

(1) Mosque Attack ...

"The Afghans are united like a fist and the enemy couldn't disperse them." He asked the government to take special measures by developing an appropriate strategy for the country's situation because the security situation was fragile in some provinces. He also asked the government leaders to bring to an end the culture of acting departmental heads and introduce ministers-designate to the house for a vote of confidence. (Pajhwok)

(2) Dozens of ...

- the law on local industries
- the law on preventing harassment of women and children
- the law on military higher education institutions
- the law on inventors
- the law on tobacco control
- the law on caretakers in ministries and government offices
- the law on wedding parties
- the statistics law
- the law on provincial councils
- the law on road traffic
- the draft law on social support
- the law on diplomatic employees
- the law on drugs and alcoholic drinks
- and the law on children's training center

"We have passed 13 draft laws both by the Wolesi Jirga and Meshrano Jirga (Upper House of Parliament) and have sent them to Mr. president. Unfortunately they have not been processed," said Wolesi Jirga speaker Abdul Rauf Ibrahim. Leaked documents obtained by the media show that a number of the orders are from 2012 to 2016 which have remained unapproved.

However, deputy spokesman for President Ghani, Dawa Khan Minapal, said they are processing documents based on the law.

"The relations between government and parliament is based on the law and they discuss Afghanistan's issues in regular times. Government (is taking) steps for approval of those documents send by the parliament," he said. (Tolonews)

(3) Pakistan Wants...

counterterrorism aid. "To get Pakistan to alter its approach in Afghanistan, the United States must understand and address Pakistan's strategic anxieties," the article read.

Islamabad has long feared a scenario in which Afghanistan offers India a second base from which to squeeze Pakistan. Leaders in Islamabad also worry India's support may embolden their counterparts in Kabul to forcefully challenge the validity of the Afghanistan-Pakistan border and reassert Afghan claims on Pakistani territory.

India's rising assistance -- economic and military, training and equipping Afghan security forces against the Taliban and development of Chahbahar port in Iran which will allow the landlocked country to connect to the rest of the world -- were listed as other Pakistani concerns.

According to the writers, Pakistan feels it is under threat and thus sees the Taliban as a check on Indian activity in Afghanistan and has doubled down on its efforts to counter deepening Afghan-India ties.

They say Pakistan wants a reconciliation process that ushers the Taliban back into the political fold in Afghanistan, without allowing the militants to control the country once again. (Pajhwok)

(4) 153 People ...

comes as the criminal related incidents are on the rise, including armed robberies, burglaries, and kidnappings in the key cities of the countries, including capital Kabul during the recent months. (KP)

(5) Daesh Media ...

for ISIS-K in Afghanistan. With our Afghan partners we will continue to aggressively target ISIS-K and defeat them."

According to the statement, this strike also destroyed a major Daesh production hub and dis-

rupts their connections to Daesh in Syria.

In the past 10 months, Afghan and U.S. counterterrorism forces have eliminated several key Daesh leaders including the local Daesh emir, Hafiz Sayed Khan and his successor Abdul Hasib. According to the statement, there were no civilian casualties sustained during the strike. (Tolonews)

(6) ISIL's Major ...

large operations while hundreds of airstrikes have been conducted on the hideouts of the terror group.

According to the acting minister of defense, at least 2,500 militants of the terrorist group have been killed during the operations until now and around 800 others have sustained injuries.

He also added that the loyalists of the terror group were also hit during the operations in Helmand, Farah, Zabul, and Uruzgan provinces.

In the meantime, he said the fighters of the group are only having sporadic and small operations in the named places but do not have the capability to launch large scale attacks. (KP)

(7) Govt Slammed ...

also conducting comprehensive investigation into the shooting of protestors at the recent Kabul rally were the key recommendations included in the plan.

Following the deadly truck bombing in the capital on May 31 and the subsequent shooting of protestors by security forces in downtown Kabul, angry protesters carried out a sit-in protest and said they would continue to do so until their demands were met.

In addition to tensions between the protesters and government, the relations between Jamia-e-Islami party and government also deteriorated. On the back of this parliament formed a 34-member delegation to mediate between protesters, Jamiat-e-Islami and government.

The delegation then outlined a plan to end the tension, but now after more than a week, some members of the delegation said government has shown little interest in implementing the plan outlined by the delegation.

