KABUL - Congress and Canadian officials reaffirm their country's longstanding cooperation with the Afghan national security and development strategies to combat terrorism.

The Canadian ambassador to Afghanistan on Thursday said terrorism attacks on diplomatic institutions in Afghanistan will not deter the efforts of his government to bolster the peace process in Afghanistan.

He said that sacrifices made by the Afghan security forces in the campaign against militancy were one of the reasons that Canada is continuing to work in Afghanistan.

Meanwhile, the former minister of interior said that the interior ministry had referred at least 200 MoI officers to legal and judicial institutions on charges of corruption.

Plan to Privatize US War in Afghanistan Gets Ice Reception

KABUL - Blackwater founder Erik Prince's proposal to privatize the US war in Afghanistan is being met with growing opposition in Kabul and Washington.

President Donald Trump is reportedly considering the proposal as part of his months-long review of the war in Afghanistan, where the US is locked in a stalemate with the Taliban after 16 years of fighting.

Prince was a key player in the post-9/11 effort to turn the war around. Under the proposal, about 3,000 contractors would replace troops currently assigned to Afghanistan. They'd be backed by a 96-plane private air force.

The US military operated under Afghan control, Prince said.

"This is very much under the auth- ority of the US government and the control of the chief of staff of the Afghan armed forces. This is not a national militia that's going to be raised," Prince said in an interview with VOA's Afghan service.

Uncountable

But a growing number of prominent Afghans, including Prince's former, private military company, would be involved and say they were not to be rivaled in numbers.

KANDAHAR CITY - Defense Minis- ter Maj. Gen. Tariq Shah Bahrami on Sunday said efforts were ongoing to eradicate corruption and transfer responsibilities to appropriate authorities.

Addressing a gathering of troops in the city's southern district, he said better manage- ment of the ongoing police operation was another vital job which was being done properly by Chief Marshal Mohammad Nazar, Governor Zabul.

Public Health Minister Dr. Firozuddin Firoz during the campaign's launch ceremony said around 80,000 children were missed on the vaccine in southern Helmand and Kandahar province in previous campaign due to lack of coordination.

KABUL - The United States has failed to enable the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) to operate independently despite spending $76 billion on arming them over the last 15 years. Washington could maintain its support to Afghanistan because the country's "stability and security continue to face threats from the Taliban-led insurgency, criminal networks and ter- rorist organizations, including the militant Islamic State group."

About 96 percent of the funds – $66 billion of the $76 billion – were channeled through the Afghanistan Security Forces Fund (ASFF), which was set up in 2005, according to the report.

Until April 2017, about $61 billion of the $76 billion of allocation made since 2005 have been deployed. The largest ex- penditure was for sustainment, totaling 44 percent (over $36 billion) of ASFF expenditures...

Most of Chardarah District under Taliban Control: Faqiri

KUNDuz - The administrative chief of Chardarah district in northern Kunduz province has claimed to have 80 percent of the district's territory under the Taliban control and most people in the area are following the militant group for their dis- putes resolution.

Hayatullah Faqiri said the district was captured by the Taliban forces in the past two years and most of the state infrastructure was destroyed.

He said the central government should pay atten- tion to the situation in Chardarah on over 85 per- cent of the district's territory was under the Talib- an control and 75 percent residents offered their dispute to the group for resolution.

The provincial council also termed the situation dangerous and said the government provided no service to the people of Chardarah and the area con- verted to the Taliban stronghold.

Anas Stanikzai, head of the Provincial Council, told Pajhwok Afghan News: "The people of Chardarah...

Clashes Ongoing in 23 Provinces: Bahrami

KABUL - A statement from the HIA me- dia office in Kabul said Hekmatyar made the remarks while meeting leadership of the party's provincial councils and mem- bers from eastern provinces.

Speaking on behalf of others, Abdul Khaliq Hassani, a member of the council of eastern provinces, said the government should fully implement the peace agree- ment with the HIA.

He urged Hekmatyar to raise his voice and help stop the conflict in the country in order to rescue the nation.

Hekmatyar urged members of the provin- cial councils to work in his efforts for peace and stability.

He said if the people of eastern provinces stuck unity in their ranks, their participa- tion in bringing peace would be effec- tive.

We need to find an intra-Afghan solu- tion to the conflict and should not ex- pect foreigners that they would bring peace.

The HIA leader said the Afghan leaders should work for peace and tribes should play their part in this regard.

He said the NATO mission in Afghan-

NATO Mission Like Russia a Failure: Hekmatyar

KABUL - Afghanistan leader Gulbadin Hekmatyar on Saturday called as 'unsuccessful' the US and NATO mission in Afghanistan, saying the alliance was doing what the Russians did.

KABUL - The Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) on Sunday launched the third phase of an anti-polio campaign targeting 9.9 million children, including 96,000 children who were missed in previous rounds.

The campaign was organized in collaboration.

He said 9.9 million children under five years of age would receive anti-polio drops and 8.9 million under six months would receive Vitamin A during the drive launched today August 13.

The minister said around 350,000 children in Kunduz, Nur- ghan, Nuristan, Kunar and Laghman provinces could not be administered polio drops early months of this year due to insecurity, but they were later covered with support of local influential figures and tribal elders.

According to MoPH, two phases of the anti-polio campaign have been previously launched this year and a fourth phase will be launched in winter this year.

The ministry said two positive polio cases were recorded in Kunduz, two in Helmand, one case in Kunduz and one case in Zabul since the beginning of the year. 13 positive cases were registered in Afghanistan.

An Islamic scholar, Maulavi, said: "Peace is...

We are not stuck in the ruts...we see a new life for ourselves.

Tony Clark