

**(1) HPC to...**

discussed the new strategy.

"We do not see [such a move as] surrendering on the part of the Taliban when it comes to peace," said Khalili.

HPC officials stated that the new strategy will also identify key elements of the war in the country.

"In the new strategy the High Peace Council will focus on the main aspects of the war and on bringing an end to the war," said Khaplawak.

The HPC, which was established on 5 September 2010 by former president Hamid Karzai, works to bring anti-government militant groups to the peace talks table.

But a number of lawmakers and activists have said that since its establishment, the council has failed to make any breakthrough in bringing peace to the country. "The peace council has failed to deliver results despite lots of money having been spent," said MP Aryan Youn.

"The High Peace Council needs to regain the trust of the people and undertake more effective work," said another MP, Habiburrahman Afghan.

But Khalili also vowed to revive public trust in the council and to identify their weak points.

"We are firmly committed, our vision is to overcome weak points and instead promote our strengths," added Khalili. According to the HPC, the current crisis and war in Afghanistan is rooted outside the country. The council feels concerted effort needs to be made by the international community to help Afghanistan emerge from the crisis. (Tolonews)

**(2) Bumper ..**

with the arrival of watermelon season he earned 800-1,200 rupees on a daily basis. The 50-year-old said more than 500 watermelon sale points had been established on the busy Jalalabad-Torkham road from Batikot up to the Marco Bazaar of Ghanikhel.

Anwar Gul, an inhabitant of Chardahi area of Batikot, called the stalls the best sources of revenue for them. He said the massive watermelon yield this season had created a lot of work opportunities for the people.

According to the district chief, watermelon has been cultivated on 15,000 hectares of land this year.

Rafiullah Rahimzai, agriculture director, said he had discussed growers' problems with the ministry concerned, which had promised exploring more markets for next year's crop. A survey has been launched to determine the level of watermelon cultivated in Nangarhar this year. (Pajhwok)

**(3) Afghan....**

"We are proud that the Afghan girl, Shaesta, has flown around the world and I believe that every Afghan girl can become a Shaesta if they are supported," Gul Jan Bakhshi, head of the gender equality department in the CEO's office said.

According to Waiz, her trip has been planned for four years and the aim of her solo flight is to share and promote the importance of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education - especially to girls.

Her solo flight kicked off in Florida in the U.S two months ago and by the time her journey is finished, Waiz would have made 30 stops in 19 countries on five different continents - covering a total distance of over 46,000 kilometers. Once complete, Waiz will become the youngest women to ever complete such a flight.

Waiz's father said Afghan girls need the support of their families, especially the support of their parents so as to achieve their goals.

"The support of parents for girls is very constructive. Parents should provide the opportunity for higher education studies for their children, especially for girls," said Fahim Waiz Arghandiwal, Waiz's father.

Born in a refugee camp in Afghanistan at the end of the Soviet war, Waiz emigrated to the U.S with her family in 1987.

Waiz became the first certified civilian female pilot from Afghanistan and the first person in her family to earn a bachelor's and master's degree - both from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

Waiz said however that she has had to leave her plane in Dubai for now - in order to pay a two-day visit to the country of her birth. The next leg of her flight will take her from Dubai to India - and then on to the remaining eight countries before

she returns home. (Tolonews)

**(4) 10 Girls'...**

education and their adaption to different conditions such as the size of a schoolyard or available equipment. The new equipment, combined with the new knowledge, enables teachers to set up high-quality sports programs for their students.

The Afghan-German Cooperation and the Afghan Ministry of Education fund and organize training activities and the provision of sports equipment. They aim at ensuring high-quality physical education in Afghan schools.

The initiative "Sports for Development" (S4D) is aiming at integrating physical education classes as a practically orientated subject in Afghan schools. Therefore, the project trains sports teachers, provides necessary sports equipment and develops well-adapted curricula. The implementing organisation Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH cooperates closely with the Afghan Ministry of Education to develop specific strategies and training schedules for teachers. (Wadsam)

**(5) BSA Has ...**

almost two months.

