

### (1) CEO Hails Police...

About women's role in police, he said a special department should be created within the MoI to address policewomen-related problems.

Abdullah also recommended promotion of female police lieutenants to next grade who had been on the position for a long time.

He stressed depoliticizing of police which he interrelated as no political interference in their job.

"Terrorists have joined hands to destroy Afghanistan's security, however, the Afghan government leadership is committed to the peace program which is a public demand," he said.

Interior minister WaisBarmak, said the four-year police reform strategy had been developed in consultation with international collaborators, police officials, ulema, civil society institutes and women's rights activists.

"The aim of this strategy is to bring about systematic reforms in the ministry and it has two main goals -- how to empower and reform police and task police with their real duty (law enforcement)," he said. Barmak said the international community had also agreed to increasing police salaries by five percent. (Pajhwok)

### (2) Afghan Security...

said the UK could offer air and logistical support to its American partners.

The US and Britain first invaded Afghanistan in late 2001 in response to the 9/11 attacks.

The initial mission to get rid of the Taliban and to stop Afghanistan harbouring al Qaeda and its leader Osama bin Laden was swift and it was successful.

Seventeen years later around 600 British troops remain in the country, most in a training role.

"That initial campaign was stunning in its simplicity and its success," said General Richards.

"In under two months the Taliban were gone. If you're looking for models for future generations of soldiers to look at, I think that's got to be one of them."

His comments are supported by Anders Fogh Rasmussen, the NATO Secretary General between 2009 and 2014 who also believes the alliance must be ready to help Afghanistan for the foreseeable future.

"I think it is a worrying situation. And I fully support the NATO efforts to strengthen the training mission with a view to increasing the capability of the Afghan security forces to take care of their own security."

"What we need now is to maintain a sizeable force, NATO force, to help the Afghans when it comes to security."

Britain's combat role officially came to an end in October 2014 when the Union flag was lowered over Camp Bastion.

British Special Forces are still very active in the country but the majority of Britain's public contribution is in the running of the officer training academy in Kabul.

The US military presence is nothing like as large as it was, but significantly, it is growing again.

Last year President Trump sent another 3,000 US troops to Afghanistan and a further 1,000 are expected to join them this year. (SKY NEWS)

### (3) Women in Kandahar...

lies in changing broadly held social attitudes.

"The situation is much worse in rural areas," said Dr. Aziza, a member of the Kandahar Provincial Peace Committee. "Girls do get to attend school in Kandahar city, normally up to the age of fourteen or sixteen, but many drop out after that due to family pressure," she said.

Women in Kandahar - as in many other parts of the country - face many common challenges, notably violence and being excluded from positions of authority. For rural women, the situation is dire; most of them illiterate, poor and heavily dependent on male family members for their daily livelihood. They are susceptible to abuse, violence and less likely to enjoy their fundamental human rights.

The lively debate ended with the participants agreeing that change will require the involvement of learning institutions, the media and other power brokers in the region.

UNAMA has been supporting and working with civil society and media partners in the southern region and other parts of the country in order to provide platforms for communities to have their voices heard and generate constructive discussions around the key issues that most affect them. (UN Report)

### (4) Moscow, Islamabad...

Central Asian states also support the idea of peaceful solution to the Afghan problem," he said.

Said NazirMohmand, a retired brigadier, opines that the US has adopted a 'threatening posture' towards Russia and Pakistan

that is one of the main factors in Pakistan and Russia coming closer. "I think Pakistan is now on the path of strategic defiance against the US policies. Pakistan has already a trusted friend in the shape of China and its approach to boost relationship with Russia will have another alternative," Mohmand told Daily Times.

He said if the US suspends or ends military cooperation with Pakistan, the country could opt for military cooperation with these countries, adding that Russia has already provided four advanced attack Mi-35M attack helicopters to Pakistan. (Tolo news)

### (5) Jamiat Says...

political agreement forged at the time of the NUGs establishment.

The party meanwhile called on political parties, the Ulema Council and the international community to help end such action by the presidential palace. The party said in the statement such moves add to the crisis.

According to Jamiat's statement, Khudam was appointed as the Samangan governor based on the NUG agreement and his dismissal cannot be justified as there have been no complaints against him.

On Sunday, Khudam also said government does not have the authority to fire him and that he refuses to accept the decision. Khudam's deputy, Dr Zia, was also dismissed. Addressing a press conference in the provincial capital Aibak, Khudam described the move as a conspiracy against him.

