

### (1) Ghani Rejects...

Palace, claims the president has rejected as baseless.

He maintains national decisions are made in consensus with all parties. But Ghani called on his political opponents to come forward and present their recommendations for reforms.

Government officials must respect the rules of governance in their speeches, said Ghani referring to a recent statement by CEO Abdullah Abdullah's second deputy Mohammad Mohaqiq. Mohaqiq claimed the president had shouted at officials in national security council meetings.

"The important point is that government's key duties and the job of ministries should be clear, you cannot ask for logical budget spending while you are taking political decisions," said Ghani, referring to the Coalition to Rescue Afghanistan.

Ghani's remarks come just a few days after leaders from three mainstream Afghan political parties, including Jamiat-e-Islami party, Hizb-e-Wahdat-e-Islami party and Junbish-e-Milli party, agreed to establish a coalition entitled Coalition to Rescue Afghanistan. This was forged in the Turkish city of Ankara. The coalition's draft resolution listed a number of demands to government.

Ghani also talked about the absence of his First Vice President General Abdul Rashid Dostum.

"It is a legal and judicial issue; it is a case between two individuals and the government is totally neutral in this respect; he travelled with the permission of Afghanistan's Attorney General, because the law is very clear about this; if someone is suspected [of wrongdoing], but he is ill, he had a serious illness and travelled with the permission of the Attorney General of Afghanistan; I cannot comment on the legal and judicial issues," added Ghani.

He said that government will settle the issue of caretakers within six months.

"My commitment is quite clear and we need to overcome the issue of caretakers within six months; I don't want caretakers anywhere," said Ghani.

In conclusion, Ghani said that holding of the country's elections in a free and transparent manner were among the obligations of government.

President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani also said that the First Vice President General Abdul Rashid Dostum is in Turkey for the treatment based on the permission of the Attorney General's Office.

Speaking during a press conference in Kabul, President Ghani said a legal case exists between the First Vice President and Ahmad Ishchi.

However, he said an individual can leave the country in case of facing a severe health issue in accordance with the laws of the country, despite facing any legal case filed against him. (Tolnews/KP)

### (2) Latest Violence ...

with hardships since they were uprooted. She asked the government to improve the security situation so they could return to their homes and resume normal life.

"The Taliban captured our area and then both the Taliban and government started killing people. Our children live in tent in this hot weather and have fallen sick. No help has reached us so far," she said.

Rafu, another resident of Damshakh area, lashed out at the government for sending no assistance them so far. Meanwhile, Salam Hashami, refugees and repatriation director, said around 1,500 families in total had been displaced due to recent fighting in Kunduz.

He said their survey of the displaced families was underway and the families would be soon provided assistance. (Pajhwok)

### (3) Afghan-American...

journey was a huge achievement. "With this move, Shaesta Waiz proved that women and girls can have big dreams and can fulfill them," she said.

"Such trips are not easy. It needs hard work and lots of effort to make it happen," said Mohammad Shah Habibi, head of Independent Civil Aviation Authority.

Waiz said her flight around the world is not only a record but added that it is aimed at developing hope among the young generation.

"Really this trip was about women, all the women in this room and around the world, it is for you. The flight was for you. You caused this to happen. All of you need a motivation," she said.

Waiz started her solo flight two months ago. She has travelled to nine countries including Afghanistan.

India is her next destination. (Tolnews)

### (4) Wheat & ...

available for five months, with growers making use of the resource.

Wheat and barley are planted in October and November and harvested in May.

Satisfied with the quality and yield of wheat, growers say most of people used flour imported from Pakistan, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan.

Mohammad Sarwar, 40, a resident of Chakhansour district, said last year he had reaped two tonnes of wheat from 10 acres of land. But this year he collected five tonnes from six acres.

"This year, rains were so good and the River Khashrod water flow had been satisfactory for five months. Additionally, the crop was not attacked by diseases," he said.

"Unfortunately, the people of Nimroz use less wheat than flour. Only residents of the districts use wheat and the people of Zaranj prefer imported flour and this is why the crop receives less attention."

Sharifi confirmed most of the people made bread from imported flour.

