Sustainable Peace Remains our Key Goal

CAMP DAVID - President Ashraf Ghani on Monday reframed from making any commitment on the peace talks with the Taliban, as the United States extended its full support for an Afghan-led process.

"Sustainable peace is our goal. I'm not committing to any announce- ments and you will be pleased when it's made," Ghani told reporters at a news conference at the end of day-long talks with key American leadership.

Secretary of State John Kerry, Defense Secretary Ashton Carter, and Treasury Secretary Jack Lew and other senior US officials met the visiting Afghan delegation at this presiden- tial retreat.

On peace efforts, Kerry said the US believed the safest way to stabilize in Afghanistan and the region was for reconciliation to take place. He believed that reconciliation should be Afghan-led, Afghan-structured, and we support the president's very important, courageous effort to try to see if that reconciliation can take place. The United States will support that in every way that we possibly can," Kerry said there were three conditions..."(More on P4,6).

No Plan to Dismiss Attorneys, Senators Informed

KABUL - Giving a test to hundreds of attorneys is in no way the main purpose of selecting them, the Attorney General Office (AGO) said on Tuesday.

More than 300 AGO lawyers were examined earlier in the month for the selection process for the next development phase of Afghan attorneys.

The AGO said that the examination process was announced on March 15 in the test as unobstructable. But authorities argue AGO staff should stick to the test to assure their academic and professional abilities. "(More on P6,8).

India Extends Support to Afghan Think-Tanks

NEW DELHI - India is a success- ful partner of Afghanistan in helping Afghanistan think-tanks in bringing real change in the lives of the people.

The idea is to exchange experience, share the challenges and bring about a change in social development.

The Centre for Civil Society in Delhi based think-tank which has partnered with Afghanistan think-tanks and is helping them in improving their livelihood, CSS par- tners with a large network of think-tanks called the Atlas network which brings..."(More on P4).

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Kerry Unveils $800m New Development Partnership

CAMP DAVID - US Secretary of State John Kerry on Monday announced the launch of a $800 million New Develop- ment Partnership with Afgha- nistan and re-launch of the Bilateral Commission and the Security Consultative Forum, as part of the effort to give a new direction to the bilateral relationship.

A series of announcements aimed at achieving goals were made by Kerry following day-long discussions with the visiting Afghan delegation led by President Ashraf Ghani and Chief Executive Dr. Abdullah Abdullah at Camp David.

The depth of our discussions today reflects the critical nature of this moment, with Afghan- stan's government of national unity now fully responsible for the security of its citizens and moving ahead on a reform agenda of its own design," Ker- ry told reporters at the centre of the bilateral relationship was a shared commitment to security and peace and a desire to promote prosperity and social progress through Afghan- ghan's hard work, he added, adding the goals were outlined in the..."(More on P5,6).

MPs Raise Concerns about Doesh Presence

KABUL - The House of Representa- tives summoned top security officials on Monday to raise questions about security conditions around the country, including the situation of growing concern about the influence of Doesh in Afghanistan.

"The Taliban in Badakhshan are going to turn into Doesh members, which is very con- cerning," Badakhshan MP Za- kria Sooda told the security officials, which included the minister of interior and the..."(More on P6,7).

IRW Wants Ghani, Obama to Sideline Abusive Strongmen

KABUL - President Ashraf Ghani and his US counter- part Barack Obama should make human rights issues a agenda item during meetings, Human Rights Watch (HRW) said on Tues- day.

Over the last decade, the US has provided billions of dol- lars to arms and equip Afghan forces, some of whom have en- gaged in human rights abuses, including summary executions and fuelling the insurgency, John Sifton, Asia advocacy di- rector at HRW, said. "For more than 13 years, the US and Af- ghan governments have at- tempted to achieve security at the expense of human rights and the effort has failed." "Referring to its repeated warn- ings of the shortcomings of..."(More on P6,9).