"They have acted against me with injustice and against the commitments they made and I strongly condemn this decision," said Khudam.

"Myself and my deputy Dr. Zia will continue our work until Jamiat leaders announce their decision. The central government does not have the authority to remove both of us, the decision has been one-sided," he said.

Khudam's dismissal comes just two months after Ghani ousted another Jamiat governor, Balkh's Atta Mohammad Noor. Noor has also refused to step down and is adamant that any decision about his removal is a Jamiat decision and not government's.

This latest move is another blow to relations between Jamiat and government - following Noor's ousting late last year.

After weeks of discussions between government and Jamiat, the Noor situation has remained unresolved.

Ghani on Saturday appointed new governors for Laghman, Logar, MaidanWardak, Samangan and Kunduz provinces.

An IDLG statement said the five governors were appointed based on recommendations of the directorate.

Abdul JabbarNaeemi was appointed as governor for northern Kunduz province, Asif Nang, who previously served as Farah governor, has been appointed as the governor of eastern Laghman province.

Anwar Khan Ishaqzai has been appointed as governor for central Logar province, Dr. Shajehan for central MaidanWardak province and Abdul LatifIbrahimi for northern Samangan province, the statement said.

No details were given as to why the former governors were ousted. (Tolo news)

### (6) Pakistan Plans...

by the UNHCR in 2016. However, it was slashed back to \$200 in 2017.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of States and Frontier Regions (SAFRON)has urged the Afghan government to launch developmental projectsfor returning refugees.

According to APP, 800,000 unregistered refugees have been documented under the Afghan Citizen Card (ACC) project. They will be repatriated with assistance of the International Organisation for Migration (IOM).

Repatriation of registered Afghan refugees is guided by the principle of voluntarism and gradualism as embedded in Tripartite Agreement among Pakistan, Afghanistan and UNHCR. (Pajhwok)

### (7) Key Pass Reopens...

for all types of vehicles early Monday morning.

In winters, heavy snowfalls on the Salang pass lead to the death of many people every year. In February 2010, 170 people were killed and 125 injured as a result of heavy snowstorms and avalanches that hit the Russian-built tunnel. (Pajhwok)

### (8) Minaret of Jam...

Jam Rud rivers.

Its isolated location may have prevented the monument from intentional destruction in the past, but in return, this isolation poses serious challenges today in terms of accessibility, feasibility of conservation and stabilization works and long-term maintenance.

Probably built between 1163 and 1203 during the reign of the Ghurid sovereign Ghiyas-ud Din, the minaret's first rediscovery dates back to 1944, when the minaret was mentioned in an article published by the

Afghan History Society in the journal Anis. However, it was only in 1957 that a French archaeological expedition under the auspices of the French Archaeological Delegation in Afghanistan (DAFA) was able to identify the location of the minaret and published its actual discovery in 1958.

Since then, the Minaret of Jam has been the subject of several specific studies and sectorial interventions, mainly aimed at ensuring its stability.

During the UNESCO mission in September 2017, experts, along with Afghan officials from the Ministry of Information and Culture, remained on site for four days to complete the collection of field data.

The combined technology used to collect the data has allowed the first thorough survey of the inner and outer portions of the minaret, along with a general survey of the surrounding area.

In particular, the use of drones with high-quality cameras offered the possibility of collecting high-qualified photos of the entire external decorations, which will be used as a basis for the preparation of detailed orthophotos.

The comprehensive and detailed onsite documentation created through this mission will be the baseline of a long-term stabilization and conservation plan for the Minaret of Jam.

The produced data will be arranged and prepared for the purpose of public awareness of cultural heritage in Afghanistan as well. (Pajhwok)

### (9) Kunduz City...

Hafizullah, a government official, also urged provincial officials to pay attention to the issue.

He added the provincial municipality carried out several road projects and parks for men and women but there was no recreation centre for families.

Meanwhile, municipality officials said they had constructed seven sightseeing parks so far and two of them were exclusively for women.

NajeebullahOmarkhel, Kunduz mayor, said: "Mega projects have been completed so far across the province and still more work is needed".

He added Kunduz municipality had so far implemented 22 public welfare projects in the city including giving jobs to 550 individuals in clearing several kilometers of roads.

He said the municipality installed 350 solar panels and reconstructed four parks including two for women. He promised to construct a major family park in Kunduz City.

