

Quote of the Day

Fight for your opinions, but do not believe that they contain the whole truth, or the only truth.
Charles A. Dana (1819 - 1897)

Constitution

Discussions of the Loya Jirga are open except when one-fourth of its members demand their secrecy, and the Loya Jirga accepts this demand.
Article 114

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CEO Stresses Coordination to Counter Narcotics Menace

KABUL - Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Abdullah Abdullah on Monday said narcotics had a role to fuel insecurity in the country and close coordination among institutions was needed to counter the menace.

Addressing a cabinet meeting, Abdullah said the previous government failed to pay attention to eliminate drugs and its smuggling.

He acknowledged absence of thorough implementation of law and lack of coordination among departments were among hurdles to counter the narcotics business.

He said all issues pertaining to anti-poppy campaign had been discussed with officials of Criminal Justice Task Force Commission (CJTFC) during the last week meeting.

Earlier, he said the relevant law was



flexible and smugglers would manage to flee. He said Afghanistan was one of the largest poppy producers and the country had more than one million drug addicts.

The CEO stressed for more cooperation among regional countries to eradicate the menace. According to a survey conducted by ...*(More on P4)...*(1)

MoD Contract Corruption Exceeds \$200mln



KABUL - Officials from the Fuel Importing Companies Organization on Sunday claimed that documents indicate the alleged Ministry of Defense contract scandal involves far more money than originally estimated and that it exceeds the \$200 million USD mark.

These officials claim that senior government officials are involved. As such they have asked for government to launch an investigation into the matter. Meanwhile, the

National Economy Commission in the House of Representatives has also asked for a government probe. MPs have said that all government officials and companies involved in this scandal must be legally pursued.

The commission reviewing the fuel contracts in the Ministry of Defense has confirmed the corruption to the amount of \$100 million USD in MoD contracts, but officials at the Fuel Importing ...*(More on P4)...*(2)

President to Visit Iran, India in Near Future

KABUL - President Ashraf Ghani on Sunday said he would be soon visiting Iran and India as part of Afghanistan's efforts to increase solidarity and develop consensus among regional and Islamic countries.

Talking to lawmakers from Khost, Paktia, Paktika and Logar provinces at the Presidential Palace, the president said Afghanistan's current challenges were the legacy of decades of war.

He said the unity government could not quickly perform some tasks during its initial days due differences inherited from the past.

Ghani said the international ...*(More on P4)...*(3)

Pakistan Commerce Minister Due in Kabul Tomorrow

KABUL - Pakistan's Commerce Minister Engr. Khuram Dastgir Khan is scheduled to arrive in Kabul today (Tuesday) for talks with Afghan officials to improve bilateral ties in trade and business related areas.

A statement released by the Pakistan Embassy in Kabul said on Monday that Dastgir was coming to Kabul on a two-day visit. He would meet President Ashraf Ghani and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Abdullah Abdullah.

Following intensified diplomatic contacts between Islamabad and Kabul, the commerce minister is expected to hold in-depth talks with his Afghan counterpart to improve trade and commerce between the two countries. In order to improve trade relations between the two neighbouring countries, the minister would hold meetings with Afghan ...*(More on P4)...*(6)

5 More Cabinet Picks Present Future Plans to WJ

KABUL - Five ministers-designate presented their plans and strategies to the Wolesi Jirga (WJ) or lower house of parliament on Monday. The nominees who

presented their plans included minister-designate for commerce and industries, energy and water, com-

munication and information technology, agriculture and livestock and economy ...*(More on P4)...*(4)



Wolesi Jirga for Deep Probe into Badakhshan Onslaught

KABUL - The Wolesi Jirga on Monday asked the government to thoroughly investigate Taliban's attacks in which dozens of Afghan National Army troops suffered casualties in northeastern Badakhshan province.

Armed insurgents launched attacks on several ANA posts in the mountainous province's Juram districts on

Friday, killing nine soldiers, injuring seven and at least eight troops had gone missing.

At least 27 attackers were killed in the ensuing clashes that periodically continued until late Sunday. The Ministry of Defence in a brief statement said 33 soldiers were killed, injured ...*(More on P4)...*(5)

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