

### (1) Iran Willing ...

in Chabahar, showing the commercial opportunities offered by the port located near the Gulf of Oman. (Pajhwok)

### (2) Infighting Among...

told Xinhua. Meanwhile, Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid in contact with media rejected the report as baseless, saying there was no fighting among Taliban fighters in Nawa district.

Taliban has ruled the mountainous Nawa district some 200 km south of Kabul over the past few years. (Xinhua)

### (3) Govt. Trying ...

in many areas of Afghanistan the ground for education in mother tongue has not been paved due to some problems and challenges.

Abdullah believed the Afghans could join the world's development procession only with education. He urged the Afghans to cooperate with the government in facilitating education in mother language. (Pajhwok)

### (4) Ghazni Police ...

be usurped. Khalilullah Hottak, a tribal elder in Ghazni city, said besides Ghazni City, public land had been usurped in Jaghori, Malistan, Nahur, Gilan, Maqur, Andar and Deh Yak districts. He said private land of nomads had also been usurped.

Mohammadullah, another resident of Ghazni city, said townships had been constructed on usurped land in the provincial capital. He added a large number of people were currently living in the townships.

He also asked the government to take action against land grabbers and bring them to justice. According to reports, nearly two million acres of land has been usurped in Afghanistan during the past 14 years. (Pajhwok)

### (5) NDS Rescues ...

intelligence operatives and was safely handed over to his family. No further details were given by NDS if any suspect was arrested in connection to the abduction of Ahmadullah.

Kidnap for ransom cases still continue in parts of the country despite the Afghan intelligence nabbed two MAFIA bosses involved in major kidnappings who were later executed by the government.

The two top MAFIA leaders, Habib Istalif and Raees Khudaidad, were executed late in 2014 and early in 2015 after they were arrested by intelligence operatives. (KP)

### (6) Afghanistan...

He said the spy service and the Ministry of Telecommunication and IT had a key role in implementation of the anti-cyber crime strategy, which was approved by the National Security Council earlier this year.

He said the strategy was aimed at identifying threats and finding solutions to current and future challenges in this regard. He said the Afghan government was duty-bound to develop the capacity needed to deal with cyber threats, calling the establishment of the IT Competence research centre a positive step in this regard.

The German-funded centre cost one million Euros. Berlin-based technical university teacher and head of the IT Competence centre, Dr. Nazir Peroz said the centre provided innovation opportunities to IT students and teachers.

German Ambassador in Kabul Markus Potzel said through the important centre, information technology ideas could be regulated and extended across the country. He said the centre would serve like a bridge between the people and experts.

Higher Education Minister Farida Momand thanked Germany for its assistance with Afghanistan in diverse fields and said the new centre would support the capacity of innovators and their work. (Pajhwok)

### (7) Ghost Teachers...

government should assess the issue and bring to justice those involved in corruption.

Meanwhile, Herat education director Abdul Razaq Ahmadi confirmed corruption and the presence of ghost teachers in the education sector.

He said some teachers in a number of districts did not receive their salaries while illiterate individuals had been forcibly employed as teachers to some schools by strongmen.

"The education department has begun its assessment of schools in Adraskan, Shindand, Chesht-i-Sharif, Oba and Farsi districts over the past six months," Ahmadi said.

He did not provide the exact number of ghost teachers but said investigation into the matter was underway and the number of such teachers would be revealed in the presence of a delegation.

He said the education process in most of unstable districts could not be evaluated due to insecurity which he said paved the ground for corruption. (Pajhwok)

### (8) 3,000 Plots ....

said most plots in the Chamtali Township had been grabbed or purchased illegally and a mechanism was being worked out to retake the usurped plots and prevent such incidents in future. He said the provincial government was committed to retaking the grab land and so far dozens of land grabbers had been detained.

A new investigative report claims nearly two million acres of land was usurped by 15,800 individuals in 18 provinces only under former president Hamid Karzai during the past 14 years. The survey in three chapters and 100 pages has been prepared in three months by the Afghanistan Freedom House (AFH), an investigative institute.

The survey titled 'The Black Season of Land Grabbing' and 'The Consequences of Land Grabbing in Afghanistan' cites credible information from government and non-government organs.