"He [Dostum] must return [to Afghanistan] to prove his innocence and make his position to the nation clear," said Semen Barakzai, another MP.

Following Ahmad Eshchi's accusations of kidnapping, torture and sexual assault, on the alleged orders of Dostum, the first vice president was placed under house arrest pending an investigation. However, in May, he left Kabul for Turkey on the pretext of seeking medical help. (Tolonews)

**(6) US Contributes...**

combats malnutrition, it also boosts the local economy."

"With competing humanitarian crises and high levels of food insecurity across the globe, USAID is pleased to announce a US\$20m cash contribution to support WFP/Afghanistan's efforts to reduce hunger and malnutrition. USAID's cash contribution enables WFP to purchase wheat flour from local millers thereby supporting the local economy while meeting food assistance needs of the most vulnerable Afghans displaced by conflict, returnees and families affected by natural disasters and economic stress," said Herbert Smith, USAID Mission Director.

In 2017, WFP plans to assist up to 2.9 million food insecure people in Afghanistan by providing food or cash to those affected by conflict and natural disasters, as well as additional nutrition support, disaster risk reduction activities and school meal take-home rations for girls and boys in food insecure areas. In addition, WFP is providing food and cash assistance to more than 550,000 internally displaced people, refugees and returnees. Around 40 percent of children under the age of five are affected by stunting, while 9 percent of women are undernourished. WFP has been working with millers to fortify wheat flour in Afghanistan since 2006.

USAID is WFP's top donor in Afghanistan, providing almost 50 percent of WFP's resources over the past five years. (Wadsam)

**(7) Envoys Draw ...**

Summit will decide on development projects for affected countries.

At Monday's meeting, however, representatives of RECCA-affiliated countries discussed the priorities, needs and plans for the November meeting. Deputy Minister of Economic Cooperation for the Foreign Ministry, Adila Raz, said a number of important projects, including energy production, railway construction and improvements in the transit sector, will be discussed in November.

"At RECCA's 7th Summit, our focus will be on government's economic priorities which have been arranged based on the finance ministry's development plan - which were approved at last year's Brussels Summit. These priorities include projects around women's economic empowerment, transit, commerce, energy, government economic empowerment and access to international markets," said Raz.

Turkmenistan's ambassador to Kabul, Tegalakow Hemra, meanwhile said his country was ready to host the Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan.

"Turkmenistan is fully prepared for the

7th RECCA Summit which will take place on 14 and 15 of November and will be attended by foreign ministers and representatives from international organizations," said Hemra.

The November summit will be attended by representatives from 70 countries and a number of international organizations. (Tolonews)

**(8) McCain Claims...**

According to him, the lack of order within the White House has resulted in the delay of rolling out its new strategy.

"We won't do anything unless they give us a strategy. I've been asking General [James] Mattis, who I'm a great admirer of, General [H.R.] McMaster, I'm a great admirer of, 'Where is the strategy? Where is the strategy?' Then we can have a policy. Then we authorize funding, and troops, and tanks, and guns," added McCain.

But, the Afghan government said on Monday that insurgents have failed to achieve their goals in the war.

"... remember the armed opponents failed to reach to their objectives especially in Kunduz. The enemy, despite having support from inside and outside the country, has faced devastating consequences in Kunduz," said General Murad Ali Murad, deputy minister of interior for security.

McCain's remarks come amid growing speculation that the White House will share details of the new Afghan war strategy within a week. (Tolonews)

**(9) Government ....**

for the ministry of public health, ministry of defense.

A contract for the renting of two airplanes for the transportation of pilgrims for Hajj are also among the contracts approved along the contract for the purchase of IT equipment (Tablets) for the independent elections commission.

The National Procurement usually chaired by President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani is considered as one of the key initiatives of the government of national unity to ensure transparency in the award and implementation of the governmental projects.

This comes as the Afghan government has stepped up efforts to counter corruption amid reports the Afghan authorities have made progress in the fight against corruption.

