

(1) Trump Officially ...

tonight." Trump Jr. said, congratulating his father on the nomination. Republicans also nominated Indiana Governor Mike Pence as Trump's vice presidential running mate. (Xinhua)

(2) Ghor Govt. ...

was whipped in Awdak Ghaleem village on the outskirts of Ferozkoh, the provincial capital, on Oct. 25 by Taliban militants.

Aziz Gul, another girl, was shot dead by her relatives 15 kilometers west of the capital of the province last month. "With its unconcern, the government has disappointed us. Civil society and people have lost trust in the government, as those involved in violence against women become more aggressive when they go scot-free," Anwari argued.

She expressed concern at the situation, saying 14 years old Zahra, a victim of exchange marriage, lost her life to family disputes. A sister of Zahra was married by force to one of her relatives.

The husband of Zahra, directly complicit in her killing, is yet to be brought to justice – thanks to support for him from powerful individuals. She claimed 95 percent of Ghor women did not have access to justice and they were deprived of Shariah and legal rights.

"Eighty percent of girls in Ghor are married against their consent, 50pc of underage girls are forced into marriage, 60 percent married in exchange," she said, adding the situation had deprived them of education.

Anwari also referred to the issue fewer women in Ghor offices, saying female government servants were less than one percent. "We will witness more violence against women if the local government, particularly the judicial organs, maintains silence on such issues," she warned.

Seddiqua, a girl who was traded for her father's second wife, said: "My mother had no problem, having given birth to several children. But my father fell in love with another woman and engaged me to a boy (17) when I was only 9."

The 12-year-old revealed her father did so because he had no money to pay as bride price. Seddiqua complained of living under grueling circumstances, as she was not allowed by in-laws to visit her parents. "My husband and in-laws threaten me. My spouse even beats me. I have none but my father to blame for my misery."

Khudayar Waqif, head of Ghor Civil Society Organisations' Association, also acknowledged that violence against women had increased in the province because the government was easily influenced by illegal gunmen and powerful individuals.

"We would not witness law enforcement and justice as long as the provincial administration remains under the thumb warlords, who constitute a huge obstacle to rule of law," the activist remarked.

Provincial police chief, Col. Mohammad Zaman Azimi, said perpetrators of Rukhsan's stoning were living in an area that was under Taliban's control.

He said the killers of Zahra had fled, but the father and mother-in-law of the victim had been arrested by police. He added police were doing their best to arrest the perpetrators of violence against women in Ghor. (Pajhwok)

(3) MPs to Grill ...

financial and budgetary commission head, said so far most of the government institutions had spent only 20 percent of their uplift funds.

"The president during last night meeting told us to summon ministers and seek explanation from them regarding development budget spending and disqualify ministers who fail to satisfy the house," he said.

Yar said such ministers would be summoned and lawmakers after hearing their remarks might opt for a no-trust vote if their explanations were unsatisfactory.

He said the bulk of development budgets were usually spent during the last four months of a fiscal year and funds were also released for more projects at the end of the year.

Abdul Qader Zazai, a lawmaker from Kabul, said ministers who did not spend 80 percent of their budgets would be sent home. He said the house would decide on the issue after the summer vacation. (Pajhwok)

(4) Municipality's...

modernise the permit system, providing new software and training for staff.

As a result of assistance from IFC, a World Bank Group member, Kabul also opened a one-stop shop where prospective builders can go to obtain construction permits.

The project's progress was marked at a ceremony attended by Kabul's acting mayor and other officials earlier this month, according to a statement

from the World Bank country office here.

Abdullah Jan Habibzai, acting mayor, was quoted as saying: "We are committed to creating the right enabling environment for the construction permit process and implementing the city's development plans..."

Presidential advisor Mohammad H. Qayoumsaid: "About 80 percent of economic activities are carried out in cities and construction is a major part of the economy. Simplifying the construction permit process will encourage investments in the sector."

Nadeem Siddiqui, IFC country manager for Afghanistan and Pakistan, said: "Our goals with this project were to improve the investment climate and contribute to sustainable development in Afghanistan."

