

(1) Tough Time...

If we find out that the local police do not have a public base, and is related to individuals, against the national interests, we will make a decision in regards," he said. (Tolonews)

(2) US Company...

what was paid in the past, he added.

He said the cost of this will be covered by the Afghanistan government.

An Afghan aviation official meanwhile, told AP a few days ago that the United States will continue to manage Afghan airspace and air-traffic control for another two-and-a-half months after its current contract expires at the end of June.

The airspace has been managed by the U.S.-led international military coalition or foreign companies paid by donor countries since the 2001 U.S.-led invasion. Mohammad Qassim Wafayezada from the Afghan Civil Aviation Authority said that the extension, which is to last till mid-September, will allow for a smooth transition.

Wafayezada says that "there is nothing to be worried over for now or the next two years." (Tolonews)

(3) Troops Surrounded...

situation.

This comes amid ongoing clashes between security forces and the Taliban in the area this past week. Earlier, a number of tribal elders confirmed reports that insurgents had taken control of some districts after attacking police posts. Last Monday officials confirmed that insurgents had attacked police posts in Baghlan-e-Markazi and had at that stage taken control of at least two villages in the district - Alawuddin and Mangal. In recent weeks Taliban insurgents have increased their activities in northern parts of the country and are targeting police posts. They have also captured a number of districts. (Tolonews)

(4) Discordance...

deadlock - was expected to formally start its work last week. But the division between the NUG leaders is said to be the main reason for the delay.

But election monitoring groups warned that any further delay in finalizing the commission would result in losing opportunities and would also result in losing the public's trust in the elections.

"Disagreement over commission members cannot stop the commission to begin its work. I think the disagreement between the NUG leaders is on how to reform the system. Because they are both concerned that if reforms take place, they might lose their influence in the electoral commissions," said Jandad Spinghar, head of Afghanistan's Civil Society Elections Network (ACSEN).

"The President and CEO are trying each to create the elections based on their own demands, so that they can have a part in the future parliamentary and district council elections," Free and Fair Election Foundation of Afghanistan (FEFA) Programs Director Naeem Ashghari said, accusing the NUG leaders of trying to use the commission for their own personal interests. (Tolonews)

(5) EA Resumes ...

Afghanistan through its loyalty program has provided its customers with a charitable fund where customers can voluntarily donate their earned points so that it can be used for charitable activities by Etisalat.

Customers can earn loyalty points in exchange of using Etisalat services and promotions. Once customer opt into this program, loyalty points will be automatically collected in their accounts which can be later redeemed either for exciting gifts or donate their reward points to the charitable fund.

Since its inception in Afghanistan, Etisalat has contributed to numerous welfare activities like; building mosques, donation of funds to victims of natural disasters in different provinces of Afghanistan, food distribution during Ramadan, support educational causes and empowering sports among others. This initiative also seeks to raise awareness among individuals and institutions, and encourages them to contribute to voluntary work in line with their experience. As the first company to introduce

3.75G services in Afghanistan, Etisalat is committed to provide Afghans with the world class telecom services and support them in the areas which lead the country toward a better tomorrow.

About Etisalat Afghanistan: - Etisalat Afghanistan is part of Etisalat Telecommunications Group, headquartered in UAE, one of the largest telecommunications groups in the world. The company launched their services in 2007 and rapidly became the fastest growing telecommunications service provider in the country with an active base of 4 million subscribers. The company aims to be at the forefront of its market based on quality, innovative services and competitive pricing, with unsurpassed coverage in every province in the country. Since 2007, the company has invested US\$ 300 million in Afghanistan and is the first telecom company to launch 3.75G services in Afghanistan. (PR)

(6) MuDA Probe ...

projects will be revealed once our assessments are completed," he said. "There are lots of documents and letters which need assessment. We can say that the corruption level involves millions of dollars."

Meanwhile, the acting head of the High Office of Oversight and Anti-Corruption (HOAC), Ghulam Hussain Fakhri, said serious corruption cases should be investigated carefully and assessed properly.

"Sufficient documents and evidence regarding the cases must be collected. Court must make firm decisions in regards to the cases, in order to maintain social justice. People are awaiting practical results, an issue people are still not satisfied with," he said.

A number of MPs say those who are involved in corruption are destroying Afghanistan, and called for justice.

"Those who have a hand in corruption, their hand is red with the blood of the Afghan people. Those who kill a person they kill a person but those who commit corruption they kill the nation," said Senator Farhad Sakhi. The MUD corruption case has become the largest and most publicized corruption scandal for the Afghan government since the Kabul Bank case. The claims center on six senior officials in the ministry who are accused of embezzling millions of dollars in funds meant for ministry projects.

