

### (1) 20,000 Families...

aid increases, the World Food Program (WFP) on Sunday announced it was seriously concerned about the safety and food security of the people remaining behind in the battle-torn city.

"WFP is assessing the situation in coordination with other humanitarian partners, and we are ready to extend our assistance to Kunduz as soon as the security situation allows us access," Angeline Rudakubana, Deputy Country Director and Officer-in-Charge for WFP in Afghanistan, said in a statement.

In a press release, WFP said it has started distributing enough food for a month to more than 150 families who fled to the northern city of Mazar-e-Sharif, while food is being dispatched for nearly 950 families displaced to Taloqan city, the capital of neighboring Takhar province.

WFP is funded entirely by voluntary contributions and the crisis in Kunduz comes as the agency struggles with an existing budget shortfall in Afghanistan, according to the agency. Some \$30 million USD is urgently required as winter approaches, WFP said.

This year, WFP Afghanistan plans to assist 3.9 million vulnerable Afghans in all 34 provinces of the country with food assistance through various projects, including assets creation, school meals, vocational skills training and nutrition support.

However, Sharif Amiry, TOLONews's journalist who is reporting from Kunduz said on Sunday that the situation is slowly returning to normal and that people are starting to come out of their homes where possible.

He says that threats still remain in some parts of the city but that security forces have re-taken key areas from insurgents.

Officials have not however provided details about the casualties of the attack. (Tolonews)

### (2) Putin Urges...

attacks, Putin said Russia is ready to cooperate with Turkey to fight with terrorist threats.

On Sept. 30, Russia started to carry out the airstrikes against positions of the extremist group Islamic State (IS) in Syria, a move that had been criticized by the U.S. to be mainly aiming at striking Syria's anti-government rebels.

While claiming the airstrikes have significantly diminished the military capacity of the IS, Russian Defense Ministry confirmed that "constructive" discussions were conducted Saturday during the second video conference with the U.S. on implementation of specific procedures to ensure safe air operations over Syria.

The Russian Defense Ministry said in an online statement that "progress was made during the talks, and the U.S. agreed to another discussion with Russia in the near future."

In the past 24 hours, 55 IS targets in Syria were destroyed during 64 sorties carried out by Russian aircraft, said the ministry. (Xinhua)

### (3) ANSF Gain ...

"The cleanup operation is going on. The latest operational information showed that more than 500 Taliban militants have been killed since the cleanup operations launched 10 days ago," Ghafoori said.

Dozens of security personnel and some 200 civilians have been killed and thousands others fled their houses to safer places since the fall of Kunduz city to the Taliban militants on Sept. 29 and eruption of fighting there, according to locals and officials.

Acting governor of Kunduz province, Hamdullah Daneshi, also reported recapturing major parts of the provincial capital Kunduz city 250 km north of Kabul and government forces have reestablished law and order in some 60 percent of the war-battered city.

According to Deneshi, sporadic fighting has been continuing

in parts of the city and Taliban militants who have hidden in private houses would soon be killed or captured.

However, he said that the government forces have been moving carefully to protect the lives and properties of civilians.

"The Afghan soldiers and commandos described today (Sunday) as 'Kunduz liberation day' and the Taliban militants are kicked out from nearly 60 percent of the city," resident Mohammad Bezhani told Xinhua.

Despite the security forces' advancement in seizing major parts of Kunduz city, most of the shops and bakeries remain closed and the prices of basic needs are still high. Taliban militants are operating on the outskirts of the city and defending their hideouts, according to Xinhua reporter in Kunduz city.

Purported Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid in contact with media has claimed that the Taliban fighters have been defending their positions in and outside Kunduz. (Xinhua)

### (4) Disagreements...

tives therefore he has selected two persons to investigate Kunduz issues, Kunduz issue provoked among the two tribes of Pashtun-Tajik."

President deputy spokesman Zafar Hashimi said, "the following Afghan delegation has been determined to investigate Kunduz fall, and provide much details which side has provided more supports that Kunduz to fall into Taliban Hands."

Meanwhile some of the lower house of the parliament members have criticized the Government for not pursuing the Kunduz issue seriously.

Mr Saleh Mohammad Saleh said, "it's a shame for the Government in 11 days could do nothing to do with Kunduz issue, we are sure the following two members of a group can do nothing for Kunduz."

