

### (1) 16 Cabinet ...

sworn in: Homayoun Rasa Minister of Commerce and Industries; Farida Momand Minister of Higher Education; Asadullah Hanif Balkhi Minister of Education; Asadullah Zamir Minister of Agriculture and Livestock; Abdul Bari Jahani Minister of Information and Culture; Ali Ahmad Osmani Minister of Energy and Water; Sayed Saadat Mansoor Naderi Minister of Urban Development Affairs; Nasreen Oryakhil Minister of Labor, Social Affairs, Martyrs and Disabled; Dilbar Nazari Minister of Women Affairs; Mohammadullah Batash Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation; Abdul Satar Murad Minister of Economy; Abdul Basir Anwar Minister of Justice; Abdul Razaq Wahidi Minister of Communication and Information Technology; Mahmood Baligh Minister of Public Works; Salamat Azimi Minister of Counter-Narcotics; Mohammad Gulab Mangal Minister of Borders and Tribal Affairs.

The ministers swore to protect the Holy religion of Islam, respect the Constitution and other laws of Afghanistan, safeguard the rights of citizens as well as independence, territorial integrity and the national unity of the people of Afghanistan, and, in all deeds consider the Almighty's presence, and perform their entrusted duties honestly.

After the swearing-in ceremony, Ghani congratulated the cabinet ministers and wished them every success in serving the people of Afghanistan.

Ghani said: "Over the next three weeks you should draw up our cabinet's first hundred-day plan and then go out and perform." May god help the cabinet, government and the nation succeed, Ghani added. (Tolonews)

### (2) Probe Into ...

of the injured and praised the doctors in the hospital for their endeavors of treatment patients. "All the wounded were brought in to the hospital in critical condition and it is indeed a matter of pride no injured is died. It is because of Allah's mercy and hard endeavors of health staff of the hospital", the statement said.

He assured that security of Nangarhar would be enhanced and that those behind the barbaric act would be taken to task. (Pajhwok)

### (3) \$6 Million Spent ...

the kidnappers is not true," Ghani added.

However, two months later their fate is still unclear.

Some Zabul MPs have maintained that the hostages have been separated, some transferred to Urozgan and others to Ghazni province. (Tolonews)

### (4) Farah Customs...

Ministry of Finance by 10 percent. However, the Finance Ministry set 4.36 billion afghanis target for the provincial Customs Department in 2014, when only 2.4 billion afghanis could be collected, he said.

He linked the decrease in revenue to last year's political tension and insecurity, saying the election deadlock had affected investors' interest.

He said repeated ban on fuel imports from Iran had also a negative impact on the revenue collections, adding that the fuel imports from Iran had resumed.

However, taxes collected from commercial areas in Farah increased in 2014 as compared to 2013.

Farah commercial taxes director Abdul Hadi Bawar said revenues from commercial taxes in 2013 was 182.8 million afis, but increased to 196.6 million afis last year.

He linked the increase in income tax to good management and timely tax collection from businessmen. (Pajhwok)

### (5) Ulumi Orders

- something that has resulted in Afghanistan being top of the Transparency International's list of world's most corrupt countries.

"We have always been criticized for our shortcomings, therefore we need to work seriously," Ulumi told the gathering aimed at raising the awareness of police in fighting corruption.

He asked the police force to ensure implementation of the Constitution, human's rights and safety of citizens.

"We must perform our duties impartially and in accordance with the laws and systems of our country," Ulumi emphasized.

However, the Interior Ministry's inspector general Abdul Hakim Nejrabi refuted a recent UN report as baseless that senior ministry officials were involved in corruption.

"The UN report which was pub-

lished by media lacked the ministry's inspections, and I totally reject them as baseless," Nejrabi argued. Reuters said Sunday that a UN report had found that the Afghan government officials who headed an oversight of the police suppressed complaints of corruption against the force.

"I found that only nine out of more than 2,000 complaints referred to the inspector general's office in the Afghan Interior Ministry over a year were forwarded for prosecution," Reuters said. "It concluded the chief of the agency, Hakim Nejrabi, and his senior staff were ignoring or blocking complaints." (Tolonews)

### (6) Govt. Praised

civil society women activists and members of the network to hear about their vision and programs.

