Saudi Arabia Can Bring Taliban to Peace Talks, Believe US, Afghanistan

President Ashraf Ghani’s latest offer of talks to the Taliban is an opportunity to wrap up the conflict in Afghanistan, says Pakistan’s national security adviser.

Saudi Arabia has agreed to play a leading role in starting a new peace process in Afghanistan, part of the latest US-led strategy to find a political solution to America’s longest war, according to the Wall Street Journal (WSJ).

The U.S. and Afghanistan hope that Saudi Arabia can bring the Taliban to the negotiating table and act as guarantors for a possible peace deal, according to officials involved in the process.

Visas Sought for Afghan Traders at Torkham Border

Pakistan has assured the residents of southern Ghazni province that Pakistan has confirmed with the Taliban that it will not allow armed men and their arrest, change at Ghazni civil hospital, assured the residents of southern Ghazni province on Friday.

According to the statement the president met elders, influential people and civil society activists on Friday afternoon at Chahar Chinar Palace.

PESHAWAR - Participants of a daylong conference in Peshawar have asked the government of Pakistan to issue Afghan traders with visas at the Torkham border crossing.

Aref Hafeez, Haji Abdul Ahad and Dr. Umar Ayan spoke on the behalf of visiting delegation.

Attended by trade leaders and political figures, the all parties conference (APC) presented the government with the first-ever Charter of Economy (CoE) aimed at boosting Khyber Pakhtunkhwa’s economy.

The APC asked the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) to take up measures to help exports of local products, including tobacco and rice.

While seeking abolition of the regulatory duty on imports from Afghanistan, they called for concrete measures to facilitate trade with Afghanistan.

The government was urged to provide infrastructure, including the Internet, banking and electricity facilities at the Chitral Khan, Kharlachi and other customs stations at the tribal belt.

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President Assures Ghazni Residents to Address Their Problems

89 Kandahar University Teachers Abroad Pursuing Studies

KANDAHAR CITY - The University in southern Kandahar province has long being lacking faculty buildings and professional teachers, affecting education affairs on the campus, it was told a high level meeting here on Saturday.

The meeting at the University of Kandahar was attended by Higher Education Minister Dr. Najibullah Khashwji, Governor Zalmai Wesso, Kandahar University Chancellor Dr. Hazrat Mir Totakhel and other officials.

Totakhel told the meeting that the university had been lacking teachers and buildings for its faculties.

He said 99 teachers of the university were currently overseas pursuing their higher studies and only 12 teachers were left struggling on the campus.

He said these problems had badly affected the education environment and the university administration had divided lessons in three shifts.

Governor Zalmai Wesso said issues related to the university’s budget needed attention from the Ministry of Finance. Totakhel told the Kandahar University that it had no development funds and thus facing immense problems.

Founded in 1991, the Kandahar University has 11 faculties, 42 branches with around 10,000 students, including 400 girls. (Pajhwok)

Can’t Take Unilateral Decision of Refugees: Pakistan

President Ashraf Ghani’s latest offer of talks to the Taliban is an opportunity to wrap up the conflict in Afghanistan, says Pakistan’s national security adviser.

PESHAWAR - All the stakeholders should play their due role in seeking peace in the neighboring country, NSA Qassem Janjua told French Ambassador to Pakistan Marc Barety in Islamabad on Friday.

“This (burden) should not be put on Pakistan alone. Everyone, particularly regional countries, must come forward to seek peace in Afghanist- an,” the advisor said.

The French diplomat commended Pakistan’s efforts in the war on ter- rorism, acknowledging the sacri- fices it had rendered. France was willing to strengthen defense and intelligence cooperation with Paki- stan, he said.

Both sides... (More on P4:2)