

### (1) Kabul Residents ...

which targeted our people." Another participant meanwhile put the blame squarely on the feet of Pakistan. "Pakistan will never stop the war in Afghanistan and the Pakistanis first goal is to destabilize Afghanistan," he said. In addition to the truck bomb, insurgents carried out a further two attacks late Friday night.

At least 27 police cadets were killed when a suicide bomber reportedly dressed in police uniform detonated explosives inside the gate of the Kabul Police Academy. A further 26 people were injured.

This attack was followed by another complex attack on a NATO military base close to the Hamid Karzai International Airport.

At least nine people were killed in this attack, including eight security guards and a Resolute Support (RS) service member.

In a statement issued by the NATO-led Resolute Support Mission, U.S. Army Col. Brian Triebus said that eight Afghan civilian contractors and four insurgents were also killed in that incident.

It is believed the RS service member was a U.S. soldier. (Tolonews)

### (2) Resumption of ...

has dismissed those charges, saying there are "all kinds of (militant) factions" operating in Afghanistan making it difficult to ascertain who is behind the bloodshed.

"We very much condemn all the terrorist attacks in Kabul and other parts of Afghanistan and we have constantly worked with the Afghan government to try to restrict movements across the borders so that no terrorist goes from here to commit any act there," Aziz said. Pakistan brokered and hosted inaugural talks between the Afghan government and Taliban officials in early July, but Mullah Omar's death prompted the insurgent group to pull out of the next round of negotiations.

Aziz said Pakistan can persuade the Taliban to re-engage in talks with the Afghan government only after the group resolves its leadership problem.

"We have been of course urging the Taliban to talk rather than fight because ultimately fighting is not a solution," Aziz said.

"I think the first round was very productive and I hope the second round will take place before long once the leadership issue is decided because whom they represent it is not yet clear whether there will be unanimity on the new leadership or not," he added.

Taliban internal disputes

The Taliban was quick to announce Mullah Akhtar Mansoor, deputy to Mullah Omar, as its new leader. But the move has triggered rifts and senior leaders have questioned the legitimacy of Mansoor.

The beleaguered new leader has vowed to continue the insurgency. (VoA)

### (3) Investing in ...

of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan including the Ministries of Information and Culture, Economy and Labor, Social Affairs, Martyrs and Disabled.

"The demographic dividend provides a window of opportunity for Afghanistan to accelerate socio-economic development", said Dr Annette Sachs Robertson, UNFPA Representative. "Today we have the opportunity to invest in our youth, particularly in girls, to ensure they are productively integrated in the society and achieve their full potential." Investing in Youth: How to Realize Afghanistan's Demographic Dividend, highlights three vital areas of intervention to promote the country's future development: women empowerment, education and employment.

Women's empowerment is critical, especially in countries where birth rates remain high, such as Afghanistan. Adolescent policies and programmes must help girls to stay in school, providing social and economic alternatives to early marriage and childbearing, enabling them to reach their full potential. Fertility rates in Afghanistan have decreased from 6.3 in 2005 to 5.1 in 2015. The use of family planning methods has also increased: currently 20 percent of married

women use a modern contraceptive method. Lowered fertility rates through voluntary family planning are linked to women's empowerment and increases in women's labour-force participation and earnings, contributing to the country's economy. It also enhances the life-chances of their children and their education, helping to break the intergenerational cycle of poverty. (PR)

### (4) 3,000 Leave ...

Hozori area in order to preach and participate in discussion of Islamic studies, according to participants. Some told TOLONews that they relied on personal expenses to make the trip, but a majority of the attendees were hesitant to comment on their activities and even refused to be filmed. A few outright denied any connection to the Taliban or any other militant groups.

"I have travelled from Laghman to attend the 'Ejtemah' gathering," one participant named Shah Agha said. "Those gathered here are all Muslims, including the clerics, elders and youngsters. There are no Taliban, nor Daesh. Our aim is to preach the teachings of Allah," he added. The Taliban insurgency, along with its affiliate, al-Qaeda, have long exploited religious language and pretenses in order to recruit fighters and sympathizers from Afghanistan's unemployed and marginalized. Over the years, the Afghan government has struggled to prevent pro-Taliban clerics from conveying their messages and recruiting on their behalf in mosques and madrasses, particularly across the border in Pakistan. (Tolonews)

### (5) NPC Approves ...

information technology and communications and public works were also approved.

Two contracts of the NDS and DABS were postponed to the next meeting for further study. President Ashraf Ghani also directed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) be signed between ministries of communications and public works for implementation of optic fiber projects.

