Denmark Pledges $3 Million to Support Afghan Farmers

KABUL - Denmark has pledged $3 million in aid to support tens of thousands of farmers in Afghanistan. The assistance is expected to be delivered to more than 120,000 farmers who have been affected by natural disasters over the last two years. The assistance includes refined seeds, chemical fertilizers as well as training programs on proper methods of farming so that farmers become self-reliant. The plan will be implemented by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and Afghan Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock in Badakhshan, Dukundi, Ghor and Uruzgan provinces.

Rajendra Kumar Aryal, FOA representative in Afghanistan, said that the Danish assistance would help improve living condition of farmers in five Afghan provinces.

More than 30 million people are living in a state of severe acute food insecurity in Afghanistan, according to UN. (ITV NEWS)

Ghani Travels to Swiss to Attend the World Economic Forum

KABUL - President Ashraf Ghani will be meeting with the world leaders and talk about Afghanistan's peace, economic development, and more, ARG said in a statement.

The Economic Forum in Davos is held from 21-24 January 2020 in the mountainous town of Davos. Influential leaders from around the globe meet in Davos, Switzerland for the World Economic Forum's 50th Annual Meeting.

The meeting is centered around the theme stakeholder for a cohesive and sustainable World. Nearly 5,000 participants from 117 countries, including 55 heads of state - with US President Donald Trump and German Chancellor Angela Merkel among them, are set to descend on the Swiss mountain village of Davos for the World Economic Forum's 50th Annual Meeting. Meanwhile, President Ghani has the chance to share with the world leaders the Afghan peace progress that is deemed crucial for Afghan people, the Taliban, and the US and possibly convince them to work together for a permanent peace deal in Afghanistan - the outcome of which will influence regional economic and political stability as well.

Avoiding Iran, Air Traffic over Afghan Airspace Boosts Revenue

KABUL - Mohammad Qasim Wafaei, head of Afghanistan’s Civil Aviation Authority, said Monday that with the increase in flights crossing the country’s airspace, civil aviation revenue has increased by an average of $100,000 per day.

Transit flights through Afghanistan have been on the rise for the past twelve days following the accidental shoot-down of a Ukrainian aircraft in Iran and the diversion of many flights through Afghanistan.

Currently, more than 400 aircraft pass through Afghanistan’s airspace every day, according to aviation officials.

Zada said that even if the region’s airspace returned to normal, a number of aviation companies would continue to use the Afghan air space instead of other countries in the region.

The civil aviation authority at the moment earns $700 from every airline crossing the country’s airspace.

According to civil aviation officials, the authority has recently created two new routes into the country, which contribute right percent to the increase.

A tourism company union says the newly-increased revenue should be spent on improving.... (More on P4:1)

Dr. Abdullah, German Envoy Discuss Peace, Regional Cooperation

KABUL - Chief Executive Officer Dr. Abdullah Abdullah spoke with German and Pakistani envoys (Marcus Potzel) on issues of country, region and Indo-Pakistani cooperation between Afghanistan and Germany. The executive directorate of the country has written a newsletter that the German envoy Marcus Potzel has informed the chief executive about his country’s support for the peace process and to host inter-Afghan talks in the coming months aimed at achieving lasting peace in the country.

Thanks to German support and efforts to build peace in Afghanistan, Dr. Abdullah supports the country’s proposal to hold talks inside Afghanistan, the statement added. And they also discussed a region. (Pajsham)

Well-Known Afghan Filmmaker Dies at 68

KABUL - Jawan Shir Haidari, 68, a well-known Afghan filmmaker and head of Afghanistan’s cinematographers union, died in the early hours on Tuesday morning, his work was appreciated by a large following.

Haidari worked for many years to improve the situation of Afghanistan’s cinema and his work was appreciated by a large following.

Haidari’s colleagues report.

KABUL - Jawan Shir Haidari, 68, a well-known Afghan filmmaker and head of Afghanistan’s cinematographers union, died in the early hours on Tuesday morning, Haidari’s colleagues confirmed that he died from a heart condition at Ibn-e-Sina hospital, a state-run hospital in Kabul. (More on P4:12)

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President Reminded Kanndahar Airport Standardizing Vow

KABUL - Afghanistan's civil aviation minister, Nusair Ahmed Ghani, on Monday called for "meaningful" talks with the Taliban. He also highlighted that four family members killed in Kabul’s airport explosion were "单纯" of a "meaningful" attempt on the part of the Taliban to "drag" the government into a "meaningful" dialogue with the government.

