

**(1) Most of ...**

investing in the economic sector and other sectors in Afghanistan," he said.

He added they also asked about increasing of education scholarships for Afghans which they agreed on. "Discussions were also held over building of a clinic in Afghanistan. This will start soon," according to Abdullah. (ToloneWS)

**(2) Barmak Calls...**

committed repression and fraud and sabotaged the process, then reforms will mean something," Barmak said.

In reference to Barmak's remarks, meanwhile, the CEO's office said the legal and judicial bodies will take proper action against corrupt officials once the new members of the election commission have been appointed.

"Those who committed treason on the ballot papers of the people of Afghanistan must respond to their act of treason," said Jawed Faisal, deputy spokesman to the CEO.

"It is the responsibility of the legal and judicial institutions to tackle the issue," said deputy presidential spokesman Dawa Khan Menapal. In addition, the Office of the Attorney General of Afghanistan (AGO) has also said that the concerned body will take necessary measures to probe the issue if complaints against individuals are lodged.

"The attorney general is committed to following the case seriously and serve the law equally on all," said Jamshid Rasoli, spokesman for the AGO.

"If someone has not done his duty and moved the country towards a crisis and brought disunity and disintegration then he must be punished," said MP Sayed Hussain Sharifi Balkhahi.

Following the revelations of corruption during the elections, Ghani's rival Abdullah suspended all cooperation with the IEC and accused its members of rigging the elections.

However, Ahmad Yousuf Nuristani, who at the time was serving as IEC chief, was removed from his position.

However, he was recently appointed as Afghan ambassador to Spain, a move that drew strong reaction from Abdullah.

Nuristani's appointment also sparked strong reaction by Minister of Foreign Affairs Salahuddin Rabbani.

Reports surfaced that ties between the president and the foreign minister were strained following the appointment. (ToloneWS)

**(3) UN Stresses ...**

One key finding of the report is that, notwithstanding the Water Law's comprehensive regulatory scheme, users continue to rely predominantly on local water masters to resolve disputes. This is largely due to gaps in the Water Law's scope and associated administrative structure, the report noted.

Director of UNAMA's Rule of Law Unit Michael E. Hartmann said the finding "confirms that the challenge is not with the law as written but, rather, with the law as implemented," and that "UNAMA will continue to assist in achieving broader implementation of the Water Law." (Pajhwok)

**(4) Fighting Gets ....**

the armed insurgents who are in control of some districts in the poppy growing Helmand province launched a major offensive in the strategically important Chora district in the neighboring Uruzgan province on Saturday.

"The enemies launched offensives on security checkpoints around the center of Chora district Saturday morning ensuing heavy fighting," spokesman for provincial government Dost Mohammad Nayab told Xinhua.

Nevertheless, the official said that the Taliban offensive has been repulsed and the militants' attempt to overrun central bazaar of the besieged Chora district has been foiled.

If Chora district is captured by Taliban, the armed outfit could attack Uruzgan provincial capital Tirmakot, according to local observers. Meantime, Qari Yusuf Ahmadi who claims to speak for the Taliban outfit, in contact with media confirmed the clash in Chora district, claiming three security checkpoints have been captured in the fighting which is continuing.

Local analysts believe that both the government and Taliban militants have speeded up operations to gain ground before the onset of freezing winter that usually falls in mid-November.

Meantime, Defense Ministry spokesman Dawlat Waziri said recently that the government forces would launch winter offensive against militants to diminish their

fighting forces in the chilly weather. (Xinhua)

**(5) Tagab ...**

orchard produced 35kg of prune last year against 560kg this year, earning him Rs140,000, a multi-fold increase.

He said earlier they would search for businessmen to purchase their prune but this year buyers were searching for gardeners.

Ziaulhaq, a prune trader, told Pajhwok Afghan News they bought the fruit from gardeners and after transferring to Jalalabad, they took the fruit to Peshawar.

He said this year prune production was good, causing a hike in its price and businessmen in Peshawar also bought it with very interest.

Kapisa farmers and gardeners asked the government to find a good market for their fruits and other corps in order improve their economy.

