

Quote of the Day

Never let the future disturb you. You will meet it, if you have to, with the same weapons of reason which today arm you against the present.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

Constitution

The Independent Electoral Commission will be established to organize and supervise any election and to hold a referendum within the country based on the provisions of the law.
Article 156

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John McCain

US Troop Pullout from Afghanistan a Tragedy

KABUL - US Senator John McCain on Saturday said his country must reassess withdrawing troops from Afghanistan in the wake of an unprecedented increase in Taliban attacks and increasing support to the group from Iran and the emergence of Daesh.

Speaking at a press conference in Kabul after his meetings with President Ashraf Ghani and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Abdullah Abdullah, McCain said Taliban attacks had been successfully thwarted by Afghan forces in parts of Afghanistan, but at the cost of heavy casualties.

The Republican said the Afghan security forces direly needed US assistance in areas of intelligence, conducting special operations, logistic and air support in the future. He said the US was fully aware of the challenges the Afghan civilian and military ... (More on P4)...(1)



Parliament Rejects Stanekzai as Defense Minister



KABUL - The defense nominee Masoom Stanekzai failed on Saturday to win a vote of confidence from the Parliament - as the key ministry is left abandoned for more than nine months.

Introduced last week to the Wolesi Jirga (Lower House of Parliament) by the Second Vice President Mohammad Sarwar Danish, Stanekzai got 84 votes in favor when he required 107 votes to get approved as National Unity Government (NUG's) defense minister.

Before the voting started, ... (More on P4)...(2)

Senate Admonishes Minister Refusing to Appear Before Parliament

KABUL - Afghan Senators on Saturday issued a stern warning to the Minister of Communications and Information Technology, saying that if he continues to refuse to appear before the Upper House's complaints commission then legal action will be taken against him.

Minister Abdul Raziq Wahidi was expected to appear at the Senate on Saturday to respond to questions from the chamber's complaints commission regarding a contract signed between the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT) and a private company to digitalize Afghan television networks.

"For the last time, we demand the Minister of Communication and Information Technology appear before the commission for a hearing this week," head of the complaints commission Zalmi Zabuli said. "If he again refuses to come to the commission then we will ... (More on P4)...(5)

India Sounds Alert as ISIS Spreads its Territory to Afghanistan, Pakistan



KABUL - The Indian intelligence agencies have sounded an alert following reports suggesting that the Islamic State (ISIS) has been spreading its territory to the Afghanistan-Pakistan (AfPak) region as it poses great security threat to India.

The presence of Islamic State caliphate in Afghanistan's Farah and Nangarhar ... (More on P4)...(3)

EU, Afghanistan Finalize Cooperation Agreement

KABUL - The Afghan government has finalized a Cooperation Agreement on Partnership and Development (CAPD) with the European Union (EU), which entails the first official contractual framework governing cooperation between the two entities.

The CAPD enshrines the EU's commitment to a long-term partnership with Afghanistan geared toward addressing the government's visions of "realizing self-reliance." The agreement builds on the EU strategy for 2014-16 in Afghanistan as well as the undertakings from previous international conferences. The CAPD will help Afghanistan cooperate with the EU in ... (More on P4)...(4)



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Governor Wants Thorough Probe into Jalrez Clash

KABUL - The governor of central Maidan Wardak province on Saturday asked the visiting high-level security delegation to address security related issues of Jalrez district.

Hayatullah Hayat expressed these views during a meeting with Interior Minister Noor-ul-Haq Ulumi, Army Chief Qadam Shah Shahim and other high ranking officials in Maidan Shahr, the provincial capital, the governor ... (More on P4)...(6)

NUG Leaders Accuse Security Officials of Negligence in Wake of Jalrez Battle

KABUL - While honoring policemen killed in clashes with the Taliban in Jalrez district of Maidan Wardak province in recent weeks, a number of national unity government leaders voiced strong criticism against security officials for failing to provide adequate support ... (More on P4)...(7)



WJ Orders Investigations into Jalrez Incident

KABUL - Wolesi Jirga or lower house of parliament voiced serious concerns over mayhem in the Jalrez district in central Maidan Wardak province, has tasked internal security and defence commissions to thoroughly probe the incident.

Taliban insurgents on Thursday overrun 12 security check posts in Jalrez district. Spokesman for Maidan Wardak governor told journalists on Saturday security ... (More on P4)...(8)

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