KABUL - The Wolesi Jirga or lower house of Parliament on Wednesday approved the presidential legislative decree on regulation of local council draft law. Fida Mohammad Ulfat Saleh, head of the house internal secretion commission, told today’s session that the local councils’ regulation draft law was sent to the lower house of Parliament on Wednesday morning had a passage of the local councils’ regulation draft law. Mr. Rahman Rahmani, Wolesi Jirga speaker, put the law for vote and approved it.

He also discussed about the securities of the Taliban which are out of the country. President Ghani also presented his concerns over the increasing violence from Taliban in the country. Khalilzad is in talks with Taliban to sign the peace agreement in Doha, Qatar. The recent attack from Taliban on Bagram Airbase passed the talks. Khalilzad went to Pakistan before coming to Afghanistan, and based on reports, it is predicted that the peace agreement is going to be signed soon. (ATN)

KABUL - Concentration on how to bring ceasefire and a report of Delta Peace Talks were the main themes of their meeting, said Saqib Sedaiqi Ghani’s spokesman. Dr. Zalmay Khalilzad, the US Special Envoy for Afghanistan peace, on Wednesday, meeting with Afghanistan president and presented a report of his recent talks process in Delta and Pakistan. This comes as Ashraf Ghani discussed over how to bring peace and ceasefire to the country. He also discussed about the sécurants of the Taliban which are out of the country.

In Kabul, Thursday, the Wolesi Jirga or lower house of Parliament on Wednesday approved the presidential legislative decree on regulation of local council draft law. Fida Mohammad Ulfat Saleh, head of the house internal secrecy commission, told today’s session that the local councils’ regulation draft law was sent to the Wolesi Jirga through 390 legislator of the presidency for approval.

He said that the aim of the law was to enhance the government’s development programs and strengthen the relations between the people and the government. He added the law defines duties, authorities and procedures of local councils and coordinating their activities with government departments.

This law is prepared in six chapters and 64 articles following articles 138, 139 and 140 of the Constitution. The draft law was discussed by permanent commissions of the lower house and they found nothing controversial in it, Ulfat said. Mr. Rahman Rahmani, Wolesi Jirga speaker, put the law for and 144 of lawmakers present 142 approved it (Afghowork)

KABUL - Hamid Karzai was once handcuffed by U.S. officials to lead his war-torn country, but he ended up lately stranded from them after spending a decade in office, a period when American aid money fueled Afghan and the United States struggled to build Afghan defense forces to fight Taliban insurgents in a war that continues today.

Now, the former president has been out of power for five years, although he remains an influential player in Afghan politics. His version of U.S.-Afghan relations during his tenure is sharply

KABUL - Islamic State fighters are arriving from Syria and Iraq primarily through Pakistan, a top Russian security official said on Wednesday. Speaking at Regional Security Dialogue in Tehran, Russian Security Council Secretary Nikolai Patrushev said that despite recent successful operation carried out by the Afghan forces, during which more than 400 militants were killed or captured, the overall number of IS members in Afghanistan is still between 2,000 and 4,000. In eastern Afghanistan, which is near the border with Pakistan, Patrushev said that the number of IS militants there exceeds 1,500 and is on the rise.

"The IS group is focusing its efforts on consolidating presence in northern Afghanistan, where more than 2,000 militants have been concentrated, in order to counter the Taliban and establish a foothold for an incursion into the Central Asian region through Tajikistan and Turkmenistan," Patrushev said. "The IS group’s priority targets, according to our data, could be the facilities related to critical infrastructure, security agencies and diplomatic missions as well as foreign citizens," he said.

Meanwhile, Afghan National Security Adviser Hamdullah Mohib said that terrorism, extremism and presence of foreign forces posed major threats to peace and security in the region. Meanwhile, Afghan National Security Adviser Hamdullah Mohib said that the Afghan government is fully prepared for modern governance. "If you want to fight terrorism and bad people, I won’t stop you, but please leave the Afghan people alone," Karzai said.

