

Quote of the Day

There can be no real individual freedom in the presence of economic insecurity.
Chester Bowles (1901 - 1986)

Constitution

The court is obliged to state the reasons for the decision it issues.
Article 129

Reg: No 352

Volume No. 3009

Sunday May 10, 2015 Sawr 20, 1394

www.outlookafghanistan.net

Price: 15/- Af\$

Ghani Stresses Coordination among Ministries, Provinces

KABUL - Pledging that all provinces would be equally served in terms of development, President Ashraf Ghani on Saturday stressed close coordination among ministries and provinces.

He expressed this at a ceremony arranged in honor of Ghulam Jilani Popal to introduce him as head of Independent Directorate of Local Governance (IDLG). Popal was recently appointed as head of IDLG following a presidential decree and officially resumed work today, a statement from the Presidential Palace said.

The president said before more focus was on ministries while



in unity government equal heed would be paid to provinces. "We assure people that in our government equal focus will

be paid to provinces and there will be a better coordination among them and the ministries," he added. Ghani said it was

also important to elect mayors through elections, but prior to that reform was needed in municipalities. (Pajhwok)

WJ Approves New Tax Draft into Law



KABUL - Wolesi Jirga — or lower house of parliament — on Saturday approved tax affairs bill into law with majority of votes.

Shinkai Karokhel, a lawmaker from Kabul and member of finance commission, presented the bill in the house. She said the bill was landed in the lower house last year and the commission had evaluated the draft

in several meetings. The draft would help in collection and management of taxes and protect the rights of those who pay taxes to the government, she added.

Another Lawmaker Sadiqi Nili said the draft comprised 13 chapters and 65 articles and everyone agreed to vote in favor. The bill would help better collection of taxes, Nili hoped... (More on P4)...(1)

WJ Wants Govt. to Introduce Defence Minister-Designate



KABUL - Some Wolesi Jirga (WJ) members on Saturday expressed deep concern over growing insecurity in the country and asked the government to introduce defence minister-designate for vote of confidence to the lower house. Lawmaker Kubra Mustafavi said... (More on P4)...(3)

EU Celebrates the Europe Day

KABUL - European Union (EU) in Afghanistan on Saturday celebrated the Europe Day. EU High Representative & Vice President Federica Mogherini said in his statement that on 9 May 1950 Robert Schuman called on the nations of Europe to unite and make war on our continent impossible. 65 years later, his message of peace and unity is as relevant as ever... (More on P4)...(4)

CEO Defends Security Strategy, Rejects Claims of Double-Dealing

KABUL - Chief Executive Abdullah Abdullah on Saturday denounced the recent claims circulating in Parliament and analyst circles that agents from within the national unity government or its NATO allies are responsible for the recent wave of insecurity that has swept across... (More on P4)...(2)



NATO FM's to Discuss Afghanistan Security

KABUL - A two-day NATO foreign ministers' meeting will kick-off from Wednesday in Turkey to discuss recent security situation of Afghanistan, a NATO official said Saturday. Ismail Aramaz, NATO Senior civilian representative for Afghanistan, told Pajhwok Afghan News the meeting of the alliance's foreign ministers, Resolute Support (RS) and 14 other states supporting the RS will attend the meeting. Besides, Afghan Foreign... (More on P4)...(5)

Watchdogs Blast Delay in Electoral Reforms

KABUL - Electoral watchdogs on Saturday lambasted delay in electoral reforms, saying there was lack of roadmap for reforms and holding parliamentary elections. Electoral reforms were a major point of agreement among leaders on which the unity government was formed. The electoral reforms commission was formed following a presidential decree but still hasn't embarked on its task... (More on P4)...(6)

Afghan Officials Foreign Fighters Involved in Kunduz Attack

KABUL - A Taliban assault that threatened to overrun a northern Afghan city involved a number of foreign fighters, officials said Saturday, a battle that saw at least 100,000 people flee their homes.

Kunduz's provincial governor and its police chief suggested the foreign fighters could be part of a small contingent of militants who pledged their loyalty to an Islamic State group affiliate in Afghanistan, but offered no other evidence to support their claim.

The battle in Kunduz began April 24. Thousands of army reinforcements have been deployed to the city. Officials had feared in the days following the attack that Kunduz could fall to the Taliban. Provincial Gov. Mohammad Omer Safi said the bodies of 18 foreigners had been retrieved from... (More on P4)...(7)

'Senate chairman's Brother Accused of Having Links with Terrorists'

KABUL - The 1st Deputy Speaker of Wolesi Jirga Haji Zahir Qadir on Saturday alleged that the prime suspect involved in suicide attacks in



eastern Nangarhar province was residing in the house of Chairman Senate Fazal Hadi Muslimyar's brother.

He said security officials were ordered to stay away from searching the house of Younis, the brother of Muslimyar, for three hours before they... (More on P4)...(8)

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