India Receives First Shipment from Afghanistan Via Iran’s Chabahar Port

NEW DELHI: The first shipment from landlocked Afghanistan through the Iranian Chabahar port has arrived in India, marking a new beginning of trade between the two countries, bypassing Pakistan. The cargo arrived at the Mumbai and Mundra ports on Wednesday morning under the TIR (“Transports Internationaux Routiers”) Convention that enables shipments to pass through countries without being opened at borders. The TIR will play a pivotal role in improving ease of doing business and pave the way for smoother and safer transport of goods across international borders and will help boost trade between India, Central Asia, Europe and Russia. It will act as a strong catalyst for moving goods using the TIR route.

KABUL - At the head of a high-level delegation, President Ashraf Ghani on Wednesday left Kabul for Baku, the capital of Azerbaijan, to attend the 7th Global Baku Forum.

A statement from the President's Palace said President Ghani would attend the Global Baku Forum and would also receive the Nizami Ganjavi International Award.

The statement said the president would also meet with his Azerbaijani counterpart Ilham Aliyev to discuss bilateral cooperation and regional issues. Afghanistan and Azerbaijan would also sign an agreement of cooperation in areas of information technology, culture and railway during Ghani’s visit to the country.

A statement from the Ministry of Finance said Deputy Minister of Finance for Customs Revenue Target was also present at the meeting.

Ink Host Govt Agreement

KABUL - Pakistan and Turkmenistan have signed an agreement on implementation of the $8 billion Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) gas pipeline.

The two sides also agreed on establishing a working group to finalize an agreement on a transmission line of up to 1,000 MW electricity.

The deal will let Pakistan’s Intercontinental Gas Company enter a formal technical implementation agreement for the groundbreaking ceremony for the section of the pipeline in Pakistan within two to three months.

Similar ceremonies for the construction of about 2,300km pipeline in Turkmenistan and about 800km in Afghanistan have already taken place and project implementation has started.

The agreement was signed by Pakistan’s Petroleum Secretary Miaw Asad Hayatullah and TAPI Pipeline Company Limited CEO Ahmad Ghilani. Pakistan’s Minister for Petroleum and Mineral Resources and Turkmenistan Foreign Minister Rashid Meredov and Energy Minister Dilerka Bagieva attended the signing ceremony.

Memes said the country was working on TAPI pipeline.

153 Cadets Complete Studies, Training at National Military Academy

KABUL - Over 300 cadets from the National Military Academy of Afghanistan graduated on Tuesday, earning a bachelor’s degree and a commission in the Afghan military forces as a second lieutenant, according to a statement.

The National Military Academy of Afghanistan, part of the Marshal Fahim National Defense University, is a four-year institution that combines academics with military training, providing both a four-year college education to its cadets, as well as preparing them to be leaders in the Afghan National Army (ANA) or Air Force.

“NMAA is producing the life blood of the Afghan National Army, both junior leaders now and the staff officers and senior commanders of the future Army,” said British Army Colonel Jeremy Pugh-Morgan, Director of the Army International Advisory Team, part of the Force Development Branch at the NATO-led Resolute Support mission.

“The quality of the education and leadership...”

(The Daily Outlook, March 14, 2019)