

Quote of the Day

Education without values, as useful as it is, seems rather to make man a more clever devil.
C. S. Lewis (1898 - 1963)

161 Dead in Military Coup Attempt: Turkey

ANKARA - Turkey's prime minister said on Saturday that at least 161 people were killed and 1,440 wounded in the coup attempt that swept the country on Friday night but was foiled by Saturday morning. Binali Yildirim was speaking outside his Cankaya palace in Ankara and accompanied by top general Hulusi Akar who was held during the coup attempt. As many as 2,839 soldiers are now detained over suspicion of involvement in the failed coup.



"Those who form the backbone of the coup have been taken into custody and arrests are still being made," Yildirim said. He vowed to consider enacting a death penalty, which is not included in Turkey's constitution, "to make sure this will not happen again." The prime minister added that a parliamentary meeting will be held later in the day to discuss the coup attempt. He warned any country against supporting Islamic cleric Fethullah Gulen, ...*(More on P4)...(1)*

Kabul Supports Turkey's Elected Govt. Following Coup Attempt

KABUL - The Afghan government on Saturday supported the elected government in Turkey and said it that coup attempts are the main hurdles before democracy, the Presidential Palace said in a statement on Saturday. Kabul believes that the people and government of Afghanistan have bitter experiences from coup attempts and that they see elected governments as the most effective way to transfer power peacefully, the statement said. It added that the government and the people of Afghanistan believe that coup attempts are the main barriers for democracy, stability and development; therefore, Kabul is concerned about the coup attempt in Turkey. The statement ...*(More on P4)...(2)*

Kabul Municipality Sets Deadline for Unpaid Dues

KABUL - The Kabul municipality on Saturday set a week-long deadline for individuals and companies failing to clear dues they owe to the municipality. Acting Mayor Ibadullah Habibzai announced the deadline at a press conference here in the presence of officials from the Interior Ministry, the 101 Asmae Zone police and the Attorney General's Office. The mayor said some individuals and market owners owed a total of four billion afghanis to the municipality in taxes and other arrears. He said after the deadline's expiry, the individuals and companies concerned would be referred to the judicial organs. He said the Dubai Market had to in rent 60 million afghanis, ...*(More on P4)...(4)*

Critics Urge Ghani to Track his War Orders



KABUL - Political experts and a number of lawmakers in parliament Saturday criticized President Ashraf Ghani for not putting his words into practice, saying that there is a huge gap between his words and his actions on a wide range of issues including his orders to eliminate insurgents. "Whenever the president issues an order or direction, he must follow it up," MP Sayed Ali Kazemi said. Reacting to Ghani's recent remarks on Daesh, the critics said that he had issued the same order against the Taliban militants, however his orders so far have not resulted in significant achievements. On Friday, Ghani ordered the Afghan security forces to be ready for a 'decisive battle' with Daesh outfits in the eastern regions of the war-torn country. He asked the Afghan security forces to eliminate Daesh in the east in the coming weeks. At a meeting with top military commanders of 201 Selab Army Corps on Friday, the Afghan leader declared Daesh militant group an external phenomenon, asking government forces to repress the brutal ...*(More on P4)...(5)*

Govt. Fully Committed to Electoral Reform, Elections: Ghani

KABUL - President Ashraf Ghani has said the national unity government is fully committed to electoral reform and to holding free and fair parliamentary and district elections. The president, who convened a meeting with United Nations Secretary-General's Special Representative for Afghanistan Tadamichi Yamamoto, told the UN envoy and others in attendance that they would pursue electoral reform with full respect to parliament's role. A statement from the Presidential Palace in English quoted the

president as saying his government was looking forward to parliament's favorable decision on the electoral law. He emphasized that in order to provide for full inclusivity, it was necessary that members of parliament discuss and debate the law in detail. Chief Executive Officer Abdullah Abdullah and other government officials and several ambassadors representing Afghanistan's international partners, participated in the meeting. The president and the CEO both expressed the importance for



members of Wolesi Jirga to facilitate the reform process and approve the law in the joint committee before going to recess. During the meeting, the UN envoy ...*(More on P4)...(3)*

