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Daily news summary**FGM 148 Javelin Anti Tank Guided Missile**

UPSC Civil Services · 29 August 2026 · Prelims and Mains

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WHY IN NEWS

- India signed an agreement with the United States to procure Javelin anti-tank missile systems.

WHAT IS THE JAVELIN SYSTEM?

- Man-portable, fire-and-forget anti-tank guided missile system (ATGM) developed in the US.
- Employs automatic infrared guidance that allows the operator to take cover immediately after launch.

KEY CAPABILITIES AND PROVISIONS

- Features top-attack trajectory mode to target the thinner top armor of armored vehicles as well as direct-attack mode for fortified positions.
- Equipped with a tandem shaped-charge warhead designed to penetrate explosive reactive armor (ERA).

WHY IT MATTERS

- Enhances infantry anti-armor firepower in high-altitude mountain terrain along land borders.
- Expands bilateral defense trade and technology cooperation under the India-US initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology (iCET).

KEY TERMS

- **Fire-and-Forget:** Missile guidance type that requires no further guidance after launch, allowing the operator to relocate.
- **Tandem Warhead:** Munition using two or more stages of detonation to breach explosive reactive armor before detonating the main charge.

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PRELIMS FACTS

- Javelin is an infrared-guided, **fire-and-forget** anti-tank missile system from the US.

MAINS DISCUSSION

- Role of lightweight precision-guided munitions in high-altitude mountain warfare.

KEY DATA

- **Missile Type:** Man-portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (ATGM) - Prelims tests technology domains and operational categories of foreign defense acquisitions.
- **Origin:** United States - Standard matching questions in Prelims pair defense platforms with their country of origin.

[Official source](#)

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