

(1) Regional Fight...

cooperation with Afghanistan in establishing the Maulana Jalaluddin Mohammad Balkhi University. The statement said President Ghani called the relations between Afghanistan and Turkey as historic and thanked the Turkish government for paving the ground for Afghan students to pursue higher education in Turkey. Referring to recent incidents in Turkey, President Ghani said the self-styled Islamic State group was a common threat to the region and needed joint campaign to eradicate it. He praised Turkey's role in strengthening regional cooperation for peace and stability as crucial and said the threat of terrorism could not be overcome unilaterally and all countries in the region had to take part in the fight against the menace. (Pajhwok)

(2) Afghans Petition...

Secretary General to act on Pakistan's hostile actions against Afghanistan and rescue us from suicide blasts." Kabul residents want the United Nations to adopt a clear stance against Pakistan. "More than 15,000 signatures have been collected in this petition letter and we will hand it over to the international community and they must answer us. Pakistan's promises always remain on paper only and this time a serious decision must be taken toward Pakistan," said Shuria Sirat Walizada a civil society activist. Many Afghans believe that the spate of recent deadly attacks against mostly civilians in Kabul is the doing of Pakistan. This comes after President Ashraf Ghani and CEO Abdullah Abdullah both publicly blamed Pakistan for masterminding the attacks. Relations between the two countries have soured considerably in recent weeks despite Pakistan urging Afghanistan not to play the blame game.

Last Wednesday, the Afghan ambassador to Islamabad was summoned to a meeting with Foreign Secretary Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry. Pakistan wanted to convey its concerns over the recent spate of allegations leveled against them by government, media and senior officials - in what they called was a bid to 'malign' Pakistan. (Tolnews)

(3) Cultural SAARC...

A thousand Afghan and foreign guests, the camp was inaugurated by cultural director of SAARC, deputy information and culture minister, lawmakers and representatives of ministries. Musdaq Khllili, deputy information and culture minister, called the inauguration of the camp important to cement relations of SAARC member countries. He told the participants: "Bamyan is your home and we hope relations between Afghanistan and SAARC member states will improve." Bamyan Governor Tahir Zuhir urged SAARC to recognize Bamyan as secretariat of the organization and deliver the message of peace, friendship and civilization of the province to the SAARC member countries. He urged SAARC to encourage foreign tourists to visit Bamyan and cooperate in fields of culture and tourism in Bamyan. The cultural camp of SAARC opens in countries where a cultural center of the organization is available. A number of popular artists of the organization visited the camp's inauguration. Meanwhile, the SAARC festival which includes cultural programs, arts show, Silk Road festival, local food festival and an exhibition of handicrafts was also started today. The festival would continue for five days amid tight security. (Pajhwok)

(4) Kabul Prepares
be discussed during plenary sessions will be the issue of establishing an air transit hub in Kandahar. "All the preparations have been made for the holding of the RECCA summit and alongside other economic matters we will focus on energy, transit, trade and growth of the privates sector,"

a spokesman for MoFA, Shekib Mustaghni said. "The meeting will be held on September 3 and 4 in Kabul." Meanwhile, Ajmal Hamid Abdul Rahimzai, a spokesman for the Ministry of Finance has said that the meeting can help Afghanistan in its drive to develop its economy as well as with the implementation of infrastructure projects in the country and that of transit and trade routes in the region. "This meeting is crucial for Afghanistan. It can help us in developing the economy," Rahimzai said. "On the other hand Afghanistan can use this conference to attract investment in the region - to encourage people to invest in Afghanistan." (Tolnews)

(5) Thousands of ...

she revealed. She informed that Saudi Arabia had also shown interest to hire 300,000 skilled Afghan workers. Qualified and skilled individuals would be sent to the kingdom for work, she added. The minister said currently more than four million people were jobless and another 400,000 individuals were added to the number in one year's time. She criticised the allocation of more funds to defence and interior ministries, saying peace and stability was the only solution to overcome unemployment. Governor Shah Wali Adib acknowledged growing unemployment contributed to insecurity and lawlessness, saying many youth had joined militant ranks.

