

Highlights of 29 August 2026 Current Affairs

- India observes **National Sports Day** annually on **August 29** to commemorate the birth anniversary of the legendary hockey wizard, **Major Dhyan Chand**. August 29 marks the birth anniversary (born in 1905) of Major Dhyan Chand, who led India to Olympic hockey gold medals in 1928 (Amsterdam), 1932 (Los Angeles), and 1936 (Berlin), scoring over 1,000 goals during his illustrious career. He was honored with the Padma Bhushan in 1956.
- The Indian Army has formally signed a **₹292 crore government-to-government deal** with the United States to acquire **FGM-148 Javelin anti-tank guided missiles**, closing a quest that began nearly 17 years ago. Processed via the US **Foreign Military Sales (FMS)** route, the contract involves a Letter of Offer and Acceptance (LOA) for around **60 Javelin missiles** along with launch units and associated gear.
- The Tamil Nadu government formally notified **three critical elephant corridors** within the Hosur forest division, spanning over 10,300 hectares, to secure trans-Cauvery migration routes between Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. Situated within the **Cauvery North Wildlife Sanctuary** and adjoining reserved forests in the Krishnagiri district, the initiative aims to safeguard traditional migratory paths used by Asian elephants.
- India's foreign exchange reserves surged by **\$12.4 billion** to reach a record high of **\$729.3 billion** for the week ended August 21, according to data released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). This milestone surpasses the previous peak of \$728.5 billion set in February 2026. It marks a sharp rebound from a dip to \$666.9 billion in June 2026, driven by market interventions and West Asian geopolitical pressures—representing an addition of about \$62.4 billion over an eight-week span.
- President Droupadi Murmu has promulgated a new regulation paving the way for regular sittings of the **Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh High Court** within the Union Territory of Ladakh. President Murmu promulgated the *Union Territory of Ladakh (Sitting of the Bench of the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh in Ladakh) Regulation, 2026*, following the Union Cabinet's nod granted on August 20.
- Delhi recorded the highest own revenue share among Indian states and Union Territories at **93.2%** in the FY25 Budget Estimates (BE), according to data from the Business Standard's India State Fiscal Health Tracker and the Reserve Bank of India's Handbook of Statistics.
- The **e-Shram Portal** remains a vital national database launched by the Ministry of Labour and Employment to streamline social security and welfare benefits for India's unorganised workforce. Created in collaboration with the National Informatics Centre (NIC), the portal establishes a comprehensive digital database for unorganised workers and assigns each registered individual a unique **12-digit Universal Account Number (UAN)**.
- A catastrophic debris flood in central Nepal was triggered by a major Himalayan glacier collapse near the Tibet-Nepal border. Approximately **0.2 sq. km. of glacial ice and bedrock** broke off from an altitude of around **5,200 meters** near Langtang Lirung, plunging 1.2 kilometers down into the valley.
- India has registered a remarkable milestone in public health, recording nearly an **80% decline in malaria cases and deaths** between 2015 and 2025, according to data released by the Union Health Ministry. The number of high-burden malaria districts plummeted

from 155 in 2015 down to **33 in 2025**. However, these 33 remaining districts (spread across nine states and UTs, including Mizoram, Odisha, Tripura, Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, and Maharashtra) still accounted for roughly 64% of cases and 54% of fatalities in 2025.