

(1) Ghani Vows...

themselves, and they will only serve the enemies of the country," the Afghan leader added. Ghani and other leaders have repeatedly offered peace talks with the Taliban. However, the insurgent group has categorically rejected the offer, saying there will be no talks until foreign troops leave the country.

The U.S. and NATO-led troops completed their combat mission in Afghanistan by the end of 2014, after 13 years of military presence. They switched from combat to support mission, which focuses on training, advising and assisting Afghan forces since January last year. Nearly 13,000 foreign forces are stationed in the country and being involved in the mission. (Xinhua)

(2) NATO Defense...

Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov at the Munich Security Conference this week to stress the defensive nature of NATO's strategy for the Baltics and eastern Europe. (Pajhwok)

(3) ISIS Planting...

also expressed concern over the rise of al Qaeda. "We are concerned that Al Qaida can regenerate in that Afghan-Pak border region, which is why we need to maintain the intelligence collection as well as working with our Afghan and Pak partners," he said. Afghans he said are a very resilient people. There had been thousands of Afghans who had given their lives for the future of that country, adding that the US would want to continue to work very closely with them, their intelligence, security, military organizations that are there, he said.

They face a host of challenges, that foreign assistance is critically important to both the military front as well as on the economic side.

"But President Ghani and CEO Abdullah Abdullah, they need to make sure that their government is able to address the concerns of the Afghan people across the broad range of areas. The Afghan people are some of the bravest people that we have the privilege of working with," Brennan said. (Pajhwok)

(4) Afghanistan...

the last five years. Tehran has repeatedly called for a withdrawal of the US-led foreign troops from Afghanistan, stressing that establishment of peace and security in the war-ravaged country is possible only through cooperation among the regional states. (FNA)

(5) EU Set to ...

October 4-5, 2016. The conference will discuss the issue of ongoing insurgency in Afghanistan and help reaffirm international support to Afghanistan until the end of 2020.

"The move indicates that the (EU) officials realize the security issues, dangers and threats coming out of the terrorists in the region and this is a positive sign for Afghanistan. The second point is that Afghanistan must be active in its foreign policy to get benefits of the opportunities and situations available," political analyst Mohammad Natiqi said.

Iran has welcomed the EU invitation for participating in the conference, calling on the EU to increase financial assistance to Afghanistan. "With consideration of Iran's location to Afghanistan's western part and one of the countries which maintains crucial impacts on Afghanistan's political equations - Iran can play a realistic role in the process if willing to do so. I think inviting Iran to the conference has its own impacts if Afghanistan comes with its own fresh plans," political commentator Mohammad Haidari said. Political analysts believe that alongside Iran, the role of Russia should also be considered in the war against terrorism.

They say that Tehran and Moscow maintain significant roles in the Afghan peace process and they can play a decisive role in this respect. (Tolnews)

(6) Security Forces ...

strong and powerful stance. "War against terrorism is our national duty. Those who act against Afghanistan's national interests should be eliminated," he told a gathering attended by Kunduz high ranking officials.

Massoud said the Afghan security forces need successful and proper leadership to fight

Referring to his recent comments on the formation of a 'Resistance

Council', he said that he will bring former mujahideen leaders together in Kunduz and other northern provinces in order to boost the country's security.

Massoud said terrorist groups have no political future in Afghanistan. "They are here to kill the people and destabilize the country," he added.

In conclusion he said their biggest responsibility in the near future is to bring the people and former mujahideen leaders together in a bid to help the security forces in the war on terror and to ensure countrywide security. (Tolnews)

(7) Pakistan ...

bringing people of the region closer besides improving economy of the entire region.

This comes as the bilateral relations between the two nations endured ups and downs during the past several years mainly due to differences over fight against terrorism.

The Afghan officials have been skeptical regarding Pakistan's cooperation in fight against terrorism and have long accused certain elements in Pakistan for supporting the anti-government armed militant groups including the Taliban and Haqqani network by sheltering them inside their soil. (KP)

(8) Afghan Economy ...

right now and they are not willing to continue," deputy head of ACCI, Khan Jan Alokozai said.

Meanwhile, Afghanistan Investment Supporting Agency (AISA) has said that investments dropped by 26 percent this year.

The lack of safety and proper security arrangements for investments and investors, absence of investment supporting strategies, a lack of incentives for investors to encourage investors for investment and a lack of clear economic and investment vision for attracting medium and major investments have been the main aspects of decline in investments in country.

The ACCI and AISA have warned that if the government doesn't come up with strategic economic reforms to boost the economy and attract foreign investments, the country may collapse into a financial recession.

"Problems exist and we are all aware of that, but right now it is difficult to say that foreign investment has been zero, but I can confirm that investments dropped by 26 percent overall and this is a matter of concern," deputy head of AISA Ibrahim Shams said.

