

Quote of the Day

Democracy is the theory that the common people know what they want and deserve to get it good and hard.

H. L. Mencken

Constitution

Provincial councils perform their duties in co-operation with the provincial administration.

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Study

Afghanistan Second-Worst Country in Rule of Law

KABUL - A new study by World Justice Project (WJP) illustrates Afghanistan is the second-worst country in rule of law after Venezuela topped the list of 102 countries ranked in the report.

The U.S.-based non-profit association - which aims to advance rule of law around the world - released the index on Tuesday which was prepared based on responses from 1,000 people in each country and a total of 2,400 experts on how ordinary people see rule of



law in their country. Also in the regional-level ranking, Afghanistan is placed in the last position, report reads. The survey was

based on 44 indicators under eight categories which are: constraints on government power; absence of corruption; open govern-

ment; fundamental rights; order and security; regulatory enforcement; civil justice; criminal justice and informal justice.

In corruption, Afghanistan is ranked 102, the worst country according to WJP report. The judicial sector of Afghanistan is shown as the second-worst sector, ranked 101 followed by criminal justice which is ranked 100 in the list.

"The rule of law is not the rule of lawyers and judges; all elements of society are ... (More on P4)...(1)

MEC Report Exposes Corruption in MoFA

KABUL - The Independent Joint Anti-Corruption Monitoring and Evaluation Committee (MEC) in its report released on Wednesday claimed corruption and irregularities took place on a massive scale at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA).

The report said current and former government officials and members of parliament had been able to appoint their relatives to key diplomatic positions at the ministry.

It said ethnicity, favoritism and inter-personal rivalries raised questions over transparency in the procedure of hiring and firing employees in the ministry. The MEC report said 48 indi-



viduals, who passed the test last summer, were supposed to join their posts in the MoFA, but they had been replaced by others on ethnic or political references. Last year as many as 1,300 people appeared in the test to get jobs in the MoFA and 48 of them were shortlisted.

MEC Executive Director Rashid Bahroz told reporters in Kabul government officials, powerful people and lawmakers had targeted the ... (More on P4)...(2)

WJ Condemns Persecution of Rohingya Muslims

KABUL - The Wolesi Jirga (WJ) or lower house of parliament on Wednesday condemned the persecution of Muslim community in Myanmar and asked the UN and the US to help stop human rights violations in the south-eastern Asian country.

Buddhist extremists have been torturing and brutally killing innocent Rohingya Muslims in western parts of Myanmar and the persecution has sparked worldwide condemnation.

Abdul Sattar Khawasi, a lawmaker from central Parwan province, denounced the killings and intimidation of Muslims in Myanmar and said Muslims around the world should not keep silence and raise the issue on international forums.

He asked Muslims to set aside internal differences and join hands against enemies of ... (More on P4)...(5)

President Assesses Overall Security Situation

KABUL - President Ashraf Ghani on Wednesday discussed the overall security situation of the country with the officials concerned through a video conference, in which he stressed improved livelihood of security forces.

A statement from the presidential palace said the president evaluated the overall security situation, the economic condition of Afghan defence

and security forces and preparations for marking Bamyan City as the cultural capital of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC).

Ghani directed the departments concerned to take all necessary measures for the SAARC event in



the capital of central Bamyan province on June 5. The conference was attended ... (More on P4)...(3)

25pc of Mine Workers are Children: Report

KABUL - The research and human rights defence group on Wednesday said miners worked under tough conditions in the country's mines, where children made 25 percent of them.

The group released its survey conducted in Herat, Parwan, Baghlan and Takhar provinces during six months.

Attaullah Atta, the group's head, told journalists in Kabul they had conducted in-

terviews with 600 mine workers in the four provinces. Atta also produced a 40-minute documentary showing the situation of the mine workers. ... (More on P4)...(4)



Pakistan yet to Honour Peace Pledges: Mohaqiq

MAZAR-I-SHARIF - Second deputy chief executive officer Haji Mohammad Mohaqiq on Wednesday said Pakistan was yet to honour pledges it held out to Afghan leaders regarding the peace process. He was addressing a gathering commemorating Imam Mahdi ... (More on P4)...(6)



Afghanistan Economy Weak and Vulnerable: Economists

ANKARA - More than a year of political and security uncertainties coupled with fiscal and banking vulnerabilities have been dogging the Afghanistan economy, according to economists. Afghanistan's previous period of strong growth since the toppling of the Taliban regime in 2001 appeared to

tail off in 2014, a year when foreign troops wound down their combat operations and Afghanistan completed its first democratic handover of power.

According to an International Monetary Fund (IMF) report released Tuesday, economic growth in Afghanistan ... (More on P4)...(7)

DABS Fails to Recover 660m Afs in Unpaid Bills

KABUL - The power utility on Tuesday said its latest efforts at recovering 660 million afghanis in unpaid bills had failed to yield result.

Da Afghanistan Barishna Sherkat (DABS) spokesman Wahidullah Tawhidi told Pajhwok Afghan News a number of departments and individuals, including gov-

ernment officials, owed 660 million afghanis in arrears to the power utility.

He said the defaulters included ministries, government offices and a number of non-governmental organisations and some people in Kabul and they had failed to clear their outstanding bills despite ... (More on P4)...(8)

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