Ziauddin Wasiq, a member of the provincial council, said around 4,000 youth had graduated from public and private universities in Badakhshah, but they remained jobless. He urged the government to strive to generate jobs for them. (Pajhwok)

(6) Due Consideration...

Its report is based on suggestion for reforms from the relevant agencies and the people. The Democracy and Elections Committee, headed by Transparent Election Foundation of Afghanistan (TEFA), welcomed the work done by the commission so far. It said before its suggestions go to the government, they should be shared with election-related agencies so that they get the assurance that all proposals had been taken into consideration. Discrediting the previous voting cards, work on new ID cards distribution, preparing a list of voters before elections and providing appropriate plans in a short time are the first set of suggestions that the panel will present.

Introducing an answerable mechanism for members of the elections commissions and responsibilities of the committee that selects members of the panels are among other suggestions of the panel. The Democracy and Elections Committee also urged the government to seriously consider suggestions of the reform commission and pave the way for their implementation. Naeem Ayubzada, TEFA head, told journalists in Kabul in the past 10 months the issue of elections was delayed and it did not appear to be a top priority for the government. "Although we did not agree on composition of the reform panel, but still different agencies involved in elections tried to closely cooperate with the commission by presenting their suggestions of great technical help," he remarked. (Pajhwok)

(7) MCIT Spokesman...

cards of the network from the market and leading the company towards failure. Speaking to journalists, he said the government employees should have received Sim Cards from Salaam network, but instead Sim Cards from private companies were distributed to them, affecting the company negatively. He said after Salaam network started its activities and the communication prices in the country came down and the quality went up. Despite investments of 65\$ million dollars in the network, neither the company could develop nor could it compete with other private networks. Rahimi said the ministry had exempted the communication companies from penalties which was itself against the law. (Pajhwok)

(8) 'Foreign States...

In 1949, shortly after World War II, the first TIR agreement was concluded between a small number of European countries and led to the elaboration of the TIR Convention in 1954 under the umbrella of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). MoCI Minister Humayun Rasa told a press conference titled "Capacity Building and Raising Awareness about TIR" said that the implementation of the system could improve the country's nascent economy. But he expressed concern that Afghanistan was still facing troubles in implementing the TIR. He added that non-standard customs, refusing issuing visa from the TIR member countries to Afghan drivers, compulsion from neighbor countries as Road Pass, lack of capacity in the private sector to utilize the system and absence of learning centers for introducing the TIR system were main problems to implement it. Rasa said the system could provide sufficient facilities for investors and improve the country's economic situation. "The MoCI is committed to solve all problems facing the implementation of TIR system," he pledged. Rasa accused Iran, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and some other countries for not following the rules of International Convention of TIR to support Afghanistan in activating the system. But he did not provide more details about issue. A vehicle from foreign countries entering Afghanistan pay 200\$ while a vehicle exporting goods from Afghanistan to foreign country pays 800\$ which was a large amount of money for trader to pay, he said. Deputy Transport and Civil Aviation Minister Jarullah Mansori said the aim of the conference was to boost national capacity for using the TIR system. Meanwhile, Younus Mohmand the administrative board deputy head of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Afghanistan, also stressed on the activation of the system and said: "The TIR system will help remove transport and custom barriers and simplify goods transportation." (Pajhwok)

(9) 29 Indian...

complained to the Consulate regarding non-payment of salaries and withholding of passports by the employer. The matter was immediately taken up with the company owner, Abdullah Rasuli, who admitted that despite financial difficulties faced by the company they would clear all dues of the workers. He also requested for staggered departure of Indian workers to avoid complete shutdown of the company which was agreed to by the Indian workers and the local authorities who mediated. Accordingly, the Consulate of India facilitated return of 28 persons to India during February-April 2015. The company paid all their arrears and also provided air tickets to them. The company was, however, unable to provide a timeframe for clearance of due salaries of remaining 35 Indian workers and delayed their departure. In the meantime, living conditions in factory premises also deteriorated with disconnection of electricity supply last month. Six Indian workers had to leave for India in July 2015 due to medical exigencies, without receiving their salaries. In absence of any positive response from the company, local authorities advised the Consulate to send Indian workers back to India after filing of legal proceedings against the debtor

company. (Pajhwok)

(10) Police Round ...