Economic experts have said that uncertainty on the political and economic climate of the country and the fragile security situation have discouraged foreign investors. (Tolnews)

(9) 2,100 Adults ...

es, telephone numbers, signboards and other things," said one of the participants, Natasha (31), from the Mirza Barat Ali locality of Aibak said. (Pajhwok)

(10) Taliban Battle...

"We cannot give this assurance [time frame for towers' repair]. Security forces should give this assurance as to when they may clear the area," a spokesperson for DABS told VOA. "Once allowed, we could repair the pylons within eight hours."

About 60 percent of the electrical supply to the city has been cut. The power shortage has not only plunged large swathes of Kabul into darkness, but it has also curtailed the operations of most government departments.

Kabul's passport department, which receives thousands of applications every day, has seen the number of passports issued decrease by 500 daily.

"Customers have to wait for hours," Sayed Omar Sabour, the head of the passport department told VOA. "I have been waiting for two weeks to get a passport," a customer told VOA. "What kind of a country is this? This is the capital of the country which is supposed to have power around the clock." Electricity is the most affordable source of heat and power for cooking for Kabul's estimated five million residents. (VoA)

(11) 2016 Would be ...

strength to the efforts against the phenomenon. "With the cooperation of its international partners and the implementation of effective strategies for economic growth and security, The National Unity Government would make stronger the faith of people over 'national stability'" Atmar said.

Alexander Mantytskiy said that

Russia supports the firm strategies of Afghanistan against Daesh and other terrorist groups. Mantytskiy added that his country is ready for any type of assistance in this regards.

He said that Russia is also committed to support Afghan forces with military equipment and part of the promised equipment will arrive in Kabul in near future. (KP)

(12) Afghanistan ...

reports, researched with the support of hundreds of lawyers and NGOs and is intended to help countries improve access to justice for children nationally. Director of CRIN, Veronica Yates, said: "While the report highlights many examples of systems poorly suited to protecting children's rights there are also plenty of people using the courts to effectively advance children's rights.

"Our ranking represents how well States allow children access to justice rather than how well their rights are enshrined. However, it is hard to ignore how many countries with deplorable human rights records are on the lower end of the ranking for children's access to justice." In the foreword of the report the chairperson of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child Benyam Dawit Mezmur said: "The Committee welcomes this research and already envisages its concrete contribution to its various engagements with State Parties.

"Child rights standards in international instruments do not mean much for the lived reality of children if they are not implemented. In particular, if the fundamental rights of children are violated, it is critical that children or those acting on their behalf have the recourse, both in law and in practice, to obtain a remedy to cease, prohibit and/or compensate for the violation. "I hope this study is only the beginning of a new shift in making access to justice for children a priority that will enable other rights to be fulfilled." (PR)

(13) Thousands ...

and other people. He said retaking the land from grabbers would be very difficult and time consuming. Niamatullah blamed the government for taking no action so far against land grabbers. He asked relevant organs to retake control of the land and punish the land grabbers. (Pajhwok)

(14) Remote ...

over their shoulders. According to Qari Karim, there is no ambulance service in the village and people couldn't shift their patients to Pul-i-Khumri, the provincial capital, quickly because the roads were damaged.

He said shifting patients to Taluqan, the capital of neighboring Takhar province, was costly, with only fare of vehicle costing 10,000 afghans. "And you to have buy medicines and other things as well."

Similarly, residents of Pul-i-Hisar district also complained about the lack of proper health facilities.

Ahmad Javed, a resident, said one doctor, one nurse and one vaccinator were available in the only clinic that functioned on district level. There was no ambulance facility in the clinic, he lamented.

Had there been a surgeon and ambulance facility in the district clinic, patients might not have lost their lives on the way to hospitals in other provinces, he said.

Provincial council head Dr. Safdar Mohsini said residents of Guzargah Noor, Farang Jalga and Pul-i-Hisar districts had repeatedly complained about the absence of professional doctors and ambulances.

"We have discussed the issue with health officials and they promised to resolve the problem in the near future," he said. Deputy public health director Dr. Mohammad Halim Ghafari also said they had shared these problems with the Ministry of Public Health.

He said clinics in Guzargah Noor and Farang districts would be upgraded soon into advanced health centers and two other clinics in Pul-i-Hisar and Jalga districts would be upgraded in the next phase. (Pajhwok)

(15) 2015 was the...

and the year of remarkable achievements of Afghan pilots whose names would be written in golden words in the Afghanistan history."

Appreciating sacrifices of the air force, he said: "The memories of the Afghan air force will remain always alive. The Afghan govern-

ment is committed to educating children of soldiers who laid down their lives in the defence of the country."