The project was part of IFC's Advisory Services programme in Afghanistan, which is focused on improving access to finance, especially for smaller businesses, supporting agribusiness and enhancing the investment climate. That is part of a larger effort to support the development of the private sector and spur job creation. (Pajhwok)

(5) Pakistan Eyeing ...

ministry and the Foreign Office, The News reported.

With the help of Indian experts, it is said to have conducted feasibility and detailed engineering studies for a dozen hydropower projects on Afghanistan Kabul River to generate 1,177MW of electricity.

As and when executed, the 12 projects will store 4.7 million acre feet of water and drastically reduce the level of the river flowing into Pakistan. The World Bank will fund the projects that are estimated to cost \$7.079 billion.

"The World Bank is also ready to conduct a study for a water treaty between Pakistan and Afghanistan provided they desire so," the newspaper quoted an unnamed official as saying.

Pakistan is reportedly in contact with Afghanistan through the World Bank on reaching a treaty on sharing the water of Kabul and Kunar Rivers and other tributaries. (Pajhwok)

(6) Ulema Stress ...

glers who enjoyed full support of regional and international drug mafias were paying the way for production and demand of narcotics.

"The drug trade has foreign factors in Afghanistan. We Afghans are earning a bad name but the benefits go elsewhere. That's why we strongly ask the government to identify, target and do away with foreign factors and take strong measures in this regard."

Another religious scholar, Maulvi Salim Shah Tawhidi, told the gathering that not only alcohol, but every substance that caused intoxication were illegitimate.

"It is a great pity that drug addicts live in such places where even animals would not stay."

Deputy counternarcotics minister for policy and coordination, Javed Ahmad Qaem, told the gathering that the issue of narcotics in Afghanistan so big that his ministry alone could not overcome it.

He said the Afghan government was trying its level best to counter drug production and smuggling. Qaem urged religious scholars to talk about the hazardous effects of drugs on health and society in their Friday's sermons at least once a month because people respected their instructions.

Afghanistan remains the world's leading drugs producing country where 3.6 million of its own people are addicted to drugs.

Large sums of money have been spent in Afghanistan in counternarcotics efforts, but its production and smuggling has drastically increased during the past 14 years. (Pajhwok)

(7) Investing ...

participation, however, we agree that more efforts are required to meet the sustainable development goals and the Afghan Government is committed to doing more for an Afghanistan that should contribute to planet 50-50 by 2030'.

UNFPA country representative for Afghanistan, Bannet Ndyanabangi said: "In Afghanistan, 57 percent of girls are married before the age of 19. Girls in Afghanistan are more prone to early marriage, a harmful traditional practice, which perpetuates the cycle of poverty and gender inequalities within the society, and greatly impinges on the human rights of girls. This is a challenge and shall be a barrier for girls' education unless we work hand-in-hand and do something about it."

According to 2014 data from the Central Statistics Organization of Afghanistan a total of 9.2 million Afghans are enrolled in formal education, that includes primary, secondary, high school, vocational school, night school, university etc. Of this total, 3.6 million are female – which is 39.5% of the total 9.2 million.

UNFPA said that as far as attendance

in higher education or university is concerned not only does the total number of attendance for both boys and girls dramatically decrease, but also the gap between boys and girls attendance increases.

They said of the 300,000 boys and girls enrolled in universities, only 65,000 are girls. This means that if the current trend continues, almost four out of five girls will never have the opportunity to continue education, and may never realize their full potential.

UNFPA said these girls denied education are more likely to contribute to the continuation of the poverty cycle to the next generation.

The organization said the success of the sustainable development agenda depends on how well everyone supports and invests in teenage girls. "When countries such as Afghanistan support and invest in youth, especially teenage girls, and create opportunities for them to realize their full potential, such countries are also better able to realize a demographic dividend, which will in turn propel economic growth and combat poverty," a UNFPA statement read. (PR)

(8) Support Sought...

UNHCR. The accord governs voluntary repatriation in safety and dignity. Under the arrangement, more than 3.9 million Afghan refugees have gone back to Afghanistan since 2001, according to a statement from UNHCR. The representatives reiterated their commitment for joint advocacy and resource mobilisation to support the implementation of the SSAR and plans on voluntary return and sustainable reintegration of Afghan refugees.

Ratwatte welcomed Pakistan's decision to extend the validity of the Proof of Registration cards until December 31, praising the country's generosity for hosting millions of Afghan refugees on its soil.