The survey that interviewed 70 government officials said usurping government and private properties has a long history in Afghanistan but most of the public properties were grabbed during the last four years. (Pajhwok)

### (9) 44 Children ...

receiving treatment in Germany for their broken bones and burn injuries.

He said expenses for their passports were paid by the Afghan Red Crescent Society and the Peace Village bore their treatment expenses.

He said the treatment of each child cost from 6,000 Euros to 10,000 Euros. Yousafzai said doctors at Friedensdorf - the peace village - each year came to Kabul to select children for treatment in Germany after their examination. He said so far more than 4000 children had been sent to Germany for treatment.

One of the children, 11-year-old Farzad, a resident of the western city of Herat, told Pajhwok Afghan News his thighbone was broken after a car hit him last year. He underwent four surgical operations in Herat but did not recover. He said he was happy for his recovery after six months of treatment in Germany.

"Thanks God now I am fully recovered. I can walk now and I am very thankful to the Red Crescent officials and German doctors," the boy said.

A resident of Syedabad district of central Maidan Wardak province, Muhibullah whose two-year-old son returned from Germany after treatment, said his son sustained deep burn injuries after falling into oven.

He said he had taken his son to many hospitals in the country, but he did not recover and finally he went to the Red Crescent Society office that sent his son to Germany for treatment. "Now my son is in good health."

The Red Crescent society has also been sending children suffering from heart diseases to France, Pakistan and India for treatment. (Pajhwok)

### (10) Dupree ....

Bamyan Buddha statue.

Following the Taliban's ouster from power in 2001, the national museum launched efforts to catalogue artifacts with help from international organisations, said Abdul Hafiz Latify, another archaeologist.

Noted writer Ahmed Rashid, who moderated the event, presented Dupree a lifetime achievement in recognition of her contribution to cataloguing heritage sites in Afghanistan. (Pajhwok)

### (11) 3 Killed in...

strikes in Pakistan in 2015 and 2016 compared with the previous years.

Pakistan has always opposed to U.S. drone strikes in its territory as such strikes violate its sovereignty and territorial integrity. (Xinhua)

### (12) Afghanistan...

groups also pose a threat to the peace and security of Afghanistan and its people.

In almost every village in the countryside, people are seen freely carrying weapons without any licenses to do so.

Even in the fortified city of Kabul, many people keep guns in their homes, saying that they are for security measures and for self-defense.

The gun holders in the capital fire irresponsible multiple rounds of bullets whenever Afghan athletes bring home medals from regional competitions, causing a great deal of concern among residents.

In a bid to counter the problem, the post-Taliban Afghan government initiated the process called the Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) of armed groups in October 2003 through the so-called Afghanistan's New Beginnings Program (ANBP).

Under the UN-backed program, which ended in June 2005, more than 61,000 former combatants and armed militants had been disarmed as part of efforts to put the conflict-wracked Afghanistan on the road to lasting peace and stability.

Increasing security incidents and a mounting sense of insecurity, however, has promoted the culture of carrying arms among regular people in the militancy-plagued Afghanistan.

"I have no choice but to carry arms, otherwise armed robbers, enemies or thieves will harm me and my family," a former militia commander, Mahmoud, told Xinhua.

Accompanied by four armed bodyguards, Mahmoud said that, former hostilities claimed the lives of his son eight months ago and the possibility of more fatalities existed if he were to ignore the security threats.

"Basically, we hate weapons and armed groups, but armed people roaming around recklessly shows that the government has failed to disarm such irresponsible groups and because we feel insecure myself and many others have been forced to carry arms," Mohammad Sadeq of the northern Kunduz province told Xinhua.

The government has time and again warned such groups and people to lay down their arm and join the security mechanisms but the warnings and encouragement has yet to translate into concrete action.

Just a few days ago, governor of the northern Takhar province Yasin Zia blamed the armed groups for involvement in drug trafficking, murders and armed robberies, and warned them to lay down their arms, or face serious action.

Like Sadeq, countless people can be seen roaming other parts of Afghanistan carrying weapons, claiming self-defense, but in fact, contributing to the security crisis in Afghanistan. (Xinhua)

### (13) Rocket Hits ...

rocket to be fired from Dand-i-Ghori area into Pul-i-Khumri this solar year, raising the death toll in the strikes to two including a child. The rocket attacks had so far injured more than 10 people.

