

## Quote of the Day

Work and struggle and never accept an evil that you can change.

Andre Gide (1869 - 1951)

## Constitution

No law, under any circumstance, can transfer a case from the jurisdiction of the judicial branch to another organ as has been determined in this Constitution. This provision does not apply to establishing special Courts stated in Articles 69 and 78 and 127 of this Constitution and military courts in matters relating to them.

Article 122

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# Doha Confirms Hosting Peace Talks Between Afghan Govt. and Taliban

DOHA - Yousif Al Sada, Director of the Asian Department at the Foreign Ministry of Qatar late Sunday confirmed that Doha is hosting peace talks between Afghan officials and Taliban representatives in order to end the war in Afghanistan.

The dialogue "will be through open discussions about Afghan reconciliation between all parties in Afghanistan", the Qatar News Agency quoted Yousif Al Sada as saying.

He said that this dialogue Qatar is seeking is "to bridge the gap in viewpoints between all Afghan parties on all issues and topics that achieve security, peace and stability for the Afghan people".

The two-day dialogue between Afghan officials and Taliban is slated to begin in ...*(More on P4)...(1)*



## Ahmad Zia Masoud MoPH to Take Practical Steps in Health Stuff's Quality



KABUL - A session of high committee for overseeing imported and produced health stuffs was held under the chairmanship of Ahmad Zia Masoud, presidential advisor on reforms affairs and good governance.

At the session attended by deputy minister of commerce, deputy of independent administra-

...tive for norms and standard, head of customs for ministry of finance, head of pharmacy of ministry of public health and representative of chambers of commerce and industries, national administrative for norms and standard delivered its reports related to relevant standards of health stuffs and a ...*(More on P4)...(2)*

## Disabled Protestors Shut Ministry's Gate in Kabul



KABUL - Disabled people on Sunday closed the main gate of the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs, Martyrs and Disabled (MoLSAMD) in Kabul during a protest demonstration.

The protestors were demanding land plots which they said had been allotted to them under a residential scheme in Kabul by former president Hamid Karzai.

The protestors were not allowing anyone to enter the ministry.

Two protestors told reporters that ex-president Karzai had ordered the authorities concerned to distribute plots to them in a newly-constructed township in the Qasaba area.

They said initially 1,200 disabled persons had registered for the plots, but only 160 were shortlisted and they too could not be given the plots.

Right activist Mohammad Yasin Haqqarast told Pajhwok Afghan News: "According to the presidential orders, the government has to provide plots to the disabled persons in the Qasaba Township located in Kabul."

Mohammad Hassan Safi, union leader of the disabled, said: "We lost our body parts for the protection of the country. We have documents that prove our claim for plots." He said a joint commission of the Urban Ministry, ...*(More on P4)...(4)*

## ANSF Suffer Record Casualties



KABUL - Afghan security forces have suffered record casualties this year as they combat Taliban rebels without the benefit of U.S. air power and other international military support they had come to rely on in the past, U.S. and Afghan officials said. The number of Afghans in the police and army killed or wounded has increased 70% in the first 15 weeks of 2015, compared to the same period last year, the officials said. The casualties have averaged about 330 a week.

"We are taking so many casualties," Afghan Interior Minister Nur ul-Haq Ulumi said Sunday. "That is the reality."

The lack of airstrikes and cutbacks in surveillance by a U.S.-led military coalition that occupied Afghanistan for more than a decade has given the insurgents more freedom to move around the country, Ulumi and other officials said.

Though the Taliban remain in small groups and are unable to mass in large formations that would threaten Afghanistan's conventional army forces, their lethal strikes underscore the rebels' tenacity to wage war against the U.S.-backed government here and wait out the full withdrawal of foreign troops.

The foreign coalition changed its mission this year from combat to advising and assisting Afghan forces. That has reduced the presence of American personnel to just over 10,000. After 2016, the number of U.S. troops ...*(More on P4)...(6)*

## Contracts for Major Projects Approved

KABUL - The procurement committee has approved contracts for some major development projects, tasking the Public Works Ministry to reconstruct the Salang-Gardan Diwal and the Kabul-Nangarhar roads on a priority basis.

The committee met on Saturday night at the Presidential Palace with President Ashraf Ghani in the chair, a statement from the Presidential Palace said on Sunday.

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Abdullah Abdullah and Second Vice President Sarwar Danish were present at the meeting, the statement said.

The meeting discussed several contracts related to the defence,



agriculture, interior and finance ministries and approved some of them, but postponed the approval of others until the committee's next meeting. Reconstruction of the 700-kilometre Gardan Diwal road would improve transport affairs of central and western parts

with capital Kabul. Repair works on the 52-kilometre Kabul-Sarobi road has been launched. The road connects Kabul with eastern Nangarhar province. At the procurement committee meeting, the officials concerned were directed to

present bidding documents of companies, who had won contracts after participating in the process, with proof of their efficiency to implement the projects. In addition companies have to explain having more contracts at one time.

The Ministry of Public Works was tasked to organise a meeting of construction experts with the president to discuss various issues and problems facing construction firms.

Ministry of Defence officials were told to hold meetings with Agriculture Ministry officials on accomplishing their needs, empowerment of farmers and creation of agricultural industries.

