Ghani Stresses Coordination among Ministries, Provinces

KABUL - Pledging that all provinces would be equally served in terms of development, President Ashraf Ghani on Saturday stressed close coordination among ministries and provinces.

He expressed this at a ceremony arranged in honor of President Islam Karzai, who was appointed as head of Independent Dominican of Local Governance (IDLO) on Saturday. IDLO was recently appointed as head of IDLO following a presidential decree and officially assumed office today, a statement from the Presidential Palace said.

The president said in his speech that in all the government's efforts the people of the provinces would be taken into account.

WJ Approves New Tax Draft into Law

KABUL - Wolesi Jirga - the lower house of parliament - on Saturday approved tax affairs draft law with majority of votes.

Shahid Karzai, a legislator from Kabul and member of finance committee, presented the bill in the house. He said the bill was last year and the committee had evaluated the draft in several meetings. The draft would help in collection of taxes and protect the rights of those who pay taxes to the government, he added.

Another lawmaker Seid Nooruddin Karzai said the draft contained 13 chapters and 51 articles and everyone agreed to vote in favor. The WJ would help better collection of taxes, he hoped. (More on PNL-D)

CEO Defends Security Strategy, Rejects Claims of Double-Dealing

KABUL - Chief Executive Abdullah Abdullah on Saturday dismissed the recent claims circulating in Parliament and analytically analyzed that threats are not within the national unity government or its NATO allies are responsible for the recent wave of insecurity that has erupted across. (More on PNL-D)

NATO FM’s to Discuss Afghanistan Security

KABUL - A two-day NATO foreign ministers meeting will kick-off from Wednesday in Turkey to discuss recent security situation in Afghanistan, a NATO official said Saturday. Daniel Fried, NATO senior civilian representative for Afghanistan, told Pajhwok Afghan News the meeting of the alliance’s foreign ministers, Resolute Support (RS) and EU representatives, supporting the RS will attend the meeting.

Watchdogs Blast Delay in Electoral Reforms

KABUL - Electoral watchdogs on Saturday lashed out at electoral reforms, saying there was lack of readiness for elections and hold parliamentary elections.

Afghan Officials: Foreign Fighters Involved in Kunduz Attack

KABUL - A Taliban assault that threatens to overrun a northern Afghan city involved a number of foreign fighters, officials said Saturday, a battle that saw at least 150 people flee their homes.

Kunduz’s provincial governor and its police chief suggested the foreign fighters could be part of a small contingent of militants who pledged their loyalty to an Islamist group affiliate in Afghanistan, but offered no evidence to support their claim.

The battle in Kunduz began April 24. Thousands of army reinforcements have been deployed to the city. The Taliban had seized the city's main areas.

EU Celebrates the Europe Day

KABUL - European Union (EU) in Afghanistan on Saturday celebrated the Europe Day. EU High Representative & Vice President Federica Mogherini said in his statement that on May 9, 1950 Robert Schuman called on the nations of Europe to unite and make war on our continent impossible. 55 years later, his message of peace and unity is as relevant as ever. (More on PNL-D)

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