Dand-i-Ghori having a population 30,000 people has been under Taliban's control for the past

nine months. Despite Afghan forces' operation in the area, the militants could not be flushed out.

Local residents say they are concerned about a large presence of militants around Pul-i-Khumri and feared the city would fall to militants if the government did not pay attention. (Pajhwok)

### (14) 6 Rebels, ...

The policemen were killed during a militants' ambush in Khan village of Shah Joy district on Sunday evening, Wazir Mohammad, the district chief told Pajhwok Afghan News.

However, a security official wishing not to be named said that three policemen were killed in Talibaninfo-icon ambush.

Militants did not comment so far on the incident. (Pajhwok)

### (15) 5 of a Family ...

district bazaar late on Sunday. Farooq was the prayer leader at district's grand mosque, he said, alleging the cleric had kept the explosives inside his residence. Farooq, his wife, two of their children and another woman were killed in the blast.

Provincial police chief, Brig. Gen. Noor Mohammad Hakimi, said an investigation into the incident was underway.

"We suspected Farooq of having links with the Taliban, but could not find evidence," he said. The militants are yet to comment on the incident. (Pajhwok)

### (16) UN Warns ...

going missing have been reported to his agency since 1995.

Some are of serious concern. Moldovan police working with the FBI last year stopped four attempts by smugglers to sell nuclear material to extremists in the Middle East over the past five years. In one instance a year ago, undercover agents were offered a large amount of radioactive cesium. (AP)

### (17) Hundreds ...

30 migrants approaching from Serbia ran into dozens of police and soldiers patrolling the border near the town of Morahalom.

The migrants just headed to the nearest border station along the fence's Serbian side, shadowed by police in Hungary. (Reuters)

### (18) Australia Risks ...

but also have detrimental impacts to its growing export industries, according to its report titled: Flying Blind; Navigating Climate Change without the CSIRO.

The report follows a protest letter signed by thousands of international climate scientists that said the job losses proceed, without being filled elsewhere, Australia would not develop its capability to assess the accelerating risks associated with climate change. (Xinhua)

### (19) UNESCO, ...

ject would involve local authorities, heritage site managers, cultural institutions such as museums and galleries, intangible cultural heritage players, and members of the travel industry. "The European heritage routes' project is a welcome concrete demonstration of the power of cultural heritage to serve as a wellspring for sustainable economic development for communities and regions," said UNESCO Director-General Irina Bokova.

"I am confident that this European project will provide communities, conservationists, and political leaders with a model that can inspire development strategies drawing on the outstanding universal value of World Heritage sites in many parts of world," she added. (Xinhua)

### (20) Greek Social ...

children. I spent more hours here than I am at my home. When a boy is sick or has an activity and needs to escort, I have to stay longer. I have spent the night also at hospital when a boy had to be nursed," she said. When she returns home, her mind is also about minors in the accommodation center. "I find myself asking if a boy has done his studies, if the other who had stomachache is better. That also

happens to other colleagues," she added. (Xinhua)

### (21) Iran, Russia...

Russian President Vladimir Putin's representative for the Middle East and Africa, plans to pay a visit to Tehran at the invitation of Amir-Abdollahian to hold more consultation on the latest regional developments. (PressTV)

### (22) Russia Condemns ...

terrorist groups, which are betting on further aggravation of the situation in Syria and the whole region, to further incite sectarian strife, the statement said.

"The brutal crimes of extremists aim to intimidate the civilian population, undermine efforts to achieve a lasting political settlement of the Syrian crisis in the interests of all Syrians, as well as efforts to end the violence and bloodshed," it said.

Five deadly bombings killed at least 150 people in central and southern Syria on Sunday, marking one of the highest death tolls in a single day during the years of conflict. The IS has claimed responsibility for the bombings.

The serial terrorist attacks happened as world powers were pushing for a truce in Syria in line with the agreement reached on Feb. 12 during an International Syria Support Group meeting. Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov and U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry made three phone calls on Sunday to discuss details of the modalities for the cessation of hostilities in Syria. (Xinhua)

### (23) Pentagon ...

Defense] proposes allocating CIPF funds in Central Asia to counter the Taliban, ISIL, and other regionally-based terrorist groups, and to promote stability in the region. A key partner nation in the region is Tajikistan," the DoD wrote in budget justification documents released last week. "CTPF funding will support [counterterrorism] partners in a region where war in Afghanistan and other regional pressures challenge the security interests of the U.S., its allies, and partners." (Asia-Plus)

### (24) Pound Plunges ...

pound, which has weakened in recent months.

