

(1) IEC Shares...

assessment is to observe balance, enable vote casting and designate in schools and government facilities as polling stations," the IEC statement said.

The ECI asked election watchdogs and observers to cooperate with the commission in taking forward the election process.

"Holding of coordination meetings and signing MoUs with officials of relevant organs, coordination with security sector, recruitment of election workers, capacity building, public awareness, preparing contents for public awareness, transportation of materials and some other tasks are part of operational activities," the source added.

The statement said relevant organs' commitment and coordination was needed in execution of the mentioned activities.

Using technology for analytical and cost tracking proposes in elections and ensuring security were main demands of the commission.

"The last step the IEC to take is to provide the list of all voters and the commission will also work on this soon," the statement concluded. (Pajhwok)

(2) Government ..

Afghanistan with the South Asia Educational and Research Network, and reconstruction of 11 kilometers of road in Nuristan province.

The National Procurement usually chaired by President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani is considered as one of the key initiatives of the government of national unity to ensure transparency in the award and implementation of the governmental projects.

This comes as the Afghan government has stepped up efforts to counter corruption amid reports the Afghan authorities have made progress in the fight against corruption.

The United Nations in its latest report said last month that the Afghan authorities have made heady in their fight against corruption although enormous changes remains. (KP)

(3) UK Asked to ...

At least 3,000 more US troops to Afghanistan to fight the Taliban, US media report.

There are 13,000 NATO troops currently in the country, 8,400 of them US.

US combat operations against the Taliban officially ended in 2014, but special forces have continued to provide support to Afghan troops.

The UK was involved in the conflict in Afghanistan against the Taliban and al-Qaeda for 13 years, from 2001 to 2014.

The last UK combat troops left Afghanistan in October 2014, but 450 remained in order to train, advise, and assist local Afghan forces.

In July another 50 were sent to aid counter-terrorism efforts and provide leadership training. (BBC)

(4) Afghanistan's ...

data shows more than 9 million students have been enrolled in state-run educational centers and 340,000 in private centers.

The statistics show a 2.4 percent decrease in students attending low level educational centers compares to last year. According to the CSO yearbook, the number of healthcare centers reached 2,173 in 1395 over previous year's 2,216, recording a 1.9 percent increase in healthcare centers.

The report says the volume of Afghanistan imports stood at \$7,700 million and exports at \$570 million in 1394 solar year. But the imports in 1395 solar year decreased by \$1,180 million and exports by 25 million afghanis.

The CSO report puts at more than 65,800 Afghan refugee families or 372,000 individuals who returned to Afghanistan from Pakistan, Iran and other countries in 1395. (Pajhwok)

(5) US may ...

limited the mobility of US military advisers on the battlefield," The Washington Post quoted unnamed officials as saying.

It added the US troop surge

and aid to Afghanistan would be conditioned upon the efforts of the Ghani administration to fight against corruption and improve governance.

According to CNN, both US National Security Advisor McMaster and Defence Secretary James Mattis are supportive of the troop increase.

On Monday, Mattis confirmed a decision could be expected "very, very shortly" on expanding the US troop presence in Afghanistan.

Mattis, who visited Kabul last month, told journalists accompanying him on a trip to Denmark: "We'll take that decision forward very, very shortly." (Pajhwok)

(6) Kabul, ...

Kabul and Islamabad would jointly work for peace and stability, he said, as the Chaman Friendship Gate in Kandahar's Spin Boldak district remains closed. (PR)

(7) Geological Team...

said: "After negotiations, both sides have agreed that a geological survey should be conducted. Technical teams of both countries will use GPS and Google Maps as well as other means to get the answer." According to Pakistan Today, Kashif Nabi, a local administrator in Balochistan, said survey teams, which include military officers, arrived in the Chaman area on Monday and were working "amicably". The situation is calm but the border crossing remains closed, he added.

"Officials from both sides launched the survey in the border villages along with experts," a senior security official told Pakistan Today, adding the job would be completed in three to four days.

"Officials from the geological survey departments of the two countries will conduct a survey, and they will also make use of Google Maps," said another senior Pakistani security source in Islamabad who requested anonymity.

The Durand Line, which is the porous 2,430 km border between Pakistan and Afghanistan, was established in 1893 after a pact was signed between British diplomat and civil servant, Sir Mortimer Durand, and the then Afghan ruler (Emir) Abdur Rehman Khan. It has remained a bone of contention between Kabul and Islamabad since 1949.

