

(1) Our Nation, ...

men and a campaign against glass tints and undocumented vehicles.

They also called for prevention of political interferences in appointments of security officials and called for the traffic system in Kabul to be computerized and others.

Praising the sacrifices and achievements of the security forces, the president said: "In the path of defense of the people and the mother land, your sacrifices will be written in golden words in the history."

The president said the people's current support for their security forces had no example in the past 100 years.

Ghani said battlefield victories had turned the tide of the conflict and frustrated the enemy's two goals --- to harm the system and divide the nation.

"Currently an active war is ongoing against our nation and the national unity because the Afghanistan enemies have been defeated on the battlefield and now they want to take the war to the people and lower their morale."

The president said a comprehensive security plan had been prepared for Kabul and would be presented to a big gathering soon for a debate.

Similarly, he said, economic plan for Kabul had also been completed.

The president also said the strength of the commando forces would be doubled, stressing no one had the right, including him, to benefit from commando forces as bodyguards.

For the security of high ranking officials, the Urban Development Ministry has been tasked with construction of a specific place.

The president also asked provincial governors to hold gatherings in support of the security forces. He said the traffic control system in Kabul needed to be equipped with latest technology.

The president asked the authorities concerned to reopen for public use roads which had been closed without a reason in Kabul. (Pajhwok)

(2) 6.5 Million

in cooperation with some local and foreign institutions, had reached out to 20,000 vulnerable children, paving their way to attend school and find a proper job.

Mujamil Hassan, the Islamic Relief head, who was also present at the gathering, termed the situation of vulnerable children in Afghanistan as worrisome.

He said the Afghan government should pay more attention to the children's situation. "Currently, there is no strategy in Afghanistan to support children."

Hassan said the Islamic Relief had been able to collect about 3,400 orphaned and unaccompanied children from roads in Kabul, Mazar-i-Sharif, Herat and Jalalabad cities and enroll them in schools. About 6,000 afghanis were paid for expenses on 3,400 children, he added.

Mohammad, 13, who sells plastic bags, told Pajhwok Afghan News that his father was a patient and his mother worked at a neighbor's house.

Mohammad said he also worked to financially support his six-member family. "I used to attend school a year ago; but as our economic situation worsened, I was forced to leave the school."

He said he wanted the government to provide education opportunity to parentless and poor children. (Pajhwok)

(3) Insurgent Attacks ...

insurgents, by attacking mosques and religious institutions, will not be able to reach their objectives.

"They (terrorists) can promote Islam by committing such an act, they claim to have been fighting Jihad (Holy war), but what they are doing is not Jihad," said religious scholar Ayatullah Waez Behsudi.

"The people of Afghanistan, the enemies of Islam want to kill Muslims in different ways, but

they will not be able to reach their objectives through such work," said religious scholar Mohammad Reza Muzaffar.

The statements came three days after militants associated with Daesh attacked the Al-Zahra mosque in the Afghan capital killing at least five worshippers and wounding dozens more. (Tolonews)

(4) Stanekzai

of them was injured with a bullet," said Salim Asas, head of police force at Ministry of Interior (MoI).

"You are aware that the protestors went from Khair Khana and reached the scene, no one attacked the police, my son who was martyred had called the police his brothers, because the police are implementing the law, he called on others to cooperate with police and avoid engaging in clashes with police, but then a police officer or another criminal opened fire," said first deputy speaker of senate Mohammad Alam Ezadyar, whose son was shot dead during the protest rally.

On speculation about the delivery of weapons by military choppers to insurgents in some provinces, Stanekzai rejected these claims and said it was negative propaganda.

"Despite the challenges and shortcomings, today many intelligence agencies in the region confess and they fear and they always try to harm the NDS, you should find out about why they are doing this," he said.

He said the security and intelligence services have done whatever they can to thwart terror attacks in the cities.

He also said there had not been satisfactory security coverage for Salim Ezadyar's funeral ceremony. Ezadyar had been shot during a demonstration in Kabul. The following day, three suicide bombers targeted his funeral and detonated their explosives among the mourners, killing at least 20.

"You cannot lead the system effectively, the work of a garrison commander was not done properly," said senator Nisar Haris.

