Quote of the Day
Generosity is giving more than you can, and pride is taking less than you need.
Khalil Gibran

Taliban’s Offensive Underlines Need for Peace Process: US

WASHINGTON - The Taliban’s announcement regarding the start of a spring offensive has not come as a surprise, State Department spokesman said on Tuesday. “That announcement obviously came as no surprise. We always see the announcement of the spring fighting season,” Mark Toner told reporters at his daily news conference.

He added: “We are preparing, as we have been, to assist the government in defending against the Taliban, as we have been working with Afghan forces to improve their capability to fight and push back.”

Lawmaker Slaps Minister
KABUL - The Wolesi Jirga (WJ) member Sakhi Mushwani on Tuesday slapped Minister of Rural Development and Rehabilitation Naseer Ahmad Durrani before walking out the lower house, an act that drew sharp criticism from his colleagues.

The Wolesi Jirga had summoned Durrani, Finance Minister Eklil Hakimi and Public Works Minister Mahmood Baligh to brief the WJ on Wednesday.

Iran, Afghanistan, India Trilateral Agreement on Chabahar Finalized
KABUL - Afghanistan Foreign Minister announced that the Chabahar port was finalized in the second technical conference held in New Delhi.

The Afghan Foreign Minister in a press statement announced that the text of the trilateral agreement on creating an international transportation and transit passage was finalized and ready to sign in Indian Foreign Ministry.

The conference was held with the presence of representatives of Afghan foreign ministry, trade and industry, transportation...

WJ Asks Govt. to Explain Peace Process, Kerry Remarks
KABUL - The Wolesi Jirga (WJ) on Wednesday asked the government to brief the lower house of parliament on the peace process and recent remarks of US Secretary of State John Kerry about the unity government deal.

First deputy speaker Haji Zahir Qadir said John Kerry’s remarks during his recent surprise visit to Kabul about the Afghan government’s fate had affected a majority of the Afghans. “We want the government to provide information to us about the peace talks and the stance of both the warring sides.”

Gen. Saheem Pins Hope on New Security Plan
KABUL - Calling it propaganda the start of Taliban’s spring offensive, Chief of Army Staff Gen. Qadam Shah Shaheen on Wednesday said a five-year security plan had been devised for the military and would be presented at the upcoming NATO summit in Warsaw, Poland. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) summit slated for July 8-9 is expected to decide on assistance measures for conflict-torn Afghanistan.

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