Time will clear if the following determined and dedicated group to do something for Kunduz. (ATN)

### (5) Afghans Doubt ...

death of Mullah Omar as two days was left to begin second rounds of direct talks with Taliban.

"The news of Mullah Omar should not have been broken just before the start of the second round of talks. I don't know who broke this news and why it was done so just two days before the start of the second round, is still a mystery," he said.

This comes as recently the state department of US announced that US has provided \$250 million in aid to Pakistan to fight against the terrorists in its country. (ATN)

### (6) US Embassy ...

surroundings, monitor local media for updates, and maintain a high level of vigilance." The warning comes as an explosion targeted the convoy of foreign forces in Joy Shir area of Kabul city on Sunday morning. (KP)

### (7) Politicians,

in consultations with political and Jihadi personalities in order to discuss major national issues and get their views regarding the problems," Hashemi said.

Meanwhile, Ghani has also endorsed the formation of a joint committee aimed at bolstering the ongoing efforts to improve the situation, one of the dialogue members said on Sunday.

Following the fall of Kunduz to the Taliban, concerns drastically increased among Afghans over the recent spate of threats with some accusing the government of not taking inclusive measures to curb insurgency.

It appears that current economic and security issues brought former Jihadi leaders and politicians together to review challenges and offer explicit proposals to government. (Tolonews)

### (8) Hekmatyar in...

News said Riyadh has demanded Hekmatyar to stage

terror attacks on the lives of senior Islamabad officials after they refrained from joining the Saudi-led coalition in the war on Yemen.

"The Saudi kingdom has demanded the leader of Afghanistan's Hezb-e Islami to stage the terror operations in Pakistan to take revenge from Islamabad for its defiance," the website wrote.

The report said Riyadh has demanded Hekmatyar to stage a series of terror operations on the lives of Pakistani leaders, figures and tribes, but declined to reveal any further details. (FNA)

### (9) Turkey in...

suicide bombers had carried out the attack.

Turkey declared three days of mourning after Saturday's attack, the deadliest ever in Turkey.

No group has said it carried out the attack, but Mr Davutoglu suggested that Kurdish rebels or the Islamic State (IS) group were to blame.

The blasts took place near the city's central train station as people gathered for a march organised by leftist groups demanding an end to the violence between the Kurdish separatist PKK militants and the Turkish government.

Amateur video footage showed a group of young people holding hands and singing, as the first blast hits. The explosions left 245 people injured, with 48 of them in a serious condition. (BBC)

### (10) US to ...

Program in Afghanistan, and if necessary additional authority will be sought from Congress.

"If necessary and appropriate, the administration will seek additional authority from the Congress," he said, adding that the payments will go to "civilian non-combatants injured and the families of civilian non-combatants killed as a result of U.S. military operations."

Earlier this week, President Obama apologized to the head of the Doctors Without Borders after NATO and U.S. forces commander in Afghanistan said that the airstrike was a mistake.

In his testimony to the Senate Armed Services Committee last week, Gen. John Campbell said that the decision to conduct the airstrike was made within the US chain of command.

"To be clear, the decision to provide aerial fires was a US decision made within the US chain of command," he said, adding that "A hospital was mistakenly struck. We would never intentionally target a protected medical facility." Including 12 staffers of MSF, 22 people were killed and 37 others wounded in the airstrike. (KP)

### (11) UN Helps ...

who fled to the northern city of Mazar-e-Sharif, while food is being dispatched for nearly 950 families displaced to Taloqan city, the capital of neighboring Takhar province.

WFP said it has also provided emergency supplies of wheat flour fortified with vitamins and minerals to the Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA), which contracted bakeries to make bread for displaced people.

"So far 1,800 people in a camp in Mazar-e-Sharif have received bread," the agency said. "Additional wheat is being milled in anticipation of increased needs in the coming days."

But WFP said: "Right now, we have the capacity to provide one-month of rations to approximately 12,000 families in the region. This will, however, require a diversion of resources from our existing programs, and we are urgently looking to donors to fill the gap."

WFP is funded entirely by voluntary contributions and the crisis in Kunduz comes as the agency struggles with an existing budget shortfall in Afghanistan, according to the agency. Some \$30 million USD is urgently required as winter

approaches, WFP said. Between the fall of Kunduz nearly two weeks ago, and the closure of the Kunduz Airport two days later, WFP said it helped evacuate nearly 200 aid workers and their families to safety.

