clean Ganga](#)

What is the Annual Environment Sustainability Report?

- **About:**
 - It is a comprehensive referral document highlighting **steps taken by Indian Railways to promote green environment and clean energy**.
 - This report brings out **Railways’ effort towards [net zero emission](#)** such as energy conservation measures, alternate fuel, harnessing renewable energy, water conservation, afforestation, green certification of stations and establishments, bio toilets, solid waste management etc.

▪ **Vision:**

- To promote **green environment and clean energy** while making the Indian Railways a global leader in **sustainable mass transport solutions**.

[Source: PIB](#)

PDF Refernece URL: <https://www.drishtias.com/printpdf/swachhta-pakhwara>