However, he stressed the need for robust support of the development actors in ensuring the sustainability of voluntary returns in Afghanistan and in providing tangible support to host communities in Pakistan, pending return.

"Empowering refugee youth through education, skills training and livelihoods support, is imperative for sustainable reintegration and for prosperity and stability in Afghanistan and the region," Ratwatte said.

Baloch reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to continue working closely with Afghanistan and UNHCR to ensure sustainable voluntary returns in safety and dignity, as evidenced by the recent constitution of an Inter-Ministerial Committee, tasked with devising a voluntary repatriation plan.

He asked Afghanistan to work on immediate, concrete and tangible plans for receiving and reintegrating Afghan returnees in view of the implementation of the enhanced voluntary repatriation and reintegration grant.

Balkhi underlined reinvigorated efforts to create an environment conducive for voluntary repatriation and sustainable reintegration in Afghanistan, including improved access to basic services and livelihood opportunities, and land tenure reform.

He noted that a detailed action plan will be finalised by early September. "We pay gratitude to the Government and people of Pakistan for hosting millions of Afghan refugees and economic migrants for more than three decades amidst economic challenges and significant strain on the infrastructure and resources."

UNHCR Representative in Afghanistan Ms. Maya Ameratunga said collective efforts backed by the international community for reintegration programmes would be critical to meet the needs of returnees in Afghanistan. "At a time when the global spotlight is on Afghan population movements to Europe, it is vital to recognize that the largest population of Afghan refugees, returnees and displaced persons in need, are right here in our midst. Now more than ever, Afghanistan and the sub-region need the support of the international community," said Ms. Ameratunga. (Pajhwok)

(9) Helmand ...

process. Mualvi Zinullah said Pakistani ulama used to praise and defended their corrupt government so the people of Afghanistan should learn from them in developing patriotism and love for the country and security forces.

Another religious scholar Meherdel accused Pakistan of supporting terrorists and said youngsters duped into joining militancy through propagandist should return to the peace process.

Tribal elder Niamatullah Safi said only verbal commitment of support with security forces would not be effective and asked participants of the event to send their sons to the ranks of Afghan security forces.

Civil Society activist Mohammad Qasim Jafari said the civil society move-

ments completely supported the government, security forces.

At the end of the gathering, a resolution was passed in support of security forces. (Pajhwok)

(10) Taliban Takes

governor's compound and our personnel is highly motivated."

Meanwhile, some security forces who were on the battle field said the Taliban is very well equipped and they have heavy weapons.

"The Taliban have hidden in houses but the resident fled after the attack. We will target them in every house," a security force member, Nematullah, said.

Miriwais, another security force member, said: "They [Taliban] have equipment. They are attacking with mortars and they also have Humvee and Ranger vehicles".

Mahbubullah Saeedi, the district governor, has meanwhile called for reinforcement troops to help take control of those parts of the district that fell to the Taliban.

"We need air support and security forces to launch a military operation in the whole district," he said.

Qala-e-Zal is one of the remote districts of Kunduz province. (Tolonews)

(11) KP Can't ...

companied by law minister Imtiaz Shahid, MPA Ziaullah Bangash and a number of party workers.

Mr Khattak said that Peshawar Expressway, Jand to Kohat highway and laying of railway track between Peshawar and Dera Ismail Khan would bring prosperity to the province and benefit its people. (Dawn)

(12) Over 300....

ferent parts of the capital Kabul and their cases had been referred to the attorney offices.

Of the detainees, 31 suspects have been accused of their involvement in drug smuggling, 32 in murder cases, 69 in house robberies, 34 in attacks on other people, 40 in moral crimes and the remaining possessed illegal arms and committed other crimes.

Rahimi said during the past 20 days, 152 drug addicts were identified and shifted to the rehabilitation centre. Rahimi said suspects in recent murders in the 11th municipal district had been arrested and search for their helpers was underway.

The police official said the country's enemies never relieved from trying to hit government facilities and personnel. He asked residents to cooperate with police in combating and controlling crimes and illegal activities. (Pajhwok)

(13) Logar Mayor ...

are yet to gain access to potable drinking water, a canalisation system, asphalted roads and recreation parks. These are among the top priorities of the municipality, but have not been implemented so far.