"Today is the day of AAF rehabilitation, once we had a powerful air force, but it was destroyed due to disunity and a lack of commitment, but today we see the revival of our air force," Ghani said.

The president said the AAF was always ready to support the Afghan ground forces in the defence of their country.

He said the current generation of the AFF defending the country would be trainers of the next generation.

"Our message to the people of Afghanistan is clear and it is that security and defence forces have honestly and independently defended the territory of this country."

"We do not want war, our generals do not like bloodshed, they love peace because they know the price of peace, the price of peace is the blood of soldiers and generals," he said. (Pajhwok)

(16) 150 Posts...

eligible persons would be introduced soon to those positions.

Former Kabul Mayor Mohammad Younus Nawandish resigned in December 2014 and the acting mayor, accused of overlooking the municipality's affairs, also tendered his resignation a month back.

Recently some members of Mesharano Jirga demanded the government appoint someone to the post of mayor with the condition the mayor should be a resident of Kabul.

They said Kabul residents were in deep trouble in the absence of mayor to resolve people's problems.

In line with Article 141 of the Constitution, the city affairs should be administered by the mayor who should be elected through free and fair election. (Pajhwok)

(17) 7 Radio Stations ...

problems as their main challenges. A lack of professional female workers and lack of access to information were other problems local radio stations faced, Tawhidi added.

He said 84 percent of 26 radio stations in Kabul were struggling with financial constraints while eight percent suffered from security problems and others lacked technical equipment.

He added 52 percent of radio stations in central regions faced security problems, 26 percent faced the shortage of professional female workers and 21 percent lacked access to information.

All of radio stations in southern regions complained about economic problems and 58 percent others faced security problems, 26 percent lacked professional female workers and 16 percent had no access to information, Tawhidi added. (Pajhwok)

(18) Displaced Families ...

here with my five children in a rented house." He said the government should provide them more aid.

However, Abdul Ahmad said 300 more families from Shiramha would also receive aid from the World Food Program (WFP) in near future.

Ahmad said 700 families from war-affected areas had received aid packages from donors during the ongoing solar year. (Pajhwok)

(19) Iran Ready ...

National Unity Government (NUG) Abdullah Abdullah in Tehran. During the meeting, the two officials also consulted on the latest developments in bilateral relations and the region, and underlined the necessity for more effective cooperation in fight against terrorism and extremism. Zarif also stressed Iran's support for the Afghan government's efforts to establish security and move towards peace within the framework of all-inclusive talks among all Afghan groups. (FNA)

(20) US Forces in ...

by VOA if IS-Khorasan had ever tried to attack U.S. troops, Shoffner said he would not "get into specifics of targeting and tactical level details." Advisers to Helmand in addition to more strikes in the east, Shoffner said the U.S. military is increasing its footprint in Helmand province. Afghan special forces are increasing operations in Helmand so that the regional Afghan Army 215 Corps there can rebuild, according to the general. Therefore, more Afghan operations require more U.S. advisers. (VoA)

(21)NUG Leaders ...

"Nowadays there is a huge electricity shortage and we are facing lots of problems," said Mohammad Jan one of the residents. "My shop needs electricity to function but since the electricity has been out my work has suffered and is close to collapsing," said Sulaiman, another resident.

The civil society members said that the Baghlan war is affecting the capital and the government is not taking any serious action to clear the province of insurgents. (Tolnews)

(22)Areas Cleared...

last night's [Thursday night] military operation and now the areas are under full control of security forces," he added. Meanwhile, local residents said they are happy that their areas came under control of Afghan security forces. "The security forces came to our area and took full control. Now all the people can roam here freely," said Haji Mir Jan, a resident of Baghlan-e-Markazi district. (Tolnews)

(23)6 Policemen ...

fell unconscious, six of them were gunned down and seven others wounded by their rogue colleague, he said, adding the attacker was also killed in return fire.

A delegation from the police headquarters had arrived at the scene for investigations, the district chief said.

A Taliban spokesman, Qari Yousuf Ahmadi, said the attacker loyal to the insurgent group had killed 15 policemen, including checkpoint commander Agha Wali in Makwano area.

He said the attack was in revenge for the civilian killed by that security forces in the Khakrez district of the province. (Pajhwok)

(24)US Designates ...

and our Coalition allies in Afghanistan, along with plotting Al-Qaeda terrorist operations in the US and around the world," said Adam J. Szubin, acting undersecretary for terrorism and financial intelligence.

"To both protect the American people and support our Afghan allies in their quest for peace and stability, Treasury will continue to aggressively target Al-Qaeda leaders such as al-Hababi for their roles in planning and financing terrorism," he said.

According to Treasury, Al-Hababi has operated in Afghanistan since at least 2009 and was serving as the Al-Qaeda emir for the eastern zone of the country as of 2015.

