

(1) Over 50 ...

Kentoz. This comes after the First Vice President Abdul Rashid Dostum said government's control is confined to main roads and that other parts are under the control of insurgents from Pakistan. (Tolonews)

(2) Japan, UN ...

facilities for the Afghan students. The president also met UN's Special Representative Nicholas Haysom, whose tenure has come to an end. Ghani praised Haysom for supporting Afghanistan. For his part, the outgoing diplomat expressed his gratitude to the Afghan government and people for support of Afghans. Tadamichi Yamamoto, UNAMA's new head who was also present, was welcomed by Ghani, who said the Afghan government would support him in his task. Yamamoto said he would try to expand cooperative relations with Afghanistan. (Pajhwok)

(3) Afghanistan ...

ported by Pakistan, meanwhile President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani policy towards Pakistan has been ineffective, the situation has gone chaotic specially the Afghan migrants living condition in Pakistan.

The following comments come after Afghan President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani has repeatedly insisted that his Government is committed to ensure peace and stability in Afghanistan. (Agencies)

(4) Kazakh, ...

Russia in fighting terrorism and extremism, holding working meetings of the two countries' experts. It was also proposed to intensify the activity of the Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre for Combating Illicit Trafficking of Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and their Precursors (CARICC) in order to more effectively counteract drug trafficking via Kazakh and Russian territories. (Agencies)

(5) Nangarhar ...

90 houses in the attack, but he added that they will provide the displaced families with facilities and assistance.

According to reports, nearly 161 Daesh militants, seven security force members and five civilians were killed and 31 others including 13 civilians were wounded in Nangarhar clash.

Most of the insurgents were killed in foreign troops' air strikes, according to officials.

Daesh fighters are reportedly active in parts of Nangarhar, particularly in Kot and Achin districts. (Tolonews)

(6) Media Rights ...

Rahimullah Samander, the head of the AIJA, told a press conference in the Afghan capital that the Afghan security forces were involved in 15 incidents of violence, the Taliban militants were involved in four and unnamed armed groups were involved in three others.

"In some cases, government employees, specially low-ranking police officers, do not understand how to behave with reporters," Samander said, adding, "We ask government departments, armed groups and those who involved in the fighting to pave the way for reporters to do their jobs properly."

An American journalist and his Afghan translator were killed in an ambush by the Taliban militants in the southern province of Helmand on June 5. David Gilkey of the US National Public Radio (NPR) and his interpreter, Zabihullah Tamanna, who were traveling with the Afghan army, came under fire by the militants near the town of Marjah. American journalist David Gilkey (R) and his Afghan translator Zabihullah Tamanna were killed in a Taliban attack in southern Afghanistan on June 5, 2016. (AP)

Gilkey had been covering the conflict in Afghanistan and Iraq since the US invasion of the two countries in early 2000s.

Helmand and other southern Afghan provinces have been the scene of deadly fighting between the Taliban militants and government forces in recent months.

In January, at least seven Afghan media workers were killed and more than two dozen were seriously injured in a bomb attack targeting a bus transporting journalists from the Afghan television channel, Tolo TV, in Kabul.

Journalists.

The last foreign journalist killed in the country was Anja Niedringhaus, an Associated Press photographer who was shot to death by an Afghan policeman while covering the elections in 2014. (PressTV)

(7) 3,000 Kgs...

arrested in connection to the transport and attack plots in Kabul.

NDS said the militants were looking to use the explosives for the attacks specifically during the Eid days.

The anti-government armed militant groups including the Taliban insurgents have not commented regarding the report so far.

This comes as the Taliban-led insurgency has been rampant during the recent months as the group attempts to carry out more attacks as part of its spring offensive.

The Taliban group announced the launch of the offensive earlier in April this year under the name Omari operation but the Afghan security officials are saying that the offensive has been successfully thwarted as the group has received major blows during the operations. (KP)

(8) More than ...

refugees have been arrested over the past month, police said, as they continued with search operations in different parts of the city.