Stanekzai said that the only solution to the ongoing turmoil in the country was for government to deal with the challenges from a national platform. (Tolonews)

(5) Pamir Energy According to the Ashden judges: "Pamir Energy's approach to providing hydro power to a whole population in a remote mountainous area is highly replicable and could apply to other hard to reach mountainous parts of the world. By tackling the full range of energy needs and effective distribution the company is bringing about a massive step change in the lives of local residents."

Usmonali Usmonzoda, Minister for Energy and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan, said: "The Government of Tajikistan is proud to receive this prestigious award which recognises the efforts that have been made to provide a clean, reliable and affordable energy service to mountainous communities in VMKB. Partnering with the Aga Khan Development Network, the International Finance Corporation and with other development partners such as SECO, KfW, the Patrip Foundation, the Norwegian Government and USAID has allowed us to leverage a variety of different skills and strengths to help make this utility a successful one that is supporting the socio-economic development of the VMKB, Tajikistan as well as helping strengthen ties with our neighbours in Afghanistan."

Daler Jumaev, Pamir Energy's General Director, said: "Pamir Energy is honoured to be partnering with the Government of Tajikistan and Afghanistan and to be recognised by the Ashden International Awards committee as a model of sustainable energy development. This award is a testament to the power of public private partnerships and development partners to provide sustainable energy in

Central Asia and to promote regional socio-economic development."

Pamir Energy will receive its Ashden Award on Thursday 15 June 2017 at a prestigious ceremony at the Royal Geographical Society in London. Channel 4 presenter Krishnan Guru-Murthy will host the Awards and former Vice-President of the US Al Gore is the keynote speaker. Pamir Energy is a project company of the Aga Khan Fund for Economic Development, which is part of the Aga Khan Development Network. The AKDN is one of the world's leading international development organisations with mandates in social and economic development and culture. The AKDN works in 30 countries around the world and employs approximately 80,000 people, the majority of whom are based in developing countries. The AKDN works to improving the quality of life for communities in the developing world without regard for faith, origin or gender. (PR)

(6) IS Threat ...

help the Philippines retake Marawi, an inland city of more than 200,000 people.

But lawmakers, including from President Donald Trump's Republican Party, want a bigger U.S. role, short of boots on the ground. They fear the area is becoming a new hub for Islamist fighters from Southeast Asia and beyond. (AP)

(7) Afghan Exports

plants valued at \$11 million USD and will leave Afghanistan for India on Monday.

"Air cargo will help us increase our exports. Tomorrow 60 tons of medicinal plants will leave for India and after this five flights will go to India from Kabul and Kandahar per week," said Tawfiq Davari, ACCI's financial deputy head.

ACCI officials said the transport of every kilogram of vegetables and fresh fruit from Kabul and Kandahar to Indian markets will cost about 20 cents per kg, while the cost of every kilogram of goods from India to Afghanistan will cost about 40 cents.

Afghan traders meanwhile welcomed this move and said India was a lucrative market for them especially with fresh and dried fruits.

According to the traders, the cost of air transit to Indian's Delhi and Amritsar markets was cheap and from there they can easily transfer their goods on to other countries around the world.

"We have taken the necessary preparations. We have built a cold room and a small packaging factory to pack the fruit properly. Also there are refrigerated vehicles," Nejabat Haidari, head of Fresh Fruits Union said.

Meanwhile, as the air cargo corridor opens between Afghanistan and India, Pakistan's embassy in Kabul said in a statement on Monday that Pakistan also intends to open up a transit route for Afghanistan's exports.

A number of economic analysts meanwhile said that with continued border closures between Pakistan and Afghanistan, traders cannot count on Pakistan's move. (Tolonews)

(8) Qadir Seeks...

the ability to vanquish the Islamic State group because they were more familiar with the geography.

He said the uprising group had previously been extended a short term support and as a result the militia faced numerous problems. He said the militiamen should be assisted for a long term.

The lawmaker said Daesh remained in control of Tora Bora but security forces had reached some key parts of the area.

