

**(1) 110 'Corrupt' ...**

one should be able to interfere in its activities. The center should investigate important corruption cases in a transparent manner," he added.

Sayed Akram Afzali, head of Integrity Watch Afghanistan, said incumbent government officials who are charged with corruption should face judicial process by the center.

"We expected the center to start its activities as soon as possible. We also expected that the best officials be appointed to the center," Afzali added.

Combating endemic corruption in public offices is one of the main demands from the people of government. (Tolonews)

**(2) Unity Govt...**

the CEO promised.

The envoy said the UN accorded priority to the Afghan government's fight against graft, plans for reconciliation and electoral reforms. He asked the Ashraf Ghani administration to keep the promises held out to international partners.

Earlier in the week, President Ashraf Ghani assured the diplomat his government was fully committed to electoral reform and holding free and fair parliamentary and district polls. He also announced the allocation of \$10 million to fund poll preparations. (Pajhwok)

**(3) Lawmakers Urge ...**

against children," she added.

A representative from Kunduz province, Fatima Azizi said that Afghan labor children's situation was a matter of serious concern as thousands of children have to tolerate physical violence on a daily basis due to poverty.

She accused the government on negligence about children's situation and said, "The government has no a decisive plan for improving labor children's situation in the country." She added that sometimes the Taliban also use the children as tools during fighting against the government.

Negligence about labor children's situation would have unpleasant consequences in the future, Azizi added.

The first deputy speaker of Wolesi Jirga, Haji Zahir Qadir, also expressed concern about the labor children's situation and demanded government's urgent attention on the regard.

He said labor children were vulnerable than any other group of society and they needed effective programs for improving their situation. (Pajhwok)

**(4) Afghan Team ...**

Pakistan's northwestern city of Peshawar over the past six months. Based on growing complaints of street crimes, robberies, target killings, mobile-snatching and car-lifting, the arrests were made during various search and strike operations by the police.

A report from the police department said a campaign had been launched against outlaws in cantonment and rural areas on the directives of Senior Superintendent of Police Abbas Majeed Marwat. It added 8,220 Afghan refugees without proper documentation were detained. Some of the illegal foreigners were also found to be involved in various criminal activities, the report claimed. (Pajhwok)

**(5) 4 Employees ...**

impact on telecom sector in the province.

He said Taliban force telecom companies to turn off their services during the night. However, he said the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology was ready to pay compensate any damage by the Taliban caused by insurgent groups to private companies.

The militants have not yet commented about the incident. (Pajhwok)

**(6) 70 Displaced ..**

houses were demolished by the security personnel on Sunday. Notices have been served on Afghan citizens to vacate their houses in different parts of the agency, include Jamrud, Shahkas, Jaba and Ghundai.

Elsewhere in the northwest, at least 70 displaced families returned to Parachinar from Afghanistan. The households had migrated to Afghanistan due to a military operation in North Waziristan.

The families returned to Kurram through the Kharlachi, Shaheedano Dand border areas and arrived in Bannu district. (Pajhwok)

**(7) Wolesi Jirga...**

Kalimzai, Maulvi Mohiuddin Munsif, Mohammad Hassan Hotak, Farhad Sakhi, Aziz Musleh, Anarkali Hunaryar and Seddiqa Balkhi.

He said the nominees were introduced by the Justice Commission of the Wolesi Jirga, which was expected to introduce its members last Thursday, but failed to do so. Haji Zahir Qadir, the first deputy speaker, introduced Qudratullah Zaki, Seddiq Ahmad Osmani, Najia Babakarkhel, Abdul Qadir Zazai, Nisar Ahmad Faizi Ghorzani, Obaidullah Barakzai, Haji Mohammad Saleh, Kubra Mustafawi, Mohammad Hashim Mehdawi and Mohammad Sarwar Osmani as nominees for the commission.

Of the 127 lawmakers present, 112 voted in favour of the nominees while 15 voted against them.