He has led an Al-Qaeda battalion in Afghanistan since at least mid-2010 and as of mid-2015 was responsible for finding a new sanctuary for the outfit. For several years, he has been in charge of Al-Qaeda-sponsored training in northeast Afghanistan.

Al-Hababi has been involved in raising funds and authorising spending on behalf of Al-Qaeda since 2010. As of 2015, he directed the delivery of funds and weapons to Taliban associates for use in future attacks. (Pajhwok)

(25)Nimroz Residents...

son was kidnapped in Zaranj, the provincial capital. Zakria, 5, was found dead two weeks later, sparking angry protests by residents and civil society activists.

The child's family says the abductors demanded one million afghans and finally came down to 400,000 afis for the release of Zakria. But they brutally killed the boy and threw his body into a well. The son of another businessman was also abducted last month, but police rescued the 30 months old from the kidnappers and arrested five individuals in connection with the heinous crime.

In the third incidents, trader Abdullah Noorzai went missing on the Zaranj-Dilaram road in Khashrod district. There is still no information about the businessman.

According to inhabitants, well-off individuals and businessmen were usually taken hostage for ransom. Last year, there were fewer incidents of kidnapping, they add. (Pajhwok)

(26)Baghlan ...

more than 650 civilians wounded in the gunbattles, he claimed, saying nearly 30,000 families were trapped in their homes.

He said the 17,000 families had been displaced to Khaja Alwan desert on the outskirts of Pul-i-Khumri and they were in urgent need of assistance.

A lecturer at the Kabul University, Faiz Mohammad Zaland,

said "genocide" was underway in Baghlan where human rights were widely violated. He asked the government to stop the mass killing of civilians in Baghlan and take urgent measures to stop the war there.

Nearly 30 participants of the press conference issued a resolution that read: "The respected people of Baghlan especially of Dandi-Ghori, Markazi Baghlan and Dandi-Shahabuddin are burning in flames of the war."

It said no standards, human rights and law were considered in the war that was ongoing over the past few months. The letter called for a ceasefire, humanitarian assistance, safely of welfare projects and public properties. It urged an end to murder and arrest of ordinary people and searching of civilian houses. (Pajhwok)

(27)Afghan National ...

weighing 2.032 kilograms were confiscated from him. Criminal proceedings have been instituted against the alleged drug trafficker and an investigation is under way. (Asia-Plus)

(28)10 Tonnes ...

He said people should also help the government in the collection expired drugs and should thank the health department for their actions. (Pajhwok)

(29)DPRK Suspends

DPRK, and banning remittances of over 100,000 yen (about 870 U.S. dollars) to the DPRK in principle, except for humanitarian cases. These sanctions had been partially lifted under the Stockholm agreement signed between Japan and the DPRK in mid-2014, but Japan has "reneged on its commitments made in the agreement" and "made a frontal challenge to the DPRK," the statement said. (Xinhua)

(30)U.S. Sees ...

an important role in Iraq, helping train local forces, including Kurdish peshmerga fighters. Such a plan would meet stiff resistance from NATO member Turkey. On Wednesday, Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan upbraided the United States for its support of Kurdish fighters. (Reuters)

(31)EU is Poised...

Germany and Sweden. A European official showed the documents to the AP on condition of anonymity because the documents are confidential. Greek government officials declined to comment on the content of documents not made public. (AP)

(32)Turkey Says

agency AFAD, the pro-government aid group Humanitarian Relief Foundation (IHH) as well as international organisations. Up to 31,000 people have fled Aleppo and surrounding areas since last week, as government forces backed by Russian warplanes press an offensive that threatens to encircle the rebel-held eastern part of Syria's second city. (AFP)

(33)Thousands of...

thoughts, so Finland will begin chartering flights to Baghdad from next week to take them home. Officials said about 4,100 asylum seekers had so far canceled their applications and that number was likely to reach 5,000 in the coming months. (Reuters)

(34)Hopes for...

the appointment of Dr. Riek Machar Teny as the first vice President of the Republic of South Sudan," said the decree issued late on Thursday. While the appointment was agreed as part of an August 2015 peace deal, its announcement now adds pressure on Machar to return to South Sudan from exile. (AFP)

(35)2 Peacekeepers ...

anonymity, said the UN force rejected immediately. "A fighter jet has been deployed to track down the terrorists," the official said. Local residents who spoke to Xinhua said calm had been restored in the town "even though tension and anxiety" were visible among members of the public. (Xinhua)

(36)Israeli Security ...

towards the nearby Nahalin village, where Israeli forces continue to carry out a manhunt.

Stabbing and vehicular attacks have escalated over the past months. The latest upsurge of violence in the West Bank and Jerusalem since October has left over 170 Palestinians and 30 Israelis killed. (Xinhua)