Former Afghan Leader Hamid Karzai Grew Estranged from His American Allies During 10 Years in Power

Russia Says IS Fighters Arriving in Afghanistan Primarily Through Pakistan

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Over 600,000 Women to Become Reliant in Agriculture

Several Killed in Battle Between Security Forces, Taliban

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Gunfire erupted early on Monday when government forces and Taliban militants clashed in the Zabul district of Ghazni, south of Kabul, said a government official. The government official added that the fighting continued for several hours.

Meanwhile, Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid confirmed the clash in Shabab area. Eleven government forces and three Taliban were killed, he said. (Pajhwok)

KANDAHAR CITY - Residents of the Malaki district of southern Kandahar province demanded development works and services after relocation from security forces and Taliban in the capital of southern Ghazni province with such facilities, according to government officials.

Dr. Mohammad Nabi, one of those refugees, said he returned from Pakistan’s Quetta city about a year ago and he currently lived in a rented house in Kandahar. When the land distribution process would start, a number of international organizations had promised to assist families in house construction under the Shelter Program, he said.

Besides returning refugees, around 185,000 internally displaced people (IDPs) also reside in Kandahar. Dr. Mohammad Nabi, one of the IDPs, said he returned from Pakistan’s Quetta city about a year ago and currently lived in a rented house in Kandahar. When the land distribution process would start, a number of international organizations had promised to assist families in house construction under the Shelter Program, he said.

He said the organs concerned and aid organizations were able to provide these families food and other essential items as well. (Pajhwok)

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Thousands of Refugees Returning to Kandahar

KANDAHAR CITY - Thousands of families from a number of districts and nearby provinces had displaced to Kandahar city facing the conflict and drought.

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By: Dr. Rajkumar Singh

The concept of human rights, in general, refers to all human beings having an inherent dignity and the intrinsic worth which we can never lose, and this dignity is an inherent right for human beings. The dignity is defined simply by being human. They are inherent in nature and without which we can not live, and in this sense being human is universal. Meaning, “Rights are those conditions of social life which no man can use in general to benefit himself at the expense of others”. Rights are our own to develop and use our human qualities, intelligences, talents and conscience and to satisfy our deep and cultural, economic and political rights, and those that should be there as ideals to be reached for the building of an egalitarian society in which individual freedom is the idea of dignity and welfare in full respect. Besides the Declaration of Human Rights Motivations

The main motivations for human rights came from its offer of protection from tyrannical and authoritarian calculations. By the early 19th century, measures of an automatic government may be constrained with the recognition of supreme and limits to any government’s freedom of action. The prime ethical benefits of human rights that they are viewed as being so basic and so fundamental to human existence, they are inalienable and not to be surrendered. Any concession of rights of others claims within a society, human rights may be a higher order rule that subordinates even other and claims within a society. The next attraction of human rights that they are often thought to exist beyond the determination of specific societies. They are not a universal standard that can be used to judge any society. As a result, it became very clear that what is to be preserved for the same rights of individuals or governments from one part of the world may the criticism define by followed by other governments or cultures. The shape and size of human factor that we have enshrined in our constitution it constitutes an idea of freedom, the struggle for India in decades. Among the several movements, the most important one was the movement of Mahatma Gandhi who led millions on Swaraj and was essentially anti- colonial and anti-capitalist. This anti-colonial and anti-capitalist, a number of peasant and tribal struggles at one level and the Mauj movement led by Babasaheb Ambedkar at another level, were the concrete realizations of serious drawbacks of the mainstream movement but they failed to get an all India-character. The neglect of the economic, social and economic development, in due course, posed a challenge for the political process and the system itself. The so-called constitutional governance, not just a constitutional, but a reality, was introduced in a society which was a glaring example of poverty, inequality, and poverty. It is clear that the social consciousness was convinced by the constitution was not backed by the existing state. The state has to be judged, the idea of human dignity and welfare in full respect. Human Rights at the

Apart from this ideological background of human factor in India's historical tradition, the need of realization and acceptance of human rights and values was very strong in the colonial times which was already approved by the clergy but turned down by the gun. The anti-government opponents faced trouble in crossing the water and the forest, so there was a movement against the government. This movement was heralded as a minor uprising and suppressed by the British army. The government did not jail the Hindu and Muslim people, but the missionaries who were under the umbrella of the British. Therefore, it is clear that the state of human rights and values was very strong in the colonial times

