



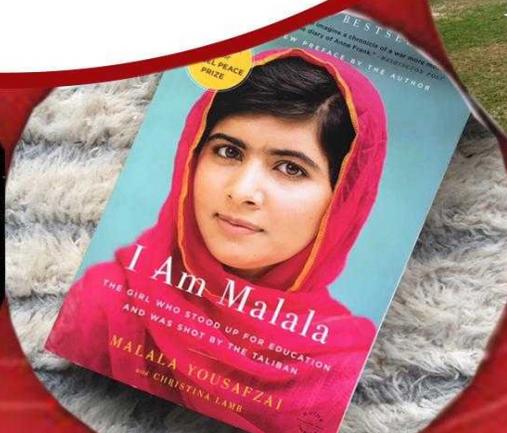
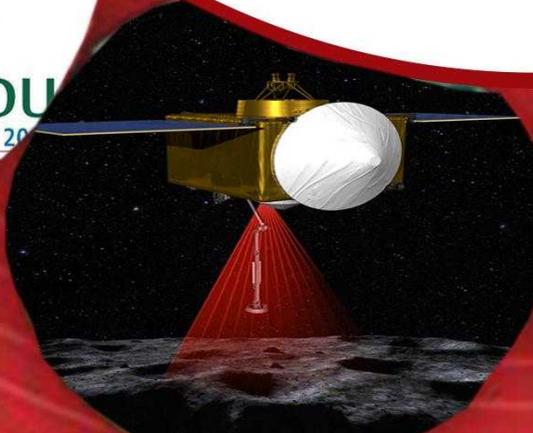
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National News

- On 29th March 2019, **the second joint logistics node of tri-services** has become operational at naval base in **Mumbai**, Maharashtra to enhancing interoperability, improve maintenance of military assets and provide logistical support to all the defence services.
 - In 2008, the **first joint logistics node (JLN)** consisting of the three services was set up at **Andaman and Nicobar Islands**.
- On 29th March, 2019, **India and the US** has signed an agreement to the **Statement of Guiding Principles (SGP)** on triangular cooperation for global development to facilitate with a framework to promote bilateral cooperation to meet the developmental ambitions of partner countries, particularly in Asia and Africa.
 - This agreement was signed by **Devyani Khobragade**, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs of India, and **Mark Anthony White**, Mission Director for the USAID in India.
- On 28th March 2019, a recent report by **Oxfam** has found that the **gender wage gap** in India is **highest among Asian nations**, women are paid **34 percent less** compared to men for performing the same job and with same qualifications also the Women's labour force participation in India is the lowest in the world.
 - The survey was based on the **employment-unemployment survey (EUS)** 2011-12, done by the **National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO)**, International Labour Organization (ILO) studies, and also based on the first inequality report launched by Oxfam in 2018.

International News

- On 28th March 2019, **The European Parliament** has banned the **single-use plastic** cutlery, cotton buds, straws and stirrers that despoils beaches and pollutes oceans.
 - This ban will be effective from **2021** in all EU member states.

Science & Technology

- On 28th March 2019, **Indian Army** inducted its domestically developed and manufactured **Dhanush artillery howitzer** at a ceremony held the Ordnance factory in Jabalpur to give a major fire-power boost to the Indian Armed Forces.
 - The Dhanush gun is the first indigenous artillery gun of **155x45mm caliber** and is based on **Bofors howitzer** which was commissioned in the 1980s.

Economy

- Maharatna public sector units **GAIL India Ltd and Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL)** have inked a memorandum of understanding (**MoU for cooperation in the development of solar power projects.**)
 - The MoU is aimed at building a closer strategic partnership between the two state-owned companies for jointly pursuing commercial solar power projects through participation in tariff and viability gap funding based competitive bidding process.

Sports

- Students from Southeast Asian countries and regions will compete at the **2019 Asean School Games in July in Indonesia's Semarang city.** Students will take part in athletics, badminton, basketball, swimming, lawn tennis, table tennis, volleyball, sepak takraw and Indonesia's traditional martial art of Pencak Silat.
 - The 2019 Asean School Games is scheduled to be held from July 17 to 25.

Appointments

- Senior Congress leader **Madhusudan Mistry** was appointed as **All India Congress Committee (AICC)'s election observer for Maharashtra** for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections. The Congress had also appointed Mistry as the head of party's screening committee for the Karnataka Assembly elections last year.
 - In 2014, Mistry was nominated by the Congress to the Rajya sabha from Gujarat.

Awards

- **Dr. Rajendra Kumar Joshi**, the founder and chairman of the RUJ Group has

been conferred with the prestigious Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award on 29th March, 2019. He was awarded by the **Embassy of India in Switzerland**, on behalf of the President of India with a commendation letter and a medal.

- He claimed this award was for his magnificent achievements in the field of science, education and medicine.


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