



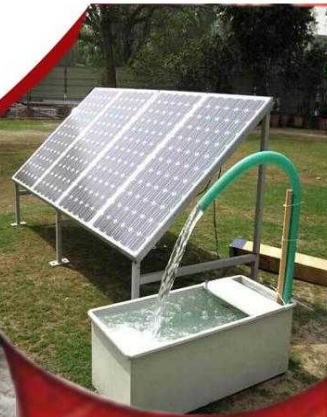
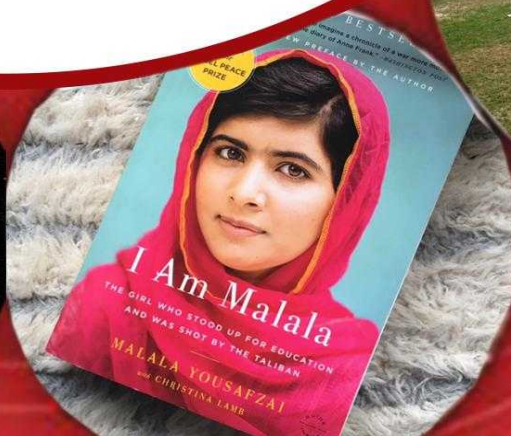
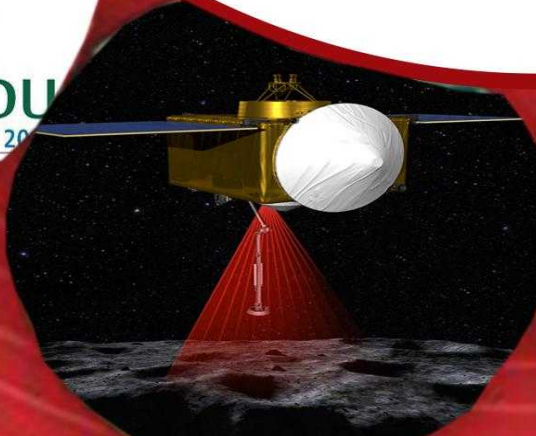
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2

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INDEX



NATIONAL NEWS



INTERNATIONAL NEWS



SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY



ECONOMY



APPOINTMENTS



SPORTS



IMPOTANT DAYS



NATIONAL NEWS

- The state of the art **Nuclear, Biological, Chemical Training Facility** (NBCTF) named **ABHEDYA** of Indian Navy has been commissioned at **INS Shivaji**, Lonavla in Mumbai by Admiral Sunil Lanba, PVSM AVSM ADC, Chief of the Naval Staff.
 - It will provide training to naval personnel in detection, protection against and decontamination of nuclear, biological and chemical agents.
- On 25th March 2019, The **Reserve Bank of India slapped Rs.2 crore** as penalty for **non-compliance of regulatory directions** regarding **SWIFT operations in Punjab National Bank**.
 - **Society for World Wide Interbank Financial Telecommunication (SWIFT)** is a network which enables the financial institutions worldwide to send and receive information about the financial transactions in a secure manner.
- **India** has achieved an **84 per cent reduction in tuberculosis deaths** among people living with HIV by 2017.
 - According to **the Joint United Nations Programme on the UNAIDS**, it is the highest recorded decline among over 20 nations and it is also three years ahead of the 2020 deadline.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- On 26th March 2019, the **world's largest e-waste recycling plant** has opened in **Dubai Industrial Park, Dubai** by 'Enviroserve' company with a total cost of \$5 million.
 - It will recycle Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE), IT asset disposition (ITAD), refrigerant gas and specialized waste. The processing capacity of this recycling hub is **100,000 tonnes** of total integrated waste (per year), of which **39,000 tonnes is e-waste**.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

- On 23rd March 2019, for the first time in the world, **researchers at the GRAPES-3 muon telescope facility** in **Ooty** have measured a **thundercloud's electrical potential**, size, and height which was passed overhead on 1st December

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2014. This measure will help to navigate aircraft and to prevent short circuits in aeroplanes.

ECONOMY

- On 25th March 2019, The **Tech Giant Apple has partnered with Goldman Sachs and Mastercard** and announced a new credit card called **Apple Card**.
 - **Apple Card can be used along the wallet app of the iPhone**. It was a virtual credit card which will replace the traditional credit card with the smart and secure one.

APPOINTMENTS

- On 26th March 2019, **Shambhu S Kumaran** a 1995 batch of Indian Foreign Service officer appointed as **next India's Ambassador to Kingdom of Morocco**.
 - He presently works as a Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Defence. He will succeed Dr. Kheya Bhattacharya.

SPORTS

- On 25th March 2019, **Paralympic torch** was unveiled by the **Tokyo Organising Committee** of the Olympic and Paralympic Games (Tokyo 2020) which will take place between 13th and 25th August 2020 to represent the Torch Relay.
 - The torch is made from the same **recycled aluminum** and is modeled after the **Japanese cherry blossom or "sakura"**. The color of the torch is **"Sakura Pink"**.

IMPORTANT DAYS

- **Epilepsy Awareness Day** which is commonly known as **World Purple Day is observed on March 26** in order to encourage the people to wear the colour to increase the awareness of Epilepsy.
 - Nearly **50 million people** in the world are having Epilepsy as per the **World Health Organization (WHO)** which does not have a known cause.