Senate Approves Afghanistan’s Membership of WTO

KABUL - The Meshrano Jirga — or upper house of the parliament — on Tuesday ratified Afghanistan’s membership of the World Trade Organization (WTO). On Saturday, the Wolesi Jirga had endorsed the country’s WTO membership, which Afghanistan had requested in 2011. The organization gives the country a supervisory role in 2015. Saleh Mohammad Niazi, head of the Senate’s Economic Commission, said most house members viewed the membership as beneficial to the country. He said resolving problems in areas of transit, exports, foreign investment, technical cooperation, capacity-building, dispute resolution and credibility among investors were the benefits of WTO membership. Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCII) officials say the WTO had set the June, 2016 deadline for the country to approve its membership. Gul said four of 27 articles and rules of the WTO law had been approved so far by the parliament. (More on P4)... (11)

Pakistan Gives $2.8 Million to Afghan Taliban’s Madrassa in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

PESHAWAR - Reports from Pakistan indicate that the Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa federal government in Pakistan has allocated Rs300 million Pakistani rupees ($2.8 million USD) to the Taliban’s Darul Uloom Madrassa in Jalalabad. The university, which Afghanistan had requested, was founded in 1992 by Mullah Omar, who was assassinated in July last year. It is proudly an army job, the man said most house members viewed the membership as beneficial to the country. He said resolving problems in areas of transit, exports, foreign investment, technical cooperation, capacity-building, dispute resolution and credibility among investors were the benefits of WTO membership. Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCII) officials say the WTO had set the June, 2016 deadline for the country to approve its membership. Gul said four of 27 articles and rules of the WTO law had been approved so far by the parliament. (More on P4)... (11)

Nepal to Send Aircraft to Repatriate 12 Dead Bodies of Kabul Suicide Attack

KATHMANDU - The Nepalese government has decided to dispatch an aircraft to Afghanistan to bring home the remains of 12 Nepalese nationals killed in the Kabul suicide bombing on Monday. A meeting of Prime Minister Oli’s Press Advisor Pramod Nepal Tuesday pledged assistance to an Afghan National Army (ANA) soldier who was gravely wounded in eastern Herat province. The promise from MoD comes as Fifteen Afghan News released on Tuesday an interview of the soldier, Naimatullah Farhadi whose spinal cord was damaged in a Taliban attack. After three years of his army job, the man said most house members viewed the membership as beneficial to the country. He said resolving problems in areas of transit, exports, foreign investment, technical cooperation, capacity-building, dispute resolution and credibility among investors were the benefits of WTO membership. Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCII) officials say the WTO had set the June, 2016 deadline for the country to approve its membership. Gul said four of 27 articles and rules of the WTO law had been approved so far by the parliament. (More on P4)... (11)

MoD Pledges Assistance to Ex-Soldier with Spinal Cord Injury

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Kandahar Seek Uninterrupted Power Supply

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Afghans Make Majority of Missing Persons in Europe

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