

## UPSC Daily Current Affairs| One Liners 11-03-2026

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#### History, Art and Culture

##### Global Engagement Scheme

Grant in Aid is provided to International Organizations for promoting Durga Puja Globally.

- **Launched in** - 2025

- **Nodal ministry** - Ministry of Culture.

- **Aim** - To elevate India's cultural footprint globally through purposeful partnerships, curated festivals, and strategic contributions.

##### Durga Puja in Kolkata

- It is 10-day celebration of Goddess Durga.

- **Traditional practices** - Worship of clay idols in elaborately decorated pandals.

- Folk music, crafts, culinary arts, and performances add vibrancy.

- **Reach** - Though rooted in West Bengal, it is celebrated across India and globally by the Bengali diaspora.

- **UNESCO Recognition** - It was inscribed on UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage list during the Intergovernmental Committee's 16<sup>th</sup> virtual session.

- **Significance** - Highlights the festival's cultural richness and global importance.

##### UNESCO's Representative List

- **As per 2003 Convention** - It promotes protection of oral traditions, performing arts, rituals, festive events, and traditional knowledge passed across generations.

- **Objective** - To enhance visibility, safeguard traditions, and raise awareness of intangible heritage.

- **Current status** - It includes 492 elements showcasing diverse cultural practices worldwide.

#### Government Policies

## **Madurai Airport - International Status**

- **Approved by** - Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister of India.
- **Location** - Madurai Airport, one of Tamil Nadu's oldest, situated in the historic Temple City.

- **Strategic role** - To serves as a key gateway to Southern Tamil Nadu.

### **Objectives**

- To enhances regional and international connectivity.

- To boost tourism and pilgrimage traffic.

- To promote trade and economic development.

- **Significance** - It aligns with Madurai's cultural prominence and potential to attract global visitors and businesses.

## **Greenfield Connectivity to Jewar International Airport**

*Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by PM approved the revised capital cost of Rs.3,630.77 crore for this project.*

### **Project**

- 31.42 km corridor connecting Jewar International Airport with Delhi-Faridabad-Ballabgarh-Sohna Spur of Delhi-Mumbai Expressway.

- About 11 km will be elevated, forming a critical segment between DND-Ballabgarh Bypass and Jewar Airport.

### **Connectivity benefits**

- Direct, high-speed access from South Delhi, Faridabad, and Gurugram to Jewar Airport.

- Intersects Eastern Peripheral Expressway, Yamuna Expressway, and Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) for multimodal transport.

## **Economy**

### **RBI & G-Secs**

*RBI conducted Open Market Operations (OMO), purchasing Rs.50,000 crore worth of Government Securities (G-Secs).*

- **Aim** - To inject liquidity into the banking system, offsetting tightness from advance tax outflows.

- **Impact** - It ensures banks have sufficient funds to lend, stabilizing financial markets.

### **Global context**

- **Indian Rupee declined to** - A record low of 92.36 against the US Dollar.

- **Prompted by** - Concerns over geopolitical tensions in West Asia and escalating crude oil prices, which rose to Rs.110 per barrel.

- **Impact** - As a result, high energy costs now threaten India's trade deficit, GDP growth, and inflation, given that India is a major oil importer.

- **Measure** - To counter this pressure, Intervention by the Reserve Bank of India has contributed to a slight stabilisation of the rupee.

### **Government Securities (G-Secs)**

- Debt instruments issued by the government for the purpose of raising capital.

- Considered risk-free as they are backed by a sovereign guarantee.

- Utilised by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) as an instrument of monetary policy.

### **Open Market Operations (OMO)**

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) conducts the purchase and sale of government securities in the open market.

- Purchases of government securities increase liquidity, while sales reduce liquidity in the financial system.

- Currently, the RBI is purchasing government securities to alleviate liquidity stress.