The female ministers shared their future plans - improving the status of women, considered on the top of their priorities; establishment and development of coordinating environment between government and nongovernmental institutions. (Pajhwok)

### (7) Kabul Wants

the Afghan reconciliation process. A government source who wished to go unnamed told Pajhwok Afghan News that Afghan government did not believe anymore on Pakistan in helping Kabul to achieve peace or having a result-oriented round of talks with Taliban.

The sources said that government reached to the conclusion that contacts with Taliban and other influential figures did not yield results.

He said neighboring and other friendly countries had often announced their support to the Afghan-led peace process but things in practical shape were not visible on the ground.

Earlier, Pakistan and China had pledged to push the Afghan reconciliation process and offered their all out support to the Afghan government. (Pajhwok)

### (8) 6 Months on, ...

council head, deputy head and secretary in order to advance their affairs.

The PC elections were held simultaneously with the first round of presidential elections on April 5. However, the second round of presidential election on June 14 went controversial, also delaying results from the provincial council elections for seven months.

All other provincial councils have elected their heads, deputies and secretaries, except the provincial council of Uruzgan province.

Believe differences among the PC members are the main reason behind their inability to elect the administrative board. They accuse the public representatives of keeping their own interests supreme over those of people.

Civil society activist, Hamidullah, said the delay in election of the administrative board amounted to ignoring their responsibilities and disrespecting people's votes.

Residents said a large number of people daily visited the provincial council office in Tarinkot, the provincial capital, but they found no one in the office.

Charchino district resident Ali Jan said he had visited the PC office thrice, but was told each time that the council members had left for attending a gathering. "I don't like the name of provincial council. I will never vote for anyone contesting provincial council election," a disappointed Ali Jan said.

A member of the council, Abdul Karim Khadimzai, told Pajhwok Afghan News he and several other colleagues had not long visited their office.

He said they could not elect the administrative board because of differences among members over the election of their senatorial candidate.

The council has once unanimously elected a member, Mohammad Zahir, as the senatorial candidate few months ago, but his nomination as member of the upper house was rejected by the Independent Election Commission for being below the required age.

The council has since been unable to elect the Administrative board. Khadimzai said five of the nine members were living in Kabul.

He said the council would not hold the ballot to elect the Administrative board until the election commission forced it to do so.

IEC chief for Uruzgan, Ahmad Shah Qanuni, said they had repeatedly asked the provincial council to elect its administrative board and no one was appearing.

He said the quorum for electing the

administrative board was incomplete because only four members were present in Uruzgan.

But another member, Hayatullah Fazli, who vied for the senate membership against his rival candidate Mohammad Hanif Hanifi, accused Hanifi of making it to the upper house through fraud. He said he would not go to the provincial council office until the issue of fraud by Hanafi was cleared.

Fazli and Hanifi secured four votes each from the nine-member provincial council, but the IEC declared Hanifi the winner for his high education. But Fazli said Hanifi's documents were fake.

It is said that another two members of the council, who are relatives of Fazli, have also been staying away from attending the council office.

Fazli also said the administrative board election was not possible until the issue between him and Hanifi was resolved.

Fazli said: "I have lodged a complaint against Hanifi to get the problem resolved; otherwise no one will take part in the election."

Some time ago, the acting governor, Amanullah Taimuri, had said the differences among the council members had a negative impact on government's activities, leaving some projects incomplete. (Pajhwok)

### (9) Ivanov Suggests

production of heroin and other opiates.

Today the SCO includes Russia, China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. As well as Mongolia, India, Iran and Pakistan, Afghanistan has the status of an observer. In September 2014 Pakistan and India formally applied for the membership in the SCO; Iran also claims to full membership in the organization. Sri Lanka and Armenia have also submitted the request to obtain the status of observers. The status of a "dialogue partner" of the SCO is obtained by Belarus, Sri Lanka and Turkey. (Agencies)

(10) Habibi to

have agreed on Abdullah Khan, and soon, his documents will be forwarded to Parliament for review," Second Deputy Ahmadzai told TOLONews.

