

March - 11

TNPSC BITS

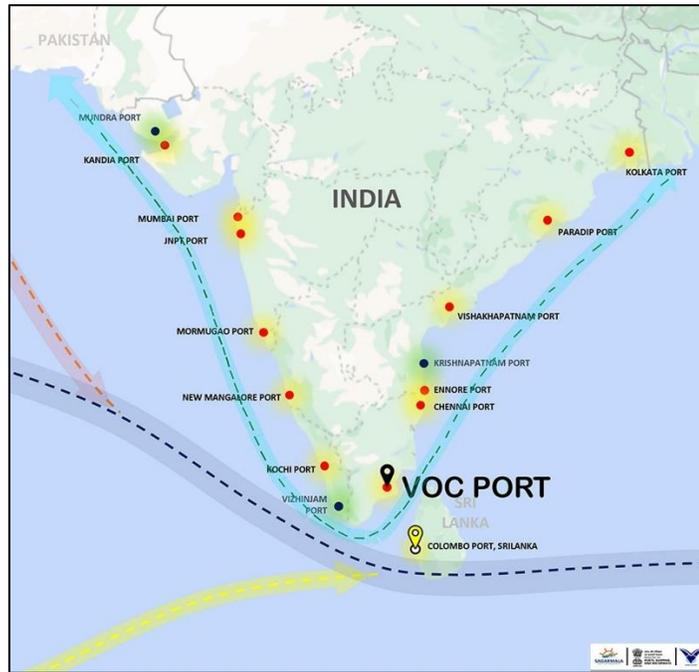
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government has constituted an expert committee to draft “Pet and Community Dog Bye-laws” to regulate or ban aggressive and dangerous dog breeds.
- ❖ The first edition of the Khelo India Tribal Games 2026 will be held in Chhattisgarh from 26 March to 6 April 2026.
- ❖ Mojtaba Khamenei, son of former Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, has reportedly been chosen as Iran’s next Supreme Leader.
 - He will be the third Supreme Leader of the Republic, after Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, founder of the republic, and Ali Khamenei, who held the position for 37 years.
- ❖ India won the ICC Men’s T20 Cricket World Cup 2026 by defeating New Zealand in the final Match, held at Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
- ❖ Kerala Police will launch the Nirbhaya Nisha initiative to enhance the night-time safety of women across Kerala by providing rapid police assistance to women travelling at night.
- ❖ Union Sports Minister unveiled the logo of the Cycling League of India (CLI), the world’s first franchise-based road cycling league.
- ❖ Jan Aushadhi Diwas is celebrated every year on 7 March to spread awareness about affordable generic medicines available at Pradhan Mantri Bharatiya Jan Aushadhi Kendras (PMBJAKs) under the Pradhan Mantri Bharatiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP).

TAMIL NADU NEWS

VOC Port - Berth 9 Container Terminal

- ❖ Berth 9 at V.O. Chidambaranar Port operates under the Public–Private Partnership (PPP) model and functions as a container terminal.
- ❖ Around 45% of the workforce at Berth 9 are women, working in administrative and other operational positions.
- ❖ V.O. Chidambaranar Port is located in Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu, and it is one of the 13 major ports in India; it was declared a major port on 11 July 1974.

- ❖ The port is the second largest port in Tamil Nadu and has the third largest container terminal in India.



Parandur Airport - Special Project

Parandur Airport Declared Special Project By TN

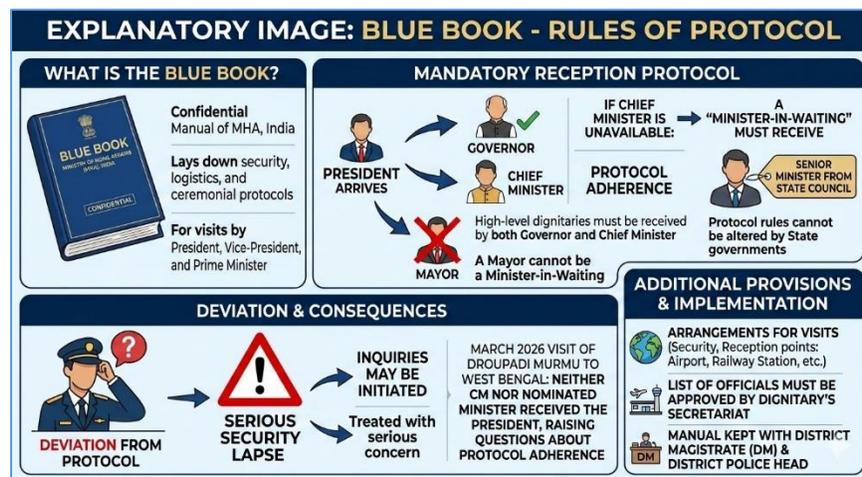
The Tamil Nadu government has notified the Parandur Greenfield Airport as a “Special Project” under the Tamil Nadu Land Consolidation (for Special Projects) Act, 2023. The status allows faster land consolidation, simplified acquisition and quicker approvals for major infrastructure works. The notification published in the Gazette enables authorities to expedite land pooling & development of Chennai’s proposed second airport.

