

1526

First Battle of Panipat: Central Asian conqueror Babur defeats Sultan Ibrahim Lodi, establishing the Mughal Empire in India

1792

Brazilian revolutionary Tiradentes, is hanged, drawn and quartered in Rio de Janeiro

1918

World War I: German fighter ace Baron Manfred von Richthofen "The Red Baron", shot down and killed over Vaux sur Somme in France. Canadian pilot Arthur Roy Brown credited with the kill



1982

Thousands of Chinese crowd into Beijing's Tiananmen Square cheering students demanding greater political freedom

# Idriss Deby killed son to take over



akchott, Mauritania

A senior regional diplomat said "We understand from our sources that he was indeed on or near the frontline. He loved going on the frontline."

diaries on the battlefield in his military fatigues - visited troops on the frontline on Monday after

rebels based across the northern frontier in Libya advanced hundreds of km (miles) south toward the capital N'Djamena. LIN2MC20E

"Marshal Idriss Deby Itno, as he did each time that the institutions of the republic were gravely threatened, took control of operations during the heroic combat led against the terrorists from Libya. He was wounded during the fighting and died once repatriated to N'Djamena," Bermendao said.

The government and National Assembly have been dissolved and a nationwide curfew imposed from 6 p.m. to 5 a.m.

"The National Council of Transition reassures the Chadian people that all measures have been taken to guarantee peace, security and the republican order," Bermendao said.

Deby had pushed through a new constitution in 2018 that would have allowed him to stay in power until 2033 - even as it re-instated term limits.

He took the title of Marshal last year and said before last week's election: "I know in advance that I will win, as I have done for the last 30 years."

He was dealing with mounting public discontent over his management of Chad's oil wealth and crackdowns on opponents.

But in the election re-

sults announced on Monday, Deby claimed 79% of the vote.

Western countries have counted on Deby as an ally in the fight against Islamist militant groups, including Boko Haram in the Lake Chad Basin and groups linked to al Qaeda and Islamic State in the Sahel.

Former colonial power France had based its Sahel counter-terrorism operations in N'Djamena. Chad had announced in February the deployment of 1,200 troops to complement 5,100 French soldiers in the area.

Deby's death could mean tremendous uncertainty for Chad as the military is internally divided and because of the widespread domestic opposition, said Nathaniel Powell, author of a history of French military involvement in Chad.

"The swift announcement of the establishment of a military council and naming his son Mahamat as head of state however indicates regime continuity," Powell told Reuters.

"This probably aims to counter any coup-making efforts from within the security establishment and to reassure Chad's international partners - especially France but also the United States - that they can still count on the country for its continued contributions to international counter-terrorist efforts in the Sahel."

## Duterte prepared to deploy navy over South China Sea claim

AFP News

Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte said he is willing to deploy military ships to the South China Sea to assert the country's claim over oil deposits in a contested part of the waterway.

Duterte, who has embraced China since taking power in 2016, has faced growing domestic criticism for his reluctance to confront Beijing over its activities in Philippine-claimed waters.

Tensions spiked last month after hundreds of Chinese vessels were detected at Whitsun Reef in the Spratly Islands, which are contested by several countries, including the Philippines and China.

Beijing has refused repeated demands by the Philippines to call back the ships, which Manila says are maritime militia vessels and China says are fishing boats.

"I'm not so much interested now in fishing. I don't think there's enough fish really to quarrel about," Duterte said Monday.

"But when we start to mine, when we start to get whatever it is in the bowels of the China sea, our oil, then by that time... I will send my grey ships there to state a claim," he said, while also emphasising his desire "to remain friends" and "share whatever it is".

Duterte spoke the day af-



But when we start to mine, when we start to get whatever it is in the bowels of the China sea, our oil, then by that time... I will send my grey ships there to state a claim

RODRIGO DUTERTE

ter top military leadership rejected a rumour that a social media group involving members of the armed forces had demanded the president denounce China or they would no longer support him as their commander in chief.

Beijing asserts sovereignty over almost all of the waterway, which is believed to hold rich deposits of natural resources.

## Extreme melt reduced Greenland ice sheet storage: study



AFP News

The vast melting of Greenland's ice sheet caused by unusually high temperatures in 2012 had a lasting impact on its ability to absorb and store future meltwater, new research showed yesterday.

