

(1) Ghani Calls ...

offers his deep condolences and sympathies to the people and government of the Republic of Turkey, families of all the victims, and wishes speedy recovery for those injured," the statement added. The Turkish officials had earlier said at least 37 people were killed and over 140 others were wounded after a group of suicide bombers attacked the airport last night.

No group has so far claimed responsibility behind the attack but the Turkish officials are saying that the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) terrorist group could possibly be behind the attack. (KP)

(2) Drastic Reforms...

regimes. The president has to endorse basic principles of the policy that should be approved by the parliament. But the Afghan foreign policy was mainly fashioned in light of presidential speeches and decisions. The MoFA said Afghanistan currently had cordial relations with foreign countries, establishing strong diplomatic ties with the world at large in the past 15 years.

MoFA spokesman Shakib Mustaghni, during an exclusive interview, told Pajhwok Afghan News Afghanistan's relations with other countries were based on mutual respect, peaceful co-existence and resolution of disputes under international norms and laws with other countries. In particular, he said, Afghanistan set store by cordial relations with neighbours. Non-interference in each other's internal affairs was identified as a key principle of the reformed policy. Afghanistan is pursuing active diplomacy by keeping balance in relations with other countries, keeping in mind regional tensions and disputes. "Regional linkages on security, economic and other issues have been top priorities of our foreign policy since the formation of the national unity government. As a result, Afghanistan has emerged as an important actor in the region," he claimed. (Pajhwok)

(3) Atmar to ...

Russian officials regarding the supply of military equipment to Afghan forces. Tawab Ghorzang, spokesman for National Security Adviser, has said the specific needs of the government of Afghanistan will be shared with the Russian officials during Mr. Atmar's visit to Moscow.

No further details have been given regarding the exact date of Mr. Atmar's visit to Russia.

This comes as the Russian officials earlier said the Afghan government is thinking to purchase aircraft and other military equipment from Russia. The Russian Ambassador to Afghanistan Alexander Mantytskiy has said the Afghan deputy foreign minister Hekmat Khalil

Karzai has shared the issue with his Russian counterpart Igor V. Morgulov. Karzai during his meeting to Moscow nearly two weeks ago said "We sent a request to the Russian Security Council for expanding cooperation [in the military field], including for the deliveries of helicopters to Kabul."

In the meantime, the Afghan and Russian defense officials agreed to establish a military-technical cooperation committee nearly two months ago in a bid to jointly combat international terrorism. The Ministry of Defense officials in Kabul confirmed that a meeting was organized between the Afghan and Russian officials to discuss military cooperation between Kabul and Moscow. The meeting was organized on the sideline of the 5th International Security Conference in Moscow late in April which was attended by over 500 politicians and military leaders of the world. (KP)

(4) Talks with...

draft peace agreement, rising hopes for an early conclusion of the peace parleys. But it did not happen and the peace talks between the two sides are yet to end. Haqpal, a member of the HIA, published an opinion on the group's webpage "Shahadat." From the article, many readers assumed that the HIA-government peace talks had faltered and at least hit a snag.

When Pajhwok Afghan News asked HIA top negotiator Eng. Mohammad Amin Karim, he said the article in Shahadat was the author's personal view. He said the website published options on various topics but that did not necessarily reflect the party's policy.

He said the HIA issued its official statements through the party spokesman. About the peace talks with the government, Karim said their talks with the government were ongoing. He said they experienced some ups and downs in the talks, which were natural, but talks on three controversial points were in place. He said in the draft deal's fourth article, the government had mentioned word "agreement" on the withdrawal of foreign forces from Afghanistan and they accepted that word under pressure. He said they thought the "agreement" would be signed in future on how the foreigners would exit. "But you can also interpret it that the 'agreement' means what the Afghan

government has previously signed with foreign countries. We want clarity on this in order to avoid any ambiguity in future." About the second contentious point, he said the government had mentioned "unity government" in the draft agreement. "But we have reached the conclusion that the opposition of the HIA is the government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. Every government whatever name you give it unity government or something else, it has a five-year mandate only and the Afghanistan government is forever." He said the word "unity government" should be changed with the "Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan" as mentioned in the agreement title. (Pajhwok)

(5) WJ to Bring ...

Without going into details, Irfan said the legislators had presented multiple reasons for ousting the cabinet member. One reason was the unsatisfactory performance of Nazari as minister, he added.