a threat to the general population. "Most of the street dealers are women and children and it is difficult to recognize them or charge them for drug dealing," he said. When asked about the exact number of drug dealers in Kabul, Ahmadi said "the exact figure cannot be guessed but I mentioned that we are serious this time and we have increased our focus on this issue." According to the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), there is an estimated 2,000 drug addicts living without shelter in Kabul, and the 200 that were rounded up are part of them. One of addicts taken into custody, told TOLnews: "The main reason is joblessness that pushes people, mostly youth, to embrace drug addiction, but when there is work such a thing will not happen." Deputy Minister of Public Health, Najia Tariq meanwhile said: "We have treated at least 6,000 drug addicts which will be rounded up in Pul-e-Sokhta area in 25 phases." There are however also concerns about the increase in drug addiction among women and children - which is also leading to an increase in drug prices, officials say.

According to officials, the Counter Narcotics Department of the Interior Ministry has arrested over 900 drug dealers in Kabul over the past three months - 80 of them have been held in the past two weeks. This comes just weeks after Kabul Police Chief Abdul Rahman Rahimi's said that they will round up all drug addicts on the streets of Kabul city and that they will also arrest drug dealers and alcohol sellers.

"We are assuring the country's residents that we will gather all addicts from around the city in the upcoming weeks. This work is easy for us but a lack of treatment facilities for these people is a big issue," he said. At the time, he said police will also arrest those illegally selling Afghan security force uniforms and illegal arms dealers - both of which are used by insurgents. (Tolnews)

(11) Fleeing Afghans ...

said that he wants to leave the country as soon as possible, even if he is not able to get his diploma. "Afghanistan has economic problems, and people are living in hardship. There are explosions and suicide attacks every day. We cannot live in this country anymore, so I decided to go to Germany," he said. Masoud said that he would go anywhere in Europe, as long as he could leave Afghanistan. However, it is very difficult for Afghans to get a visa for Europe or the United States. Issa Rahman, a young man from eastern Afghanistan, said his chances of getting a European Schengen visa are very slim. However, he has no choice but to flee for his personal safety. He said that having worked for a foreign organization was now putting him at risk.

"I once worked for a foreign company. Paktia Province is very unsafe because it has been hit by war. There are threats to my personal safety. I've received two or three threatening phone calls. They said they have evidence of my experience working for foreigners," he said. Rahman said that he wanted to go to Turkey and then head for Germany. However, he has no idea how he will make a living once there as he cannot speak German or English. "I will go there, and then I will consider working or studying. I will tell them my misfortunes and show them evidence to prove that I've received threats. My family also have difficulties," said Rahman. Meanwhile, refugees that have already made it as far as Greece, have also indicated that they fled following death threats in the wake of them working for foreigners. (Tolnews)

company. (Pajhwok)

(12) Afghan Ambassador...

from Afghanistan in Khyber Agency the same day - which resulted in the death of four Pakistani soldiers and critically injured four others. "The Afghan envoy was asked to urge his government to investigate the incident and share the result of the inquiry with the government of Pakistan. Such incidents do not augur well for the positive trajectory of relations the two sides have been able to achieve after sustained efforts," read the statement. "Pakistan fully condemn terrorism in all forms and manifestations and is willing to collaborate with Afghanistan to fight the common enemy. However, the attacks against our military personnel are unacceptable," it continued. The Afghan Ambassador said that he would convey the message to the concerned authorities and look into this. He expressed his condolences on the killing of Pakistani soldiers.

The statement read: "The Ambassador was also requested to urge his government to ensure the safety and security of our personnel at the embassy and consulates and Pakistani diaspora in Afghanistan. He (Mosazai) assured that Afghanistan attaches great importance to the security of Pakistani personnel and instructions in this regard had already been issued by the government of Afghanistan to enhance their security." This is the second time in less than a week that Mosazai has been summoned to Pakistan's Foreign Ministry. On Wednesday last week he was hauled in to the office for a meeting with Foreign Secretary Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry. (Tolnews)

(13) Afghanistan...

