

(1) Russia to ...

a meeting with Afghanistan's upper house speaker Fazl Hadi Muslimyar.

An ISIL militant stands with a captured Iraqi Army Humvee at a checkpoint outside Beiji refinery, some 250 kilometers (155 miles) north of Baghdad, Iraq, Thursday, June 19, 2014

The danger of Taliban fighters joining ISIL increased after the Afghan army began operations against ISIL, Matvienko added. Central Asia has seen a rise in violent religious extremist groups since the demise of the Soviet Union.

The threat posed by the return home of Central Asian ISIL extremists after taking part in training and combat in Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan was pointed out by Kyrgyz Prosecutor General Indira Joldubayeva on November 11 in Sochi. Instability on the Tajikistan and Turkmenistan borders with Afghanistan also posed a threat of terrorist breakthroughs into Central Asia, Joldubayeva said.

In recent months, the Afghan government has seen a resurgent Taliban and the spread of ISIL into multiple provinces. Up to 3,000 ISIL extremists are thought to be currently operating in Afghanistan, according to the Collective Security Treaty Organization. (Sputnik)

(2) ARG Opposes...

started the process of creating militia to fight the anti-government armed militants amid deteriorating security situation across the country.

Concerns regarding the establishment of militia forces further heightened after reports emerged regarding an agreement reached between Balkh governor Ata Mohammad Noor, Vice-President Gen. Abdul Rashid Dostum and deputy CEO Haji Mohammad Mohaqiq.

However, the statement by ARG said the government is calling on former commanders to encourage their people and supporters to join the Afghan National Security Forces.

The statement further added joining the ANSF ranks and supporting them is the only effective way to maintain security and defend the country's sovereignty and freedom. (KP)

(3) 690 Mln ...

the urgency of acting now," UNICEF Executive Director Anthony Lake said in a statement.

"Today's children are the least responsible for climate change, but they, and their children, are the ones who will live with its consequences. And, as is so often the case, disadvantaged communities face the gravest threat," he added.

According to UNICEF, most of those living in high risk of flood areas are located in Asia, whereas the majority of the children living in areas at risk of drought are in Africa.

COP21, held from Nov. 30 to Dec. 11, will strive to unite world leaders into finding solutions to cut greenhouse gases. (Xinhua)

(4) NSC Calls...

claims and considers the remarks as an excuse for receiving illegal resources to create militia groups and also the remarks are to confuse the public," said Ghorzand.

Meanwhile second deputy speaker for the Afghan Lower House of Parliament Mohammad Nazir Ahmadzai, said Qadir's remarks had been driven by emotions and emphasized that the NSC is against militia groups within the structures of the security forces.

"I think remarks made by Mr. Qadir arose from his emotions and I am opposed to this that the government supports Daesh. Under the circumstances, where security forces are working to defend the country, a militia process is completely not acceptable because the people do not want such thing," said Ahmadzai. In order to clear up misunderstandings and prevent public misconception and strengthen national spirit, the NSC has urged the presidential palace to appoint a task team to investigate Qadir's remarks and his

efforts to create private militia groups. (Tolnews)

(5) EU, EUPOL...

concern over the continuing violations of women's rights in the country. The EU Special Representative in Afghanistan, the EU Delegation and the European Union Police Mission (EUPOL) remain strongly committed to eliminating violence against Afghan women and girls, it said. "Last month yet another young woman was stoned to death. This is totally unacceptable. The Afghan Government must make sure that the ones responsible for this kind of crime are held accountable. I strongly urge the Government to increase its efforts to stop all violence against women," the EU Special Representative for Afghanistan, Franz-Michael Mellbin said.

"It is vital that the Government takes the implementation of the Law on Elimination of Violence against Women seriously. The Afghan legal system must stand up to its obligations and address these problems, punish the perpetrators and bring justice to the victims," Pia Stjernvall, EUPOL Head of Mission in Afghanistan said. (PR)

(6) Senators ...

Parliamentary election will continue. Delay in Parliamentary election is the death of democracy," said Senator Gul Ahmad Azimi.

Meanwhile, a number of Senators expressed concerns over the formation of selecting committee of election commission; emphasizing that professional people must be appointed in this committee.

"We demand the government to appoint impartial and efficient people for this committee," said Senator Fazya Sadat. (ATN)

(7) German Army ...

