

Quote of the Day

Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future.
John F. Kennedy

Constitution

Following the termination of state of emergency, election would be held within two months
Article 147

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Abdullah Asks Taliban to Make Clear Peace Talks Stance



KABUL - Asking the Taliban to make their stance clear on the peace parleys, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Abdullah Abdullah on Wednesday said fighting and peace talks could not go together. In his message 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 ... (More on P4)...(2)

Trilateral Transit Trade Accord to be Signed Soon?

KABUL - Pakistan's Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and Tajikistan President Emomali Rahmon have pledged early finalization of a trilateral 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 Tajikistan Ambassador Sherali Jononov, Pakistani 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 9-10 on the invitation of Tajikistan president for participation in an international conference on Implementation of the International Decade for Action "Water for Life" 2005-2015. "This deal will not only connect the three countries, but will also make Pakistan a transit state that will earn more revenue," said Jononov. "It will also make the region a hub of trade activities." ... (More on P4)...(6)

President Ashraf Ghani

We will Respond to War with War

KABUL - 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 request. However, ... (More on P4)...(1)



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 lawmakers.

"Central Asia's success has profound implications for the broader area, including Afghanistan and Pakistan," Jonathan Stivers, the Assistant Administrator, Asia United States Agency for International Development (USAID) told lawmakers during a Congressional hearing. "Yet the disparate countries of Central Asia face ever-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 crippling development challenges, the influence of neighbors especially Russia, and broader regional threats such as the violent extremism that exerts an increasing pull over a growing number of young, jobless labor migrants, he said. Stivers said at the center of regional ... (More on P4)...(4)



USAID

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

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ANSF Much Stronger Now: Carter



KABUL - The United States has had considerable success in Afghanistan, the US Defense Secretary, Ashton Carter, told lawmakers on Wednesday adding that the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) is much stronger now.

"We have had considerable success in Afghanistan. I was just speaking to President (Ashraf) Ghani yesterday morning. He was report-

ing the results of the campaign there," Carter told lawmakers during a Congressional hearing.

"The Afghan security forces, which we are enabling, which we trained and equipped and are enabling, the national unity government of President Ghani and CEO Abdullah Abdullah, which is a multi-sectarian government holding together, this in Afghanistan, which I think, ... (More on P4)...(3)

India to Invest \$9m on Charikar Water Supply Project

CHARIKAR - In a widely-praised move, India will invest \$9 million to build Charikar water supply scheme in central Parwan province—a project to be completed within a year, director technical services said on Friday.

Himat told Pajhwok Afghan News that comple-

tion of the project would help fulfill potable water demand in Charikar City, the provincial capital and Salang district.

Work on the vital scheme, he pledged would kick-off within a month. He said the project had 31 kilometres long with the ... (More on P4)...(5)

Iranian Ambassador Rejects Tehran Provides Cash and Weapons Taliban

KABUL - The Iranian ambassador to Afghanistan Mohammad Reza Bahrani has rejected the government of Iran is supporting to Taliban in Afghanistan by providing cash and weapons to militants. In an interview with the Wall Street Journal, Bahrani, said "We haven't supported Taliban and we will not support any terrorism and extremism groups." Insisting on ... (More on P4)...(7)

Ismail Khan Warns Govt. for Sidelineing Mujahideen Leaders

KABUL - The former minister of energy and water and one of the influential former Mujahideen leader Ismail Khan has warned the government for sidelineing the Mujahideen leaders from the government. In an interview with AFP, Khan said "The jihadi leaders are not in the government and it (has) created distrust among the people and led



to insecurity in Afghanistan." He also raised 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 Afghans by US foreign secretary John Kerry," Khan warned that the government will face serious challenges if they (Mujahideen) are ... (More on P4)...(8)

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