

Daily Defence Current Affairs

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National Pollution Control Day

- National Pollution Control Day is observed on December 2nd to commemorate the victims of the 1984 Bhopal Gas Tragedy and to raise awareness about pollution control and environmental protection.
- The day serves as a reminder of the devastating consequences of industrial negligence and encourages individuals and governments to adopt eco-friendly practices and stronger regulations to prevent pollution.
- The day honors the memory of those who died in the **Bhopal Gas Tragedy**, which occurred on **December 2, 1984**, when a gas leak at a **Union Carbide pesticide plant** released toxic **methyl isocyanate gas**.
- The theme for 2025 is “**Sustainable Living for a Greener Future.**”
- **Action:**
 - The day encourages various actions to control pollution, such as:
 - Using public transport, carpooling, or cycling instead of private vehicles.
 - Reducing the use of single-use plastics and using reusable bags.
 - Properly disposing of waste and segregating it into wet and dry categories.
 - Planting more trees and conserving energy and water.



Air Marshal Tejbir Singh Takes Over as DG (Inspection & Safety)

- Air Marshal Tejbir Singh has assumed the position of Director General (Inspection and Safety) [DG (I&S)] at the Air Headquarters on 01 December 2025. This appointment marks another milestone in his distinguished journey in the Indian Air Force (IAF).
- With an illustrious service record of 37 years, Air Marshal Tejbir Singh has held several important command and staff roles. His experience includes serving as Air Attaché to Bangladesh, Senior Directing Staff at the National Defence College in New Delhi, and Assistant Chief of Air Staff Operations (Transport & Helicopters) at Air Headquarters.



Sanchar Saathi Mandatory in All Phones

- The Government has instructed all smartphone makers to pre-install the Sanchar Saathi app on every new device sold in India.
- It also wants the app pushed to older phones through software updates, ensuring the app remains visible, active, and cannot be removed or disabled by users. Companies must comply within 90 days and submit reports within 120 days.
- According to the Government, the move is meant to protect users against rising telecom cyber threats, such as fake IMEI numbers and fraudulent mobile connections. The app is being promoted as a tool to block stolen phones, detect misuse, and improve telecom security.
- It enables citizens to:
 - Block lost or stolen phones
 - Check IMEI authenticity
 - Identify how many mobile numbers are linked to their documents
 - Report suspicious activity
 - Support police in tracing device misuse



UNFPA India Honors IUSSP for 2025

- The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) India honoured the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) for winning the 2025 United Nations Population Award in the Institutional Category. The award recognises IUSSP's outstanding work in population research and support for evidence-based policymaking worldwide.
- The felicitation was held during the 46th Annual Conference of the Indian Association for the Study of Population (IASP), highlighting important discussions on India's demographic future.
- IUSSP, led by Dr. Shireen Jejeebhoy (President, 2022-2025), received the award for its exceptional contributions to global population science and fostering collaboration among demographers.
- The IASP 46th Annual Conference (27–29 November 2025), themed “**People, Planet, Prosperity: Demographic Drivers of India's Inclusive Growth**”, focuses on using India's large youth population for inclusive and sustainable development.



IGI Becomes India's First Water-Positive Airport

- Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGI) has earned the title of India's first water-positive airport among facilities handling more than 40 million passengers annually. This certification marks a milestone in sustainable airport operations and environmental stewardship.
- Being water-positive means the facility replenishes more freshwater than it consumes. IGI achieved this goal by expanding rainwater harvesting, investing in storage systems and adopting advanced recycling mechanisms. The recognition was formally conferred at the Water Innovation Summit 2025 under the NITI Aayog–CII water neutrality framework.
- IGI Airport's large-scale water infrastructure includes:
 - 625 rainwater harvesting structures
 - Two underground reservoirs with a combined 9-million-litre capacity
 - A 16.6 million-litre-per-day (MLD) zero-liquid-discharge sewage treatment plant



IBTP Chief Praveen Kumar Takes Additional Charge as DG of BSF

- Praveen Kumar, the current Director General of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), has now taken additional charge as the Director General of the Border Security Force (BSF). He stepped into this role on Sunday after the retirement of former BSF chief Daljit Singh Chawdhary.
- The responsibility was officially handed over at a BSF camp in Raipur, Chhattisgarh. Usually, such ceremonies are held at the BSF headquarters in New Delhi. However, this time it took place in Raipur because both officers were attending the DGs-IGs national police conference being held from Friday to Sunday.
- Praveen Kumar is a 1993-batch IPS officer from the West Bengal cadre. Before becoming the 35th ITBP chief in October 2024, he worked in several important roles:
- Served in the Intelligence Bureau (IB) from 2009
- Worked as Deputy Inspector General (DIG) in the Naxal-affected Midnapore Range
- Led multiple security operations in challenging areas



New CBIC Chairman

- The Government of India has appointed Vivek Chaturvedi, a 1990-batch Indian Revenue Service (Customs & Indirect Taxes) officer, as the new Chairman of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC).
- His selection was approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet, as mentioned in an order issued by the Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT).
- Vivek Chaturvedi is a senior IRS officer with more than 30 years of experience in the field of indirect taxes. Over the years, he has worked in several key positions, contributing to tax administration, compliance, and policy matters.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Who has assumed the position of Director General (Inspection and Safety) [DG (I&S)] at the Air Headquarters?

- A. Air Marshal S.P. Dharkar
- B. Air Marshal Tejbir Singh
- C. Air Marshal V.R. Chaudhari
- D. Air Marshal Manav Singh

Answer: B. Air Marshal Tejbir Singh

2. National Pollution Control Day 2025 is observed on which date?

- A. 1 December
- B. 2 December
- C. 5 December
- D. 15 December

Answer: B. 2 December

3. What is the theme of National Pollution Control Day 2025?

- A. Clean Air for All
- B. Healthy Environment, Healthy Future
- C. Sustainable Living for a Greener Future
- D. Beat Plastic Pollution

Answer: C. Sustainable Living for a Greener Future

4. UNFPA primarily works in which of the following domains?

- A. Education and digital literacy
- B. Sexual and reproductive health
- C. Disaster management
- D. Climate policy

Answer: B. Sexual and reproductive health

5. Which organization won the 2025 United Nations Population Award in the Institutional Category?

- A. WHO
- B. UNICEF
- C. IUSSP
- D. UNESCO

Answer: C. IUSSP

6. The Government has mandated smartphone companies to pre-install which app on all new devices?

- A. Aarogya Setu
- B. Sanchar Saathi
- C. DigiLocker
- D. UMANG

Answer: B. Sanchar Saathi

7. Within how many days must smartphone makers comply with pre-installing the Sanchar Saathi app?

- A. 30 days
- B. 60 days
- C. 90 days
- D. 120 days

Answer: C. 90 days

8. Which airport has become India's first water-positive airport handling over 40 million passengers annually?

- A. Mumbai International Airport
- B. Kempegowda International Airport
- C. Rajiv Gandhi International Airport
- D. Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGI), Delhi

Answer: D. Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGI), Delhi

9. Who has taken additional charge as the Director General of the Border Security Force (BSF)?

- A. Pankaj Singh
- B. Praveen Kumar
- C. Rakesh Asthana
- D. Sanjay Arora

Answer: B. Praveen Kumar

10. Who has been appointed as the new Chairman of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)?

- A. Sanjay Kumar Agarwal
- B. Vivek Johri
- C. Vivek Chaturvedi
- D. Pranab Kumar Das

Answer: C. Vivek Chaturvedi