According to the statement, Ghani informed the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Ministry of National Security (NDS) to identify the perpetrators and bring them to justice.

Ghani also called for aid to give to the remaining family members, read the statement. Those children and a parent were killed by an unidentified man with an ax in Kabul on Sunday evening. The children were between the ages of 7 and 14. The two women and a baby were killed by the jealous, but have little confidence in the government to solve the problem.

All were laid to rest in Kabul on Monday. The relatives said the family had made arrangements for the funeral service. But in the stroke of the bodies of the deceased is also accused of the motivation behind the killing is so far.

The Interior Ministry has not commented on the incident. Afghanistan President Ashraf Ghani, who addressed the Council of Ministers meeting on Monday, also insisted on a probe. (Tolo News)

Snowfall, Winds Shut Salang Highway for Heavy Traffic

CHARIKAR - The Salang highway, linking Kabul with northern Afghanistan, has been closed for car traffic as result of heavy snowfall and strong winds. Samisullah Wazizada, the highway maintenance commander, told Pajhwok Afghan News the key route was shut for traffic on Monday night, following snowfall.

In the winter, traveling the highway is dangerous for passengers, particularly for the sick and elderly people, due to heavy snow and cold weather. (Pajhwok)

Afghanistan Imports $7.5m Fuel from Kazakhstan

KABUL - Afghanistan purchased 14,000 tons of fuel from Kazakhstan in November 2019, media reports state. AKJ Press reported the central Asian country earned $7.5 million from the sale of fuel.

Kazakhstan exported 42,700 tons of petroleum products in 2019, worth $7.4 million in the country. The export volume was 24,000 tons in 2018.

The payments were made in dollars.

(Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

Jan 22, 2020 - A warm and loving conversation could come today from a long time friend or romantic partner. It will be a welcome surprise and will lead to a positive day ahead. (TOLO NEWS)

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb 18)

Jan 22, 2020 - If you’re into gardening or any kind of work involving a bit of mud, you’re really going to enjoy today. Aquarius! A friend or family member could help you with an outdoor project or give you a helpful hint. (TOLO NEWS)

Pisces (Feb 19-Mar 20)

Jan 22, 2020 - If you’ve been thinking about starting a garden this winter, this is a good day to do it. Try putting some of your favorite flowers or vegetables in the ground now. (TOLO NEWS)

Sagittarius (Nov 22-Dec 21)

Jan 22, 2020 - Important conversations and decisions could come today from someone who is new to your life. (TOLO NEWS)

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

Jan 22, 2020 - Business transactions taking place in your near neighborhood could be confirmed, which should make you feel successful, as months had passed since the president’s promises.

Local people say the airport has not allowed to enter the airport. The president had said the airport would be investors to enter in the airport. It was said that Kanndahar products would be exported to Gulf, Europe and other countries through this airport.

However, Kanndahar residents say the airport services are still sub-standard as months had passed since the president’s promises.

Haji Sayed Ahmed, a resident of the local city, said that the airport, which was closed after a terrorist attack, should be publicized by the security forces for the public and the airport.

The airport is not supported and protected as it should, and the people who live away from this place are not satisfied. (Pajhwok)

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The Taliban’s violence reduction plan is a concept that cannot be truly measured or specified. It is a vague idea that has been brought into the public sphere without much detail or explanation. The plan has been criticized by many for being ambiguous and lacking concrete goals. Critics argue that the Taliban’s violence reduction plan is more about gaining international recognition and legitimacy than about truly reducing violence.

The plan has been met with skepticism by many, who argue that the Taliban’s past actions and rhetoric do not match their stated goals. There is little evidence to suggest that the Taliban have changed their ways, and many fear that the violence reduction plan is simply a means to an end, with the true goal being political gain.

The plan has also been criticized for being non-binding, with no clear mechanisms in place to enforce compliance. The Taliban have a long history of breaking promises and reneging on commitments, and there is little reason to believe that they will be any different in the future.

