KABUL - A number of bus passengers were forcibly taken on Saturday by unknown gunmen on Saturday on the highway.

There has been, however, been conflicting reports among drivers, with some stating 17 passengers are still being held hostage.

Anti-Narcotic Unit Seizes Over 100 Tons of Drugs This Year

Ministry of Interior spokesman Sediq Sedigqi said that there have been 367 seizures, 27 of which had been released. Seven others are still under investigation, he said.

Sediqqi said: “Seizures have been released and efforts are underway for the release of the remaining seven. Due to security concerns we cannot say (More on P.6).

Illegal Narcotics Nationals Among 193 Suspects Arrested

PESHAWAR - More than 193 suspects, including Afghan nationals, having legal documents of staying, were arrested during search and strike operation from Peshawar, Nowshera and Swat districts.

According to Senior Superintendent of Police (NSP) Operations, Maqsood, the first search and strike operation was conducted in Ali Mohammda Banda area, close to Bihar Agency Border and arrested at least 43 suspects, including illegal Afghan nationals. The police also claimed to have recovered arms and drugs from the arrested suspects.

In another search operation the Nowshera police also carried out in various areas (More on P-38).

25 Development Projects Completed in Ghor Province

KABUL - 25 infrastructure projects worth AFG 29,104,195 recently completed in Shahr-i-Ara filling station in Ghor province by the National Solidarity Programme of the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development and President Hamid Karzai.

According to NSP Provincial Manager in Ghor province, these development projects include the construction of irrigation canals, water supply networks, micro hydro power stations, irrigation canals, rural roads, culverts and excavation of wells equipped with hand pumps.

Approximately, 2,000 families in various communities have gained access to basic human needs upon completion of these projects (More on P.3).

KABUL - In a letter addressed to the Attorney General’s Office (AGO), President Ashraf Ghani’s suspended legal advisor Abdul Ahad Mohammadali allegedly instructed the legal body to investigate the case of the six Urban Development Ministry officials – a move deemed by legal experts to be outside the purview of the Minister.

According to the document, Mohammadali also reportedly assigned a team to follow up the case, another move beyond his authority.

The urban development officials were arrested early last year at the Afghan border with Tajikistan when they were trying to flee the country.

They were accused of taking bribes in exchange for allotting apartments to high-ranking government officials and constructing above-standard apartments.

This latest document allegedly signed by Mohammadali has led to strong criticism among legal experts, who say that according to the law, an advisor may not instruct a judicial body – especially the AGO – to conduct an investigation into a case. In addition they said Mohammadali did not have the authority to assign a task team to probe a case.

Mohammadali, a professor of law, said: “Mohammadali is not in a position to make decisions. He is clearly an advisor and everything he wants to do has to be done with the president’s approval.”

Passengers Blast Govt. over ‘Insecure’ Highway

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Mohammadali Signs Yet Another ‘Irregular’ Document

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