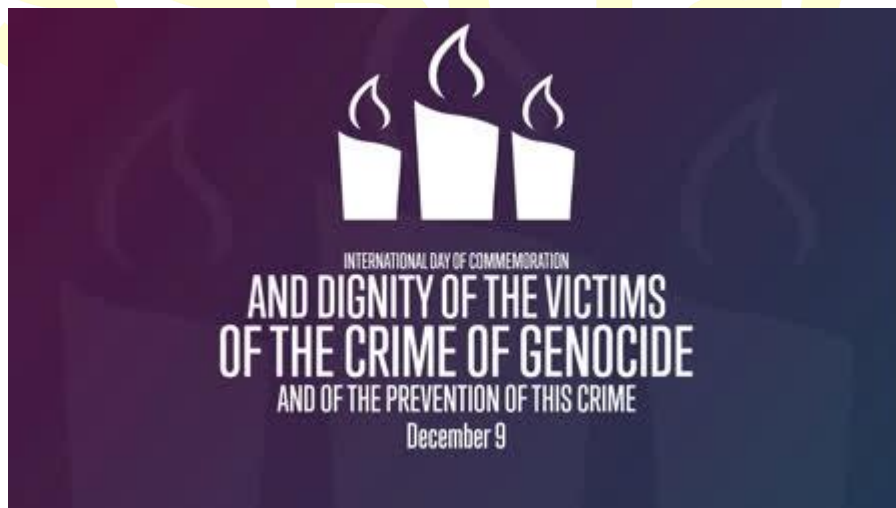


# Daily Defence Current Affairs

## 09 December 2025

### International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of Genocide Victims

- The International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide and of the Prevention of this Crime is observed every year on December 9, marking a solemn moment to reflect on the horrors of genocide, honour its victims, and renew global commitment to preventing such crimes.
- This year, 2025, marks the tenth anniversary of this UN-designated day, providing an opportunity to assess international progress, confront new challenges, and strengthen mechanisms that uphold human dignity, accountability, and justice.



### International Anti-Corruption Day 2025

- Every year, December 9 is observed as International Anti-Corruption Day, a global initiative led by the United Nations to raise awareness about corruption and its harmful impact on governance, development, and society.
- For 2025, the focus is on empowering young people under the theme “**Uniting with Youth Against Corruption: Shaping Tomorrow’s Integrity.**”

- The United Nations designated 9 December as International Anti-Corruption Day in 2003. The day commemorates the adoption of the UN Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC), a legally binding instrument encouraging nations to prevent and combat corruption.
- Least Corrupt Nations 2025
- Denmark — 90
- Finland — 88
- Singapore — 84
- New Zealand — 83
- Luxembourg — 81
- Norway — 81
- Switzerland — 81
- Sweden — 80
- Netherlands — 78
- Australia — 77
- Iceland — 77
- Ireland — 77
- India scored 38/100 on the 2024 CPI and ranked 96th out of 180 countries.
- This reflects ongoing concerns about bureaucratic delays, opaque procedures, and misuse of authority.



## UPI Recognized as World's Largest Real-Time Payment

- In a landmark recognition of India's digital infrastructure, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in its June 2025 report titled "Growing Retail Digital Payments (The Value of Interoperability)" declared Unified Payments Interface (UPI) as the world's largest real-time payment system by transaction volume.
- Complementing this recognition, the ACI Worldwide report titled "Prime Time for Real-Time 2024" confirmed that UPI accounts for 49% of global real-time transactions, a figure that cements India's position as a global fintech leader.
- UPI is a real-time payment system developed by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) under the supervision of the RBI. It allows users to instantly transfer money between bank accounts via mobile devices using unique identifiers like UPI IDs or QR codes.

Country	Transaction Volume (in billions)	Global Share
India	129.3	49%

Brazil	37.4	14%
Thailand	20.4	8%
China	17.2	6%
South Korea	9.1	3%
Others	52.8	20%

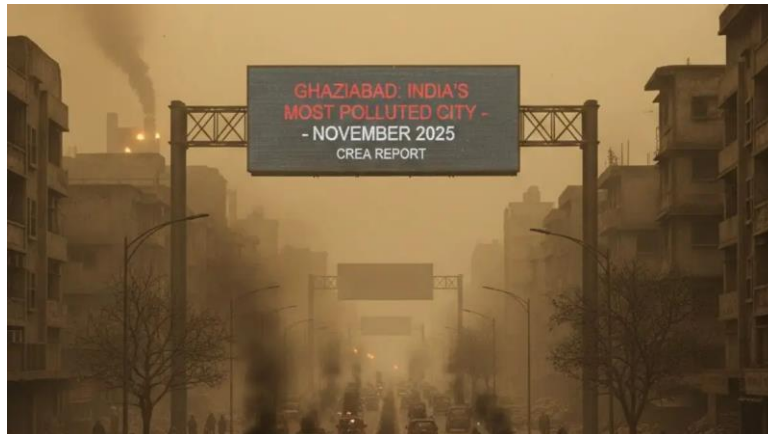
## World's Youngest FIDE-Rated Chess Player