The ongoing administration of Afghanistan's provinces by acting officials, originally appointed under former president Hamid Karzai, has been a major point of weakness for the new government. The interim governance has undermined the credibility of the new government, with local services and rule of law deteriorating in many parts of the country.

President Ashraf Ghani and Chief Executive Abdullah Abdullah have promised to introduce the nominees for the Attorney General's Office and Supreme Court upon Ghani's return from his trip to Iran. "We are hopeful that in parallel to the introduction of the nominee for the Ministry of Defense, nominees for the High Court and Attorney General's office will also be announced," Second Deputy Ahmadzai said.

Independent analysts have grown more vocal in their criticisms of the NUG as time has worn on without new appointments. According to university professor Tahir Hashemi, the conduct of the NUG leaders has shown that they prioritize political bargaining between their respective camps, focusing on the distribution of powers and privileges, rather than serving the Afghan public's immediate, practical interests.

"When we used to have ministers and governors, our work used to move forward slowly, but what can we expect now?" Hashemi told TOLONews Monday. "National Unity Government leaders are mostly busy with their teams and are not thinking about the public interest."

The Administrative Committee of the House has said discussions over the next nominee for the position of Chief of Army Staff remain ongoing. Next, the government will have to take on what is likely to be an even more time-consuming compromise - the appointment of provincial governors. (Tolonews)

### (11) Afghan Refugees...

in Iran. Afghan students asked the president to provide them with job opportunities after completion of their studies.

Ghani told the students: "Every Afghan student is the son of his soil. Afghans should get united for progress, prosperity and development of their country."

Referring to the release of 31 passengers kidnapped on Kabul-Kandahar highway, the president said security forces had been directed to ensure safe release of the abducted passengers.

Almost two months back, as many as 31 passengers were on their way

from Herat to Kabul when armed insurgents picked them from buses in Shah Joy district of Zabul province.

About reforms, Ghani said it would take time to improve governance but comprehensive strategy had been worked out to streamline things and ensure law and order in the country. (Pajhwok)

### (12) Indonesia,

that representatives from both sides had met on the sidelines of the ongoing meetings here, which runs until April 24, to discuss the Afghanistan issue.

Indonesia and Norway have jointly implemented a number of triangular cooperation projects with Afghanistan in sectors of law enforcement, women empowerment and education.

A group of female Afghan police officers received training in community policing in Indonesia last year, said the press release.

The representatives shared the view that the ongoing triangular cooperation has the potential to spur positive social development in Afghanistan. The triangular framework is a development cooperation mode usually among three developing and developed nations. (Xinhua)

### (13) Senate Summons

that the NSC had disbursed the amount among families that belonged to Daesh. The issue dominated the upper house session today.

Mohammad Rahim Hassan Yar, a representative from Ghazni, said Daesh group was established to destroy Afghanistan therefore the NSC should clear the allegations of distributing money to the group's families.

Juma Din Gyanwal, a representative from Paktika, denied the allegations and said that the governor did not have any proof to support his allegations.

He said the NSC provided financial assistance to refugee families in Paktika and few other districts. "A government delegation extended assistance to refugee families who came from North Waziristan and South Waziristan. I know them personally that neither they belong to Al-Qaeda nor Daesh", he noted.

Javed Raouf, another representative from Herat province, praised the governor for taking a bold step of disclosing NSC's plot.

Mohammad Asif Sadiqi, second deputy of upper house who presided over today's session, said the NSC advisor Mohammad Hanif Atmar had been asked to clarify the charges in committee's head meeting.

The upper house members noted that both Atmar and Matin should be summoned to general meetings in upper house to explain their positions. (Pajhwok)

### (14) Chinese Strongly ...

forms of terrorism, stands for efforts made by the Afghan government to safeguard national security and stability and stands ready to join the international community in helping Afghanistan realize peace, stability and development at an early date. (PR)

### (15) MoI Offers...

Seddiqqi from MoI said: "There have been many developments in the Farkhunda case, meaning no one has been released and no one can be released. We have received pictures of further people who had a hand in the murder, and have also offered a reward for those who assist police in the arrests."

