

(1) Very Few Willing...

employees and our international partners are working, we are also concerned about this issue, because in some districts, no one has filed nomination papers - neither women nor men - for provincial councils; discussions are going on regarding the issue and the commission will take a proper decision," said Sayad. But, election monitoring groups have said that the core issue behind this is confusion over the functions of the district council members and the absence of a salary for them.

"The commission needs to take a serious decision about the district council elections and make it clear whether they are holding the elections in areas where people have not registered or they are changing the election process," said Yousuf Rashid, CEO of Free and Fair Election Forum of Afghanistan (FEFA). But former IEC chief Fazel Ahmad Manavi said the IEC's failure to undertake an effective public awareness campaign before the process has also impacted turnout.

"In areas where the people have registered, the election must go on, but in areas where there is no candidate, the elections must be delayed, it will not create a problem, because we have the voter list," said Manavi.

Meanwhile, 2,369 candidates have filed nomination papers to run for parliament, said the IEC.

Of those who registered for parliamentary elections, 381 of them are women and seven are Kuchis.

Over 800 of these applicants are from Kabul. (Tolo news)

(2) Ghazni Election...

the IEC office as the registration deadline for candidates registration ended on Tuesday.

According to the IEC, more than 50,000 people have been registered as voters in the capital of Ghazni but the voter registration process is yet to be started in districts as essential materials have not been transferred there.

The Wolesi Jirga's today session discussed the problem with the IEC office in Ghazni.

Abdul Qayum Sajjadi, a lawmaker from Ghazni province, said "unconstitutional approach to elections and holding people hostage would create serious challenges."

Without naming anyone, he said some figures inside the government were trying to deprive Ghazni people from participating in elections. The government instead of paving the ground for elections and encouraging people has adopted a policy of depriving people of voting, he said.

He said a delegation that arrived from Kabul in Ghazni few days ago had failed to resolve the problem and it referred the issue to the government.

Ali Akbar Qasemi, another lawmaker said: "Some people in the name of their tribe have closed the IEC office in order to achieve their illegal demands."

Abdullah Mohammadi, a lawmaker from Samangan province, said that elections would not be nationwide until held in Ghazni province. Speaker Abdur Raouf Ibrahimy termed the closure of IEC office in Ghazni as against the law and said the move showed the commission's and the government's weakness.

He said depriving one or more provinces of elections had no room in the Constitution.

He asked the IEC and the government to resolve the issue or they would be responsible for any consequences.

Meanwhile, IEC chief Abdull Baday Sayyad told a press conference here that the government had promised to resolve the Ghazni election issue over the next two days.

"If the government fails to resolve the issue then the IEC will take action," he concluded. (Pajhwok)

(3) Karzai 'Open'...

you have lost it," said Karzai.

"Unfortunately, there is confusion in the constitution of Afghanistan about a citizen (being able) to serve more than two terms as president. But most interpretations of the constitution are that a person can't run for president for consecutive periods, but some others say that a person is allowed to run as president only twice," said legal expert Ainnuddin Bahaduri.

"The law defines the entire process, because the law has its clarification regarding this issue, therefore I can say that Karzai can take an extralegal decision," said senator Abdullah Qarloq.

"I think every candidate has the right to a cast vote, get votes and appear as candidates in the elections whether it is parliamentary or presidential elections, but when it comes to Karzai, the people will judge him for his campaigns and for his legacies and for his programs which he has for the future," said Sakhi Mohammadi, a resident of Kabul.

Following the downfall of the Taliban regime in 2001, Karzai served as head of the interim administration for one year. Karzai was then sworn in for another two years as head of the transitional administration.

Karzai formally served two terms as president following the 2004 and 2009 presidential elections. (Tolo news)

(4) Helmand Peace...

province where they received a warm welcome from the locals.

The Helmand peace activists first started a sit-in protest in the province against the ongoing war after a deadly car bombing outside a sports stadium in Lashkargah city killed at least 16 people. (Tolo news)

(5) IEC Not Satisfied...

"Unfortunately women did not nominate for Wolesi Jirga and district council elections in most of the provinces and districts, particularly in remote and unstable areas," he said.

Sayyad said the condition of high school certificate for a candidate for district council election was another reason of women's low appearance for nomination.