"Unlike the past, this time we hope that government considers parliament's plan and works on it. Because the issue is very important and crucial to Afghan people," a member of the delegation, Fatima Aziz said.

However, some other members of the delegation have a different point of view in this regard.

"The protesters removed a few tents and said we did this because we do not want to create problems for the people. So they did not respect parliament's plan while government has accepted two big issues. One was a National Day of Mourning and the other was suspending the Kabul garrison commander and Kabul police chief and introducing them to the Attorney General's Office," said Obaidullah Barikzai, another member of the parliamentary delegation.

The Presidential Palace has not commented in this regard, but protesters said if government does not address their demands, they will continue their sit-in protest. "All the tents have been removed, except the central one. But still we do not feel any pressure from parliament on government to implement the plan outlined by the delegation," Haroon Motarif, a member of the leadership team of protesters said.

"Suspending the jobs of the Kabul garrison commander and Kabul police chief is not enough and we think this is just to deceive people," said Parwani, spokesman of the Uprising for Change Movement.

Meanwhile, the Wolesi Jirga delegation on Saturday night met with members of Jamiat-e-Islami party.

Jamiat-e-Islami spokesmen did not comment about the meeting, but sources said the party insists its demands need to be met by government.

"Leader of Jamiat-e-Islami party

said they will stand by their people and if parliament members can play any role in resolving the tensions, they will accept it," a member of the parliamentary delegation, Mohammad Reza Khoshak Watandost said. (Tolonews)

(8) Afghan War...

the capabilities of al-Qaida's senior leaders in that region," he claimed.

He characterized the war as a generational struggle, which could not be won in a few years. The US and its allies needed to be in Afghanistan for the long haul and in a sustainable way, he said. Petraeus also called for softening restrictions on the use of airpower to support Afghan partners, who he said were ready to die for their country against al-Qaida and other insurgents.

Afghan Taliban and Haqqani network leaders were in sanctuaries inside Pakistan, the then commander alleged, saying that was why targeting them was not easy. He suggested a regional effort to get Pakistan to do more to deny sanctuary to those elements that were making life so difficult for Afghans and their government. (Pajhwok)

(9) Contract Signed...

signed between the Afghan government and a foreign firm for the design of the new government complex.

He said the firm, Khatib and Alami firm, will cooperate with the Ministry of Urban Development and Housing, regarding the design of the new complex, assessment of the previous design, and preparation of the master plan for the complex.

Naderi further added that the design work and master plan of the new government complex will be completed over a period of two years.

According to Minister Naderi, the firm will also assist with the skill building, particularly in transfer of knowledge and expertise to the personnel of the program for the construction of the government complex in Dar-ul-Aman Palace.

In the meantime, the contracting firm promised that the design work of the complex will be completed on time and emphasized that the new complex will result into the establishment of momentum for economic cycle in the country. (KP)

(10) 3 Key...

the industrial park in Parwan would attract a large number of national investors, he said.

Local residents also realized the importance of the industrial park, but they stressed the government should purchase their land from them at reasonable price.

Haji Agha Khan, headman of Sanjid Dara village, talking on behalf of others, said the government could not differentiate between public and private lands.

He said local residents had ownership of more land than what the government was claiming. However, Khan did not provide any documents in support of his claim.

He said the government did not let local people build houses for themselves on their lands.

He said private land owners would also not let the government implement the industrial park project until they were paid more than 200,000 afghanis for each two acres.

When Russian forces invaded Afghanistan, people's land in this area was forcibly grabbed to establish a military base. "So it does not mean the land belongs to the government," Khan said.

Haji Ahmad Khan, another resident of Sanjid Dara, also said local residents had inherited the land from their grandfathers. He said the people also paid land tax to the government.

"The government should first buy our lands and then generate job opportunities for us, if it wants to build the industrial park here. Local residents should be hired at the industrial park, otherwise we would not allow the government to work here," he said.

Second Bagram-Jablu Saraj Road Provincial sectorial services head Mohammad Tahir Himmat said that a number of powerful individuals, who owned residential buildings and shops on the Bagram-Jablu Saraj road were

preventing the road construction project in order their buildings and shops remained.

He did not name anyone, but said land properties of a number of people, located on the side of the road, had already been purchased but some powerful people were still not ready to surrender the property.

"Practical work on this project is yet to begin as some people do not sell their land properties and buildings located on the roadside to the government", he added.