The Afghan government does not recognize the Durand Line as the border and many believe the true border is the Indus River. (Tolonews)

(8) Pak-Afghan ...

incident, he remarked. According to the sources, the ambassador later conveyed Pakistan's reservations to the Afghan government.

On Monday, Sartaj Aziz had condemned the Chaman incident and called it "unfortunate" while addressing a news conference at the Foreign Office.

He also remarked that Pakistan responded to the firing from across the border.

On May 5, at least 11 people were martyred and 46 injured when Afghan border forces opened fire on Frontier Corps Balochistan soldiers deployed for security of census team near the Chaman border.

In response, the gate between both the countries on the Chaman border, Bab-e-Dosti was closed following firing from the Afghan border police.

On May 7, more than 50 Afghan soldiers were killed and about 100 injured when Pakistan retaliated to unprovoked firing and shelling by Afghan forces at Chaman border, Balochistan Frontier Corps Inspector General Major General Nadeem Ahmed said. (Monitoring Desk)

(9) Defeating ISIS,...

wants to make sure that we do what we can to win. And that's why he charged the generals and other military advisors and national security team to come up with a plan that can get us there," Spicer said.

The strategy, he said, was to make sure that the US put its national security interests first, and defeat all of those folks that seek to do it harm.

(Pajhwok)

(10) ICC Recognizes ...

honored with all spiritualities of International Cricket council for List A league players.

"ACB Officials appreciates ICC decision in giving List A status to ACB Regional Domestic ODN league, which will contribute into the further development of the Afghanistan Domestic Cricket," the statement added.

This comes as Afghanistan had major achievements in the field of cricket during the recent years both the on the international and domestic level.

The Afghan national cricket team and national cricket players have participated in some of the major international events, including the ICC World T20 and other major competitions. (KP)

(11) Polio ...

launched on March 27 this year. Only one positive case of polio surfaced in Farah in 2015 and since then no case has been detected.

Twenty polio cases were recorded across the country in 2015, 13 in 2016 and three emerged during the ongoing year. One case was diagnosed in Kandahar, one in Helmand and one in Kunduz.

Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Nigeria are three countries on global level where polio virus still exists, but Afghanistan has been close to fully eliminating the virus. (Pajhwok)

(12) Rebels Eye...

about 1,000 tunnels of coal mine.

Massoud said they needed a strong 300-member police force to ensure security of the district and coalmines.

The police chief said President Ashraf Ghani and the Ministry of Interior had been conveyed these concerns, but no action was taken despite assurances from the Presidential Palace.

He said the presence of militants in the vicinity of the coal mine was alarming. "Some anti-government elements are currently active at the mining site. They want to completely control the coalmine."

The police chief also raised the issue of low salaries of Samangan police compared to salaries of the police in neighbouring provinces.

He said police in Kunduz, Baghlan and Balkh received 12,000 afghanis monthly pay while in Samangan their salary was 8,000 afghanis.

Maulvi Ghulam Muhaiddin, a member of the Mesharano Jirga, also expressed concern over the salary issue. He promised to convey the matter to the Senate and the president. (Pajhwok)

(13) Iran Warns...

to control the borders, arrest the terrorists and shut down their bases."

"If the terrorist attacks continue, we will hit their safe havens and cells, wherever they are," he said.

Iran's Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif visited Pakistan last week and asked Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif to improve border security. Pakistan assured Iran it would deploy additional troops along its border. (Pajhwok)

(14) Karzai Offers ...

"I want to have in-depth discussions with political and military leaders. I will talk to the military... Pakistan and Afghanistan are not enemies, but twins," he said. He would travel to Pakistan as an Afghan national and not as a representative of the government.

"I will ... [make] an appeal to the Pakistani leaders to look at the situation both countries are facing. I will argue that both countries can overcome the problems," he promised.

Shocked by the casualties on both sides during last week's shelling on the Chaman border-crossing, he hailed a recent visit of Pakistani parliamentarians. "It is unfortunate that the people in both Pakistan and Afghanistan are undergoing miseries because of the war, terrorism and extremism."

While supporting the ongoing regional initiative by Russia, involving China, Pakistan, Iran and India, he acknowledged

Moscow was playing a "peace role".

