Radio Station Shuts Down after Threats by Suspected Taliban

KARUL - A private radio station in Afghanistan has shut down after an incident came as the Taliban are discussing a peace deal with the United States that could see them rejoining mainstream society, and that has brought new scrutiny of their attitudes to issues like women's rights and the media. The private radio station, Samaa, has been broadcasting political, religious, social and entertainment programs in the central province of Ghani since 2012. Its 13 employees, including three women presenters, broadcast in Afghanistan's two main languages, Dari and Pashto. The radio station's director, Ramez Azimi, said Taliban commanders in the area had sent written... (More on P4).  

Afghanistan Exports Medical Equipment to Somalia

KARUL - Afghanistan has exported different types of medical equipment and hygiene products to Somalia for the first time as official on the local firms' capacity has increased. One container of the first shipment of Afghan goods, carrying 25 types of medical equipment in three containers, has arrived in Somalia through Iran and Turkey, head of Herat Chamber of Industries and Mines, Hameed Ahmadzai, said. He said that another cargo of 40 tons of Afghan goods will be exported to Somalia and other African nations within the next few days. The goods are the product of Asia Pharma company in Herat. "For the first time, at least three containers of goods which weigh 30 tons, and 25 types of medical equipment, have been shipped to Somalia. This week we are going to send another container to it from Herat," an Afghan Pharma official Mohammad Amin Jamil said. "One truck has already arrived in Somalia. Two other have been passed through Turkm, and four trailers are loading in... (More on P4).  

False Accusers to be Deal with Harshly

Vice-President Mohammad Sarwar Danish said if sexual harassment allegations against government institutions were proved, the perpetrators would be dealt with harshly otherwise false accusers would be seriously investigated. Almost a month back, Care, Hameed Ahmadzai, a former special advisor to President Ashraf Ghani on national security, during an interview with a television channel had said she resigned over interference in his duty, wrong interpretation of democracy and promotion of prostitution in the Presidential Palace. He had said on advice or opinion he could do his work according to their working responsibilities and circles inside the Presidential Palace were interfering in their jobs. (More on P4).  

Constitution Your War Bounty, French Envoy Tells Afghans

French ambassador to Afghanistan Daniel Martinson on Sunday said a dialogue has started between Afghans for the first time and they believed reconciliation was possible if based on the Constitution. “The constitution, dear friends, is your war bounty, it is your common treasury,” the ambassador told participants of an event marking the French National Day here. Chief Executive Officer Abdulah Abdulah, ministers, lawmakers and government officials were present on the occasion. The French envoy said they believed there was indeed a growing Afghan nation, one century after the independence of Afghanistan, “Building a nation requires time and passion.” In 1919, King Amanullah was concerned that the independence of Afghanistan by itself would not be enough to create the Afghan nation, therefore, he had three intentions that he desired would become policies, recalled Mattes. First was the formation of the Kingdom. The French envoy said to create a true Afghan nation, everyone in the country has to feel that he or she is Afghan before being Tajik, Pashtun, Uzbek, Hazara, Turkoman or Yakh. “Therefore, on the first tasker that were issued, was only written the previous word “Afghan”, with no mention of any ethnic group. More than ever, your dignity should be your strength, not a cause for division,” Second royal conviction: He said to build an Afghan nation, the country needed education for everyone and was why the king started a program to provide free education for children. “Please don’t let anyone waste this precious legacy. Young girls will be watching, because one day, they will have the same any way.” Third royal conviction: To form a national identity, the Afghan people needed to rediscover its own history, therefore, King Amanullah asked the French to start archeological searches around the country, said the envoy. Then the Afghan realized that their history was incredibly rich, starting from the era of Buddhism, when Afghanistan was one of the key places for the diffusion of the philosophy, to Alexan- der the Great, who came here as a for- mer... (More on P4).  

NEILL - Nearly two thousand families have been displaced owing to ongoing insecurity in Kapisa and Nawzad districts of central Dukhan province and are in dire need of assistance, public rep- resentatives said on Monday. Ghani Qazwari, a member of the Provincial Council, told Pajhwok Afghan News that five fam- ilies fled homes in Kandoha, Salmainjo, Saf and Karz, Diankal, Eshkan, Salami and Paryan villages, localities of Kapisa district and as well in Kam- kan, Kamali, Gardani and Barjanan area of Nawzad district owing to clashes between secu- rity forces and militants and took refuge in Nadi city, the provincial capital... (More on P4).  

Etiesalat Welcomes Afghan Cricket Stars

KABUL - Etisalat hosted a meet and greet event with the two Afghan cricket stars and Etisalat Afghani- stan brand ambassadors, Hameed Hassan and Muhammad Nabi Esakhail, at its main office in Kabul. The aim was to welcome the cricket stars, who just arrived home after playing their latest games – the West Indies and Pakistan Tours, and provide Etisalat customers, visiting the main office flagship, with the opportunity to meet and greet the stars. The cricket stars also met with Etisalat Afghani- stan CEO, Mr... (More on P4).  

KABUL - The direct flights between Afghan capital Kabul and Urumqi, capital of northwest China’s Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, with decrease in time and reduction in travel expenses, are widely welcomed by passengers, including business people, students and ordi- nary visitors. The country’s national flag carrier, the Ariana Afghan Airlines, has resumed its flight once a week from Kabul to Urumqi since July 2016, which is much more convenient than other longer journeys... (More on P2).  

War-Displaced Daikundi Families Desperate for Help

NEILL - Nearly two thousand families have been displaced owing to ongoing insecurity in Kapisa and Nawzad districts of central Dukhan province and are in dire need of assistance, public rep- presentatives said on Monday. Ghani Qazwari, a member of the Provincial Council, told Pajhwok Afghan News that five fam- ilies fled homes in Kandoha, Salmainjo, Saf and Karz, Diankal, Eshkan, Salami and Paryan villages, localities of Kapisa district and as well in Kam- kan, Kamali, Gardani and Barjanan area of Nawzad district owing to clashes between secu- rity forces and militants and took refuge in Nadi city, the provincial capital... (More on P4).