Sadat assailed previous mayors for what he called their negligence. "They arbitrarily distributed land plots and wasted the municipality's budget without providing any facilities. They only lined their own pockets over the years."

However, he did not name anyone. He revealed municipality expenses were higher than its revenue. The cabinet should allocate a special budget for the Logar municipality to help it implement development projects in the province this year, he said.

Sadat added an organisation recently assured him of implementing some development projects and improving the capacity of municipality workers. Daud Milma, head of Merchants' Council of Pul-i-Alam, accused the municipality of having failed to provide efficient services to the people. "Most of roads are yet to be paved; the city has no a clean water supply and recreation parks."

Niaz Mohammad, a resident of the city, said the people were suffering many problems in the absence of asphalted roads. "In winter, roads are full of mud. In summer, they are covered by dust, creating health hazards."

He urged the government to pay special attention to the provincial capital. The governor's spokesman, Salim Saleh, held the same view. "The governor's house is fully committed to working for Pul-i-Alam's beautification. We have already approved a clean water supply project and plan construction of roads and recreation parks. But we have no funds." (Pajhwok)

(14) Scores of Countries...

the core point in the scheme is to improve regional cooperation, infrastructure projects and transit facilities. "Government will attend Brussels Summit with particular economy scheme."

Previously, an agreement was inked between the Foreign and Finance Ministries, and handed over to the regional countries' authorities for re-

view. Hinting to that, Rabbani said that the sole reason behind the agreement was to focus on improvement of regional cooperation in infrastructure projects and transit facilities.

In the regard, an invitation letter from Afghan government and European Union will be sent to the regional countries aimed at holding a conference, he added.

The government, in one and a half month would draft a regional cooperation plans, and present it in Brussels Summit, Presidential Palace said.

President's Senior Economic Adviser, Humayoun Qayoumi said that they want to have this draft on infrastructure projects, human investment before to go to the summit.

"Afghanistan has fundamental economic locality to expanded and have trade relations with the regional countries," he added.

Ambassadors of the regional countries backed economic scheme of the Afghan government, and said they would stand beside Afghanistan in the upcoming summit.

Brussels Summit is going to be held in 4-5 October 2016 with joint hosting of Afghan government and European Union.

It is worth mentioning that more than 70 countries of the world and 20 international organizations would participate to vow their commitments for supporting Afghan government from 2017 up to 2020. (Agencies)

(15) Ireland Hammer

Peter Chase and Barry McCarthy took two wickets each to hand their side a series-levelling win.

N. Zadran hit 54 off 66 deliveries, Rashed Khan 40, Asghar Stanikzai 32 and D. Zadran an unbeaten 31, but they could not score at the required rate and fell 12 runs adrift of the target, the ACB spokesman concluded.

On the other hand, Afghan cricketer Mohammad Nabi has been reprimanded officially for violating the Code of Conduct of the International Cricket Council (ICC). (Pajhwok)

(16) 28 ISIS...

and ISIS loyalists are active in a number of the remote districts of Nangarhar province.

They often conduct insurgency activities against the Afghan security forces amid ongoing operations to eliminate the militants operating against the government in this province. (KP)

(17) Having Lost...

groom my grandchildren and task them with protecting our people," she resolved. However, Bibi is uncomfortable at night after the loss of her sons.

Lal Mohammad, elder son of Bibi, is fighting alongside an uprising group in Kot. "It is really painful losing six brothers in a single day. But I'm proud of my brothers being martyred while defending their country," he remarked.

Committed to taking care of all his orphaned nephews and nieces until his death, he asked the government to help the families of victims and those whose houses were destroyed. He confirmed the provincial government had previously assisted the affected families with cash and essential items.

The governor's spokesman, Attaullah Khogyani, promised: "Local authorities will continue helping the victims' families in Kot and will reconstruct the houses destroyed. (Pajhwok)

(18) 3 Taliban,...

Nangarhar. Governor Spokesman, Attaulla Khogyani told Pajhwok five desh rebels were killed in Tuesday night drone airstrike in Bandar area and the civilians and security forces suffered no casualties.

Taliban and Daesh have not yet commented about the incidents. (Pajhwok)

(19) Taliban Commander...

security forces.