Police said 950 illegal Afghans were arrested in Cantonment area, 350 in interior city and 700 in the rural areas around Peshawar. Some 400s settlers have been deported to their homeland.

Mushtaq Ghani, spokesman for the KP government, said the province could no longer afford to bear the economic burden of Afghan refugees. "We cannot bear the load of more than three million Afghans."

If the federal government wished to extend the stay of Afghans, then it needs to establish refugee camps and shift the immigrants from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to Punjab. "After June 30, all Afghans will be restricted to camps..." (Pajhwok)

(9) State Warns...

that are of a military or paramilitary nature.

"Any party that has military relations with or links to foreign sources, will have to contend with the Afghanistan government and judicial institutions that have the authority to disqualify parties that have military branches," the Head of the secretariat of lawyers' union, Ainuddin Bahaduri, said.

Armed clashes between Jamaat-e-Islami and Junbish-e-Melli party supporters in the North have shown that those two parties do have some armed supporters. Both parties have however said that armed groups who disturbed the public order in the city, did not belong to them. The Junbish-e-Melli party called for disarmament of the armed groups.

"Those who are threatening the security situation, have never belonged to us. We ask the government that if armed groups were to threaten the security of the state, members of such groups should be detained and legal action taken against them in accordance with the law. We believe in our party's democratic values, not the values of bullies," said Bashir Ahmad Tayang spokesman for Junbish-e-Melli party.

"The Jamaat-e-Islami party operates on the basis of Afghanistan constitution and we do not believe in military activities," said Waqif Hakimi spokesman for Jamaat-e-Islami.

Jamaat-e-Islami and Junbish-e-Melli parties are led by First Vice-President Gen. Abdul Rashid Dostum and Foreign Minister Salahuddin Rabbani.

Recent armed clashes between supporters of the two parties in the Farjabad province, have caused the death and wounding of some of their supporters. Dozens of civilians have also been killed and wounded.

"If we found that any party has armed groups, there should be no doubt that such a party will face legal action," said President Ashraf Ghani's deputy spokesman, Dawa Khan Menapal.

Afghan law states that if a party's supporters engaged in armed activities, such a political party will be declared to be an armed party. Declarations of that nature will be detrimental to those parties. Their political activities and their participation in the democratic process will be banned. Both national and international restrictions will be imposed on their party's leaders. (Tolonews)

(10) Baghlan ...

taking office. "Initially I found 800,000 afs salaries were not paid.

"In connection with the embezzlement of this amount, four employees of the department have been

introduced to the attorney office for investigations," the director said.

Eighteen schools in insecure areas of the province were closed but teachers' salaries continued to be paid. Paikan said investigations into the incident had been launched to unearth the truth.

Some civil society organisations have complained of corruption in the department and teachers' appointments. They claim a teacher's post could be purchased for 80,000 afghanis.

They welcomed the initiative of Paikan to introduce the corruption-tainted employees to the attorney office, hoping the accused would be brought to justice. (Pajhwok)

(11) Civil Society ...

not allow anyone to work on any coalmine in the province until the government addressed their problems. Mohammad Jan, one of the protestors, alleged the company had fired more than 580 workers.

Yar Mohammad, another protestor, said they would close the Afghan Coal company and block the main highway linking Pul-i-Khumri with Mazar-i-Sharif if their demands were not met in the next few days.

Governor Abdul Sattar Barez said the contract for Ghorri Cement and Kakar Coalmine was signed with the Ministry of Petroleum and Mining. But according to reports, the company fired workers without consultations with the central government.

Mohammad Maroof Sarwari, head of the Afghan Coalmine Company, said the workers had been dismissed because work on the mine had been stopped due to insecurity. He said Hezb-i-Islami commander Mirwais had attacked the mine several times, causing the company and residents losses. "We have told the officials concerned about the problem but nobody paid attention to the issue," he said. (Pajhwok)

(12) Dostum's ...

