

(1) Trump Admin ...

of militants who want to portray the United States as at war with Islam. The White House statement also appeared to nod at better relations with Russia, something that Trump has said he would pursue. "We are always happy when old enemies become friends, and when old friends become allies," the statement said. Trump has rejected criticism that he is too eager to make an ally of Russian President Vladimir Putin.

The statement vowed to "re-build" the American military, including enlarging the Navy and the Air Force, a frequent theme during Trump's campaign.

The statement repeated Trump's campaign vow to withdraw from the Trans-Pacific Partnership, the Asian free-trade pact that Obama championed but was unable to get through Congress. Trump has said, without elaboration, that international trade deals have hurt American workers. "President Trump will ensure that on his watch, trade policies will be implemented by and for the people, and will put America first," the statement said.

In a separate statement on the White House website, the Trump administration said it intends to develop a "state of the art" missile defense system to protect against attacks from Iran and North Korea. It did not say whether the system would differ from those already under development, specify the cost or say how it would be financed. (Reuters)

(2) Police Reform...

The MoI spokesman said the ministry was trying to resolve all problems of police during winter season.

He said the interior minister had initiated a decisive action against corruption and he was trying to eradicate the menace from his office first.

The official also said the Afghan security forces conducted 700 operations in different parts of the country during the past one month. He said 80 police personnel and hundreds of militants were killed during the offensives.

Seddiqi said 43 militants were killed only in 20 operations of Afghan Special Forces in northern Kunduz province. Operations by the Afghan National Army (ANA) and police were still underway in Kunduz, Uruzgan, Farah, Nangarhar, Helmand and Ghazni provinces, he said.

He praised the Wolesi Jirga or lower house for approving a draft law asking media outlets to name as martyrs Afghan forces killed in clashes with rebels. "This would boost security forces' morale." Seddiqi asked the media to respect the law. The MoI spokesman asked the US's new leadership to continue its cooperation with Afghanistan because Afghanistan was in the frontline state in the international war against terrorism. (Pajhwok)

(3) Afghanistan ...

and social upheaval in the country. Although the US military occupation of Afghanistan ousted the Taliban regime in 2001, it also deteriorated the security situation across the country, causing near daily violence and steady displacement of its people.

Last year, however, saw record increases in the number of people displaced by the violence, with at least 626,000 additional people fleeing their homes, compared to nearly 70,000 in 2011, when the US-led military invasion was at its height. (Press TV)

(4) Former VP ...

provide us with proper cooperation. Everyone knows that peace is a basic requirement for the people, but unfortunately it is not government's top priority," Qasimyar said.

The High Peace Council (HPC) has at least 50 members which include former jihadi leaders, along with influential and tribal figures and women. (Tolonews)

(5) Abdullah ...

"I watched the U.S. president's message to their soldiers... and he announced his support for them, which is a good and graceful step and I am sure that cooperation will continue in all aspects." (Reuters)

(6) Afghanistan ...

Kevin O'Brien and number 11 Craig Young and put Afghanistan in complete control.

This after Ireland had won the toss and elected to bat first.

Fareed Ahmad had started the proceedings with the wicket of Stuart Poynter, before Nabi wreaked havoc with three wickets in six balls. Afghanistan finished the tournament unbeaten. (Tolonews)

(7) 75,000 Acres...

Governor Abdul Karim Mateen asked provincial council members to share evidence about land-grabs with the governor's house.

He said it was easy to spread rumors and if the provincial council members produced valid documents, all the usurped land would be re-taken from their illegal occupants. (Pajhwok)

(8) Encourage US ...

dare to invest in Afghanistan. Economy expert Azarakhsh Hafizi said: "We will not be able to draw any international investors' attention to invest in Afghanistan until we do not prepare economy programs, policy to fight against poverty and necessary measurements."