The completion of the joint team would pave the ground for resolving differences over the president's legislative decree regarding electoral reforms. If approved, the decree will help clean up election system. (Pajhwok)

**(8) Taliban Issues...**

anyone else rather we seek to live alongside others in an atmosphere of mutual understanding."

The statement by the Taliban group comes as there are concerns certain militant groups are attempting to infiltrate into the Central Asian countries by expanding their insurgency activities in Afghanistan.

The leaders of the States are mainly concerned regarding the attempts made by the loyalists of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) terrorist group to expand foothold and operations in Afghanistan and the region.

In the meantime, the Afghan officials are saying that foreign insurgents belonging to the regional countries, including Tajikistan are fighting along with the other militant groups in Afghanistan. (KP)

**(9) Sudden Spike...**

gun fire. The motive behind this act is not known," said Fraidoon Obaidi, head of Crime Investigation Department in Kabul.

Police figures show that crime has decreased up to 20 percent in Kabul this month compared to the same period in last month. From May 20 to June 20, 333 serious criminal incidents occurred in Kabul. Since June 20 to date, 283 crimes cases have been documented by Kabul police. (Tolonews)

**(10) 122 Rebels...**

cleared. The areas were previously controlled by the militants. He added some insurgents currently lived in the strategic mountainous regions of Dara-i-Jamalak, Zedori and Daikundi districts. The offensive will continue until these areas are cleared.

Meanwhile, Mohammad Baig, a provincial council member, confirmed the surrender of the two commanders and other rebels. He hailed it as a positive step that would help improve the law and order situation.

As a result of the clearing operation, he said, 35 villages having 15,000 families had been secured and purged of militants. He asked the government to execute development projects in areas. (Pajhwok)

**(11) Agriculture ...**

project and work would be done for the encouragement of saffron crop cultivation.

Kabul Agriculture Director Hashmatullah Enayatsaid an awareness campaign about saffron cultivation would be conducted in 14 districts of Kabul and livestock clinics built in Kalakan district.

The Benisar-Kabul City canal will be rebuilt and culverts constructed in the Alambagh locality of Qarabagh. The Joy canal will be constructed in Shakar Dara district. In addition, rehabilitation of Zargar, Qala-i-Naw, Jalaluddin, Samochak village and Tarnab canals would become possible.

With the execution of the projects, an opportunity would be created for the cultivation of saffron, multiple livestock diseases would be prevented, around 1,500 acres of land irrigated and water wastage avoided.

The projects would be completed in one year and as many as 13,000 people would get the opportunity to work directly and indirectly,

according to Enayat. (Pajhwok)

**(12) Pakistan-Taliban...**

Nabil accused Pakistan has been using religious extremism and its security forces to protect its ideology since coming into being in 1947. During the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, He claimed Pakistan equipped its security forces and created thousands of seminaries to recruit, train and arm the Taliban with the support of the US in the name of aiding the Afghan mujahideen.

Ghulam Farooq Bashar, a Kabul University teacher, said Nabil had disclosed extremely important documents, but he should have consulted the government. The papers should have been issued by the government or shared them with the UN.

He believed if the documents had been referred to the UN through government channels, the result would have been far more effective from Kabul's perspective. Bashar said the papers proved Pakistan never wanted friendly relations with Afghanistan and always tried to create problems for it.

But political analyst Mohammad Kabir Ranjbar slammed Nabil for revealing important secrets, which were not private property of the former intelligence chief. The papers had been found by intelligence agencies, he argued.

He panned the so-called disclosures against the core national interest by an individual. Such a move should have been made by a state institution, the expert reasoned.

Mohammad Asif Ashan, a political commentator, thought the documents concerning Pakistani intelligence shenanigans should have been revealed much earlier. The step would help mount pressure on Pakistan to distance itself from terrorists.

He said Nabil was no ordinary person but served as a responsible spymaster for years. The action would have a huge impact at the regional and international level, the commentator said, calling the move a contemporary, proactive policy of noted personalities.