The United Nations in its latest report said in April this year that the Afghan authorities have made heady in their fight against corruption although enormous changes remains. (KP)

**(10) Some Ghazni ...**

A resident of Maqur district, Ahmad Shah, told Pajhwok Afghan News that doctors at the clinic encouraged patients to visit them at their private clinics against fee. "When you visit the clinic, the doctors will tell you to bring the medicine from outside or visit them at their private clinics."

Residents of the mentioned and other districts urged the authorities concerned to address their problems at the earliest.

Provincial public health director Zahir Shah Nekmal acknowledged there were problems in some district health centres. He said health clinics in Giru and Ab Band districts had been closed to due the lack of buildings for the facilities.

Nekmal confirmed some doctors invited patients to visit them at their private clinics, something he was injustice with the ailing people.

"But in some cases our people expect they can undergo big operations in district clinics, which is not possible because everything is done within the limits of resources."

The director rejected claims that there was a shortage of doctors in districts, saying the issue was only related to lady doctors.

He said health related issues in Ghazni had been discussed with the Ministry of Public Health officials, who had assured their solution.

A Taliban spokesman, Zabihullah Mujahid, said the rebels created no problems to clinic facilities. (Pajhwok)

**(11) Forging a ...**

small group of people who are filled with hate and know only the path of violence and destruction."

In the deadliest terror attack to take place in Kabul, to date, a truck bomb exploded near the German embassy on May 31st, killing over 150 and injuring 413, mostly civilians, and damaging several buildings

in the embassy. The terrorists responsible for the horrific attack account it a great victory.

"How wrong they are!" said Ambassador Llorens. "Let me say I have no doubt that the forces of light, faith and love will prevail, bring peace, and honor to these brave and proud men, and those thousands of brave young Americans, Afghans and of the other allied nations who have fallen in this cause."

"The vast majority of Afghans are builders, on the side of progress," he said. "Each and every day we see the progress Afghans have made in such little time since 2001. The schools, the hospitals, the government buildings, and centers of commerce - cellphones and public services, all accomplished in the past sixteen years - they are physical manifestations of the will of a people who build and believe in peace for themselves and others." By contrast, he said, "there exists only a very small minority who are destroyers - those who seek to tear down, it seems, for hateful and evil reasons. But the arc of history is clear - these destroyers cannot prevail, because their ideology is self-destructive, and they will either lay down their arms or meet their end."

"Afghanistan is not alone in this fight," he said. "The United States pledges to see this through to the end and to honor our commitments." (VoA)

**(12) Draft Law...**

"The draft law on gatherings, strikes, protests has been sent to the ministry of justice; the ministry of justice studied the law and the law has been certified by the law commission of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan," said MoJ spokesman Aman Riazat.

The draft law also contains a section that maps out the authorities of security forces in dealing with protests.

But MPs said it was unacceptable to impose restrictions on public gatherings and demonstrations.

"If government plans to put restrictions on protests, it means government is silencing the voice of the people and this is unacceptable to the representatives of the people of Afghanistan," said MP Zaheer Saadat.

"The government is pursuing a repressive policy against the people," said civil society activist Laila Jaffari.

The draft law is expected to be referred to parliament once the views of civil society activists and the human rights commission have been taken in to account. (Tolonews)

**(13) Paktika Drug...**

and those involved in drug smuggling. Paktika provincial council deputy head, Aziz Aziz, confirmed drug addicts were increasing in the province, saying no step had been taken to prevent it.

According to him, the sole 20-bed rehabilitation hospital in Orgun district in the entire province couldn't cope with all the addicts at a time when most of the addicts after their rehabilitation returned to the habit due to unemployment.

Paktika counter-narcotics department head, Omid Katawazai, told Pajhwok Afghan News that the provincial police headquarters were not cooperative in curbing drugs. He said the number of drug addicts had surged, citing poverty and the ongoing war as main reasons.

Governor Ilyas Wahdat admitted security forces had failed to prevent drugs in Paktika like the rest of the country, but said efforts were ongoing to deal with the scourge.