"WFP is seriously concerned about the safety and food security of people remaining in Kunduz, as fighting intensifies," it said.

This year, WFP Afghanistan plans to assist 3.9 million vulnerable Afghans in all 34 provinces of the country with food assistance through various projects, including assets creation, school meals, vocational skills training and nutrition support. (Tolonews)

### (12) NAI Condemns ...

Nangarhar to carry out an investigation into the attacks and arrest the perpetrators.

No group has immediately claimed responsibility for the explosions but they come few days after Taliban militants attacked the offices of media organizations in northern Kunduz province.

Taliban damaged equipment of the media organizations during their raid on the city. (KP)

### (13) Kunduz Families...

if someone wants to die go to Kunduz. But I will change this perception and will say that if you want to live in peace go to Kunduz."

"What kind of leaders are they? They (Abdullah and Ghani) came to Kunduz during their election campaigns and pleaded with the people to vote for them. But today they do not bother to come to see for themselves what people are dealing with. Neither of them have come back to Kunduz after the elections," said Meena, another member of a displaced family.

The fall of Kunduz has left tens of thousands of residents homeless with the majority of them seeking refuge in Baghlan, Kabul and Takhar provinces.

According to officials, 20,000 families are registered as having been displaced by the Kunduz crisis in the past two weeks. They say this means over 100,000 people are in need of assistance.

One civil society activist, Abdullah Rasooli said: "Reports which we have on the condition of families (who fled to) several provinces are quite worrying - particularly regarding their health."

The key city of Kunduz collapsed to the Taliban nearly two weeks ago. Reports of major human rights violations committed by the Taliban during the siege have also emerged - these include mass murders, rapes and looting. (Tolonews)

### (14) Family's ...

was martyred and I was wounded," said the man.

In addition, the family's home was then seized by Taliban militants. However, security forces were able to eliminate them on Saturday.

"The Taliban had control over the area until yesterday [Saturday] but our area is under control of security forces now and we are happy," said another Kunduz resident.

According to Amiry, the residents' main hope is to see the day when peace and security is restored in their city and the entire province and they can once again walk freely on the streets. (Tolonews)

### (15) Analysts...

should get Kunduz out of this situation," said Rahim Khan, a displaced person from Kunduz.

Another displaced resident Shaima Baburi said: "We do not want to live in other provinces. We want our province secured as soon as possible."

The Taliban captured Kunduz city two weeks ago and have held on to parts of the city since their well-planned attack. Military operations started immediately after the siege but still threats remain - especially that of insurgents hiding out in civilian homes. (Tolonews)

### (16) No Jail ...

his recommendation on Monday, but the Army hadn't said what Visger recommended. Gen. Robert Abrams, the commanding general of U.S. Army Forces Command, will ultimately decide whether the case should be referred to a court-martial. No timeline has been given for a decision from Abrams. (Agencies)

### (17) Terrorism...

TO-led coalition forces ended their combat mission in late December 2014 and withdrew from Afghanistan leaving behind 13,000 troops to train and advise Afghan national forces.

Thereafter, the Taliban and like-minded militant groups have intensified their activities and challenged the Afghan security forces by opening fronts in different provinces and capturing some districts.

Taliban fighters recently overran major parts of the strategically important Kunduz city, the capital of Kunduz province along the border with Tajikistan on Sept. 29 and the government forces have yet to wipe out the militants and ensure law and order there.

And the U.S.'s assistance to Afghan forces hasn't always been smooth sailing, as with the recent bombing of a Medicine Sans Frontier hospital last Saturday, which killed 22 people including 12 hospital staff and injured 37 others including some patients, while 24 hospital staff are still unaccounted for.

Taliban militants have also penetrated into parts of Badakhshan province which borders Pakistan, China and Tajikistan. Afghan observers believe that the U.S.-led coalition's war on terror has paved the ground to further spread religious extremism in Afghanistan and the wider region.

According to observers, in 2001, the Taliban and al-Qaida networks were still active in Afghanistan, but 14 years after launching the U.S.-led war on terror, in addition to the Taliban and al-Qaida, more terrorist groups such as the so-called Islamic State (IS) commonly known here as Daesh, the Haqqani network, Jandullah and other extremist groups have emerged in the militancy-plagued country.

Besides the Islamic State and other terrorist groups, Afghanistan has also topped the list of drug producing countries since launching the war on terror, Afghan analyst Masoud said.