The ...*(More on P4)...(3)*

## Gen. Murad Ali Murad Rebels Facing Defeat in North after South

MAZAR-I-SHARIF - Vice Chief of Army Staff Gen. Murad Ali Murad said the enemy

had been defeated in the south and were facing defeat in the north. Gen. Murad was talk-

ing to Pajhwok Afghan News on the sidelines of a change of command ceremony that saw Maj. Gen. Abdul Hameed Hameed assuming as new commander of the Afghan National Army's 209 Shaheen Military Corps at the corps headquarters in Mazar-i-Sharif, the capital of northern Balkh province.

Gen. Murad said the insurgents received aid from foreign ...*(More on P4)...(5)*



## Senate Chair Blames Kunduz Crisis on Lack of Coordination



KABUL - In an exclusive interview with TOLONews, Muhammad Ayoub Salangi Deputy Minister of Interior for Security Affairs warns that there is no difference between the Taliban and Daesh, and a strong stance must be taken against them.

Meanwhile, Fazel Hady Muslimyar, the chairman of the senate, has blamed recent insecurities in Kunduz on the lack of cooperation between security officials and said that soldiers on the ground had multiple orders from different security officials.

Until recently, government leaders had different views regarding the Taliban, but now, the Deputy Minister of Interior for Security Affairs, Salangi, calls the insurgents murderers and speaks of efforts to destroy them.

"Any group, any organization and anyone who does not respect the Constitution of Afghanistan, and creates terror, violence and destruction, is our enemy and cannot be categorized as any other group," says Salangi.

This senior security official points out the insecurities in the Northern parts of the country and adds that anti-government armed groups are armed on the ...*(More on P4)...(7)*

## Pakistan Backs Afghan Dialogue in Qatar

KABUL - Pakistan on Sunday extended complete support and cooperation to peace and reconciliation process between Afghan government and Taliban in Qatar.

Pakistani Foreign Secretary Aizaz Chaudhry told a press conference in Islamabad that



Pakistan would be ready for every support needed and said "Pakistan wants peace in Afghanistan and supports reconciliation process between Taliban and Afghan government."

He further said that peace in Afghanistan was imperative for peace in the region and that Pakistan desired better ties with Afghanistan.

Qatar on Saturday confirmed it was hosting two days of "reconciliation talks" between the Afghan government and Taliban insurgents.

"The dialogue will be through open discussions about the Afghan reconciliation between all parties in Afghanistan," the gulf country's official news agency, QNA, said citing the foreign ministry official Yousif al-Sada.

The Taliban identified eight people who would take part ...*(More on P4)...(8)*

## 312 School without Buildings in Kunar

ASADABAD - More than 312 schools have no buildings and a shortage of teachers remains one of the major problems facing the education sector in eastern Kunar province, officials said on Sunday.

Abdul Qahar Akhonzada, deputy education director, told Pajhwok Afghan News there were a total of 512 schools in the province and all were functional.

More than 181,000 students, including 70196 girls, studied in these schools, he said, but complained the shortage of female teachers remained a challenge.

He linked the fewer number of girl students in Kunar to the lack of female teachers. Only 225 female teachers taught in Kunar, he said.

Akhonzada said around 312 schools were without buildings and many others were operating in rented buildings and tents. He said only 166 schools had proper buildings in Kunar, where construction on buildings for 34 schools was underway.

The deputy education director said though 75 percent of schools were located in mountainous and insecure areas, yet a single security incident had not happened there.

The education department needed 700 more teachers, Akhonzada said.

On religious seminaries, Akhonzada said, 10810 students including 792 girls were studying in 38 seminaries in Kunar.

He said the number of religious students going to Pakistan for studies had decreased with the establishment of madaris in Kunar.

Akhonzada said a high standard seminary had also been made functional in Kunar, enrolling ...*(More on P4)...(9)*

## Farkhunda Case Resumes Monday Pending Investigation

KABUL - Preliminary Court judge Safiullah Mojaddedi postponed the Farkhunda case on Sunday pending



investigations into the nationality of an Arab-speaking man who was arrested soon after the murder on suspicion of having jammed police radios during the incident.

All 49 suspects, including 19 police officers, were present in court as were senior police officials who were summoned to appear before Mojaddedi.

The judge first heard comments from the suspects - most of whom denied accusations of complicity in Farkhunda's murder. Most said they had not been involved and said they failed to understand why they had been arrested.

The suspects instead asked the judge to release them.

However, officials showed video footage provided by the Attorney General's Office to the court - footage that clearly identifies the perpetrators.

On Saturday, the 19 police and security force members - who were arrested and charged with dereliction of duty, told the court on Saturday that at the time of Farkhunda's murder their police radios had not been working.

They said that soon afterwards they arrested an Arab-speaking man in the area who allegedly had a radio-jamming device on his person. Police said they were however ordered by the Kabul Police Chief, Abdul Rahman Rahimi to release the suspect.

But Rahimi denies having given such orders and said that "on the day there were no radio issues".

The Arab suspect - Abdul Wahab - was brought to court Sunday and claims he is an Afghan national. However he claims he cannot speak Farsi or Pashto and spoke to the judge in Arabic. Mojaddedi ordered that he hand over his passport and other documents proving his ...*(More on P4)...(10)*