KABUL - The Office of the National Security Adviser of Afghanistan said Monday that Russia is considering a request by the government of Afghanistan to equip the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces (ANDSF).

National Security Council (NSC) spokesman Aqa Chorzang said Afghanistan and Russia were working on a plan to upgrade the capabilities of the Afghan forces who are on the front line fighting terrorists.

He said Russia has promised to assess the request by Afghanistan to equip the Afghan forces and the officials of the two countries are having similar views to eliminate the menace of terrorism from the region and from Afghanistan. “The Afghan government believes that the Afghan forces should be equipped to fight the menace of terrorism in Afghanistan in the region and the officials in the two countries are having identical views and an assessment in this regard would be launched,” Chorzang said.

The National Security Adviser, Muhammed Hamid Almar left for Russia last week. (More on P4)

KABUL - The Office of the National Security Adviser of Afghanistan said Monday that Russia is considering a request by the government of Afghanistan to equip the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces (ANDSF).

National Security Council (NSC) spokesman Aqa Chorzang said Afghanistan and Russia were working on a plan to upgrade the capabilities of the Afghan forces who are on the front line fighting terrorists.

He said Russia has promised to assess the request by Afghanistan to equip the Afghan forces and the officials of the two countries are having similar views to eliminate the menace of terrorism from the region and from Afghanistan. “The Afghan government believes that the Afghan forces should be equipped to fight the menace of terrorism in Afghanistan in the region and the officials in the two countries are having identical views and an assessment in this regard would be launched,” Chorzang said.

The National Security Adviser, Muhammed Hamid Almar left for Russia last week. (More on P4)

KABUL - Mayor Prof. Abdullah Habibzai, while signing the contracts, said 111 kilometers of roads would be asphalted in busy Kabul areas for the high-speed transport system. Arzo added.

He said the cost of the projects was yet to be cleared, and the Arab company would also take part in contracts, the Arab company would establish a high-speed transport system, review designs of towering buildings, improve capacity of municipality workers and observe projects during their implementation.

He said the cost of the projects was yet to be cleared, and the implementation of each project would take two to five years. Khalili & Alami Company would also take part in choosing urban basis besides building high-speed transport system.

KABUL - Kabul municipality signs mega contracts for several major projects including a high-speed transport system and ground water management with an Arab company.

Acting mayor Prof. Abdullah Habibzai signed the contracts with L. Rahmani Hasib, deputy director of Khalili & Alami Company in the presence of President Ashraf Ghani at the Presidential Palace.

Acting mayor Prof. Abdullah Habibzai, while signing the contracts, said 111 kilometers of roads would be asphalted in Kabul areas for the high-speed transport system.

He said if the projects were not yet to be cleared, the implementation of each project would take two to five years. Khalili & Alami Company would also take part in choosing urban bases beside building high-speed transport system. Mayor Prof. Abdullah Habibzai, while signing the contracts, said 111 kilometers of roads would be asphalted in Kabul areas for the high-speed transport system.

He said practical training of municipality workers, studying designs and observation of more than 20 kilometers of roads in different parts of Kabul city, redesigning of intersections that caused traffic jams, creation of institutions, (More on P4).

91% of Urbanites Slam Mayors, Municipalities As Corrupt

KABUL - Municipalities across the country do not have any mechanism subjecting them to accountability by urban residents who have no roles in their annual budgets, a new cluster survey finds.

The survey – City, Citizens and Mayor – was conducted in 33 cities by Focus, a development organisation. Focus spokesman Abdul Nafi Himmat said on Monday conducting the survey took six months. Of the 9,000 people interviewed, 67% were men, 33% women, 46% illiterate and 53% literate. Since provinces do not have a municipality, no new survey was conducted.

Scores of Security Personnel Missing After Nad Ali Clash

LASHKARGAH - Scores of security personnel have been missing in the wake of a fierce firefight in the Nad Ali district in southern Helmand, the local social council head said on Monday. However, the Taliban insurgents claimed the security forces had joined their ranks after the fighters overran their checkpoints and several areas of the embattled district.

Social council head for the district, Mohammad Nabi Ulilat, told Pajhwok Afghan News a fierce clash erupted between the security forces and the militants late on Sunday.

He said at least 15 soldiers had been killed and another 20 injured so far, said Ulilat, who gave no information about the insurgents casualties. Another member of the (More on P4).

Farah’s Push for Rod at Risk of Falling to Taliban: Public Rep

KABUL - If the Pusht Rod district of western Farah province is not given much attention, it would soon fall into the hands of insurgents, the provincial council reported on Monday, before the governor said a clearing operation was underway in the district.

Fahil Bakhtwari, the provincial council head, told a press conference here that the conflict in the district was ongoing ever since the past one week, with the Taliban mounting heavy attacks.

Due to insecurity and huge infiltration of insurgents into district, (More on P4).

Another member of the (More on P4).

Scores of Security Personnel Missing After Nad Ali Clash

LASHKARGAH - Scores of security personnel have been missing in the wake of a fierce firefight in the Nad Ali district in southern Helmand, the local social council head said on Monday. However, the Taliban insurgents claimed the security forces had joined their ranks after the fighters overran their checkpoints and several areas of the embattled district.

Social council head for the district, Mohammad Nabi Ulilat, told Pajhwok Afghan News a fierce clash erupted between the security forces and the militants late on Sunday.

He said at least 15 soldiers had been killed and another 20 injured so far, said Ulilat, who gave no information about the insurgents casualties. Another member of the (More on P4).

Farah’s Push for Rod at Risk of Falling to Taliban: Public Rep

KABUL - If the Pusht Rod district of western Farah province is not given much attention, it would soon fall into the hands of insurgents, the provincial council reported on Monday, before the governor said a clearing operation was underway in the district.

Fahil Bakhtwari, the provincial council head, told a press conference here that the conflict in the district was ongoing ever since the past one week, with the Taliban mounting heavy attacks.

Due to insecurity and huge infiltration of insurgents into district, (More on P4).

Another member of the (More on P4).

Scores of Security Personnel Missing After Nad Ali Clash

LASHKARGAH - Scores of security personnel have been missing in the wake of a fierce firefight in the Nad Ali district in southern Helmand, the local social council head said on Monday. However, the Taliban insurgents claimed the security forces had joined their ranks after the fighters overran their checkpoints and several areas of the embattled district.

Social council head for the district, Mohammad Nabi Ulilat, told Pajhwok Afghan News a fierce clash erupted between the security forces and the militants late on Sunday.

He said at least 15 soldiers had been killed and another 20 injured so far, said Ulilat, who gave no information about the insurgents casualties. Another member of the (More on P4).

Farah’s Push for Rod at Risk of Falling to Taliban: Public Rep

KABUL - If the Pusht Rod district of western Farah province is not given much attention, it would soon fall into the hands of insurgents, the provincial council reported on Monday, before the governor said a clearing operation was underway in the district.

Fahil Bakhtwari, the provincial council head, told a press conference here that the conflict in the district was ongoing ever since the past one week, with the Taliban mounting heavy attacks.

Due to insecurity and huge infiltration of insurgents into district, (More on P4).

Another member of the (More on P4).