Overall, the Taliban’s violence reduction plan is a concept that is difficult to understand and evaluate. It is a vague idea that lacks clear goals and mechanisms for enforcement. Critics argue that the plan is a means to an end, with the true goal being political gain, and there is little reason to believe that the Taliban will follow through with their stated goals.
KABUL - The Afghan Senate, the Meshrano Jirga (the House of Elders), held a special session on Monday before the winter recess during which they highlighted their achievements called for more work on the next fiscal year’s budget, especially discussion about the allotment of money to certain projects. A lack of one-third of the Senate, however, has affected its activities over the past year. Over the last year, the Senate has approved 37 legislative documents and 20 agreements which held 63 general sessions, according to its members. The senate has also summoned more than 630 government officials to the general sessions and committee meetings. Some officers that have been included in the next fiscal year’s budget and said those projects should be excluded from the budget document – which is under assessment by the Wolesi Jirga to be approved by the Senate. The minister of finance had committed with the parliament on the budget (project with senators). This should be followed-up on because on the Wolesi Jirga will ap- prove the budget on January 22,” Senator Zalmay Zabuli said. (TOLO NEWS)

Criminals Stabbed an Afghan Student in India

GOA - India’s Panaji Police has arrested a per- son for allegedly stabbing an Afghan student at the Goa University. Matiulla Aria, the victim, is recuperating at a hospital in the state capital, while the police are still in search of the other accused persons, “Satish Nikanost, a resident of the state, has been arrested in connec- tion with the criminal case,” said Akasy Parwekar, Sub-Inspector. National Students Union of India (NSUI) Goa Chief Ahmed Mulla has written the Governor Satya Pal Malik and the Ministry of Human Resource Develop- ment, demanding the incident. Mulla demands that strict actions against the criminals should be taken who are spoiling the harmony of the university and the public image of In- dia as a potential education destination at large. “The attack on the Afghan student is not something new. The university also brings the question mark to the security of the foreign students who come to the country for studies and the tourists alike,” Mulla wrote in a state- ment. He further added, “We demand that the government should take seri- ous actions against all those criminals, and provide security where people could live a normal life free of threats, murders and bomb- glare attacks. (KHAAMA PRESS)

Kabul Police Arrest a Notorious Gang Leader

KABUL - Zamir, also known as Hoshkili chief of the criminal group, and his collaborator Mohammad, known as ‘Will’, was arrested along with their accomplices in the Bagrami, 12th district of Kabul after armed clashes with police. A senior police officer Hoshkili was the most dangerous and wanted criminals being involved in several criminal offenses in Kabul’s suburbs. “Zamir and his gang members cooked innocent people’s blood in one way or the other for a long time,” said Alm, a civilian. A relative of the victim.

Last night, in a targeted operation carried out by Kabul police in the Baghlan, 12th district of Kabul city, the perpetrators and 16 wanted murders and bomb- glare attackers, was arrested by the police and later arrested.

Zamir Hoshkili was responsible for an organ- ized criminal network and played a major role in using different tactics in various organized crime networks in Kabul city, and losings in Kabul city. Zamir Hoshkili was a rife, one motor vehicle as well as military equipment from the criminal group.

Brussels called to take tougher actions against criminal groups and to help to improve the security of the city through different means. This ar- rests come days after four members of a group named ‘Wolf’ were arrested in the capital Kabul. (KHAIMA PRESS)

Turkmen President Receives Incoming Turkish Ambassador

ASHGABAT - President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov welcomed Turkish Ambassador Togan Oral, who presented his credentials the head of state, Turkmen President. Oral has written the Governor Satya Pal Malik and the Ministry of Human Resource Develop- ment, demanding the incident. Mulla demands that strict actions against the criminals should be taken who are spoiling the harmony of the university and the public image of In- dia as a potential education destination at large. “The attack on the Afghan student is not something new. The university also brings the question mark to the security of the foreign students who come to the country for studies and the tourists alike,” Mulla wrote in a state- ment. He further added, “We demand that the government should take seri- ous actions against all those criminals, and provide security where people could live a normal life free of threats, murders and bomb- glare attacks. (KHAAMA PRESS)
Multiple Rockets Hit Baghdad's Green Zone, Trigger Sirens at US Embassy

Experts Defuse World War II Bomb in German City of Cologne

BERLIN — Explosives experts successfully defused an unexploded American bomb from World War II in the western German city of Cologne, authorities said. The 1,100-pound bomb was found near the end of construction on the Rhine River in the center of the city. The opera house had to be evacuated during the defusing operation.

