Coronavirus Cases in Afghanistan Cross 15,000 Mark

KABUL - The total number of confirmed coronavirus cases in Afghanistan has climbed to 15,205, the country’s Public Health Ministry announced on Sunday.

Deputy Public Health Minister Wahid Majroh, who was speaking at an event to inaugurate a telemedicine center in Kabul, said that a total of 56 new coronavirus cases were registered over the past 24 hours. According to the official, death toll from the virus rose to 275 including eight reported over the past 24 hours.

Meanwhile, 1,328 coronavirus patients have recovered since the outbreak began in Afghanistan in March, according to the official. At the event, Majroh also said that open-heart surgery will be possible for the first time in a state-run hospital in Kabul in the next two weeks. Referring to a Move on P4.1)

KABUL - The Afghan government on Friday welcomed the statement issued by Afghanistan in the subject line. The request for procurement of the above project is herewith invited to apply for prequalification for the above project. International contractors are explicitly encouraged to form Joint Ventures with national/local contractors.

The project is financed by the German Development Bank KfW. In the scope of the German Development Cooperation with Afghanistan, and will be implemented through the Regional Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF), conditional to actual budget allocation.

Afghan contractors and international contractors with a base of operations in Afghanistan have been invited to submit their qualifications along with their country of origin.

Tendering will be undertaken according to KfW-Development Bank’s “Guidelines for Procurement of Goods, Works and Associated Services in Financial Cooperation with Partner Countries” (August 2016), which can be downloaded at https://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/Download-Center/PDF-Dokumente-Richtlinien/Vergabe-
E.pdf.

Interested contractors shall request the prequalification documents by email from info@ridf-
af.org clearly stating “Construction of Bagh-e-Zarat Roads” in the subject line. The request for the prequalification documents must contain the name and address of the applicant, including contact telephone and e-mail.

Contractors fulfilling these requirements will be sent the prequalification documents via e-mail.

The deadline for submission of the completed prequalification documents is 01 July 2020.

Afghan Govt Welcomes EU Statement on Afghanistan

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Afghanistan to Transit Trade Via Pakistan’s Gwadar Port

KABUL - The Afghanistan-Pacific Transit Trade Agreement (APTTA) enables Afghanistan to transit trade through Pakistan’s Gwadar port under the Gwadar Agreement.

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce says that Afghanistan is trying to improve its economic relations with all neighboring countries and the region, pointing at the Pakistan port of Gwadar as the closest and cheapest transit route for Afghanistan’s trade.

In the meantime, the Pakistani Prime Minister’s senior advisor of economy, Abdul Raazq Daud, has said that trade through Afghanistan is set to begin through the Gwadar port, starting with 10000 tons of fruits and vegetables to be exported to Afghanistan.

In addition, the Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Investment considers the Gwadar port as less expensive than any others; however, it criticizes that the neighboring countries are not honest enough in their economic relations with Afghanistan.

On the other hand, experts point out that if Pakistan complies with international economic and transit laws, Afghanistan traders will be able to import and export goods via Gwadar port at lower costs.

This comes as economic relations between Afghanistan and Pakistan have been strained due to political tensions, and the country has severely closed its ports to Afghan traders. (ATN)

Health Ministry Shuts ‘Subhan Alkozai’ Clinic

KARUL - The ministry of health announced a clinic titled “Subhan Alkozai” will remain closed for operating with an invalid license and selling ‘anti-coronavirus’ medicine.

According to the health ministry, there weren’t any professional medical staff working at the clinic, and the person who presided the so-called “anti-coronavirus” medicine did not have legal documents.

In a press address, Dr. Wahidullah Majroh, the Afghan health deputy minister for the ministry of public health also said the ministry would not allow any individual or company to prescribe any type of medicine without the approval of the health ministry.

Hakim Alkozai, a herbal medicine practitioner, owner claimed he had produced a medicine to cure the coronavirus disease and hundreds of residents have been using his medicine.