Hamza was involved in most of the "terrorist attacks" in the area, especially attacks on police forces in Qarabagh, the statement added. (Tolonews)

(20) 4 Butchers

were currently being questioned. Civil society activist, Ustad Baheer, told Pajhwok Afghan News previously there had been reports about the selling of horse meat in the province.

He said police should take strict measures against people involved in selling of donkey and horse meat. He suggested harsh punishment for the four butchers from Sholgar.

Nasir, another resident, said he used to avoid eating meat since hearing about the selling of donkey, horse and dog meat in the media. (Pajhwok)

(21) Germany Train...

pronunciation, certain terms used in his recording, including "suicide," "military," and "governments" unequivocally referred to Pakistani terminology.

Investigators meanwhile, also added that the attacker's name, as identified

by Daesh, was different from his name registered in Germany.

The head of Germany's domestic intelligence agency, the Bundesamt für Verfassungsschutz (BfV), Hans-Georg Maassen, agreed that there were questions about the origins of the assailant, reported Deutsche Welle. (Tolonews)

(22) Taliban's Expert...

tributors to the casualties of the Afghan security forces but are also considered as a key factor in growing civilian casualties.

A commander of the Taliban group Hafiz Saadullah was among ten militants killed after blown up by own explosives in southeastern Ghazni and western Herat provinces last month.

An Improvised Explosive Device (IED) expert of the Taliban group was also killed in an explosion in northern Kunduz province of Afghanistan last month. (KP)

(23) Taliban Torch....

said security forces had launched their efforts to secure the release of the guard.

A resident of the area, Hakimullah, told Pajhwok Afghan News the Taliban set the tower afire at 11pm last night. "There was no gunfire; we came to know in the morning that the tower's guard had been kidnapped."

He said the MTN mobile phone service did not properly work since last night's incident.

The Taliban have so far said nothing in this regard. (Pajhwok)

(24) U.S. Secretary....

Turkey, the climate change agreement and Iran.

For his part, Johnson welcomed Kerry to London. He said the special relationship between the United States and Britain remains strong and vital. (Xinhua)

(25) Biden Reiterates ...

look to one another for mutual support... because together, I am absolutely confident we can write a better future for all our children, and for this whole region." (Xinhua)

(26) US Expands ...

statement Tuesday that the duty and quota requirements on the export of 11 raw materials conform to WTO rules.

The export controls on graphite, cobalt, copper, lead, chromium, magnesium, talcum, tantalum, tin, antimony and indium are imposed to protect the country's resources and the environment, said the statement.

The MOC said China will properly handle the case in accordance with WTO dispute settlement procedures. (Xinhua)

(27) Turkey Remains...

Turkey and the United States are both members of NATO. Recent signs have indicated that the coup attempt has strained Ankara's ties with Washington, as Turkish leaders blamed U.S.-based Turkish cleric Fethullah Gulen for plotting the coup and demanded his extradition. (Xinhua)

(28) DPRK Top...

rockets. The date and place of the test-firing was not given by the state media.

South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) said Tuesday that the DPRK fired off three ballistic missiles, which are believed to have been a Scud-C type, from the western region of Hwangju in North Hwanghae province between 5:45 a.m. and 6:05 a.m. Seoul time. (Xinhua)

(29) Heart Diseases...

stress in life also lead to risk of having heart diseases.

Vietnamese Deputy Minister of Health Nguyen Viet Tien said at the conference that in the past, infection used to be a major cause to claim lives of patients while nowadays, the most intractable problems are heart diseases, cancer, and digestive disorders among others. (Xinhua)

(30) Iraqi PM/...

appeared in the rally and shared the demonstrators their chants, before one of his aides read his speech.

Sadr demanded to sack all corrupt people in the government institutions, including high-ranking officials, warning that if the government failed to meet this demand, demonstrators will go further and demand resignation from the president, the prime minister and the parliament speaker, the three top leaders in the country. (Xinhua)

(31) Tajik Border ...

of Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Russia. The general management was entrusted to the Border Troops of the National Security Committee of Tajikistan.

The main efforts on the territory of Kyrgyzstan were focused on the Kyrgyz-Tajik and Kyrgyz-Kazakh state border areas. (Agencies)