NATO has withdrawn almost all of its combat troops from Afghanistan, it still has soldiers stationed there to train local forces. Up to about 850 German troops are in Afghanistan on this mission.

The German government said last week it will send 130 more soldiers to support Afghan forces struggling to tackle insurgency.

Afghan Defence Minister Mohammad Masoom Stanekzai welcomed the decision to extend the mission.

"Fighting the terrorism is a task that one alone cannot do that. And I think recent incidents and events show that the new generation of terrorists will require a wider international cooperation," he said, adding that stability in Afghanistan was important for the entire region.

United States General John F. Campbell, who commands both U.S and allied forces in Afghanistan, said continued support was crucial.

"I do see continued progress by the Afghan security forces. It has been a very, very tough fight this past summer. They have been very, very resilient, but they could not do that without the continued donor support and the support from Germany and the other countries in TAAC [Train, Advise, and Assist Command] North."

"Think today's meeting and the commitment I saw around the table, sends a very, very strong message to the national unity government of Afghanistan, to the people of Afghanistan, to the Afghan security forces, and also to the Taliban, that the region, the coalition will continue to support Afghanistan and that they really need to lay down their arms, they need to be part of the peace process and they need to help Afghanistan become a stable country in that region," Campbell said. (Tolnews)

(8) Violence ...

these acts and others as ones of violence and invasion of human rights. Some 125 countries have laws against sexual harassment, 119 have laws against domestic violence, but only 52 countries have laws on marital rape, Phumzile said. We know that leaders, whether CEOs, Prime Ministers, or teachers, can set the tone for zero

tolerance to violence, Phumzile said.

Community mobilization, group interventions for both women and men, educational programmes and empowerment of women are some of the interventions that have impact, when they are put together with other legal, behavioural and social changes, she said.

For example, in Uganda, engaging communities in discussion of unequal power relations between men and women dropped rates of physical violence by men against their partners by half. In Myanmar, provision of legal aid services for rural women is improving access to justice and the training of even a small group of male leaders has been identified as contributing to a change of behaviour in some 40 per cent of those in the target communities, she said.

Phumzile further said in her statement that we are doing pre-deployment training for peacekeepers to be more gender sensitive and to better protect civilian populations in conflict areas. And in the United States, urban police officers trained to recognize the warning signs of intimate partner violence, are making some progress in reducing the numbers of murdered women.

As we launch the Orange the World Campaign today, we already know that tuk-tuk drivers in Cambodia, soccer stars in Turkey, police officers in Albania, school children in South Africa and Pakistan, and hundreds of thousands of others around the world, are all in their own way taking a stand, she added.

We now have, for the first time, explicit targets to eliminate violence against women in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. These demand accelerated action, she said.

She further added that When more than 70 world leaders took the podium in New York at the Global Leaders' Meeting on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment on 27 September 2015, the majority named ending violence against women and girls as a priority for action.

It is indeed a priority. I believe that if we all work together: governments, civil society organizations, the UN system, businesses, schools, and individuals mobilizing through new solidarity movements, we will eventually achieve a more equal world—a Planet 50-50—where women and girls can and will live free from violence, UN Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN Women, Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka said. (PR)

(9) Govt. Offices ...

women - many of whom she says are quite traumatized.

A 17-year-old victim said she was only nine when she was forced to marry an old man who she said was a Taliban fighter and already had a wife and children.

"I was nine years old when he [her then husband] grabbed me away from my parents," she said. "He killed my three-month old baby in front of my eyes."

She said the man, who has since been sentenced to 17 years in jail, raped his young daughter from his first wife. He then later killed the wife.

Another victim from northern Baghlan told TOLONews that her husband "used to tie my legs with chains and turned the house into a jail for me."

"There is no law in Baghlan and anyone can do anything they want to against women," she said.

This comes a day before the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. (Tolnews)

(10) 3 Civil ...

said Jawed Faysal, deputy spokesman of Executive Office. "The selecting committee will begin its work up to this weekend and will present lists about electoral institutions."

In addition to three members of civil society, Zia langary appointed from Human Rights Commission, Mawlawi Din Muhammad Geran from Supreme

Court, Lutful Rahman Hotak appointed from civil services board. (ATN)

(11) Militia Groups...

should be referred to the courts and courts must decide on it."

However, the provincial governor of Nangarhar, Salim Khan Kunduzi, stressed the need for cooperation with government in a legal framework.