They demanded cold rooms for storing harvests before selling them against higher prices.

Kapisa Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock Department head Abdul Wahab Nasimi said not enough agriculture work could be done in Tagab district due to security issues.

Tagab district is famous for its seedless pomegranates and prune fruits, which are also exported to foreign countries. (Pajhwok)

**(6) Breast Cancer...**

mother or a daughter has breast cancer in a family, the rest of the female siblings of the family also should see a doctor. Because this is a genetic disease," said Shirin Aqa Zarif, head of Kabul Medical University.

In recent months, nearly 950 patients who have got breast cancer have been referred to the center of diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer in Kabul city. But most of the patients do not go to medical centers due to the poor economy and lack of awareness about the disease. (ToloneWS)

**(7) IDPs Blast ...**

students have been deprived of education and teachers have been without salaries and around 795 displaced families to Baharak district have been living in a very bad situation. "They even don't have drinking water."

Haji Masoom, one of the elders from Warduj said many women and girls fled to Baharak due to Taliban's atrocities. "They don't know where to go and where to live."

"We strongly urge the government to launch operations in Warduj as the displaced people are living in a very bad condition," he added.

Abdullah Naji Nazari, a member of Badakhshan provincial council, said an operation launched this earlier to recapture the district had failed and resulted in many casualties.

However, Governor Ahmad Faisal Begzad told Pajhwok News Agency he had always insisted about clearing operation in Warduj district at National Security Council meeting in order the displaced people could return to their homes.

"This is a shame for us that Warduj and Yamgan districts are under control of Taliban for more than a year, we are serious about operations but we will need assistance and support of Air Force, commandoes and other security forces. The operations to retake the district will be launched soon", he added. (Pajhwok)

**(8) Senators Want ....**

to alter Afghan security forces' attention and to create hurdles to them in conducting operations against insurgents.

Nisar Haris, another upper house member, voiced support for the peace process and said the peace negotiations with insurgents should be intra-Afghan.

"The government has earlier decided not to negotiate with Pakistan but a Pakistani military delegation is set to enter Kabul soon and I want the Meshrano Jirga to issue a statement and prevent them from coming to Afghanistan because the country has never been sincere with Afghanistan's quest for peace."

He cautioned the Afghan government to be very clever because Pakistan was using different tricks to reach its goals.

Farhad Sakhi, the 1st deputy chairman of Meshrano Jirga, said: "I also support the peace negotiations with insurgents, and the Afghanistan's peace doors are open to all and we welcome them to the country to live in a peaceful environment."

He also opposed peace negotiations with insurgents by involving Pakistan. "Pakistan cannot befriend and we shouldn't again witness bad experience with the

country." (Pajhwok)

**(9) 21 Suspects ...**

police district of the city and were demanding \$6 million ransom for his release.

Another businessman, Haji Rozuddin was kidnapped by the group led by Nangialai from the vicinity of Pul-e-Charkhi and were demanding \$600,000 for his release, NDS said, adding that suspects Ali Ahmad and Ali Yawar kidnapped a child from the 13th police district and were demanding AFN 600,000 for his release.

The individuals were also involved in the kidnapping of a school student who was kidnapped from Shakar Dara district and his captors were demanding \$500,000 for his release, NDS said.

The suspect Elias was involved in the murder of three civilians and was sentenced to death by Parwan provincial court but was arrested during a special operation conducted by intelligence operatives after he managed to escape, NDS added.

According to NDS, a former police official, Syed Ashraf, was also among the kidnapers and was demanding \$153,000 ransom for the release of a man whom he had kidnapped.

NDS also added that Mirwais who was also involved in human smuggling was arrested after he kidnapped a Pakistani man from Turkey and was demanding \$20,000 for his release as he keeping the man in Bagram district. (KP)

**(10) Opium Poppy ...**

account for 84 percent of the total opium poppy cultivation in Afghanistan, the yield increases in these regions had a strong impact on the national potential opium production," the statement noted.

"The new report shows a worrying reversal in efforts to combat the persistent problem of illicit drugs and their impact on development, health and security," Yury Fedotov, UNODC executive director, was quoted in the statement as saying.