Authors of the research said it was evidence of how one-off or rare weather events could have a lasting impact on Earth's frozen spaces and a knock-on effect on global sea levels.

In summer 2012, much of the Arctic sweltered in a rare heatwave that saw blue lakes glimmering across Greenland's previously frozen ice sheet.

Using advanced modelling techniques, a team of researchers in the US reanalysed radar data collected by flights from NASA's Operation IceBridge between 2012-2017 to interpret melting near the surface of the ice sheet.

Ice sheet regions that haven't undergone extreme melting can store meltwater throughout their upper 50 metres or so, preventing it from flowing into the ocean.

But the team found that the melting in 2012 had refrozen into a layer of slick ice, creating slippery conditions that can speed up its movement and send chunks into the ocean.

In some parts of the Greenland Ice Sheet, the team found that the melt layer had reduced its storage capacity to just five metres.

"When you have these extreme, one-off melt years, it's not just adding more to Greenland's contribution to sea-level rise in that year," said lead study author Riley Culberg, from Stanford University.

"It's also creating these persistent structural changes in the ice sheet itself."

## Vaccines

ing between 10% and

has also now decided as for all adults from

everyone above 18 years able to get vaccinated from May 1.

phase of the vaccination next month, the crers would supply 50 monthly Central Drugs released doses to the and would be free to ng 50 per cent doses nts and in the open

would have to make tion of the price for ould be available to nts and in the open y 1, 2021, an official

s would have to pro- of Covid-19 vaccine he 50% supply ear- than Govt. of India vaccination providers y declare their self- rice. The eligibility nel would be opened i.e. everyone above

shall continue as be- of India vaccination rovided free of cost ible population as rlier i.e. Health Care (HCWs), Front Line FLWs) and all people ears of age.

## Azerbaijan to sue Armenia for post-war destructions



TDT | Manama

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev said that they are to sue Yerevan for causing deliberate post-war destructions in the occupied territories, which he said: "is beyond worst expectations."

Aliyev said that Azerbaijan is documenting destruction done by Armenia to sue Yerevan.

Addressing the "New Vision for South Caucasus: Post-Conflict Development and Cooperation" international conference held at ADA University, he said the destruction in Azerbaijan's lands occurred after ending the first Karabakh war in 1994.

On the negotiations process before the war, Aliyev said that Armenia was not committed to it.

"What we have seen after we liberated the territories, those fortifications, those huge hundred million of dollars investments in mining, in building this defence lines. We clearly understand that they were doing it to keep these lands under occupation forever."

President also stressed the role of

civil society in the peacebuilding process in the region. "I think we should count a lot on the support from international NGOs. Azerbaijan is ready to work with them on this issue."

On a question about reconstruction pros in the liberated territories, Aliyev said, "There is a huge potential for renewable energy, especially, wind energy, and in some parts of the liberated territories, for instance, in Lachin, Kalbajar. There is a huge potential for wind in Jabrayil, Zangilan has potential for solar and water."

"We are now in the process of restoration of twelve hydropower stations which Armenians destroyed after the war stopped until they left Kalbajar.

He also said that the first pilot project of smart-village and city planning already started.

"So, Karabakh will generate a lot of GDP in the non-energy sector of our economy, also transportation. Three airports are already in the process with works in one of the airports had already started." On Railroad connections, he said, "Zangilan can become a transportation and logistical hub taking into account its location and proximity to the neighbours."



TOP  
4  
TWEETS

01



"On the one hand, governments today are saying climate change is their priority. But on the other hand, we are seeing the second biggest emissions rise in history." So, is this what a "green recovery" looks like in practice...?

@GretaThunberg

02



Had an extensive interaction with Pharma industry leaders. Indian industry has worked with a spirit of cooperation and made the fight against the pandemic even more effective. Their efforts are laudatory.

@narendramodi

03



Over 5.2M new #COVID19 cases were recorded last week, & total deaths are now over 3M. Big numbers can make us numb, but each death is a tragedy for a family, community & nation. If we apply the tools we have, consistently & equitably, we can bring this pandemic under control.

@DrTedros

04



Do you like fun things? Type "Ingeniunity NASA" in a @Google search for a #MarsHelicopter surprise.

@NASA

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