



## Olympic Order Awarded to Abhinav Bindra

**Source: PIB**

Recently, the Prime Minister congratulated **athlete Abhinav Bindra** on **being awarded the Olympic Order** for his outstanding services to the Olympic Movement.

- The Olympic Order is the highest award from the International Olympic Committee, **given to individuals for outstanding contributions to the Olympic movement**, recognizing exceptional dedication to promoting the values and ideals of the Olympics.
  - Established in 1975, it replaced the **Olympic Diploma of Merit**.
  - The Olympic Order has three grades: gold, silver, and bronze. The gold order is reserved for heads of state and exceptional circumstances.
  - Other notable recipients of the Olympic Order include **Indira Gandhi and Nelson Mandela**.
- The award was presented during the **142<sup>nd</sup> International Olympic Committee (IOC) Session** in Paris.
  - The IOC is the **guardian of the Olympic Games**, established in **June 1894**. It is a **not-for-profit independent international organisation**.
  - It is based in **Lausanne, Switzerland**, the Olympic Capital.
- Abhinav Bindra is **India's first individual Olympic gold medallist**, who **won the men's 10-meter air rifle event** at the **2008 Beijing Games**.

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