

### (1) Ghani Vows...

soldier and every police officer — every police man and woman will be verified... based on the biometrics," he responded. "We will be sure that they, they exist... [and that] they can serve at the highest level of the Afghanistan national defense security forces."

Ghani promised that Afghanistan will also ensure that there is a system in place that admits competent ANDSF recruits.

On Saturday, the U.S. and NATO committed to a "long haul" plan to provide financial support to the struggling ANDSF, with U.S. taxpayers continuing to pick up most of the tab.

The Afghan security forces are projected to receive up to \$5 billion a year in funding through 2020, including about \$3.5 billion from the United States, an estimated \$1 billion from the international community, and nearly \$420 million from Afghanistan.

Military.com reports that the funding "agreements announced at the NATO summit in Warsaw essentially met the requests of Afghan President Ashraf Ghani and Chief Executive Abdullah Abdullah, who came to the conference with a long wish list and met with President Barack Obama."

"These funding commitments will allow the ANDSF to maintain its authorized force level of 352,000 personnel (including Afghan military, national police and local police) through 2020," notes the White House.

Nevertheless, SIGAR argues that neither the United States nor Afghanistan know the actual size of the ANDSF. (Agencies)

### (2) Lawmakers ...

is now preparing for the summer recess, resulting in an increase of calls on the joint parliamentary commission to start work as soon as possible to finalize the legislative decree.

"The government must be cautious about the challenges created for it by the commissioners of the election commission. These commissioners do not want the reform process to be implemented, because of their personal interests," MP Mohammad Abdoh said. "There are several options. The first is to wait for the summer recess to end. The second option is to issue the legislative decree to implement the election reform process. The third option is to refer the matter to the special commission overseeing implementation of the constitution or the Supreme Court," said Mohammad Natiqi, chief of their commission overseeing implementation of the political agreement.

Despite controversies, the ERC chief says that the president's legislative decree is already in place.

"The legislative decree of the president of Afghanistan already has implementation status. I think it was even better if the selection committee had started its work on the basis of presidential order and article 79 of the constitution of Afghanistan instead of postponing its work," Akifi added. If the presidential legislative decree was already in place, what else hindering the process, critics have asked. (Tolonews)

### (3) Denmark Vows...

faced by Afghan migrants in Europe and the Danish foreign minister promised help in finding jobs for Afghan migrants after their return to home country by promoting vocational education. Meanwhile, Kristian Jensen was also called on Chief Executive Officer Abdullah Abdullah, a statement from the CEO's office said. The two discussed latest changes in political and security situations, electoral reforms, holding elections, anti-corruption campaign and continued cooperation between the two countries.

The statement quoted the Danish foreign minister saying that his country would continue to help bring peace and stability to Afghanistan. (Pajhwok)

### (4) New Authority...

powers, the general said, he could have struck areas where the Taliban fighters were massing to begin the siege on the city. At NATO Summit in Warsaw, Poland, officials on Saturday committed at least 12,000 troops from the 39 alliance and partner nations to the Resolute Support train-and-advise mission in Afghanistan. Coalition nations stepped up to commit to continuing the mission after Obama last week pledged to leave 8, through the 400 American troops in Afghanistan end of his presidency, backtracking on his earlier plan to draw down to 5,500 troops. (Tolonews)

### (5) US will Not ...

of North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), has reiterated that the west will not allow Afghanistan to be changed into a terrorist hideout once again. "Our military mission in Afghanistan is our biggest military operation ever. The reason why we are in Afghanistan, is to fight international terrorism and to prevent that Afghanistan once again becoming a safe haven for international terrorists. We also de-

cidated to step up our support for Iraq," NATO chief Stoltenberg said.

Senator McCain said that Pakistan must not be isolated. Shat such a step will encourage China to help Pakistan.

"I think it is very obvious that the Haqqani network is still operating effectively and it has created major problems for Afghanistan," said McCain. (Tolonews)

### (6) Asia Foundation...

"On the 4th of July we signed a memorandum of understanding with the ministry of higher education on the basis of which, the ministry of higher education will give us the names of those girls who despite scoring good marks failed in the university entrance exams. We will talk to the families of these girls and assess their situations. If they are eligible, we will pave the way for them to continue their education in bachelor and masters' degree in India," said Suraya Omar, an AF official who involved in Promote Scholarships.

