

Daily Current Affairs

29 August 2026

Praggnanandhaa Becomes First Indian to Win Grand Chess Tour

- Grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa made history recently by becoming the first-ever Indian to win the Grand Chess Tour. R Praggnanandhaa made an incredible comeback from six points down against **American Grandmaster Fabiano Caruana** and won 15-13 on the decisive day at the **Saint Louis Chess Club**.
- This has enabled him to claim his first Grand Chess Tour title and USD 200,000 as prize money. It is one more landmark event for Praggnanandhaa who has already stunned everyone with his Norway Chess victory.
- Earlier in the year, he won the **Norway Chess** for the first time and that too without being seeded. In the tournament, he had won two games against **world No. 1 Magnus Carlsen**.



India Finish 8th in FIH World Cup

- The Indian men's hockey team finished their participation in the FIH World Cup at the eighth spot after losing to Belgium 4-3 in the shootout stage despite ending the game at a tie score of 3-3 at Wavre.
- India started well thanks to a goal from Abhishek, while two goals by their skipper Harmanpreet Singh helped the team end up drawing and thus forcing the match into a shootout stage.
- India were able to score in three out of the four shootout attempts via Shilanand Lakra, Dilpreet Singh and Abhishek.
- But Belgium showed more staying power than India during the shootout and won the shootout 4-3.
- India thus ended up being placed eighth in the tournament while Belgium took the seventh position.



Trump Renames Lake Ontario as Lake America in US

- US President Donald Trump has signed an executive order to change the name of Lake Ontario to “Lake America” for all the federal purposes within the United States.
- The executive order was signed on August 27th 2026, after the growing tension between the United States and Canada. According to the White House, the executive order is meant to reflect the historical significance of the lake to the US.
- This executive order is called “Honoring the American History of the Great Lakes and Renaming Lake Ontario as Lake America,” and requires the US Interior Department to undertake efforts to rename this lake in US geographical records.
- Lake Ontario is one of the Great Lakes of North America. It is situated between the state of New York in the United States and Ontario in Canada.
- The lake plays an important role in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence water system, used for shipping, industry, agriculture, as well as provision of drinking water.



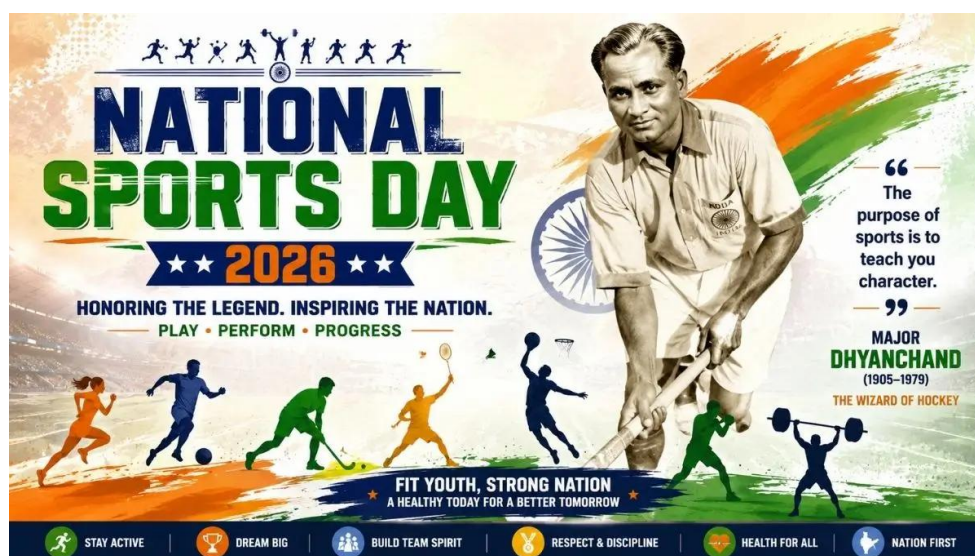
World Sanskrit Day 2026

- World Sanskrit Day 2026 celebrated on Friday, August 28th, 2026, to celebrate the culture, literature, and intellect of one of the most ancient classical languages of India. Known as Sanskrit Diwas or Vishva Sanskrit Diwas, the day is celebrated on the **Purnima (full moon day) of Shravana month**.
- The day offers a chance to study the contributions of the language in Indian literature, philosophy, science, religion, and linguistics while motivating the students and the young generation to learn about the language and its significance.
- Sanskrit boasts rich literary heritage comprising religious, philosophical, scientific and literary works. The Vedas were composed in Vedic Sanskrit, and subsequent literary works written in Sanskrit include Ramayana, Mahabharata, Abhijnanashakuntalam, Raghuvarsha and Kumarasambhava.