He has urged the international community to lend their support to achieving the sustainable development goals in Afghanistan, including vital work on a peaceful and inclusive society, health, poverty, peace, and gender, among many others, the statement noted.

The report also revealed a setback in the fight against the illegal drugs, particularly a decrease in the eradication of poppy fields.

"A total of 355 hectares of poppy eradication was carried out by the provincial Governors in 2016. This represented a decrease of 91 percent from 2015 when 3,760 hectares were eradicated. In 2016, eradication took place in seven provinces, compared to 12 provinces in 2015," according to the statement.

"During the latest eradication campaign eight lives were lost and seven people were injured. In 2015, five lives were lost and 18 people were injured."

In 2015, some 3,300 tons of opium was produced in Afghanistan and some 1.9 million to 2.4 million adult drug addicts have been living in the country. (Xinhua)

**(11) Torkham Mayor....**

Meanwhile, another government source said former governor Salim Khan Kunduzi had initiated steps to fire the Torkham mayor during his last days in office.

He said the mayor had been accused of selling government lands, allowing construction of private residences on municipality areas, embezzlement of municipality's budget and trying to prevent the construction of a big terminal in Torkham by the Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation.

He said the mayor was fired following an investigation conducted by the National Security Council.

The Nangarhar appellant court judge, Abdul Ahad Haidari, said nothing about the mayor but claimed arresting 11 individuals over allegedly taking bribe in Torkham.

He said four of the detained officials worked at customs department, three at commissary, two at municipality and two at the Ministry of Public Works.

The sacked Torkham Mayor Hamidullah wrote on his Facebook wall that the decision of sacking him was acceptable to him.

He said some persons had given wrong information to the authorities but the truth would soon become known. (Pajhwok)

**(12) Taliban Attack ...**

would enable the militant group to threaten the provincial capital. Meanwhile, an official on the condition of anonymity claimed that the Taliban fighters have captured some security checkpoints and fighting has been continuing be-

tween security forces and militants in the area.

Taliban militants have yet to comment. (Xinhua)

**(13) Fearing Congo ...**

virus had created concerns among people. "In the past, I sold meat of three to four sheep a day, but now I cannot sell even seven kilograms." He asked the officials concerned to find a solution to the problem; otherwise butchers would quit their business.

Mohammad Ibrahim, a resident of Ghazni City, confirmed people had also stopped consuming milk and yogurt.

Ahmad Zia, a resident of Andar district, said: "Yes, there concerns among residents over possible Congo virus spread. A few days ago, I attended a wedding function, where guests eschewed eating meat."

However, Public Health Director Zia Gul Asfandi said the virus could not be transferred through meat or dairies. "It's a dangerous disease, but the virus cannot resist in 80Co and -8Co temperatures, meat is cooked at 100 Co, so people should not worry about eating meat or dairy products."

The Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) was trying to find a remedy and people should wait until a solution was found, she added.

A doctor at Ghazni Civil Hospital, Mohammad Hussain Erfani, said the virus could be transmitted from an affected person to another by Hyalomma ticks or by the transfusion of blood donated by the a Congo patient.

Initial signs of the virus include headaches, high fever, backache, joints pain, stomach issues and vomiting. Red eyes, a flushed face, a red throat, and petechiae (red spots) on the palate are common signs of it.

At the initial stage, the disease could be cured and patients should visit health centers immediately, he said. "If this virus is seen in meat, it should be properly cooked," he explained.

According to MoPH officials, Congo virus cases have been detected in 14 provinces of the country. Fifty-three cases were registered in western Herat province alone. Congo, more correctly called Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever (CCHF), is an infectious disease caused by a tick-borne virus. The disease is named so because it was first described in Crimea (1944) and identified properly in Congo (1956).

It is transferred by ticks, mostly from Hyalomma genus, to both domestic animals and humans. It is similar to other viral hemorrhagic fevers, including Dengue and Ebola. (Pajhwok)

**(14) Children's ...**

to address the problem and promote learning and education among children.

