

UPSC Daily Current Affairs | One Liners 29-08-2026

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International Relations and Issues

Renaming of Lake Ontario

US President Donald Trump signs order to rename Lake Ontario as Lake America.

- Reason - To assert trade dominance over Canada and make geographic landmarks reflect US greatness.
- Ontario - Comes from the Iroquois word *Ontari'io*, which translates to "Lake of Shining Waters" or "Beautiful Lake."
- Context - Similar renaming attempt in 2025: Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, rejected by Mexico.



Environment

Ammannia telanganensis

Freshwater flowering plant Ammannia telanganensis found in Rangareddy district and Amrabad Tiger Reserve, Telangana.

- **Family** - Belongs to Lythraceae; described in international taxonomy journal Phytotaxa.

- **Researchers** - Botanical Survey of India, University of Hyderabad and Andhra University team.

- **Features** - Stalked flower clusters, magenta petals, distinct leaves and bracts, cerebriform seed-coat pattern.

- **Habitat** - Wet sandy soils along seasonal streams and fringes of water bodies; flowers Nov-Feb.



Ammannia telanganensis

**New plant species
discovered in Telangana
named after state**

www.newindianexpress.com

India's First Public-Private Defence Avionics Facility

Joint venture of HAL and Samtel Avionics, inaugurates new facility at Udyog Vihar, Gurugram.

- **Distinction** - India's first public-private JV in defence avionics to indigenously design, qualify and serially produce multifunction display (MFD) for fighter aircraft.
- **Capabilities** - Facility supports design, development, manufacturing, testing and product support for airborne and ground display systems.
- **Applications** - Displays fitted on Su-30 MKI; positioned for Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH), Light Combat Helicopter (LCH), Light Utility Helicopter (LUH), and Indian Multi-Role Helicopter (IMRH) programmes.
- **Significance** - Strengthens indigenous defence avionics, reduces import dependence, delivers reliable solutions for armed forces.



Gnani Artha - Sovereign AI Stack (Evon 3.3 and Plexus)

Recently, Vice President unveils 'Gnani Artha' at Uprashtrapati Bhavan.

- **Components** - Comprises Evon 3.3 (large language model) and Plexus (platform linking AI intelligence with real-world institutions).

- **Vision** - AI to open new employment and growth avenues; drive India's economic progress to next stage.

- **Applications** - AI in Parliament via Digital Sansad portal; multilingual interpretation in debates.



Miscellaneous

World Lake Day 2026

Recently, on August 27 World Lake Day 2026 was observed.

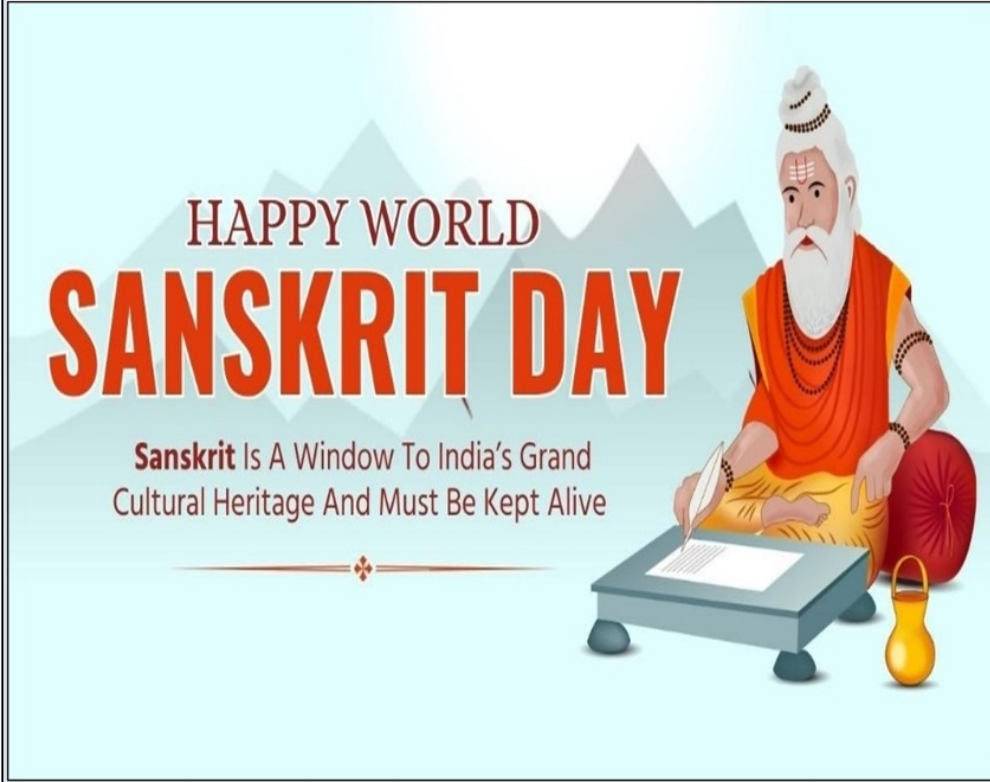
- **History** - First observed in 2025; UNGA designated Aug 27 as World Lake Day after 2024 discussions.
- **Facilitator** - United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) supports global observance and sustainable lake management.
- **Theme** - *“Conservation, restoration and sustainable management of lakes”*, highlights freshwater security, biodiversity, climate regulation, livelihoods.
- **Significance** - Lakes face threats from pollution, overuse, climate change, water loss and habitat degradation.



