

Quote of the Day

You must do the things you think you cannot do.

Eleanor Roosevelt

CEO Meets Modi

India Oks New Phase of Uplift Projects

KABUL - Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Dr. Abdullah Abdullah met Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Foreign Minister Sushma Swaraj in New Delhi on Monday.

Javid Faisal, deputy spokesman for the CEO, told Pajhwok Afghan News that Abdullah discussed improved bilateral relations in political, military, cultural and business fields with Modi.

A statement from the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi



said Abdullah also met Swaraj. The two leaders conferred on various issues of mutual interest.

Abdullah and Modi watched as officials from the two countries signed an agreement on visa-free travel for diplomats.

Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Vikas Swarup tweeted: the two sides agreed on promotion of stronger diplomatic ties.

Sushma conveyed Abdullah India's approval of the third phase of developmental projects in Afghanistan. "Strategic ... (More on P4)...(1)

Government Firm on Electoral Reforms: CEO's Office



KABUL - The Office of the Chief Executive of Afghanistan said Monday that the National Unity Government is committed to delivering comprehensive reforms in the election laws.

Government is committed to bringing about key reforms in election laws and new commissioners will be appointed to election management bodies to supervise the process, the office said in a statement. Pressure on the government to take bold steps to bring about electoral reforms has intensified among election monitoring groups amid speculation on the fate of the selection committee.

In the wake of the controversy over the job of the selection committee, the CEO's office has reiterated the commitments that reforms will be put in place and that the government is ... (More on P4)...(2)

WHO Mulls Declaring Global Health Emergency over Zika

GENEVA - World Health Organization experts began emergency talks Monday on whether a Zika virus outbreak suspected of causing a surge in serious birth defects in South America should be declared a global health emergency.

The UN health agency warned last week that the mosquito-borne virus was "spreading explosively" in the Americas, with the region expected to see up to four million cases this year.

The WHO is under pressure to act quickly in the fight against Zika, after admitting it was slow to respond to the recent Ebola outbreak that ravaged parts of west Africa. Although symptoms of the mosquito-borne virus are ... (More on P4)...(4)

Suicide Attack Kills 10, Wounds 20, Taliban Claims Responsibility



KABUL - At least 10 people were killed and 20 others injured as a suicide bombing hit police headquarters in Kabul on Monday.

In the deadly suicide bombing which happened at 01:40 p.m. local time (0930 GMT), 10 people lost their lives and 20 others injured, Deputy Interior Minister Mohammad Ayub Salangi said without giving details.

Meanwhile, Faridon Abidi, director of crime investigation department of Kabul Police, told journalists that the blast claimed 10 lives, including the attacker and nine civilians.

Abidi also confirmed that 12 people, including 10 civilians and two police, sustained injuries in the attack.

The Interior Ministry said in a statement that a terrorist blew himself up in front of the headquarters of Civil Police Order.

The short statement added details will be made public after completion of investigation. Police cordoned off the site of the blast.

Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid has claimed responsibility for the attack, ... (More on P4)...(5)

Uruzgan Police Chief Govt. Officials Complicit in Target Killings



TIRINKOT - The police chief for central Uruzgan province on Monday claimed insurgents were carrying out targeted killings in cooperation with some government officials.

Brig. Gen. Ghulam Sakhi Rogh Lewanai told a press conference here that recent targeted killings had been carried out by the insurgents in cooperation with a number of government officials.

He said the rebels were planning to capture a number of districts with support of these individuals in the government. He also said some district police chiefs were involved in killing of people and their harassment.

Rogh Lewanai said a number of district police chiefs would be fired and replaced with new faces. "Some people warn me if I remove a district police chief, the same district will fall, such threats cannot stop me."

The police chief said dozens of policemen a day earlier deserted their posts in Dehrawud district and arrived in the provincial capital, Tirinkot, on the directives of these elements. However, he did not name any. He said all those involved in fueling insecurity would be referred to the prosecutors. During the past two weeks, nearly a dozen policemen have been killed in insider attacks in Uruzgan, where four incidents of targeted killing had taken place. A day earlier, 60 police abandoned their posts in Dehrawud district after developing differences with the district police chief. (Pajhwok)

Europol

Over 10,000 Migrant Children Missing

BERLIN - Over 10,000 unaccompanied migrant children have disappeared in Europe, the EU police agency Europol said Sunday, fearing many have been whisked into sex trafficking rings or the slave trade.

Europol's press office confirmed to AFP the figures published in British newspaper The Observer, adding that they covered the last 18-24 months.

The agency's chief of staff Brian Donald said the vulnerable children had disappeared



from the system after registering with state authorities following their arrival in Europe.

"It's not unreasonable to say that we're looking at 10,000-plus chil-

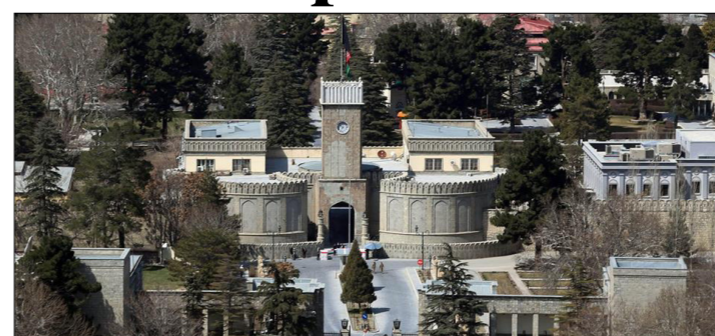
dren," Donald said, adding that 5,000 had disappeared in Italy alone. "Not all of them will be criminally exploited; some might have been passed on to ... (More on P4)...(3)

Political Compromises Behind Govt's Failure to Fight Corruption

KABUL - Anti-corruption organizations blame government for making political compromises in their fight against corruption.