"Cooperation with government must occur within a legal framework. We have our regular force who is fighting insurgents and that is legal," Kunduzi said. "We have already cleared this in the past that we will not allow any militia group to operate in the province."

However the NSC on Monday night denied claims made by Qadir that they support Daesh in the country.

The NSC said the allegations are totally baseless and called for a team to be established to investigate Qadir's claims.

Speaking to TOLONews, the NSC's spokesman Tawab Ghorzand said Qadir's claims were an excuse to get illegal resources to establish militia groups. (Tolnews)

(12) Stanekzai to Stay ...

to the new chief," a statement sent to media by Stanekzai stated. "I and other members of the Political Office of the Islamic Emirate declare allegiance to the honourable Mullah Akhtar Mansoor. We consider this decision in accordance with Islamic Sharia and will follow his instructions."

Stanekzai, who ages between 55 and 60 years, was the deputy health minister during Taliban regime and one of the founders of the Qatar political office. (KP)

(13) Afghan, Pakistan ...

Risk Assessment, 2015" - notes that the Haqqani Network generates funds by a wide range of sources including businesses and proceeds derived from criminal activities such as smuggling, extortion, and kidnapping for ransom in Afghanistan and Pakistan

The report claims that Lashkar-e-Taiba receives the majority of its funds from within Pakistan, including by using its charitable front organisations, Jamaat-ud-Dawa (JUD) and Falah-i-Insaniyat Foundation (FIF), to solicit donations.

Lashkar-e-Taiba generates additional funds from private donations and commercial ventures. The report notes that the group's two largest financial hauls come from private donations during Ramadan and profits associated with the collection and sale of animal hides during the Eid-ul-Azha, each of which nets the group millions of dollars.

The report also points out that Faisal Shahzad, who tried to blow up New York's Times Square in May 2010, received about \$4,900 USD in cash from a Pakistan Taliban (TTP) supporter in Pakistan in February 2010. He picked the money up from a gas station attendant, Aftab Ali Khan, in Massachusetts.

The report identifies Khan as an unlicensed money transmitter. Six weeks later, Shahzad received another \$7,000 USD in cash, sent by the same source in Pakistan. This time he collected it in Ronkonkoma, New York, from a Pakistani businessman named Mohammed Younis who was also acting as an unlicensed money transmitter.

The report names another Pakistani national, Saifullah Anjum Ranjha, who pleaded guilty to laundering money and to concealing terrorist financing. He ran an unlicensed money remitter business in the District of Columbia.

Over the course of four years, a cooperating witness gave Ranjha and his associates a total of \$2.2 million USD to transfer abroad, explaining that the funds were the proceeds of, and related to, his involvement in international drug trafficking, international smuggling of counterfeit cigarettes and weapons.

Ranjha conducted 21 transactions in amounts ranging from \$13,000 to \$300,000. He arranged with his associates for the equiv-

alent amount of money, minus commissions, to be delivered to the cooperating witness, his third party designee, or a specified bank account in Canada, England, Spain, Pakistan, Japan and Australia.

Another defendant, not named in the report, is accused of manufacturing heroin in clandestine laboratories along the Afghan border and of leading one of the largest heroin trafficking organisations in the world. The defendant sent the drug to more than 20 countries, including the United States. "Proceeds from his heroin trafficking were then used to support high-level members of the Taliban in furtherance of their insurgency in Afghanistan," the report claims. (Tolnews)

(14) 6 Children ...

NCAIC-2015 was "My Village My Pride". The Afghan Children's Delegation enjoyed the opportunity to interact with students from different States of India as well as from other foreign countries and shared their talents in the field of folk songs, kite flying, drama, painting and crafts etc. with the other children. The visit also gave the Afghan children an opportunity to learn about India culture and heritage and to note the common culture that binds the friendly people of our two ancient and historic countries. The Afghan Children also participated in performing art stage show during the NCAIC-2015 and performed the National 'Attan' and other dances from Afghanistan to the delight of all the participating children. The Afghan children returned to Kabul on 20th November, 2015 with a lifetime of wonderful memories. (PR)

(15) Armenia will...

Wolfgang Hellmich, and Germany's coordinator for Russia, Central Asia, and Eastern Partnership policy, Gernot Erlar.

The parties discussed regional security issues and their threats and challenges as well as Armenian-German cooperation in defense sector.

Seyran Ohanyan briefed his interlocutors on the situation in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict zone, and the Armenian party's positions on the avenues for the resolution of this conflict.