National Sports Day 2026

- National Sports Day in India observed annually on **August 29** in order to pay tribute to Major Dhyan Chand, one of the most outstanding sportsmen of all time, on his birth anniversary. This day also commemorates India's sporting traditions and encourages people to engage in physical exercises and sports.
- Since its establishment in 1995, this holiday has grown into a more general celebration of health and sports awareness. In 2026, this holiday is celebrated from August 28 till August 30 and carries a slogan "Tribute, Play and Move".
- Major Dhyan Chand was a member of the teams which gained Olympic gold medals in Amsterdam in 1928, Los Angeles in 1932 and Berlin in 1936. At Berlin Olympics in 1936, he captained the Indian team, which beat the German team by the score of 8-1 in the final match.
- Dhyan Chand joined the Army in 1922 and began his international career in the 1920s. He was awarded the **Padma Bhushan in 1956**.
- India's top sporting award is named after the great hockey player. On August 24, 2021, the **Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award** became known under a new name – the **Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award**.
- It has been said that he scored more than 1,000 goals during his active years which lasted from 1926 to 1948. However, these statistics were not documented like modern international sporting statistics.



India To Host 18th BRICS Summit in Delhi

- India will host the 18th BRICS Summit in New Delhi on 12 and 13 September 2026 at Bharat Mandapam. The Ministry of External Affairs announced that

India's BRICS Chairship is guided by the theme "**Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability**".

- BRICS is an intergovernmental grouping of major emerging economies. The acronym originally referred to Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, and the grouping has expanded in recent years to include new members such as Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.
- India assumed the BRICS chairship on 1 January 2026. India had earlier held the BRICS chairship in 2012, 2016 and 2021, and the 2026 summit marks the 20th anniversary of BRICS, which was formed in 2006 as BRIC and later renamed BRICS after South Africa joined in 2010.
- **Full Member Countries**
 - Brazil
 - China
 - Egypt
 - Ethiopia
 - India
 - Indonesia
 - Iran
 - Russia
 - Saudi Arabia
 - South Africa
 - United Arab Emirates (UAE)
- **Partner Countries**
 - Belarus
 - Bolivia
 - Cuba
 - Kazakhstan
 - Malaysia
 - Nigeria
 - Thailand
 - Uganda
 - Uzbekistan
 - Vietnam



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Who became the first Indian to win the Grand Chess Tour?

- A. D. Gukesh
- B. R. Praggnanandhaa
- C. Viswanathan Anand
- D. Arjun Erigaisi

Answer: B. R. Praggnanandhaa

2. Whom did Praggnanandhaa defeat in the decisive Grand Chess Tour match?

- A. Magnus Carlsen
- B. Hikaru Nakamura
- C. Fabiano Caruana
- D. Ian Nepomniachtchi

Answer: C. Fabiano Caruana

3. How much prize money did Praggnanandhaa receive for winning the Grand Chess Tour?

- A. US\$100,000
- B. US\$150,000
- C. US\$200,000
- D. US\$250,000

Answer: C. US\$200,000

4. At which position did India finish in the FIH World Cup mentioned in the article?

- A. Fifth
- B. Sixth
- C. Seventh
- D. Eighth

Answer: D. Eighth

5. National Sports Day in India is observed on which date?

- A. 15 August
- B. 26 August
- C. 29 August
- D. 31 August

Answer: C. 29 August

6. National Sports Day commemorates the birth anniversary of which legendary sportsperson?

- A. Milkha Singh
- B. Major Dhyan Chand
- C. Balbir Singh Sr.
- D. Kapil Dev

Answer: B. Major Dhyan Chand

7. On which dates is India scheduled to host the 18th BRICS Summit 2026?

- A. 5–6 September
- B. 10–11 September
- C. 12–13 September
- D. 15–16 September

Answer: C. 12–13 September

8. Where will the 18th BRICS Summit 2026 be held?

- A. Vigyan Bhavan
- B. Bharat Mandapam
- C. Rashtrapati Bhavan
- D. India Habitat Centre

Answer: B. Bharat Mandapam

9. What is the theme of India's BRICS Chairship 2026?

- A. One Earth, One Future
- B. Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability
- C. Partnership for Global Peace
- D. Inclusive Growth and Global Development

Answer: B. Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability

10. World Sanskrit Day 2026 was observed on which date?

- A. 26 August
- B. 27 August
- C. 28 August
- D. 29 August

Answer: C. 28 August