The construction and technical aspects of the projects should also be differentiated, the statement added.

The president has also directed thorough analysis and evaluation of the public works ministry's projects.

The meeting, chaired by the president, was held on Saturday evening with the presence of Sarwar Danish, second vice-president and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Abdullah Abdullah. (Pajhwok)

### (6) Baghlan PC...

ameliorate the situation. "The local government is weak and has no coordination to take bold decisions against Taliban," he said, adding that local administration should deploy security forces in the areas under militants' threat.

He warned rebels would block Pul-i-Khumri- Mazar-i-Sharif highway if they extended their sway to Huma Sharif locality of Pul-i-Khumri city.

Mohsini added that Taliban had obtained heavy weapons and they could pose a threat to the provincial capital even.

A month ago, militants fired 12 rockets from Dand Ghor area into Pul-i-Khumri City that left two persons dead and over 10 wounded.

Provincial council members and residents had previously warned the government to clear Dand Ghor area of insurgents otherwise they would disrupt Pul-i-Khumri security. (Pajhwok)

### (7) Civil Society....

week but had to be postponed indefinitely following the news of Mullah Mohammad Omar's death.

Mullah Omar, the group's supremo had apparently died two years back. He is now replaced by Mullah Akhtar Mansour despite opposition from some members of the group.

Tola also blasted the security forces for failing to detect trucks full of explosive that was brought to capital Kabul, killing and wounding hundreds of civilians. "I urge the National Security Council to work on an ideal security strategy and to prosecute those who are negligent in security matters," he remarked.

In three blasts in Shah Shaeed, Police Academy, and Qasaba locality of Kabul more than 50 people have died and around 500 more wounded.

Mohammad Reza Ibrahim, Bamyan university lecturer, said peace process was a failure and the government needed to revise its policy towards the process. (Pajhwok)

### (8) HPC Urges....

sented that the Taliban had no authority and were unable to make decisive decisions.

"If they [Taliban] had any authority and decisiveness, the peace talks could prove successful," said Waqad, who was the former leader of Hizb-e-Islami Party led by Gulbadin Hekmatyar. "If one day they are invited to talks and the other day to bombing, this will never work."

Analysts, meanwhile, stated they were not optimistic about the results of peace talks after the Taliban's late supreme leader Mullah Mohammad Omar was confirmed dead, which they said, has splintered the Taliban. After the Afghan officials and the Taliban confirmed late last month that Mullah Omar had died in 2013 in Karachi city in Pakistan, Mullah Akhtar Mohammad Mansour was apparently appointed as the successor of the late reclusive leader.

Mansour's appointment, has however reportedly been opposed by some key members of the Taliban's Quetta Shura [Council], which in turn is said to have caused problems in the way of peace talks. (Tolonews)

### (9) Analysts Reassess....

government engaged in official peace negotiations with high-ranking members of the group in Pakistan for the first time last month.

Amrullah Saleh, the former head of the National Directorate of Security, told TOLONews on Saturday that the wave of attacks is reflective of Mansour's intention to convey to other members of the Taliban that he is committed to continued war. "Mansour's message comprises three points: the first point indicates that Mansour is more brutal than Mullah Omar, the secondly is that Mansour believes that war is the solution, and the third is that Mansour wants to say trust him and he will not endorse the peace negotiation," he said.

Other commentators have also interpreted the attacks as a bad sign for the peace process. "The attack reveals that they [the Taliban] still do not believe in peace in Afghanistan," MP Shukria Barakzai said on Saturday. "They are a combination of contractors and mercenaries who abide by the order of their Pakistani masters. As an Afghan, I do not support the peace process to be an inter-Afghan dialogue; the world community must guarantee the process," she added. (Tolonews)

### (10) Death Toll ....

has claimed responsibility for the attack.

This year, the insurgents have increased their activities in the province and frequently attack the local security forces posts.

Currently insurgents have taken control of most parts of, Chahardara, Dasht-e-Archi, Ali Abad, Qala-e-Zal, Khan Abad and Imam Sahib districts of the province and are engaged in ongoing clashes with the security forces.

But the Afghan National Security Forces on Sunday launched a large-scale military operation to clear insurgents from the area and to retake control of captured districts.

According to government officials, ANSF land forces, assisted by air support, have surrounded the Dasht-e-Archi district and plan to clear the area of insurgents by the end of the day. (Tolonews)

### (11) Hospital....

currently being faced by local residents.