"It's more the uncertainty that will weigh on the currency, rather than investors taking a view on the outcome and the implications for the economy, which are hard to argue either way," he said.

Many big businesses have warned that leaving the EU — with its open internal market of 500 million people — would hammer the British economy. But London Mayor Boris Johnson, a high-profile supporter of an "out" vote, said fears of economic catastrophe were "wildly exaggerated."

He likened he warnings to those who had issued apocalyptic warnings that if Britain did not join the euro single currency, the City of London financial district would suffer and "great mutant rats would gnaw the faces of the last bankers."

However, Johnson suggested his goal is to vote to leave, then reopen negotiations on terms of remaining in the EU. (AP)

### Nigerian Leader to Discuss Stability of Global Oil Price with Saudi, Qatari Counterparts

ABUJA - Nigerian leader Muhammadu Buhari will this week hold discussion on means of stabilizing the global crude oil prices with leaders of Saudi Arabia and Qatar during his official visits to the two countries, a presidency statement said.

Buhari, who is first due in Riyadh on Monday, will hold talks with King Salman Bin Abdulaziz Al Saud and senior officials of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on Tuesday before proceeding to Doha to further the discussion with Emir of Qatar, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani.

The statement said ongoing efforts by Nigeria, the largest oil producing nation in Africa, and other members of the Organi-

zation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to achieve greater stability in the price of crude oil exports are expected to be high on the agenda of discussions between Buhari and his hosts.

The Nigerian leader is also scheduled to meet with leading Saudi and Qatari businessmen in Riyadh and Doha, and invite them to support his administration's efforts to revamp the Nigerian economy, especially in Nigeria's mining, agriculture, power supply, infrastructure, transportation and communications, among others.

Nigeria's oil revenue has continued to drop following the current episode of decline in global price of crude oil. The African nation has been unable to increase its oil exports due to the negative impact of declining crude oil prices at the global market. (Xinhua)

### Gunmen Assassinate Top Army Commander in Yemen

ADEN - Unidentified gunmen opened fire and assassinated a top army commander in Yemen's port city of Aden Monday, the latest in a series of drive-by shootings against military leaders, a government official told Xinhua.

"Masked attackers riding a motorcycle opened fire from silenced weapons and assassinated General Abd-Raboh Hussein while he was leaving his residential building in Aden's neighborhood of Sheikh Othman," the local government official said on condition of anonymity.

"General Abd-Raboh died immediately at the scene after receiving several gunshots in different parts of his body," the source said.

Hussein was the commander of the 15th Infantry Brigade, which is located in the neighboring southern province of Abyan.

So far, no group has claimed responsibility for the attack, but local security sources blamed the al-Qaida terrorist group for the incident.

The port city of Aden, Yemen's temporary capital, has been witnessing a state of chaos and lawlessness during the past months, resulting in the assassinations of Aden's governor, several security officers and judges. Yemen, an impoverished Arab country, has been gripped by one of the most active regional al-Qaida insurgencies in the Middle East and the affiliate of the Islamic State. (Xinhua)

### Palestinians Say No Economic Plans to Substitute Political Process

RAMALLAH - The Palestinian finance minister said Monday that the Palestinians will not accept any Israeli economic plans to substitute the political process in light of the stalled peace track.

The minister's remarks were made as response to Israeli reports over an Israeli plan to offer facilities to Palestinians to help boost the Palestinian economy.

The Israeli public radio reported that Israeli Finance Minister Moshe Kahlon has prepared an economic plan to help Palestinians in coordination with the United States.

The plan reportedly is to increase workers permits for Palestinians to enter Israel for working in construction, and the number of Palestinian academics in the field of high-tech as well as physicians to join Israeli hospitals.

According to the radio station, Kahlon held several meetings in the past weeks with Palestinian officials, to discuss the plan. Palestinian Finance Minister Shukri Bishara confirmed his meeting with Israeli counterpart Moshe Kahlon. He told Xinhua that the meetings focused on the regulation of transferring the tax revenues that Israel collects to the Palestinian side and not to coordinate the reported economic plan. (Xinhua)