The data indicates that some of the US contractor companies were active in Afghanistan in the past years and their investment level reached from \$ 10 up to 25 million. Based on the estimation and survey, Afghanistan is the best platform for investing on mines and agriculture sectors but no significant investments launched on the following sector. (Monitoring Desk)

(9) Fresh Varsity ...

agriculture officials to help him find a job in his own field. Education director Najibullah Kamran said his department had recently announced 400 vacancies and would try to fill the vacancies with fresh graduates. (Pajhwok)

(10) US Needs...

the Taliban activists and supporters, as it had been doing in India and other neighbouring countries.

Karzai regretted that despite informing Washington about such activities of Pakistan, the US did little to restrain Islamabad and continued to pamper it with aid and grants. If the US had put stringent conditions for providing aid, it would have deterred the Pakistani leadership and the army from assisting the Taliban, he noted.

Asked by Akbar whether he believes Trump's administration would be different from those of Bush and Obama, Karzai said, "There needs to be change in the US policy, if it needs to succeed. US needs to change."

"Fundamental changes are required in the American policy," Karzai said, adding he was not against the BSA (Bilateral Security Agreement) with the US, but had only demanded that some conditions be added to it.

Akbar said India and Karzai are on the same page as both are against dividing terrorists as good and bad. He said the Indian government is very clear that terrorists are terrorists and they need to be tackled effectively. (Monitoring Desk)

(11) Don't Repeat ...

by called by the Taliban, who themselves attack functions and mosques and kill people,

including children and women. They have joined hands with Afghanistan's top enemies like Russia," he alled. The peace negotiator asked Russian President Vladimir Putin not to repeat past mistakes as the Afghans always supported their government and security forces and invaders a lesson.

Syed Zainul Ibad, head of the Civil Society Network in Far-yab, said anyone calling themselves Muslim and Afghan should support the security forces and peace efforts. He asked political parties to sort out differences. (Pajhwok)

(12) Kunduz Doctors...

would not share details of that with the media at the moment.

He said staging protest was a democratic right of every citizen, urged doctors to end their protest keeping in mind importance of their work and problems the people faced. (Pajhwok)

(13) Tolo Marks ...

these challenges and the deadly attack, press freedom is still said to be one of the biggest achievements made by the country since the fall of the Taliban.

"In this year, 13 journalists were killed and Taliban claimed responsibility for at least 10 cases. In the previous years we never had such numbers," said Najib Sharifi, head of Afghan Journalists Safety Committee (AJSC).

Journalists said threats made by armed groups will not stop them from broadcasting stories and gathering information and that they will continue their work as usual.

"Insecurity is a big challenge for journalists, especially for women journalists, but these challenges cannot limit our activities," Mina Mustaid, a journalist said.

According to the statistics of the institutions defending journalists, in the past one and half years, between 300 and 500 media workers have left the country because of security threats - with most of them having sought asylum in European countries. (Tolonews)

(14) Visas for Afghan ...

panel repair technicians. SAFRON had proposed relaxation for Afghan students to complete their education, the secretary said, hoping the federal cabinet would approve the summary this month.

Pakistan would not resort to forced repatriation of registered refugees even after the expiry of the deadline, he promised. "There will be no forced repatriation. This is the official policy." (Pajhwok)

(15) Jawzjan Women ...

department buys our mushrooms but there are only a few customers in the market, we ask agriculture officials to help us grow other plants as well," she said.

Provincial agriculture and livestock director, Mohammad Rahman Arghandiwal, said they had launched a training program for women to grow mushrooms.

He said before the training program, it was not sure if mushrooms would yield positive result in Jawzjan, but the women trained had so far collected the crop 40 times.

He said his department now was planning to train women in collecting mushroom seeds to make them independent in the area.

More measures would be taken to find market for mushrooms and traditionalize the plant next year, he added. (Pajhwok)

(16) 3 Foreign...

as the local officials earlier said that the loyalists of the ISIS terrorist group are mostly comprised of the Orakzai Agency residents.

Both the Afghan and US forces conducted regular strikes against the loyalists of the terrorist group in this province.