Aziz Rafee, head of a civil society organization.

The head of the political and international committee of the Council of Protection and Stability in Afghanistan, Mohammad Umer Daudzai, said they are concerned about the fragile situation in the state.

"An agreement-based government can last for one or two years, not forever. The duration of the agreement has been completed. Now you [government leaders] should find a solution. If they don't and do not have the ability to do so, they should seek help from us," said Daudzai.

"No rifts should emerge from within the system. This will favor armed anti-government militants," said Mohammad Abdul, head of the judicial commission at the Wolesi Jirga (Lower House of parliament).

Talking to journalists during a military operation in Dawlat Abad district in Faryab on Monday, Dostum said President Ashraf Ghani and the Chief Executive Abdullah Abdullah have shared the power among themselves. His role in the administration is now unclear.

Dostum said considering his efforts in bringing President Ghani to power, at least 10 embassies should be allocated to his supporters. (Tolonews)

(13) Helmand...

and some agriculture organisations appoint non-professional individuals to train farmers."

Mohammad complained inexperienced trainers offered the growers little help. He linked the lower yield levels to what he called the poor training imparted to growers on maximising the production of crops.

However, he acknowledged the market for melons and watermelons was better this year. A big-size watermelon is sold for 50 to 70 afghanis and a small one for 30 afghanis in Helmand markets.

Mohammad Bayan, a resident of Garmser district, confirmed the lower yield of watermelon but prices were higher. "Watermelons farms are yet mature fully, but the market is very hot."

The fruit is sold to merchants from Herat, Kabul, Ghazni and other provinces at high prices. However, he called for the government to help farmers in preventing fruit diseases. A resident of Nawa district, Haji Mohammad, said: "Our farms have given unsatisfactory yield over the past few years; we don't know how to boost production." Beside crop diseases, insecurity and blasts also harmed the crops, he explained.

Shah Mohammad, agriculture promotion manager, said watermelon and melon were not fully mature so far. "Their yields are not low, as

the fruits ripen late in most areas," he said.

The number of melon and watermelon gardens is high in Nawa and Garmser districts. The fruit from the two districts has a better market, Mohammad confirmed. Sometimes farms have been hit by diseases, but the agriculture department is helping growers to prevent such attacks. (Pajhwok)

(14) 37 Daesh...

were wounded during the operation," he said.

Sangin also confirmed 37 Daesh militants had been killed and 40 others wounded during the operation since yesterday.

"Daesh militants are on the run, they have emplaced many landmines in the district and we have found and defused 40 landmines since yesterday. Our operation is successfully ongoing."

During the capture of Janjal Ghundi and Seh Pai areas, the official said they found four dead bodies of local gunmen who resisted the Daesh fighters.

Governor Salim Khan Kunduzi told Pajhwok that ground and air forces were taking part in the Kot operation and the district would be soon purged of Daesh presence.

He said the IS militants had torched 90 homes of local residents and 500 families had been displaced as a result of the attack.

The governor said the displaced families would return to their homes once the situation in the district was improved and their destroyed homes would be reconstructed.

Nangarhar provincial council secretary Zabihullah Zamarai hailed the operation in Kot as well-coordinated and said the offensive had good results. The public representative urged both sides of the conflict to avoid harming civilians.

A statement from the governor's house said civilians had suffered no casualties during the ongoing operation in the Kot district.

Malak Aman Khan, a tribal elder in Dawani village of Kot district, claimed most of the Daesh fighters were Pakistanis who used light and heavy weapons during the clashes against security forces.

"The operation in Kot needs to be intensified. Both sides are using heavy and light weapons and this is creating problems for local residents," he said.

The Daesh group has so far said nothing about the operation in Kot. (Pajhwok)

(15) Rashidan District...

police chief Brig. Gen. Aminullah Amarkhel confirmed the incident. There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the attack. (Pajhwok)

(16) Taliban Extorting...