Kunduz city has briefly fallen to the Taliban in the past and the province remains largely insecure. (Pajhwok)

### (10) Opposition Warns...

ratified in 2015.

"Based on the prevailing law and the new order, we as an executive department and in line with the direction of his excellency the president, we formally launched the process; if there are some changes in the law (in future), then we will act accordingly. Naturally, whenever some changes are made, the process is affected," said Rohullah Ahmadzai, e-NIC spokesman.

"Until a consensus is forged at a national level and a general agreement is created, let's not tarnish national unity more than this, which could lead to confrontation between ethnicities," said a member of Jamiat-e-Islami party Muhayyudin Mahdi.

The current decision by the presidential palace is a move to divide ethnicities in the country, said officials.

"It's certain that the political parties will not remain idle about the issues relating to the future of Afghanistan and the people of the country, by pursuing necessary strategies," said Bashir Ahmad Tayyanj, a member of The National Islamic Movement of Afghanistan.

The CEO's office meanwhile said that discussions regarding the roll out are progressing.

"Until now, the roll out process has not been formally started, only a few people have registered their names. We hope to reach a conclusion regarding the matter. If this process is not stopped and some people continue with their unilateral decision in this respect, then the chief executive officer will announce their position," the CEO's spokesman MujibRahimi said.

Based on a presidential decree, the new identity cards will contain the nationality and ethnicity of each person. However these two controversial words had been omitted from the cards in the law previously ratified in 2015. (Tolo news)

### (11) Traders Undervalue...

items worth \$6.6 billion and exported goods worth \$720 million in 2017.

However, a credible source said that the statistics obtained from exporting countries showed Afghanistan exported goods worth of around \$1.2 billion.

These statistics show that exporting goods

are undervalued by 40 percent lower than the original price.

However, deputy head of Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI) department, Khan Jan Alkozai said: "In fact our exports are estimated at \$1 billion in last fiscal year. But the statistics we know shows that our exports are worth \$720 compared less than \$600 million in previous years."

Considering the statistics given and Pajhwok report in 2014, the exporting goods are on average undervalued by 55 percent over the last 12 years.

In response to a question about why the traders unwilling to disclose the real value of goods, Alkozai said, "Unfortunately the main problem is in the system; our system is very complex, vulnerable and corrupt."

The traders could not submit their balance for six months or a year because they are asked to pay bribe and harassed, therefore they were forced to undervalue the goods, he said.

He said that the problem would not be resolved if corruption not eliminated in customs and the administration system and tax balance dues not simplified.

Abdul Habib Zadrán, general revenue director at (MoF) said that 148 million afghanis was collected from exports worth of \$720 million last fiscal year.

Considering to the statistics provided by Zadrán and ACCI, the government could collect around 300 million in revenue from exports last year if the goods were not undervalued.

Without going into details, Zadrán said that collection of 148 million afghanis was less because the government exempted taxes on some goods over the last three years and exporters paid only 20 percent of clear tax.

The ACCI and Export Promotion Agency (EPA) had previously suggested that tax on exports should reduce by at least 50 percent for prevention of wrong statistics.

They said that the government should end corruption in customs and simplify administration processes.

Zadrán confirmed the goods undervalue issue and corruption in the country customs and said the MoF had tried for resolving the problem in the last three years.

He said that tax exemption on some goods, simplification of administrative processes, installing electronic systems in customs, employing professional figures and implementation of punish and award program were efforts for reforms in the customs over the last three years.

The MoF works on a plan to know the real value of exporting and importing goods by connecting with other customs online, he said.

Zadrán stressed on combating corruption and said the phenomenon was existed in all government organs for years and its complete elimination needed efforts and time.

However, Taj Mohammad Akbar, an economy lecturer in Kabul University, believe that no steps have taken for fighting corruption, particularly in the country customs.

The tax evasion issue is ongoing from long years and the reason behind it is the connection of some traders with government officials, he said.

If there was really serious efforts for fighting corruption, this problem could had been solved over that last one and half a decade, he said. (Pajhwok)

### (12) MoCN Rolls...

drugs goes to syndicates.

"We will encourage farmers not to cultivate drugs on their land and instead cultivate other types of plants that yield good results in Nangarhar," Mangal said.