The increased raids, usually involving drone strikes, by the US forces followed a broader role granted by the Obama administration earlier last year. (KP)

(17) Taliban's ...

including the Taliban insurgents have not commented regarding the report so far.

This comes as the Taliban militants have stepped up magnetic bombings in key cities of the country, including capital Kabul during the recent years. In majority of such bombings, the ordinary civilians are targeted besides the magnetic bombings claims of the government officials and security personnel. (KP)

(18) Petrol, Firewood ...

sack of sugar for 2,400afis and a 24.5-kg bag of rice for 1,700afis.

He sold a 16-liter tin of Khurshid ghee for 1,180afis, a kilo of Madina green tea for 280afis and the same quantity of African black tea for 300afis -- higher than wholesale prices. Mohammad Fawad, a jeweller in Timor Shahi area of Kabul, said the price of one gram of Arabian gold decreased from 2,250afis to 2,200afis while the same amount of Russian variety stood at 1,700afis.

According to Saray Shahzada Moneychangers Union, the buying rate of one US dollar was 66.84afis while 1,000 Pakistani rupees accounted for 614afis. Last week's exchange value of the dollar stood at 66.82afis and 1,000 Pakistani rupees at 615afis. (Pajhwok)

(19) 4 Rebels,...

bomb blast in Barqot locality of Fuzma-Qala district late on Friday night, the Sar-i-Pul deputy police chief, Col. Enaitullah Habibi, said.

He said a notorious Taliban commander Qari Zabihullah had been arrested by the Afghan National Army (ANA) during an operation in Baghali area. (Pajhwok)

(20) Anti-Trump...

a swing state in the West that went to Hillary Clinton in elections, along with New Mexico and Nevada, due to Latino and "New Millennial" votes.

Denver police told Xinhua they diffused the only reported conflict during the march, when a small group of overweight, white-bearded, tattooed bikers confronted the determined, but largely peaceful demonstrators. (Xinhua)

(21) Iraq Recovers...

IS militants and some Sunni tribesmen.

In June 2014, armed Sunni insurgents, spearheaded by the IS group, an al-Qaida offshoot, launched a surprise offensive on Iraqi security forces and captured a large part of the country's northern and western territories after government troops abandoned their posts and military equipment. The IS group later posted video footage and images showing the execution of Iraqi government soldiers. (Xinhua)

(22) Trump Signs...

moving the vote onto the Senate floor. The committee also easily passed a waiver exempting Mattis from a law that requires defense secretaries to be retired from service for at least seven years.

Mattis' nomination is expected to be approved at a vote in the Senate later Friday.

At the hearing, Mattis took a clear anti-Russia stance during the hearing, describing Moscow as a "principle threat" to U.S. security, a position notably different from Trump.

The United States should also check Russia's growing influence in the Arctic region, Mattis said. (Xinhua)

(23) Turkish Army...

Syrian Kurdish Democratic Union Party (PYD).

Turkey regards the YPG and the PYD as terrorist organiza-

tions due to their links to the outlawed Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK). (Xinhua)

(24) Courts in...

efficiency of the courts in BiH, and therefore the judiciary as a whole," HJPC said in a statement on Friday.

In total, more than 660,000 cold cases have been solved since 2010, when the courts in BiH began to apply plans of solving cold cases. (Xinhua)

(25) China's Supply...

to equilibrium in the market and a better, healthier environmental situation.

Concerning the environment, the CEO said, "it's always the discussion between what we want now and what we want to keep for our children and our grandchildren. But we have to recognize, if you win in the short term, you always lose in the long term." (Xinhua)

(26) Fight Against...

injured after a bomb went off in a mainly Shia Muslims area in northwestern Pakistan on Saturday.

The blast rocked a crowded vegetable market in Parachinar city, the capital of Kurram tribal district near the Afghan border.

The outlawed terrorist group Lashkar-e-Jhangvi (LeJ) claimed responsibility for the attack. (Presstv)

(27) Uzbekistan...

Uzbekistan and Russia are characterized as strategic partnership in the wide range of cooperation in political, economic and humanitarian spheres.