Qush Tapa district, also said prices of food items had been on the increase over the past two months.

"A tin of five liters of ghee which was previously sold at 500 afghanis is now costs 900 to 1,000 afghanis, the prices of overall food items are high," he said.

He added shopkeepers argued they must increase prices because Taliban were extorting money from truck drivers.

The food prices would increase by three times if the security situation on the Shiberghan-Qush Tapa and Darzab roads did not improve, he said.

However, a Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid denied the extortion as government propaganda against militants.

"No Taliban member can do so, if any of them is involved in such actions, they would face serious reaction and would be expelled from the Taliban ranks," he said.

Jawzjan governor's spokesman, Mohammad Reza Ghafoori, confirmed the money extortion by Taliban and said the problem would be resolved as a clearing operation was being launched in the area in near future.

He said Taliban also stopped people on roads and harassed them under different excuses. Ghafoori assured the problem would be addressed soon.

Darzab and Qush Tapa are unstable districts of Jawzjan, located 105 kilometers west of Shiberghan, the provincial capital. (Pajhwok)

(17) ICC Defuses ...

convinced the Namibians that the words spoken by the Afghanistan fielders were misunderstood as a result of the linguistic differences between the two nations and at no point did the Afghanistan fielders mean to racially abuse their opposition. Lack of sensitivity as well as cultural misunderstanding were the

reasons for the confrontation, the report further said.

Further, Afghanistan Cricket Board (ACB) have accepted that some of the words spoken by their players weren't in good taste and it could have well been one of the reasons for the Namibians to feel offended. The board and its players are said to have offered apologies to their Namibian counterparts, while also stressing that at no point it should be mistaken as a breach of ICC's Anti-Racism Code.

Additionally, the ACB has undertaken that their national squad players will also attend an education and training programme to be organized by the ICC which will help them understand the responsibilities of international cricketers in relation to issues regarding race, culture and language sensitivity.

Commenting on the entire process, David Richardson, ICC's chief executive, said that the ICC places utmost importance towards removing racism from the game and commended both teams for their understanding of the same.

"I would like to thank all parties involved for their cooperation in and commitment to the conciliation process. I am also extremely grateful to the conciliator for his professional approach. The ICC would like to stress that there is no place for racism within the sport; we are proud of the diversity of the global cricket community and accordingly place the utmost importance on every participant according respect to their fellow players," he said.

Under ICC Anti-Racism Code, since both parties have accepted that the reconciliation process has reached a consensual resolution over the matter, the case has now been deemed as closed and there will be no further comments made. (Agencies)

(18) Amu River...

orchards were at risk of being washed away.

"The rise in water level and destruction occurs when Tajikistan closes its side and all the water is unleashed on us, causing huge destruction. Some families were obliged to leave the area."

The 5th Badakhshan water district head, Abdul Baseer Qanit, said the Amu River in Shaghnan, Shakasham, Darwaz and some other districts had inflicted financial losses on people and caused damage to forests, farmland and orchards.

The river forms a 850km border with Tajikistan in Badakhshan from Wakhan to Shahr-e-Buzarg area, he said, adding the Ministry of Water and Energy was only able to establish a nine-kilometer embankments along the river.

"Averagely building a kilometer of embankment costs one million US dollars. Despite a lack of resources, we should try our best to protect the land from being destroyed."

A Kunduz resident also complained about the issue and said agriculture land in Imam Sahib, Qala-i-Zal and many other districts had been washed away by the river.

The Amu River originates from Pamir Mountains series and has a total 1126km length inside Afghanistan. According to the Ministry of Water and Energy, surveys show permanent embankments along the worst parts of the river needs \$40 billion. (Pajhwok)

(19) Peshgam, New...

Afghanistan's media history, explaining politics, economy, administration and management were the focus of the channel.