Meanwhile, the Independent Human Rights Commission (IHRC) has said that the case needs to be sent to court immediately and that those found guilty of the murder must be punished.

"We want the principles of court and all the legal points to be considered closely in this case. It must not be ignored," says Rafiullah Bedar, spokesman for the IHRC.

President Ashraf Ghani was happy to see quick justice early in the case but many believe that is not the case anymore. It is yet to be seen when and how this case will be reviewed by the judicial powers, said the IHRC.

With regards to Farkhunda's murder, 49 individuals, including 19 police officers have been arrested. Ministry of interior has offered a reward of up to 100,000 Afghans for information leading to the arrest of the remaining suspects. Earlier claims were made that two of the suspects in Farkhunda's case have been freed in exchange for money. But the MoI has rejected these claims. (Tolonews)

### (16) 5th Afghan...

commitment to enhancing bilateral economic ties.

He also called on Afghan and Turk-

ish investors to help build on Afghanistan's economic foundation through investments.

"There is no doubt that our economy is dependent [on investors] and it hasn't developed well in the wake of its dependency on foreign financial assistance. When we hope for a sustainable economy, then we mean we need the private sector, foreign and domestic, to invest in Afghanistan," he said.

Meanwhile, officials at Afghan industrialist unions, along with artisans, have called for joint investments in the two countries.

Construction materials, groceries, cosmetics, handicrafts, carpets and new technology for generating electricity were among the main products being displayed at at least 60 stalls in the exhibition center.

Zkhelwal said: "The main objectives of today's expo is to expand trade and commerce ties between Afghans and the Turks and we want them to play an effective role in our economic growth. We also want to attain Afghan investors' attraction to invest in Turkey," head of Afghanistan industrialists union Sami Yawoz said.

In addition, officials at Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Industries ACCI have announced that the rehabilitation of Azure Rout is crucial in developing the trade and commercial activities between Afghanistan and Turkey.

"We expect government to take essential steps in rehabilitating the Azure Rout which is quite productive. Currently our trade with Turkey is conducted via Iran and our trade and transit sectors have to cope with numerous issues," said deputy chairman of ACCI Khan Jan Alokozai on Tuesday.

Up to 60 Afghan and Turkish companies have displayed their products in at least 60 stalls in 5th Afghan-Turk Expo in Kabul. The expo will remain open for three days to visitors. (Tolonews)

### (17) Call to Bolster ...

front of provincial council building and warned to continue their protest till their demand was met. Dr. Nassar Kamawal, deputy head of provincial council, told Pajhwok Afghan News that the strength of security forces was needed to be bolstered as per population's proportion.

Zabih Ullah Zamarai, another provincial council member, said: "The number of security forces in the province is around 3,000 personnel who could not ensure security to the entire province."

Nangrahar stood amongst 7th top populated provinces of the country but the number of security personnel deployed was lower, Zamarai complained. (Pajhwok)

### (18) Afghan Surgeon ...

Afghan News he obtained the gold medal from the University of Health Sciences Lahore upon successfully completing his masters in neurosurgery.

He said since 2012 only three students had managed to bag gold medals from the prestigious university. "Dr. Salman Yunus, another Afghan, and a Pakistani student were also awarded gold medals."

Dr. Mujaddedi, a graduate from Nangarhar University, said he had been pursuing his masters in Pakistan for the last five years.

Earlier, he had performed successful neurosurgeries at Kabul and Nangarhar hospitals. (Pajhwok)

### (19) 19 Samangan...

departments such as the governors' office, information and culture, educational, customs, environment protection, labors and social affairs, administrative reform, tribal, agriculture, center statistic, pilgrimage, public affairs, economy and some other local departments.