The medicine has registered a total of 15,205 as additional 680 laboratory-confirmed cases were recorded in the past 24 hours. (TKG)

Afghan Returnees: $30m Pact Signed in Kabul

KABUL - Afghanistan on Saturday signed a cooperation agreement with Saudi Arabia and UNHCR on facilitating voluntarily returning Afghan refugee families.

The agreement was signed between the Ministry of Finance, the Embassy of Saudi Arabia and the United Nations refugee agency, UNHCR, the ministry said in a statement.

Under the agreement, UNHCR will spend $10 million until 2021 in phase one as part of the total $50 million agreement, said Ministry of Finance spokesman Sharmin Khan Manjik.

He said projects in the phase one included construction oflain day.

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He said projects in the phase one included construction of... (More on P4.2)
Hundreds Rally against Friendship Gate Closure

KANDAHAR CITY - Hundreds of residents of Spin Boldak district staged a protest against the closure of the Friendship Gate on Sunday. According to the residents, the closure of the gate was initiated by the Pakistani authorities.

Kandahar residents took to the streets to demand the reopening of the gate. They carried banners and chanted slogans against the Pakistani authorities.

They said that the gate closure was causing significant inconvenience to the residents, especially for those who depend on the gate for trade and travel.

They also expressed concern about the safety of residents who rely on the gate for their livelihood.

The Pakistani authorities have not commented on the reason for the closure of the gate.

Civil Society Reprimands Acting Mayor of Jalalabad

JALALABAD - Civil society activists have criticized the acting mayor of Jalalabad for his handling of the municipality.

They claimed that the municipality is not functioning efficiently and that the acting mayor is not committed to the task.

They called for the appointment of an independent and capable individual as the acting mayor.

They also demanded that the municipality should be held accountable for its performance.

The civil society activists said that they would continue to monitor the functioning of the municipality and would not hesitate to take action if necessary.

Mol Draws Flaks on Posting Alleged Criminals' Photos

Alishero district's Haroonkhelo, 28, said on Monday: “We have been preparing the patients' file for nearly five years. The operations take place in several waves. The buildings have been funded by India, one by the Ministry of Public Health, and the remaining three by the private sector.”

Javid Faisal, a member of the Provincial Council (PC), said that the two districts had been damaged and if the government did not address this then ‘‘the provincial council will demand financial support from the district health authority as well as the Ministry of Public Health.’’

He claimed that ‘‘the government is trying to shift responsibility to other departments and has failed to provide proper facilities to the patients.’’

Hundreds More Captive Freed as Part of Afghanistan-Taliban Prisoner Swap

KABUL - The Afghan government and the Taliban reached an agreement to exchange 5,000 prisoners. The agreement was signed in a ceremony attended by Afghan security forces in the province of Balkh, Kunduz, Logar, Pakhto, Khak, and 71 others.

It is reported that the Taliban had also agreed to release some 5,000 prisoners.

The prisoner release comes amid new moments in the political situation, with the emergence of following issues:

The dumping of military attacks.

In a move, the Taliban announced a May 24 ceasefire with the US amid the Islamic holiday.

During the ceasefire, Afghan authorities released some 1,000 Taliban prisoners to symbolize a pledge by the government to end the perpetual battle in P4. (More on P4)
Globalizing the Fight Against the Pandemic

By: Carlos Alvarado Quesada and Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

The COVID-19 pandemic began less than six months ago, but we have already learned a great deal about the disease. Scientists around the world are working to prevent and control the disease. As of May 2020, there were over 3.4 million confirmed cases and at least 234,000 deaths, with the number of cases rising daily. The world has responded with a global effort to develop vaccines, treatments, and public health measures to contain the spread of the virus. The world has made significant progress in recent months, but much remains to be done.

The pandemic has highlighted the interconnectedness of the global economy and the global community. It has also underscored the importance of global cooperation and solidarity. The pandemic has affected people and communities around the world, and it has demonstrated the need for a coordinated global response.

The pandemic has also underscored the need for continued investment in research and development. The world must continue to invest in research and development to develop new treatments and vaccines, to strengthen public health systems, and to improve health care delivery.

In addition to the health impacts, the pandemic has also had significant economic and social impacts. The pandemic has led to widespread job losses and economic downturns in many countries. It has also highlighted the need for continued investment in social protection programs to support vulnerable populations.