The Asia Foundation has called on all private universities interested in these scholarships to guarantee the quality of their education in order to avoid wastage of the USAID money spent on the program.

"The process is fully transparent, the ministry of higher education will not allow anyone to intervene in the process, we have our own sovereignty," said Faisal Amin, spokesman to ministry of higher education.

Still the number of female students in 172 private and government run universities is quite low compared to male students.

Mohammad is a street vendor who could not afford his daughter's get admission to a private university.

"The government must help the girls to continue their education in the private sector and build their future. I earn 300 Afs a day and I can hardly afford my daily expenses," he said.

Girls who scored 150 or 180 marks in the university entrance exams are encouraged to apply for promote scholarships. \$16 million has been allocated by the USAID for the 900 scholarships. (KP)

### (7) India Provides...

Government of Afghanistan. The ceremony was held in the presence of H.E. Dr. Abdullah Abdullah, Chief Executive of Afghanistan.

Given the importance it attaches to its Small Development Project scheme, Government of India has decided to enhance the outlay further to US\$ 200 million by 2020. We look forward to design and implement even more meaningful projects in future that will improve the lives of our Afghan friends across the length and breadth of Afghanistan. It said. (PR)

### (8) Delayed Anti-...

must start its operations by holding corrupt officials accountable," political analyst Najib Mahajir said.

Back in June, the Afghan government officially announced the inauguration of Anti-corruption justice center in an attempt to bring corrupt government officials to justice. (Tolonews)

### (9) Pakistan Should ...

However, he said "At the same time — and we've made this point before — we've been very clear that Pakistan must target all militant groups, including those that target Pakistan's neighbors, and close all safe havens. And so in this regard we certainly welcome comments by General Raheel Sharif's — Sharif, rather, on July 6, when he directed Pakistani military commanders, intelligence agencies, and law enforcement agencies to take concrete measures to deny any militant groups safe haven or the use of Pakistani soil to launch terrorist attacks in Afghanistan." The remarks by Toner comes as the Afghan officials believe the leadership councils of the Afghan militant groups, including the Taliban group and the notorious Haqqani terrorist network has remained intact despite the ongoing military operations by Pakistan. The Afghan officials have long been raising concerns regarding the presence of the Taliban group and Haqqani network leadership councils in Pakistan.

They are saying that the two groups are having leadership councils based in both Quetta and Peshawar cities of Pakistan from where they launch attacks in Afghanistan. (KP)

### (10) France Attack

said the attack on the civilians was 'barbaric, inhuman, unforgivable and unjustifiable.' The Afghan leader said terrorism new no borders and religions and was a threat to the entire world.

The president once again insisted on joint struggle and campaign against the menace of terrorism as he expressed his condolences and sympathy with the people and the government of France. The president prayed for early recovery of those injured in the truck attack. Images on television showed the Promenade Des Anglais sealed off, crawling with police and ambulances and authorities from the local Alpes-Mari-

times prefecture urged residents to stay indoors.

US President Barack Obama condemned "what appears to be a horrific terrorist attack", although no group had claimed responsibility for the incident.

Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif said the government and people of Pakistan were deeply saddened by the attack.

"Being the frontline state in the war against terror, Pakistan itself has suffered immensely and has seen a series of tragedies," he said.

Leading Muslim clerics joined Gulf Arab leaders on Friday in condemning the truck attack that killed at least 84 revellers in the Mediterranean resort of Nice on France's national holiday.

Egypt's top Muslim cleric Shawki Alalam condemned the assailant as an "extremist" who "follows in the footsteps of the devil."

"The Gulf Cooperation Council states stand in solidarity with the French republic following this cowardly criminal incident whose perpetrators have been stripped of all moral and human values," the bloc's secretary general, Abdulatif al-Zayani, said.

Regional heavyweight Saudi Arabia issued its own statement condemning the "heinous terrorist" act, adding that it stands in "solidarity" with France and will "cooperate with it in confronting terrorist acts in all their forms."

United Arab Emirates Foreign Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed al-Nahyan said: "This heinous terrorist crime makes it imperative for all to work decisively and without hesitation to counter terrorism in all its forms and manifestations."

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau wrote on Twitter: "Canadians are shocked by tonight's attack in Nice. Our sympathy is with the victims, and our solidarity with the French people." Turkish Prime Minister Binali Yildirim condemned the "cowardly terrorist attack that has bloodied Nice on this national celebration day".

