

Quote of the Day

Creativity can solve almost any problem. The creative act, the defeat of habit by originality, overcomes everything.

George Lois

Constitution

The age of the Head of the Supreme Court and its members should not be lower than forty at the time of appointment

Article 118

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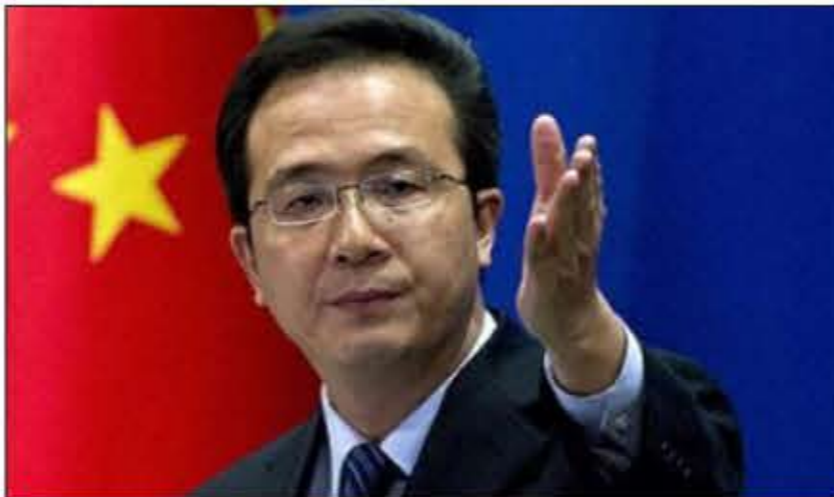
Hong Lei

China Supports Afghan-Lead and Afghan-Owned Peace Process

KABUL - A spokesman for China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs Hong Lei said at a press briefing on Friday that his country supports the 'Afghan-Lead And Afghan-Owned Peace Process.'

"China always holds that reconciliation is a viable solution to the Afghan issue. China supports the 'Afghan-led and Afghan-owned' peace and reconciliation process and hopes relevant parties in Afghanistan will resolve the issue politically through peaceful means. China stands ready to play a constructive role," Hong said.

China calls on relevant parties in Afghanistan to resolve the country's issues through peaceful means, he



added. This comes after Chinese President Xi Jinping's official visit to Pakistan last week. Xi encouraged Islamabad

to ramp up its counterterrorism efforts in the region, including in regard to its role as a facilitator in the peace process between Afghanistan and the Taliban.

"China highly appreciates Pakistan's outstanding contribution to international counter-terrorism efforts," Xi said while in Islamabad. "We support the Pakistan in moving forward with its counter-terrorism strategy in light of its own national conditions, and are prepared and willing to continue to help Pakistan strengthen its capacity, its ability to fight terrorism. And we support its effort in the Afghan peace process."

China's recent increased engagement with ... (More on P4)...(1)

MPs Renew Call for Scrapping of BSA



KABUL - Wolesi Jirga members on Saturday renewed their call for the government to revoke the Bilateral Security Agreement (BSA) with the United States following unprecedented rise in insecurity across Afghanistan.

They warned that northern provinces could face grave security threats and even fall to the enemy if proper security arrangements were not put in place to reverse the tide of insecurity. Abdul Latif Padram,

a lawmaker from northeastern Badakhshan province, said the security situation in the north, especially in Badakhshan, was deteriorating with each passing day.

He said the government should withdraw from the BSA if the agreement could not bring security to Afghanistan and its people.

"After signing the BSA, violence and terror attacks had increased and our people have become ... (More on P4)...(2)

CASA-1000 Project Signed, Promising Major Revenues for Afghanistan

KABUL - The much-awaited Central Asia South Asia (CASA-1000) electricity transmission project was eventually signed Friday in Istanbul, Turkey - bringing Afghanistan \$45 million in transit revenues based on last October's agreement between Kabul and Islamabad over transit pricing. Based on the agreement, Afghanistan re-



ceives more 1.25 cents from each kilowatt power that passes from Kyrgyzstan ... (More on P4)...(3)

Afghan Government Lauds WTO Membership

KABUL - Afghan Ministry of Commerce and Industries (MoCI) has termed accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO) critical for Afghanistan's development and trade ties with the international community. The application materials for membership to WTO have been submitted to President Ashraf Ghani ... (More on P4)...(4)



IS Link into Afghanistan Worrying: Bishop

KABUL - Australian Foreign Minister Julie Bishop says she fears predictions that extremist group Islamic State is extending its influence into Afghanistan are becoming reality.

Ms Bishop said she visited Afghanistan earlier this year and was informed of the potential for the group, also known as Daesh, to exert influence through extremist elements of the Taliban.

She said this connection between IS and the Taliban ... (More on P4)...(7)

Budget Problems Stand Resolved: Hakimi

KABUL - Finance Minister Eklil Hakimi on Saturday said budget problems had been resolved after holding talks with aid-giving countries and injecting a \$800 million assistance from the United States to the accounts.

Hakimi was testifying before lower house members after he was summoned to brief them on complaints from contractors regarding the release of funds to them by the Interna-



tional Monetary Fund (IMF) for projects last year. Hakimi told the lawmakers that donors had made the ... (More on P4)...(5)

Work on Vital Kamal Khan Dam Moving at Snail's Pace

ZARANJ - Residents have complained construction work on Kamal Khan Dam in southwestern Nimroz province was moving with a slow-paced due to government's inefficiency.

The dam is being constructed on Helmand River in Chahar Burjak

district of Nimroz province. The construction work on the vital project had begun in 1973 but was deferred due to revolution in the country.

The Kamal Khan Dam construction costs \$100 million funded by the ... (More on P4)...(6)

CEO Office Rules out Differences with Presidency

KABUL - The office of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) ruled out any disagreement between government leaders over the Electoral Reforms Commission, saying the commission would start its work over next few days.

CEO's deputy spokesman Javid Faisal told Pajhwok Afghan News there was no difference of opinion between CEO ... (More on P4)...(8)



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