The pandemic has demonstrated the importance of global cooperation and solidarity. The world must continue to work together to address the pandemic and to build a more resilient and equitable global system.

Stress Management Strategy During Covid-19 Crisis and Beyond

Stress is a series of psychological pressures caused by various factors such as covid-19 global crisis. In global level, millions of people around the world are suffering from psychological stress but with the onset of covid-19 pandemic, the number of psychologically stressed people is soaring, almost all countries of Afghanistan are suffering from psychological pressure due to economic crisis, poverty and war and even the advent of covid-19. According to experts, it will not be possible to control the stress without being familiar with the factors, symptoms, and skills of dealing with and coping with it.All psychiatrists agree that being unaware of the right strategies about stress management will not only weaken the body’s immunity system, but also cause many physical and mental problems.

In regard to stress symptoms, it includes multiple abnormalities, such as irritability and loss of control, insomnia and nightmares, fear, fatigue, headaches, lack of concentration, muscle spasms, palpitations, and finally horror and panic. However, on the appearance of these symptoms is not the same for all human groups. For example, the symptoms of stress in children may express themselves in different ways, such as crying, sleeping disorder, and inadequate nutrition, difficulty in concentrating, headaches, and so on. In terms of stress factors, there are so many factors that put pressure on human life and in addition to the stressors that are mentioned above, the Afghan political pundits have reiterated on multiple occasions that the marginalization of the Kabul government in the Afghan political system will not only weaken the body’s immunity system, but also cause many physical and mental problems.

In addition to the above four strategies, some writers have recommended using the formula of “eat, drink, and be happy.” The first point - eat - is referring to drinking enough fresh water averaged about 8 glasses of water in a day which helps to flush out toxic substances and drinks but less drink while drinking more fluids is essential for active people to maintain their health and the body. The second point - drink - is referring to the enjoyment of favorite meals and drinks. For instance, Afghans, Haqqani network, have never denounced al-Qaeda. Nabil in his interview with NBC on April 20, 2020, said that “if state sponsors of terrorism in the region expect to get away with this kind of attack, they are wrong! The Taliban would be in their wake with their al-Qaeda as he said that the Taliban, mainly the Haqqani network, has never denounced al-Qaeda. Nabil indicates that the US troop pullout at the current pivotal juncture will not suffice to handle the situation. The Taliban also seem to lose their hope in the peace process as the US-Taliban agreement could not bridge the gap between its group and the American leadership as discussed in the intra-Afghan dialogue which includes the issues such as security, war and peace, the延续 of the truce, which would contribute to the peace process. After the three-day ceasefire declared by the Taliban early this year. With the ongoing instability and Taliban's threats to the country. The Taliban intensified their attacks against the white House should pressure the Taliban to honor the agreement signed between the United States and the Taliban leadership this year. With the Taliban's three-day declaration of ceasefire on Eid, the prisoner swap between the Kabul government and the Taliban leadership stepped up, raising hope for start of negotiations between the two sides. Afghan media have been discussing with the US-Taliban peace agreement since it could not lead to peace and stability in the country. The Taliban intensified their attacks against the Kabul government, which show their laissez-faire response to the peace process.