Local residents said they were happy over the resumption of work on the new hospital and urged the authorities to complete the project this time.

Najibullah, a resident, said the government should not allow the contractor concerned to flee before completing the hospital. He proposed the governor's house should appoint a com-

mittee to supervise construction works on the hospital building. (Pajhwok)

### (12) Iran, Afghanistan....

police while cooperating with the police of Afghanistan should make efforts to either change or block the production direction of narcotics so that within Afghanistan we will be witness to happy scenes in line with campaign against the narcotics."

Meanwhile, General Baz Mohammad Ahmadi said Afghanistan intends to give specific priority to the campaign with drugs at the regional level with the friendly and neighboring countries.

He said last year 6,400 tons of opium was produced in his country, mainly in southwestern part which is under the control of Taliban.

He noted that the main reason for poppy cultivation in Afghanistan is poverty, unemployment, instability and insecurity in the region, adding that in case employment is provided people will not resort to opium production and illegal activities. (IRNA)

### (13) Child Labor....

choice but to accept the low salary out of desperation to help support their families.

"We're hit by poverty, and I couldn't go to school," one young laborer named Kainaat told TOLONews. "I must work to help my family. My father is in debt," she added.

"I work here from 1:00pm at night to 7:00 in morning," another worker named Farooq said. "I must work, there is no other way. I should send money to my family, who live in Nangarhar."

Other kiln workers criticized the government for failing to fix the economy or help develop better employment opportunities. "We do lots of work but the salary is very small," a laborer named Jahidullah Kargar told TOLONews. "We urge the government to provide us job opportunities to get out of this problem." (Tolonews)

### (14) Insurgents Use ...

said the money was being used for buying weapons for Taliban so that they can continue their armed struggle against the government forces and security forces.

"This has been one of the major concerns and even the money allocated for education sector is provided to the armed opponents," Shahjoy police chief Mohammadullah said.

"Education sector is deteriorating in Zabul compared to the past. Education fund is being provided to armed insurgents and even education materials are being misused," member of Zabul provincial council Dawood Gulzar said.

However, Zabul education directorate has refused to comment on the report, but provincial governor has pledged to investigate the report on the allocation of education funds to Taliban.

"Education department has always told me that the education situation is encouraging in the area. But we are determined to probe the issue and I assure residents of Zabul to address their problems," Zabul governor Anwar Eshaqzai said.

Zabul is considered as one of the insecure provinces in Afghanistan and still majority of the children do not have access to educational institutions. Previously, there were some reports that half of the salaries of the insurgents are being paid to Taliban in Zabul. (Tolonews)

### (15) Powerful Mafia....

to investigate the issue and introduce the individuals involved in the dirty game to judicial organs.

Abdul Ahad Khan, director land and revenue department, confirmed that huge part of land had been grabbed by powerful individual and government officials.

He said provincial government officials did not have the authority to disclose the names of land grabbers; however, official concerned had been informed about the issue.

Syed Qaribullah Sadaat, the provincial council head, said thousands of acres of land had been grabbed in the province and it was due to the ignorance of provincial authorities and growing corruption.

He urged the government help vacate the land from powerful individuals and officials. (Pajhwok)

### (16) Uruzgan Health ....

Mohammad Jan told Pajhwok Afghan News that he possessed credible documents in support of his claims.

He said he came under attack from a building rented by the Public Health Department and as a result, a youth was killed and his son injured.

A few days ago, Mohammad Jan said some masked gunmen on motorcycles in front of the same building wanted to attack him, but they did not succeed.

He said a number of Pakistanis had been appointed in offices and buildings related to the Public Health Department. He accused the Pakistanis of being involved in terrorist and immoral activities.

A member of the provincial council also confirmed receiving complaints against the public health director.

Meanwhile, doctors and other staff at the provincial civil hospital in Tarinkot, the provincial capital, closed down the hospital in protest against the arrest of the director.

Chief doctor at the hospital, Dr. Yad Wali, told Pajhwok Afghan News they went on strike in compliance with orders from Public Health Department officials.

He said besides Dr. Khan Agha, arrest warrants for several doctors had been issued in order to be investigated.

A civil society activist, Ahmad Javed, said complaints against the public health director had lately increased and that he should be thoroughly investigated.

The closure of the civil hospital has created numerous problems for patients. (Pajhwok)

### (17) Shah Shaheed ...

parts of capital Kabul. The blast took place at around 1:00 am, an official said.