The Attorney General's office took over the case earlier this month in order to pursue prosecutions. This came after Chief Executive Abdullah Abdullah assured the public last month that justice will be served and an example made for all other government employees when it comes to the repercussions of corruption. "There is hope that by addressing these cases, corruption will be prevented - something that was ignored over the past 13 years," he said.

President Ashraf Ghani met with officials from the Urban Development Ministry on May 28, and issued suspensions for the following individuals: Ahmad Shah Hemat, the head of the central housing department; Mohammad Amin, the head of the real estate and accommodations department; Ahmad Nawaz Bakhtyari, the head of the housing enterprise department; Gul Rahim Zyarmal, the head of planning and project manager for the 5th Macrorayan; Syed Amanullah Sadat, the head of the finance department; and Mohammad Amin Qane, the head of the apartments and rentals department.

The six now stand accused of embezzling millions. (Tolonews)

(7) Senate to Grill ...

and then to Baghdad and Najaf cities in Iraq, had been seen carrying masked passengers, he said. The lawmaker had also said the Ariana Airlines director, Nasir Ahmad Hakimi, who signed the contract with the Tehran-based airline, had moved to the United States with his family.

At today's session, a number of senators expressed their concern over the issue. Senator Nisar Haris said the Wolesi Jirga once raised the matter, but did not follow it.

He said the Ariana Afghan Airlines had rented the plane to the Iranian company at a time when the national carrier itself obtained planes from other companies against rent.

The lawmaker claimed his own information showed the Afghan plane had been used to carry terrorists to Iraq and Syria.

Senator Mohammad Faisal Sami claimed the Ariana Afghan Airlines had received a hefty amount in rent for the plane, but he did not go into details. The two senators urged the house to investigate the issue.

First deputy chairman, Mohammad Alam Ezediyar, who presided over the session, directed the house interior security and transport and aviation commissions to summon the Ariana Afghan Airlines chief to explain his position. Transport and Aviation Minister Mohammadullah Batash and Ariana Airlines administration director Omaid Mastoor had been present at the press conference addressed by Qais Hassan on June 7.

Batash and Mastoor called the agreement with the Iranian company as illegal. Batash had said the Ariana flight normally took two hours and 40 minutes to reach Mashhad from Kabul, but it took eight hours to return to Kabul.

Mastoor also confirmed flights to Iraq and called the deal as illegal, but he avoided to share further details about the agreement.

Mohammad Daud Sharifi, who took over as the Ariana chief a week ago, on Sunday said no one could carry suspicious persons through airports where international laws were enforced. (Pajhwok)

(8) Pakistan Yet...

rebels. He said the ground for such parleys was yet to be paved. "The policy is that talks with the opponents should direct, open and Afghan-led," he said, welcoming efforts by every individual and country in this regard.

He said the government would be ready for peace talks with the insurgents only if the talks were direct, open and Afghan-led, but these conditions had not been met so far.

About the IS, Hashmi said the group had now a presence in at least three provinces -- Nangarhar, Farah and Helmand. He said the government was determined to drive the Syria and Iraq-based group out from Afghanistan.

"Our promise is that everyone who is shedding the blood of Afghans is our enemy. We will take action and eliminate such elements," he said.

From now on, the deputy presidential spokesman said spokesmen of the ministries of defence and interior would daily provide information about Afghanistan's security situation.

The spokesmen would address press conferences at the media centre at 1pm every day and spokesmen of other ministries would share information with the media on their turn, he said. (Pajhwok)

(9) WikiLeaks ...

Jalaluddin Haqqani.

The meeting allegedly took place between the ambassador and Nasiruddin, who was the emissary and chief financier of the Taliban-linked militant group at the time. The meeting took place on February 15, 2012.

The news portal stated that the venue of the meeting was not mentioned but that it was common practice for the ambassador to hold meetings either at the embassy or his residence, both of which are located in the heavily guarded Diplomatic Enclave - an area under the watchful eyes of Pakistani intelligence agencies. The leaked cables state that during the meeting, Nasiruddin conveyed his father's request for treatment at a Saudi hospital, in view of his medical condition.

Another cable, dated February 25, 2012, says that the nature of the ailment had been explained to Ambassador Ghadeer. The communication, however, did not precisely mention the disease from which he was suffering, stated Dawn news. Media accounts at the time claimed that Jalaluddin, who would have been 62 years old in 2012, was suffering from Parkinson's disease, while another news report said he was a patient of Lupus.

