

Quote of the Day

People want economy and they will pay any price to get it.

Lee Iacocca

Enemies Tried Hard to Bring Down Govt: Abdullah

KABUL - Abdullah Abdullah, the Chief Executive of the National Unity Government (NUG), on Sunday said that Afghanistan's enemies have done everything in their power to bring down the government.

Speaking at a press conference in Kabul, Abdullah however assured the nation that the "enemies have failed and the country is not on the verge of collapse".

"The enemies of the country put all their efforts into bringing down this system since the withdrawal of foreign troops. But our forces were able to protect the country"

Abdullah said that on the issue of the



peace process "mistakes will not be repeated and this time the government will go into negotiations from a stronger standpoint."

"On the peace process the talks should happen from a stronger standpoint and the power of legitimacy of the Afghan people that want peace and stability."

He also welcomed U.S. President Barack Obama's decision to delay troop withdrawal from Afghanistan.

Abdullah acknowledged the NUG was facing some issues especially with regards to the security situation, ...*(More on P4)...(1)*

Afghan Officials Sought Cooperation on Combating Terrorism in Russia-China

KABUL - Afghanistan is an independent country and could demand supports from those countries where its National interests are sought.

Russia-China has fears from expansion of terrorism in Afghanistan stating terrorism may reach Middle East one day.

Deputy spokesman of President Sayed Zafar Hashimi pointed out on the trip of head of security council and acting defense Minister to Russia and China said the following two Afghan officials are trying to draw the attention and commitments of the those two countries on combating terrorism in Afghanistan.

Meanwhile some of the National assembly members have insisted in having the Russia ...*(More on P4)...(4)*

UN Chief New Global Agenda can help Eradicate Poverty

UNITED NATIONS - "Ours can be the first generation to witness a world without extreme poverty," said UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, while urging global action to fully implement the newly-adopted goals of the UN 2030 Agenda in his message to mark the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty on Saturday.

This year's observance of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty falls as the world embarks on a bold new path toward a future of dignity for all guided by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, said Ban.

This year's theme -- "Building a sustainable future: Coming together to end poverty and discrimination" -- highlights the need to focus greater at-



tention on the excluded and marginalized members of the human family, he said.

The target of halving extreme poverty in the world, set 15 years ago by the landmark Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), has already been reached in 2015.

"Spurred on by the global

mobilization behind the Millennium Development Goals, the world has made extraordinary progress in reducing extreme poverty. Over the past 25 years, more than one billion people have been lifted above the poverty threshold," he said. However, more than ...*(More on P4)...(5)*

Over 1,900 People Wounded in Kunduz Siege: MoPH

KABUL - New figures from the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) released on Saturday reveal that more than 1,900 people - including security force members and civilians - were wounded in the recent Kunduz battle - which is still ongoing in parts of the northern province.

The ministry said that over 50 people were killed in the clashes, adding that the toll is of those who died in hospitals. according to the latest information, at least 1,920 civilian and military people were wounded in the clashes in Kunduz, in different districts including Dashte Archi and a district from Takhar," said Dr. Qamaruddin Seddiqi, adviser to the Deputy Minister of Public Health.

According to ...*(More on P4)...(3)*

Ghormach District Falls to the Taliban

MAIMNA - The Ghormach district of northern Faryab province reportedly fell to the Taliban early Sunday after heavy clashes broke out with security forces, sources told TOLONews.

A source said on condition of anonymity that the Taliban attacked Ghormach at about 2 am local time and took control of the district governor's compound and the police headquarters after heavy clashes with security forces.

The source said that government employees have been moved to a military base in the district which is also now surrounded by insurgents. The source said that "if the troops do not receive air support, the military base will also fall to the Taliban". However, the local security officials have not yet commented on the incident. *(Tolonews)*

Senator Lindsey Graham Obama 'Just Made up a Number'

KABUL - Republican 2016 hopeful Senator Lindsey Graham says U.S. President Barack Obama "just made up a number" on Afghan troop levels, and says more forces are needed to stabilize the country.

Graham told radio HOST John Catsimatidis on "The Cats Roundtable" airing on 970 New York on Sunday that Obama made the right



move by keeping troops on the ground in Afghanistan, but caved to political pressure by agreeing to cut the force in half by 2016.

"Here's the one thing, this is typical Obama: 9,800 is what we have, and that's what we need," Graham said. "And he said, 'Well, OK, I'm gonna leave 'em there, but by the end of 2016, we're going to ...*(More on P4)...(6)*

Chinese Envoy Iran Could Help Afghanistan Peace Process



ISLAMABAD - Chinese ambassador to Pakistan whose own country is trying hard to bring Afghanistan Taliban and Kabul government to negotiation table, believes that regional countries including Iran could play an effective role in Afghanistan peace process.

Iran could help Afghanistan peace process: Chinese envoy to Pakistan

In an interview with IRNA, Sun Weidong said, 'Peace process in Afghanistan should move ahead and we hope that Afghanistan could enjoy peace and stability and this is our basic position.'

Commenting on the importance of Afghanistan peace process and its impact on the mega-project of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, the ...*(More on P4)...(2)*

Afghanistan Eying Iran's Experience in Mining Sector

TEHRAN - Afghan Mines and Petroleum Minister Daud Shah Saba in a meeting with Iranian Deputy Industry and Mines Minister Mehdi Karbasian said Afghanistan has huge mining resources and can benefit from Iran's invaluable experiences in this field.

"Afghanistan welcomes expansion of mutual cooperation, particularly in mining and customs, in line with both sides' rules and regulations," Shah Saba said on Saturday. He added that Iranian companies can invest in Afghanistan as running rules and regulations support such ventures.

Karbasian, in return, said that high officials in Iran are determined to expand and bolster all-out relations and cooperation between the two neighboring countries.

"The Islamic Republic of Iran is determined to employ all its capabilities and facilities to transfer its experiences and services to Afghanistan," Karbasian said.

"Grounds for expansion of jointly run projects and investments between Iran and Afghanistan are well prepared," he stated, "Iran and Afghanistan through joint investments can target global markets."

Earlier this month, Afghan Road Minister Seyed Sa'adat Mansour Naderi in a meeting with his Iranian counterpart Abbas Akhondi in Tehran called for Iran to share its experiences in improving urban areas with Afghanistan.

In this meeting, the two top officials conferred on mutual cooperation in housing construction and urban development, and the Afghan ...*(More on P4)...(7)*

Senators Welcome US Move But Call for Action



KABUL - A number of senators in the Meshrano Jurga (Upper House of Parliament) on Sunday welcomed the decision by US President Barack Obama to delay the draw down of troops and maintain the current level up to the end of 2016. However, the senators stressed that the US - along with extending troops presence - should increase political, military and economic pressure on Pakistan. "We welcome the presence of foreign troops in Afghanistan but this presence will be effective when our troops are equipped and are better able to fight the enemy," said Faisal Sami, a senator.

They also urged the United States to target terrorist safe havens in Pakistan. The sena-

tors believe that the Taliban's extended activities in parts of the country have resulted in Obama's decision to maintain the present troop level but that this time their aim should be to eliminate the Taliban.

"The US, besides extending its military presence in Afghanistan, should take a clear stance towards Pakistan and stop Pakistan's interference in Afghanistan," said Sher Mohammad Akhundzada, another senator.

Other senators meanwhile believe that the extension of US military presence in Afghanistan should deliver on strengthening Afghan security forces and eliminate terrorist safe havens outside Af ...*(More on P4)...(8)*

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