However, the erstwhile president excoriated America's policy in Afghanistan. He accused Washington of introducing the Daesh phenomena in the war-ravaged country.

He explained: "Afghanistan will not be peaceful without Pakistan's cooperation and, similarly, Pakistan will not be stable unless the war ends in Afghanistan."

No government in Afghanistan would ever recognise the Durand Line, Karzai said about the controversy over the border.

He scorned the perception that India was using the Afghan soil against Pakistan. "Like Pakistan, Afghanistan is an independent country and has the right to have relations with anyone. India is our longtime friend."

"But I assure Pakistan that no one can use our soil against Pakistan and any other country," the Indian-educated former president concluded. (Pajhwok)

(15) Military ...

minutes and went towards Sar-e-Pul-Shibirghan Highway, but they could not be filmed due to the darkness of the night," he added.

No further details were immediately available and the identity of the helicopters was not clear. (Tolonews)

(16) Ghazni City...

He said plants along roads and in gardens were drying up due to the negligence of the municipality workers.

He also said unauthorized constructions had been started at various parts of the city by taking advantage of the mayor's absence.

Another resident of Ghazni City, Mohammad Ajmal, held similar views and said the municipality had stopped irrigating plants and gardens by using a solar power system.

Residents said the province also lacked a deputy governor. Rahimullah, a resident, said: "The governor has no deputy, it is not easy for everyone to reach the governor and sign documents."

The residents asked the government to appoint the two officials as soon as possible.

Ghazni governor Abdul Karim Matin said Ghazni City had been without mayor for the past six months and the province without a deputy governor for the past several years.

He wondered how a department could smoothly function in the absence of its head. "My work burden has increased because I don't have a deputy."

Matin said he had time and again discussed the issue with officials in Kabul, but there had been no positive response. (Pajhwok)

(17) Taliban's ...

operation against the Taliban in the district on Sunday night. Hazara Kala area, which was under Taliban control, for the past eight months, was recaptured. Meanwhile, a statement from the 215th Maiwand Corps said one rebel was killed and another injured when the bomb they were planting went off in Greshk district. The incident took place on Monday night.

On the other hand, Taliban spokesman Qari Yousuf Ahmadi claimed the fighters had inflicted casualties on Afghan forces in Greshk and Sangin districts, as well as Lashkargah. (Pajhwok)

(18) Roadside ...

moneychangers had no licenses, he said, urging the officials concerned to take action against them. "Not only they damage our business, but have also created problems for the people." However, exchangers rejected the claim, saying they worked in a legal way to feed their families. Baz Mohammad, one of them, told Pajhwok he never exchanged fake banknotes. "Fake currency notes do not exist. If anyone is given fake banknotes, they should show me the same," he remarked, asking for evidence to substantiate the allegations.

Mohammad, another moneychanger, said, "We have been running our business in Gulhar Square area for the past sever-

al years, but no one has so far complained against us."

Meanwhile, the governor's spokesman, Jilani Farhad, said the provincial government planned creating an environment of accountability for moneychangers in the near future.

"We are obliged to collect moneychangers and anyone interested in our plan should apply for work permits," he said. People in other parts of the country also complain of similar problems, but the government is yet to take steps to resolve the issue. (Pajhwok)

(19) Cop among ...

Separately, three rebels were killed and six others wounded during a security operation in Qalat, the capital of Zabul province, the Ministry of Interior said. (Pajhwok)

(20) IS Recruiter ...

Daesh youth to Nangarhar's Achin and Pachiragham districts as reinforcement to the group there.

On the other hand, five Taliban insurgents have joined the peace process in Kunar, according to Himmat, who said the group had been active in Narai district. Himmat claimed "a larger group of insurgents would soon reconcile and join the peace process."

Elsewhere, three civilians suffered injuries in a bomb explosion in Behsud district of eastern Nangarhar province on Tuesday.

Nangarhar governor's spokesman, Attullah Khogyani, told Pajhwok Afghan News the rickshaw-borne bomb went off in Saracha area of the district at about 3pm.

A doctor at the civil hospital described condition of the wounded people as stable, saying they had been discharged after treatment. (Pajhwok)

(21) Teachers and ...

and the room went dark. We all shouted Allahu Akbar (God Is Great) we thought that now we will be shot but we all got out of the classroom but our teacher did not," said Seddiqullah, a student.

The students also slammed the incident and said such attacks were against Islamic principles.