Article 92 of the constitution says the Wolesi Jirga, based on a proposal by one-tenth of members, can impeach a minister. If the reasons given are not satisfactory, the house will consider the issue through a vote of no-confidence.

The no-trust vote against a minister should be explicit, direct and on the basis of well-founded reasons. This vote should be approved by a majority of members of the Wolesi Jirga. (Pajhwok)

(6) Nawaz Sharif...

Afghan refugees in the neighbouring country had been made by Nawaz Sharif.

The deadline for Afghan refugees to leave Pakistan was set for tomorrow, June 30, but Nawaz Sharif, who is currently under medical treatment in London, ordered the officials concerned to extend the stay of refugees for more time, Zakhilwal said. The extension would offer a chance to the two countries and the international community to hold key talks on Afghan refugees' return to their country, the envoy added.

According to UNHCR, currently 1.5 million registered and 1 million unregistered Afghan refugees are residing in Pakistan. This comes as UNHCR announced to double assistance for registered Afghan refugees opting to return to Afghanistan from Pakistan.

The organization said assistance package for Afghan returnees has increased from \$200 to \$400 per person.

On the other hand, Zakhilwal during his meetings with Pakistan Finance Minister Ishaq Dar and Foreign Affairs Advisor Sartaj Aziz discussed the harassment of Afghan refugees by Pakistani police and some other issues.

He talked with Dar about commerce and transit trade and the minister pledged to provide facilities to Afghan products transportation through Wagah border to India. (Pajhwok)

(7) Ghani Promises ...

down their lives protecting their people and homeland were the real heroes of the country, Ghani remarked, saying: "The death of defense and security forces is an honour."

Ghani said taking care of the families of the soldiers was his responsibility and he would pay attention to providing education facilities for their children.

The soldiers' relatives thanked the president for assurance and said they were proud of having sacrificed their near and dear ones for the protection and glory of the country. (Pajhwok)

(8) Election Reform...

warned against backpedaling from the reform agenda. Such a move was an act of oppression against the Afghan people.

As hope and desperation over the reform process continue, observers have urged the joint commission of the Afghan parliament to ratify the presidential decree to protect the nation's interests and political stability.

Joining ACSEN, the Election Watch Afghanistan (EWA) has called on the government to engage parliament urgently and to take the need for electoral reform seriously. Despite senators' approval of the legislative decree, there are still concerns that the much-awaited decree will cause another deadlock.

"Those who strive to prevent the process are committing an act of oppression against the people. This will discourage the people and raise questions over the credibility of the parliament," head of ACSEN Jandad Spinghar said. The only hope for a reform of the election law, was for the joint committee of both chambers of parliament to approve the legislative decree and so end speculation over the fate of the electoral process. (Tolnews)

(9) USAID to Help ...

Officer (CEO) Dr. Abdullah Abdullah, who was also present in the meeting, welcomed the launch of the USAID-funded program and said education was the foundation of peace, stability and development of a society. He said the situation of Afghan women had significantly improved during the past 14 years. Abdullah thanked US-

AID for supporting Afghanistan and said the organization was cooperating with Afghanistan in different areas.

In a statement, USIAD said besides Abdullah and Raynor, Higher Education Minister Dr. Farida Momand, Women's Affairs Minister Delbar Nazari, Minister of Labor, Social Affairs, Martyrs and Disabled Nasreen Oryakhal and USAID Mission Director Herbert Smith launched the Promote Scholarship Program at the US Embassy. The recipients of the Promote Scholarship, in turn, are expected to contribute to creating an environment that fosters women's empowerment, the agency said. It said Promote will work closely with the Afghan MoHE to select the scholarship recipients based on their Kankor exam scores, and to support students that demonstrate strong academic potential but are unable to pursue university education due to inadequate funds. "It is time to thank the United States for their generosity and sacrifice to make those changes possible for the citizens of Afghanistan in making the future brighter for the new generations," said Abdullah.

"This is a celebration, demonstrating the continuation of the US Government's strategic investment in women's empowerment, and giving us hope and opportunity for advancement and personal enrichment, and for the advancement of Afghan women," said Raynor. "Providing access to education...in all provinces...opens the door wider to develop and empower women with the necessary skills to serve as true change agents in their communities," said Ahmadzai from the Asia Foundation.

In November 2014, USAID/Afghanistan launched the Promote program to advance opportunities for Afghan women who can become political, private sector, and civil society leaders.