Himmat said construction of the 36 kilometers long would cost \$30 million but the money had not procured so far. The narrowness of the current road causes traffic accidents and construction of the second road would help reduce mishaps.

Dr. Naqibullah, a Kabul resident who discharges duty in a private clinic in Charikar, said that he daily traveled on the road and witnessed traffic accidents almost on a daily basis.

He asked the government to launch work on the second lane of the road to resolve the problem.

Charikar Water Supply Network This project will supply drinking water from Kuklami area of Salang district to Charikar through a 32-kilometers pipe.

Mohammad Nazir Azami, Charikar water supply head, said work on the water supply project was begun from the provincial capital about a month ago.

With financial support of \$10 million from India, the project implementation faced opposition from residents of Massoud Township in Charikar, but the problem had been recently resolved.

He said residents of the township did not allow the water pipe to be passed beside or inside their houses.

Azami asked dwellers of Massoud Township to cooperate with the government in implementation of the project.

However, a number of the township residents said they would not allow the water pipe to pass in front of their houses.

Hamidullah, a resident of the township, said that one reason why people opposed the project was that people believed the government would not repair the road damaged for the pipe in front of their houses.

"Another reason is that these pipes would damage our trees and houses, it is also risky in future, for example if the pipe burst, it would submerge our house and we would have to escape," he said.

However, he said people could allow the pipe to pass in front of their houses if the government assured them the project would not damage their properties.

Most of residents of Charikar currently use stream water and some consume wells' water for drinking.

According to local officials, more than 80 projects worth more than \$94 million are expected to be implemented in Parwan this solar year. (Pajhwok)

(11) Pakistan ...

Ashraf Ghani's office has said. Ghani and Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, at a meeting in Astana, also agreed on the formation of a joint working group to address the issue of terrorism, a scourge haunting the region. (Pajhwok)

(12) India-Afghanistan ...

Gopal Baglay said on Friday.

"The flight will take Indian products to Afghanistan and will bring Afghan products to India. The first flight will be from Delhi to Kabul and will start this weekend or next week," Baglay said.

Earlier in May, India and Afghanistan signed a memorandum of understanding for operationalization of the air corridor.

The air freight corridor was first mooted last year during the visit of Afghan President Ashraf Ghani to India. It is aimed at providing the private sector in Afghanistan a platform to increase their exports to India. (Sputnik)

(13) Insecurity, ...

City, expressed concern over the fresh incidents of violence in the central area of the city and accused security officials for their failure.

He said: "Mysterious murder cas-

es have taken place in the city in the past one week but the perpetrators could not be unearthed. We want the government to take steps for the security of citizens. If it cannot, then people could secure themselves."

Police chief Brig. Gen. Abdul Hameed Hameed claimed effective measures had been put in place for the safety of citizens. Progress had been made in the investigation of recent incidents of murder, he said.

"Crimes occur where people live and we don't deny that. Police are doing all they can to control the situation. Individuals behind recent incidents of murder have been identified and would be captured soon," he promised. (Pajhwok)

(14) Iranian, Afghan...

is unknown. However, according to many traditions, it is in the month of Ramadan.

Shiite Muslims believe that it is either the night of 19th or 21st or 23rd of the month of Ramadan. The majority of Sunni Muslims mark 27th of the month of Ramadan as Laylat al-Qadr.

On these nights, Shiites stay awake the whole night, recite the Quran, pray and perform other rituals. (Tasnim)

(15) American Soldiers ...

confirmed that an unspecified number of soldiers had been wounded at Camp Shaheen, which is the headquarters of the Afghan army's 209th Corps in the northern city of Mazar-i-Sharif.

At least one Afghan soldier was killed and another wounded, the official said. (Reuters)

(16) Target Killings, ...

The police headquarters should deal with the issue," he remarked. But the Khost police chief, Brig. Gen. Faizullah Ghairat, rejected the claims of increased armed robberies and target killings. He insisted police had curbed such incidents both in the capital and rural areas.

Meanwhile, the governor's spokesman, Mubarez Zadran, confirmed a spike in such incidents. He said the governor's house was jointly working on a plan with security organs to crack down on illegal gunmen.

Zadran claimed a number of people involved in armed robberies and murder had been arrested in recent months. (Pajhwok)

(17) At least 700 ...

movement, banned in Russia, and Daesh continue to stage attacks against civilian and military targets.