- In December 2025, India marked yet another historic milestone in global chess as 3-year-old Sarwagya Singh Kushwaha from Madhya Pradesh became the youngest officially rated chess player in the world.
- At just 3 years, 7 months, and 20 days old, he entered the records of the International Chess Federation (FIDE) with a rapid rating of 1572—far exceeding the baseline 1400 required for official recognition.
- This groundbreaking feat has captured the attention of the global chess community, not only for the prodigious ability Sarwagya has shown at such a young age but also for what it signifies about India's growing prominence in the world of chess.
- Sarwagya was born in 2022 in Sagar district, Madhya Pradesh. His parents noticed his exceptional learning abilities when he was just two and a half years old. According to his father, Sarwagya could identify all the chess pieces within a week of being introduced to the game—a strong sign of his quick grasp and mental alertness.



## Ghaziabad Becomes India's Most Polluted City

- As the winter smog season gripped northern India, Ghaziabad — a key city in the National Capital Region (NCR) — recorded the worst air pollution levels in the country for the month of November 2025.
- A recent report by the Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air (CREA) found that PM<sub>2.5</sub> levels in Ghaziabad reached 224 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, far exceeding safe limits. This new data highlights the continuing public health challenge posed by winter air pollution in the NCR, even as stubble burning events reportedly declined compared to previous years.
- **Top 10 Most Polluted Cities in India – November 2025**
- Ghaziabad (UP) – PM<sub>2.5</sub>: 224 µg/m<sup>3</sup>
- Noida (UP)
- Bahadurgarh (Haryana)
- Delhi – PM<sub>2.5</sub>: 215 µg/m<sup>3</sup>
- Hapur (UP)
- Greater Noida (UP)
- Baghpat (UP)
- Sonipat (Haryana)
- Meerut (UP)
- Rohtak (Haryana)



## DHRUVA: India's Digital Hub

- India is set to redefine how addresses are used and validated in the digital age with the launch of DHRUVA – Digital Hub for Reference and Unique Virtual Address. This new framework, proposed by the Department of Posts under the Ministry of Communications, envisions a fully digitised address ecosystem that enables secure, verified, and interoperable use of address data for public and private services.
- With India expanding its Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI), DHRUVA is seen as a cornerstone initiative that will introduce “Address as a Service” (AaaS), aimed at making address data more reliable, user-friendly, and service-integrated.
- DHRUVA is a digital addressing system that will assign Digital Address Identifiers (DAI) to existing physical addresses. These digital IDs will simplify address validation, improve delivery accuracy, and support digital governance across sectors like,
  - Logistics
  - E-commerce
  - Finance
  - Public welfare schemes





## REVIEW QUESTIONS

**1. The International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide is observed every year on:**

- A. December 7
- B. December 8
- C. December 9
- D. December 10

**Answer: C. December 9**

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**2. International Anti-Corruption Day is observed every year on:**

- A. December 5
- B. December 7
- C. December 9
- D. December 11

**Answer: C. December 9**

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**3. The theme for International Anti-Corruption Day 2025 is:**

- A. Youth for Transparency
- B. Uniting with Youth Against Corruption: Shaping Tomorrow's Integrity
- C. Corruption-Free Future

D. Young Voices Against Fraud

**Answer: B. Uniting with Youth Against Corruption: Shaping Tomorrow's Integrity**

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**4. Which organization released the June 2025 report titled "Growing Retail Digital Payments (The Value of Interoperability)"?**

A. World Bank

B. UNESCO

C. IMF

D. UNDP

**Answer: C. IMF**

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**5. According to the IMF report (June 2025), the world's largest real-time payment system by transaction volume is:**

A. FedNow

B. SWIFT

C. UPI

D. PayNow

**Answer: C. UPI**

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**6. Unified Payments Interface (UPI) was developed by:**

A. Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

B. National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)

C. Ministry of Finance

D. NITI Aayog

**Answer: B. National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)**

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**7. In December 2025, who became the youngest officially rated chess player in the world?**

A. Nihal Sarin

B. Sarwagya Singh Kushwaha

C. D. Gukesh

D. Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa

**Answer: B. Sarwagya Singh Kushwaha**



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**8. Sarwagya Singh Kushwaha, the youngest rated chess player in 2025, belongs to which Indian state?**

- A. Uttar Pradesh
- B. Maharashtra
- C. Madhya Pradesh
- D. Rajasthan

**Answer: C. Madhya Pradesh**

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**9. Which city recorded the worst air pollution levels in India in November 2025?**

- A. Delhi
- B. Lucknow
- C. Ghaziabad
- D. Faridabad

**Answer: C. Ghaziabad**

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**10. DHRUVA, recently proposed by the Department of Posts, is associated with:**

- A. Digital marketplace regulation
- B. Digital address validation and interoperability
- C. Cybersecurity for banks
- D. Drone-based delivery system

**Answer: B. Digital address validation and interoperability**