

Be great in act, as you have been in thought. William Shakespeare

Judges are appointed with the recommendation of the Supreme Court and approval of the President. Article 132

SIGAR Expresses Concern about ANSF Capability

WASHINGTON - Expressing concern about the capability of the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF)...



problems such as high attrition rates, unverified personnel counts, Strategic and International Studies - a top American ... (More on P4)...(1)

EU Expected to End Ban on Afghan Airlines



KABUL - Officials from the Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation (MoTCA) on Friday announced that the European Union (EU) is expected to lift a long-held ban on Afghan aviation services by the end of 2015.

Cabinet Disapproves Draft Media Regulation Law

KABUL - Public media regulation draft that was presented to the cabinet meeting by the Ministry of Justice was not ratified due to some flaws, Presidential Palace said on Thursday.



The draft was prepared in four chapters and 14 articles aimed at regulating the activities of public and private media, a statement from the Presidential Palace said.

activities and supporting media workers. The statement added the draft was presented to cabinet meeting after consultation with law commission of the ministry, lawyers' association head and human rights watch officials.

Italy Pledges Continued Support to Afghanistan

ANTALYA - Afghanistan and Italy signed an agreement to establish a joint commission during a meeting to be held in Kabul later this year, a statement said Friday.

Rabbani appreciated Italian sustained support and assistance to Kabul during the last 14 years in different sectors. Rabbani also briefed his counterpart about the achievements, foreign policies, economic development and efforts for the peace process of unity government in Afghanistan.

Italian foreign minister reassured his country unrelenting support for economic development of Afghanistan. He added: "We have a long-term policy of assisting Afghanistan which has helped in strengthening bilateral relations."

Ghani Visits 19 Released Hostages Amid Uncertain Fate of Remaining 12

KABUL - President Ashraf Ghani and other senior government officials have reportedly visited the 19 of the 31 bus passengers released Monday at the Shah Amanullah Khan Hospital of Kabul - while the media were prohibited from the coverage.



way for the peaceful release of remaining abductees. Nineteen of the 31 passengers kidnapped ... (More on P4)...(4)

However, the fate of the 12 other hostages is still unknown. But the government officials say efforts are under-

Public Works Minister Identifies Priorities for First 100 Days

KABUL - Minister of Public Works Mahmood Baleegh has submitted his policy plans for his first 100 days in office, and assured that at least half of the ministry's existing projects will be completed within the timeframe.

Reforming the ministry's structure and its regulatory regime are among Baleegh's top priorities, along with establishing a fund for the ministry to gather income. ... (More on P4)...(5)



NATO Welcomes Pak-Afghan Rapprochement

ANTALYA - NATO welcomed rapprochement between Afghanistan and Pakistan and intensified bilateral talks and delegation level visits between the two neighboring countries. President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani visited Islamabad and Pakistan's Prime Minister and Chief of Army staff visited Afghanistan just recently.



Ismail Aramaz, NATO Senior civilian representative for Afghanistan, welcomed dialogues between Kabul and Islamabad and called

for practical steps to stabilize bilateral ties. He also praised President Ashraf Ghani's move to build cordial relations with Pakistan. Talking to Afghan media, Aramaz hoped the ... (More on P4)...(6)

Badakhshan Residents Blame Govt., MPs for Deteriorating Security

FAIZABAD - Residents of northern Badakhshan province, along with independent political analysts and journalists, on Thursday gathered in Kabul to discuss deteriorating security conditions. Although the explanations of and solutions to the growing violence and instability in the remote province varied, all gathered at the event seemed to agree that some lawmakers in Parliament and other government officials were largely to blame for the situation.

according to many gathered to discuss Badakhshan on Thursday, MPs and government officials from the province have deliberately ... (More on P4)...(7)

India Condemns Attack on Park Palace Hotel

KABUL - The Embassy of India, Kabul on Friday strongly condemns killing of over a dozen civilians in

heart-felt condolences to the people who lost their lives. The Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi spoke to Af-



Park Palace hotel in Kabul on Wednesday for which the Taliban has claimed responsibility. A press released issued by Indian Embassy stated that "we stand in solidarity and sympathy with the bereaved families and the injured, and convey our

ghani President Ashraf Ghani and offered condolences on loss of lives in Park Palace attack in capital Kabul. It further stated that We are grateful for the condolence offered by the President Ghani, CEO Abdullah Abdullah ... (More on P4)...(8)

UNAMA Condemns Killing of 17 Civilians by Taliban

KABUL - The United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) strongly condemns Wednesday's killing of at least 17 civilians in two separate attacks for which the Taliban has claimed responsibility.

Religious Endowment in Lashkargah in Helmand. "These deliberate attacks on civilians are atrocities," said the Georgette Gagnon, UNAMA's Human Rights Director. "Taliban statements on avoiding civilian casualties ring hollow when we set them against the latest killings. The Taliban should abide by their commitments and immediately stop deliberately attacking civilians." UNAMA highlights that ... (More on P4)...(9)

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Advertisement for UNAMA, featuring a red '1 YEAR WARRANTY' badge and contact information for Khalid Lemar.