Abdullah Asks Talibans to Make Clear Peace Talks Stance

KARUL - Asking the Taliban to make their stance clear on the peace process, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Abdullah Abdullah on Wednesday said fighting and peace talks could not go together.

In his reaction on the eve of the holy month of Ramadan that begins in Afghanistan on Thursday, Abdullah said: “On the arrival of this holy month, I congratulate the Afghan nation and the entire Muslim world. I pray for the war-weary Afghans to achieve durable peace and stability during the holy month.”

He said the holy month of fasting was arriving at a time when war was still going on. (More on P.4.0)

Talibans in Anandamagrat to Be Accorded Signed Soon

KARUL - Pakistan’s Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and Taliban President Mohammad Rabbani have pledged to finalize a tri- lateral agreement on transit trade, including Afghanistan as well, in an effort to give impetus to economic and trade relations as well as regional cooperation, says Tashkent Ambassador Shiebdi 5 Jassim, Pakistan media reports on Friday.

The Pakistan Express Tribune reports that the promise was made when Sharif, accompanied by a high-level delegation, visited Dushanbe on June 8-9 on the invitation of Tajikistan president for participation in an international conference on implementation of the international decade for action “Water for Life” 2018-2028.

This deal will not only connect the three countries, but will also make Pakistan a transit state that will earn more revenue, said Jassim. “We will also make the region a hub of trade activities.” (More on P.4.0)

Iranian Ambassador Rejects Tehran Provides Cash and Weapons Talibans

KARUL - The Iranian ambassador to Afghanistan Mohamad Reza Roshan has rejected the government of Iran’s claims that it provides cash and weapons to Taliban.

In an interview with the Wajid Steel Journal, Roshan said: “We haven’t supported Talibans and we will not support any terrorism and extremism groups.” (More on P.4.0)

President Ashraf Ghani

We will Respond to War with War

KARUL - President Ashraf Ghani said on Thursday, in his Ramadan message to the nation, that the Afghan government wants peace but that the Taliban’s war on the country will be responded to with war.

Ghani also called on security forces to ramp up efforts to secure the country so that the public can engage in their daily prayers and routines in peace.

Ghani’s statement appears to be in response to the Taliban’s rejection of a ceasefire proposal. However, (More on P.4.0)

CA Success Key to Pak, Afghan Stability: US

WASHINGTON - Success of the Central Asian (CA) nations and their economic integration with South Asia is important for the stability of Afghanistan and Pakistan, a senior US official has told journalists.

“Central Asia’s success has profound implications for the broader area, including Afghanistan and Pakistan,” Jonathan Stevens, the Assistant Administrator, Asia United States Agency for International Development (USAID) told lawmakers during a Congressional hearing.

“Yet the disintegration of Central Asia, face even more complex challenges in charting their own course,” he said in his testimony before the committee on House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Europe, Eurasia, and Emerging Threats.

The region’s stability and prosperity are continually compromised by US. (More on P.4.0)

Iranian Ambassador to Afghanistan Mohammad Reza Rahmani has rejected the government of Iran’s claims that it provides cash and weapons to Taliban.

In an interview with the Wajid Steel Journal, Roshan said: “We haven’t supported Talibans and we will not support any terrorism and extremism groups.” (More on P.4.0)

Israel Khan Warns Govt. for Sidelinig Mujahideen Leaders

KARUL - The former minister of energy and water and one of the two intended former Mujahideen leaders Ismail Khan has warned the government not to sideline the Mujahideen leaders from the government.

In an interview with Aft, Khan said: “The pledged leaders are not in the government and it has created distrust among the people and led to insecurity in Afghanistan.” He also voiced questions regarding the legitimacy of the government and said: “The current government does not have legitimacy, it’s a government created based on compromise, imposed on Afghanis by US foreign service John Kerry.” Khan warned that the government cannot stand on these challenges if they (Mujahideen) are not considered. (More on P.4.0)

ANSF Much Stronger Now: Carter

KARUL - The United States has had considerable success in Afghanistan, for the past four years, increasing the national security force of Afghanistan (ANSF) and much stronger now. "We have had a considerable success in Afghanistan," said Carter speaking to President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani yesterday, announcing. He was reporting the results of the campaign. Carter told lawmakers during a Congressional hearing.

"The Afghan security forces have shown us that we are enabling, which we trained and equipped and are now training the national security government of President Ashraf Ghani and CEO Abdullah, which is a multilateral coalition government holding together, this is the national security government in Afghanistan, which I think," (More on P.4.0)

India to Invest $9m on Charak Water Supply Project

CHARKHAR: In a widely-panned move, India will invest $9 million to build Charak Water supply scheme in central Farah province – a project to be completed within a year, director technical services said on Friday.

Hassan told Pajhwok Afghan News that completion of the project would help fulfill potable water demand in Charkh City, the provincial capital and Salang district. (More on P.4.0)

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