Media quoted senior official as saying that Vehicle-borne Improvised Explosive Device (VBIED) was detonated near Shah Shaheed area. The official feared the blast inflicted heavy men and material losses. (Pajhwok)

### (18) Projects....

lacked them.

Also on Sunday, Governor Kallimzai addressed a big gathering in the Sarkano district, pledging to root out mafia and drug smuggling gangs.

He said such groups and individuals would be dealt with in accordance with the law.

The governor's spokesman, Ghani Musammam, said the gathering in Sarkano district was aimed at creating awareness about narcotics.

The governor said people's demands would be addressed as planned and in this regard, he would knock at the doors of every central government departments and aid giving agencies.

The governor urged local residents to send their sons to join the national armed forces for the defence of their motherland. (Pajhwok)

### (19) 115 Militants....

At least 41 others were also injured, 5 were detained and soem weapons along with ammunition and explosives were confiscated by the Afghan armed forces during the operations, the statement added.

MoD said the Afghan armed forces also discovered and defused at least 48 rounds of Improvised Explosive Device (IED) during the same period.

The anti-government armed militant groups have not commented regarding the reports so far. (KP)

### (20) Civilian Casualties.

urgents and security forces for not respecting the principles of war, which resulted in fatalities among civilians.

He urged the warring factions to take into consideration the agreed laws and principles of war and avoid operations in civilian populated areas.

Security officials in Helmand, however, say they have clear guidance when it comes to engaging the enemy and preventing civilian casualties but it was the Taliban who inflicted most dam-

age on civilians. (Pajhwok)

### (21) Pakistan's Military...

"On behalf of the people of Kunar, I strongly denounce the attacks; continuation of the attacks will leave damaging consequences. We want the Pakistan government to put an end to the mortar and rocket attacks," he added.

The Pakistani military has been engaged in targeting Afghanistan's border regions over the past four years, but appeared to have stopped the attacks following the establishment of the National Unity Government. However, two months ago they appeared to re-launch the campaign - despite widespread criticism.

In the past few weeks, border provinces including Paktika, Nangarhar and Kunar have all come under fire from across the border. (Tolonews)

### (22) 10 Insurgents....

separate drone strikes by foreign forces in the province.

The drone strikes started in Haskamina and Sherzad districts of the province.

Haskamina is considered an insecure district in the province - in which insurgents are active and frequently target local security forces and threaten residents, said officials. (Tolonews)

### (23) ANA Soldiers....

He acknowledged three ANA soldiers were died and three others wounded in the firefight with insurgents. He said that Afghan security forces took back control of several villages and a district. Yawar said that security forces secured control of Parkham and Peech areas where local population announced support to the country's security forces.

However, Taliban claimed killing 40 security personnel in the clashes. (Pajhwok)

### (24) Hiroshima,....

in mind that those lives were, by no means, the only victims of the war Japan had initiated.

Millions of innocent people were mercilessly massacred, cities and villages pillaged, as Japanese army evaded China and other Asian countries only to satisfy its militarism ambitions. (Xinhua)

### (25) UN Chief....

to support indigenous peoples' rights and aspirations as affirmed in the Declaration."

While pointing out the fact that indigenous peoples face a wide range of challenges to their health and well-being, Ban said most of the problems are preventable, such as inadequate sanitation and housing, lack of prenatal care, widespread violence against women, and high rates of diabetes, drug and alcohol abuse, youth suicide and infant mortality.

"These issues must be urgently addressed as part of the post-2015 development agenda in culturally appropriate ways that meet indigenous peoples' conceptions of and aspirations for well-being," Ban added. (Xinhua)

### (26) UN Chief....

extended his deepest condolences to the families of the victims and the government and people of Mali and wished the injured a speedy and full recovery.

The attack took place earlier Saturday in a hostage siege at a hotel in Sevre, reportedly killing at least 13 people. The suspected Islamist gunmen had retreated to the hotel after attacking a nearby army base. (Xinhua)

### (27) Former Sri....

to try to defeat them. Under Rajapaksa's government, the Tamil Tigers were defeated and all the areas which were under rebel control were freed.

The former president said if Tamil Tiger leader Vellupillai Prabhakaran was alive he would ask him whether the story that he gave the Tigers money was really true. "Prabhakaran had said this story. I would like to ask him if it is true. But he is not alive today," Rajapaksa said. (Xinhua)

### (28) British Military....

it was in the Second World War, it is a skill that has to be learned.

"Soldiers have to pay strict attention to their health and hygiene, be prepared to carry heavy loads for long periods and cope with animal, insect and vegetation hazards. (Xinhua)