Shahla Farid, who teaches at the Kabul University, said if the documents were really based on facts, their release had come at the most appropriate time. She praised the former spy chief's big achievement in disclosing the documents. She added Nabil planned to issue the documents when he was serving as NDS head, but authorities did not attach much importance to his claims. Nabil insists the expose did not pose any threat to NDS personnel and his act is in line with the national interest. (Pajhwok)

**(13) SIS Fighters...**

that the ISIS loyalists are directly operating under the command of Pakistan's military intelligence, Inter Services Intelligence (ISI). Provincial governor's spokesman Attaullah Khogyani has said the documents obtained from the dead bodies and those arrested during the operations in Achin, Kot, Haska Mina and other parts of Nangarhar, reveal that they are originally residents of Orakzai Agency.

Khogyani further added that the intelligence information gathered by the government also reveal that the ISIS loyalists are mostly comprised of Pakistani nationals. According to Khogyani, the residents of Tajikistan are also fighting alongside the Pakistani nationals for ISIS terrorist group who are mainly deployed after completing training in Pakistan. This comes as reports suggest at least 30 percent of Kot district is under the control of the loyalists of ISIS terrorist group.

Meanwhile, the Afghan forces as well as the US forces in Afghanistan have increased raids against the loyalists of the terror group in Nangarhar during the recent months.

Both the Afghan and US forces conduct regular airstrikes to eliminate the supporters of the terror group amid fears they are attempting to expand foothold in the country. (KP)

**(14) 45 Taliban...**

province, the ministry said. "Targeting key figures of militant groups in special operations carried out by Army and Police force members has proven to be very effective. It helps to eliminate main hubs of the insurgents and weakens the enemy," said Mol spokesman Sediq Seddiqi. Analysts have said they believe

that targeting the former leader of Taliban and other key figures of the group has weakened their ability on the battlegrounds.

"Taking a decisive step against militants is good. This will help us bring peace to the country. I think this is the best option," said Saleh Mohammad Saleh, MP.

"The then strategy of the government in combat against Taliban was not a good strategy, because in some cases it was influenced by Pakistan. Pakistan has always been against development in Afghanistan," said Mohammad Mohsen Mokhtar, analyst in military affairs.

Last week the US Secretary of Defense Ash Carter said during his trip to Kabul that Washington remained committed to help Afghanistan fight terrorism. (Tolonews)

**(15) Cricket All-Rounder ..**

overs, and earlier, it was Rashid's effort with the bat that really lifted his team.

When Afghanistan batted, it soon found itself 90 for 5 – a score with was achieved mainly because of Rahmat Shah's 48. Nabil, who came in at No 7, did a great job of stabilising the innings but Afghanistan didn't get the boost it needed until Rashid came along. Coming in at No 8, the 17-year-old wielded the long handle to gather 60 runs from 44 deliveries with five fours and two sixes.

Andy McBrine was the pick of the bowlers for Ireland with figures of 2 for 29 from 10 overs. Peter Chase picked up a couple of wickets too, conceding 52 runs from 8 overs.

With the ball in hand, Rashid's legspin was brought on with four Irish batsmen back in the hut and his day at the office only got better with a fine show with the ball that ensured Ireland would not mount a comeback. Rashid, who was wicketless in his first four overs, bagged four wickets in his next four. Rahmat Shah picked up a couple of wickets to aid Rashid in his effort.

The fifth and final one-dayer will be held at the same venue on Tuesday. (Pajhwok)

**(16) Major Taliban...**

regarding the incident so far which comes as the group has been continuously attempting to increase violence in this province since they launched their spring offensive.

The group has also launched a number of attacks in other districts including the provincial capital with an aim to recapture it but their attacks were repulsed by the Afghan forces. (KP)

**(17) 2 Dead in...**

the bazaar for shopping. The roadside bombing blew them to bits."

