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NEIGHBORHOOD

DIGEST



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MYANMAR EXPELS EAST TIMOR ENVOY AFTER RIGHTS COMPLAINT

Myanmar expelled East Timor's envoy following a complaint by a human rights group against the ruling military junta. The move highlights the junta's continued sensitivity to international criticism and reflects the deepening diplomatic tensions surrounding Myanmar's political crisis and human rights situation.



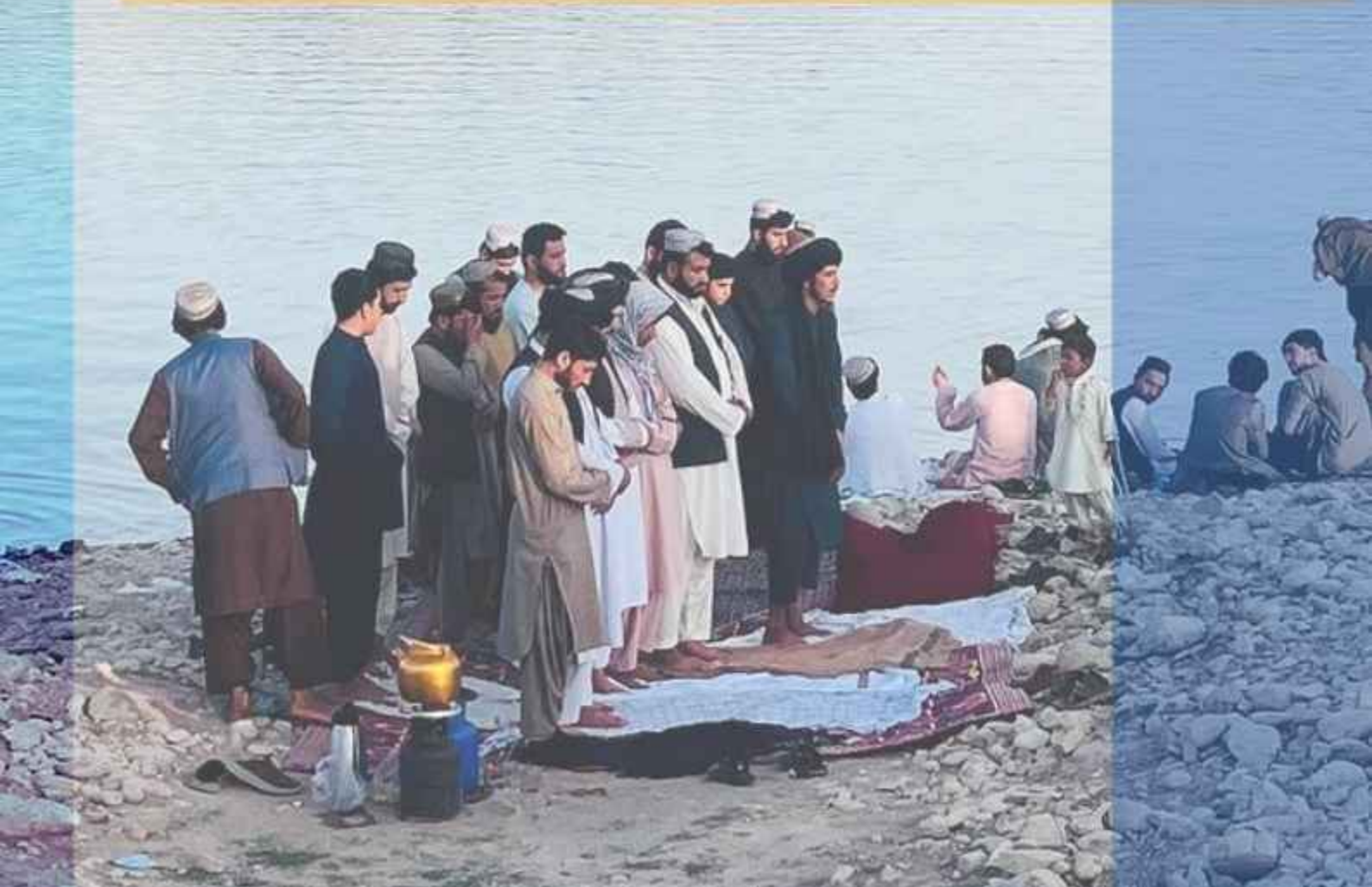
TARIQUE RAHMAN SWORN IN AS BANGLADESH PRIME MINISTER AFTER LANDSLIDE VICTORY

Tarique Rahman was sworn in as Bangladesh's Prime Minister following a decisive electoral victory. His rise marks a major shift in Bangladesh's political landscape, potentially influencing domestic governance, economic policy, and Dhaka's regional relations with key partners including India and China.



Pakistan Airstrikes Kill Civilians in Afghanistan: UN

United Nations reports indicated that Pakistani airstrikes targeting militant hideouts in Afghanistan resulted in at least thirteen civilian casualties. The incident heightened tensions along the Afghanistan–Pakistan border and raised concerns over cross-border military actions and humanitarian consequences.





Sri Lanka Arrests Former Intelligence Chief Over 2019 Easter Attacks

Sri Lankan authorities arrested the country's former intelligence chief in connection with investigations into the 2019 Easter bombings. The arrest reflects renewed efforts by Colombo to address accountability and security failures surrounding the devastating terror attacks.



HONG KONG COURT OVERTURNS TYCOON JIMMY LAI'S FRAUD CONVICTION

Hong Kong's Court of Appeal overturned the fraud conviction and sentencing of media tycoon Jimmy Lai. The decision marks a significant development in a high-profile legal case linked to broader debates over judicial independence, press freedom, and political dissent in Hong Kong.



PAKISTAN STRIKES TARGETS IN AFGHANISTAN AS BORDER CLASHES INTENSIFY

Pakistan launched fresh strikes against suspected militant positions inside Afghanistan following escalating cross-border clashes. The incident underscores deteriorating security dynamics between the two neighbours and the continuing volatility along their disputed frontier.



CHINA CONDUCTS SOUTH CHINA SEA PATROL, ACCUSES PHILIPPINES OF PROVOCATION

China conducted patrols in the South China Sea while accusing the Philippines of destabilising regional peace through its activities in contested waters. The development reflects ongoing tensions over maritime sovereignty and freedom of navigation in the Indo-Pacific.



INDIA ALLOCATES LARGEST SHARE OF NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT AID TO BHUTAN

India's Union Budget 2026 allocated the largest portion of development assistance among neighbouring countries to Bhutan. The decision reinforces New Delhi's commitment to its closest Himalayan partner and underscores the strategic importance of Bhutan in India's neighbourhood policy.



INDIA AND MALDIVES REVIEW DEFENCE COOPERATION IN THE INDIAN OCEAN

India and the Maldives held discussions aimed at strengthening defence ties and maritime security cooperation in the Indian Ocean Region. The dialogue highlighted shared concerns over regional stability and reaffirmed commitments to deepening bilateral strategic partnership.



MALDIVES-EU HOLD FIRST PARTNERSHIP DIALOGUE

The Maldives and the European Union conducted their first partnership dialogue, focusing on governance, climate resilience, economic cooperation, and sustainable development. The engagement reflects the Maldives' efforts to diversify international partnerships and strengthen diplomatic ties with Europe.





AFGHANISTAN HIGHLIGHTS DIPLOMATIC ENGAGEMENT AND REGIONAL OUTREACH

Afghanistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs highlighted ongoing diplomatic outreach and international engagement aimed at strengthening regional cooperation and addressing economic and humanitarian challenges facing the country.



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