



EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – MARCH 11, 2026

TAMILNADU

- **International Status for Madurai Airport**
- ✓ The Union Cabinet of India has granted international status to Madurai Airport on March 10, 2026.
- ✓ This decision will allow the airport to handle international passenger flights, improving connectivity between Madurai and global destinations. It strengthens aviation infrastructure and makes travel easier for tourists, businesses and the Indian diaspora.
- ✓ The move is expected to boost tourism in Madurai, especially for pilgrims visiting the famous Meenakshi Amman Temple.
- ✓ It will also support economic growth, trade, investment and employment opportunities in southern districts of Tamil Nadu by improving international connectivity.

NATIONAL

- **Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0**
- ✓ The Union Cabinet of India has approved the extension of the Jal Jeevan Mission until December 2028, introducing an upgraded phase called JJM 2.0.
- ✓ The mission will now shift its focus from infrastructure creation to sustainable service delivery of rural drinking water.

- ✓ The revised programme has a total outlay of ₹8.69 lakh crore, with the central government increasing its share to ₹3.59 lakh crore to strengthen water supply systems across rural India.
- ✓ A new digital monitoring framework called Sujalam Bharat will map the entire rural water supply chain, assigning each village a unique “Sujal Gaon” ID for better tracking and transparency.
- **Essential Commodities Act to Secure LPG Supply**
- ✓ The Government of India has invoked the Essential Commodities Act (ECA), 1955 to ensure stable domestic supplies of LPG and natural gas amid West Asia tensions following attacks on Iran.
- ✓ Under the ECA, refineries must maximize LPG output, OMCs must prioritize household supply, and a 25-day booking window is mandated to prevent hoarding.
- ✓ The Natural Gas Supply Regulation Order 2026 prioritizes domestic PNG, CNG for transport, and fertilizer plants to ensure essential services and agriculture are uninterrupted.
- ✓ This move safeguards energy security, stabilizes prices, and ensures fair distribution during extraordinary geopolitical disruptions.

DEFENCE

- **Exercise Lamitiye 2026**
- ✓ The 11th edition of Exercise Lamitiye 2026 between India and Seychelles is being conducted from 9-20 March 2026 at the Seychelles Defence Academy to strengthen military cooperation.
- ✓ The Indian contingent includes personnel from the Assam Regiment, along with participation from the Indian Navy and Indian Air Force, including INS Trikand and a Lockheed C-130 Hercules aircraft.
- ✓ The biennial exercise LAMITIYE (meaning “Friendship” in Creole) aims to enhance joint operational capabilities, peacekeeping cooperation, and interoperability between the armed forces of both countries.

