Wolesi Jirga Rejects Draft Budget

President Dismisses Herat Governor

HERAT CITY - President Ashraf Ghani on Wednesday fired the governor of western Herat province, ordering the deputy governor to assume Charge.

In a decree, the president removed Fuzailiddin Wahidi as governor after a delegation presented him with a report on the rampant violence in Herat. The entrepreneurs Federation of Afghanistan and the vice president of the Chamber of Commerce were the delegation leaders.

As Ghani's decree indicated, Wahidi has been removed from his position in Herat Province and has been replaced by Saleem Alizada, who has been appointed as deputy governor of Herat Province.

Congress Calls for Coordinated Anti-Drug Strategy

WASHINGTON - Observing that Afghan drug trade funds the insurgency, fuels corruption, and creates major public health challenges, a Congressional report on Tuesday called for a comprehensive and coordinated counter-narcotics strategy.

The bipartisan report, “Future...” (More on P5), noted that Afghan drug traffickers have used sophisticated tactics to evade U.S. and NATO forces, including the use of body armor, high-powered weapons, and sophisticated electronic equipment.

US, Germany, Italy, Turkey to Lead New NATO Mission in Afghanistan

US, Germany, Italy and Turkey will join efforts in training and advising Afghan troops in different parts of the country as part of the Alliance’s new mission starting next year.

KABUL - The United States, Germany, Italy and Turkey will share responsibility for training and advising Afghan troops in different parts of the country as part of NATO’s new “Regional Support” mission in the coming year, its Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg said.

Dozens of Afghans Killed While Fighting in Syria Last Week

KARUL - Dozens of Afghan nationals have been reported killed while fighting on the side of the Syrian rebels, according to reports.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, which has been monitoring the conflict, reported that at least 40 Afghan nationals were killed in the fighting last week.

Danang Operations Halted as Residents Besieged

KARUL - The security forces have temporarily halted the operations in Danang due to the resistance of the residents, according to local authorities.

The residents of Danang have been protesting against the closure of their city’s only port, which they say is essential for their livelihood.

Russia to Donate $2.6m to Afghan Children in Iran

TEHRAN: The government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has decided to donate $2.6 million to the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) for the implementation of the project “Social Protection and Service for Afghan Children in the Islamic Republic of Iran”.

The arena continues to face challenges in providing services to these children, according to the Ministry of Interior, as experts have noted.

The signing ceremony of the agreement between the Russian Federation and UNICEF was... (More on P6)