National Technology Day

Why in News

India observes its **National Technology Day** on **11th May** every year.

Key Points

- **About:**

    - The day, which was **first observed on 11th May, 1999,** aims **to commemorate the scientific and technological achievements of Indian scientists, engineers.**

        - The day was **named by the former Prime Minister** Atal Bihari Vajpayee.
    - Every year, the **Technology Development Board of India** celebrates the day by **awarding individuals with the National Award for their contribution to science and technology in India.**

        - **Technology Development Board** is a **statutory body** of Government of India functioning under the **Department of Science of Technology.**
        - It **provides financial assistance** to Indian industrial concerns and other agencies, **for commercialization of indigenized technologies or adaptation of imported technologies** for wider domestic applications.
- **2021 Theme:**

    - Science and Technology for a Sustainable Future.
- **Significance:**

    - It is the day India successfully **tested nuclear bombs in Pokhran on 11th May, 1998.**

        - India successfully test-fired its **Shakti-1** nuclear missile in an operation called **Pokhran-II,** also codenamed as **Operation Shakti** which was led by late president **Dr APJ Abdul Kalam.**
        - The nuclear missile was tested at the Indian Army's Pokhran Test Range in Rajasthan. This was the second test which was conducted after Pokhran-I codenamed **Operation Smiling Buddha,** in May 1974.
    - On the same day, India performed a successful test firing of the **Trishul Missile (surface to air short range missile)** and had test flown the **first indigenous aircraft – 'Hansa – 3'.**

Source:PIB