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SUICIDE BOMBING IN PAKISTAN UNDERScores PERSISTENT MILITANCY THREAT

A suicide bombing in Pakistan killed several people, including security personnel, underscoring the continuing threat posed by militant violence. The attack adds to concerns over Pakistan's internal security environment, particularly the ability of armed groups to target state forces. The incident also reinforces wider regional concerns surrounding terrorism, border security, and instability in Pakistan's neighbourhood.



ELECTORAL VIOLENCE RAISES QUESTIONS OVER STABILITY IN PAKISTAN-ADMINISTERED KASHMIR

Deadly clashes during elections in Pakistan-administered Kashmir have raised concerns over political stability and the conduct of the electoral process. Protest leaders reported more than 30 deaths, while Pakistani authorities acknowledged security casualties and disputed the wider toll. Rights groups called for investigations into allegations of excessive force, adding pressure on Islamabad over governance and political legitimacy.



NEPAL GOVERNMENT SEEKS CALM AFTER DEADLY HINDU-MUSLIM COMMUNAL CLASHES

Prime Minister Balendra Shah appealed for restraint after clashes between Hindu and Muslim communities in southern Nepal killed three people. Authorities imposed curfews across affected districts and pledged a fair investigation. The violence has created an immediate law-and-order challenge for the new government, with officials stressing social harmony, national unity and limited use of force.



INDIA AND BHUTAN DEEPEN DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP THROUGH NEW FINANCING

India and Bhutan reviewed their development partnership and advanced new financing arrangements, including a ₹4,000 crore Line of Credit. The cooperation reinforces New Delhi's development-oriented engagement with Thimphu and supports Bhutan's infrastructure and economic priorities. The agreement forms part of broader bilateral cooperation covering development, connectivity and projects.



INDIA AND NEPAL ADVANCE CROSS-BORDER POWER AND HYDROPOWER COOPERATION

India and Nepal reviewed bilateral cooperation on hydropower generation, electricity trade and transmission infrastructure at the 13th Joint Steering Committee meeting. Both sides assessed progress on new transmission links, including the 400 kV Gorakhpur-New Butwal line, and explored faster implementation of projects. Cooperation on coordinated grid operations, solar energy, green hydrogen and technical capacity-building was also discussed.



BANGLADESH WARNS SHEIKH HASINA OF ARREST UPON POSSIBLE RETURN

Bangladesh's Law Minister warned that former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina could be arrested immediately if she returns from India, where she has lived since leaving office in 2024. Hasina has said she intends to return by December. Dhaka continues seeking her extradition, while India has said the request remains under legal examination, making the issue significant for bilateral relations.



INDIA-MYANMAR BORDER MANAGEMENT RAISES QUESTIONS OVER TERRITORIAL ADJUSTMENTS

Questions surrounding possible territorial adjustments between India and Myanmar have emerged amid discussions on managing their complex border. Any territorial arrangement would carry implications for border administration, local communities and security cooperation. The issue also intersects with India's broader effort to manage its northeastern frontier while maintaining practical engagement with Myanmar amid its continuing internal conflict.



INDIA AND MYANMAR EXPLORE CLOSER COOPERATION ON RARE EARTH MINERALS

India and Myanmar signalled closer cooperation on rare earth mining, reflecting growing strategic interest in securing critical mineral supplies. The discussions could support India's efforts to diversify sources of materials essential for advanced manufacturing and technology. Engagement with Myanmar also provides a potential avenue for economic cooperation alongside New Delhi's wider security and connectivity interests in the region.



SRI LANKA'S INCOME RECLASSIFICATION SIGNALS PROGRESS IN ECONOMIC RECOVERY

Sri Lanka has been upgraded to upper-middle-income status by the World Bank, marking an important indicator of economic recovery following its severe financial crisis. The change comes alongside continued IMF-supported reforms and renewed international financing.

However, sustaining fiscal consolidation, strengthening revenues and attracting investment remain important to consolidating recovery and improving long-term economic resilience.



MALDIVES REVIVES SAARC DEBATE AND OFFERS INDIA- PAKISTAN MEDIATION

Maldivian President Mohamed Muizzu called for the revival of SAARC and offered Malé's assistance in facilitating dialogue between India and Pakistan. The initiative reflects growing interest among smaller South Asian states in restoring regional cooperation. Muizzu's proposal comes alongside Bangladesh's renewed support for SAARC, while India remains cautious and continues emphasising conditions necessary for meaningful regional cooperation.



INDIA EXPANDS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE ACROSS MALDIVES

India and Maldives signed agreements to provide equipment for fitness and recreation centres across 42 islands. The initiative, implemented under India's High Impact Community Development Project, focuses particularly on women, girls and youth. The programme represents continued Indian grant-based development assistance at the community level and contributes to broader bilateral engagement through locally implemented projects.



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