Afghan-Turkmenistan Accords Signed in Kabu

KARUL - President Ashraf Ghani on Thursday met with his Turkmenistan counterpart, President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov, to discuss various issues ranging from education through to energy supply. At least five accords were signed at an event at the Presidential Palace in Kabul, which was attended by high-ranking government officials from both countries.

Addressing a joint press conference after the signing ceremony, Ghani said that he and Berdimuhamedov also discussed numerous issues relating to trade, transport and economic development as well as security issues.

Ghani was clear in his speech that Afghanistan considers Turkmenistan a "friendly" neighbor.

He went on to announce that Berdimehamedov had agreed his country will increase electricity supply to Afghanistan five-fold. In addition, Ghani said that the issue of electricity from Afghanistan...[Move on P6]...

US Peace Indias’s Role in Afghanistan

WASHINGTON - The Pentagon has praised India’s significant contribution to the peaceful development of Afghanistan and said it had an active part in Afghanistan. India’s Afghan mission signed a strategic partnership declaration in 2011 which formalized cooperation on governance, economics, commerce... [Move on P6]...

Pakistan’s President Inaugurates Pak-Afghan Highway

KARU - The Pak-Afghan Highway would play a key role in bolstering ties between the countries along with opening new trade routes to the Central Asian and European countries.

President Mamnoon Hussain said on Thursday, media reports

Pakistan’s Express Tribune reported that the president, while inaugurating the Pak-Afghan Highway at Shagar Fort, stressed that the route would help the two countries enter a new era of progress and prosperity.

The newly constructed highway could help millions of people travel to the other country.

President Stresses Better Urban Services, Food Security

KARUL - President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani has underlined the need for better civic services, including food security and employment opportunities, in large cities.

He also inaugurated the implementation of development plans for Kabil and other major cities of Afghanistan.

Weed, the president, asked the participants to continue working for the betterment of the country.

Drugs Main Source of Financing Terror in Region

WASHINGTON - Acknowledging that drugs are the main source of terrorist financing in the region, the United States on Wednesday said that it was also a source of stability and income for poor farmers who were forced to grow the banned crop for the Taliban.

"We're very well aware that the Taliban has used it to finance itself. It's also a source of stability and income for poor farmers, who are basically forced, many times, to grow crops that are often procured for the Taliban," the State Department spokesman, John Kirby, told reporters at his news conference... [Move on P6]...

Assn Conduct Operations against Taliban across the Country

KARUL - Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) have started military operations in parts of Mora Qala district of Helmand province to repossess the area from Taliban insurgents.

The council members said on Wednesday... [Move on P6]...

Dostum in Sar-E-Pul, Urges Taliban to Down Weapons

SAR-E-PUL - Continuing his anti-terrorist efforts in the north, the First Vice President Abdul Rashid Dostum, arrived in Sar-E-Pul on Thursday after he cleared the northeastern Faryab province from seized insurgent.

Shortly after his arrival in Sar-Pul, he called on anti-government militiamen to lay down their weapons or be killed. In addition, he promised to clear the Taliban strug... [Move on P6]...

KARUL - Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) have started military operations in parts of Mora Qala district of Helmand province to repossess the area from Taliban insurgents, officials said... [Move on P6]...

Assn Conduct Operations against Taliban across the Country

KARUL - After Afghan Journalists Safety... [Move on P6]...