According to the agriculture department's estimate, Nimroz has a population of 500,000, with each person consuming 160 kg of wheat a year.

Farmers are forced to transport their wheat to neighboring provinces for sale due to the fact that a number of the people of Nimroz use imported flour. (Pajhwok)

### (5) U.S Envoy ..

and I am very confident that when it is completed that the United States will have a very strong policy," the U.S ambassador added.

"the Taliban is so completely committed and embedded in the drug trafficking industry that this is now their priority," said William Rivington Brownfield, Assistant Secretary for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL).

The Afghan officials are however optimistic that America's new war strategy in Afghanistan would be helpful in tackling the ongoing security turmoil in the country, saying that Washington will likely increase pressure on the state sponsor of terrorists once the new strategy is announced. (Tolnews)

### (6) Afghan Sisters ...

national team for five years and brought home one gold medal, two silvers and a bronze medal from different tours - including tours to India, France, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, South Korea and Bahrain.

National cyclist Bahar Hafizi said the absence of the two cyclists would be a huge loss for the national squad.

This is the first time that two Afghan cyclists have been bought by a French club. (Tolnews)

### (7) CEO Pledges ...

international events.

After hearing from the football coach, officials and players, the CEO said: "We are aware that despite problems and difficulties, you have earned victory and pride for the country."

The CEO assured his office would meet financial requirements of the team until the federation recover from its financial crisis.

He added the team enjoyed respect in Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) just because of its achievements and the performance of the national federation. (Pajhwok)

### (8) Ghazni Residents ...

Rahmatullah, another resident of the provincial capital, held a similar view. He said most of government departments in the province had become fiefdom of strongmen.

He alleged that the present power utility head, who had been in office for 10 years, kept the electricity prices high and power distribution limited. "If provided electricity, Ghazni residents would be able to build factories and have job opportunities."

A number of other residents of the province have similar complaints.

Governor Abdul Karim Matin confirmed the problem, saying a kilowatt of electricity in other provinces of the country cost only three afghanis, a much lower amount than the 35 afghanis charged in Ghazni.

He explained the power tariff could not be reduced until Ghazni was supplied imported electricity.

Matin said he had discussed the problem with government officials, who had promised the issue would be resolved to a large extent in the province during the current solar year.

Da Afghanistan Breshna Sherkat

(DABS) head in Ghazni confirmed that a kilowatt of electricity cost 35 afghanis. "Our electricity supply in Ghazni is based on diesel, so we cannot reduce the price anymore," he argued, saying only 27 percent of Ghazni City residents had access to government-supplied electricity.

More than half of residents have seven hours access and the rest 24 hours access to the service. There is no government-provided electricity service in districts and people there use solar power. (Pajhwok)

### (9) Nature's Fury: ...

25 others, with another eight people missing.

The official said people fled homes and moved to high areas and mountains in neighbouring villages to save their lives but they were currently facing shortage of food.

Mullah Fakhruddin, a resident of Shaki district, said the floods over the past three days caused heavy damages to two villages and killed three people and injured 16 others in the district. He said of the 27 homes in Bikhwa village, only one home stayed intact and the rest were washed away by floodwater.

Qadruddin, a resident of Zaghar village in Nasi district, said if dams established on the Amu River breached, it would sweep away about 16 other villages located on the river's banks in Nasi, Shaki and Khawahan districts.

Sayed Abdullah Homayoon Dehqan, natural disaster management department head, said the emergency committee and aid institutions would hold a meeting today on how to manage and respond to the situation in the two districts.

He said the meeting would decide about relief items to be dispatched to the affected families. "Yesterday, we sent two helicopters loaded with tents, blankets and some cash for victim families in Rawanak village of Shaki district. Five injured in the village were also transferred to Faizabad hospital for treatment." (Pajhwok)

### (10) Wounded ...

world stage.

"I was so shattered when I lost my legs but now I am happy that I am back to life and want to achieve something through sport," Esa said from an army gym in Kabul where he was going through exercises for wheelchair volleyball and powerlifting, the two events he will be competing in.

"I am training for Canada and want to make my country proud and come back with an achievement," said Esa.

The Invictus Games were created three years ago by Britain's Prince Harry, who served two deployments in Afghanistan as an officer in the British army.

