



National Sports Day 2023

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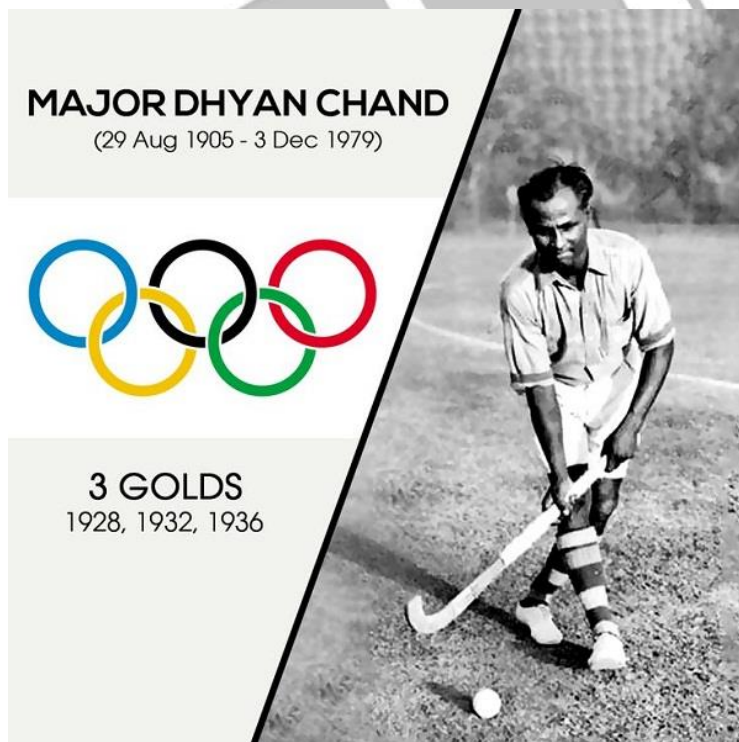
Why in News?

12th [National Sports Day](#) was celebrated across India on **29 August**.

Why is National Sports Day Celebrated?

- **Objective:** To commemorate the **birth anniversary of hockey legend Major Dhyan Chand**.
- **First NSD: August 29, 2012.**
- **Significance:** Encourages people of all ages to **embrace physical fitness, regular exercise and a healthy lifestyle**.
 - Serves as a **catalyst for developing a robust sports culture** in India.
- **Highlights of NSD 2023:**
 - Theme - "**Sports are an enabler to an inclusive and fit society**".
 - **National Sports Federations** portal launched (for good governance).

Who was Major Dhyan Chand?



- Major Dhyan Chand was a field hockey player who played international hockey from **1926 to 1949**.
 - He was a **three-time Olympic gold medalist** who secured gold in the **1928, 1932, and 1936** Olympic editions.

- His exceptional skills in the game made him earn the title **‘magician of hockey.’**
 - Dhyhan Chand, along with his brother Roop Singh, contributed significantly to India's 35-goal tally, earning them the title of **‘hockey twins.’**
 - In **1934**, Dhyhan Chand was honoured with the **captaincy of the Indian team.**
- In 1956, Major Dhyhan Chand retired from the army as a Major and was honoured with the **Padma Bhushan.**

Note:

- **Awards named after Major Dhyhan Chand:**
 - **Major Dhyhan Chand Khel Ratna Award** (highest sporting honour of India)
 - **Dhyhan Chand Award** (highest award for lifetime achievement in sports)

Sports awards in India	Awarded For
Major Dhyhan Chand Khel Ratna Award	Awarded for outstanding performances in sports spanning over a period of four years.
Arjuna Award	Given out for consistent good performance over a period of four years.
Dronacharya Award	It is awarded to coaches for producing medal winners at prestigious international events.
Major Dhyhan Chand Award	Presented for good performance and contributing towards the promotion of sports.
Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Trophy	Given to the university for top performance in inter-university tournaments over the last one year.
Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar	Awarded to organisations and individuals for playing a role in the area of sports promotion and development over the last three years.
Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award	To recognise outstanding achievements in the field of adventure activities or sports on land, sea and air.



UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year's Question (PYQs)

Q. Consider the following pairs with regard to sports awards: (2023)

1. Major Dhyhan Chand Khel Ratna Award	For the most spectacular and outstanding performance by a sportsperson over period of last four years
2. Arjuna Award	For the lifetime achievement by sportsperson
3. Dronacharya Award	To honour eminent coaches who have successfully trained sportspersons or teams
4. Rashtriya Khel	To recognize the

Protsahan Puraskar	contribution made by sportspersons even after their retirement
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How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Ans: (b)

Q. Consider the following statements in respect of the Laureus World Sports Award which was instituted in the year 2000: (2021)

1. American golfer Tiger Woods was the first winner of this award.
2. The award was received mostly by 'Formula One' players so far.
3. Roger Federer received this award maximum number of times compared to others.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (c)

Q. Consider the following statements in respect of the 32nd Summer Olympics: (2021)

1. The official motto for this Olympics is 'A New World'.
2. Sport Climbing, Surfing, Skateboarding, Karate and Baseball are included in this Olympics.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (b)