"The failure to eliminate terrorism has enabled terrorist groups to grow in Afghanistan and that is why today there are more terrorist groups such as Daesh fighting alongside Taliban militants to destabilize the region," NazariPariani, another political watcher and editor-in-chief at the Daily Mandegar newspaper, told Xinhua.

The war on terror will take more time than expected and Afghans will further suffer at the hand of terrorists, the analyst added. (Xinhua)

### (18) Russia's ...

arm moderate rebels, which generated only a handful of fighters, many of whom surrendered or were captured almost immediately. The scheme was finally scrapped on Friday. (Xinhua)

### (19) 49 PKK

unilateral cease fire on Saturday, saying that they will avoid armed actions unless they face an attack.

Tension has been running high, especially in southeastern Turkey, amid a major military operation against PKK militants since July when a cease-fire fell apart.

The PKK is designated a terrorist organization by Turkey, the European Union and the United States. (Xinhua)

### (20) Israel ...

West Bank and east Jerusalem, while others were shot dead by security forces after allegedly committing stabbing attacks. More than ten stabbing attacks against Israelis took place in the past three days.

Dozens of Israelis were wounded in the attacks in varying

degrees, with more than 1,000 Palestinians wounded in the past week.

According to the Palestinian Red Crescent, 568 Palestinians were wounded in the West Bank and east Jerusalem in clashes with Israeli security forces on Saturday, out of which 26 were injured by live fire, 148 by rubber bullets and 408 by tear gas. (Xinhua)

### (21) 3 Ex-PMs...

percent of British exports go to Europe, adding up to 227 billion pounds (348 billion U.S. dollars) in sales last year. (Xinhua)

### (22) China to...

with similar heritage events, he said.

"China will ensure these valuable documents are protected and circulated, and make them play a positive role in remembering history, cherishing peace, looking into the future and safeguarding human dignity," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying said.

Nanjing Massacre documents are mainly housed in the Second Historical Archives of China, the Nanjing Municipal Archives and the Nanjing Massacre Memorial Hall. (Xinhua)

### (23) Uzbekistan...

ernization and help in manufacturing of goods competitive in both domestic and external markets, as well as introduction of modern corporate governance practices. (Agencies)

## Former Sri Lankan Rebel Leader Turned Politician Arrested

COLOMBO - Former Sri Lankan Tamil Tiger rebel and Chief Minister of the Eastern Province, Sivanesthirai-Chandranthar alias Pilyan, was arrested by the Criminal Investigations Department (CID) on Sunday. Pilyan's spokesman Azad Maulana told Xinhua that the CID had gone to his house in the Eastern town of Batticaloa on Saturday night with a warrant to arrest him.

However, he was not at home and as a result he visited the CID office on Sunday where he was arrested.

Pilyan was arrested in connection to the murder of Joseph Pararajasingham, a senior minority Tamil politician and former Batticaloa district MP of the Tamil National Alliance (TNA), who was shot dead in December 2005 at St. Mary's co-cathedral church in the Batticaloa town while attending Christmas prayers.

Pilyan was part of the Tamil MakalViduthalaiPulikal (TMVP) at the time Pararajasingham was killed.

The TMVP had split from the Tamil Tigers and fought against the Tigers but an internal rift in the TMVP saw Pilyan and then TMVP leader Karuna Amman go their separate ways and in 2007 Pilyan was made leader of the TMVP.

The TMVP contested the Eastern Provincial Council elections in 2008 and won and Pilyan was made chief minister.

The former government of Mahinda Rajapaksa used Pilyan to promote the idea of terrorist turned politician who entered democracy.

However, human rights groups said that Pilyan should be investigated for the crimes he had committed as a Tamil Tiger member and as a TMVP fighter. (Xinhua)

## S.Korean President to Visit U.S. for Summit next Week

SEOUL - South Korean President Park Geun-hye will make a state visit to the United States next week to hold a summit with U.S. President Barack Obama, the presidential office Cheong WaDae said Sunday. President Park will arrive in the United States on Tuesday for her second visit to its closest ally since she took office in early 2013, according to her office. Park will hold her fourth bilateral summit with President Obama in Washington next Friday. JuChulki, senior advisor to Park for foreign affairs, told reporters that it will be an opportunity of significance to exchange views between the two leaders about peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula and U.S.-South Korea alliance. During her stay, Park will also visit the Pentagon next Thursday for the first time since her inauguration. (Xinhua)