Chinese Premier Li Keqiang offered his "condolences" to the victims and said China opposed all forms of terrorism.

The United Nations Security Council called the attack "barbaric and cowardly".

Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy evoked "the pain of all good people, who are potential victims of barbarism, folly and the greatest contempt for human life". (Pajhwok)

### (11) No Plans...

participate in direct peace talks with the Taliban group earlier in March this year after the Quadrilateral Coordination Group started talks to revive the Afghan peace talks.

Afghanistan, Pakistan, China and US officials met for five times in Islamabad and Kabul and called on Taliban group to participate in direct peace talks.

However, the Taliban group rejected the offer and opted to continue insurgency in the country by announcing its annual spring offensive in April this year. The group staged numerous deadly attacks across the country including a major attack on VIP protection unit in Kabul which left at least 64 people dead and over 300 others wounded. The attack by the Taliban group forced the Afghan government to start a military crackdown against the groups pursuing violence and urged Pakistan to take actions against the same groups in its soil. (KP)

### (12) Human Rights ...

According to Afghan law, children under the age of 14 years are banned from working, but extreme poverty leads them to leave school and take the jobs that adults reject for being too dangerous.

According to the report, 25 percent of children aged 5 to 14 years and 22 percent of those aged 12 to 14 years are affected by this scourge.

Activists and humanitarian organizations based in Kabul have asked the government not only to enact a law to ban child labor, but to design a strategy that ensures that it does not happen. (Monitoring Desk)

### (13) Baghlan Police...

operations in the province and the security forces were ready and prepared to defend the soil and the people and would never allow the enemies to reach their goals.

A resident of Pul-i-Khumri, the provincial capital, said militants operated two kilometers from the provincial capital. He urged the government to pay special attention to the security of the city and on highways in order people could be rescued from the bad security environment. (Pajhwok)

### (14) Pakistan ...

gas reserves existed in the two neighborhoods. But Governor Ilyas Wahdat rejected the claims as untrue, saying a government delegation would be dispatched to the area to assess the situation. Pakistani and Afghan forces recently traded fire over the construction of a gate in Torkham. (Pajhwok)

### (15) 62 Insurgents, ...

killed along with 15 associates in the Greshk district of southern Helmand province and another nine were wounded, it said, adding 23 Taliban fighters were killed in Kandahar's Maidan district.

Nine militants were killed and seven others were wounded in Raghistan district of northeastern Badakhshan province, the MoD statement said. Ten militants were killed and a dozen more wounded during operations in Nangarhar's Kot district, Paktika's Bar-mal and Orgun districts and Maidan Wardak province's Chak and Ghazni's Maqur districts.

During the operations, seven Afghan National Army troops lost their lives, the statement said.

The insurgents have said nothing in this regard. (Pajhwok)

### (16) Great Pressure ...

our former chairmen of the joint chiefs called it a virtual arm of the ISI. It is also clear that the Pakistani military and Pakistani intelligence provide sanctuary and support for the Taliban, an extremist organization that provided sanctuary to Al-Qaeda in the early period," former US ambassador to Afghanistan, Zalmi Khalilzad, said.

Kabul still insists on convincing Pakistan to avoid distinction between the terrorists.

"The global consensus is that the government of Afghanistan and its people have full legitimacy," said Sayed Zafar Hashemi, deputy presidential spokesman.

Washington has of late been taking a tougher stance on Pakistan over that country's counter-terrorism policy.

Washington has warned Pakistan of harmful consequences unless it takes the needed steps and stop supporting terrorism.

"The U.S has now decided to increase pressure on Pakistan to convince Pakistan that it cannot longer deceive the world by pursuing double standard policies, if Pakistan does not act, undoubtedly, it will be the second North Korea," political analyst Haroon Mir said.

CIA director John Brennan Thursday said that the next US president will continue to support air strikes against militants without consulting any world leaders, including Pakistani leaders.

He said that the Taliban and its brutal offshoot, the Haqqani network, continue to wage war in Afghanistan.

Speaking to participants at the Brookings Institute in Washington, Brennan said that the air strikes were key to repressing the insurgents on the battlefields. He added that the killing of former Taliban leader, Mullah Akhtar Mansour, was an intentional decision.