He added the time for nomination in district council elections had also been extended for two more days due to poor participation of women and late transfer of electoral materials to districts.

The nomination process for district council elections is to end on Tuesday, June 12. (Pajhwok)

(6) Taliban Again...

American officials is that they approach every problem with stubbornness. The use of force cannot yield results in every case," the Taliban supremo said.

Last week, a top Trump administration official ruled out direct dialogue with the insurgent group and asked it to launch talks with the Afghan government.

Lisa Curtis, advisor to President Donald Trump, said: "The US is ready to participate in the discussion, but we cannot serve as a substitute for the Afghan government and people."

The Taliban and the government both have announced ceasefires during the Eid festival. President Ghani took the initiative of unilaterally suspending anti-Taliban operations across the country for a week. The government's ceasefire took effect on Tuesday.

The Taliban also responded and announced a three-day ceasefire.

However, they pledged to continue targeting international forces. (Pajhwok)

(7) Kabul Upbeat...

neither in Afghanistan nor in Pakistan's favor and politics should change in line with cases," said Omid Maisam, deputy spokesman for Chief Executive Abdullah Abdullah.

"Priorities should be defined when Pakistan wants to help us in peace and security. It should be defined as to what Pakistan wants and what Afghanistan wants from Pakistan," said Mirza Mohammad Yarmand, the former deputy minister of interior.

An Afghan lawmaker, Abdul Rauf Enami, said the action plan does not include the prevention of "terrorists" from entering Afghanistan and the issue of madrassas in Pakistan.

"No meeting with Pakistan has helped us to improve security in Afghanistan for at least 10 days," he said.

Kabul and Islamabad finalized the APAPPS in April when Pakistani Prime Minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi visited Kabul.

Key principles of the action plan include:

- Pakistan to support the Afghan-led and Afghan-owned peace and reconciliation process,
- The two countries agreed to undertake effective action against fugitives and irreconcilable elements posing security threats to either of the two countries,
- Both countries commit to prevent the use of their respective territories by any country, network, group or individuals for anti-state activities against either country,
- To put in place a joint supervision, coordination and confirmation mechanism through Liaison Officers (LOs) for the realization of the agreed actions.

- The two countries commit to avoid territorial and aerial violations of each other's territory,
- The two countries pledged to avoid public blame games and instead use APAPPS cooperation mechanisms to respond to mutual issues of contention and concerns, and
- Establish working groups and necessary cooperation mechanisms as per APAPPS for full implementation of the APAPPS and the above, mutually reinforcing principles. (Tolo news)

(8) War Crimes...
be able to be announced as a candidate.

However, she added that most of the violators have not been convicted; therefore, the people of Afghanistan should use their vote as a verdict and should not allow them to succeed.

Meanwhile, Ali Reza Rouhani, a member of the IECC vowed that all complaints will be heard.

The IECC will start inspecting the complaints related to the list of candidates on June 28, 2018 for a period of one month before the announcement of the final list. (ATN)

(9) Watchdogs...

in this regard to make good achievements," Abdul Fatah Ishrat Ahmadzai, MoLSAMD's spokesman said.

In this report, TOLONews journalist Nabilla Ashrafi has profiled a family who have 17 children of whom eight work on the streets in Kabul from morning to night - all deprived of an education.

Seven-year-old Salma, one of the children in the family, collects empty bottles.

"Our parents tell us to work on the streets. We have to work," said Salma.

Salma's older sister, Zainab, 9, sells plastic bags. She said her family

wants them all to work.

"I sell plastic and my brothers gather bottles and sometimes we beg for money from people," said Zainab. Salma, along with some of her other siblings, collects bottles, which are then sold on by their father, Gul Khan.

"If these children do not work, then what must I do and what should I eat," said Gul Khan.

Gul Khan has two wives and 17 children and they all live in a house which they rent for 6,000 Af per month.

"We have a lot of children and can afford to feed them all because we are poor and their father is suffering of an illness," Qamar, the children's mother said.

The International Labor Organization (ILO) launched the World Day Against Child Labor in 2002 to focus attention on the global extent of child labor and the action and efforts needed to eliminate it.