Over the next five years, USAID Promote will provide up to 75,000 educated women with the skills and support they need to excel in their chosen fields, to become leaders in their communities and society, and to maximize their contribution to Afghanistan's continued development. With more than \$17 billion spent on development programs in Afghanistan since 2002, USAID provides the largest bilateral civilian assistance program to Afghanistan. (Pajhwok)

(10) UNHRC ...

high commissioner noted that the international community needed to support solutions in Afghanistan through robust development investments.

Grandi said: "Traditional approaches to solving protracted refugee situations were not enough and therefore there is a need for innovative solutions."

He reassured the Pakistani leadership of UNHCR's continued support in assisting the 1.5 million Afghan refugees currently residing in the country.

Grandi confirmed to upscale programmes for refugee hosting communities through the Refugee Affected and Hosting Areas (RAHA) initiative in Pakistan and to support the government of Afghanistan in implementing its plans to create conditions conducive for sustainable return and reintegration in high return areas.

During his interaction with Pakistani officials, the High Commissioner accentuated that, "complementary to robust community based development initiatives in Afghanistan, the doubling of the currently provided repatriation grant for returning Afghan refugees will help to support voluntary repatriation and sustainable reintegration in Afghanistan, as the preferred solution and key objective of the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees which entered the second stage of its implementation in 2015-17."

Grandi said, "UNHCR together with sister UN agencies and the Government of Pakistan is committed to supporting host communities through investments into national systems to build empowerment and resilience of both refugees and their host communities through innovative programmes such as the RAHA initiative."

The High Commissioner also inaugurated a Government Girls Primary School in Nowshera, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, which was upgraded under the RAHA programme. (Pajhwok)

(11) KP Govt. ...

province," Ghani explained. Meanwhile, the government-run Associated Press of Pakistan reported each Afghan family comprising seven members would receive a cash grant of about Rs300,000 on repatriation. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has doubled the repatriation grant, according to the news agency. The grant for an individual refugee had been increased from \$200 to \$400. Minister of State and Frontier Regions (SAFRON) Abdul Qadir Baloch welcomed the UN refugee's announcement of doubling the repatriation grant. The step would help motivate the Afghans to voluntarily return to their homeland and take part in its reconstruction, the minister hoped. He urged the Afghans to seize the oppor-

tunity and opt for voluntary return. (Pajhwok)

(12) Abdullah ...

tackle the challenge, he said. Terrorism, extremism and radicalism were the three main components that challenged the world today, he noted. The world must come together to fight against these ideologies and phenomena, the statement said. "For the well-being of humanity and living in peace, the world must uproot terrorism. Its roots must be taken out wherever they are. Plans for growth, finance and investment on terrorism must be degraded and replaced by ideologies of invest on peace, solidarity and tolerance. Terror and extremism were no longer the problems of Afghanistan and few other countries only but of the entire world, which needed larger-scale, well-coordinated and well-thought efforts to fight the scourge." "Afghans as victims of violence, extremism and terror - financed and imported from outside Afghanistan - feel and share the pain of the people of Republic of Turkey," the CEO concluded. (Pajhwok)

(13) New U.S...

"During the operation 15 enemy, including one of their commanders, were killed," said Qasim Jangalbagh, the Kunduz Police Chief. Helmand provincial officials said recently that more than 300 US soldiers have been stationed at Bost airport to increase cooperation with and between Afghan forces in the battle fields. "US forces are our partners and we hope that together we will defeat the enemies of Afghanistan's peace and stability," said Helmand police Chief Aqa Noor Kentoz.

Besides air strikes, Afghans have called for US ground operations as well. (Tolnews)

(14) Taliban Kill ...

imprisoned the six passengers in a container after abducting them on the Kunduz-Takhar highway and blew up the container after the drone strike."

Kunduz public health officials said they had been delivered six dead bodies of passengers who had been kidnapped by Taliban some time ago and were killed, according to people, in the drone attack. A relative of one of the slain persons, Hafiz, 30, said: "Taliban kidnapped a cousin of my father-in-law on the Kunduz road and held him captive until he was killed with others in an airstrike."

The Pentagon has said it is investigating reports about a US airstrike that left dead at least six individuals in Taliban's captivity and an insurgent commander. One unnamed Defense Department official was quoted as saying by Reuters news agency the alleged civilian deaths in Saturday's raid near Kunduz City were being investigated. (Pajhwok)

(15) Security ...

worsened because of a low presence of security forces there, he argued. "Most of the time tribal elders and security forces are killed with silencer-fitted pistols, but no action has been taken yet to rein in the assailants. Jamil Weqar, another resident of Ghazni City and civil society activist, also said the security situation had deteriorated in most districts of the province. Insecurity had created problems for people's movement, he added.

