CURRENT EVENTS 27 October 2026

Nilakanta Sharma to retire after Asian Champions Trophy 2026

Indian midfielder Nilakanta Sharma announced his retirement from international hockey ahead of the Asian Champions Trophy 2026 in Jalandhar.

An announcement regarding the retirement of veteran Indian hockey midfielder Nilakanta Sharma from international competitive sports.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- Indian midfielder **Nilakanta Sharma** announced his retirement from international hockey on **October 27, 2026**.
- The **Asian Champions Trophy 2026** tournament began in **Jalandhar** on Tuesday.
- Nilakanta Sharma is **31 years** old and has represented the national team for **nine years**.
- He was a key member of the Indian squad that won a **bronze medal** at the **Tokyo Olympics in 2021**, ending a 41-year medal wait.
- He was also a member of the **gold-winning** Indian squad at the **Junior World Cup in 2016**.

DID YOU KNOW..!?

Major Dhyan Chand National Sports Day is celebrated annually in India on **August 29** to mark the birth anniversary of hockey legend **Major Dhyan Chand**.

The **Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award** is India's highest sporting honor, formerly known as the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award.

The **International Hockey Federation (FIH)** governs international field hockey competitions and is headquartered in **Lausanne, Switzerland**.

Hockey India is the national governing body for the administration and promotion of field hockey in India, headquartered in **New Delhi**.

India holds the record for winning the highest number of gold medals in men's field hockey at the **Olympic Games** (**8 gold medals**).

Arjuna Award was instituted in **1961** by the Government of India to recognize outstanding achievement in national sports.

REVISION FLASHCARD

Nilakanta Sharma, Tokyo Olympics bronze medalist and 2016 Junior World Cup champion, announced his international hockey retirement in October 2026.

Syllabus Relevance: Important for TNPSC Group exams regarding national and international sports achievements by Indian athletes.

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