

49 BC

Julius Caesar defies the Roman Senate and crosses the Rubicon, uttering "alea iacta est" (the die is cast), signaling the start of civil war which would lead to his appointment as Roman dictator for life



1475

Stephen III of Moldavia defeats the Ottoman Empire at the Battle of Vaslui

1839

First tea from leaves of indigenous plants of Assam, India arrives in the United Kingdom [date approximate]

1946

UN General Assembly meets for 1st time in London

# Isonaro formed

Brazil's top grain-producing state Mato Grosso reported several blockades that were cleared by dawn. Police said blockages on another highway in Parana state were also cleared.

"There are still people trying to block roads and access to oil refineries," presidential spokesman Paulo Pimenta told reporters. State-run oil company Petrobras (PETRA4.SA) said its refinery operations and fuel supplies had not been affected.

Supreme Court Justice Alexandre de Moraes ordered the governor of Brasilia removed from office late on Sunday for 90 days over alleged security failings and demanded that social media platforms Facebook, Twitter and TikTok block accounts of users spreading anti-democratic propaganda.

Facebook parent Meta (METAC.O) said yesterday it was removing content supporting or praising the weekend actions. Telegram, TikTok, Twitter and YouTube did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

## attacks

vance," he said. In Soledar "things are very difficult".

In an evacuee centre in nearby Kramatorsk, Olha, 60, said she had fled Soledar after moving from apartment to apartment as each was destroyed in tank battles.

"All of last week we couldn't come outside. Everyone was running around, soldiers with automatic weapons, screaming," said Olha, who gave only her first name.

"There isn't one house left intact," she said. "Apartments were burning, breaking in half."

Pro-Russian bloggers quoted Prigozhin as saying his forces were fighting for the administration building in Soledar.

# Indian PM Modi opens 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention in Indore

Modi calls Pravasis "brand ambassadors" on foreign soil.



Modi opens 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention 2023 in Indore, Madhya Pradesh, India

● A 100 member delegation from Bahrain is at Indore for the convention

● Modi yesterday also opened the first ever digital PBD Exhibition

TDT | agencies

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi yesterday opened the 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention 2023 in Indore, Madhya Pradesh, calling Pravasi Bhartiya as India's "brand ambassadors" on foreign soil.

Modi further stressed that Pravasis have a significant role to play in the country's journey as it enters the "Amrit Kaal" of the next 25 years.

"I consider Pravasi Bharatiyas as brand ambassadors of India on foreign soil. Your role is diverse. You are the brand ambassador for yoga, Ayurveda, cottage industry, handicrafts and also millets," Modi said.

The GenNext Pravasis are also curious to know about the country of their parents' origin," he said.

He also urged Indian universities to document the contri-



Indian PM inaugurates the 1st ever digital PBD Exhibition



Indian Ambassador Piyush Srivastava watches the live broadcast of PBD convention along with community members

butions made by the diaspora in their respective nations for the benefit of students.

The event was streamed live at Indian Embassy in Bahrain in the presence of Indian community members and Ambassador Piyush Srivastava.

A 100 member delegation from Bahrain is at Indore for the

convention, where they had discussions with V Muraleedharan, Minister of State for External Affairs of India, on Sunday.

Modi yesterday also opened the first ever digital PBD Exhibition on the theme AzadiKaAmritMahotsav - Contribution of Diaspora in Indian Freedom Struggle.

"Suriname has sought partnership (with India) in various fields including health, financial sectors and strengthening cultural ties by setting up institutes for Hindi language promotion in the Caribbean country," he said.

Guyana President Mohamed Irfaan Ali, the chief guest at the event, praised Modi for his efforts during the pandemic.

"When globalisation failed during the pandemic, Modi showed that it exists," he said.

Calling India an important strategic partner, Irfaan Ali recalled how the country helped it with COVID-19 vaccines and medicines in its time of need.

He further said there are massive opportunities for India's private sector in Guyana.

"I visited this country earlier and studied here before becoming the president (of Guyana) and felt the love of Indian people," he added.



TOP  
4  
TWEETS

01



Addressing the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention in Indore. The Indian diaspora has distinguished itself all over the world.

@narendramodi

02



I'm in Mexico to meet with President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador of Mexico and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau of Canada at the North American Leaders' Summit. This gathering will deepen our coordination and advance our shared priorities for North America.

@POTUS

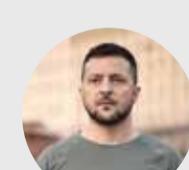
03



I hope that the people of Brazil are able to resolve matters peacefully

@elonmusk

04



Spoke with Prime Minister of Portugal @antoniocosta pm. We talked about security cooperation. Thanked for the readiness to provide effective support to the energy system of Ukraine. We also discussed concrete steps to implement our #PeaceFormula.

@ZelenskyyUa

# every 4.4 seconds in 2021 – UN report

losing their children, sometimes even before their first breath," said Vidhya Ganesh, UNICEF Director of the Division of Data Analytics, Planning and Monitoring.

"Such widespread, preventable tragedy should never be accepted as inevitable. Progress is possible with stronger political will and targeted investment in equitable access to primary health care for every woman and child."

The reports show some positive outcomes with a lower risk of death across all ages globally since 2000. The global under-five mortality rate fell by 50% since the start of the century, while mortality rates in older children and youth dropped by 36%, and the stillbirth rate decreased by 35%. This can be attributed to more investments in strengthening primary health systems

to benefit women, children and young people.

However, gains have reduced significantly since 2010, and 54 countries will fall short of meeting the Sustainable Development Goals target for under-five mortality. If swift action is not taken to improve health services, warn the agencies, almost 59 children and youth will die before 2030, and nearly 16 babies will be lost to stillbirth.

"It is grossly unjust that a child's chances of survival can be shaped just by their place of birth, and that there are such vast inequities in their access to lifesaving health services," said Dr Anshu Banerjee, Director for Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health and Ageing at the World Health Organization (WHO). "Children everywhere

need strong primary health care systems that meet their needs and those of their families, so that – no matter where they are born – they have the best start and hope for the future."

Children continue to face wildly differentiating chances of survival based on where they are born, with sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia shouldering the heaviest burden, the reports show. Though sub-Saharan Africa had just 29% of global live births, the region accounted for 56% of all under-five deaths in 2021, and Southern Asia for 26% of the total. Children born in sub-Saharan Africa are subject to the highest risk of childhood death in the world – 15 times higher than the risk for children in Europe and Northern America.

Mothers in these two regions

also endure the painful loss of babies to stillbirth at an exceptional rate, with 77% of all stillbirths in 2021 occurring in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. Nearly half of all stillbirths happened in sub-Saharan Africa. The risk of a woman having a stillborn baby in

sub-Saharan Africa is seven times more likely than in Europe and North America.

While COVID-19 has not directly increased childhood mortality – with children facing a lower likelihood of dying from the disease than adults – the pandemic may have increased future risks to their survival. In particular, the reports highlight concerns around disruptions to vaccination campaigns, nutrition services, and access to primary health care, which could jeopardize their health and well-being for many years to come. In addition, the pandemic has fuelled the largest continued backslide in vaccinations in three decades, putting the most vulnerable newborns and children at greater risk of dying from preventable diseases.



More than 5 million children died before reaching their fifth birthday in 2020. Almost half of those deaths, 2.4 million, occurred among newborns

Disclaimer: (Views expressed by columnists are personal and need not necessarily reflect our editorial stances)