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ANALYTICA**

INDIA'S NEIGHBORHOOD DIGEST.

APRIL 2026



PAKISTAN AND SRI LANKA CONDUCT JOINT COUNTER- TERRORISM EXERCISE

Pakistan and Sri Lanka began a two-week joint counter-terrorism exercise aimed at enhancing military coordination and operational capabilities. The drills reflect growing defence cooperation between the two countries and focus on improving readiness to address shared security threats, including terrorism and regional instability in South Asia's evolving security environment.



PORTUGAL DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER TO VISIT NEPAL

Portugal's Deputy Foreign Minister is set to visit Nepal to strengthen diplomatic and economic ties. The visit reflects Nepal's expanding engagement with European partners and efforts to diversify its foreign relations while enhancing cooperation in trade, development, and multilateral platforms amid shifting global dynamics and increasing geopolitical interest in the Himalayan region.





MYANMAR MILITARY INTENSIFIES BLOCKADE IN RAKHINE REGION

Myanmar's military tightened its blockade on Rakhine after securing control of a key junction in Magwe. The move further restricts humanitarian access and intensifies conflict with resistance groups, raising concerns about worsening humanitarian conditions and prolonged instability with implications for regional security, refugee flows, and cross-border tensions affecting neighbouring countries, including India.



BANGLADESH OPPOSITION RAISES LAW AND ORDER CONCERNS WITH EU

Bangladesh's Jamaat-e-Islami raised concerns over law and order issues with visiting European Union observers. The development highlights domestic political tensions and increasing international scrutiny ahead of elections, reflecting challenges in governance, democratic processes, and internal stability that may influence Bangladesh's external relations and diplomatic engagement with global and regional partners.



DEPORTATION OF AFGHAN MIGRANTS FROM IRAN INCREASES

Forced deportations of Afghan migrants from Iran have increased, raising humanitarian concerns. The trend reflects growing economic and political pressures within Iran and highlights the vulnerability of Afghan refugees, with broader implications for regional migration patterns, stability, and humanitarian coordination among neighbouring countries and international organisations dealing with displacement challenges across the region.



AFGHANISTAN AND RUSSIA DISCUSS STRENGTHENING BILATERAL COOPERATION

Afghan officials, including Sirajuddin Haqqani, met Russia's special envoy to discuss expanding bilateral cooperation. The talks highlight Russia's engagement with Afghanistan's current leadership, focusing on security, economic ties, and regional stability, as Moscow seeks to strengthen its influence and role in shaping Afghanistan's evolving geopolitical landscape and broader regional dynamics in Central Asia.





INDIA AND SRI LANKA ENHANCE MARITIME COOPERATION THROUGH NAVAL EXERCISE

India and Sri Lanka strengthened maritime ties through the SLINEX/DIVEX 2026 naval exercise in Colombo. The drills focused on interoperability, search-and-rescue operations, and maritime security, reinforcing bilateral defence cooperation and highlighting shared commitment to safeguarding sea lanes and regional stability in the Indian Ocean amid growing strategic competition and evolving maritime security challenges.



PAKISTAN TO INDUCT ADVANCED CHINESE SUBMARINES INTO NAVY

Pakistan is set to acquire advanced Chinese-built submarines, enhancing its naval capabilities. The development deepens China-Pakistan defence ties and reflects growing maritime competition in the Indian Ocean region, with implications for regional security dynamics and strategic balance.



INDIA AND CHINA HOLD DEFENCE TALKS ON REGIONAL SECURITY

India and China's defence ministers met on the sidelines of the SCO meeting to discuss regional security issues. The engagement reflects continued dialogue despite tensions, focusing on stability, confidence-building, and managing differences amid shifting geopolitical dynamics in Asia.



INDIA APPOINTS NEW ENVOY TO BANGLADESH AMID IMPROVING TIES

India appointed a senior political figure Dinesh Trivedi (non-foreign service officer) as envoy to Bangladesh, signalling efforts to strengthen bilateral relations. The move reflects improving ties and India's strategic focus on neighbourhood engagement, particularly amid regional competition and evolving political dynamics in Bangladesh.



INDIA PROVIDES SEARCH-AND-RESCUE VESSELS TO SRI LANKA

India handed over search-and-rescue watercraft to Sri Lanka, enhancing maritime cooperation and capacity-building. The initiative reflects India's role as a regional security provider and strengthens bilateral ties, particularly in maritime safety and disaster response.





INDIAN AGENCIES FOIL TERROR PLOT, RECOVER ADVANCED WEAPONS

Indian security agencies foiled a major terror conspiracy, recovering advanced weapons from operatives. The operation highlights ongoing security threats linked to cross-border networks and underscores the importance of intelligence coordination and counter-terrorism efforts in maintaining internal and regional stability amid persistent militant challenges.



STRATEGIC RECALIBRATION IN INDIA'S NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICY HIGHLIGHTED

Analysis suggests India is recalibrating its neighbourhood policy to address evolving regional dynamics, including political changes and external influences. The approach focuses on balancing engagement, security concerns, and strategic competition, particularly with China, while strengthening ties with neighbouring countries to maintain regional stability and influence in South Asia.



INDIA OUTLINES LONG-TERM DIPLOMACY STRATEGY AT MEA CONFERENCE

India outlined its diplomatic priorities toward 2047 during a high-level MEA conference, emphasising regional engagement, China relations, and global positioning. The strategy reflects long-term planning to enhance India's influence, strengthen partnerships, and address emerging geopolitical challenges in its neighbourhood and beyond.



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