By: Slawomir Sierakowiak

The EU, today, is increasingly resembling nineteenth-century China: a still-rich empire that cannot be occupied by others, but is weak enough to be captured and exploited, China, mainly due to its assumed 'human rights' function, with its companies investing in big projects all over the world, China is now being called 'the new colonialist' or 'the new silk road'. This is a very different picture compared to the one in the 19th century, when China was viewed as a weak and backward nation, which could be easily dominated by Western powers. Today, China is seen as a powerful and rising world power, capable of challenging the global leadership of the United States. China's economic growth and military power have increased significantly in recent years, and it is now considered a key player in the global economy. The EU, on the other hand, is facing various challenges, including the ongoing financial crisis, the refugee crisis, and the rise of populist movements across the continent. The EU's power and influence have declined, and it is being seen as less effective in addressing the world's problems. The EU has been slow to adapt to the changing world order, and it is facing a number of challenges, including the migration crisis, the rise of nationalism, and the need to renewed its economic and political systems. The EU's future is uncertain, and it is unclear how it will be able to address the challenges it faces. The EU's ability to act effectively in the face of these challenges will be crucial for its survival and relevance in the 21st century.
Russia Buys UN’s Anti-Hijack Opium Shipment Bound for Tajikistan

Russia has purchased an antihijack shipment of opium bound for Tajikistan, according to an agreement between the two countries.

The shipment, valued at approximately $30 million, was originally scheduled to arrive in December but was delayed due to the ongoing political situation in Tajikistan.

The shipment includes a variety of opium derivatives, including heroin and morphine, which are used in medical settings to treat pain and nerve pain.

The purchase was seen as a significant development in Russia’s efforts to combat drug trafficking and to ensure the safety of its citizens.

Tajikistan has been a major source of opium production in Central Asia, with the country’s opium crops accounting for a significant portion of the global supply.

In recent years, the country has faced increasing pressure from international organizations, including the United Nations, to reduce its production.

However, the Tajik government has been slow to respond to these calls, and the country remains a major source of opium.

The Russian government, on the other hand, has been a strong advocate of international efforts to combat drug trafficking and has been involved in efforts to reduce opium production in the region.

The purchase of the opium shipment reflects Russia’s commitment to these efforts and its willingness to work with Tajikistan to address the issue.

The shipment is expected to arrive in Tajikistan in the near future, and the two countries are expected to continue to work together to ensure the safety of its citizens.

December 19, 2019

Australia Has Hottest Day on Record as Deadly Heatwave Grips the Country

Australia set a new heat record yesterday, with temperatures reaching 50.7°C in the Australian Capital Territory (ACT), surpassing the previous record of 48.9°C set in 2009.

The heatwave, which has been ongoing for several days, has led to widespread power outages and water shortages, with many areas reporting temperatures in the high 40s and low 50s.

The extreme heat has prompted calls for people to stay indoors and avoid strenuous activity, with authorities warning of the risk of heatstroke and dehydration.

In addition to the death toll, the heatwave has also led to widespread damage to infrastructure, with power lines and water mains suffering damage.

The extreme heat has also led to a surge in air travel, with many people seeking to escape the heat by traveling to cooler parts of the country.

The heatwave is expected to continue for several more days, with temperatures expected to remain high in the coming days.

The Australian government has issued a range of health warnings and advice to help people stay safe during the heatwave.
**World Marks International Migrants Day**

ANKARA - UN member states on Thursday marked International Migrants Day under the theme "We stand together to protect the human rights of all migrants."

"On this International Day, I urge leaders and people everywhere to stand together to protect the human rights of all migrants," Antonio Guterres, the UN secretary-general, said in a statement.

According to a recent report by the UN’s International Organization for Migration (IOM), over 1 percent of the world’s population of 7.7 billion people has migrated.