The name - "Invictus" means unconquered in Latin - symbolizes the way that sport can help wounded soldiers overcome trauma suffered in combat.

Esa lost his legs to a roadside bomb during a security patrol in northern Baghlan province two years ago, one of tens of thousands of Afghan soldiers and police to have been wounded since the U.S.-led campaign to oust the Taliban in 2001. Many thousands of others have been killed.

The Games have been held twice before, in London in 2014 and in Orlando, Florida in 2016. More than 550 competitors will take part in the competition in Toronto, from Sept 23-30.

Sports, with specially adapted rules, include archery, athletics, indoor rowing, wheelchair basketball, tennis and rugby and powerlifting.

The seven-member team is the largest Afghanistan has sent to the Invictus Games.

All of Esa's team mates have suffered severe injuries that have changed their lives but they say the focus needed to compete in the Games has provided a goal to channel their energies.

"I haven't lost hope, despite losing a leg and this sport gives me a lot of motivation," said Salahuddin Zahiri, another Afghan army soldier who will be competing in Canada. (Reuters)

### (11) Taliban and Civilians ...

statement further added that Gul was one of the prominent leaders of the Taliban who had major role in terrorist related activities in Alisheng district since a long time.

At least two policemen also lost their lives during the clashes and five others were wounded, the statement said, adding that the wounded policemen are currently receiving treatment in the hospital.

The provincial government also added that seven civilians also sustained injuries during the clashes between the

Taliban and security personnel.

According to the local officials, another Taliban commander identified as Abdul Hanif was killed and two others were wounded during a separate clash in Alisheng district on Monday. (KP)

(12) Taliban Commander

were wounded, Amini added.

According to Amini, Rahman was involved in the killing of 24 policemen in 2015 in Jalrez district.

Taliban has not yet commented. (Tolnews)

### (13) Samangan....

where in some areas the harvesting is still ongoing.

Farmers also complained about the decreased wheat yield. Mohammad Amin, a resident of Shorab village of Khurram Sarbagh district, recalled his eight acres of land produced 1750kgs of wheat last year. But this year due to drought and lack of rains, he collected 630kgs.

Meanwhile, Mohammad Rasool, another farmer hailing from Mullahtash Shirikyar village of Aibak, the provincial capital, said he cultivated two acres of rain-fed land with wheat crop, but it produced no grain due to the dry spell. Rasool said now he was obliged to sell his 15 sheep to buy wheat for consumption.

It's pertinent to mention here that the Ministry of Commerce and Industries has recently said Afghanistan is close to becoming self-sufficient in wheat and flour production. (Pajhwok)

### (14) Logar Acting...

for 10 years. Bashir Dariz, a resident of the area, said the deceased was his cousin. He was killed by Taliban this morning.

"The Taliban militants kidnapped him after leaving his home this morning and the rebels then killed him," he said. Dariz added his cousin had no personal enmity.

Around 20 days back, the provincial crime branch manager, Col. Mohammad Jan Abid, was also killed in a Taliban attack. (Pajhwok)

### (15) Sikh Gang in...

Mail, border officials were unable to distinguish between the illegal immigrants who masqueraded as the genuine passport holders because they were wearing turbans - which Sikh men are allowed to have on in their ID documents.

The accused, cousins Daljit Kapoor, 41 and Harmit Kapoor, 42, and Davinder Chawla, 43, a member of the same extended family had all previously pleaded guilty to running the scam which charged each family over \$12,000 USD. (Tolnews)

## MPs find 'evidence' about Torkham port corruption

JALALABAD - A parliamentary delegation on Tuesday claimed finding evidence suggesting corruption and irregularities remained endemic at the Torkham dry port in eastern Nangarhar province.

The lower house or Wolesi Jirga team, headed by Syed Hassan Sharifi Balkhbi, traveled to the port city after allegations of corruption at the customs offices of the port.

Balkhbi, who heads the house commission on reforms and judicial affairs, said the delegation had completed its report on corruption allegations at the customs offices, commissionerate, transport and municipality departments and the findings would be shared with the lower house soon.