### **Agriculture**

## India's seafood exports

### Growth -

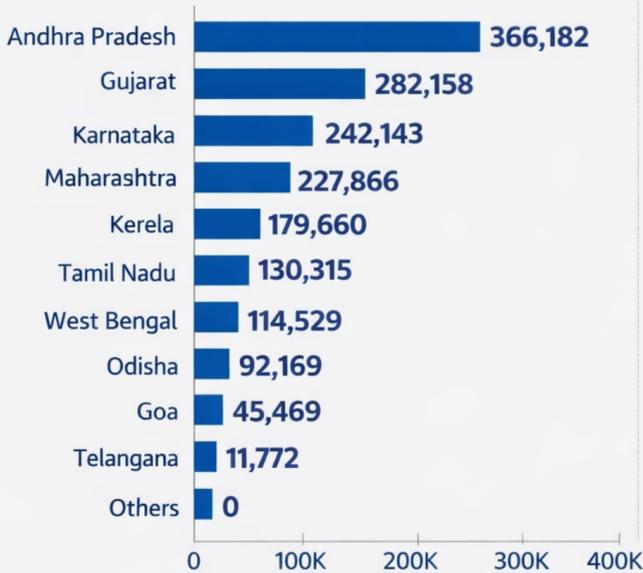
**Value** - Rose by 42.7% (Rs.43,721 crores in 2020-21 → Rs.62,408 crores in 2024-25).

**Quantity** - Rose by 47.8% in (11.49 → 16.98 lakh MT).

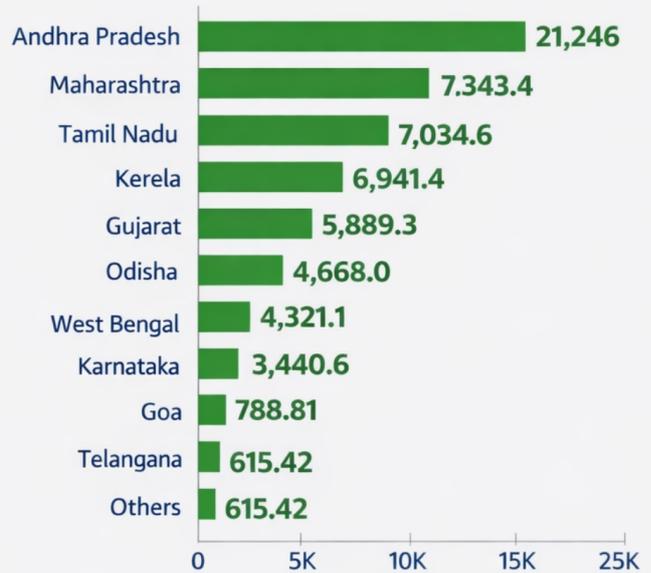
**Exports to USA** - Increased to Rs.22,723 crores and 3.46 lakh MT in 2024-25.

## State-Wise Marine Product Exports in 2024-25

Export Quantity (in Tons)

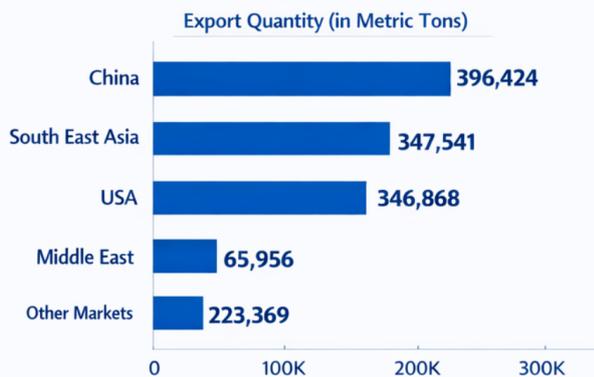


Export Value (in ₹ Crore)



## State-Wise Marine Export Data

Top Export Destinations by Quantity (2024-25)



Top Export Destinations by Value (2024-25)



Source: MPEDA

## Environment

## Lionesses

- **Title vs. reality** - Though lions are called “king of the jungle,” lionesses actually lead.

- **Female bonds** - Prides in sub-Saharan Africa and India are formed by related lionesses.

- **Hunters & Providers** - Lionesses hunt, give birth, and rear cubs together.

- **Division of labour** - Male lions focus on defence, while lionesses secure food.

- **Male dispersal** - At around four years, young males leave their pride.

- **Success factor** - New groups thrive only when strong lionesses join.