Ambassador Ghadeer's cable noted that Jalaluddin was based in Waziristan at the time and that doctors had recommended his hospitalization. The Saudi cables show that Jala-

uddin had carried a Saudi passport since the days of the Afghan jihad.

His son Nasiruddin had handed over that passport to Ambassador Ghadeer during their meeting. Though the cable did not state why the passport was given to the ambassador, it is possible that it was sent for renewal.

There are, however, no cables among those released so far detailing when Jalaluddin travelled to Saudi Arabia or if he ever undertook the journey.

According to the Institute for the Study of War, the group is still believed to be led by the 65-year old and ailing Jalaluddin who was a former anti-Soviet resistance commander known for ruthless effectiveness as a fighter.

His ties to Pakistan, and his base in and around Waziristan, go as far back as his exile during the Republican government of Sardar Daud in early 1970s. Jalaluddin however, set up a base in North Waziristan following the fall of the Taliban in 2001.

The group is accused of being behind some of the deadliest attacks in Afghanistan. Due to his father's ill health however, Sirajuddin is reported to be in charge of the day-to-day operations of the movement.

Pakistan has however, often been criticized for its links with the Haqqani network. The US State Department report last year titled 'Country Reports on Terrorism 2014' also notes that Haqqani network leadership "continued to find safe haven in Pakistan", but there has been little talk of their other patrons, including Saudi Arabia. (Tolonews)

(10) Ex-Lawmaker...

Development and Ministry of Education.

A female governor was earlier appointed for Daikundi province who had braved criticism from local people. (Pajhwok)

(11) Iran Speaks...

the conference, a video link was set up to show 100 tons of different drugs seized from smugglers set on fire in the Iranian city of Mashhad.

As well as the fight against trafficking, the country itself is a victim of drug abuse.

According to the national authorities, there are over 1.3 million opiate dependents in the country (2.26 percent of the adult population), placing Iran among the countries with the highest prevalence of opiate use worldwide.

Just last month, a grim picture emerged when William Brownfield, the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, released the results of the Afghanistan World Drug Use survey which revealed that one in nine Afghans are drug users.

Based on the survey - which is prepared in cooperation by both the Afghan ministries and the US - three million Afghans are using drugs, of them 1.4 million are addicted to drugs.

The survey illustrates that the number of drugs users has increased three-fold since 2006 - when there was an estimated number of 900,000 drugs users across Afghanistan.

The figure reached one million in 2010 but it saw a sharp increase in 2012 when the total number of drug users was reported to be 1.6 million.

The survey follows closely on the heels of a U.S. Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction (SIGAR) report that stated recently that drug production in Afghanistan was on the rise despite Washington having spent \$8.4 billion dollars in recent years on fighting drugs in the war-torn country.

According to SIGAR, millions of dollars from drug income was being pocketed by drug cartels. (Tolonews)

(12) Khost Governor...

Ulama and tribal elders' support was crucial to mane anti-narcotics drive successful.

Police chief Col. Faizullah Ghairat said that they had adopted strict measures against drug smugglers and its sellers from the past one month in Khost.

Provincial counternarcotics director Meerna Gul Taniwal said cultivation of narcotics in the province had downed to zero from the past few years.

He said that drug smuggling was also significantly decreased.

However, a resident of the province Mohammad Nazir said drug was widely used in Khost province. Anyone can find the drugs anywhere without any problem, he added. (Pajhwok)

(13) Efforts for ...

contribute to the nascent peace process.

With the cooperation of TCSC and tribal council, every avenue would be explored to build tangible peace in the country.

Mohammad Ismail Qasimyar, head of the Bayat Tribe Council, welcomed the MoU and said the role of tribal elders was vial in bringing peace to the war-torn country. (Pajhwok)

(14) 'Some Herat ...

people's issues by force which is against the law and council's principles. People do not understand that those who resolve their issues by force are the ones who actually work and the other don't," she added.

"Some might think this is strength. But this is a huge challenge for us and causes women representatives to be criticized," Hussaini said.

She did not name any members using force but said despite these challenges their performance had been noteworthy than other provincial councils.

"During the last nine months, we have continued our monitoring work on areas of financial resources, district affairs, schools, development works and family support," she said.

In the beginning, she recalled, the council's monitoring work problems due to presence of acting officials, but with the introduction of new governor it had been resolved.

The council had paid special attention to improve security of the province. She said three women and three children, who were abducted in Guzara district, had been freed with the help of provincial council.

"We have many visitors on a daily-basis. People have complaints and want the council's help," Hussaini added.

The residents of Herat residents were concerned about recent incidents of kidnappings in the province, she added.