A provincial council member, Abdul Jame Jame, confirmed clashes erupted in a number of areas, but the Taliban had been weakened. "Not only in Ghazni, but security all over the country is unstable," he observed, urging the people to stand with the Afghan forces. (Pajhwok)

(16) Iran can ...

the regional initiatives of counter-terrorism and counter-narcotic efforts. Greater trade, transit, transport and infrastructure connectivity with Iran could help the economies of Afghanistan and the Central Asian Republics of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). Iran can play an important role in the economic stabilization of Afghanistan." On the SCO's gain from Iran's joining the organization and vice-versa, she said, "Iran like India and Pakistan, will stand to gain from the security and economic perspectives. The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) was originally formed as a confidence-building forum to demilitarize borders. It functions as a forum to strengthen confidence and neighborly relations among the member countries and to promote cooperation in politics, trade, economy, culture, education, energy and transportation. The SCO's goals and agenda have since broadened."

"It now includes increased military and counter-terrorism cooperation and intelligence sharing. One of the organization's primary objectives is promoting cooperation on security-related issues, namely to combat the 'three evils' of terrorism, separatism, and extremism. By joining the SCO, thus, Iran will be able to achieve its economic and security objectives. It will bind the conflicting countries in a mutually benefi-

cial regional integration framework." added D'Suozza who has authored a number of books on Afghanistan and the Central Asian Republics. (IRNA)

(17) Kiwis Teach...

Bamyan Renewable Energy Project included the development and construction of solar farms with an output totalling about 1.05MW. Transmission and distribution systems were also built to supply the villages of Bamyan, Dragon Valley, Haiderabad Mullagulam and Nawabad. Infratec general manager Luke van Zeller said the company's technical team installed four small power stations in four small villages, to deliver electricity to about 2500 households. (Agencies)

(18) Warsa Summit...

International community to announce their long-term supports from Afghanistan security forces." Experts believed Warsa summit will not only help Afghanistan on the security and political sectors but it will focus on progress of our homeland. Professor Muzafar Khawari said, "Security and economy are related to each other, Warsa summit will declare the 5 years political, security and economy of Afghanistan, but the following aids are not long lasting, most of the aids will be spent on infrastructures projects which will boost economy." Afghanistan representatives will attend Warsa summit with full hands meaning the commitments which were asked by the International community to do.

President Ashraf Ghani has urged that in order to draw the International community aids have prioritized combating corruption. (Agencies)

(19) MRRD/NSP ...

6,610 families in various communities have been able to get access to basic human needs upon completion of these projects. Since its inception in Kunar province, the NSP has been able to execute 2,260 development projects in different sectors including transport, water and sanitation, irrigation, power, livelihoods, education, etc while the work of another 28 is currently in progress. (PR)

(20) 37 Militants...

been destroyed, the official added.

Only one security personnel, according to the official, sustained injuries during the operation which is going on. Taliban militants are yet to make comment on the situation in the area. (Xinhua)

(21) Corruption Alleged...

member of the National Girls Football team and had traveled to India and Turkey for participating in matches.

"I am the elder member of my family, I feel responsible for my sisters and brothers, therefore I use the money I receive from football activities to pay for my brothers' and sisters' expenses," she said, adding her salary was not enough to completely meet all her family needs. Remembering her mother, Malalai burst into tears and wished she was alive. When asked about her future profession, Malalai cleaned her tears and said: "I want to become a doctor, but I cannot achieve this goal because of corruption in the government. (Pajhwok)

(22) 15 Taliban

from the militants. Meanwhile, Bamyan Governor Abdur Rahman Ahmadi said that a Taliban commander, named Mullah Basir, was detained in the Kahmard district of the province on Tuesday night. "Mullah Basir, a supporter of Mullah Haibatullah, was involved in most of attacks in Baghlan, Kunduz and Bamyan provinces," he claimed, accusing the commander of planning to launch attacks during the Eid festival. (Pajhwok)

(23) 17-Km Road...

was rebuilt. But now they can easily transfer their agriculture products and shift patients to the centre of the district, according to the inhabitant. (Pajhwok)

