

### Karzai Govt. Failed to Combat Terrorism: Danish



KABUL - Second Vice President Sarwar Danish on Thursday said the previous government had failed in its efforts to restore peace and eliminate terrorism. Addressing participants of a national conference in Kabul, Danish ... (More on P4)...(1)

### Gen. Raheel, British Leaders Confer on Afghan Stability

KABUL - Currently on a visit to the United Kingdom, the Pakistan army chief has discussed the obtaining security in the region, particularly the situation in Afghanistan, a media report said on Thursday. Chief of Army Staff (COAS) Gen Raheel Sharif, during a visit to 10 Downing Street, conferred with British ... (More on P4)...(3)

### Report Questions Parliament's Oversight, Legislative Competence

KABUL - The Afghan Women Peace and Security Research Institute (RIWPS) released a new report this week offering damning evaluation of Parliament over the past year, highlighting frequent absences, lack of oversight and general legislative incompetence among other issues as major shortcomings of the legislator in 2014. According to the findings of the Women Peace and Security Institute, an organization dedicated to working to ... (More on P4)...(4)

## Ministers should Provide Women with Equal Opportunities: EU

*Providing women with equal opportunities is not only a matter for the Ministry of Women's Affairs. It must be at the top of the agenda of every single of the new ministers, says EU Ambassador Franz-Michael Mellbin.*

KABUL - The European Union (EU) in Kabul marked "The Year Head for Afghan Women". The reception was hosted by the European Union Special Representative in Afghanistan and Head of the European Union Delegation to



Afghanistan, Ambassador Franz-Michael Mellbin, who commended President Ashraf Ghani for his initiative - for the first time in Afghan history - to form a 30 women strong council to advise him on women's ... (More on P4)...(7)

## Afghanistan, UAE Sign Long-Term Cooperation Pact

KABUL - Afghanistan and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) have signed a long-term cooperative agreement on supporting the intra-Afghan peace process, improving security and fighting against terrorism, presidential palace said on Thursday. A statement from the palace said the agreement was signed after lengthy discussions in Abu Dhabi between President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani, UAE Prime Minister and high-level delegations of the two countries. Both countries agreed on long-term friendly relations and respecting ... (More on P4)...(8)

## US-Funded Police Centre in Wardak Crumbling: SIGAR

KABUL - A \$500,000 US-funded police training center in central Afghanistan is crumbling because of embarrassing construction flaws, America's federal investigators said on Thursday.

In a report, the US Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction (SIGAR) said the centre in Maidan Wardak province was constructed so poorly that it was literally melting and the government was rebuilding it.



The complex was built with substandard materials by the Afghan contractor and began to crumble just four months after it was completed in 2012, the watchdog said, ... (More on P4)...(6)

## Iran to Invite Ghani on Kabul-Tehran Security Pact

TEHRAN - The Iranian foreign minister is expected to visit Kabul where he will likely offer his President Hassan Rouhani's invitation to Afghan President Ashraf Ghani to visit the neighboring country, a source from

Iranian Embassy in Kabul told TOLONews. Jawad Zarif is scheduled to come to Kabul next week aimed at paving ground for the meeting of both presidents to discuss on "Comprehensive Security ... (More on P4)...(9)

# US General Campbell ISIS (Daesh) Recruiting in Afghanistan And Pakistan

KABUL - The commander of the NATO-led Resolute Support mission in Afghanistan Gen. John Campbell has said that the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) is recruiting militants in Afghanistan. In an interview with the Army Times, Gen. Campbell said "We are seeing reports of some recruiting. There have been some night letter drops, there have been reports of people trying to recruit both in Afghanistan and Pakistan, quite frankly." According to Gen. Campbell,



the leaders are concerned about any potential for the ISIS group to spread although the group has 'hard message to sell' in Afghanistan. "The Taliban have their allegiance to (Taliban commander) Mullah Omar and a different philosophy and ideology than ISIS, but, potentially, there are people who are disgruntled with the Taliban, they haven't seen Mullah Omar in years, or they want to go a different way," Gen. Campbell said. He ... (More on P4)...(2)

## President Renews Commitment to Banishing Terror

KABUL - US Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan Daniel F. Feldman on Thursday called on President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani, the Presidential Palace said. During the meeting the two sides discussed bilateral relations, terrorism, the Afghan peace process, regional issues and US Foreign Secretary John Kerry's visit to Pakistan. Ghani said terrorism was a challenge to the entire region, calling for eliminating all types of the scourge, according to a statement from the Presidential Palace. He



renewed his government's determination to banish the menace. The US envoy assured Ghani of Washington's full support, saying Kerry had encouraged Pakistan's civilian and military leadership to continue with its effective campaign against terrorism. Separately, Ghani also met Canadian ... (More on P4)...(5)

## Civil Society Activists Pick Holes in Cabinet Formation

KABUL - Civil society activists on Thursday said most of cabinet nominees lacked professional experience and asked the Wolesi Jirga to use the trust vote in the supreme national interest. After more than 105 days of its inauguration, the unity government on Monday announced the long-awaited list of 27 ministers-designate, the National Directorate of Security (NDS) and the Afghanistan Bank heads. ... (More on P4)...(10)



## AIHRC, Civil Society Survey Focuses on Barriers to Peace

KABUL - Extended corruption, absence of rule of law, human rights violations and imbalances in development across provinces are the primary issues fueling insecurity and preventing peace in Afghanistan, according to a recent survey conducted by the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC) and 11 different civil society groups. Officials from the Afghan government, human rights institutions and civil society groups gathered in Kabul on Thursday to ... (More on P4)...(11)

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