Ministers Designate to Seek Vote of Confidence on Tuesday

KARUL - Prime Minister Naeem Harish, during a meeting with a delegation of the Waziristan Jirga said on Saturday that the minister designate would be introduced to the lower house for a vote of confidence on Tuesday. The cabinet ministers were to appear before the assembly today but the house session was postponed. More than three months after being sworn in, the government named the 23-member cabinet last week after receiving several ministerial referrals. After the meeting with Harish, Waziristan Jirga Secretary Anas Iqbal told Aaj News the president was not ready to send his cabinet pick to the lower house. He said the president had apologized for delaying the process till Tuesday. Ethiopia is the latest member of the International Criminal Court. In preparation of a five year plan, the president said the court was not ready for the trust vote process. He promised that he would introduce the minister designate on Tuesday to the lower house, he added.

On the issue of dual nationality, the president said Waziristan Jirga members reserved the right to decide the fate of the minorities who had the citizenship of more countries than one. Earlier, the Waziristan Jirga decided not to give a trust vote to ministers designate. (More on P6).

IS to be Defeated Like Taliban: Security Officials

MAZAR-I-SHARIF – Security officials on Saturday said government claim of controlling the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) in Afghanistan would be defeated like Taliban insurgents in northern Afghanistan. They said the anti-terrorism conflict would continue for several months, the national and provincial security forces at a militia base in the city. Militia leaders in the district of northern Balkh province claimed several insurgent leaders had been arrested.

Public Disturbance Remains in Peace Process: Poll

KARUL - A recent poll conducted by more than 60 civil society groups indicate lack of public trust in the peace process after the respondents accorded High Peace Council (HPC) members for performing professional and transparent functions. Majoritarian re-presentatives from across the country believe the HPC members—meet members re-elected and their personal interests involved in the ongoing process. According to the poll, a large number of respondents believe the findings, imbalances in government’s provision of services and large-scale corruption have fueled lack of public trust in government’s performance. The poll participants in a joint letter to the security government leadership have also asked for transparent and viable strategy for the peace process.

“Most of the people are taking the government’s decisions based on shared interests and the overall future of society. They should use their influence to achieve sustainable, inclusive and just peace. As a result, the Afghan civil society organization and the ABPCP will reach to provinces for an improved and transparent roadmap for peace,” the letter states. A joint declaration held on 15 January in Kabul presented 12 of these local road maps for peace and provided an important chance to develop advocacy strategies so that provincial and national policies act upon their findings. The national conference was a unique opportunity to develop advocacy plans to ensure the voice of the Afghan people is heard. This advocacy could not be more important or timely,” said the UN Security Council’s Special Representative for Afghanistan, Nicholas Haysom. “The United Nations stands ready to support them in any way it can.” Participants highlighted the need for strengthening security institutions, promote dialogue. (More on P6).

Radio Journalist Shot Dead in Nanganbar

KARUL - Journalists in several provinces on Saturday strongly condemned killing of Afghan journalist in Jashal Dih, a small town of Nanganbar province, to condemn Waqar’s killing. The association issued a statement that said Waqar had been the most prominent journalist of the local government by killing unknown gunmen in eastern Nanganbar province and called for an immediate investigation.

Afghan journalist Waqar, who worked the local radio station “Spit Gun”, was shot dead on Friday night when he was attending a morning ceremony in the Jashal district. Another journalist was also killed in the incident.

Journalists and Writers Association members staged a protest demonstration in Jashal Dih, the capital of Nanganbar province, to condemn Waqar’s killing. The association issued a statement that said Waqar had been the most prominent journalist of the local government by killing unknown gunmen in eastern Nanganbar province and called for an immediate investigation.

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Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran Cooperating in Joint Border Areas

Iran, Pakistan, and Afghanistan are fully cooperating aimed at strengthening the security along the joint border areas, a senior Iranian commander said here on Saturday.

In the latest border clash, two Iranian frontier police officers were killed and several border guards were injured in southeastern Iran last October an in annual conflict with a group of residents of Iran-Pakistan border. Iran has repeatedly called its eastern neighbors for failing to take action in the case of their citizens. It also called its eastern neighbors for failing to take action in the case of their citizens.

Tehran - Talking to IRNA, Deputy Commander of front’s Border Guards for Operations Brigadier General Jalal Safarsh said that the joint border police forces are also stationed along the southeastern border areas to ensure security in this joint region. In the latest border clashes, two Iranian frontier police officers were killed and several border guards were injured in southeastern Iran last October an in annual conflict with a group of residents of Iran-Pakistan border. Iran has repeatedly called its eastern neighbors for failing to take action in the case of their citizens.