World Sanskrit Day 2026

Recently, World Sanskrit day was observed on, August 28

- **World Sanskrit Day** - Also known as Vishva Samskrita Dinam.
- An annual observance celebrated on **Shravana Purnima** (the full moon day of the Hindu calendar month of Shravana).
- **Objective** - Preserve, promote and propagate Sanskrit; connect future generations with wisdom and civilisational heritage.
- **Ancient Heritage** - Serving as the repository for the Vedas, Upanishads, epics, and profound scientific and philosophical texts
- **Significance** - Sanskrit described as timeless language of India's knowledge, philosophy, civilization and cultural heritage.



National Sports Day 2026

National Sports Day, observed on August 29, birth anniversary of Major Dhyan Chand.

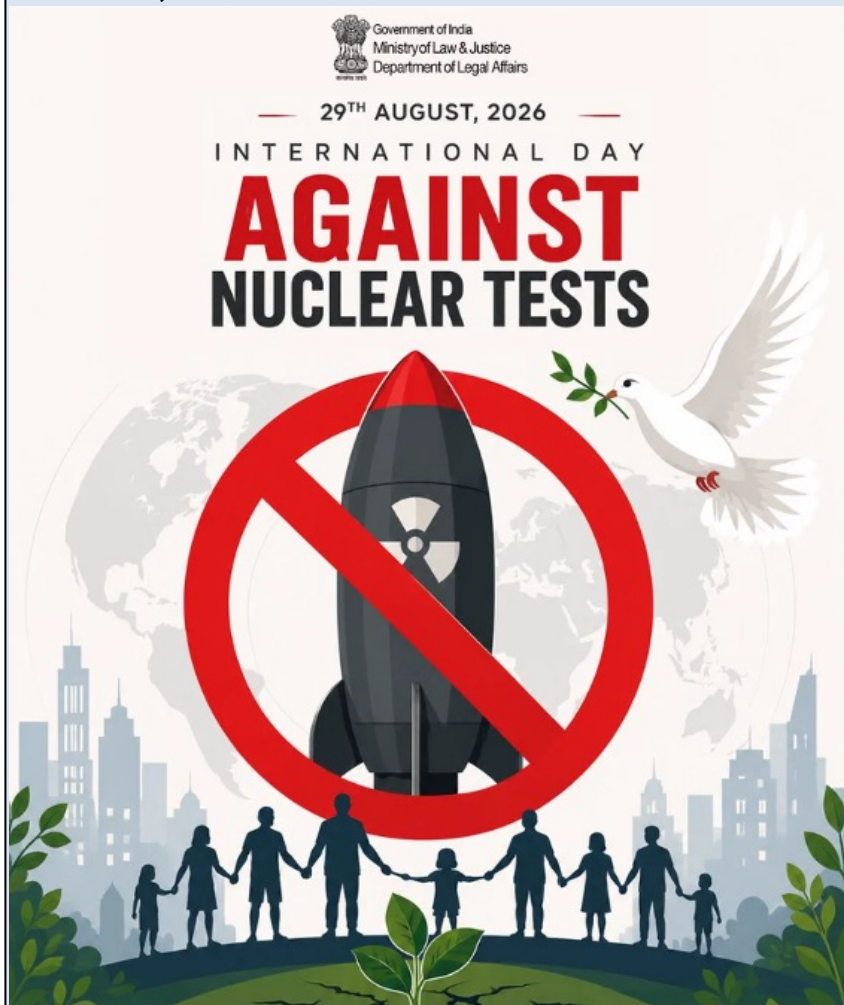
- **History** - Established in 2012 to honour hockey legend known as 'Hockey Wizard' and 'The Magician'.
- **Significance** - Tribute to Dhyan Chand's 400+ goals and Olympic hat-trick; reminder of sports, fitness and achievements.
- **Awards** - Associated with presentation of India's top sports honours; Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna named after him.
- **Initiatives** - Linked with Khelo India programme (2017-18) and Fit India Movement (2019).
- **Celebrations** - Marked by sporting and fitness activities in schools, colleges and institutions nationwide.



International Day Against Nuclear Tests 2026

International Day Against Nuclear Tests Observed annually on August 29;

- **Established by** - UNGA Resolution 64/35 (Dec 2009).
- **History** - First observed 2010; initiated by Kazakhstan to mark closure of Semipalatinsk Nuclear Test Site (1991).
- **Objectives** - Raise awareness on devastating effects of nuclear weapon test explosions; emphasize cessation for nuclear-weapon-free world.
- **Key Treaties** -
 - **Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT)** - 1996, not in force; India not signatory.
 - **Partial Test Ban Treaty (PTBT)/ Limited Test Ban Treaty (LTBT)** - 1963, India party.
 - **Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW)** - 2021, India not party.
- **Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO)** - Headquartered Vienna, builds International Monitoring System and India is observer, not member.



World Water Week 2026

Recently, World Water Week was held from August 23-27, 2026 in Stockholm, Sweden and online.

- **Organizer** - Annual event by Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI).

- **Theme** - “*Water for People and Progress*”; emphasized water security and safely managed sanitation.

- **Focus** - Foundation for health, resilience and human development; addressed pressing global water challenges.