More than half of all migrants – an estimated 151 million – live in Europe and North America. "India has the largest number of migrants registering 31 million, followed by Pakistan with 14.4 million registered. (More on Pg. 20)"

**European Planet-Exploring Missions Launch from South America**

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico - The European Space Agency on Sunday launched on a three-year mission to study planets in the Southern Hemisphere. The Characterizing Exoplanets and Planets (CHEOPS) mission, funded by the national government of France and the EU, is expected to receive its first batch of data in 2022 or 2023. The mission is led by the University of Geneva and is aimed at detecting exoplanets similar in size to Earth.

While Yemen remains on the radar, the size of the planet as they pass in front of their host stars is the primary parameter of interest. Nobel Physics Prize winner Daniel Kvinne, who heads the CHEOPS science team, told The Japan Times this week that "(the mission) will be a beautiful step toward understanding the nature of planets in our own solar system." (More on Pg. 20)

**A Grave Day in History: Trump Faces Impeachment**

WASHINGTON - The House of Representatives is set to impeach President Donald Trump on Wednesday, accusing him of violating the Constitution by using economic threats to pressure Ukraine to launch an anti-corruption investigation into the 2020 presidential election. The House is expected to approve the articles of impeachment, setting up a potential trial in the Senate. The move, which comes weeks after the release of a whistleblower complaint, could lead to Trump's removal from office.

The U.S. president faces two articles of impeachment: abuse of power and obstructions of justice. If convicted, he could face criminal charges. (More on Pg. 20)

**UN Special Envoy Optimistic About Ongoing Yemen Talks in Riyadh**

SANAA: The UN's special envoy for Yemen, Martin Griffiths, said on Thursday that the talks being held in Riyadh are making progress. Griffiths, who has met with various parties, including President Abdrabbuh Mansour Hadi, expressed optimism about the progress made.

The UN Special Envoy for Yemen, Martin Griffiths, has been working to broker an agreement between the government and the Houthi rebels. Griffiths said that "(the talks) are making progress," adding that "(the talks) are moving forward." (More on Pg. 20)

**Trade in Asia-Pacific Countries for the First Time Since 2009, Highlights UN Regional Arm**

Chief Executive Officer of SAARC Development Fund, Dr Sunil Mishra, called on the Finance Minister of Nepal, H.E Dr Yuba Raja Khatiwada today at the Ministry of Finance, Kathmandu, Nepal.

The Finance Minister is a Governing Council member of SDF. They also discussed the vision, objectives and scope of the Organization's current and future initiatives.

The meeting also focused on the terms of reference and the role of SDF in the region and its contribution in building a regional economic cooperation.

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Afghanistan Comes to The Rescue as Onion Prices Skyrocket in India

KABUL - The Ministry of Finance says that, so far, over 90% of the development budget and over 95% of the ordinary budget has been spent by different state institutions.

According to the ministry, the overall budget increased to Af 434.1 billion ($5.2 billion) from Af 359 billion ($5 billion) after an addition to the mid-year budget. From the total amount, Af 329.7 billion ($37.3 billion) has been allocated for ordinary budget and the remaining Af 104.5 billion ($12 billion) is for the development budget.

Ministry Gives Details on Development Budget Spending

The figures by the ministry show that the national authority for disasters management has spent zero percent of its development budget while the Science Academy, the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology, and the Ministry of Counternarcotic have spent less than 50% of their development budget so far.

The figures show that eight out of a total of 54 departments have spent less than 50% of their development budget. So far, the budget spending in all budgetary units has been 89.1% but we still have four days to the end of the fiscal year, Finance Ministry’s spokesman Shamroz Khan Maiwah said.

“We ... (More on P4)"

Qaisari’s Arrest ‘Ordered by Deputy Interior Minister’: Police

KABUL - Three Afghan electoral teams on Wednesday jointly urged the Attorney General’s Office to prosecute election commissioner Mohammad Hamid Danisyar for allegedly faking age.

In a letter to AGO, the campaigns of Abdullah Abdullah, Gulbuddin Hekmatyar and Rahmatullah Nabil said that Danisyar did not complete the minimum age of 35 required for the post, adding he falsified his national identity card and passport.

They urged AGO to present Danisyar from continuing to work in the post and prosecute him. (More on P4)