



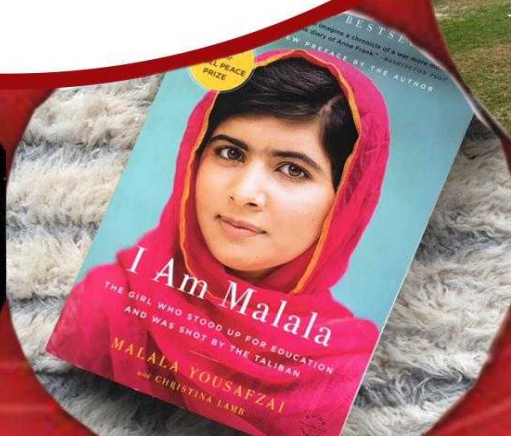
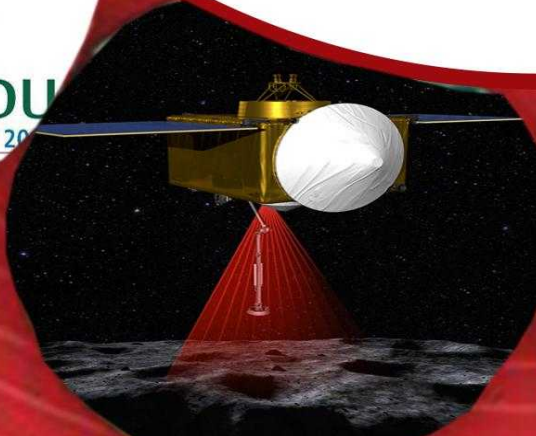
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# நடப்பு நிகழ்வுகள் (CURRENT AFFAIRS)

## MARCH - 2019

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## TNPSC

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## National News

- **RailTel Corporation of India Ltd**, a Mini Ratna CPSU under the **Ministry of Railways**, has successfully completed work of turning **1000 railway stations** across the country into **Free Wi-Fi zone**.
  - RailTel started the project in January 2016 from Mumbai Central station in Maharashtra. It was the first station to have the fast and free RailWire Wi-Fi and in a span of two years and three months.
- **The Telangana Government** launched a MSME networking portal, **Telangana State Global Linker in Hyderabad** to digitise over 2.3 million MSMEs of the state. The solution aims to address key challenges faced by MSMEs with the core objective of making their business growth simpler, more profitable and enjoyable
- On 28th March 2019, an Interactive session was held between **India and ambassadors & High Commissioners of European and Oceania Countries** in **New Delhi**. The aim of the interactive session was to take economic ties with European and Oceania countries to a next level. Various trade negotiations were also discussed in the session.
  - Bilateral trade between India and Europe is of **USD 130.1 Billion** and import and export between the countries has registered double digit growth.
- Google has constituted an **eight-member Advanced Technology External Advisory Council** that will examine the ethical challenges related to artificial intelligence (AI) and other emerging technologies.
  - The aim of the council is **to provide recommendations** for Google and other companies and researchers regarding the AI.

## International News

- The 16th meeting of the **Canada-India Joint Working Group** on Counter-Terrorism and its Expert Sub-group was held in **Ottawa** on 26th and 27th March to provide detailed briefings on their respective nation's counter-terrorism priorities, strategies and legislative frameworks.
  - The meeting has reviewed the threats posed by terrorist groups worldwide and in their respective countries and regions.

## Science and Technology

- A hyper-local connectivity app called "**Bhonga**" has been developed by Mumbai-based Company **Linkus Infratech**, to connect users to their neighborhood people in the city even without an Internet connection.
  - "Bhonga" is a Marathi word which means megaphone or loudspeaker.
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## Economy

- The commerce ministry has unveiled a blockchain-based **coffee e-marketplace** to help farmers integrate with markets to facilitate them to get aware of fair prices for the commodity.
  - It will reduce the number of layers between coffee growers and buyers and help farmers double their income.

## Sports

- On 28th March 2019, the unique mixed teams **Hopman Cup** (Tennis tournament) in Perth has been replaced by the **ATP (Association of Tennis Professionals) World Team Cup after 31 years.**
  - Now three cities Sydney, Brisbane, and Perth will host the new men-only tournament (ATP World Team Cup) final.

## Appointments

- On 29th March 2019, Indian Test Cricketer, **Mayank Agarwal**, appointed as Brand Ambassador of **Aeronutrix's Fast&Up** Rope for the growth of the fast-moving healthcare goods business in India.
  - He has a record of making **1000 runs** on the domestic season in 2017-18, within a single month.

## Books

- The Governor of Reserve Bank of India, **Shaktikanta Das** launched the book "**Indian Fiscal Federalism**" authored by **Dr. Y.V. Reddy and G.R. Reddy**. The launch event of the book was addressed by the Chairman of the 15th Finance Commission **NK Singh**, in New Delhi.