



## DRDO & Research & Development:

### DRDO News

**Pralay Missile Flight-Tests:** On July 28 and 29, 2025, the Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully conducted two consecutive flight-tests of the Pralay missile. These tests were part of the User Evaluation Trials to validate the missile's maximum and minimum range capabilities. Pralay is an indigenously-developed quasi-ballistic missile capable of carrying multiple types of warheads.

**Recruitment Updates:** DRDO's Recruitment and Assessment Centre (RAC) has updated several recruitment notices. The application deadline for the post of Scientist 'B' has been extended to August 8, 2025. Additionally, the screening of applications for various other positions is in progress.

**Procurement Manual 2025:** DRDO released its "Procurement Manual 2025" at the National Technology Day 2025 celebration. The manual is intended to boost indigenous development and encourage startups, MSMEs, and the industry to work with procuring entities to develop critical defense technologies.

### Other Research & Development News (India)

**CSIR UGC NET Answer Key:** The provisional answer key for the Joint CSIR UGC NET June 2025 exam, held on July 28, has been released. Candidates can raise objections until August 3, 2025.

**Materials Research for Space:** ISRO Chairman V. Narayanan urged the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) to indigenize materials and minerals to reduce import costs for India's space program. He emphasized the crucial role of material scientists in developing composites and alloys for various space missions, including the new semi-cryogenic engine.

**Agricultural Biotechnology:** Punjab Agricultural University (PAU) has secured a ₹4 crore project from the Department of Biotechnology for a five-year initiative focused on "predictive breeding" of guava. The project will use advanced genomic tools to improve fruit quality, shelf life, and other traits in Indian guava varieties.

**Advanced Light Towed Gun System (ALTGS):** The Armament Research and Development Establishment (ARDE) has announced significant progress on the Advanced Light Towed Gun System (ALTGS). This lighter variant of the Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System (ATAGS) is expected to enter production within the next five years.

**Drone Competition:** The Indian Army, in collaboration with the Drone Federation of India, will host the 'Surya Dronathon 2025' in Spiti Valley from August 10 to 24. The competition, at an altitude of 10,700 feet, aims to promote indigenous research and development of advanced drone systems for military use.





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### MCQS

1. What is the Pralay missile, which recently underwent flight-tests, categorized as?
- a) An air-to-air missile
  - b) A cruise missile
  - c) An intercontinental ballistic missile
  - d) An indigenously-developed quasi-ballistic missile

**Answer:** d) An indigenously-developed quasi-ballistic missile

The news report states that Pralay is an "indigenously-developed quasi-ballistic missile capable of carrying multiple types of warheads."

2. What is the primary purpose of DRDO's newly released "Procurement Manual 2025"?

- a) To streamline international defense deals.
- b) To boost indigenous development and support startups and MSMEs.
- c) To outline new recruitment procedures for the DRDO.
- d) To document the specifications of all DRDO-developed weapons.

**Answer:** b) To boost indigenous development and support startups and MSMEs.

The news explains that the manual is intended "to boost indigenous development and encourage startups, MSMEs, and the industry to work with procuring entities."

3. What is the application deadline for the post of Scientist 'B' at DRDO's Recruitment and Assessment Centre (RAC)?

- a) August 3, 2025
- b) August 8, 2025
- c) August 10, 2025
- d) August 24, 2025

**Answer:** b) August 8, 2025







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The news clearly states that the application deadline for the post of Scientist 'B' has been extended to "August 8, 2025."

**4. What is the name of the drone competition that the Indian Army will host in collaboration with the Drone Federation of India?**

- a) Aatmnirbhar Dronathon
- b) Himalayan Drone Challenge
- c) Surya Dronathon 2025
- d) Spiti Valley Drone Wars

**Answer:** c) Surya Dronathon 2025

The news report identifies the drone competition as the "Surya Dronathon 2025" and mentions its collaboration with the Drone Federation of India.

**5. What project, focused on "predictive breeding" of guava, has Punjab Agricultural University (PAU) secured funding for?**

- a) A ₹1 crore project from the Ministry of Agriculture.
- b) A ₹4 crore project from the Department of Biotechnology.
- c) A ₹5 crore project from the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research.
- d) A ₹10 crore project from the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

**Answer:** b) A ₹4 crore project from the Department of Biotechnology.

The news about agricultural biotechnology states that PAU has "secured a ₹4 crore project from the Department of Biotechnology" for its guava research.

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