On Thursday, Sputnik reported that Daesh had made inroads into al-Qaeda mastermind Osama bin Laden's old hideout in Tora Bora, a network of tunnels and caves in eastern Afghanistan. In addition to Daesh's presence, the Taliban remains a major threat to stability in the war-torn nation.

The unnamed official who spoke with Stars and Stripes claimed that most of the forces would be deployed to train Afghan security forces and advise their top commanders. A "smaller number" of the possible 4,000 troops would engage in direct counter-terror combat operations against Daesh and the Taliban, the news agency noted. (Sputnik)

(18) Policemen ...

He said the clash continued for four hours until reinforcement reached to the site of clash and recaptured the check-posts and pushed the militants back.

Mohammad Alam, a wounded commander of police said the clash erupted at 11pm last night and continued until morning. Over 100 militants took part in the fire fight.

Separately, a notorious commander Qari Sayeduddin was killed and four others wounded as a result of firefight with security forces in Abgarmak area of Ghormach district late on Friday night, said Yourish. (Pajhwok)

(19) Explosion Leaves ...

Taliban insurgents has so far claimed responsibility behind the incident.

The Taliban insurgents frequently use IEDs as the weapon of their choice to target the security forces and government officials but in majority of such incidents

the ordinary civilians are targeted.

The United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) released its latest civilian casualties earlier in April, covering a period of three months since the start of 2017.

According to the report, the Anti-Government Elements caused 62 per cent of civilian casualties - 1,353 civilian casualties (447 dead and 906 injured), reflecting a five per cent increase compared to the same period in 2016.

The UN mission also added it recorded a 12 per cent increase in civilian casualties caused by pressure-plate improvised explosive devices - 218 civilian casualties (86 dead and 132 injured). (KP)

(20) 20 Militants...

but the local officials are saying that majority of the attacks were repulsed by the security forces.

Earlier, the officials were saying that the increased attacks by the Taliban insurgents were aimed at seizing full control of Helmand so that they can shift their main leadership council to this province. (KP)

(21) UN Envoy...

deserts from government forces. The Syrian military has announced the cessation of all combat operations in the southern city of Daraa for 48 hours in support of national reconciliation. (AP)

(22) Turkey Aids...

meeting of Turkish exporters in Istanbul on Saturday, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan reiterated a call for the resolution of the dispute before the Muslim's holy month of Ramadan ends on June 24. (Xinhua)

(23) Trump's Tigher...

REVERSAL OF PREDECESSOR'S POLICY HAMPERS TENTATIVE, ECONOMY

"Any strategy aimed at changing the political, economic and social system in Cuba, whether it aims to achieve it through pressure or imposition, or by using more subtle methods, is doomed to fail," Cuba said in a statement published in the state daily Granma. (Xinhua)

(24) UN Official...

are definitely not going to meet our target of leaving nobody behind in these two countries (DRC and CAR) alone by 2030," he said. "It has to be funded and for relatively limited amounts of money, we will see phenomenal impact, starting first and foremost with the saving of lives of the innocent victims in all of this and also giving them some dignity and protection from their current plight." "But, if you can get to 1.3 percent as an average defense expenditure in the EU, surely we can get to the 0.7 percent on the humanitarian side before we start going up further on the spending on the military," the aid official said. (Xinhua)

(25) UN Chief ...

chief extends his condolences to Mr. Kohl's family and to the government and people of Germany, the statement said. Kohl died at his home in Germany's Ludwigshafen on Friday at the age of 87, according to German local media Focus Online.

Kohl served as German chancellor between 1982 and 1998 and was well known as the "chancellor of unity," for his active political plan bringing west and east Germany together. He was also hailed for his contribution to Europe integration, European single currency and market. (Xinhua)

(26) Trump Announces...

Cuba through tour groups. Trump also reaffirmed U.S. statutory embargo of Cuba.

Despite his effort to roll back parts of his predecessor Barack Obama's Cuba policy, Trump stopped short of closing U.S. embassy in Cuba. "The U.S. embassy (in Cuba) will remain open in hope that our countries can forge a much stronger and better path," he said. The policy changes partially fulfilled a campaign promise by Trump and aligned him with hawkish Cuban-American Republicans in the U.S. Congress. (Xinhua)