Education department spokesman Mohammad Shahpoor Arabtold Pajhwok one of the dead was a student of Dasht High School in Charkh district.

Elsewhere, an unidentified armed man was shot dead in a retaliatory attack by National Directorate of Security (NDS) agents in the ninth police district of Kandahar City.

Samim Khpalwak, the governor's spokesman, said one of the gunmen opened fire on NDS personnel while the other managed to escape. Two pistols were also seized from the slain man.

However, an official who wished not to be named, said an NDS officer was injured in the incident. (Pajhwok)

**(18) 3 Afghans...**

This comes as hundreds of thousands of Afghan refugees are stranded in Greece and other parts of Europe amid a refugee crisis in Europe.

The Afghan refugees started heading towards the European countries in mid-2015 amid political and economic uncertainties followed by deteriorating security situation. (KP)

**(19) 7,543 Detained...**

take back control of the country. Turkish parliament in Ankara was briefly evacuated on Monday afternoon due to possible attack threat, which turned out to be a false alarm. (Xinhua)

**(20) Kerry Reiterates...**

on Britain's departure from the EU, there is obviously some uncertainty out there, but what came out of this meeting today was a remarkable sense of unity," he said. According to the agenda issued by the EU side, they discussed EU-U.S. relations and exchanged

views on the most pressing foreign policy issues, as well as U.S. President Barack Obama's "leaders" summit on refugees in New York on Sept. 20. (Xinhua)

**(21) Security Forces...**

Sunni tribal paramilitary units, backed by coalition warplanes, recaptured Doulab area west of the newly-freed city of Heet, some 160 km west of Baghdad, after two days of battles with IS militants, the source said.

According to the source, 50 IS militants were killed in the fighting in Doulab. (Xinhua)

**(22) UN Chief ...**

the IGAD chairperson.

South Sudan was represented by Foreign Minister Deng Alor and Presidential Advisor Niyal Deng.

"I welcome the strong condemnation of the fighting and ceasefire violations by the African Union Peace and Security Council and the IGAD Council of Ministers. I thank you for calling on the South Sudanese leaders to assume their responsibility and subject individuals who undermine the peace process to stern measures, including targeted sanctions," Ban said. The IGAD summit concurred with Ban's three-pronged approach to addressing the South Sudan crisis. (Xinhua)

**(23) India's Ruling...**

cricket. A well-known cricket commentator, Siddhu has a penchant for jokes and over the time has emerged as a known face on Indian television comedy shows.

"The people of Punjab are looking for a change," Sidhu's told a local news channel just before he resigned from the parliament. (Xinhua)

**(24) Tajikistan,...**

escalated on August 4, 2015, leaving several people injured and damaging multiple homes.

The area at the focus of that and much previous unrest lies on the jagged frontier where the east of Tajikistan's Sughd province and Kyrgyzstan's Batken province meet. (Asia-Plus)

**Biden Pays Tribute to Australian Cancer Researchers**

MELBOURNE - United States Vice-President Joe Biden has praised the efforts of Australian cancer researchers during his three-day visit to Melbourne over the weekend.

Biden met with researchers at the official opening of Victoria's Comprehensive Cancer Centre (VCCC) the state's new 760 million U.S. dollar facility and lauded their "profound" contributions to the U.S.-Australia collaboration on cancer research.

"On behalf of the United States of America, on behalf of every cancer patient in the United States of America, thank you for this, I mean this sincerely," Biden said in comments published by the Australian media on Monday.

"You are making cancer research a team sport. You have poured your heart and a lot of your money but your heart into building this facility. It's a testament to your tenacity as well as your dedication in the fight against cancer."

The vice-president works closely with several global cancer research projects after his 46-year-old son, Beau, died of brain cancer in May last year.

Biden said the collaboration between the U.S. and Australia meant the world was on the "cusp of so many potential breakthroughs."

"(We're) using supercomputing power to find answers that we don't have right now," he said in comments published by News Corp on Monday.