"If we go to the root of the problem ... I think we can still find a major vacuum in this respect, we have still a classic idea regarding the educational curriculum in the country," said Mohammad Fazil Sharifi, a local academic.

"The ministry of education reviews its curriculum once in three years. But we plan to review Afghanistan's educational curriculum once again, but very analytically so that systematic changes are put in place," said Mujib Mehrdad, the spokesman for the MoE.

Currently, of the estimated 14 million children in Afghanistan, only nine million have access to education.

But 190 children's rights are active in the country. However the number of child laborers in the country is still on the rise with an estimated one million children working on the streets alone. (ToloneWS)

**(15) Dhaka Conference ...**

Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Myanmar and the Philippines were invited to the two-day conference to discuss how journalists and media could coordinate their activities and work in more effective manner during humanitarian emergencies. ICRC officials said it was the time to engage journalists and civil society groups in taking forward humanitarian mission. (Pajhwok)

**(16) Sar-E-Pul....**

security forces at such a sensitive time," said Mohammad Azim Qoyash, a senator.

The residents said they are fed up with the Taliban in the vulnerable parts of the province and they are ready to fight the insurgents.

"We assure the local police and commanders that we will support them for a better life and for better security in Sar-e-Pul province," said Syed Assadullah Danish, Sar-e-Pul provincial council deputy.

"Taliban, Inter-Service Intelligence (ISI) of Pakistan and Haqqani net-

work once again want to kill our people and destroy our homes," said Kaml, the local uprising group's commander.

Meanwhile provincial police chief Abdul Qayum Baqizoy, who praised people for their support of the security forces, said that such action increases the morale of security forces.

"This is an honor for our people, such honor has been recorded and will be recorded in history," said Baqizoy.

This comes after public uprisings have occurred in Balkh, Jawzjan and Faryab provinces - where residents have pledged the same support for the Afghan security forces. (ToloneWS)

**(17) Afghan Forces...**

reckless to act against the terrorist groups using its soil to plan and coordinate attacks in Afghanistan.

The Afghan officials are saying that the leadership councils of the Taliban group and the notorious Haqqani terrorist network are based in Quetta and Peshawar cities of Pakistan. (KP)

**(18) Mullah Arrested...**

arrested, has reportedly confessed that he kidnapped five girls in the past and moved them to Khost district in Baghlan province.

He reportedly claims to have married two of them and gave three others to relatives in exchange for money. Three of his relatives allegedly each married a girl.

According to the families of the victims, the Mullah had been teaching the girls the Quran.

Mullah Gulbuddin was busy selling the girls each for 200,000 Afs when arrested by security forces. (ToloneWS)

**(19) 35 Graduating...**

said \$9,000 was spent over each midwife who would soon be appointed in districts to help reduce mother-child mortality rate.

A university professor, Nazdana Paktiawal, said there was still a shortage of midwives and called for training more such professionals.

She said there were only 15 lad doctors across the province who couldn't cope with female patients. One of the newly graduated midwives, Atifa Afsoun, said: "We learnt many things from our teachers during the two years and we are ready to serve in remote areas of the province; but we want the authorities to provide us proper facilities." Over the past seven years, many midwives have graduated, but some of them were able to perform jobs and several others remain at home due to improper conditions. (Pajhwok)

**(20) My Drug Use ...**

past 40 days, she felt better. "I have adult children who I don't want to be addicted to drugs like me", she added.

Tawab, a 30 years old man and poet who has been addicted to drugs for the past 18 years, said: "Drugs earned me a bad name in my community and neighbors. I will never use them again."

Currently under treatment and in better condition, he said "now I don't even want to cross the streets where drug addicts gather. I want to serve my people and country and never think about addiction again." He stressed he will never go close to people who encouraged him toward addiction.

Abdul Ghafar Khoshiwal, head of the 50-bed treatment center for drug addicts in Jawzjan, said the number of addicts referring to the hospital has increased by 15 percent compared to last year.

Khoshiwal said 170 addicts received treatment in the first six months of last year, while the number grew to 220 addicts in the same period this year. He said 40 percent of the addicts were women.

