Khalilzad Again Meets Taliban Representatives in Qatar

KARUL - Some sources on Saturday said the US's Special Representative for Reconciliation in Afghanistan Zalmai Khalilzad met with the Taliban for the second time in Qatar. Some domestic and international news outlets have said that Khalilzad met with two Taliban representatives in Qatar this week. Sumi Yousufzai, a Pakistan based journalist who is in close contact with the Taliban, on Saturday tweeted that Mullah Fauqi and Mullah Rasulullah, who both represent Taliban key members and former Guantamno Bay prisoners were among those met with Khalilzad in Qatar.

Other sources said that current Taliban's deputy leader, Mullah Yaqoob, son of Mullah Mohammad Omar was also in the meeting. (More on P4.)

KARUL - President Ashraf Ghani has over the past few days met with a continuous number of stakeholders as he works on establishing an advisory board for the peace process. At a meeting with several civil society organizations on Saturday, Ghani said the Afghan youth needs to play a significant role in the peace process in any achievements, or otherwise, will affect them in the long-term, the presidential palace said in a statement. The president said the younger generation represents the new Afghanistan one that is willing to forget the past and look towards the future. During the meeting he stated that the route. (More on P4.)

KARUL - Afghanistan has been unanimously selected as the full member of the Asia Cricket Council (ACC) during the board's annual meeting in Lahore, Pakistan, according a statement on Saturday.

The presidency was also handed over to Bangladesh with Nazmul Hassan (President Bangladesh Cricket Board) taking over from Ehsan Mani (Chairman PCB) for the term 2018-2020, according to a statement on Saturday. Commenting on his new role as the President of the ACC, Nazmul Hassan said that “I am honored to take over the coveted role of ACC President. My foremost endeavour would be to bring the Asian cricket playing countries together and promote the sport around the region.

“The Asian wing is right now the strongest as far as international cricket is concerned with as many as five Test-playing.” (More on P4.)

Karzai Sees Moscow Summit as a First Step Towards Peace

KABUL - Former president Hamid Karzai says Moscow meeting - which was held on November 9 - was the first and correct step taken for bringing about peace and stability in Afghanistan and in the region.

Talking to Kazakhstan State TV, Karzai said he is optimistic about Russia’s efforts on the Afghan peace process. Karzai said that although there was no representative from the Afghan government in direct talks between the US officials and Taliban in Qatar, but he hopes such meetings will pave the ground for ending the war in the country.

“In the peace talks in Moscow, which was the first such talks was taking place between a major regional capital of the world with the neighbors of Afghanistan all present including from Karzai and where delegations of the Taliban and delegations of the Afghan Peace Council sat together, the Afghan ambassador was there in that meeting, so we sit as a positive step, a first step, that will definitely give us results and we hope it will continue to keep connecting and keep looking for a solution eventually that suits all of us,” said Karzai.

Karzai’s remarks come amid the US Special Representative for Reconciliation (More on P4.)

Afghanistan Unanimously Selected ACC Full Member

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