(24) Old-Fashioned...

government has yet to draft a law on selling relics nor issued licenses to antique sellers," Director of The Information and Culture Department in Kandahar province, Hazrat Wali Hotak, told Xinhua recently. However, the official claimed that antique shopkeepers were selling their treasures to each other and therefore the business was technically considered "inter-transaction trade" between local traders. (Xinhua)

(25) Taliban Commander...

rifle along with a pistol were also confiscated from him. NDS said the detained militants were long involved in terrorist activities and Manan spent three years in prison who rejoined the Taliban group after he was released. According to NDS, Manan was operating under the command of Hashmatullah together with his other companions. (KP)

(26) U.S. House...

posed by time and distance, the truth is that they did not try," Pompeo said.

Four Americans including U.S. Ambassador to Libya Christopher Stevens were killed on Sept. 11, 2012 when the U.S. consulate in Benghazi were attacked by armed militants. Pompeo and Republican Representative Jim Jordan, in an addendum to the report, also criticized the Obama administration for its public explanations of the attacks.

"With the presidential election just 56 days away, rather than tell the American people the truth and increase the risk of losing an election, the administration told one story privately and a different story publicly," the two representatives wrote. (Xinhua)

(27) Russia Ready...

expressed hope that the judicial investigation of a Turkish citizen allegedly responsible for the death of a Russian pilot of the downed plane would be objective. The Russian leader said he had instructed the government to start negotiations with Turkish authorities to restore cooperation in trade, economy and other areas. Moscow also planned to lift restrictions for Russian tourists traveling to Turkey, provided the Turkish government takes additional steps to ensure the security of Russian citizens, he added. (Xinhua)

(28) NATO Chief ...

almost one quarter of defence spending among European NATO Allies, " he said. Stoltenberg underlined that cooperation between NATO and the EU has become even more important after the Brexit. He outlined areas where cooperation can be enhanced, including in maritime security, cyber security and countering hybrid warfare.

He also noted that preparations for NATO's Warsaw Summit are on track.

"The Warsaw Summit will be important for the whole of Europe because we will make decisions on deterrence and defence, on projecting stability to our neighborhood, and on how we can enhance and further strengthen cooperation with the EU," he said. (Xinhua)

(29) Iran 'Helpful' ...

Mahdi al-Muhandis, a high-ranking commander of the Popular Mobilization Units, told Press TV in an exclusive interview in June that Iranian military advisors were helping Iraqi army soldiers and allied forces following an "official request" from Baghdad.

"The presence of experts and advisers from Iran gave us a major boost. They provided us with (military) guidelines, and even prevented the fall of the capital of Iraqi Kurdistan, Erbil," he said. (Press Tv)

(30) Two Congos...

said they supported Ezulwini Consensus which was a position on international relations and reform of the United Nations, agreed by the African Union. It calls for a more representative and democratic Security Council, in which Africa, like all other world regions, is represented. Ezulwini Consensus proposes that Africa should have two permanent seats at the Security Council and two non-permanent seats at the Council. (Xinhua)

(31) At Least 28

of Turkish Red Crescent, has appealed for blood donation on CNNTurk.

A Chinese national upstairs at the airport said he heard of gunfires and run for cover. (Xinhua)

(32) Kazakhstan ...

members of Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States.

This year, the elections, which were previously held in October, have been moved to June in a bid to leave more time for elected member states to prepare for their terms. (Xinhua)

(33) 7 Killed in...

and Kurdish fighters led by the Kurdish People's Protection Units (YPG), said the Observatory. It added that the street where the blast hit is a main street and usually crowded, which means the death toll is likely to rise. (Xinhua)

(34) IS Militants...

of US-backed Syrian rebels near Bukamal. The NSyA posted photos online, purporting to show its fighters in control of a desert area in the countryside of Bukamal. The IS Amaq news agency said the IS fighters battled the NSyA in the Hamdan airbase west of Bukamal, adding that huge losses were inflicted upon the US-backed rebels, who, the IS said, came from "U.S. training camps in Jordan under the air cover of the U.S.-led coalition. (Xinhua)

(35) Pak Senate ...

prosecution of cases, recovery of penalty, delay in decision of court cases, ex-parte stays and inadequate investigation powers. The act also has no statutory provision to seek international cooperation and extend assistance to a foreign regulatory authority in investigation and inquiries. Independent audit oversight framework is also needed to ensure quality of audit of public interest companies. (Dawn)