UAE Hosts Conference on Afghanistan Drug Demand

GIAMMARDO - Advisor to the Pakistan Prime Minister on foreign affairs, Atif Khan, on Wednesday met with the Afghan president's brothers, a couple of days after his first meeting with government officials last year. PAKISTAN - The Afghan capital Kabul has been partially opened and Afghan President Ashraf Ghani has ended conditions for final party to be present in Kabul, a Hizb-e-Islami representative said. Taliban talks with the Afghan government began on Monday, but there is no solid guarantee that the fighters and that they will be armed for their own safety. However, there did not give details about the number of fighters under the control. (More on P4)...(1)

IR Conference Begins in Kabul

"Transit is a top priority for the country: Ghani"

KABUL - Turning Afghanistan into a transit hub in the heart of Asia was the main topic for representatives from the government, representatives of donor countries, the private sector and donor community who met Wednesday during the Transports International Routine (TIR) National Conference to discuss the future plan of transportation in the country. The event was organized by Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation and Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Industries with the support of USAID's Afghanistan Trade and Rev- enue (ATAR) Project.

KABUL - NATO Secretary General from Stoltenberg on Wednesday said the alliance was assessing a request from the military authorities to send more troops to Afghanistan. Stoltenberg said a decision on the scale and scope of the mission in Afghanistan would be taken within weeks, however, on the scale and scope of the mission in Afghanistan would be taken within weeks. (More on P4)...(5)

CSTO Approves Amendments to Regulation on Working Group on Organization

MOSCOW - The Permanent Council of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) meeting in Moscow on Wednesday. The meeting was chaired by Permanent Representative of the Republic of Belarus to the CSTO, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Belarus to Russia Igor Petkovich. The 25th session of the CSTO Permanent Council meeting was held. (More on P4)...(4)

KARZAI - A number of senators have slammed the president's recent allegations of corruption against certain ministries, warning against a selective policy on eliminating the scourge. A day earlier, President Ashraf Ghani told the European Union's anti-corruption conference in Kabul that many initiatives had been taken to combat graft in Afghanistan. However, the president neglected to mention any instruments. Ministry of Interior (MoI), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MofA) and some other state institutions were still contaminated with graft. He accused some government departments of creating hurdles to the anti-corruption effort of the government and said the MoI was a hub of corruption while appointments to MoFA were made on ethnic lines. (More on P4)...(1)

MPs Concerned over Hizb-E-Islami's Refusal to Give up Arms

Hizb-E-Islami says its men need to be armed now as their safety is not guaranteed but they will not turn their weapons on government. (More on P4)...(2)

Zakhiwai Challenges Afghan side Promised Border Clash

KABUL - Afghanistan ambassador in Pakistan, Mr. Atiqullah Nusrat, Chief of the Prin- cipal for principle to all parties, the sena- tos belived. (More on P4)...(1)

Pakistan's Enemies: Aziz

KABUL - Refusal to give details about the exact ethnic and tribal differences in the fight against certain ministries, warned against a selective policy on eliminating the scourge. A day earlier, President Ashraf Ghani told the European Union's anti-corruption conference in Kabul that many initiatives had been taken to combat graft in Afghanistan. However, the president neglected to mention any instruments. Ministry of Interior (MoI), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MofA) and some other state institutions were still contaminated with graft. He accused some government departments of creating hurdles to the anti-corruption effort of the government and said the MoI was a hub of corruption while appointments to MoFA were made on ethnic lines. (More on P4)...(1)

Iran, Afghanistan not Pakistan's Enemies: Aziz

KABUL - Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, leader of Hizb-e-Islami, said the three nations have so far refused to hand over their weapons, which has in turn sparked concern among MPs. This comes after Hekmatyar and his men officially returned to Afghanistan early this month after the group's leader sealed a peace deal with government last year. Despite Hizb-e-Islami having assured the nations that their armed men will not turn their weapons on government, MPs on Wednesday raised voice and voiced their concern: "First it is very dangerous to"... (More on P4)...(2)

Quote of the Day

"Change your opinions, keep your principles, change your leaves, keep intact your roots." - Victor Hugo