



## Rapid Fire Current Affairs

### National Technology Day 2023

The **Prime Minister of India** recently inaugurated the [National Technology Day 2023 program](#). The event marked the beginning of the **celebration of the 25<sup>th</sup> year of National Technology Day**, which would be held from **May 11<sup>th</sup> to May 14<sup>th</sup>** featuring dedicated multiple projects related to scientific and technological advancement in the country, with a total worth of more than **Rs 5,800 crore**. The theme of the event was "**School to Start-ups - igniting young minds to innovate**."

The projects for which the foundation stone was laid include **Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory - India (LIGO-India) in Hingoli**, the [Homi Bhabha Cancer Hospital and Research Centre in Jatni, Odisha](#), and the **Platinum Jubilee Block of Tata Memorial Hospital in Mumbai**.

The PM also highlighted the significance of **May 11<sup>th</sup> in India's history**, as it **commemorates the day when India's scientists achieved a remarkable feat in Pokhran Nuclear Testing**.

Addressing the role of technology in defence, the PM mentioned [Innovations for Defense Excellence \(IDEX\)](#) and India's goal of a self-reliant defence sector. He also highlighted advancements in the space sector, such as [SSLV and PSLV orbital platforms](#), and the need to provide opportunities for youth and start-ups in this domain.

**Read more:** [National Technology Day](#), [Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory - India \(LIGO-India\)](#), [Pokhran Nuclear Testing](#)

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### Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain 2023 Campaign

Recently, the [National Water Mission \(NWM\)](#), Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (DoWR), Ministry of Jal Shakti organised a workshop- cum- orientation programme at **Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi for Central Nodal Officers (CNO) and Technical Officers (TO)**, who will be visiting the 150 water-stressed districts across the nation, for ensuring effective and action-oriented implementation of the ["Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain" - 2023 \(JSA: CTR\)](#).

JSA: CTR- 2023 is **4<sup>th</sup> in the series of Jal Shakti Abhiyan** launched in 2019 and aims to address [water stress in 150 districts across India](#) and focuses on water conservation, renovation of water bodies, bore well recharge, watershed development, and afforestation.

The 2023 campaign is being implemented from **4<sup>th</sup> March 2023 to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023** in all the districts (rural as well as urban areas) of the country with the theme "**Source Sustainability for Drinking Water**".

The workshop also discussed the use of [GIS technology](#), **data uploading, and other measures to ensure effective implementation**.

**Read more:** [National Water Mission \(NWM\)](#)

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### ISSF World Cup, Baku

**Sarabjot Singh and TS Divya** emerged as champions in the mixed team **10m air pistol** event at the **ISSF World Cup in Baku, Azerbaijan**. They defeated **Damir Mikec and Zorana Arunovic of Serbia** to claim the **gold medal**.

The ISSF World Cup is an international shooting sport competition organised by the **International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF)**. The ISSF is the **governing body for the Olympic shooting events** and is responsible for overseeing and promoting the shooting sport on a global scale.

**Read more:** [ISSF World Cup](#)

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## National MSME Council Meet

Recently, the **Ministry of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME)** organised the inaugural meeting of the **National MSME Council**, in New Delhi.

The council has been established as an **administrative and functional body to oversee coordination between central ministries and departments**, promote collaboration between the central and state governments, and monitor the progress of reforms in the MSME sector, including the **Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP)** program.

The RAMP program launched in June 2022 aims to enhance **market access, credit availability, governance, and environmental sustainability for MSMEs**.

**Read more:** [Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance \(RAMP\)](#)

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