Each year on June 12, the World Day brings together governments, employers and workers organizations, civil society, as well as millions of people from around the world to highlight the plight of child laborers and what can be done to help them.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), adopted by world leaders in 2015, include a renewed global commitment to ending child labor. The Sustainable Development Goals calls on the global community to: "Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labor, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labor, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labor in all its forms." (Tolo news)

(10) Afghan Taliban...

of the Afghan air force.

"It was two Afghan Air Force A-29s (not five U.S. aircraft) that conducted the strike on a Taliban radio broadcasting tower (not radio station) on June 10," Lieutenant-Colonel Martin O'Donnell said.

The Taliban, seeking to reimpose strict Islamic law after their 2001 ouster at the hands of U.S.-led troops, announced a surprise ceasefire over the Eid al-Fitr holiday beginning at the end of this week, but said attacks against foreign forces would continue.

Earlier, the government announced a truce for the end-of-Ramadan holiday.

U.S. President Donald Trump in August unveiled a more hawkish military approach to Afghanistan under the Resolute Support mission, including a surge in air strikes, aimed at forcing the Taliban to the negotiating table. (Reuters)

(11) IEC Extends...

possible candidates for parliamentary election and 3058 more for district council election.

The IEC said that presence of women in the list of candidates for district council has been proved less and that the commission has extended its registration drive up to two days.

This comes as the voter and candidate registration process has not been kicked off in Ghazni province yet. The IEC said that due to political and administrative reasons the process has been launched there yet and that the commission will soon resolve the issues. (ATN)

(12) Afghan Forces...

s of the country to communicate with the security forces in the event they come across with the suspicious actions. (KP)

(13) Ceasefire Has...

with each other, should reconcile on the happy occasion, she remarked. Shaista added: "My brother clashed

with a cousin. My mother and me plan to mediate between them during the upcoming Eid."

Humayon, another inhabitant of Kabul, said peace offered many advantages, and Muslims must reconcile on Eid -- a day of rejoicing for Muslims all over the world.

He also believed: "The ceasefire has made people very happy. The Afghans who have suffered war, poverty and hunger for decades, will celebrate a peaceful Eid this year,"

Abdul Jabbar, an inhabitant of Qargha area, said: "We are tired of conflict. The three-day ceasefire is a good omen and we hope it will mark the beginning of peace."

Cleric Qazi Mohammad Hasan Haqyar said, according to Islamic injunctions, one Muslim could not forsake another for more than three days.

He said Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) has called on Muslims to reconcile during Eid and forget their differences. One who mediates between two people will be given a reward.

Haqyar added the temporary ceasefires by the government and the Taliban had brought happiness to the people. He hoped the truce would lead to stability in the country.

Meanwhile, Sahmsur Rahman Frotan, another religious scholar, said Islam is a religion of peace, brotherhood and sympathy. Islam sets great store by reconciliation.

He added the imperative of peace had been highlighted in the Holy Quran and by Allah's last messenger. Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH) says: "It is haram (illegal) for a Muslim not to speak to a fellow for more than three days or to look the other way when they meet."

He said Islam hails as champion one who reconciles with a Muslim brother and grant him rewards. He urged the people to support the temporary ceasefire which, he hoped, would lead to a permanent truce. (Pajhwok)

(14) Ahead of Eid...

district in DarulAman locality, told Pajhwok all police personnel would be serving the public during Eid to let people enjoy the festival in a peaceful environment.

"We are your children, in your service, and fully assure you that we will not allow anyone to threaten your security during Eid," Shah remarked.

The police personnel urged the people to cooperate with the security forces and not to allow their children to purchase fireworks, which often caused deaths and injuries. (Pajhwok)

8 Govt Officers Arrested Over Corruption in Herat

HERAT CITY - Eight government officers have been arrested on charge of corruption and forgery in western Herat province, officials said Wednesday. Governor's spokesman, Jailani Farhad told Pajhwok Afghan News that the detainees included two women and eight men and they were arrested by National Directorate of Security (NDS) officials.

He said five of the officers were belonged to custom department of Herat and they were arrested on charge of corruption and embezzlement.

Another convict is a defense lawyer who has been detained on charge of forgery in documents, he said.

Two women were arrested for making fake Tazkiras (identity cards). The cases of all the convicts have referred to judiciary and criminal organs, Farhad added. (Pajhwok)