

**(1) No Military...**

standing in a makeshift camp on the outskirts of Kabul that accommodates Afghans displaced by fighting. "Peace is the solution for the problem," said Guterres, previously a United Nations' high commissioner for refugees. At least 126,000 Afghans have been forced to flee their homes, the United Nations says. More than 218,000 Afghan refugees have also returned this year from neighbouring Iran and Pakistan, many citing pressure from authorities there.

The International Organization for Migration estimates that at least 600,000 refugees could return this year, piling strain on aid groups struggling to help the newly displaced.

Khumri, a 30-year-old Afghan woman who met Guterres, said she had lived in the squalid camp for the last two years with her family after their home was destroyed and her husband killed by government forces battling Taliban occupying their village in the northeastern province of Kapisa.

"We need everything," she said, recounting the struggle for clean water, food, and hygiene materials that drives some to beg. Guterres was set to meet Afghan President Ashraf Ghani, who is trying to soothe domestic political tension after recent violence in the capital, Kabul.

Ghani also hosted international delegations last week in a bid to set the stage for peace negotiations with the Taliban, which have remained stalled amid widespread fighting.

If the Taliban do not begin negotiations soon, Ghani will seek new U.N. sanctions against the group as a sponsor of terrorism, he told the June 6 meeting.

Any sanctions would be up to the U.N. Security Council, Guterres said. Afghanistan has endured too many "foreign interventions", however, he added, urging an eventual deal to resolve the war.

Thousands of international troops remain in Afghanistan to train and assist Afghan forces, besides mounting counterterrorism operations.

U.S. President Donald Trump has given Defense Secretary Jim Mattis the authority to set troop levels in Afghanistan, opening the door for future troop increases. (Reuters)

**(2) Development...**

this year we will spend most of our budget," said MoD spokesman Dawlat Waziri.

"All of our budget would be focused on two construction projects, the design and procurement process of them have been completed and we will spend our entire development budget on it," said Bilal Sediqqi, spokesman for the AIHRC.

"This year there is no development budget allocated to us, they did not allocate us money despite our requests," said Sayed Ghulam Hussain Fakhri, the head of the high office of oversight and anti-corruption.

Meanwhile, a number of lawmakers in parliament have said the failure to spend development budgets by government institutions was concerning.

"The failure to spend the budget is a matter of grave concern, because it means that jobs are not created for the people and development projects are halted," said MP Sadiqzada Neeli.

"If they have spent only 15 percent in the first six months, they would fail to spend more than 15 percent in the next six months," said MP Khair Mohammad Aimaq.

Economic analysts say that the lack of comprehensive policies for the implementation of development projects and the intervention of lawmakers and the lack of monitoring have been obstacles in the way of budget spending.

"The lack of planning hinders spending of the development budget," said economic analyst Sayed Massoud.

"We have worked on the solutions, we also worked on the monitoring system including the allocations," said Ajmal Hamid Abdul Rahimzai, spokesman for

the ministry of finance. (Tolnews)

**(3) ACCI Reacts ...**

license issues," the ACCI deputy chief Khanjan Alokozay said. Meanwhile, officials from the Ministry of Commerce and Industries (MoCI) said the ministry has been working on an export development strategy and they are reviewing the investment law in order to facilitate further investment in the country.

"Serious work is ongoing with the national policy of exports and soon the trade and transit agreement between Afghanistan and Uzbekistan will be signed," the MoCI spokesman Musafir Qoqandi said.

This comes after the World Bank said in a report that access for businessmen to services has improved in recent months in Afghanistan. (Tolnews)

**(4) Trump Gives ...**

Afghanistan. About 2,000 U.S. troops there are currently assigned to fight al-Qaida and other militant groups.

Mattis told the Senate Armed Service Committee on Tuesday to expect the Trump administration to unveil its Afghan strategy within weeks.

"We are not winning in Afghanistan right now, and we will correct this as soon as possible," Mattis said in testimony. (UPI)

"We have seen IS activity in Chaprahar and Pachiragam since yesterday, but our forces are aware of situation," he said, adding that he was confident the Afghan forces would "crush" IS there, just as they had previously done in the Achin district.

Achin is the same district where the United States military dropped its biggest non-nuclear explosive, commonly known as the Mother of All Bombs, in April.

Despite the assurances, local authorities severely criticized the central government, which they said failed to provide extra weapons to local militias despite promises. The VOA reporter said the Afghan government has little control on the ground in Tora Bora.