The Armenian defense minister added that the mutual trust between Armenia and Germany in defense sector promotes the development of bilateral ties and cooperation in several other domains, too. (Monitoring Desk)

(16) 200 Nangarhar...

"He said security forces have arrested 27 of these students so far and others are under investigation.

The students carried out a protest recently - many of whom wore masks used by Taliban and Daesh. They said they are tired of the government and they want an Islamic Emirate - referring to Daesh or Taliban-style Islamic rule.

They said the reason for their protest was the rise in corruption, government's failure to address students complaints and poor management at the university.

Footage of the students raising the flags went viral on social media.

However, the university's chancellor, Babrak Meyakhail, rejected the students' claims of poor management at the university. (Tolnews)

(17) Daesh...

are recruiting members." Meanwhile, Baghlan police officials confirmed rumors about Daesh sightings but said they do not have any evidence to prove their presence.

"These days there are rumors about Daesh in Borka district but so far our intelligence agencies have not reported anything on this. But our security forces are ready to fight them in Baghlan (if needed)," said acting police chief of Baghlan Abdul Rashid Bashir. Already, Taliban, Jundallah and Hezb-e-Islami militant groups are active in the province. (Tolnews)

(18) Hezb-Ut-Tahrir...

no system that is based on Islamic

values. "We operate our political thought, stimulate people to know the current system is not the solution," said Sayfullah Mustamer, spokesman of Hezb-ut-Tahrir party.

The Chief of Executive Officer, Abdullah Abdullah has recently said that Hizbu-ut-Tahrir is a civil branch of terrorist groups and had infiltrated many academic institutes in Afghanistan, radicalizing the youth.

CEO emphasized that the activities of this group should be prevented in Afghanistan. (ATN)

(19) French ...

tives, including interim secretary general Markus Kattner.

"We have encountered the problem of security, and examined it in detail," Mutko said. "Now the security measures will naturally be strengthened in connection with the circumstances in the world."

About 7 million supporters visited the fan zones in the host cities during Euro 2012 in Ukraine and Poland. Following the attacks in Paris and at the Stade de France on Nov. 13, there are concerns the designated Euro 2016 areas for the public in each of the 10 host cities could be a target of choice for potential attackers.

The fan zone in Paris is expected to be located on the Champs de Mars, below the Eiffel Tower, with a capacity of 120,000 supporters.

Extra security measures, including a possible ban on backpacks or reinforced video surveillance, will be added to secure the fan zones, with the extra costs being shared between organizers, local authorities and the state. (AP)

(20) Russian...

"This event goes beyond the boundaries of fighting terrorism. It is a stab in the back from accomplices of terrorists," Putin said, according to live broadcast by Russian 24 TV channel.

Putin said that the incident would have serious consequences in the Moscow-Ankara relations as "Russia would not tolerate crimes like what happened today."

Earlier in the day, a Russian Su-24 crashed in Syria "allegedly because of gunfire from the ground," the Russian Defense Ministry said. (Xinhua)

(21) Palestinians ...

to curb the deterioration of the security situation in the wake of a wave of tension that flared up early October.

During his meeting with Netanyahu, Kerry told journalists that he came to talk "about ways to work together, to push back against terrorism, against senseless violence, and to find a way forward to restore calm."

In remarks published by Israeli media, Kerry also expressed condemnation for any act of "terror that takes innocent lives and disrupts the day-to-day life of a nation."

"Clearly, no people anywhere should live with daily violence. Israel has every right to defend itself," Kerry said. (Xinhua)

(22) Cambodia...

and health. Also, an agreement on cooperation between the ruling Cambodian People's Party and the ruling United Russia party was signed.

Prior to the signing ceremony, the two prime ministers held a 90-minute talk, vowing to enhance bilateral ties and cooperation for the benefits of two countries and peoples, Eang Sophalleteh, a spokesman for Hun Sen, told reporters after the meeting.

He said Hun Sen asked Medvedev to encourage more Russian investors to Cambodia and also urged Russia to operate direct flights to Cambodia.

In addition, the prime minister also proposed that Russia purchase Cambodian rice and garment products. (Xinhua)

(23) China Agrees...

tion. The plan set dates for certain phases of the project.

According to the plan, the construction of the railway should begin by the end of 2015, after a feasibility study and financial model are agreed upon, with the railway scheduled to be fully completed in 2017. (Xinhua)