"The Taliban, in particular its subgroup, the Haqqanis, have been determined and continue to carry out attacks. They have at times also been successful against US personnel inside of Afghanistan. The president (Barack Obama) has emphasized many times that he is going to do what was necessary to protect the security of the Americans both here and abroad, and so the decision was made," said CIA chief Brennan. Amid new developments, there are some rumors that division between Taliban leader Mullah Hibatullah Akhundzada and his deputies have increased in recent weeks.

"There are tensions between Haqqani and Hibatullah and the clashes in various regions indicate that Afghanistan is implementing the right security strategy in line with the current policies. Pakistan, on the other hand, has no option except going to isolation," former minister of interior Mujtaba Pantang said.

The US congressional committee on foreign relations has also called for a ban on sanctuaries for terrorists under the protection of the Pakistani military. The congressional committee has said that Pakistan must be added to the list of state sponsor of terrorism if it did not stop supporting terrorism. (Tolonews)

### (17) 3 Doctors...

cooperation with local elders had been launched to secure the release of the doctors. The Taliban have said nothing so far about the incident. But a man, who introduced himself as a local Taliban commander, told Pajhwok Afghan News over the telephone that they had captured the three doctors. (Pajhwok)

### (18) Bulgarian PM ...

that the continuing strikes in Syria and Iraq also are being accompanied by huge casualties and human tragedies. A race was starting for armaments, for escalation and for measures that actually generate more death and destruction. Speaking at the Breeze 2016 exercise, he said that the exercise was intended to show the readiness of the army and the police for joint action. "They must be able to respond to any aggressor, but we ministers and politicians are the ones who should expend every effort at all levels to limit to the maximum degree the possibility of confrontations and deadly conflicts". (Agencies)

### (19) Umar Khalifa...

relevance it has to Pakistan's and Afghanistan's security underscores the common security interests shared by the United States, Afghanistan, and Pakistan on matters of terrorism, Cook continued.

"The United States maintains a robust counter-terrorism partnership with Afghanistan and Pakistan," Cook said, "and we recognize the sacrifices made on behalf of our respective militaries to pursue terrorists for the sake of regional peace and security."

Cook added, "Only through continued cooperation will we collectively succeed in eliminating terrorist safe havens in the region. In this regard we also recognize the importance of Pakistan's chief of army staff's recent directive to all commanders, intelligence agencies and law enforcement agencies to take concrete measures against those who would attack Afghanistan." (KP)

### (20) Ireland Beat...

departed with 64 still required but Joyce and Paul Stirling, with 39 not out, guided Ireland home.

Having won the second ODI by 36 runs on Tuesday after Sunday's opener was abandoned, Afghanistan let a promising position slip.

They appeared comfortable at 139-3 in the 32nd over until they lost four wickets for 31 runs, including Shahzad. Mohammad Nabi made 40 as Afghanistan were bowled out in the final over.

Stormont also hosts the fourth and fifth ODIs on Sunday and Tuesday respectively. (Pajhwok)

### (21) Unknown Gunmen...

district hospital, he added.

But Balkh police spokesman Sher Jan Durrani rejected the killing of the attorney in Dawlatabad district, saying no such incident had taken place there. (Pajhwok)

### (22) 2 of a Family...

district and the two others were injured in the 11th police district," the official said.

He said the injured persons were under treatment at a hospital. Barmak said a suspect had been arrested in connection with the incident and an investigation was underway.

A resident of the area, Wahid Aziz, said the incident took place 50 metres away from a security post in the 500-family area's square. He said three persons were killed and a fourth injured in the attack. All the victims belonged to the same family, he added. (Pajhwok)

### (23) Afghanistan Cricket...

sent to India, potentially Afghanistan Cricket Board will be in a better position than where we are right now, scheduling ODIs with India and scheduling ODIs with teams travelling to India on an annual basis," Stanikzai said.

"But still, it will be bilateral ties. If a travelling team to India wants to play us in India, it is totally up to them."

In a way, this arrangement will be similar to Ireland, who frequently play ODIs against the full member teams visiting England.