Local sources say both sides suffered heavy casualties in the fighting last week but journalists could not independently confirm any details due to lack of access caused by security concerns.

Locals flee

Hundreds of residents from Tora Bora had taken refuge in Pachiragam for fear of IS when the fighting started a week ago. With IS approaching Pachiragam, further internal displacement was expected.

The Islamic State Khorasan Province or ISKP, the chapter of Islamic State in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Central Asia, initially emerged in early 2015 in eastern Afghanistan. VOA reporting on the origins of IS in eastern Afghanistan disclosed that most of the militants initially came to Afghanistan from the Orakzai Agency of Pakistan's tribal area of North Waziristan.

Initially they came with their families, pretending to be refugees displaced by a military operation launched by Pakistan in 2014. Locals told VOA they claimed to be from the Tirah Valley of North Waziristan and spoke with an Orakzai dialect.

General John Nicholson, the top U.S. commander in Afghanistan, told the Senate Armed Services Committee in February that most militants in ISKP were former Pakistani Taliban who moved into Nangarhar. (VoA)

**(6) Afghan Amputee...**

his application to the Mexico games has been delayed by conflicting details on his identification papers, a common problem in Afghanistan where many people, including Mohammad, don't know their exact birth date and other information.

The team members hope to follow 18-year-old Abbas Karimi, who recently qualified for Mexico while living and training in the United States.

The lack of resources for a world-class training programme makes it difficult for the members of the Afghan paralympic swimming

team who don't have access to international facilities and support.

Three members of the team, all with amputations from war wounds, train in small public pools with little government support.

They are coached by Mohammad Jawad, a veteran javelin thrower, who volunteers his time to help. "Malek is a talented person and he has already competed in international competitions, but this time if he does his best efforts, God willing, I am sure he can achieve great things for his country at the Olympic Games as well," said Jawad. (Reuters)

**(7) WB Announces ...**

the approval of new grants confirms the World Bank Group's strong commitment to the people of Afghanistan in helping them overcome the daunting development challenges facing the country. "Despite steady and encouraging progress by the government in several areas, including institutional reforms, revenue generation, provision of basic services in health, education, and rural access sectors, much more needs to be done to improve economic growth and prosperity."

The new funding, approved by the Board of Executive Directors, aims to support efforts of the Government of Afghanistan to stimulate growth and ensure service delivery during a time of uncertainty when risks to the economy are significant. The international troop withdrawal, begun in 2011, coupled with political uncertainties, have resulted in a slowdown of economic growth, while government budget pressures are increasing as security threats mount and drive people from their homes. (WAM)

**(8) Arg Calls ...**

sincerely expected that capacities of Mr. Saleh would be used for reforms in security sector," he said.

Saleh has said he will share the reasons of his resignation with the people in the near future.

Saleh was appointed to the post in March after being out of government for seven years.

On Tuesday, he announced his resignation on his Facebook page.

Meanwhile, a number of MPs said that the absence of any authority and the symbolic nature of the post would probably be the main reasons for his resignation.

"The philosophy of the state minister for reforms in security sector would not have come to be a reality and the minister in this post is a symbolic post," said Assadullah Saadati, an MP.

"Mr. Saleh himself should have known that he should have not accepted the position which has no place in the law," said Ghulam Farooq Majroh, an MP.

Some military analysts meanwhile expressed a different view. "Unfortunately the monopolizing team of ARG did not show willingness to bring reforms and held no consultations which was required and this resulted that Amrullah Saleh lost hope. It means that he did not have any hope for reforms and therefore he resigned," said Jawed Kohistani, a military affairs analyst.

The appointment of Saleh to the post, which was not included in government's initial structures, was met with both optimism and pessimism when established. Some officials predicted that Saleh would bring stern reforms to security institutions.

However, sources have said the state minister for reforms in security and defense sectors was not even informed about the hiring and firing of officials in security agencies from the day he took up his post. (Tolnews)

**(9) Pakistani ...**

clashes at the Chaman border which erupted due to a controversy about the two villages. Another flag meeting scheduled after Ramadan will resolve the issue once for all.

Pakistan border authorities hosted an Iftar party in the honour of Afghan border officials at the Friendship Gate and also pre-

sented them with flowers and sweets, according to the newspaper. (Pajhwok)

**(10) 80pc Badakhshan ...**

eradication and joint campaign against drugs", Baidar said most drug addicts lived in districts that shared border with neighbouring countries. In addition, 90 percent people living in Pamir were addicted to opium.