- ❖ The Government of Tamil Nadu has notified the Parandur Greenfield Airport Project as a “Special Project” under the Tamil Nadu Land Consolidation (for Special Projects) Act, 2023.
- ❖ The project has been declared a Special Project to expedite land acquisition and approval processes.

- ❖ Under the Act, projects requiring more than 100 hectares of land can be declared Special Projects to enable faster land consolidation.
- ❖ The airport project requires 5,746 acres of land, of which about 1,700 acres have been acquired so far.
- ❖ The State government will form a five-member expert committee to conduct public hearings and prepare a draft land consolidation scheme.
- ❖ The ₹27,400-crore project, planned in four phases, will have a capacity to handle 100 million passengers per year after completion.

NATIONAL NEWS

Blue Book - Rules of Protocol



- ❖ During the March 2026 visit of Droupadi Murmu to West Bengal, neither the Chief Minister nor a nominated Minister received the President, raising questions about the 'Blue Book' protocol rules.
- ❖ The 'Blue Book' is a confidential manual of the Ministry of Home Affairs that lays down security, logistics, and ceremonial protocols for visits by the President, Vice-President, and Prime Minister of India.
- ❖ It mandates that high-level dignitaries must be received by the Governor and Chief Minister, and all venue security and administrative arrangements must follow approved procedures.
- ❖ If the Chief Minister is unavailable, a "Minister-in-Waiting" (usually a senior Minister from the State Council of Ministers) should receive the President according to protocol.
- ❖ As per the rules, a Mayor of a Municipal Corporation cannot be given the status of a Minister-in-Waiting, and the protocol rules cannot be altered by State governments for convenience.

- ❖ The Blue Book also defines all arrangements for such visits, including reception points at airports, railway stations, road entry points, or seaports, and the list of officials receiving the dignitary must be approved by the respective secretariat of the President, Vice-President, or Prime Minister.
- ❖ The manual is kept at the district level with the District Magistrate and the head of the district police, and any deviation from its provisions is treated as a serious security lapse and may lead to inquiries.

Green Ammonia and Green Methanol Standards



- ❖ The Government of India has announced the standards for Green Ammonia and Green Methanol under the National Green Hydrogen Mission to promote trade in green hydrogen derivatives.
- ❖ The standards were issued by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy to define eligibility conditions and emission limits for classifying ammonia and methanol as “green” fuels.
- ❖ The Green Ammonia Standard requires non-biogenic greenhouse gas emissions not exceeding 0.38 kg CO₂ equivalent per kg of ammonia.
- ❖ The Green Methanol Standard requires non-biogenic greenhouse gas emissions not exceeding 0.44 kg CO₂ equivalent per kg of methanol.
- ❖ Carbon dioxide for green methanol production may come from biogenic sources, direct air capture, or existing industrial sources, and detailed rules for measurement, monitoring, verification, and certification will be issued separately.

REPORTS AND INDICES

State of India's Environment Report 2026

- ❖ The Centre for Science and Environment has released the State of India's Environment Report 2026, highlighting major environmental challenges in India.
- ❖ It states that extreme weather events occurred on 99% of days in 2025, causing 4,419 deaths and affecting 17.41 million hectares of crops.
- ❖ It notes rising human-tiger conflicts, linked to growing tiger populations, habitat pressure, and increased human settlements near forests.
- ❖ The report highlights gaps in air pollution monitoring, stating that only about 15% of India's population lives within 10 km of a continuous air-quality monitoring station, leaving most regions without adequate pollution data.



STATE NEWS

Local Body Elections in Puducherry

- ❖ A Public Interest Litigation (PIL) has been filed in the Madras High Court seeking directions to conduct local body elections in the Union Territory of Puducherry.
- ❖ The Madras High Court has issued notices to the Puducherry Government and the State Election Commission regarding the conduct of local body elections.
- ❖ During French rule, elected communes and municipalities were created to support grassroots democratic governance in the region before its liberation in 1954.
- ❖ Elections to local bodies were held until 1968, after which they stopped for about 38 years.

- ❖ After the issue was raised in Parliament, local body elections were conducted in Puducherry in 2006.
- ❖ The tenure of these local bodies ended in 2011, and no local body elections have been held in the Union Territory since then.
- ❖ The Common Election Commission for Union Territories, created under Articles 243-K and 243-ZA of the Constitution, conducts elections for Panchayats and Municipalities in Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, and Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu, and Ladakh was added to this commission in September 2023.



MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

International Year of the Woman Farmer 2026



- ❖ The issue of gender, agriculture, and climate change is in focus as the United Nations declared 2026 as the International Year of the Woman Farmer, highlighted during International Women's Day.



- ❖ In India, about 80% of rural women are engaged in agriculture and perform nearly 70% of farm work, contributing 75% in crop production, 79% in horticulture, and 95% in animal husbandry and fisheries.
- ❖ Despite their role, only about 13.9% of agricultural landholdings are registered in the name of women.
- ❖ Climate change further increases women's vulnerability and, in the absence of adequate resources, they are forced to perform farm work and unpaid domestic work, as well as face various natural disasters such as droughts and floods.
- ❖ Rising of the male migration from the rural areas has led to the “feminisation of agriculture.”

