Afghanistan, India Establish Second Air Trade Corridor

Afghanistan and India on Wednesday launched second air corridor for trade, bypassing Pakistan.

Religious Scholars Urge Govt to Open Office for Taliban in Kabul

KABUL - A number of religious scholars on Wednesday suggested President Ashraf Ghani should consider allowing the Taliban to open a political office in Kabul.

“The question has to do with how do we harness this technology in a way that allows a multiplicity of voices, allows a diversity of views, but inforces their current biases. Things aren’t as simple as they’ve been portrayed in whatever chat room you’ve been,” Obama said in his first interview since leaving the White House, the report added.

“The suggestions you presented, we accept all of it, but I hope that the Taliban also endorses your demands to prove who has the commitment and the intention for peace,” said Ghani. This comes after the High Peace Council (HPC) on Monday opened a two-day conference of...(More on P4,0)

Govt Set to Rollout E-NIC Next Week: ARG

KARUL - The Kabul-Mumbai air corridor is expected to fetch millions of dollars for Afghan exporters of herbs, fresh and dried fruits on annual basis. Mohammed Hanif Danish, Afghanistan’s vice president, told a gathering in Kabul that India is one of Afghanistan’s important trading partners.”The Afghan government is also seriously pursuing plans to establish rail and road networks to promote transit trade,” Danish said. India and Afghanistan enjoy cordial ties that have been further complemented by the U.S. in its new South Asia Strategy. (More on P4,0)

Extradited Prisoners on Hunger Strike in Herat Jail

HEART CITY - Dozens of prisoners who were extradited to Afghanistan from Iran one year ago have gone on hunger strike at the central prison in western Herat province against their undedicated fate. One of the striking inmates, who did not provide his name, told Pajhwok that some 110 inmates had been denying food over the past one week, but that strike seemed immature. He said he had spent 12 years in jail in Iran before he was extradited to Afghanistan a year ago under an agreement between the two countries. “All of us who were extradited to 15 or 16 years in Iranian jails on drugs smuggling charges. One year has passed since we were brought here, but no纶el official has so visited us,” another inmate said.

The report said the interview was recorded Wednesday.

KABUL - Some members of Afghanistan’s Wolesi Jirga, the Lower house of Parliament, on Wednesday said that a number of Baloch commanders and civilians have been armed in support of Altaf Mohammad Noor, the governor of Balkh, who was recently ousted by President Ashraf Ghani. The legislature accused the government of fueling a crisis in the country. The MPs noted the call to government officials to engage in talks with Jamiat-e-Islami party leaders to resolve the matter. (More on P4,0)

Noor Accuses Abdullah of Betraying him

KABUL - Ousted Balkh governor Altaf Mohammad Noor has lashed out at the CEO of the National Unity Government (NUG) Abdullah Abdullah, and said that “we will show our proof.” Last week President Ashraf Ghani accepted a months old resignation letter of Noor - who has since refused to step down. Noor has said his party...(More on P4,0)

China, Afghanistan to Strengthen Military Cooperation

KARUL - Senior Chinese and Afghan military officials agreed Wednesday to strengthen cooperation on anti-terrorism and security. While meeting Afghan Defense Minister Tarig Shaiman, Xu Qiliang, vice chairman of the Central Military Commission, spoke highly of the traditional friendship and effective exchange between the two countries. (More on P4,0)

Former US President Warns of Social Media Dangers

Washington - Former US President Barack Obama in an interview with Saturday Prince Harry said he was concerned social media was “creating civil discord,” AFP reported Wednesday.

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 “…while Afghan and U.S. working group leads highlighted the completion of the country’s airspace control. A high-level meeting was held in the Presidential Palace, without the cooperation (More on P4,0)

President Ghani Approves Plan for Afghan Airspace Control

KARUL - A high-level meeting at the Presidential Palace has approved a plan for the control of the country’s airspace and made a decision on the release of Hezb-i-Islami Afghanistan prisoners.

The Ministry of Defense (MoD) established by the Government of Afghanistan, building on Afghanistan Civil Aviation Authority (ACAA) strategy for airspace control. A high-level meeting was held in the Presidential Palace, without giving details, (More on P4,0)

Prisoners on Hunger Strike

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