To Afghans' unmitigated.challenges, however, Washington is working to strengthen relations with the Taliban through the ongoing instability and Taliban's threats to the country. Rohrabacher Nabil, former director of National Directorate of Security, said on a tweet that "it's state sponsor of terrorism in the region expect to get away with this kind of attack, they are wrong! The Taliban would be in their wake with their al-Qaeda as he said that the Taliban, mainly the Haqqani network, has never denounced al-Qaeda. Nabil indicates that the US troop pullout at the current pivotal juncture will not suffice to handle the situation. The Taliban also seem to lose their hope in the peace process as the US-Taliban agreement could not bridge the gap between its group and the American leadership. However, the appearance of these symptoms is not the same for all human groups. For example, the symptoms of stress in children may express themselves in different ways, such as crying, sleeping disorder, and inadequate nutrition, difficulty in concentrating, headaches, and so on. In terms of stress factors, there are so many factors that put pressure on human life and in addition to the stressors that are mentioned above, the Afghan political pundits have reiterated on multiple occasions that the marginalization of the Kabul government in the Afghan political system will not only weaken the body's immunity system, but also cause many physical and mental problems. The next strategy which is emotion-oriented strategy is used to deal with emotional and behavioral problems. In regard to stress symptoms, it includes multiple abnormalities, such as irritability and loss of control, insomnia and nightmares, fear, fatigue, headaches, lack of concentration, muscle spasms, palpitations, and finally horror and panic. However, on the appearance of these symptoms is not the same for all human groups. For example, the symptoms of stress in children may express themselves in different ways, such as crying, sleeping disorder, and inadequate nutrition, difficulty in concentrating, headaches, and so on. In terms of stress factors, there are so many factors that put pressure on human life and in addition to the stressors that are mentioned above, the Afghan political pundits have reiterated on multiple occasions that the marginalization of the Kabul government in the Afghan political system will not only weaken the body's immunity system, but also cause many physical and mental problems. The next strategy which is emotion-oriented strategy is used to deal with emotional and behavioral problems.
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9 Balkh Urea..."The women's liberties should not be bullied. Particularly achievements in areas of health, education, and a just peace."

6 Maldives...the mosque.

19 Israeli Forces...a suspicious object that looked like a pipe. The police said the fuse was cut, the stop, officers opened fire, the statement added. "They could not work from home. Children were being told to pray at home. People who could not work from home were told the mandatory ablation at home since washrooms at mosques would be closed, to use hand sanitizers and gloves to wash ones hands with handwashing or hand sanitizers."

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30 sister countries, or other...switched course, saying a week ago that the leaders would confer by video meeting between dictator Kim Jong-un and the president on return. (Pajhwok)

21 Spain to...extension from parties on the right and ally eased.

20 Boris Johnson, the British PM,...be refused to design products for women. (Pajhwok)

17 Trump Promotes...of the coronavirus to discuss the future of the future political system. (Pajhwok)

18 at least 110,000...the Diamond Princess cruise ship that was as a Yokohama port on top of one other," Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey said.

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11 Afghanistan...otherwise operational otherwise, the Taliban said. "We kept the facilities from being equipped. (Pajhwok)

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Israelis Kill Unarmed Autistic Palestinian Man

Jerusalem - Israeli police shot dead an unarmed autistic Palestinian man in Jerusalem’s Old City on Saturday. They said the man, who was carrying a knife, was shot after he approached them.

The shooting drew condemnation from Israel’s Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and revivals complaints alleging excessive force used by Israeli security forces.

On social media, some police said they spotted a ramp "with an autistic individual and one that couldn’t speak."

Related identifying details were fabricated as the man had never been in Jerusalem, suffering from autism and heading to a place for students which he was carrying to visit.

The shooting occurred at Mea Shearim, a Jewish neighborhood in Jerusalem, as the city begins the Passover holiday.

On Sunday, the man’s father, who called him "cold blood," said he could not let him go to the hospital because of the coronavirus.

The man’s family said he had a "very good heart" and didn’t deserve to be killed.

In 2019, another autistic Palestinian man with a knife was killed by Israeli security forces in Jerusalem.

Defending Lockdown, Easing UK Prime Minister Says It’s The ‘Right Thing’

London - British prime minister Dominic Raab defended on Sunday the government’s “careful and ongoing” approach to lockdown, saying it was the “right step to be taking at this moment of time”.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson has come under fire from critics for easing lockdown put in place 10 weeks ago, with some saying it was a premature and risky move in the absence of a fully functioning test system to track new outbreaks.

With Britain expected to be hit by the coronavirus at a higher death rate this week, the government is saying it is doing everything it can to prevent a second wave of infections.

The government is also warning the public to stay home and not to hold gatherings.

Japan Gov’t Rules Out Imminent Return of Emergency for Tokyo

Tokyo - Japan’s government said it will no immediate plan to reinstate a state of emergency for the capital Tokyo and its neighboring prefectures, and that vaccine distribution has been completed.

