

### (1) Bombing Kills...

A security guard at Shamshad TV, a Pashto-language media organisation, was killed and several employees hurt in their office near the blast site, said director Abid Ehsas.

The area has a cluster of military and government buildings, as well as an office of the Afghan Football Federation, whose chief, Yosuf Kargar, was among several members injured, according to spokesman Shafi Shadab. The attack comes as U.S. special peace envoy for Afghanistan Zalmay Khalilzad holds a seventh round of peace talks with the Taliban in Qatar, aimed at bringing an end to the 18-year war in Afghanistan.

The talks, described by one U.S. official as a "make-or-break moment", have focused on issues ranging from counter-terrorism and withdrawal of foreign troops to an intra-Afghan dialogue and a comprehensive ceasefire. Two sources at the peace talks said direct negotiations between the warring sides was unlikely to go beyond Monday, but there was no official statement about the suspension of the ongoing talks.

"The latest attack by the Taliban has changed the entire context of our meeting, unease has crept in," said an official present in the room where negotiations are underway in Doha.

Sohail Shaheen, spokesman for the Taliban political office in Doha, said the group's key concern was to make sure a timeline for a foreign troop pullout is announced.

Taliban officials have previously said they want all foreign troops withdrawn before they hold talks with the Afghan government or declare a ceasefire.

About 20,000 foreign troops, most of them American, are in Afghanistan as part of a U.S.-led NATO mission to train, assist and advise Afghan forces. Some U.S. forces carry out counter-terrorism operations.

Less than a week ago, U.S. secretary of state Mike Pompeo paid a short visit to Kabul and said the Trump administration was hopeful that a peace deal with the Taliban was achievable by Sept. 1.

Despite peace talks gaining momentum, fighting between the Taliban and Afghan forces who are backed by the foreign troops, has raged across Afghanistan.

The ministry of defence said on Monday 67 insurgents were killed in 11 provinces in the last 24 hours. The Taliban said their fighters had conducted 52 operations against Afghan forces in which more than 170 people were killed.

Both sides accuse each other of exaggerating casualty figures to boost the morale of their fighters. (Reuters)

### (2) 15,000 Deaths...

AMC head Dr. Nasrin Oryakhel said that cancer diseases took more lives after heart diseases in Afghanistan and the world.

She asked the president to create a well-equipped hospital for diagnosis and treatment of cancer diseases in the country.

Zarghona Taraki, a specialist of cancer diseases and member of AMC, said that 15,000 of 20,000 cancer patients died in 2018, according to a WHO survey.

She said most common cancer type in women was breast cancer and in men mouth and throat cancer, adding no advanced diagnosis and treatment center for cancer could be established in the country. A primary facility was not enough, she said.

Dr. Haidar Omar, another cancer specialist, said statistics showed 80 percent of cancer patients died in Afghanistan and mostly because there was no diagnosis and treatment facilities for the disease.

He also said the country needed an advanced cancer diagnosis and treatment center and the private sector should be supported for investment in this regard.

He said Afghans spent around \$300 million abroad for treatment of cancer and the amount could be used for creation of a center for treatment of the disease inside the country.

President Ashra Ghani, while addressing the gathering, said that the death of 15,000 cancer patients in Afghanistan was a tragedy.

He said very little efforts had been made in medical field in Afghanistan and the main reason was lack of good management.

"When we hear the word cancer we lose our wishes, so we have to break this barrier and take fundamental steps for cancer treatment, we should go from disappointment to clear action," he said.

"I direct the Ministry of Finance to allocate an amount of budget for creation of a cancer diagnosis center and have a clear plan for providing x-ray machineries and other necessary equipment for the center," he said.

Health specialists say there are more than 100 types of cancer diseases resulting from abnormal growth of body cells. (Pajhwok)

### (3) Kabul, Islamabad...

The two sides decided not to use public forums to blame each other and try to build trust to address pressing issues between the neighbours.

According to the Express Tribune, both sides agreed to use appropriate diplomatic channels to share concerns instead of giving public statements. Officials familiar with the discussions between Ghani and Khan said the two leaders concurred that hostile statements contributed to further vitiating bilateral relations.