The High Office of Anti-Corruption warned that political pressure and government's inability will pave the way for more widespread corruption. Meanwhile, the Independent Joint Anti-Corruption Monitoring and Evaluation Committee said that efforts made by the NUG in the fight against corruption are not enough.

"Keeping widespread corruption in Afghanistan in mind, the efforts made by government are not enough," said Ha-



midullah Tawab, head of the committee.

Corruption in Kabul Bank, the Ministry of Urban Development Affairs and Smart City Housing Scheme are considered as major cases of corruption currently being dealt with by the Attorney General's Of-

fice (AGO). The High Office of Anti-Corruption also lashed out at government for its inability to fight the scourge.

The Director of the High Office of Anti-Corruption, Said Ghulam Hussain Fakhri, believes that political compromises might ... (More on P4)...(6)

Thorough Investigation into Khaksar's Killing Sought

KABUL - Journalists in eastern Afghanistan called on government to thoroughly investigate the killing of Zubair Khaksar.

Khaksar, a prominent writer and poet from eastern Nangarhar province, was gunned down by unidentified gunmen on Friday night.

Khaksar was working as a journalist for Radio Television of Afghanistan (RTA) in Nangarhar. Shah Jahan Jahan, Khaksar's colleague, said he has worked with Khaksar for several years. "He was a brave man and always had a smile on his face," he added.

Sayed Jafar Safdariwal, another colleague of Khaksar, said he has learned a lot from Khaksar in journalism.

"I knew Khaksar for the past 15 years and we attended cultural events together," said Abdullah Sahar, a journalist in Nangarhar province. He described Khaksar as a prominent cultural figure in eastern Afghanistan.

Meanwhile, Nangarhar provincial council, urged security forces to arrest the killers of Khaksar as soon as possible. Ahmad Ali Hazrat, head of Nangarhar provincial council, called on security organizations to investigate Khaksar's death and bring the perpetrators to book.

Mohammad Zubair Khaksar, 50, graduated from the Pashto literature faculty of Nangarhar University and left a large number of literary works behind. (Tolnews)

Armed Men Attack Residence of Local Journalist in Mazar-I-Sharif



MAZAR-E-SHARIF - A group of unidentified armed men attacked the residence of a local journalist in Mazar-e-Sharif, capital of Balkh province on Sunday night. They intruded into the house of Yahya Jawahari and severely beaten him.

The intruders fled after damaging some stuff inside the house. Motive behind the attack is unknown. This comes as President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani has issued orders to the security institutions to use every mean in protecting journalists.

The Ruling was issued after a Taliban suicide bombing claimed the lives of eight journalists in capital Kabul and later an armed attack took the life of another journalist in eastern Nangarhar province. Haji Mohammad Zubair Khaksar who was working for the government-run Nangarhar Radio and Television network came under the attack of armed men while driving in his vehicle in Kharkarano Kala area of Surkh Road District on Friday night. (KP)

British Troops Investigated over Death of 52 Afghans



KABUL - British troops are facing criminal investigations over the killing of 52 Afghans during Britain's military campaign in the country.

According to British newspaper, The Telegraph, ministers fear lawyers are about to bring a new wave of cases against troops following a barrage of legal action seen after the Iraq war.

This comes just days after Britain's Chief of General Staff said such civil action could "undermine" Britain's ability to fight future conflicts.

The newspaper reports that the U.K's ministry of defense has set up an investigative unit called Operation Northmoor to deal with the Afghan claims.

The unit is made up of 64 Royal Military Police officers who

are investigating 166 separate cases, which include 52 deaths from 15 different incidents.

The law firm Leigh Day, which has been criticized by ministers for bringing "spurious" cases from the Iraq war, is representing 81 of the Afghan claimants. The firm has denied any wrongdoing from its work in Iraq and says the Government is trying to place the Armed Forces above the law.

However, The Telegraph reports that David Cameron has vowed to crack down on what he calls "an industry trying to profit from spurious claims that are lodged against our brave servicemen and women".

The Iraq Historic Abuse Team set up by the MoD has already spent five years investigating a tiny fraction ... (More on P4)...(7)

Nangarhar Governor Orders Stepped-up Police Patrols

JALALABAD - The governor of eastern Nangarhar province has asked the military council to increase police patrols and search operations in Jalalabad and nearby areas, an official said on Monday.

During a meeting with the military council members on Sunday night, Governor Saleem Khan Kunduzi instructed the officials to devise an operational plan for better security.

Kunduzi directed the authorities to step up police patrols and search operations across the province, his spokesman Attaullah Khogyani told Pajhwok Afghan News.

"They have decided to adopt necessary measures to enforce the presidential order to devise plans for conducting operations against militants in Nangarhar," a statement from governor's office said.

The current security situation in Jalalabad had worried the people, resident Zabihullah Faridzai said, adding they could not move around the city for fear of being kidnapped or other attacked.

Likewise, provincial council secretary Zabihullah Zmaray acknowledged crime and kidnapping had increased, but officials ... (More on P4)...(8)