He added over 80 percent rehabilitated drug addicts had returned to addiction after completing the rehabilitation process mainly due to unemployment.

Maulvi Abdul Wakil Mufti, a representative of the appellant court, said drugs were prohibited in Islam. He urged ulema to play their role in this regard.

He accused the district police chief of his active involvement in drug trafficking and as a result poppy cultivation surged by 18 percent in Badakhshan in recent years.

Abdullah Naji Nazari, head of the provincial council, said the government should adopt a proper strategy on overcoming drug addiction.

He said Badakhshan ulema council was playing a key role in eradication of poppy and preaching farmers against poppy cultivation and use of drug. (Pajhwok)

**(11) Afghan Teen ...**

seekers that Sweden sent back on May 30. He died in a bombing on June 3 that hit a funeral procession for a man killed in anti-government protests over spiralling insecurity in the Afghan capital.

"European countries have increasingly rejected the asylum claims of Afghans without denying their protection needs," HRW said in a statement.

"The idea that Kabul is considered 'safe' for Afghans has real repercussions... Kabul is not safe."

Kabul has been on edge since a massive truck bomb on May 31 killed more than 150 people and wounded hundreds in the city's fortified diplomatic quarter, the deadliest attack in the Afghan capital since 2001.

Just days later protesters incensed by the bombing clashed with police, prompting authorities to respond with live rounds, which left at least four people dead.

Suicide bombers tore through a row of mourners at the funeral for one of the protesters, killing at least seven more people.

The carnage has left the Afghan capital shaken, with protesters who have set up a sit-in camp close to the bombing site demanding the resignation of President Ashraf Ghani's government.

The violence has prompted the German government to temporarily suspend deportations of Afghans.

"Other European countries should do the same," HRW said. "It shouldn't take any more deaths of deportees to dispel the myth that Kabul is a safe place of refuge."

In early February, 23-year-old Atiqullah Akbari suffered shrapnel injuries in a militant attack in Kabul, two weeks after he was deported from Germany, highlighting the perils of repatriation to the war-battered country.

Akbari was picked up by German police in January from his home in Bavaria where he had sought refuge.

Afghanistan is plagued by insecurity, poverty and unemployment, and is increasingly overwhelmed by people repatriated from Pakistan, Iran and Europe along with hundreds of thousands of others displaced by war. (AFP)

**(12) MPs Warn ...**

also accused Pakistan of having supported the group, but Islamabad has repeatedly rejected the allegations by the Afghan officials.

"Two key Daesh commanders in Afghanistan including Hafiz Saeed and Haseeb were killed as a result of operations by the Afghan security forces and dozens of other Daesh operatives were eliminated in various areas, this indicates that there is a firm commitment to repress and eliminate

the group in Afghanistan," said interior ministry spokesman Najib Danish.

MPs said that Daesh has expanded its recruitment efforts in the east.

"If the government does not take any action, you know that the east is the gateway to Kabul, I assure you that four provinces in the east and our colleagues will take a decision and chose a way for it," said MP Zahir Qadeer.

"Is this government unaware (of the problem), is this government here to kill us?" asked MP Hazrat Ali.

Some MPs said that Daesh is beheading men and women in Nangarhar and Kunar provinces. "Practical action should be taken against Daesh bases wherever they are," parliament speaker Abdul Rauf Ibrahim said.

"I think that issue of the eastern region and Nangarhar is a project," said MP Allah Gul Mujahid.

Lawmakers tasked parliament's internal security and defense committee to send a delegation to the area to assess the emerging threats and share the results of the investigation with parliament. (Tolnews)

**(13) 'Trendy' Afghan...**

design team, a design by undergraduate Nader Nazari has been used to decorate the iconic POANG chair, and is proudly on display in IKEA's Birmingham Central store

Dawn Lloyd, Unit Manager at IKEA Birmingham Central said: "Since opening our Order and Collection Point in Birmingham city centre last August, the team here have been keen to build relationships with the local community and truly act as a good neighbour. We are very pleased to forge a partnership with Birmingham City University and its students.

"Nader is the first student we have had the pleasure to work with and we are incredibly humbled by the level of workmanship he has displayed in this project, designing a wonderful textiles solution for one of IKEA's iconic and much-loved products - the POANG chair, which wretched by Japanese designer Noboru Nakamura in 1977.