"There is difference in figures with different departments about registered axel goods vehicles, which suggests that money is taken from some vehicles and others are not fined for exceeding the tare weight," he said.

He said the lawmakers after reading the report would summon the authorities concerned to grill them on corruption in the department.

The Nangarhar governor's spokesman, Attaullah Khogyani, said the parliamentarians met Governor Gulab Mangal and shared the purpose of their trip. Mangal assured the delegation of taking measures to eliminate corruption in the Torkham dry port and hoped all problems would be resolved gradually. (Pajhwok)

## Pakistan Ordered To Remove Check Posts From Afghan Territory

KABUL - The senior deputy minister of interior for security, Gen. Murad Ali Murad, said Pakistani forces have moved forward towards Afghan terri-

tory along the Durand Line

A senior military general has called on Pakistan to remove its installations on Afghan soil along the Durand Line - the de facto border between the two countries.

"They (Pakistani forces) have advanced (towards Afghan territory) and I order them to go back," said Gen. Murad Ali Murad, the senior deputy minister of interior for security.

Murad visited the Spinghar 303 Police Zone in Paktia province where he assessed the security situation in the southeastern provinces.

At the meeting with Murad, Paktia officials put their demands to the Ministry of Interior.

The Commander of the Spinghar 303 Police Zone, Asadullah Shirzai, urged the interior ministry to strengthen and increase the number of border check posts to address security threats.

"Our border check posts are not strong enough and we want these check posts to be strengthened," said Shirzai.

Paktia governor Shamim Katawazai said the number of police force members in the province is not enough.

He called on the interior ministry to increase the numbers and equip them with heavy weapons.

"There were some problems which are resolved now. The issue of heavy weapons is also under discussion," Katawazai said.

"Local police should be deployed to districts with no local police. Also, technical assistance and heavy weapons should be provided (to them)," said Paktia Police Chief Toryalai Abdiani.

Murad promised the security officials that the Interior Ministry would build more check posts and would provide more heavy and light weapons to the police force members to address the security threats properly. (Tolnews)

## U.S., Qatar sign MoU on combating terrorism financing

DOHA - The United States and Qatar signed an agreement on Tuesday aimed at combating the financing of terrorism, as U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson visited Doha to try to end a month-long rift between Western-allied Arab states. Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates and Egypt imposed sanctions on Qatar last month, accusing it of financing extremist groups and allying with the Gulf Arab states' arch-foe Iran, allegations Doha denies.

Tillerson said the agreement signed with his Qatari counterpart, Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman al-Thani, had been under discussion for months.

"The agreement which we both have signed on behalf of our governments represents weeks of intensive discussions between experts and reinvigorates the spirit of the Riyadh summit," Tillerson said at a joint news conference with Sheikh Mohammed.

U.S. President Donald Trump met representatives of Arab states during a visit to Saudi Arabia in May.

"The memorandum lays out a series of steps that each country will take in coming months and years to interrupt and disable terror financing flows and intensify counter terrorism activities globally," Tillerson added.

Sheikh Mohammed said the agreement was not linked to the crisis with the four Arab countries, which the United States fears could impact its military and counter-terrorism operations and increase Iran's influence in the region.

Tehran has sent food supplies to Qatar and allows the country's carrier to fly through its airspace.

Qatar denies it supports militant organizations and says the boycott is part of a campaign to rein in its independent foreign policy.

"Today, the state of Qatar was the first to sign the executive program with the United States to fight terrorism financing," Sheikh Mohammed told the news conference.

Tillerson said the agreement includes milestones to ensure both countries are accountable through their commitments.

"Together the United States and Qatar will do more to track down funding sources, will do more to collaborate and share information and will do more to keep the region ... safe," Tillerson said. Egypt later said at a meeting of the U.S.-led coalition against Islamic State in Washington that the coalition should not include member states that supported terrorism, like Qatar.

Accompanied by Kuwaiti mediators, Tillerson flew to Doha on Tuesday for talks with the Emir of Qatar, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani, over the crisis. He said he was due to travel to Saudi Arabia for talks with officials from the four Arab countries.

On Monday, he and British National Security Advisor Mark Sedwill met with officials from Kuwait in order to patch up the row among the Western-allied countries. (Reuters)