Acting Governor Khairullah Anush thanked the government of Germany and expressed satisfaction that it would boost the performance of the departments. (Pajhwok)

### (20) 9 Killed in ...

a person in a similar case in the area. Previously local residents had accused Mullah Mustafa of killing 20 people and taking taxes from drivers through his private militiamen deployed on roads.

However, Musfata had rejected killing innocent people, saying those killed were involved in enmity with him. Ghor officials say 4,500 illegal armed men and 2,400 rebels have been operating in Ghor, harassing residents. Separately, four rebels were killed and as many wounded during a clash between two rival Taliban groups in Shar Diz Murghab area of Firozkoh City.

A local resident, Mohammad Gul, said the incident took place when a

guest of a Taliban commander was killed by a bomb blast. The commander accused another rebel of planting the bomb and this led to an armed clash, he said. (Pajhwok)

### (21) 7 Corpses

had been contacted in Kabul and Zahidan to probe the dastardly incidents and report back to the MoFA. He explained 13 Afghan nationals were lured by some agents amid promises to shift them to European countries through Iran without going into legal formalities.

The spokesman said that the slain Afghans had developed some sort of differences with their agents over their agreement. The slain Afghans gunned down three guards appointed by the agents.

In retaliation, the agents gunned down eight Afghans while five others Afghans escaped the scene.

He said Iranian security official found bodies of slain Afghans from a well and launched investigation into the incident. (Pajhwok)

### (22) Taliban Confirm

soldiers in Jurm out of vengeance. The statement said Taliban fighters had been directed to abide by the rules of war they had set.

"If someone acts in contrary to our military code of conduct, we will punish them under the Shariah law," the statement said, addressing Taliban fighters.

Meanwhile, Maulavi Abdul Wahid Tayebi, the High Peace Council (HPC) head in Badakhshan, told Pajhwok Afghan News local Taliban were willing to join the peace process, but foreign fighters did not allow them to do so. (Pajhwok)

### (23) Candlelight Vigil...

in Kandahar, called Nangrahar tragedy a greatest shock for entire Afghans. "The main aim of the event is to give message that all people living in the region are alike and share each others' pain and grief", he added. (Pajhwok)

### (24) Woman, Man ...

He said Tila Mohammad was currently in lock-up and his case had been referred to the attorney's office. (Pajhwok)

### (25) Police Seize...

against narcotics and Afghan National Counternarcotics Police are having major success in fighting against smugglers and narcotics. Such operations will continue.

Counterterrorism Meanwhile in additional operations between Sunday and Monday, Afghan National Police conducted several anti-terrorism joint operations with Afghan National Army and NDS to clear insurgents in some areas.

The operations were conducted in Baghlan, Paktiya, Nangarhar, Kunar, Takhar, Faryab, Jowzjan, Kandahar, Laghman, Kunduz, Herat, Farah and Helmand provinces, as a result 15 armed Taliban members were killed, 10 wounded and 22 others were arrested by Afghan National Security Forces.

Also, during these operations, Afghan National Police discovered and confiscated light and heavy rounds of ammunition.

During the same 24 hour period, Afghan National Police discovered and defused 10 different types of IEDs placed by enemies of Afghanistan for destructive activities in Laghman and Helmand provinces. (Tolonews)

### (26) Ukraine Aims...

professional hitmen, have further driven up tension in the run-up to May 8-9 celebrations of victory in 1945, which traditionally bring thousands of people on to the streets.

Ukraine, along with most European Union members and the United States, is boycotting festivities in Moscow marking 70 years since the allied victory over Nazi Germany, because of Moscow's role in the conflict in eastern Ukraine in which more than 6,100 people have been killed. (Reuters)

### (27) 2015 Year...

being placed on elderly people living in remote and hard-to-reach rural areas. They are being serviced by leading specialists of national specialized medical centers and medical higher education institutions. In the future, all citizens with chronic diseases will undergo regular medical check-ups 2 to 6 times a year depending on an individual's health condition. In-depth medical examinations are being provided for 1941-1945 war and labor front veterans. Following check-ups, they are not only given recommendations by doctors, but also free permits to sanatoriums and resorts across Uzbekistan. (Monitoring Desk)