

Quote of the Day

If you cannot work with love but only with distaste, it is better that you should leave your work.
Kahlil Gibran

Constitution

Members in no way can be dismissed from their service until the end of their term, except circumstances stated in Article 127 of this Constitution.
Article 117

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President Underlines Greater National Unity

KABUL - President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani on Friday underlined greater national unity keeping in view the current security situation in the country.

In a statement from Presidential Palace, he said this in his meeting with tribal elders and religious leaders.

Referring to current scenario, the president said the year ahead was posing great challenges in which tactics of fighting were changed.

He said that international terrorism was the base for this fighting while fighters from other region were staging terror attacks inside our country. It was high time to differentiate between foreign terrorists and "our own people," he said, adding those who considered themselves sons of the



soil should sit with the government to share their grievances. "If they want to stand with terror-

ists then I call upon all Afghans to get united against all anti-state elements," he concluded.

The president said the future could be protected only if the nation demonstrated ...*(More on P4)...*(1)

Security Forces Launch Operation to Rescue 31 Hostages

KABUL - A joint military and police operation has been launched to track and rescue 31 hostages held for nearly two months in southern Zabul, local officials told TOLONews.



The operation was launched Thursday ...*(More on P4)...*(2)

China Urges Political Solution to Afghanistan Issue

BEIJING - China on Friday responded to a question regarding the Taliban's annual spring offensive by urging the various parties to seek a political solution through dialogue. "China has always held the be-

lief that a realistic way to solve the problem in Afghanistan is through the promotion of reconciliation," said Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hong Lei at a regular press ...*(More on P4)...*(3)

NUG Cabinet Holds First Meeting



KABUL - Presiding over the first meeting of National Unity Government (NUG) cabinet on Thursday, Afghan President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani tasked the newly appointed ministers to formulate

strategies for their first 100 days in office and present them back to him within the next three weeks. After over seven months of waiting, this week saw the national unity government finally ...*(More on P4)...*(4)

Ghani and Abdullah Visit Victims' Families

KABUL - In a show of unity on Thursday, National Unity Government (NUG) leaders President Ashraf Ghani and CEO Abdullah Abdullah visited Jalalabad where they attended a ceremony for those killed in Saturday's deadly suicide attack in the city.



The two NUG leaders also passed on their condolences to the families and friends of the victims of Saturday's deadly bomb blast in the city. Addressing a press conference while in Jalalabad, Abdullah, who spoke first, said the recent blast was not just a tragedy for Jalalabad but a tragedy for the whole of Afghanistan. He also said that security forces were investigat-

ing the matter. Ghani meanwhile stood firm on the fact that insurgents behind the spate of recent attacks, including the Jalalabad blast, were ...*(More on P4)...*(9)

Ghani to Visit India Next Week

KABUL - President Ashraf Ghani is scheduled to visit India next week to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi and other Indian government officials during his two-day state visit beginning on 27 April.

Besides other issues, the two leaders would also discuss to finalize the tripartite transit agreement between India, Afghanistan and Iran on the Iranian port of Chabahar. It is believed that the strategic partnership between Kabul ...*(More on P4)...*(5)

India Delivers Multi-Role Chetel Helicopters to Afghanistan

NEW DELHI - Ahead of visit of Afghanistan President Ashraf Ghani, India has delivered three Chetel helicopters along with allied equipment to Afghanistan as part of the defence cooperation between the two nations, a junior Indian defence minister told the Parliament on Friday.

Indian Minister of State for Defence Rao Inderjit Singh told the lower house that Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has proposed to deliver helicopters to Afghanistan and the government of India has delivered three ...*(More on P4)...*(7)

EU Extends Afghan Police Mission until 2016 End

KABUL - The European Union (EU) on Thursday extended its police mission in Afghanistan until the end of 2016 aiming to continue helping the Afghan authorities to further develop their civilian policing capacities.

To the effect, an agreement was signed between Pia Sjernvall, the head of the EU Police Mission in Afghanistan (EUPOL), and Afghan Minister of Interior Noorul Haq



Ulumi in Kabul.

Ulumi told reporters the EUPOL had been assisting Afghanistan since 2007 in professionalising its police and improving their coordination with judicial authorities. ...*(More on P4)...*(6)

'Electoral Reforms Require Practical Steps from Rulers'

KABUL - The Free and Fair Election Foundation of Afghanistan (FEFA) on Thursday urged the Wolesi Jirga to call for practical steps from government leaders regarding electoral reforms.

Calling electoral reforms as vital for the next parliamentary elections and future polls, FEFA chief Mohammad Yusuf Rashid told reporters in Kabul that differences between President Ashraf Ghani and CEO ...*(More on P4)...*(8)



Pak, Afghan Women Empowerment Vital for Progress: US

KABUL - US Ambassador to Pakistan Richard Olson has said that women's economic empowerment is vital to the development of both Pakistan and Afghanistan, and his country is working with both neighboring countries to expand women's participation in economy through entrepreneurship, employment opportunities and education.



Olson expressed these views at the closing ceremony of the first annual Afghanistan and Pakistan Women's Business Conference held in Islamabad.

The four-day conference, organized by the U.S. Department of Commerce's Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP), in partnership with USAID, the U.S.-Pakistan Women's ...*(More on P4)...*(10)

President Obama US Operations Kill Two Al Qaeda Hostages

WASHINGTON - A military operation against Al Qaeda leaders in the Pak-Afghan border regions killed an American and an Italian national, the US President Barack Obama said Thursday. Both were Al Qaeda hostage, he said.

"Based on information and intelligence we have obtained, we believe that a US counterterrorism operation targeting an Al Qaida compound in the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region, accidentally killed Warren and Giovanni this past January," Obama told report-



ers at the White House. The ...*(More on P4)...*(11)

Ulumi Denies NSC Has Given Money to Daesh

KABUL - Interior Minister Noorul Haq Ulumi on Thursday said the National Security Council (NSC) had not disbursed money to families of fighters aligned with the so-called Islamic State (IS) group in southeastern Paktika province, citing an ongoing investigation.

rim Matin had reportedly said the NSC had distributed \$200,000 to families of Daesh fighters in the province.

The NSC a day earlier appointed a team, led by Ulumi, to investigate the governor's claim. Ulumi told reporters in Kabul on Thursday that the probe team had launched its ...*(More on P4)...*(12)

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