

Quote of the Day

Imagination is more important than knowledge...
Albert Einstein

Obama Can do Iran Nuclear Deal Even if Congress Disapproves

WASHINGTON - The September vote on the Iran nuclear deal is billed as a titanic standoff between President Barack Obama and Congress. Yet even if U.S. lawmakers reject the agreement, it's not game-over for the White House.

A congressional vote of disapproval would not prevent Obama from acting on his own to start putting the accord in place. While he probably would take some heavy criticism, this course would let him add the foreign policy breakthrough to his second-term list of accomplishments. Obama doesn't need a congressional OK to give Iran most of the billions of dollars in relief from economic sanctions that it would get under the agreement, as long



as Tehran honors its commitments to curb its nuclear program. "A resolution to disapprove the Iran agreement may

have substantial political reverberations, but limited practical impact," says Robert Satloff of the Washington Institute for Near

East Policy. "It would not override President Obama's authority to enter into the agreement." (AP)

3-Day Countrywide Polio Eradication Drive Launched



KABUL - A three days polio eradication campaign covering nine million children under five years of age got underway across Afghanistan on Sunday. Public Health Minister Firuzuddin Firoz, who formally inaugurates the first round of polio vaccination campaign, said teams would be visiting

every house to administer polio drops to children. Besides the polio vaccination, as many as two million children would be provided with Vitamin-A drops, he remarked. He urged families to make sure their children received the vaccine. "Polio immunization is ... (More on P4)...(1)

Rula Underlines Media Role Against Drug Addiction



KABUL - First Lady Rula Ghani on Sunday underlined the need that the government and media should join hands to create awareness against drug addiction.

Rula Ghani suggested that masses should be informed about adverse affect of drug use through media. "Media play important role in all as-

pects of life. Media should introduce television plays, discussions and several other forms against drug," she added.

Counter-narcotics Minister Ms Salam Azimi said: "Media is one of the basic and effective tools in creating awareness and changing mind ... (More on P4)...(3)

Union Stops Import of Pakistan Medicine



KABUL - The Medicine Importing Companies Union - a private sector union - on Sunday announced that its affiliated companies will no longer import pharmaceutical products from Pakistan in protest over the rise in suicide bombings in the coun-

try, for which Pakistan has been blamed. The decision was reportedly immediately backed by the Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Industries (ACCI). Members of the Medicine Importing Companies ... (More on P4)...(5)

10,000 Km of Roads Asphalted Countrywide

KABUL - The Public Works Minister on Saturday said more than 10,000 kilometres of roads had been reconstructed across the country at a cost of \$8 billion, but the President's Special Representative for reforms and good governance said Afghanistan still lacked proper road networks.

Speaking at a national conference on land transport, Public Works Minister Mahmood Baligh said all the 10,000 kilometre roads had been asphalted with the help of the international community.

He said the government had prioritised building roads and railway lines because transport played a key role in a country's economic development. He, however, said such projects needed enormous financial resources and time.

Ahmad Zia Massoud, President Ashraf Ghani's special ... (More on P4)...(4)

Iran's Oil Products Export to Afghanistan to Rise: Official

TEHRAN - Director of National Oil Products Distribution Company of Razavi Khorasan region said that increasing oil products export to neighboring countries, including Afghanistan, is among strategic programs of the company.

Official: Iran's oil products export to Afghanistan to rise. Mohammad Mehdi Qaraei told IRNA on Saturday that since beginning of this year (Iranian calendar) more than 38 million liters of diesel has been exported to Afghanistan from the province. He added that possibilities for importing LPG from Turkmenistan had been prepared in Sang-Bast. (IRNA)

Smooth Power Supply to Develop Industries: AISA

KABUL - Afghanistan Investment Support Agency (AISA) demanded the government to ensure uninterrupted power supply to the vital industrial sector, which would go a long way to ensure progress and prosperity in the country.

Currently 27 industrial parks are active throughout the country.

AISA said 2,500 factories were available in the country but most of them did not get enough electricity that caused them less produc-



tion. AISA head Mohammad Qurban Haqjo told a news conference on Sunday that some of industrial parks still lacked electricity and they were provided electricity from residential buildings. Load-shedding causes factories to lose

materials, stop production and warming the machine again affects the factory, he said.

He said power cables extended to Pul-i-Charkhi industrial park were laid on the ground because of Breshan Sherkat negligence. ... (More on P4)...(2)

Alami Balkhi

3-Fold Increase in Number of Returnees



KABUL - The Refugee and Repatriation Minister on Sunday said the number of Afghan families returning from Iran and Pakistan witnessed a three-fold increase during the first six months of the year. Syed Hussain Alami Balkhi told reporters in Kabul about 17,000 refugees had returned from Iran and Pakistan during the same period in 2014 against 46,000 this year.

Most of the families returned from Iran. They included around 50,000 refugees who had been lacking legal stay documents ... (More on P4)...(6)

Survey

Ghani's Popularity Continues to Slide

KABUL - The findings of the fourth survey in a series conducted by ATR Consulting and TOLONews shows Afghan President Ashraf Ghani's popularity has further dipped, illustrating a decrease of 5.7 percent as compared to results published in May.

According to the findings released on Sunday, slightly less than 20 percent of the entire population in Afghanistan is "very satisfied" with the performance of Ghani since he assumed office last year in September - this is down from 25.5 percent in May.

Approximately one person out of five is - or 22.8 percent - are "moderately satisfied" with Ghani's performance, the report said.

But the largest percentage of the population - 52.1 percent - is "not satisfied at all" with the government of Ghani - that came into power after a disputed election with rival Abdullah Abdullah, ... (More on P4)...(7)

British Special Forces Back in Afghanistan



KABUL - The British Special Forces have been returned to Afghanistan and reportedly take part in military operations against Taliban and other militant groups. According to a British media

organization these forces together with the special forces of the United States are taking part in military operation almost every night.

The Mirror quotes unnamed defense ... (More on P4)...(8)

Insecurity Bars PCs from Monitoring Projects

KABUL - Provincial council members say that growing insecurity have prevented them to evaluate and observe projects' implementations and local governance. The Wolesi Jirga or lower house of parliament has barred provincial councils from evaluating local governance in 2014 election process.

Most of the provincial councils have closed their offices in protest against the parlia-

ment's decision. However, the councils have regained the right based on a presidential decree. A consultative workshop participated by all provincial council heads was held in capital Kabul on Sunday to discuss problems regarding the provincial councils.

Sayed Ahmad Khamosh, the local councils solidarity head, told the meeting titled 'Consultative Workshop for Internal ... (More on P4)...(9)

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