

Quote of the Day

An honest man can feel no pleasure in the exercise of power over his fellow citizens.

Thomas Jefferson

Constitution

In order to implement proposals regarding the amendment of the Constitution, a Commission composed of members of the Government, National Assembly, and the Supreme Court, shall be established by a Presidential decree, and the commission shall prepare a draft of the amendments.

Article 150

Reg: No 352

Volume No. 3047

Thursday June 25, 2015 Saratan 04, 1394

www.outlookafghanistan.net

Price: 15/-Afs

Next Four Months are Fate-Deciding: President

KABUL - President Ashraf Ghani has said the next four months are "fate-deciding" for Afghanistan and the only way to build sustainable and durable security is to depoliticise the Afghan forces. Talking to lawmakers from southern Ghazni province at his office last night, the president asked the public representatives to join hands with the government in implementing its reforms programme. A statement from the Presidential Palace said lawmaker Dr. Abdul Qayum Sajjadi spoke on behalf of others about security related issues in Ghazni province, including targeted killings, hostage-taking of the passengers, absenteeism in police forces in districts and a weak government support for ...*(More on P4)...*(1)



Douglas Lute

US to be a Major Contributor to Post-2016 Mission

KABUL - US Ambassador to NATO Douglas Lute on Wednesday said his country would be a major contributor to the alliance's mission in Afghanistan beyond 2016. Lute was speaking at a press conference in Brussels ahead of NATO defence ministerial meeting scheduled to begin in the Belgium capital this afternoon. The two-day meeting will be attended by defence ministers from 41 NATO member states and partners. Afghan de-



fence minister nominee Masoom Stanikzai will also attend the meeting. Lute said they would welcome Stanikzai at the meeting. "We'll welcome Afghan Acting Defense Minister Stanekzai to the Resolute Support session. Again, this is Afghanistan with 40-plus NATO partners." The ...*(More on P4)...*(2)

'Dostum-Noor Alliance to Improve Security in North'



KABUL - The unity government on Wednesday welcomed the reconciliation and alliance between First Vice-President Abdul Rashid Dostum and Acting Balkh Governor Atta Muhammad Noor, saying the move would help improve security in northern Afghanistan. However, some ...*(More on P4)...*(3)

Electoral Reform Panel to Start Work before Weekend

KABUL - The office of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) on Wednesday reassured the electoral reforms commission would start work by the end of current week amid claims that all differences between leaders of the unity government regarding electoral reforms had been resolved. Electoral reforms was a major point of agreement between President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani and CEO Abdullah Abdullah, based on which the unity government was formed. Based on a presidential decree, the electoral reforms commission

was formed three months back, but the panel has yet to officially resume work.

Javed Faisal, deputy CEO spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News the panel would start work by end of the week with president officially issuing a decree about it. "Based on the unity government leaders' commitment, it is planned that the commission should start work by end of the week. No more excuse is left to ...*(More on P4)...*(4)



NSC Issues National Threat Assessment Draft

KABUL - The National Security Council (NSC) has issued National Threat Assessment (NTA) draft on Wednesday, the presidential palace said. According to a statement from the Presidential Palace, a meeting of the NSC - chaired by President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani - was held Wednesday.

The statement said the president also praised bravery of Essa Khan, an Afghan National Army (ANA) soldier, who eliminated six terrorists during an attack on the Afghan parliament last Monday. A total of eight insurgents launched attack on ...*(More on P4)...*(5)

Strong Pakistan-Afghanistan Ties Imperative: US

WASHINGTON - In the aftermath of drawdown of US troops, it is critical that Pakistan has a strong relationship with Afghanistan and Islamabad continues to put pressure on the Taliban, Obama's ambassadorial nominee for Pakistan told lawmakers on Tuesday. "Given the drawdown in US

forces in Afghanistan, it is all the more critical that relations between Pakistan and Afghanistan be strong and cooperative, and that Pakistan continue to put pressure on the Taliban to join an Afghan-led peace process," David Hale, the nominee for US Ambassador to Pakistan, said during his ...*(More on P4)...*(6)

Talks without Political Office Support Irrelevant: Taliban

KABUL - The Taliban on Wednesday made clear that talks without the explicit backing of their main political office in Qatar would be considered personal views of individuals. The statement came after Sartaj Aziz, Pakistan prime minister's adviser on foreign affairs and national security, said a day earlier the Afghan government and Taliban would likely meet in a week's time. ...*(More on P4)...*(7)



MPs Donate Over 1m Afghanis to Parliament Security

KABUL - Members of Wolesi Jirga or lower houses of parliament have donated their one-day salaries - worth over one million Afghanis - to bolster security of parliament. On Tuesday, eight attackers stormed the parliament building but faced stern resistance from security personnel. Kabul police chief said all eight attackers were gunned down. Two civilians were killed and 28 others ...*(More on P4)...*(8)

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