According to the counter narcotics ministry, around 28,500 families will benefit from the rural agriculture expansion project. (Tolo news)

### (13) Saudi Bans...

virus was detected in a backyard in Kabul where it killed six birds and in the Bagrami village nearby, where it killed 15, the Paris-based OIE said in a report.

Early this month, the Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and industries (ACCI) called on all relevant institutions to help curb the outbreak, which they feared could lead to major losses for poultry farmers if left unchecked.

This came after an outbreak was earlier detected in Khost province.

"We have professionalized our activities in those parts (the eastern parts of the country) compared with previous years, but unfortunately, the outbreak of some diseases kill many chickens at once," said ACCI spokesman SiyamParsalari.

The Afghan Ministry of Agriculture said the virus had spread to Khost by wild birds, and signs of the disease had been detected in Paktia.

The ministry said it has managed to bring outbreaks in some areas under control with

the help of international organizations.

"Ministry of Agriculture in collaboration with a number of international organizations including Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations has taken serious measures to prevent the spread of the disease," said a spokesman for the ministry Akbar Rustami. (Tolo news)

### (14) Meat Sold in...

at Shahr-i-Naw's butcher street, said the long distance to Kampany area forced butchers to slay animals at their homes.

"Every butcher slaughters animals at home and transfers the waste to KhaikhanaKotal where they are used as agriculture input. We skin animals at our shops."

The government has not provided butchers any facility to make sure the meat is safe to eat, but Sardar say butchers based on their experience could differentiate between a healthy and a sick animal.

Checking meat after slaughtering Dr. Khalil Niyazi, director of livestock products control at the Agriculture Ministry, said: "The right things is to check animal before slaughtering, but due to a lack of this facility, we check meat at shops."

He said animal if not properly slaughtered its meat contained blood and had a changed color and some butchers entered water through one of the arteries.

He added meat having no blood, water and maintained color was approved for sale by his department.

Controlling 2,000 slaughter shops only by 10 persons

Niazai said only six personnel could not manage or control more than 2,000 slaughter shops in 22 police districts of Kabul City. He said lack of slaughterhouses had a negative impact on their performance. "If slaughter shops in the city are few, they could be easily controlled and their meat checked."

Dr. Jahangir Miakhel, livestock and animals health general director at the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation (MALI), said that there were 13 workers in his department.

He said due to their limited number, his department workers could not handle all slaughter shops in the city. The number of personnel in the department would be increased in future, he said.

Environmental health section head at Kabul municipality also said that the lack of standard slaughterhouses and personnel had made it hard to check meat at all slaughter shops in Kabul city.

In Kabul, health stamped meat could be seen only in a few slaughter shops.

A butcher in Taimani area of Kabul, who wished to go unnamed, said, "A year back, a doctor from the ministry of agriculture would stamp meat in my shop every day, but I could not see him since one year and the meat is no longer stamped."

Spread of diseases

As livestock are slaughtered and their meat sold in market without being tested, Mohammad Tokhi, a doctor, said that 800 types of diseases could be transferred from animal products to humans.

He said Toxoplasmosis, Brucellosis, Influenza and Crimean Congo Haemorrhagic Fever (CCHF) diseases were most common being transferred from animal products to humans.

Dr. Abdur Rahman Akbari, head of Kabul Antani Hospital, said that Brucellosis, CCHF, (Anthrax □ Charbon) and Zoonoses diseases were registered in the hospital.

According to a report, Shah Wali Marofi, head of controlling communicable diseases in the Ministry of Public Health, in October last year said that CCHF alone killed 28 people in Kabul in one year.

Solution

Environmental health section head at the Kabul municipality, said that the Ministry of Agriculture should build at least four more slaughterhouses in Kabul for preventing diseases and environment pollution.

The proposed slaughterhouses should be standard and their meat should be checked for health as well as to be accessible in four corners of Kabul, he said.

Dr. Jahangir Miakhel, general director of livestock and animals health at MAIL, said that work on two slaughterhouses was underway in Rishkor area and Karizmir area of Kabul and they would be ready in six months.

He said the slaughterhouses would be equipped with advanced tools. No one would be allowed to open a slaughter shop or arbitrary slaughter centers the areas after the two slaughterhouses were activated, he said.

Kabul municipality's environmental health official said they would also prepare a procedure for all butchers to help protect sanitation and environment.

Many slaughter shops that violated municipality rules in Deh Afghanan area of Kabul had been closed down, he said. (Pajhwok)