"We wish Nader the very best of luck with his career and look forward to being inspired working with future students."

Born and raised in Afghanistan before moving to Birmingham, UK in 2008, Nader's design for the POANG chair takes inspiration from his passion for the natural world, coupled with the theme of this year's Trends Project 'Grace'.

Ruth Edwards, Business Engagement Manager for the Faculty of Arts, Design and Media (ADM) at Birmingham City University, said: "Challenging our students, staff and partners to come up with brand new concepts which are fresh, engaging and new, generates some truly innovative content. It's this innovation which drives us and our partners to push the boundaries and is one of the most motivating elements of this showcase.

"Nader's design for IKEA is also a great example of how industry partnerships can be developed to their full potential, providing the best outcome for the student, partner and university." (Tolnews)

**(14) Taliban Claims ...**

Ahmadi further added that a check post belonging to the militia forces was leveled in the attack and a commander of the group identified as Wafadar was among those killed.

The Mullah Rasool group has not commented regarding the incident so far.

This come as scores of militants belonging to both sides were killed in deadly infightings in various provinces of the country, including in the restive districts of Herat in the past.

The rift between the main Taliban group and Mullah Rasool insurgents widened after the death of Mullah Mohammad and the appointment of Mullah Akhtar Mansoor as the new supreme leader of the group, a decision which was challenged by the Mullah Rasool group and vari-

ous other insurgent leaders. (KP)

**(15) Work on ...**

Agriculture and Irrigation Director Eng. Sayed Al-Ghayas said the canal would help boost agriculture in Nuristan, particularly Paron.

"We have devised more plans for the development of the agriculture sector in Nuristan after this project is implemented," he added.

Maulvi Inayatullah, a local tribal elder, was happy about the project and asked the government to closely observe its implementation.

He asked the central government to offer more reconstruction projects for Nuristan, a remote backward province bordering Pakistan. (Pajhwok)

**(16) Pakistani ...**

the Congress in its letter dated June 11 strongly condemns the recent suicide attacks in Kabul which have killed and injured hundreds of innocent Afghan civilians.

"We can feel the pain of our Afghan brothers as thousands of Muhajirs have also lost their lives in the war against terrorism. We stand against ruthless terrorism being inflicted on our Afghan brothers and sisters in the name of religion by killers operating from Pakistani soil," it said.

"It is evident that Pakistani military establishment and ISI do not see Afghanistan as a respectable neighboring country. Instead, they see it in the context of regional security and use their sponsored terrorist outfits as 'proxies' to increase their 'strategic depth' against India. World Muhajir Congress strongly condemns such policies," the letter said.

Noting that the Afghan government has been bravely fighting the menace of Taliban for more than two decades, the letter said with the emergence of murderous outfit ISIS, the region is now faced with another serious security threat.

"The footprint of ISIS in recent times has extended from the Middle East and Afghanistan to the port city of Pakistan, Karachi, where secular and liberal Muhajirs are in majority who support liberal MQM political party," it said.

The letter alleged that under the blatant and unashamed patronage of Pakistan Army and ISI, religious and sectarian terrorist outfits are making Karachi as their operational hub.

"This is an alarming trend and World Muhajir Congress will continue to highlight this serious issue at every appropriate international forum. Muhajir Nation and their sole political representative party have been the major obstacle in ISI's plans to hand-over port city of Karachi to religious terrorist outfits and this is the reason for Army's continued crackdown in Karachi against Muhajirs and their elected political party," wrote the World Muhajir Congress. (Pajhwok)

**(17) Explosion ...**

was detonated while three back to back suicide attacks targeted a funeral ceremony in the city earlier this month, leaving more than 150 dead and hundreds more wounded.

The Afghan intelligence blamed the Haqqani terrorist network for using the sanctuaries and facilities in Pakistan for plotting and carrying out the attacks in Kabul city. (KP)

**(18) Civilian ...**

Marzko area of the Sarowzai district of Paktika, the deputy police chief, Col. Dadullah Khan Hotak, told Pajhwok.

A source in the militant movement said the clash erupted between former Taliban districts chief Shaheen and other fighters. "Shaheen's fighters, collecting money from people, were challenged by other Taliban and thus the gunbattle took place," he said. Three fighters were killed and as many wounded.

The deputy police chief said three other militants were killed in Mata Khan district by their own landmine. Two others were killed in clashes with security forces in Janikhel district. (Pajhwok)