However, the government warned that a surge in infections could lead to a second state of emergency being declared.

Indonesia’s Covid-19 Task Force chief, Dr. Achmad Yurianto, said on Monday that Indonesia would not be implementing any new restrictions to stem the spread of the coronavirus.

On Monday, Indonesia reported 974 new cases and 10 deaths, bringing the total number of cases to 76,034.

The country’s death toll rose by four on Saturday, with 38 new recoveries, bringing the total number of recoveries to 44,211.

Pakistan’s Cabinet to Consider Sending Peacekeeping Mission to Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic

Islamabad – Pakistan’s Cabinet will now consider sending a peacekeeping mission to the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic, according to a statement from the country’s foreign ministry.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the country’s cabinet on Sunday.

The Cabinet has been asked to consider sending a peacekeeping mission to the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic with a view to stabilizing the situation in the region.

The Cabinet also discussed the situation in the region and agreed to send a peacekeeping mission to the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic.

Uzbekistan Reports 41 New Coronavirus Cases

Tashkent - Uzbekistan has reported 41 new cases of coronavirus in the country, bringing the total number of cases to 4,624.

The country’s death toll rose by four on Saturday, with 38 new recoveries, bringing the total number of recoveries to 44,211.

The government said it will not be implementing any new restrictions to stem the spread of the coronavirus.

The government has been urged to implement further measures to reduce the spread of the virus.

Neighboring Iran has reported 10 new cases of coronavirus in the country, bringing the total number of cases to 1,624.

The government said it will not be implementing any new restrictions to stem the spread of the coronavirus.

The government has been urged to implement further measures to reduce the spread of the virus.
KABUL - Abdullah Abdullah, chairman of the High Council of Reconciliation, spoke of some progress in starting the Intra-Afghan talks. He also underscored that the government’s negotiating team was ready to start the talks with the Taliban anytime and that the two sides need to take action.

This marks Abdullah’s first speech since taking office as chairman of the High Reconciliation Council after 12 days. Abdullah called the three-day ceasefire on Eid holidays and the significant exchange of prisoners between the Taliban and the government, promising steps to start the Intra-Afghan talks.

He also called on the countries in the region to continue their cooperation in the Afghan peace process. Although he announced the full recruitment process.

Similarity, Dr. Bart Sitig has been appointed as advisor to the minister, Dr. Mohammad Naeem Azimi as head of quality assurance and credibility. Dr. Noor Ahmad Akhundzada as chief of scholarships and foreign relationship.

The Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE) has recently made high-ranking appointments on nine posts, but no female was hired, women’s rights activists said Sunday.

She said the MoHE did not pay attention to academic women in the newly recruitment process. She wrote, “If women act wisely with commitment and expertise, no one can match them.”

Another lecturer Ms. Laila Azimi though welcomed the new recruitment, yet she said women were ignored in each appointment. She said at least one post should have been given to the women. A number of other women’s rights activists held similar views and urged the authorities concerned to consider the gender in this regard in future.

KABUL - Workers of the Fertilizer and Power Plant in northern Balkh province say the Afghan Gas Enterprise has given the gas they need to Bayat company in Shiberghan city, bringing the plant to the verge of collapse.

The factory suspended productions two months ago, rendering hundreds of workers jobless. The workers on Sunday staged a protest rally and asked the central government to address the issue as soon as possible.

Rahmatullah Hamdam, in charge of productions in the factory, told Pajhwok Afghan News that at least 1,650 individuals who worked in the plant were jobless for the last two months.

He said the factory stopped productions after the Afghan Gas Enterprise supplied its gas to Bayat private firm in Jawzjan in order to produce electricity. He warned the factory was on the verge of collapse and asked the government to probe the issue seriously and rescue the plant from failing.

He emphasized national and state assets were precious and the Afghan Gas Enterprise should be held responsible.

Financial corruption will smear if the issue is probed and what law allows them to provide the right of a state company to a private firm?” he asked.

Rahmatullah Hamdam, in charge of productions in the plant, told Pajhwok they would continue their protest until the issue was resolved.

He emphasized... (Move on P4)(6)}