

(1) Stay Impartial...

He said security forces had the right to cast their votes but had no right to motivate someone to work for the advantage of a specific candidate.

The CEO termed the upcoming election as a huge challenge and test for the security forces and hoped they would be successful in their task.

He stressed the importance of combating corruption in all sectors, saying fighting the menace in the security sector would be of particular importance.

About ghost security police, Dr. Abdullah said: "Unfortunately ghost police is damaging the security forces reputation." (Pajhwok)

(2) Jalili Vows ...

to implement peace in the country at any cost.

"Going to the past means eradication of society and no member of society would want to go back. The people of Afghanistan with their best election can choose a bright future for themselves."

Jalili said most of politicians who remained in power during the past 18 years did not serve the masses honestly.

"We are gathered here to share our pain and say the truth. We are not here to showcase our dresses, send bad messages to our rivals," said Jalili. (Pajhwok)

(3) Ceasefire to ...

Ashraf Ghani and CEO Abdullah Abdullah.

Before departing for Doha, the US envoy said his trip to Kabul had been the most productive since he took charge as the US special representative for reconciliation in Afghanistan.

Two days back, Khalilzad briefed Pakistan civil and military leaders on developments in the Afghan peace process and Islamabad's role in this regard.

The special envoy called on Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan, Chief of Army Staff Gen Qamar Bajwa and discussed with them Imran Khan's Washington visit and what comes next. "I briefed them on #AfghanPeaceProcess," Khalilzad tweeted. (Pajhwok)

(4) Planner ...

Information Technology and Iman Zaman mosque in Kabul left too many people killed and injured. (ATN)

(5) MPs Continue ...

who was present at the joint commission, said for the last four days he had been working with the finance commission to settle the differences.

He hoped the differences would be resolved soon and the mid-year budget could be passed this week. (Pajhwok)

(6) Afghanistan's...

Commerce indicate that at least 7,400 tons of Afghan goods worth \$170 million have been exported to India, some European countries and the UAE through air corridors over the past two years. (Tolo news)

(7) Trump Seeks ...

with the next round of peace talks."

Reynolds said they have not decided on their position in Afghanistan but added that they will take any future considerations in Afghanistan in terms of other regional priorities and issues.

"But again, whatever we do there has got to be at the behest of the Afghan government," she said.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for Taliban's political office in Doha, Suhail Shahin, said in a tweet that the two sides might reach an

agreement on a timeline for foreign forces withdrawal and intra-Afghan negotiations.

Critics familiar with Doha talks said that the US and Taliban negotiators have agreed on US forces reduction in Afghanistan to 8,000.

"There is the possibility of a ceasefire between the US and the Taliban and then there is a possibility of a ceasefire between the Afghan government and the Taliban after they sit in an intra-Afghan negotiation. There is the possibility of a reduction in the conflicts between the two sides," said Sayed Akbar Agha, a former Taliban commander.

Addressing a ceremony in Kabul on Sunday, Chief Executive Abdullah Abdullah said efforts are underway to begin intra-Afghan negotiations.

"Afghans see peace as their priority, but that peace should be sustainable," said Abdullah.

Officials said that the list of the 15-member negotiating team has been finalized and it will be made public in the near future.

"The list of the negotiating team will be announced on its time as it requires special measures and preparations," said Najia Anwari, head of communications department of the State Ministry for Peace Affairs.

The intra-Afghan negotiations are expected to be held in Oslo after a peace agreement between the United States and the Taliban. (Tolo news)

(8) Afghan MMA ...

A few follow-up strikes later and referee Keith Peterson was stopping the bout at the :36 mark of round two.

With the win, Afghan MMA fighter Haqparast moved to 11-2. Curitiba's Silva falls to 11-3. (Tolo news)

(9) Afghans to Prepare

that the process is a business, not an election. When it is being seen as a business why do we have to vote?" said Abdullah Mujahed, a resident of Mazar-e-Sharif province.

"If our votes are not valued the people, including me will not participate in the election," said Shir Ahmad, a resident of Kandahar province.