"We're going to be able to share patient histories and proteo-genomics and clinical phenotypes, the data of various proteins and genetic characteristics, of almost 60,000 patients in Australia and the United States, with full privacy protections."

On Sunday afternoon, Biden attended an Australian Football League (AFL) match at the famous Melbourne Cricket Ground.

Biden was presented with a customized Carlton Blues guernsey, and was seen later enjoying the game with Australia's Minister for Foreign Affairs, Julie Bishop, and two of the AFL's American imports, Mason Cox and Matt Korcheck.

Biden will fly to Sydney today to meet Australia's Prime Minister

Malcolm Turnbull before flying out to New Zealand later this week. (Xinhua)

**Greek PM Talks to Turkish Counterpart as Fleeing Turkish Military Officers Appear in Court**

ATHENS - Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras had a telephone conversation early Monday with his Turkish counterpart, Binali Yildirim, on issues related to the failed coup in Turkey, the Greek national news agency AMNA reported.

In the call initiated by Yildirim, Tsipras reiterated Athens' "support for democracy, constitutional legitimacy and elected government in Turkey," according to Greek government sources.

The call was made a few hours before eight Turkish military officers, who fled to Greece in a military helicopter on Saturday after the failed coup in Turkey, appeared before a Greek court in Alexandroupolis in northern Greece on charges of illegal entry.

Yildirim thanked Tsipras for Greece's support as well as for the return of the helicopter on Sunday, according to the same sources.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan held a similar phone conversation with Tsipras on Saturday evening.

Regarding the issue of the eight officers who are seeking asylum in Greece, the Greek side has repeatedly stressed that their case will be examined as soon as possible and with full respect to international law and conventions on human rights.

The lawyer for four of the defendants told Xinhua on Sunday that their intention was to exhaust all possibilities so that they can avoid extradition, because they fear for their safety. If their asylum claims are rejected by Greece, they are planning to file claims to other countries.

According to the lawyer, her clients as well as the other four officers strongly deny any involvement in the coup attempt.

After a short session in court on Monday, the eight Turkish nationals were also expected to appear before the asylum agency in Alexandroupolis later in the day for interviews to formally launch the assessment of their asylum claims. Their lawyers on Monday asked the court for a 48-hour postponement of the hearing of the case. (Xinhua)

**Russia Seeks "Parity" in Arms Sales to Armenia, Azerbaijan**

MOSCOW, July 18 -- Russia Seeks "Parity" In Arms Sales To Armenia And Azerbaijan Amid A Deteriorating Situation In Nagorno-Karabakh Region Over Which The Two Neighboring Countries Have Been In Dispute For Decades, A Russian Official Said On Monday.

"The Conflict Begins, Despite That One Side Is Armed Better Or Worse. It's Necessary To Seek For Parity," Said Alexander Fomin, Director Of The Federal Service For Military-Technical Cooperation In An Interview With Russian Newspaper Izvestiya.

The Main Task Of Military-Technical Cooperation Is To Keep Peace And Stability In The World, He Said, "We Believe That Conflict Situation Shouldn't Be Resolved By Arms. There Is Certain Parity." Armenia And Azerbaijan Have Been Locked In A Dispute Over The Mountainous Region Of Nagorno-Karabakh Since 1988, When The Enclave Dominated By Ethnic Armenians Claimed Independence From Azerbaijan And Declared To Join Armenia. (Xinhua)

**Uzbekistan Names New Deputy Chairman of Central Bank**

TASHKENT - Shokhrukh Shoakhmedov was appointed the deputy chairman of Uzbekistan's Central Bank according to a decree of President Islam Karimov, the Central Bank said in a message Monday.

Earlier, Shoakhmedov was heading the Central Bank's central administrative board in Tashkent. Uzbekistan's Central Bank is tasked to regulate money circulation and activities of commercial banks in the country. Currently, 26 banks operate in Uzbekistan. (Trend)