

Weekly Update

1. India secures second overseas port: Sittwe agreement approved by MEA.

Strategic importance of Sittwe Port:

→ Sittwe Port, located in Myanmar's Rakhine State, is an important component of the Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project, which aims to connect the eastern Indian port of Kolkata with Sittwe Port in Myanmar via sea.

→ This will also reduce dependence on the Siliguri Corridor, known as the Chicken Neck, which lies between Bhutan and Bangladesh.

Source: India Shipping News

<https://indiashippingnews.com/india-secures-second-overseas-port-sittwe-agreement-approved-by-mea/>

2. UN continues efforts to appoint special representative for Afghanistan

Stéphane Dujarric, spokesman for the UN Secretary-General, reiterated ongoing efforts to appoint a special envoy for Afghanistan. Without giving details about the timing, Stéphane Dujarric said the process of selecting a special envoy for Afghanistan is ongoing.

Source: amu.tv

<https://amu.tv/91139/>

3. Argentina court blames Iran for 1990s terror attacks on Israeli embassy, AMIA center

The Argentine Justice determined that bomb attacks on the Israeli embassy and Jewish organization AMIA in Buenos Aires in the 1990s were ordered by Iran and executed by Hezbollah!

Source: The TIMES OF ISRAEL

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/argentina-court-blames-iran-for-1990s-terror-attacks-on-israeli-embassy-amia-center/>

4. Iran's Foreign Minister Accuses US of Giving Israel 'Green Light' to Attack Consulate in Syria

Iranian Foreign Minister: US gave green signal to Israel to attack Iranian Consulate in Damascus. "The US's lack of condemnation of the Israeli aggression against the Iranian Consulate indicates that Washington gave Israel the green light to commit this crime," Iranian Foreign Minister Abdullahiyan said at a joint press conference with his Syrian counterpart Miqdad.

Source: U.S. News & World Report

<https://www.usnews.com/news/world/articles/2024-04-08/irans-foreign-minister-accuses-u-s-of-giving-israel-green-light-to-attack-consulate-in-syria>

5. Kazakhstan decides to establish railway connection with Pakistan through Trans-Afghan rail link

On April 9, 2024, a meeting was held in Islamabad between the Federal Secretary of Railways and Chairman of the Board of Pakistan Railways, Syed Mazhar Ali Shah, and the Ambassador of Kazakhstan, Yerzhan Kistafin. During the negotiations, the Pakistani side outlined efforts being made to attract foreign investors to restore and expand the country's railway network.

Source: **NewsCentralAsia**

<https://www.newscentralasia.net/2024/04/11/kazakhstan-decides-to-establish-railway-connection-with-pakistan-through-trans-afghan-rail-link/>

6. BIDEN AND KISHIDA: FIRST NON-US ASTRONAUT ON THE MOON WILL BE JAPANESE

During a conference call with Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, Joe Biden announced that two Japanese astronauts will join a US space mission, becoming the first non-Americans to walk on the Moon.

Source: **SpacePolicyOnline**

<https://spacepolicyonline.com/news/biden-and-kishida-first-non-us-astronaut-on-the-moon-will-be-japanese/>

7. Evo Morales declared himself “in case of emergency” and assured that they wanted to disqualify his candidacy

Former President of Bolivia (2006–2019) Evo Morales declared a state of emergency after the appointment of a "presidential representative" to the electoral body, which he said, has a mission to disqualify him from running for the 2025 elections.

Source: **blaze trends**

<https://blazetrends.com/evo-morales-declared-himself-in-case-of-emergency-and-assured-that-they-wanted-to-disqualify-his-candidacy/>

8. China imposes sanctions on two US companies for selling weapons to Taiwan

China's foreign minister says two American companies, General Atomics Aeronautical Systems and General Dynamics Land Systems, have been approved by China to sell arms to Taiwan.

Source: **Unn.ua**

<https://unn.ua/en/news/china-imposes-sanctions-on-two-us-companies-for-selling-weapons-to-taiwan>

9. Why has Iran attacked Israel?

Iranian Foreign Ministry: Attacking military targets in Israel is a legitimate defense. We emphasize our determination to firmly defend sovereignty, unity and national interests in the face of any aggression. We will not hesitate to take additional defensive measures to protect our interests from any aggression.

*Source: **BBC***

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-68811276>

10. Zakharova: Did Israel condemn the Ukrainian attacks on our territory?

Russian Foreign Ministry representative Zakharova, in response to a call by the Israeli ambassador in Moscow to condemn the Iranian attack, said that Israel did not condemn "the Kiev regime's attacks on the territory of the Russian Federation."

*Source: **fakti.bg***

<https://fakti.bg/en/world/873005-zaharova-izrael-osadi-li-ukrainskite-ataki-po-nasha-teritoria>