President Ghani acknowledged both sides needed to bury the past and look to the future, the newspaper quoted unnamed officials as saying.

Khan and Ghani vowed to open a new chapter of friendship and cooperation between Pakistan and Afghanistan, based on mutual trust and harmony. (Pajhwok)

### (4) Ghani Appoints...

that President Ghani has appointed Sediq Sediqi as new presidential spokesperson.

Sediqi has earlier served as the interior ministry spokesman and director of the Government Media and Information Center. (ATN)

### (5) Two Million Children...

showcasing political will and commitment by key institutions to improving the nutritional situation of every girl, boy and woman in the country.

Additionally, about 1300 Basic Primary Health Service (BPHS) facilities across Afghanistan provide treatment of acute malnutrition, an increase of about 35% as compared to 2016, using the human resource, facility, medication from the BPHS while the therapeutic and supplementary food products are provided by the UN agencies.

As a result, there has been about 38% increase in the number of severely acutely malnourished children who received treatment in 2018 as compared to 2016. Acute malnutrition treatment services - for both severe and moderate cases - were provided, with about 30% reduced cost as a result of the collaboration. "The opportunities in delivering actions towards demonstrating change in the nutritional situation within the humanitarian-development-peace continuum are tremendous. FAO, UNICEF, WHO and WFP as part of the One UN for nutrition - work in close coordination in support of government towards tackling undernutrition. A study conducted specific to Afghanistan by the World Bank in 2018 reported that for every USD 1 dollar invested in nutrition 13USD are returned in economic gains. With increased investments in nutrition, more change can be achieved." Dr. Said Shamsul Islam, Coordinator for the Technical Secretariat of AFSeN agenda.

"This year, as the world is commemorating the 30th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, we are reminded of our collective obligations to once again position and invest in realizing the rights of every girl and boy in Afghanistan to survive and grow," adds Sen Gupta. "Consolidating the gains made and taking them to scale to reach every child must be our mantra. If we are to tackle and reverse this unfortunate trend as we must take action together and now." (Pajhwok)

### (6) Taliban 'Won't...

These remarks come a day after the Afghan Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced that direct talks with the Taliban is expected to happen in another two weeks in Germany. The Taliban has repeatedly rejected holding talks with the Afghan government; though, the U.S. chief negotiator Ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad has told that all talks will be based on the principle of "nothing is agreed until everything is agreed." (ATN)

### (7) Wolesi Jirga...

Erfanullah Erfan and Farida Hamidi were candidates. Erfan got 103 votes while Hamidi grabbed 80 votes. Speaker Mir Rahman Rahmani asked other lawmakers to submit their documents if they were interested to contest the polls. (Pajhwok)

### (8) Uzbekistan...

and attract the attention of Afghan investors is based on this goal," he said.

Aripov vowed that his country is ready to closely cooperate with Afghanistan in different sectors, including agriculture, trade, electricity, and railway.

"Uzbekistan will contribute \$45 million to the power transmission line from Sarkhan in Uzbekistan to Pul-e-Khumri [in Baghlan] which is almost 200 kilometers in length and will cost \$110 million," he said. (Tolo news)

### (9) Budgetary Units...

finalize the assessment of mid-term budget and a draft plan on this matter will be sent to the cabinet and the parliament in the near future.

Masjidi said that the budgetary units have spent Afs49.6 billion in the past six months.

"The goal is to spend 95 percent of the budget by the end of the fiscal year," Masjidi added. (Tolo news)

### (10) Civilian Casualties...

CPAG called civilian casualties a huge disappointment. The warring parties should avoid violating domestic, humanitarian and Islamic laws during operations.

The group asked parties to the conflict to take more care to ensure the protection of civilians during all kinds of operations.

CPAG also strongly condemn Monday's complex suicide attack in Kabul, in which many civilians are killed an injured. (Pajhwok)

### (11) IEC Fails to Publicize...

they create some mechanisms, recognize the problems in the database, and have a new plan for it," said Naeem Ayoubzada, head of a Kabul-based electoral monitoring organization.

Despite the problems, IEC stresses on holding the presidential election on September 28; however, experts are uncertain if IEC can make it. (ATN)

### (12) 64 Administrative...

rarely visit their working areas in the districts.