This comes as the presidential election in 2014 is considered to be the most challenging elections in the country which resulted in creating of the National Unity Government (NUG). (ATN)

(10) Explosion ...

for the US military and its allies. Journalists in Afghanistan have been threatened or attacked not only by the Taliban but also by fighters from Daesh, government officials and powerful local figures unhappy with news coverage.

The press freedom index released by Reporters Without Borders (RSF) on April 17 shows that the situation of media in Afghanistan has "worsened" as it has descended to 121 from 118 where it stood last year.

The organization has mentioned insecurity as one of the main reasons for an increase in violence against journalists in Afghanistan.

According to RSF, three journalists have been killed in Afghanistan this year.

The RSF says that for Afghanistan's journalists, 2018 was the deadliest year since the fall of the Taliban regime in 2001.

A total of 15 journalists and media workers were killed in a series of bombings that began early in the year, nine of them in a sin-

gle day, the RSF says in a report on its website.

Government statistics show that there are 96 TV channels, 65 radio stations and 911 print media in Kabul, as well as 107 TV channels, 284 radio stations and 416 print media in other provinces. (Tolo news)

(11) 5 out of 86 ...

for decontamination, and meat packaging safeguards.

The virus has a presence in neighbouring Iran where the virus killed three people in 2015.

According to the World Health Organization, CCHF's mortality rate is about 30 percent and is endemic in Africa, the Balkans and Ukraine, the Middle East and Central Asia.

CCHF was first detected in Crimea in 1944 and then in the Congo in 1969. In 2011, it was detected for the first time in ticks in Spain. (Pajhwok)

(12) Washington Urges...

indicated that they are willing to consider this idea.

Iran maintains that the British tanker was boarded after it had violated maritime rules as it was crossing the Strait of Hormuz. (RT)

(13) Mexican Oil Company...

societal perceptions around obesity. On top of all of that, we have very strong scientific data now that weight shaming causes more weight gain."

Kahan said a better way to encourage wellness is to incentivize healthy behaviors such as healthy eating, giving rebates for trips to the gym and providing healthier snacks to employees.

"There are a lot of companies big and small that are moving forward on this in much better and much more productive ways," he said.

Mexico's oil refineries have fallen 77 percent in the last two decades and Pemex has failed to meet output goals every year for the past decade. The company aims to increase its oil output to 2.7 million barrels a day by 2024 and will invest 58 billion pesos, or three billion dollars in its refineries this year, according to Bloomberg. (Fox News)

(14) UN Palestinian...

relationship with Mohammadi in late 2014 having been appointed to his position in March of that same year. The report stated that the relationship between the two "went beyond the professional," leading to "a toxic environment", which caused, "frequent embarrassment."

The report alleges these acts were carried out "for personal gain, to suppress legitimate dissent, and to otherwise achieve their personal objectives, jeopardizing the credibility and interests of the agency."

On Thursday the United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres appointed a new deputy commissioner general, Christian Saunders, who took the place of Sandra Mitchell who resigned last month while denying all allegations against her in the report. Speaking to the press, Thursday, Guterres said he would wait for the results of the inquiry and would "act accordingly," once they are known.

Reached for comment about the latest scandal a State Department official told Fox News: "Our concerns about UNWRA go well beyond allegations about the conduct of individual UNWRA officials, although these are also of concern."

"As we have said, our primary

concern is that UNWRA's fundamental business model is broken. The current UNWRA model has simply and clearly proved unsustainable."

Asked if UNRWA's chief Krahenbuhl should resign, a U.N. diplomat said "it would help."

Sen, James Risch, R-Idaho, the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee who had successfully pushed for the publication of a report that showed how UNRWA school textbooks funded by the U.S. were full of anti-Semitic incitement, told Fox News in an email: "I already had concerns about UNRWA activities, including their use of biased textbooks."

He continued: "This latest news is very concerning and the UN should conduct a full investigation into these very serious allegations. I'm glad that US dollars are not currently being used to support this organization. It is inexcusable for a humanitarian organization to waste resources in this manner."

The Trump administration cut off nearly \$300 million in annual funding to UNRWA last year.