Worst Lie Since Fake Claim Sparked Iraq War? OPCW Report Behind Syria Bombings Was Altered, Whistleblower Tells UNSC

BAGHDAD — A former inspector with the OPCW has accused the chemical weapons watchdog of tampering on the alleged 2018 attack in Douma, Syria, arguing that two explosions were staged to cover up its own fact-finding mission. The OPCW’s final report on the Douma incident released last March, omitted key findings of its own inspection team which would have cast serious doubt on whether a chemical attack took place. (More on P4-L30)

MEXICO CITY — Mexican police on Monday asked for the first time that four migrants, some of whom managed to escape the Mexico City national guard military police, be reported. The belongings of the recently arrived Honduran caravan led to some parents being separated from their children as they tried to avoid Mexican immigration authorities.

Caravan Migrants Cross Mexican River, Throw Rocks at Country’s National Guard in Response to Tear Gas

Davos 2020: Trump Lavishes Praise on US Economy

WASHINGTON — The 50th World Economic Forum has kicked off in Davos, with an agenda that is already cracking under the strain of talk of another global economic downturn. The four-day annual gathering, one of the world’s biggest in the field of politics and business leaders, in the Swiss Alps is seeking to meet head-on the danger to both the environment and the economy of the world’s largest carbon emitters.

Belarus Aims to Lower Oil Import from Russia to 40% of Country’s Needs - Lukashenko

BELARUS — Belarus plans to reduce its oil imports from Russia by 40% of country’s needs by 2025, President Alexander Lukashenko said on Monday. “We do not currently talk about a full alternative to Russian oil supplies,” he said as agreed we should diversify. We need to get to the stage where we are buying 30%-40% of our oil from Western Europe. We should be importing around 30-50% of the Baltic States.

Changing Tack, French Militants Turn Off Power to Profit in Great Britain

NEW DELHI - An Indian officer and a po- lice constable were killed during a fight with Much of the northwestern- controlled part of disputed Kashmir on Tuesday, local media reported.

Police confirmed that the “encounter” with Militants took place on Monday, a police official said some details for was killed by a military police bullet.

The incident came as a police in October three titles. (More on P4-L30)

Winter Storm Lashing Spain Leaves 4 Dead, Power Cuts

MADRID — A winter storm lashed much of Spain for a third day Tuesday, leaving 200 people without electric power, 300 schools closed and roads blocked by snow as it killed four people. Rescue services and gale-force winds smashed into sheeted train carriages, damaging many shops and restaurants.

Many schools remained closed in the northeastern region of Catalonia as well as the Valencia region. The government has adopted a state of alert in the city of Aragon, Spanish media said.

Traffic authorities said dozens of roads remained impassable because of the snow, including the A7 highway between the northeastern towns of Figueres and the French border. The storm, which whipped up Sunday, has so far claimed lives of three men and one woman. (AP News)

EU Cooperation Council Adopts EU-Kazakhstan Enhanced Partnership & Cooperation Agreement

BRUSSELS — The European Union and Kazakhstan have approved the EU-Kazakhstan Enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (EPCA), signed in 2015, Trend reports. The agreement which has now been ratified by all EU Member States and the European Parliament will fully enter into force on 1st January 2020.

The Cooperation Council confirmed the meeting’s commitment to further strengthen bilateral relations. EU leaders focused on the first official visit in 2020.

Ex-PM Abbasi’s Remand Extended in LNG Scam

ISLAMABAD — An anti-graft body extended the judicial remand of former prime minister of Pakistan Shahid Abbasi in a multi-million bucks corruption case involving Chinese travel agency that served the Pakistan government.

The court extended the judicial remand of Abbasi until Feb 4 and adjourned the hearing of the case till the same date. (More on P4-L30)

Dubai 2020: Trump Lavishes Praise on US Economy

The case proceedings of the recently arrested Shahid Islam will move ahead after the court extended the judicial remand of former PM of Pakistan Shahid Abbasi in a multi-million bucks corruption case involving Chinese travel agency.

The court extended the judicial remand of Abbasi until Feb 4 and adjourned the hearing of the case till the same date. (More on P4-L30)

Uzbekistan’s New Senate Approves Government Resignation

TASHKENT — President Shavkat Mirziyoyev’s newly-formed Senate of the republic has approved a new cabinet of ministers led by Miftah Ismail, former finance minister, who served in the office until 2019, Trend reports.

The approval of the cabinet appointed by Miftah Ismail was welcomed by the international media.

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