The expansion of economic and investment ties is the priority area of Uzbek-Russian comprehensive dialogue. Russia is one of Uzbekistan's big trade partners.

More than 900 joint enterprises with Russian capital operate in Uzbekistan, and representative offices of 85 firms and companies of Russia have been opened in the country. Moreover, over the recent years, Russian investments in Uzbekistan's economy amounted to more than \$6 billion. (Trend)

(28) Turkmenistan...

chemical industry, mechanical engineering, agriculture, construction sphere, light, food and other industries, as well as the formation of the domestic pharmaceutical industry.

Enterprises will be built to produce a wide range of construction, chemical, household and other products made from local raw materials. (Trend)

Blast Hits Refugee Camp on Jordan-Syria Border

AMMAN - An explosion occurred Saturday at Al Rukban refugee camp on border between Jordan and Syria, the state-run Petra news agency reported, citing a source at the Jordan Armed Forces.

A total of 14 Syrians who were injured in a blast were allowed to enter into Jordan, the state-run Petra news agency reported.

An officer at Jordan Armed Forces said a booby trapped car was exploded at the Rukban camp, which is located at the no man's land at borders between Jordan and Syria.

The source ruled out the possibility that Jordanians were hurt in the blast as Jordanian relief workers who distribute aid to the refugees are not present regularly at the camp. (Xinhua)

Tajikistan Boasts of Big, Huge, Wins over Terrorism

DUSHANBEH - Tajikistan's Interior Ministry has claimed that the country's security agencies managed to thwart 36 terrorist attacks in 2016 and stopped around 50 people from mounting attacks on

government buildings.

Interior Minister Ramazon Rahimzoda provided no details of specific alleged plots at his press conference on January 20, although there have been sporadic reports of would-be attacks. One circulated in the local media involved some kind of strike on residents of the capital, Dushanbe, during the May 9 Victory Day celebrations.

To believe Rahimzoda, the achievements of the Tajik security agencies in combating terrorism are little short of miraculous.

More than 400 people were detained last year in Tajikistan on suspicion of belonging to various terrorist groups, Rahimzoda said. Over the same period, 40 people joined Islamic State, he claimed.

If anything, the minister lamented that, with the odd exception, foreign partners are failing to take sufficient advantage of Tajikistan's terrorist-busting abilities.

Rahimzoda boasted it was his ministry's information that led to a terrorist group comprising 11 natives of Central Asia being rounded up in Russia. The alleged militants were purportedly members of the Islamic State group and were planning to blow up buildings in St. Petersburg, according to Russian officials. (Monitoring Desk)

Hungarian leaders express sympathy with families of bus crash victims

BUDAPEST - Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban and President Janos Ader both issued statements on Saturday, voicing their sympathy with the families of Hungarian students and teachers killed or injured in a bus crash in Italy.

The government has declared Jan. 23 as an official day of mourning.

"Loss of a young life, of a child, is the worst thing that can happen to any family, community, or nation," Orban said.

He added that he had ordered Hungarian authorities to do their utmost to completely clarify the situation.

Ader said that all of them share in the mourning of the parents, siblings, families and classmates of the victims.

He wished the injured a speedy and complete recovery and expressed his thanks to everyone who had helped in the rescue operation.

Sixteen people, primarily teenagers, died and 26 were hurt when the bus leased by a Budapest secondary school crashed into a motorway pylon and burst into flame just before midnight on Friday.

They were on the way home from a ski vacation in France.

An employee of the company providing the bus, repudiated the reports that it had been driven by a French chauffeur.

Two Hungarians drivers were responsible for the bus and both were with the group for the entire time abroad, the employee told local wire service MTI.

They were both experienced drivers. The bus, he said was a German-made Setra with a capacity of 57 passengers and two drivers.

The principal of the Budapest secondary school that leased the bus said that it had been carrying 36 students.

The rest of the 54 passengers known to have been on board were former students, three teachers, and family members of one of the teachers, Principal Gabor Toth said. (Xinhua)