MoD representative and member of the delegation, Maj. Gen. Shaor Gul, said the security forces operation in Pachirawgam district was a success. He said some parts of Tora Bora had been recaptured and an op-

eration was ongoing to capture the entire area. (Pajhwok)

(9) 75 Insurgents...

security forces are clashing with insurgents in Marjah, Garmsir, Nad Ali and Sangin districts of the province. (Tolonews)

(10) MAIL's ...

to the Wolesi Jirga. He said the Kenyan performed duty as financial advisor at the MAIL.

He said so far the kidnappers hadn't been identified and their motive was also not known; but investigations into the incident were underway. (Pajhwok)

(11) Blocking Roads ...

palace as they were demanding the resigning of the government leaders and security officials in the aftermath of the deadly bombings in Kabul city. (KP)

(12) Old Traditions...

of Charkh district, said most of the girls in the district were not allowed to go to school.

"I have three daughters, they studied up to grade six, but my husband insists they should no longer go to school as he thinks sending adult girls to school is bad and a shameful act," the mother said.

Atifa said the government should find a solution to the problem and rescue the girls from such oppression.

Mariam, a resident of Azra district, told Pajhwok that she studied till grade six in school. "I have a lot of interest in learning, I wanted to become a doctor, but my father and brothers did not allow me to attend school," she said.

She urged elders to put aside old traditions and let their daughters adjust with the modern life and attend schools.

Gulabuddin, a resident of Daudkhel area of Pul-i-Alam city, said around 1,000 families were living in the area. He said only one primary school existed in the area and people there did not allow their girls to get higher education.

"No one here let their adult daughters attend school, if a person does so, other people would pour scorn on him until his death," he said.

He said some people who wanted their girls to be educated had shifted their houses to capital Kabul to enroll their daughters in school.

To a question, he said: "I know education is mandatory for both men and women, but we can not go against the current. I also do not let my children go to school."

On the other hand, religious scholar Maulvi Abdul Hameed said the education right was legally given to women in Islamic Shariah. "But women should be taught by women and they should attend school by wearing Niqabs."

Abdul Hameed, in response to a question, said: "Those people who don't allow their daughters to school, it's their personal will and decision, but Islam emphasizes on education."

He said Logar religious scholars had always made efforts at encouraging families towards educating their children.

Meanwhile, the Logar Education Department acknowledged old traditions and taboos had affected the girls' education process in the province.

About the issue, Education Director Mohammad Akbar Stanikzai told Pajhwok Afghan News they had so far not established a high school for girls in Charkh and Kharwar district of the province.

He said people of the two districts were unwilling to send their daughters to school and therefore no high school could be established in there. He said the families considered it a great shame if their daughters went to a high school.

However, he said: "If residents of all areas show the will for allowing their girls to attend school until last stages, then we are ready to establish a high school there."

"In addition to capital Pul-i-Alam, our main issue in dis-

tricts is that people consider traditions more essential than the law and they do whatever the customs say."

According to him, the education department was using many ways to persuade people into allowing their daughters to school."

The governor's house also admitted the issue's prevalence. The governor's spokesman, Saleem Saleh, said most of the Logar inhabitants followed old traditions rather than the law.

He cited improper traditions as a big hurdle towards girls to reach 12th grade in many districts, including Pul-i-Alam.

Saleh added the provincial authorities had launched efforts at reducing the level of the issue through tribal elders and clerics.

Not only Logar is facing the mentioned issue, but many of Afghanistan people aren't ready to send their girls to schools.

Currently 307 educational centres are operational in the capital and districts of Logar, imparting education to more than 140,000 students, including 50,000 girls. (Pajhwok)

(13) Saudi and ...

supporting or having links with the terrorism, the statement added.

Several Arab nations, including Saudi Arabia, Egypt, United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, and some other states have supported the isolation and sanctions imposed by Saudi on Qatar.

Qatar is accused of having links with the terrorist groups and relations with Iran, the two main reasons behind the step taken by certain Arab states to isolate the country and impose sanctions.

Several neighboring countries of Qatar have closed transit routes and borders with it in a bid to increase pressures on Doha. (KP)

(14) Taliban Militants ...

kidnapped a U.S. citizen early Sunday in Kabul.