Shirzad district governor Mubarriz Khadim said that fighting often breaks out in the districts even few meters away from the government installations and that the land route to the district is closed because of the fighting between Daesh and Taliban militants.

"I travel to the area by helicopter when needed," Khadim said. "Sometimes it takes two months, sometimes in three months, sometimes in six months. It depends on the airplanes to come and transfer us there."

"We are working more in Hesarak. Here, we get more applications. We have an office here and settle down people's problems," said Mohammad Hassan Osmanzai, the governor of Nangarhar's Hesarak district.

Figures by Independent Directorate of Local Governance, or the IDLG, show that neither the civilian nor the military institutions are operational in at least 20 districts across the country, including Sherzad and Hesarak districts in the eastern province of Nangarhar which is lying only a few kilometers away from the capital Kabul.

"We have district governors for these districts, but they are not working there in the districts. Officials of judicial organizations are not willing to go and work there because of security threats. Similarly, we do not have army, police and NDS forces there [in those districts]," the IDLG spokesman, Sayed Shah Saqim.

"All district governors will go to their areas once these areas liberated," the Defense Ministry spokesman Rohullah Ahmadzai said.

"Government needs to expand its authority 100 percent so that justice can be served. Whenever the Constitution of Afghanistan is not implemented in some areas, then it brings challenges ahead," said Sayed Azim Kibrzani, an MP. (Tolo news)

### (13) 30 Taliban...

a dozen others wounded. Gul Rahman, a resident of the district, confirmed the airstrike in Bargi area. More than 40 militants were killed in the airstrike, he added.

Taliban have not yet commented in this regard but the group's spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said 173 soldiers were killed and several others wounded attacks in 23 provinces, including Paktia. (Pajhwok)

### (14) Taiwan President...

related issues, to avoid harming Sino-U.S. relations and peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait".

China has already expressed its concern to the United States and lodged "stern representations," he told a daily news briefing.

Taiwan has been trying to shore up its diplomatic alliances amid pressure

from China, which has been whittling down its few remaining diplomatic allies, especially in the Caribbean and Latin America.

The four Caribbean allies share similar ideals with Taiwan, Tsao said, adding that the theme of the visit is "freedom, democracy and sustainable governance".

However, he added that the visit to Haiti, the Western Hemisphere's poorest nation, will be less than 24 hours due to unrest there.

Protesters have for months agitated to remove President Jovenel Moise, a former businessman who took office in February 2017.

Tsai's time in the United States will be unusually long, as normally she spends just a night at a time on transit stops.

Tsai, who faces re-election in January, has repeatedly called for international support to defend Taiwan's democracy in the face of Chinese threats. She last went to the United States in March, stopping over in Hawaii at the end of a Pacific tour. (Reuters)

### (15) Japan Restricts...

said that the relations of trust between Japan and South Korea have been significantly harmed," METI added.

- 'Unfair' - The new restrictions apply to three chemicals as well as the transfer of manufacturing technologies, removing them from a list that effectively allowed expedited export.

It means that exporters will now have to apply for permission for each batch they wish to export to South Korea, a process that takes around 90 days each time, local media reported.

The chemicals affected by the move are fluorinated polyimide, which is used in the manufacture of displays, the photosensitising agent resist used in chip manufacture, and hydrogen fluoride, which is used to clean chips.

METI said it would also begin soliciting public comment on the removal of South Korea from a list of "white" countries that face minimal restrictions on technology transfer with national security implications.

South Korean trade official Park Taesung called the measures "unfair and in violation of international laws". (AFP)

### (16) Thousands Protest...

appeared to be lower than in recent protests for and against Bolsonaro's administration.

"I think Minister Moro is fundamental to everything that is going well in this country," Nelson de Oliveira Filho, 70, told AFP at the Sao Paulo march.

"Show me one person before him who could make people believe, in whom we could place our trust."

Bolsonaro tweeted his congratulations to the protesters, while Moro thanked supporters who "believe in our work."

"Hackers, criminals, or malicious publishers will not alter these fundamental truths," he said on Twitter. (AFP)

### (17) UK's Johnson...

of a no-deal Brexit and its impact would be "very, very small".