The governor said the bulk of drugs came to Paktika from Pakistan's northern and southern Waziristan tribal region, where he claimed the drugs were processed in factories before transferring them to Afghanistan's provinces.

Official figures show more than 600 women are addicted to drugs in Paktika besides thousands of male junkies. (Pajhwok)

**(14) Bid to Smuggle ...**

operations, including the production and planting of improvised explosive devices (IED). In a report released earlier this year, HRW writes that in Kunduz province, the Taliban have increasingly used madrasas, or Islamic religious schools, to provide military training to children between the ages of 13 and 17, many of whom have been deployed in combat.

According to the report, Taliban have recruited and used children as fighters since the 1990s, but together with analysts who have monitored the recruitment drive, believe that recruitment increased since

2015 due to expanded Taliban operations against Afghan government forces. (KP)

**(15) NATO Reacts ...**

Nangarhar as the ISIS loyalists have been attempting to expand their foothold and activities in certain districts of the during the recent years.

The US forces based in Afghanistan have stepped up airstrikes against the anti-government armed militants in Afghanistan.

The airstrikes were increased particularly after the former US administration granted broader role to the US forces to resume counter-terrorism operations, a step that was taken after growing instability in the country, mainly due to the insurgency led by the Taliban and ISIS militants.

The US forces based in Afghanistan also used one of the largest non-nuclear bombs on ISIS loyalists in April this year, leaving more than 100 militants dead and sanctuaries and networks of the tunnels destroyed. (KP)

**(16) Hekmatyar Asks ...**

live peacefully and without any fear.

He also called on the Afghan people to remain united and thanked the people for their participation in the large gatherings in Kabul, Laghman, and Jalalabad, emphasizing that Hezb-e-Islami can play a role in ending the ongoing violence.

In the meantime, a member of the executive council of Hezb-e-Islami Qutbuddin Helal said they are hopeful that Hekmatyar's presence will help in peace process and end the ongoing violence and conflict in the country.

He said the majority of the Afghan people are standing with Hekmatyar and will continue support his efforts and plans for peace and stability in the country. (KP)

**(17) Hajj Flight....**

from the list of pilgrims.

Those having paid both installments should continue learning Hajj guidelines at the departments concerned in the capital and in the provinces, the statement said. Around 30,000 Afghans are expected to perform Hajj this year. (Pajhwok)

Mohib, brothers and residents of Bagram district, who allegedly facilitated the suicide bombers.

According to Ahmadi, one RPG7 rocket and two Kalashnikov assault rifles were also recovered by the security forces during the operation. There was no comment from Taliban. (Pajhwok)

**(19) Amid Increasing....**

Sayed Rahmatullah, another craftsman, said he daily made and sold 34 pairs of shoes. He has employed six people in his small factory in Taloqan.

Rahmatullah said shoes produced in Taloqan had nothing special, but they were trying to improve their quality and reduce prices to make them affordable for all people.

"We produce different types of shoes, I check the market for new shoes, purchase them and bring them to my factory. We disassemble the shoes and learn structures, we then produce the copy even of higher quality," he said.

He added making a pair of shoes cost them 400 afghanis and they sold the same on a fair price.

Nizamuddin, a resident of Taloqan, said he was using locally made shoes for the past three years.

"Shoes made in Taloqan are good, they are made of leather which does not produce smell, keep feet warm in winter and cold in summer," he said.

He also asked other Afghans to use domestic products to play their role in the country's economic growth.

Takhar economy director, Ahmad Zia Tariq, said the handicraft industry had developed, but not in an organized way.

He met a number of craftsmen and his office was trying to organize developments in the handicraft sector, said the director. A number of charity organizations and government institutes had trained many Taloqan residents in shoe-making, he said. Tariq said he had no exact number for handicraft factories, but they had recently started assessing the private sector.

He said there were two groups of shoe-making factories - one supported by some organizations and the other self-reliant.

Tariq confirmed local shoes had found good market compared to the past and said the provincial was trying find nationwide market for Taloqan shoes and other handicrafts. (Pajhwok)