diplomatic enclave in Islamabad during Sardar Daud Khan regime but its construction could not begin yet. He said the planning and designing of embassy building in the 7 acres land had been completed, but the construction work had been delayed due to the shortage of funds. According to the ambassador, currently, the embassy affairs were being run in two residential homes in the G/3-6 sector of the Pakistani capital. Haji Munir, an Afghan citizen living in Pakistan, said the existence of a permanent building for embassy was of immense need. (Pajhwok)

(14) 'Musa Qala...

forces in Musa Qala. The security personnel cannot sleep and are unable to fight and need emergency assistance," the public representative said. He said security officials should order airstrikes on the district before the night fell in order to save the district from falling. However, Helmand police spokesman Shah Mahmood Ashna told Pajhwok Afghan News that the provincial police chief and the deputy intelligence chief had reached Musa Qala district to strengthen security there. (Pajhwok)

(15) Protesters Block ...

Mubariz extorts money from people and those who refuse straight go to jail." He said they conveyed their grievances to police chief but to no avail and Mubariz continued with his atrocities. But Shamsuddin Sarhadi, the town's administrative chief, said majority of the protesters were land grabbers and owed thousands afghanis in taxes. The protest caused huge traffic jam and over hundreds of vehicles waiting for reopening of the road on both sides. (Pajhwok)

(16) 31 Taliban...

activities have been increased in Musa Qala in the past days and "so far 15 security soldiers were killed in the insurgents attack." The security officials said that the Taliban have retreated from the battle field but the district still faces a threat. However, the Taliban have not

yet commented on the incident. (Tolnews)

(17) Road Blockade...

1,200 to 1,800 afghanis and a bag of 50 kilograms of sugar reached from 1,300 to 2,000 afghanis. He said the residents of locality were unable to afford the prices and they were facing with serious problems. (Pajhwok)

(18) Dozens of...

forwarded to the NADRA chairman. The report, available with The Express Tribune, states that "as these foreign nationals have attained Pakistani identities, it was quite difficult for the law enforcement agencies to track and apprehend them". The development resulted during the ISI's ongoing counterterrorism operations, with special reference to hunting down financiers and facilitators of terrorists. The report, however, does not speak about any transactions or the volume of money moved by the dealers, except that Pakistani identities were found on most of them. The ISI claimed that a majority of the dealers had obtained CNICs on bogus verification and by bribing NADRA officials through local and foreign agents. (Pajhwok)

(19) Passenger ...

Afghanis from all 11 passengers. One of the passengers Mohammad Musa said: "Four armed robbers stopped us and started searching us. They took all our mobile phones and money and then escaped." He said that robbers left them and attacked a Surf Model car and killed a passenger. The robbers took the Surf car with them and fled, Musa added. Bamyan police Chief Lt. Col. Mohammad Ali Lakzai confirmed the incident and said the slain passenger was taken by police and an investigation was underway. (Pajhwok)

(20) Clashes Once ...

Amanullah Farooqi also said electricity supply to the province from the Kajaki hydropower plant remained halted since Friday. He said they had also sent a team to the Kajaki district, but the clashes made it difficult to repair the lines. Farooqi said people faced numerous problems in the absence of electricity in the hot weather conditions. A resident of Kandahar City, Syed Rahim, told Pajhwok Afghan News that hot weather and lack of electricity had made their lives miserable. He said most of the people used electric pumps to fetch water from wells and they had lost access to clean drinking water as a result of the blackout. The supply lines to the two provinces have repeatedly been cut off in the past due to similar clashes between security forces and armed insurgents. (Pajhwok)

(21) Police Detain ...

police manning the check-post. The demonstrators alleged that police officials could have prevented the attack on school director. Police Chief Brig. Gen. Mohammad Zaman Mamozaai said the killer of Jahish had been identified, but fled the area. (Pajhwok)

(22) Conflicting ...

Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed militants offered resistance to Afghan forces in the firefight, leaving 10 soldiers dead. A statement released by the 215th Maiwand Military Corps said that Afghan forces conducted air operation in Mohammad Lal area of Musa Kala district on Sunday. (Pajhwok)

(23) U.S. Signals...

such signals from the Americans, though for now not very clear," Lavrov told a youth meeting. As well as the Ukraine conflict, in which more than 6,500 people have been killed since April 2014, Washington and Moscow are at loggerheads over the Syrian crisis, human rights and trade and security issues. (Reuters)