Johnson also said there needed to be decent pay in a properly-funded public sector. (Reuters)

### (18) Mexico Inaugurates...

National Guard personnel were sent to Mexico's northern and southern borders to halt Central American migrants seeking to illegally enter the United States.

Defense Secretary Luis Crescencio Sandoval said that National Guard members have been trained in police procedures, will respect human rights, and will use force in a "reasoned and proportional" manner.

Maintaining peace and security is Lopez Obrador's biggest challenge: there were a record 33,341 homicides in Mexico in 2018, the highest number of deaths since the government began tracking murders in 1997.

More than 250,000 people have been murdered since 2006, the year Mexico's military was deployed to combat the cartels. More than 40,000 people have vanished during that same time period. (AFP)

### (19) Hong Kong...

fueled inside from two places that had been breached, according to the South China Morning Post.

The protestors inside were also trying to open the building's back door and smoke was seen inside, though it was not clear what the cause of the smoke was.

Hong Kong demonstrators are opposed to a government attempt to change extradition laws that would

allow suspects to be sent to China to face trial. The proposed legislation, on which debate has been suspended indefinitely, increased fears of eroding freedoms in the territory, which Britain returned to China on July 1, 1997.

Protesters want the bills formally withdrawn and Hong Kong's embattled leader, Carrie Lam, to resign.

"I am afraid the march today will be the last protest for Hong Kong," demonstrator Harley Chuk Kit-ying told the SCMP. "If I still chose not to come, then I would regret for a lifetime."

The clashes at the government building forced Hong Kong's leader to watch the annual commemoration of the handover from inside the city's cavernous convention center instead of outside, according to Sky News.

In an address after a flag-raising ceremony marking the anniversary of the handover, Lam said the recent series of protests and two marches that attracted hundreds of thousands of participants have taught her she needs to listen better to youth and people in general.

"This has made me fully realize that I, as a politician, have to remind myself all the time of the need to grasp public sentiments accurately," she told the gathering. Lam, who has come under withering criticism for trying to push the extradition legislation through, has pledged to be more responsive to public sentiment. (Fox news)

### (20) Paris Introduces...

rent will be set for each area of Paris and apartments will not be able to be rented at more than 20 percent above this price, the deputy Paris mayor in charge of housing, Ian Brossat, explained.

Rental prices are estimated to have risen by more than 50 percent in the last 15 years in Paris.

Capital cities around Europe and the US have introduced a variety of measures designed to tackle house price inflation, which is leading increasing numbers of lower and middle-class families to leave city centres.

Some are cracking down on Airbnb, limiting the numbers of days that apartments can be rented out, while others like Berlin and New York are introducing or extending rent controls.

Berlin's government has decided to freeze rents in the booming German capital for five years from 2020 in its latest bid to halt runaway gentrification.

Some real estate professionals questioned the system introduced in Paris, saying that setting a reference price for an area would prove problematic because it would need to take into account the large variation in properties and neighbourhoods. (AFP)

### (21) Vatican Says...

he has learned in confession, similar to attorney-client privilege.

But the sexual abuse crisis that has embroiled the Catholic Church around the world has seen this right challenged more frequently.

In Australia, an inquiry into child abuse recommended that the country introduce a law forcing religious leaders to report child abuse, including priests told of it during confession.

So far, two of Australia's eight states have introduced laws making it a crime for priests to withhold information about abuse heard in confession. Others are still considering their response.

In May, the California state senate passed a bill to require the seal of confession to be broken if a priest learns of or suspects sexual abuse while hearing the confession of a fellow priest or a colleague such as a Church worker.

Church leaders in both the United States and Australia have opposed such laws and the document backed them up unequivocally.

"Any political action or legislative initiative aimed at breaking the inviolability of the sacramental seal would constitute an unacceptable offence against the (freedom of the Church)," the document said.

"(The Church) does not receive its legitimacy from individual States, but from God; it (breaking the seal) would also constitute a violation of religious freedom, legally fundamental to all other freedoms, including the freedom of conscience of individual citizens, both penitents and confessors," it said.

The document said a priest could not demand that a penitent turn himself or herself in to authorities as a condition for receiving absolution from their sins. (Reuters)