

Quote of the Day

Never discourage anyone... who continually makes progress, no matter how slow.

Plato (427 BC - 347 BC)

Constitution

The appointment of the Supreme court members for the second term is not permissible.
Article 117

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16 Cabinet Ministers Sworn in



KABUL - Afghanistan's President Ashraf Ghani on Tuesday officiated at the swearing in ceremony of 16 new cabinet ministers who recently won

votes of confidence from the Lower House of Parliament. Senior officials including 1st Vice-President General Abdul Rashid Dost-

tum, the 2nd Vice-President Mohammad Sarwar Danesh, Government Chief Executive Abdullah Abdullah and 1st Deputy Chief Executive Engi-

neer Mohammad Khan were present. The ceremony was held at the Presidential Palace. The following ministers were ...*(More on P4)*...*(1)*

Probe Into Nangarhar Carnage Progressing Well: CEO



KABUL - Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Abdullah Abdullah said on Tuesday that investigations into Nangarhar massacre was underway and provincial authorities were directed to bolster security. He said this while inquir-

ing about the health of those wounded at Sardar Dawood Khan Hospital in Kabul, a press release from CEO's office stated. He condemned the suicide attack and prayed for swift recovery ...*(More on P4)*...*(2)*

Ulumi Orders Police to Start Tackling Corruption

KABUL - Minister Interior Noor-ul-Haq Ulumi has called on all police personnel to begin tackling corruption from within their own ranks. This is so that the police's actions can hopefully filter through to other ministries and government institutions, he said.



In a conference on Tuesday in Kabul on combating corruption, Ulumi urged the police to ensure they enforce the law

and that they prevent people from breaking the country's laws. Ulumi said that fighting corruption was his priority and warned police against neglecting their duty to fight corruption ...*(More on P4)*...*(5)*

\$6 Million Spent So far to Track 31 Hostages: Ghani

KABUL - While on a two-day state visit to Iran, Afghan President Ashraf Ghani told students that the release of 31 hostages is one of his priorities and so far \$6 million has been spent on tracking them. "So far, the government has spent \$6 million on the operations and 69 terrorists have been killed in the operation," President Ghani said. Ghani was rejecting claims that his government has done nothing to secure the release of the hostages. He said that special forces efforts to



free them have been one of the most intense operations conducted in the past 14 years. "I personally have

lead the case, the claims that the government is not doing anything about ...*(More on P4)*...*(3)*

Farah Customs Revenue Down 8pc: Official

FARAH CITY - Western Farah province's overall revenues from customs and commercial taxes reached 2.6 billion afghanis last solar year, but showed an eight percent decrease when compared to 2013 returns, an official said on Tuesday. Farah Customs Department deputy head Ajer Khan Zaheer told Pajhwok Afghan News though customs revenue declined in 2014, but income from domestic taxation increased against 2013. He said the customs revenue stood at 2.6 billion afis in 2013, exceeding the target set by the ...*(More on P4)*...*(4)*

Govt. Praised for Women's Cabinet Representation

KABUL - The Afghan Women's Network (AWN) praised the unity government for inclusion of four women in various ministries and hoped that women would play significant role to tackle challenges being confronted by the country. In a statement released on Tuesday, the AWN said that through continues advocacy cam-

paigns in the first and second rounds of presidential elections the network had been calling for representation of women in the cabinet. Meanwhile, the AWN recently conducted coordination meeting between the four nominated women ministers, former female ministers, female members of both upper and lower houses of parliament, ...*(More on P4)*...*(6)*

Kabul Wants Practical Steps to Initiate Peace Talks

KABUL - The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) on Tuesday said tangible progress had been achieved in talks with Pakistan about peace process and it was high time to take practical steps for durable peace in Afghanistan. Addressing his regular press conference, MoFA spokesman Shekib



Mustagni said the ongoing reconciliation process should be taken to logical end. However, some senior officials within the government expressed pessimism about success of the talks and alleged the neighboring country a non-serious approach in ...*(More on P4)*...*(7)*

6 Months on, Uruzgan PC Yet to Elect Admin Board

TARINKOT - Owing to differences, the provincial council (PC) of central Uruzgan province has been unable to elect its administrative board despite the passage of six months. The country's electoral law binds all provincial councils to elect from amongst their members provincial ...*(More on P4)*...*(8)*



Ivanov Suggests Taking Afghanistan into SCO

ASTANA - Afghanistan should be taken into the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) to help the country fight drug production, Viktor Ivanov, head of the Federal Drug Control Service of Russia, suggested on Tuesday, RIA Novosti reported. "I consider it expedient on behalf of the ministers to apply to the heads of the SCO member states with the initiative

to accept Afghanistan as a full member of the SCO due to the importance of its closer integration in the economic processes of the SCO for alternative development and elimination of drug production," said V. Ivanov at the meeting of heads of the SCO anti-drug agencies. According to the head of Federal Drug Control Service of Russia, the SCO member states "are objectively interested,

firstly, in ensuring regional security, and, secondly, in acquiring the role of a sustainable and sovereign state by Afghanistan." Meanwhile, as it was previously reported, during the operation of the Western Allies the production of drugs in Afghanistan has risen by 40 times. Afghanistan is an undisputed world leader in the ...*(More on P4)*...*(9)*

Habibi to be Nominated for Minister of Defense

KABUL - National Unity Government (NUG) leaders have agreed on Abdullah Habibi as their nominee for leadership of the Ministry of Defense, the Lower House's Second Deputy Muhammad Nazeer Ahmadzai said on Monday.



Habibi, who is from Kunar province and has an MA in Military Affairs, is expected to be introduced to Parliament for a vote of confidence soon. The Minister of Defense position is one of the last gaps in the NUG's cabinet, which has taken over six months to form and sparked doubts about the coalition government's competency. "I met with both leaders of the National Unity Government on Thursday night and both leaders ...*(More on P4)*...*(10)*

19 Abducted Deminers in Paktia Released

GARDEZ - The 19 deminers who were abducted by militants three days ago were released on Tuesday, officials said. Zalmi Oryakhail, Paktia police chief, told Pajhwok Afghan News the deminers were released after government officials and local elders' efforts. The deminers were employees of Sterling Demining Afghanistan (SDA), and were kidnapped in the vicinity of Gardez. Based on reports, gunmen had taken the men to Shahi Kot locality of Zurmat district. The kidnapers had also taken four vehicles with themselves. According to officials, the 36 deminers were busy working in Sarwali locality and when the gunmen arrived, some of them managed to escape. (Pajhwok)

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