Government Approves 19 Contracts worth 3.6 Billion Afghanis

KABUL - The Afghan government has approved nineteen contracts having a total value of 3.6 billion Afghanis, the office of the president, ARG Palace said Monday.

According to a statement by the ARG Palace, the contracts were approved during the meeting of the national procurement commission headed by President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani.

The contracts approved during the meeting are design and activation of substations in Noor-ul-Akhoud area of Herat, seven healthcare projects in Nustan, Ghir, Kumar, Zable, Sar-e-Pol, and Kabil. The other contracts approved during the meeting are design and procurement of equipment. (More on Pg. 09)

Pakista Drug Menace Grips more than 600 Women

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Draft Law on Protests Calls for Security Reasons

KABUL - The draft law, which has been seen by MPs and civil rights activists on Monday slammed a new draft law which restricts to no more than three protests on Sunday.

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"We take emergency situations to nearby Ander district or the provincial capital." (More on Pg. 11)

Return of Warstrait Families from Afghanistan Resumes

PKHILAWAR - Tribal families who fled Afghanistan as a result of a military offensive in North Waziristan Agency are all poised to start returning home today (Monday), an official said.

Some Ghazni Clinics Remain Closed, other Face Issues

GHIZNI CITY - Health centres have either been closed or lack doctors and medicines in various districts of southeastern Ghazni province, residents complain.

A resident of Ghur district, Naqibullah, told Pajhwok Afghan News the district in their village town had long been closed for unknown reasons. "We take emergency situations to nearby Ander district or the provincial capital."

He said many serious patients often died due to the lack of health facilities, saying two women had recently died on the way to hospital.

A resident of Ghur district, Mohammad Sadig, said there was only one doctor at the district clinic.

The resident said mothers usually gave birth to children at home or had to travel for three hours to reach Ghazni City.

A resident of Qahal Bugh district, Rahmatullah, alleged expired medicines were given to patients at the district health centre, which lacked enough doctors.

*The district is situated along the Kabul-Kandahar highway, therefore many patients, including people injured in accidents on the highway, are brought to this clinic, but the only doctor cannot handle the patients." (More on Pg. 11)

Pakista Drug Menace Grips more than 600 Women

KABUL - The Afghan security forces have arrested a group of human smugglers who were attempting to smuggle several children to Pakistan.

The local security officials at southeastern Ghazni province said the smugglers were arrested during the operations on Sunday.

Acting provincial police chief of Ghazni Mustafa Mayar said the smugglers were arrested from Quarah and Ah Band districts as they were attempting to smuggle the children to Quetta city.

He said a total of 25 children were due to be smuggled to Quetta city for the traffickers, apparently for the suicide attacks but the Afghan forces managed to thwart the attempts.

A number of smugglers were arrested and a number of smuggling attempts were arrested in connection to the smuggling attempts of the children.

This comes as the Afghan government has banned on the movement of children to their ranks since mid-2015 in violation of the international prohibition on the use of child soldiers.

The rights group's research shows that the Taliban have been training and deploying children for various military operations.

As a result of hectic efforts, the ministry said in a statement that it prevented the grab of around 1,540 acres of land more than 300 million afghans and 14 million dollars have been saved from being grabbed, the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) said in a statement on Monday.

The ministry urged all government institutions to provide it thorough reports of their lands grabbed. MoJ promised taking effective measures to avoid blocking roads; maintain a distance of 500 meters from military installations and 200 meters from government and educational facilities; prevent interference by powerful people evacuate an area in the event of any security threat and list all protests to no more than three days.

However, the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) said it will still be working on the draft law.

The MoJ said that the draft law, which is made up of six chapters and 31 articles, was discussed for the first time at a cabinet meeting a week ago. (More on Pg. 13)

NATO Reacts at ISIS Khurasan’s Claims of Killing US Soldiers in East of Afghanistan

KABUL - The NATO-led Resolute Support Mission in Afghanistan (ReSOM) reacted to the claims of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) terrorist group’s offshoot in Afghanistan, ISIS Khurasan, regarding the killing of two US soldiers.

Rejecting the claims as baseless, the Resolute Support mission, said only two US soldiers were wounded in Nangarhar province.

NATO spokesman in Afghanistan, U.S. Navy Captain William K. Selvidge, said, "As in usually the case, the ISKoh claim of killing 2 US Soldiers in Nangarhar Province over the weekend is false. Two service members were wounded on July 7th and were medically evacuated out of theater for treatment."

This comes as the Afghan forces are busy conducting counter-terrorism and clearance operations in some restive districts of Afghanistan. (More on Pg. 21)

KABUL TALENTS - A total of 1500 hectares of land have been saved from being grabbed, the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock (MoAIL) said in a statement that it prevented the grab of around 1,540 acres of land more than 300 million afghans and 14 million dollars have been saved from being grabbed, the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) said in a statement on Monday.

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Bid to Smuggle 25 Children to Pakistan Foiled by Afghan Forces in Ghazni

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Moj Claims Preventing Thousands of Acres of Land-Grab

KABUL - In the first six months of the current year, thousands of acres of land more than 300 million afghans and 14 million dollars have been saved from being grabbed, the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) said on Monday.

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