Lack of cooperation by local officials, she said, was another challenge hampering their work.

"The first problem is that some government officials do not understand the role of the provincial council."

According to Hussaini, people also did not understand the responsibilities of the provincial council members. "People expect us to help them in getting passports and visa. This is simply against the laws of the council." She urged people to cooperate with them in order to render better services to the public. (Pajhwok)

(15) Land Plot...

Khan Akbarzada said the township had passed all legal stages and the municipality had prepared its map.

He said the township would be built on 500 acres of land and plots would be first given to teachers in Ghazni City and then to teachers in districts.

Provincial education director Mohammad Abid Abid said 2200 teachers would be distributed plots during the ongoing phase.

He said there were a total of 2700 teachers in Ghazni City, but plots would be given to those having served as teachers for at least two years.

Ghazni City's Shamir High School teacher, Syed Ahmad, told Pajhwok Afghan News: "We are only given documents, which too do not carry the signature of the governor. I think they are deceiving us and not giving us the plots."

Another high school teacher from the city's Nawabad area, Salehi, alleged that fraud had been committed in today's draw because the beneficiaries included some newly-appointed teachers.

She said the township was situated in a far-off and insecure area and many teachers were likely to avoid building homes there.

The township is being built in Khanjar area eight kilometers from Ghazni City. (Pajhwok)

(16) 10,000 Afghans ...

The beneficiaries commended the role being played by the Khalifa Foundation in various humanitarian and charitable fields and offered their thanks and appre-

ciation to the UAE and its foundation. (WAM)

(17) Security Forces...

their houses to mount attacks on security forces that had resulted in damaging their houses.

Shamsuddin, a resident of Yatim village, said his house had been damaged as a result of exchange of fire between security forces and Taliban. Dozens of more houses had been damaged in the firefight, he added.

Amruddin Wali, provincial council deputy head, said majority of Yatim village residents were poor and did not have resources to rebuild their houses. He urged local officials to cooperate with the families to repair their houses somehow.

Wali said during the past one week, more than 1,000 families have been displaced from Chardara district to Kunduz capital. (Pajhwok)

(18) Growing Insecurity...

opportunities and the young people who have taken guns because of worst financial condition might leave fighting if they were employed in any projects, he added.

The governor assured his complete support to establish peace in the district and focus on other demands of the residents. He also assured he would use all means to eradicate corruption and provide equal respect to every individual to reduce gap between the residents and government. (Pajhwok)

(19) Khak-I-Jabar...

Without presenting any details as to who would finance this ambitious scheme, he only said his minister would fund the project.

Logar Governor Mohammad Halim Fidaee said apart from facilities to the residents of both the districts the road would help bolster security of the capital.

The residents of Arza should cover 261 kilometres to reach to Kabul, he said, adding after construction of the road the distance would be reduced to 52 kilometres. Mohammad Akbar Stanikzai, a lawmaker from Logar province, welcomed construction of the road amid hopes that it would facilitate a large number of people. (Pajhwok)

they were killed because they left Taliban and joined ALP. Provincial council head Maulvi Mohammad Akram blamed the government that it could not protect the lives of people who had joined peace process. "This kind of attacks may damage the peace process and leave negative impact on Taliban who are encouraged to join the government," he said. He said the government should protect the lives of those individuals joining the peace process. (Pajhwok)

(20) 4 Former Taliban ...

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(21) Another Leading...

al-Makki was a Saudi national and he was among the top most wanted persons to Riyadh. In addition, al-Makki was also wanted to the US as well. His name was Azaam Abdullah Zariq al-Muwalid al-Subhi. The US State Department said al-Makki arrived in Afghanistan some ten years back and tied a knot with Afghan woman. It stated that the slain Saudi national travelled to Pakistan and Iran with different names. (Pajhwok)

(22) Libya Rival

mission in Libya spokesman Samir Ghattas said. "We are working on the text that brings in the remarks of the two parties." The UN proposal calls for a one-year-long government of national accord in which a council of ministers headed by a prime minister and two deputies will have executive authority. The House of Representatives will be the legislative body, but the accord also sees the creation of a 120-member State Council, consisting of 90 members of the Tripoli parliament. (Agencies)

(23) Terrorists do...

joint efforts," Ms Mogherini wrote in the letter to Mr Tusk on Thursday. Eight days ago, on June 18, Ms Mogherini had also written about the issue to the foreign ministers of the 28 member countries. The statement said: "Seeing that the terrorist threat continues to grow, it is necessary to intensify our commitment to work together in our joint struggle against terrorism. (Agencies)