

Highlights of 30 August 2026 Current Affairs

- Gujarat has launched **India's first-ever Sports Genomics Programme**, pioneering the integration of genetics, sports science, physiology, and nutrition to revolutionize athlete identification and high-performance training. The initiative aims to collect and analyze **2,000 athlete samples in the first year**, scaling up to **10,000 athletes over five years**. The first batch of samples has already been collected from tennis players under the Gujarat State Tennis Association, with future phases covering archery, fencing, judo, shooting, and more across age groups (Under-14, Under-18, and 18+).
- The Indian men's hockey team finished **eighth** in the FIH World Cup after losing 4–3 in a penalty shootout to Belgium, following a hard-fought 3–3 draw in regulation time in Wavre.
- US President Donald Trump announced a major oil agreement with Venezuela granting the United States majority control over **65 billion barrels of proven oil reserves**. Hailed by Trump as "the biggest oil deal in world history," the partnership involving private US energy companies is projected by US Secretary of State Marco Rubio to attract nearly **\$100 billion in private investments** to Venezuela.
- India observes **National Small Industry Day** annually on **August 30** to recognize the crucial role played by micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in driving entrepreneurship, employment, and economic expansion. The day underscores the need to enhance financial liquidity, technological adoption, and market access for small businesses. The sector's legal foundation evolved from the policy package in 2000 and the landmark **MSMED Act of 2006**, followed by revised classification criteria in 2025 and the enactment of the **MSMED (Amendment) Act, 2026**.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi was conferred with Uzbekistan's highest civilian honor, the **'Oliy Darajali Do'stlik' (Order of Supreme Friendship)**, during his state visit to Tashkent on August 30, 2026. The visit marked a major diplomatic milestone, with India and Uzbekistan officially elevating their bilateral relations to a **Comprehensive Strategic Partnership**.
- Germany secured their second consecutive title—and their fourth overall—at the FIH Men's Hockey World Cup by defeating Spain 1–0 in the final at the Belfius Hockey Arena.
- India and China have agreed to operationalize an **eight-point consensus** reached during the 25th meeting of Special Representatives on the boundary issue, held in Beijing between National Security Adviser Ajit Doval and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi.
- HDFC Bank Managing Director and CEO **Sashidhar Jagdishan** is set to retire on **October 26, 2026**, after choosing not to seek a contract extension. Jagdishan took over as MD & CEO in October 2020, succeeding legendary long-serving chief Aditya Puri. A defining milestone of his tenure was overseeing the massive merger between HDFC Bank and its parent company, HDFC Ltd.
- Ecuador has declared a nationwide red alert (state of emergency) due to the escalating risks posed by the **El Niño** phenomenon, as announced by the country's Ministry of Risk Management on August 29, 2026. The emergency measures are aimed at preparing for severe droughts, wildfires, and other climate-related disruptions—particularly threatening the Amazon region—as current El Niño conditions are expected to peak toward the end of 2026 and impact weather patterns into 2027.