Former U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Nikki Haley reacted to the reports by tweeting: "This is exactly why we stopped their funding." (Fox News)

(15) Democrats Need...

like Justin Amash. The closest analogue would be the anti-fascist Popular Front coalitions on the left that governed France and Spain in the mid-1930s.

But to paraphrase Donald Rumsfeld: "You go to war against Trump with the candidates you have, not the candidates you might want."

To win the 2020 Democratic nomination, candidates have to (warning: shocking insight ahead) appeal to Democratic voters. And in the midst of a climate crisis and Gilded Age-style economic inequality, it should not be surprising that Democratic voters aspire to more than just a president who promises not to type racist tweets or to coo over Kim Jong-un.

In an ideal universe, the Democrats would be assembling a broad-based never-Trump alliance ranging from actual socialists to principled libertarians. So how self-destructive are the Democrats being as they launch the usual bidding wars to woo activist voters six months before the opening-gun Iowa caucuses? Forgive me for not rending my garments in horror over Democratic rhetoric.

It seems unlikely that there are many potential anti-Trump voters (with the exception of a few right-of-center columnists) who turned on the CNN debates and decided that a mendacious, Vladimir Putin-loving, would-be autocrat in the White House is better than the 2020 Democrats.

Under the traditional model for American presidential politics, winning candidates veer left (or right for the Republicans) in the primaries and then scamper back towards the center for the general election. So the real question is whether the leading Democrats have already staked out positions that would prevent the eventual nominee from modulating his or her tone in the fall of 2020. (The Guardian)

(16) Johnson's...

gearing up to go to the polls, and a senior Labour official said on Sunday that's how the U.K.'s main opposition party is approaching it.

"We could have a general election very soon," Shadow Health Secretary Jonathan Ashworth told Sky News, suggesting the NHS cash boost was a tactic to win over voters. "That's what today's announcement is all about."

Potential Election

Asked about a potential election, Conservative Party Chairman James Cleverly told Sky News the government would not "initiate" one. "What we've got is a new prime minister who during the leadership campaign made a number of explicit commitments, and he is setting about delivering on those commitments."

Even so, there are several reasons an election might be looming. One argument is that the prime minister will look to reset the parliamentary arithmetic in order to get a new Brexit deal through the legislature. The Conservative Party's defeat in the Brecon and Radnorshire special election last week has made his "do or die" pledge to deliver Brexit potentially harder.

More significantly, Johnson's wafer-thin working majority makes him more vulnerable in a no-confidence vote in Parliament, which the Labour Party has hinted it could call as early as September to try to prevent a no-deal Brexit.

There are plenty of potential Tory rebels opposed to a no-deal split from the EU, though whether they would vote to bring down their own party's government is debatable. Even so, the risk is there for the prime minister. (Bloomberg)

(17) Pope Encourages...

priests who have fulfilled their duties "faithfully and generously."

Francis said the Church is "fully committed" to reforms to ensure "that the culture of abuse will have no time to develop, much less continue." He added that "if in the past, omission may itself have been a kind of response, today we desire conversion, transparency, sincerity and solidarity with the victims."

The pope last August issued a letter to Catholics around the world condemning the "crime" of priestly sexual abuse and cover-up, and demanding accountability, in response to revelations in the United States of decades of misconduct by the Catholic Church. In the letter, the pope also begged forgiveness for the pain suffered by the victims and said lay Catholics must be involved in any efforts to root out abuse and cover-up. (AP)

(18) Syrian President...

said she had started treatment for "a malignant tumor" that was discovered early.

"My journey is over, with all its pain and weariness, its drawbacks and even its positives. Praise God, it's over. I have fully triumphed over cancer," she said in the interview broadcast late on Saturday. She said she had received chemotherapy treatment at a Syrian military hospital.

"Those who sold their land and nation, who carried arms against their Syrian brothers under foreign orders," she said, responding to critics who had said she deserved the diagnosis. "Do you think they have any room left for morals?"

Since 2011, air strikes have battered major cities, the United Nations has documented chemical weapons attacks on civilians, and countless have faced torture or disappeared. Damascus denies targeting civilians. (Reuters)