China Calls for Assistance to Afghan Forces

Viewing the security situation in the war-torn country as weak, China has promised Afghan forces assistance in capacity-building.

India’s Work Over Chabahar is ‘Very Slow’: Indian Envoy

KABUL - Iranian Ambassador to India Ali Chegeni said that India’s development work had been “very slow”, and that trade with Afghanistan was “much lower” than it should be, India’s The Hindu reported.

He also said that in view of the delay over India’s plans to build a railway line connecting Chabahar port to the Afghan border at Zahedan, the Iranian government had decided to complete the railway through its own resources by 2021.

In addition, Iran is now discussing an LNG pipeline to China along the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), as India is not expected to retain its prior interest in LNG imports from Iran.

“I, India wants energy security, it should prefer Iran as a dependable supplier,” Chegeni said.

Govt Asked to Arrest, Punish Army Officer’s Killers

KARUL - Tribal elders from central Maidan Wardak province asked the government to arrest and punish the killers of an Afghan National Army sergeant. Syed Mohammed Noor who was killed in Kabul allegedly by supporters of Ahmad Shah Massoud.

Ministry of Defense spokesman Niazullah Abid said reporters that the army officer was killed as a result of firing by Ahmad Shah Massoud supporters and a number of illegal gunmen had been arrested in connection with the incident.

The Ministry of Interior says two people, including the army officer, were killed and two more injured in firing by supporters of Ahmad Shah Massoud, while marking the national hero’s death anniversary in Kabul.

US Reaffirm Support for Afghanistan’s Political, Electoral Bodies

NEW YORK - US Ambassador to the UN Jonathan Cohen has reaffirmed commitment to support Afghanistan’s political and electoral institutions, according to a statement on Wednesday.

“We have pledged $2.9 million of the $75 million in donor funding allotted toward the presidential election and have supported the UNDP’s work building the capacities of the Independent Election Commission and the Electoral Complaints Commission,” the US envoy said while speaking during a debate on United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA).

He welcomed the findings of the UNAMA report that 94 million people have been registered to vote. The US continued to strongly support the role played by Afghan forces in Afghanistan’s economic, political, and social advancement.

The United States remained concerned about the high level of illicit narcotics cultivation and production in Afghanistan, to include opium and the growing opium problem.

“we appreciate the work of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, including the US-administered United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan,” he added.

Afghanistan Beat Bangladesh 1-0 In World Cup Qualifiers

KABUL - Afghanistan’s National Football Team defeated Bangladesh 1-0 in a thrilling match in the 2022 FIFA World Cup and 2023 AFC Asian Cup qualifiers at the Ghazi Stadium in Kabul.

The Afghan squad is playing in Group E against Qatar, Bangladesh, Oman and India.

With Tuesday night’s win, Afghanistan now is in 3rd position in the group with three points.

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