WJ Fails Again to Name Joint Team's Members

KABUL - The Wolesi Jirga or lower house of parliament on Saturday failed for a third time to introduce members for a joint parliamentary commission to be tasked with deciding the fate of the president's legislative decree on electoral reform. Election reforms are a key point of the unity government agreement between then presidential runners Ashraf Ghani and Abdullah Abdullah. The president had issued two legislative decrees in this regard, but the Wolesi Jirga rejected them both. The first decree was thrown out by the Meshrano Jirga too, but the upper house ap-



proved the second decree last month. Due to differences over approval of the decree by the Senate, the issue was referred to a joint parliamentary team. Article 100 of the Constitution says: "If one house rejects decisions of the other, a joint commission comprised of an equal number of members from each shall be formed to resolve the differences. The decision of the commission, after endorsement by the president, shall be enforced." "If the ...*(More on P4)...(6)*

Peace can't be Advanced Thru Leaked Documents: US

WASHINGTON - The United States on Friday declined commenting on the authenticity of leaked documents establishing linking Pakistan with terrorist groups, saying the cause of peace could not be advanced through such moves. "We are not in a position to comment on the documents or speculate about their authenticity," a State Department spokesperson told Pajhwok Afghan News after former Afghanistan's ex-spy-master claims the documents showed Pakistan's links with terrorist groups. The spokesperson said: "We don't believe the cause of peace is advanced through media allegations and



documents leaked by former government officials." The official added the US had consistently conveyed its deep concern to the government of Pakistan about terrorist sanctuaries that afforded extremists the ability to undermine Afghanistan's stability and target coalition forces. "We have urged the government of Pakistan to redouble its commitment to counterterrorism cooperation with Afghanistan against all groups that pose a long-term security threat to the region," the official said. He welcomed Gen. Raheel Sharif's ...*(More on P4)...(7)*

Ghani Calls PM Nawaz, Congratulates Him over Killing of APS Attack Mastermind

ISLAMABAD - Afghan President Ashraf Ghani on Saturday telephoned Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and informed him about the killing of Umar Naray, the mastermind of Peshawar's Army Public School massacre. According to a statement released from the Prime Minister's Office, the Afghan President said that the APS massacre was a great tragedy for Pakistan and the world, and the perpetrators were punished for their heinous act. The prime minister thanked Afghan president for eliminating terrorists responsible for the tragedy and expressed his resolve of taking Pakistan's own anti-terror operation to its logical end. "Pa-



kistan is fully committed to eliminate the last terrorist from its soil," said the PM, adding that the country's security forces have given innumerable sacrifices for the purpose. "Terrorism is a common threat and must be eliminated through better coordination," the prime minister said. Afghan president also inquired after the prime minister's ...*(More on P4)...(8)*

US Provides 4 Scanning Devices to Afghan Forces

KABUL - The United States on Saturday delivered four scanning devices to the Afghan police to help them detect explosives and other such lethal materials. The General Commander of Kabul Garrison, Lt. Gen. Gul Nabi Ahmadzai, who received the scanners here, told reporters the devices were highly important keeping in view the needs of Afghan police. He said the modern equipment would contribute to improvement in the security situation as they could detect explosives. With their installation, deadly attacks could be prevented, he said. Ahmadzai said the devices were easily movable to a suspected area and it could detect suspected materials and individuals. Meanwhile, William Mellott, deputy regional operational security chief at the US Embassy in Kabul said the equipment they handed over to the Kabul Garrison's general commander would enable Afghan security forces to ...*(More on P4)...(9)*

Major Operation to Kick off Against ISIS in East of Afghanistan: Ghani

KABUL - The Afghan President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani has ordered the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces (ANDSF) to launch a major offensive against the loyalists of Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) terrorist group in eastern Nangarhar

province. President Ghani was speaking to the Afghan forces during a visit to Nangarhar province on Friday and said the main purpose of the operation would be to eliminate the loyalists of the terror group from Nangarhar. He said the main

focus of the annual Shafaq military operation, which is currently being conducted across the country, would be Nangarhar province from next week. Questioning the presence and participation of the loyalists of the ...*(More on P4)...(10)*

Ireland Vs Afghanistan, 4th ODI: Prediction, Betting Odds and Possible XI

KABUL - Hosts Ireland finally registered their first win of the series, beating Afghanistan by six wickets in the third One Day International (ODI) on 14 July. Set 237 to win the game, the hosts looked in no trouble, cruising to the target with 15-balls to spare. Ed

Joyce and Kevin O'Brien played key roles in the win, Joyce scored an unbeaten 105 runs, his fourth ODI ton while O'Brien put on a show of all-round excellence scoring a quick fire 75 runs while also taking three wickets for 28 runs. Ireland have not

played to their potential in the last few series including the 2016 ICC T20 World Cup, but here they played to their strengths which is a good sign going forward in the series. The visitors, coming off a win in the second match of the ...*(More on P4)...(11)*