Building Tangible Peace
Govt. Top Priority

Dr. Abdullah

KABUL - Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Abdullah Abdullah on Monday reassured the nation that the government would leave no stone unturned to build tangible peace and fight insurgency.

Speaking at a cabinet meeting on Monday, Abdullah said security forces had made achievements last week, including regaining Nawa district in southern Ghazni province from Taliban. The district, he said, was turned into a major hub of training and fight insurgency.

"Recapturing Nawa is a blow to enemies of peace who had invested in the district for years. Dozens of suicide and other attacks were being directed from this terror hub," he said, adding some other areas had also been purged of insurgents. The unity government, Abdullah said, had sabotage the enemy’s dreams to stage a comeback to power this year.

He added in case the government requested support from international forces they would regularly take part in operations.

NATO’s 13-year mission in Afghanistan came to an end last December and Afghanistan’s security forces have taken over from the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF). Since then, a series of Afghan police and army takeovers have taken place.

"As the enemy is not capable of carrying on a full-scale war it has no other option but to resort to small-scale attacks. We have strict measures to prevent smuggling," he added.

Meanwhile, the Afghan government is intensifying efforts to fight illegal logging in the country.

MPs Discuss Rise in Afghan Timber Smuggling

KABUL - Lawmakers in Parliament on Monday voiced their concerns about illegal logging in Afghanistan. According to MPs, despite a presidential decree banning the practice, many continue smuggling Afghan timber into Pakistan for a profit.

"The security, investigative and intelligence institutions need to decide on how to prevent it," Kapisa MP Iqbal Safi said during Monday’s open session.

"There is a lot of smuggling. The government must be more serious in this," he added.

Although the Ministry of Finance (MoF) avoided confirming the timber smuggling or discussing any particulars about it, the ministry spokesman encouraged better cooperation among government offices in order to address any form of smuggling.

More Badghis Districts under Serious Security Threat: MP

KABUL - Following the fall of Jawzand district to Taliban, a member of parliament has warned that a number of other districts in western Badghis province are under looming insurgents’ threat.

Dozens of western Badghis residents on Monday staged protest in Kabul, demanding immediate sacking of provincial police officers for failing to ensure security.

The residents joined by civil-society activists and lawmakers staged rally in Parli-

Military Operation Launched to Retake Control of Jawand District

MAIMANA - Military forces have launched an operation in Jawzand district western Badghis to retake control of the district after insurgents attacked the area Saturday night, local officials said.

Taj Mohammed Jabal, the commander of the 20th Corps of the Afghan National Army (ANA) in western Afghanistan said reinforcement troops have been deployed to the area.

100-Bed Military Hospital Inaugurated

JALALABAD - A 100-bed military hospital was inaugurated on Monday after its completion in eastern Nangarhar province.

The US and NATO have jointly funded the $25 million project for the Afghan National Army’s 201st Selab Corps of the Afghan National Army (ANA) in western Afghanistan said reinforcement troops have been deployed to the area.

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