Afghan television said the abducted man was working on a World Bank-related project for the Afghan Ministry of Agriculture, irrigation and livestock.

Government officials have not commented on the reports.

A Finish woman kidnapped last month and two university professors, an Australian and an American, taken way at gunpoint last August are still being held hostage. Both the kidnapping incidents occurred in the Afghan capital.

Dozens of Kabul businessmen also have complained about a rise in kidnapping for ransom incidents in during the past year. (Reuters)

(15) Kunduz Police ...

the girl.

"The seven-year-old girl was selling milk when she disappeared and then her body was found in a ditch three days later; forensic tests show that she had been raped; three individuals have been arrested in connection with the crime and they have confessed," said Kunduz police chief Abdul Hamid Hamid.

There have been instances in the past regarding violence against children in the province - which has led human rights activists to blast the Afghan legal and judicial bodies for not implementing the law on perpetrators involved in such crimes. (Tolonews)

(16) Girl Commits...

on Sunday.

The mother of the woman said her daughter was arrested 20 days ago by police over a conspiracy of having illicit affairs. But she was released after the court declared her innocent.

She said she had asked the court not to hand over her daughter to her husband. But the court did not listen to her request, he added.

She alleged her daughter was killed and then thrown into a deep well by her son-in-law. However, a court said official no one had approached them to keep the woman away from her husband. Provincial police

chief, Khalilullah Dastyar said the motive behind the incident remained unclear but the husband and brother-in-law of the victim had been arrested for investigation. (Pajhwok)

(17) Top Haqqani ...

report so far.

The airstrike was apparently carried out nearly a hour before a group of suicide bombers launched a coordinated attack on a headquarters of the police forces in this province.

Haqqani network was formed in the late 1970s by Jalaluddin Haqqani. The group is allied with al-Qaida and the Afghan Taliban and cooperates with other terrorist organizations in the region.

The US Department of State designated the HQN as a Foreign Terrorist Organization on September 7, 2012.

This comes as a senior Haqqani network leader was killed in a drone strike in the tribal regions of Pakistan last week. (KP)

(18) Father of...

confessed to their crime.

The victim's father said: "My child was abducted on Jun 7 and last Friday night I saw a dream, in which my daughter told me she has been abused and killed. She said her body was put in a sack and thrown into a nearby stream.

"When I went to the stream, I found her dead in the bag," the man said, adding he had informed police about the incident and three individuals had been detained as a result of investigations. He asked the government to punish the perpetrators.

One of the suspects said: "We were sitting in our house when the milk-selling girl knocked at the door, asking us to buy milk. We called the girl in and abused her and then we strangled her to death." (Pajhwok)

(19) Trump Again ...

Post story "from the other night" rather than confirming he is being investigated.

The daily was one of several media that reported that Trump himself is being investigated on allegations of obstructing justice. (AFP)

(20) AIIB Wins....

of governors lasted for two days through Saturday in South Korea's southern resort island of Jeju.

The first meeting was held in Beijing last year. The third annual meeting was scheduled to be held in India in June 2018.

The AIIB, officially launched in January 2016, is a multilateral development bank initiated by China and supported by a wide range of countries and regions, which provides financing for infrastructure improvement in Asia.

The deputy minister said the 18-month-old AIIB achieved what other multilateral development banks (MDBs) took four to five years to achieve.

To date, the AIIB has approved 2.49 billion U.S. dollars in financing for 16 infrastructure projects in nine countries. Twelve of the projects were co-financed, while four were standalone projects prepared by the bank. (Xinhua)

(21) U.S. Supreme...

ban lost a battle in the 9th circuit court, and the executive order is now being weighed by the Supreme Court, which has the final say on whether Trump's ban is constitutional.

Some experts said that, based on history, there's a high likelihood that the lower court ruling will be overturned, and that the Supreme Court will rule in Trump's favor. One reason is because the 9th circuit court has had a large percentage of its rulings overturned. Critics said it's one of the nation's most liberal courts, and noted that it is heavily laden with judges appointed by former President Bill Clinton, a liberal Democrat. Critics have blasted that court's judges for, they allege, acting more as activists rather than sticking to their duty of upholding the law. (Xinhua)