Details Awaited as Us, Taliban Continue Backdoor Talks in Doha

Details are still awaited as the fifth round of marathon peace talks between the US negotiators and the Taliban continue for the second consecutive days in Doha, Qatar.

It is believed that Afghanistan’s High Peace Council (HPC) is also unaware of the details of the talks between the US and the Taliban in Qatar.

At least 106 civilians were killed 59 wounded during last month, the group informed. Based on CPAG’s findings most of the casualties occurred in Afghan and foreign airstrikes. The CPAG while expressing happiness on the decline in civilian casualties and once again calls upon all warring parties, Taliban, foreign forces and government, to avoid civilians’ casualties and they should assure the Afghan nation of not victimizing them during conflict (Paltwick).

Some Paktika, Logar, Ghazni roads closed after heavy snowfall

KABUL - Heavy snowfall in the past three days closed some districts roads in Ghazni, Paktika and Logar provinces which multiplied the problems of the people living in those areas, officials said on Sunday.

Mohammad Ali Noori, the governor’s spokesman of Ghazni, told Pajhwok Afghan News that due to heavy snowfall in the province, the roads between Ghazni City, the provincial capital had been closed as a result of continued snowfall.

The Public Works Department and some private sector companies cleared some roads but the snowfall was heavy thus most of the roads remained shut, he said. Norri added the high 100 cm of snow and low 16°C in Ghazni.

In Paktika, neighboring Ghazni province, most of the roads connecting districts with provincial capital remained closed as a result of heavy snowfall.

Guil Mohammed, a resident of the Urgun district, told Pajhwok that almost one metre snow fell in their district.

Abdul Khaliq, a driver and resident of Ali Abad District, confirmed. At least 200 households have lost their livestock because of cold weather in the province.”

UN, Norway Providing Technical Support to negotiators in US-Taliban talks

Representatives from the United Nations and the Norwegian government are providing technical support to negotiators in peace talks between the US and the Taliban in Qatar, sources said on Saturday.

Representatives from the Organization of Islamic Cooperation would also join the talks which are happening in Doha.

They are expected to act as guarantors of agreement between the Taliban and the US.

The US and the Taliban resumed their talks in Qatar on Saturday after a two-day pause for internal deliberations.

“We continue to take slow, steady steps toward an understanding and eventually peace,” Zalmay Khalilzad, the US top envoy, said on Thursday.

The talks resumed on a second day on Sunday and the US negotiators, including Special Representative for Afghanistan Reconciliation Zalmay Khalilzad are in Qatar for the fifth round of marathon peace talks between the US negotiators and the Taliban in Qatar.

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