"Any of the group that conducted the attack, is an enemy of Islam and this action is against Islam," said Wahidullah, another student.

After the blast the wounded students were taken to a nearby hospital in Charikar city.

Parwan Police Chief Mohammad Zaman Mamozai said that Hanafi had been threatened by the Taliban on several occasions.

"He had been threatened several times but there were four people in charge of his security. They are now in police custody and investigations are underway," said Mamozai.

In a statement issued by the Presidential Palace, President Ashraf Ghani condemned the attack and said such action was inhumane and against Islam.

Ghani also expressed his condolences to the family of the victims and once again called for the elimination of terrorists, read the statement.

Former president Hamid Karzai issued a statement condemning the attack and also said it was un-Islamic and an act by the enemies of Afghanistan.

No group has yet claimed responsibility for the incident. (Tolonews)

(22) Pakistan ...

areas and intimidate people.

"We witnessed many things. Many were killed and this process continues. But we cannot talk anymore and we cannot say what we want," said Hayat Massoud, a tribal elder from Waziristan. "We organize meetings in Islamabad as well. We take action against terrorism there [in Islamabad] as well," said Hukum Khan, a tribal elder from Khyber Agency.

Meanwhile, residents along the Afghan side of the Durand Line criticized Pakistan's incursions and said Islamabad should stop firing missiles at Afghanistan.

"Pakistan fires rockets onto this side of the Durand Line. By this, they want to evacu-

ate houses along the Durand Line and then want to bring its military to those areas," said Jahanzib Mohmand, a tribal elder in Nangarhar.

"Pakistan should evacuate its forces from tribal areas and it should avoid extending the war. We can ensure the safety of our areas by our tribal agreements," said Khairuddin Seddiqi, a tribal elder.

The participants issued a resolution where they called on Pakistan to stop any move to build fences along the Durand Line.

The resolution also stipulated that the international community needs to help save people from terrorism along both sides of the Durand Line. (Tolonews)

(23) 12 Insurgents ...

by security forces, said a police spokesman, Mahfuzullah Akbari.

"The insurgents were arrested while they were on their way to join other insurgents who are fighting security forces on the Kunduz-Khan Abad highway," Akbari said adding that a large section of the highway had however been cleared of insurgents.

Security forces had cleared Godam, Tang-e-Teal and Sayed Rasoul check points and are "moving forward to Chahar Sari check post", he said.

This comes amid ongoing heavy clashes in various parts of Kunduz province, and on the outskirts of Kunduz city.

Both sides have suffered casualties but no details have been given by officials. (Tolonews)

(24) Guj HC Quashes ..

took into account an affidavit of the woman complainant, a veterinary science student at AAU.

The affidavit too said she had resolved her disputes with the accused, Abozar Mohammad Hasan, following intervention from her parents and the faculty members of the varsity.

The court said as the two parties had amicably resolved their disputes, no purpose would be served to permit further probe into the case.

A case was registered against Abozar for allegedly sexually harassing and stalking the NRI woman student from the USA besides intimidating her after she filed a complaint on April 29 saying Abozar, whom she had met during their stay at the international student hostel, started harassing her.

He also threatened her to leak their intimate photographs after she started ignoring him, she said in her complaint.

Abozar was subsequently arrested following which he moved the petition in the high court to quash the FIR as the duo had resolved the dispute between them. (Agencies)

(25) New Poll...

percentage points to 27 percent in the INSA poll for Bild daily, its lowest level since late January, though still some 5 points above where it was before switching leader. Merkel's conservatives were up one point at 35 percent and the right-wing Alternative for Germany (AfD) also climbed one point to 10 percent. (Reuters)

(26) UK Labour...

says an election win will strengthen her hand in Brexit negotiations, but opponents of her negotiating strategy fear it will drown out Labour's voice in the debate over what kind of deal Britain should seek from Brussels. (Reuters)

(27) Turks in ...

so hypothetical as it is being discussed in Turkey," Merkel told broadcaster WDR.

"I thought it was important to say that we cannot give permission on German soil to a subject matter such as the death penalty that we absolutely reject." (Reuters)

(28) U.S. Congress

three service secretary jobs that is filled, with Trump's nominees for the Army and the Navy facing substantial objection from the Senate. Mark Green, Trump's second choice for Army Secretary, dropped his bid last week after his anti-minority remarks came to light. (Xinhua)