

History of Indian Sports on the Event of National Sports Day - GK Notes PDF!

National Sports Day is celebrated every year on 29th August in the honor of esteemed Indian sportsman Major Dhyan Chand. We celebrate this day to mark his birth anniversary. He was a pioneer who uplifted Indian hockey to International Standards. Dhyan Chand was an extraordinary hockey player who impressed the international arena with his superb ball control in 1936 Berlin Summer Olympics. He was dubbed as 'The Wizard' or 'The Magician.' He was a person whose talent knew no bounds. On this glorious day let us look at various renowned events which took place in the History of Indian Sports. Read this article to help you know about brief History of Indian Sports. Questions on this are commonly noticed in exams like RRB ALP, RRC Group D, SBI Clerk, SSC CGL, IBPS PO, and many more.

Brief History of Indian Sports

- Post-Independence, the independent India saw Indian hockey team emerge as the golden champions who secured first place against Great Britain in 1948, Summer Olympics.
- In 1958, Mihir Sen became the first Indian to cross the English Channel from Dover to Calais in the fourth fastest time 14 hrs & 45 mins.
- The 1950s and 1960s is considered as golden years of Indian Football team as it ranked among the top 20 teams of the world. They under the leadership of the legendary Syed Abdul Rahim, won the 1951 and 1962 Asian Games, and finished fourth in the 1956 Olympics.
- In 1960, Milkha Singh, known as 'Flying Sikh' ran incredibly and created a new record then in 400m race.



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- In the year 1971 Indian team under the captaincy of Ajit Wadekar won against West Indies in test series (1-0). This was India's first-ever Test Series win against mighty West Indies. It also marked the debut of legendary Indian player Sunil Gavaskar.
- Later, India witnessed another landmark event in 1983 where Indian cricket team led by Kapil Dev defeated West Indies team to raise the first World Cup.
- In 1975 Indian hockey team regained their place in history by winning against Pakistan in the World Hockey Championship held at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- Prakash Padukone became the first Indian in the history of Indian sports to win the All England Open Badminton Championship, in 1980.
- P.T Usha the 'Queen of Indian track and field' claimed 4 golds and a silver at Asian Games, Seoul, in 1986.
- In 1988, Viswanathan Anand paved his way to become the first Indian Chess Grand-master in the history of Indian sports.
- The Indian men's kabaddi team won the gold at Beijing Asian Games, 1990 where Kabaddi was officially introduced as a sporting event.
- In 1999, Baichung Bhutia was the second Indian ever after Mohammed Salim to play professional football. He was the first Indian to sign the contract with a European Club.
- In 2005, Narain Karthikeyan became the first Indian to drive in the Formula One.
- In 2012, Sachin Tendulkar the 'master-blasters' became the first and only cricketer to score 100 International centuries.

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