Millions Embezzled in Ghost Teacher Scam: Baghlan Officials

SARE-E-PUL - The Baghlan attorney general’s office is investigating claims that over 100 so-called ghost teachers are registered in the Baghlan-e-Markaz district of the province, which in turn costs the department millions of Afghis a year.

The attorney general’s office has said that evidence received by the court indicates that millions of Afghis are embezzled in salaries for these non-existent teachers. According to the officials, the appeal court has launched an investigation into the case.

Reeling to the allegations, the acting head of Baghlan education department has called the accusations groundless, stating that no ghost teachers exist in the province.

Peaceful Afghanistan Guarantees Regional Stability: Asif

ISLAMABAD - Addressing a security town hall meeting on Saturday, Pakistan’s Defense Minister Khawaja Asif called for regional peace and stability while warning China's role in finding a political resolution of the Afghan problem.

"A stable and peaceful Afghanistan is a guarantee for peace and stability of Pakistan and the region. It is only through peace and stability that the real benefits from projects like China-Pakistan Economic Corridor could be accrued benefiting a new era of development and prosperity," he said. Speaking at the event, Asif said. (More on Page 16)

MSF Says Bombing of Afghan Hospital No Mistake

KABUL - The head of the MSF in Afghanistan said on Thursday that his organization does not accept the explanation of the US military that a misidentification caused the strike.

The attack, which killed 12 people, was carried out on Wednesday morning and caused massive damage to the hospital.

Over 300 Afghan Trucks Stuck at Torkham Crossing

KABUL - The Taliban's recent attacks on Torkham have been escalating and the situation is rapidly deteriorating.

Nearly 200 Insurgents Reportedly Killed in Ghazni Attack

GHAZNI CITY - A number of local officials told Afghanistan Times that at least 200 Taliban insurgents were killed in an attack on the city.

Iran Deal closer to Reality as U.S. Prepares Sanctions Waivers

NEW YORK - The United States was set to issue conditional sanctions waivers for Iran on Monday, though it confirmed they will not take effect until Tehran has cut its nuclear program as required under a historic nuclear deal reached in Vienna on July 14.

Several senior U.S. officials, who spoke to Reuters on condition of anonymity, said that despite Washington's now on Sunday, actual implementation of the deal was likely several months away.

The sanctions relief in turn would be lifted after the implementation of sanctions that would begin to roll back in October. They said the timing of the re-imposition of sanctions relief will depend on the speed at which Iran takes the steps needed to enable the U.S. nuclear watchdog to verify Tehran's compliance.

The United States, Britain, France, Germany, Russia and China reached an agreement under which most sanctions on Iran were lifted on June 28.

KABUL - The Taliban’s recent attacks on Torkham have been escalating and the situation is rapidly deteriorating.

Nearly 200 Insurgents Reportedly Killed in Ghazni Attack

GHANZI CITY - A number of local officials told Afghanistan Times that at least 200 Taliban insurgents were killed in an attack on the city.

In addition, 50 other insurgents were reported.

Ahmadzai Al-Amin, deputy provincial governor has said that a number of Taliban commanders were killed in the battle, which is still ongoing.

Abdul said that the insurgents last week closed the Kabul-Kandahar highway in parts of the province for three days and also attacked the security officials.

No civilians were killed and 30 others including four police were wounded.

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