Literacy programmes and scientific documentaries would also be aired by the TV channel, which is currently on the air in Kabul and some other provinces of the country. (Pajhwok)

(20) Clinton, Trump...

who are the least favorable presidential candidates in decades, have each lost ground among independents who lean toward neither party. Because of this, the candidates' national favorable ratings have stayed still or declined slightly, despite recent improved ratings from their own parties, Gallup said.

Clinton's overall favorable rating since clinching the nomination has averaged 41 percent, nearly matching her 40 percent in May but down slightly from 44 percent in January.

Trump's average 31 percent thus far in June compares with 32 percent in May and 34 percent in January. (Xinhua)

(21) Exit Talks...

referendum. British Prime Minister David Cameron is set to explain the referendum at Tuesday's summit. The 27 non-UK EU member states' leaders

are scheduled to hold an informal meeting on Wednesday. (Xinhua)

(22) U.S. to Keep...

to conclude an ambitious, comprehensive and high standard agreement this year. "

Froman also admitted the U.S. government was evaluating the effect of Brexit on the TTIP negotiations. (Xinhua)

(23) Turkey Signs...

blockaded Gaza Strip in 2010 in May 2010.

Attempts to mend ties were initiated in 2015 when delegations from two sides met for the first time. Negotiations were conducted throughout 2016 until June 26, when the two sides met in Rome to agree on the latest draft of the agreement.

Under the deal, Israel will pay \$20 million in compensation to the relatives of the Mavi Marmara victims, and Turkey will deliver humanitarian aid and other non-military products to Gaza with a first shipment of 10,000 tons of supplies being sent next Friday. (Xinhua)

(24) Merkel Warns...

Norway which accepted free migration from the EU in return for access to the internal market.

"This applies to Britain as it does to everyone else," she said.

The German leader reiterated that no formal or informal negotiations over Britain's future relations with the EU would start until the country formally notifies its intention to leave.

As long as Britain hasn't formally exited the bloc, it remains an EU member state and "all rights and obligations of membership would continue to apply to both sides."

Merkel expressed confidence that the EU is "strong enough" to withstand a withdrawal of Britain.

"Any suggestions that could lift the EU out of this crisis are welcome," she said, adding that she and the German government would make every effort to prevent nationalist forces in the EU from strengthening. (Xinhua)

(25) UN Chief ...

electricity shortage in Gaza and the unemployment that hit 50 percent among the coastal enclave's youths.

The UN chief said "we must speak openly about the unacceptable hardships faced by the people of Gaza in light of the humiliation, occupation and siege, as well as the division between the Gaza Strip and the West Bank."

He called for uniting the West Bank and Gaza under a democratically elected government based upon the political program of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Ban also thanked donors for their efforts in the reconstruction of Gaza, pointing out that 90 percent of the schools and hospitals were reconstructed.

He stressed that the international community "has a great responsibility to work continuously and seriously to achieve peace," and that the UN will continue to work for a future without occupation and injustice, and for the establishment of a Palestinian state to live side by side with the state of Israel.

Ban's visit to Gaza came at the end of a tour in the Middle East.

Before leaving Tuesday night, he is scheduled to meet with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in Jerusalem and Palestinian officials including Prime Minister Rami Hamdallah and President Mahmoud Abbas. (Xinhua)

(26) Indian PM ...

all the countries to be visited have coasts facing the Indian Ocean and have large Indian communities settled there for long time.

The visit would follow that by Indian President Pranab Mukherjee to three African countries earlier this month. (Xinhua)

(27) Wijemanna...

improve their quality of life, and to accelerate economic growth, social progress and poverty alleviation in the region. The Fund is to serve as the umbrella financial institution for SAARC projects and programs which are in fulfillment of the objectives of the SAARC Charter. SDF has three funding windows viz. Social, Economic and Infrastructure. (PR)

(28) NATO Military...

the exercise, while their counterparts from Lithuania, Australia and the U.S. Coast Guard would be official observers, the statement said.

During the past three years, the Bulgarian Air Force hosted various multinational training of military transport aviation, the statement said. (Xinhua)