



Rapid Fire Current Affairs

Iran Successfully Tests Long-Range Ballistic Missile

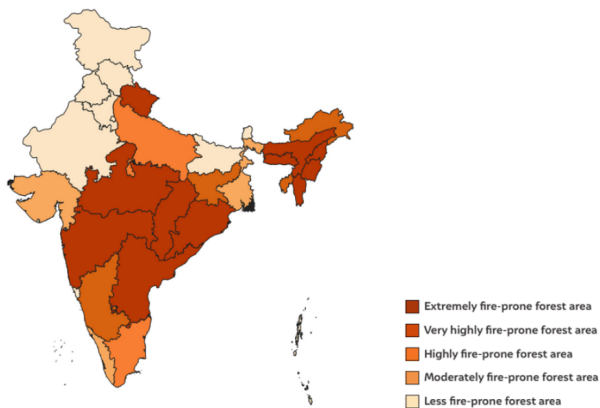
Iran showcased its latest version of the **Khorramshahr ballistic missile**, unveiling the **Khorramshahr-4 with a range of 2,000 kilometers (1,240 miles) and a 1,500-kilogram (3,300-pound) warhead**. The Khorramshahr-4 derives its name from an **Iranian city** associated with intense warfare during the [Iran-Iraq War](#). The missile is also called **Kheibar**, after a Jewish fortress conquered by the Muslims in the 7th century. As Iran continues uranium enrichment, nearing weapons-grade levels, and given the missile's range, it raises concerns about the potential threat to **Israel**.

Ballistic missiles are **rocket-propelled strategic weapons that follow a parabolic trajectory** to deliver payloads to fixed targets. India has developed a [Ballistic Missile Defence \(BMD\) system since 1999](#), primarily to **enhance defense against potential nuclear attacks from Pakistan**. The BMD system aims to incorporate both **low-altitude and high-altitude interceptor missiles** and involves the collaboration of the [Defense Research and Development Organization \(DRDO\)](#) with public and private firms. Notable ballistic missiles in India's arsenal include [Agni](#), [K-4 \(SLBM\)](#), [Prithvi](#), and **Trishul**.

Read more: [SHAURYA MISSILE](#), [Ballistic Missile](#)

High Forest Fire Occurrences in Indian Protected Areas

// More than 62% of Indian states are prone to high-intensity forest fire events (2000-19)



An analysis reveals that **despite significant excess rainfall** in the last two months, over **50% of forest fire occurrences in India** were reported from **nine national parks and wildlife sanctuaries**. From May 17 to May 23, 2023, a total of 516 forest fires were reported, with [Guru Ghasidas National Park](#) recording **the highest number of incidents (129)**. These fires were observed in states such as **Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Jharkhand**.

While the cause of these wildfires remains unknown, it is perplexing that these areas have experienced significant excess rainfall. The [Forest Survey of India](#) indicates that **approximately 4% of forest cover in the country is highly prone to fires, while another 6% is extremely prone**.

Forest fires can be defined as any **uncontrolled and non-prescribed combustion or burning of plants** in a natural setting such as a **forest, grassland, brushland, or tundra**. Forest fires can be caused by natural causes like [lightning](#) or **man-made causes like land clearing, agricultural activities, and industrial development**. Hotter and drier weather caused by climate change and poor land management create conditions favorable for **frequent, larger, and high-intensity forest fires**. **Forest fires** can have severe consequences on the environment and wildlife. Forest fires, though often deadly, are a natural phenomenon that can be beneficial for ecosystems by **clearing dead organic matter**.

Read more: [Forest Fires](#)

Neeraj Chopra: The Quest for the 90m Mark

Neeraj Chopra is India's **golden boy in javelin throw**, having won the [Olympic gold medal in 2020](#) and becoming the **world number one in 2023**. He happens to be the first Asian to win an Olympic Gold Medal in the men's javelin throw. However, there is one elusive target that he has not yet achieved: **the 90m mark**. This is considered a significant milestone in the sport, as **only 23 men have crossed it since 1986**.

Among them are **Jan Zelezny and Johannes Vetter**, who have done it multiple times. Johannes Vetter of Germany stands out, having achieved this feat **eight times**. Jan Zelezny's astounding world record of **98.48m**, set **27 years ago**, remains unbroken

Neeraj has come close to the mark, with a personal best of **89.94m**. He will face Vetter and two other 90m throwers at the **Fanny Blankers-Koen Games in Netherlands on June 3, 2023**.

Read more: [Target Olympic Podium Scheme](#)

German Economy Enters Recession

The **German economy** has suffered an unforeseen setback, plunging the country into a **formal [recession](#)**, according to newly released data. The **Federal Statistical Office's** report reveals a **0.3% decline in Germany's [gross domestic product \(GDP\)](#)** during the first quarter of 2023.

This follows a **0.5% contraction in the previous quarter of 2022**, marking two **consecutive quarters of decline and meeting the technical definition of a recession**.

A recession is defined as a time when economic activity experiences a downturn. It is important to note that brief declines are not classified as recessions. Instead, **a recession is identified by two consecutive quarters of decline in a country's real (inflation-adjusted) GDP**, which takes inflation into account.

Read more: [Recession](#)