Terrorists Spreading Terror to Intimidate People: Ghani

KABUL - President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani has said the people of Afghanistan are peace loving and have been imposed on them. He expressed these views during a meeting with Michael Roth, special representative of Germany for Afghanistan and Pakistan, who called on him here Wednesday, a statement from the Presidential Palace said.

Both dignitaries discussed wide range of issues of mutual interest, including security and regional issues, the statement said.

The president said tactics of war that had changed and terrorists had no principles of waging attacks, they wanted to spread horror and intimidate people to achieve their goals.

He said the people of Afghanistan and Uruzgan have declared their support for Afghan forces and they praised the valor of Afghan security forces. The German officials applauded the president’s strategy and efforts for peace and stability in Afghanistan (Pajhwok)

69 Uruzgan Schools Remain Closed Due to Insecurity

TARNETAR - At least 69 schools were closed due to insecurity in central Uruzgan province, an official said on Wednesday. Mohammad Amin Amiri, deputy education director, told Pajhwok Afghan News that 49 out of 290 schools had been closed. He added that 19 schools remained closed in Tarnetar, 16 in Gereshk, 11 in Chahar Saw, 10 in Uruzgan, four in Derul and two in Chor districts. (More on Pajhwok)

Baghlan Operation Continues, Now in Its Third Week

FULFILM - The ongoing special forces operation in Baghlan is now in its third week as troops battle it out with Taliban insurgents.

According to officials at total of 65 insurgents have been killed and wounded. An exact breakdown of those dead and injured were not however available. Special Police Forces Commander of Interior Minister Abdul Hadi Sharzad said the clashes started on April 27 after a large group of Taliban. (More on Pajhwok)

Afghanistan Welcomes NATO Announcement

ANTALYA, Turkey - Afghanistan welcomed NATO’s announcement to maintain its presence in a new civilian-led mission after the current ISAF Host Support mission ends around the end of next year.

The alliance announced the decision to maintain its presence in Afghanistan beyond the ISAF mission on Thursday and said it would be a "military to civilian" transition, with increased civilian involvement. (More on Pajhwok)

NATO to Stay in Afghanistan Beyond Current Mission

ANTALYA - NATO has decided to stay in Afghanistan even after the end of current Resolute Support (RS) mission and said the military mission will continue to be led by civilians; NATO Secretary General said on Wednesday.

Speaking to journalists on Turkey’s Antalya, Jens Stoltenberg, the NATO secretary general, said NATO’s civil and military authorities have been tasked to develop a plan and for this continued NATO presence in the autumn that would also include presence of military contingents.

He added preparations were underway to decide on concrete content of the enduring partnership (EP). (More on Pajhwok)

Still a Long Way to Go in Afghanistan

ANTALYA, Turkey - Turkish Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu on Wednesday said Afghanistan needed the presence of international community beyond 2016, when all US and NATO troops are scheduled to leave the war-torn country. So his opening remarks at the first day of a two-day NATO foreign ministers meeting in this southern city, the Turkish prime minister said the international community needed to consolidate achievements made in Afghanistan over the past 13 years and continue helping. (More on Pajhwok)