Citing Ireland's geographical advantage, Stanikzai revealed that it has become a challenge for Afghanistan to arrange

### (24) Terror Attack...

games with the full members since their induction into the Future Tours Program. (KP)

### (25) U.S. Official...

and Senate Finance Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch introduced a resolution calling on the Obama administration to begin discussions with Britain about a possible bilateral trade agreement. The resolution also called on the administration to consult with Congress to promote further commercial activity and cooperation between the United States and Britain. (Xinhua)

### (26) Italy Strengthens ...

cluding a couple whose daughter-in-law posted a desperate message on a social network searching for them, according to local media. Italian diplomatic sources quoted by Rai state television confirmed there could be some Italian nationals among the victims. (Xinhua)

### (27) UN Court...

victim to a range of crimes, including human trafficking, according to Cuban officials. "There can be no normal migratory ties between the two countries as long as these policies continue to exist," the ministry said. In December, Cuba's government reinstated a travel

restriction on medical professionals in a bid to forestall a possible shortage of doctors, surgeons and other healthcare workers, who are also targets of selective U.S. immigration policy called the Cuban Medical Professional Parole Program. (Xinhua)

### (28) New British...

wanted to discuss options to protect Scottish interests in areas including trade, university research, the rights of workers, and influence on global policy such as climate change. On Thursday, new British Chancellor Philip Hammond dismissed the prospect of the Scottish government seeking a separate deal on relations with the EU after the Brexit vote in which the majority in Scotland chose to remain. (Xinhua)

### (29) Over 978,000...

"The United Nations continues to call on all parties, particularly the Syrian authorities, to allow for all necessary humanitarian aid, including medical supplies and surgical items, to be allowed onto convoys, as well as the deployment of medical teams or medical evacuations where necessary," he said. (Xinhua)

### (30) DPRK Defector...

information about the DPRK. Evidence shown at the press conference includes a flashlight, two rubber boats employed to carry the kidnapped girls, new clothes to be given to the children, mobile phones he used to contact South Korean intelligence and a room card of a hotel where he stayed. (Xinhua)

### (31) Cuba Urges...

legal, safe and orderly emigration," the ministry said.

Cubans gambling on reaching U.S. shores via makeshift rafts and other precarious means can fall victim to a range of crimes, including human trafficking, according to Cuban officials. (Xinhua)

### (32) India Announces...

2. FDI limit for defence sector has also been made applicable to Manufacturing of Small Arms and Ammunitions covered under Arms Act 1959.

3. Pharmaceutical: With the objective of promoting the development of this sector, it has been decided to permit up to 74% FDI under automatic route in brown field pharmaceuticals and Government approval route beyond 74% will continue.

4. Civil aviation: It has been decided to permit 100% FDI under automatic route in Brownfield Airport projects. Government of India has now decided to raise the limit to 100% with FDI up to 49% permitted under automatic route and FDI beyond 49% through Government approval.

5. Review of Entry Routes in Broadcasting Carriage Services: Government of India has decided to permit 100% FDI in this sector. FDI policy on Broadcasting Carriage Services has also been amended.

6. Private Security Agencies: Present policy permits 49% FDI under Government approval route through Private Security Agencies. FDI upto 49% is now permitted under automatic route in this sector and beyond 49% and upto 74% would be permitted under Government's approval route.

7. Animal Husbandry: As per FDI policy 2016, Foreign Direct Investment in Animal Husbandry, Pisciculture, Aquaculture and Apiculture is allowed 100% under automatic route under controlled conditions. It has been decided to do away with this requirement of within 'controlled conditions' for FDI in these activities. 8. Single Brand Retail Trading: It has now been decided to relax local sourcing norms upto 3 years and a relaxed sourcing regime for another 5 years for entities undertaking Single Brand Retail Trading of products having state of art and cutting edge technology. (PR)

### (33) UNSC Slams...

who gathered on the promenade to watch a fireworks show marking the French national day.

This incident was earlier reportedly described by the prefecture of the Alpes-Maritimes as an "attack" and a probe was launched to determine whether the driver acted alone, according to French Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve. (Xinhua)

### (34) Coriant Chosen...

demand for backbone capacity driven by high-bandwidth end-user services and applications, including LTE, mobile backhaul, e-government, data centre interconnect (DCI), and residential Internet access.

"Our new state-of-the-art backbone network will play a critical role in meeting the current and future communications needs of all of our citizens, while creating a strong foundation for economic development and regional cooperation," said a representative of the Ministry of Communications. "We chose Coriant as a partner for this project because of their demonstrated technical leadership and highly competitive offering." (Agencies)