"We have no exact figures of addicts and their number could be above 1000 who did not register themselves due to various reasons," he said.

"The main reasons behind addiction are poverty, unemployment, social problems and insecurity," he said.

He said 50 addicts were being treated within 45 days in the treatment center. The treatment center is active in Shiberghan, the provincial capital and a 20-bed treatment center for addicts is operating in Recent statistics show more than three million people, making 11 percent of Afghanistan's population, are addicted to narcotics. (Pajhwok)

**(21) 24 Militants ...**

have fled the fight and displaced to other regions.

A resident of Raj area, Abdul Qayum also said that the Taliban were pushed back from their area where the Afghan forces currently searching homes.

The Taliban militants did not comment on the incidents so far.

Two weeks back, the Taliban had captured Nowbahar, Brinkot, Rokan and Ganahkan areas of Farah city.

Nowbahar and Rokan areas are still under the Taliban control while the control of other areas was retaken by the Afghan forces.

Taliban militants have not yet commented about the incident. (Pajhwok)

**(22) EU Wraps ...**

EU executive body to come up with a proposal for setting up a European Travel Information and Authorization System (ETIAS) to allow for advance security checks on visa-exempt travelers and deny them entry where necessary.

Furthermore, the EU leaders pressed for quicker progress from deals with African countries to reduce the number of irregular migrants, increase returns and try to solve the "root causes" of migration. (Xinhua)

**(23) ISIL Using ...**

October 17 where ISIL has forced people to leave their homes in outlying villages to head to Mosul.

He added that they also had reports that ISIL fighters have shot dead civilians who have tried to rise up against them or who they suspect are disloyal.

Calling for the protection of civilians to be at the forefront of military planning as the Iraqi government and associated forces attempt to re-take Mosul, the UN official highlighted that he was gravely worried by reports that ISIL is using civilians in and around Mosul as human shields as the Iraqi forces advance. (Xinhua)

**(24) Turkey, Iraq...**

that Turkish military units stationed in Bashiqa camp near Mosul should withdraw, while Turkey denied the allegations and said its troops were there on invitation.

Carter also stressed that the United States will continue to be a strong ally of Turkey.

He said the U.S. supports the initiatives taken by Turkey to protect its borders with Iraq and Syria, and it wants Turkey to participate in anti-terror operations against the IS. (Xinhua)

**(25) Yemen Ceasefire...**

government of internationally recognized President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi backed by Saudi Arabia-led military coalition.

Houthis and their foes in the Hadi government traded accusations of breaching the truce in their media as ground fighting raged on largely all combat fronts throughout the days of truce. (Xinhua)

**(26) Turkish Says...**

Ankara and Baghdad have been strained after Turkey sent hundreds of troops to the Bashiqa region to train anti-IS fighters there. Baghdad labels the move a violation of its sovereignty and demands Turkish withdrawal, a call which Ankara ignores.

Turkey claims the use of Shiite militias to liberate Mosul will displace its largely Sunni population, and has demanded the Sunni fighters it has trained also play a role in the Mosul campaign.

Kurdish forces say they have "cordoned off" eight villages northeast of Mosul and are now less than 9 kilometers (5 1/2 miles) from the outskirts of the Islamic State-held city.

Kurdish and Iraqi forces launched an operation earlier Sunday to try and retake the town of Bashiqa, to the northeast of Mosul, part of a massive offensive that got underway a week ago. (AP)

**(27) British PM....**

long-term dream of Plaid Cymru, Wood told delegates at her conference that the Brexit vote had changed things. Wood said a time may come when Wales has to decide whether to "hitch itself to Theresa May's right wing England, or contemplate independence." (Xinhua)

**(28) Campaign Manager**

mix it up on the issues to me is the purest form of democracy," she said. Trump and Clinton appeared in their third and final scheduled debate Oct. 19 at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. The Democratic nominee later mocked as "comedy" Trump's claim that he won the last debate. In her Sunday interview, Conway also criticized Clinton for a negative campaign against Trump, stating that most of the anti-Trump ads have no policy substance or an uplifting message. (AP)