

(1) Ghani Renews ...

head of construction companies union. Ghani criticized foreign firms operating in Afghanistan for evading tax. "I request our international partners not to get involved in corruption," said Ghani. Ghani has meanwhile renewed his anti-graft strategy as pressure mounts from the public - especially over the slow pace at which the new anti-corruption justice center is working. Many believe that the center has not brought anyone to justice or held anyone accountable for their role in corruption. (Tolonews)

(2) Lawmakers

worsened after the signing of the agreement, which has failed to mitigate the pains of Afghans." A representative from Uruzgan province, Obaidullah Barakzai, said: "The key to peace in Afghanistan is with America. Those who came here with US support never think about Afghans; the people voted for us to make decisions on the presence of America in our country."

A day earlier, the Meshrano Jirga (Senate) condemned a recent US airstrike that killed more than 30 civilians and injured 20 others in northern Kunduz province and demanded the scrapping of BSA. (Pajhwok)

(3) Bullets Dropped...

Kandahar police chief Gen. Abdul Raziq, who is spearheading operations against militants in Uruzgan, said the bullets were not intentionally dropped in the Taliban area but mistakenly due to dusty weather condition.

According to a statement from Raziq, Taliban militants frequently attacked security posts in Gizab district and currently heavy clashes were underway there.

He said the Afghan forces in the district had run out of bullets and food and the ANA helicopters loaded with ammunition and food on Saturday night started their journey to Gizab district despite bad weather condition.

A number of helicopters dropped the supplies in the targeted areas, but only one helicopter dropped them in Taliban area due to dusty weather, he said. He said he was also ready to go to Gizab district and fight against militants when needed. (Pajhwok)

(4) Tashkent Agrees...

a signing ceremony of at least four agreements between the two nations in Tashkent.

The agreements are aimed at enhancing bilateral relations between the two neighbors in some key areas including expansion of relations in the technical and agriculture sectors, the railway and energy transit sectors and in the expansion of ties between the private sector of the two countries. In addition an agreement was signed on the purchasing of almost 100,000 tons of wheat from Uzbekistan by Afghanistan.

Uzbekistan has also agreed to process Afghanistan's crude oil at its refineries, he said.

Kargar noted that the two countries have also pledged to launch direct flights between their capitals and extend cooperation in the transport sector.

Uzbekistan has also promised to issue long term visas to Afghan businessmen.

"The Republic of Uzbekistan has reaffirmed its support on the war against terrorism and drugs. Uzbekistan also offered to host peace negotiation talks between the legal government of Afghanistan and the Taliban," said Kargar. Officials from the two countries have expressed optimism that an agreement on transit and commercial ties will soon be finalized. "An agreement on technical and agricultural cooperation and sharing of expertise will be signed soon," said Minister of Agriculture Assadullah Zamir.

"The countries have a huge capacity of trade; Uzbekistan produces more than a 1,000 products, but only a few of them can be found on our local market. If the current commitments are implemented, this makes us optimistic," said Atiqullah Nusrat, head of the Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Industries (ACCI).

Meanwhile, officials of the Uzbek ministry of foreign affairs have said that Uzbekistan will soon open a business office in Kabul aimed at resolving issues facing the business community of the two countries. "We will continue our cooperation with your country (Afghanistan) and look to expand bilateral cooperation between Afghanistan and Uzbekistan so that new windows of opportunities are opened in commercial, transit and investment sectors," said Erkin Jan Yunusov, head of the economic and investment affairs department of Uzbekistan Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Currently the balance of trade between Uzbekistan and Afghanistan is estimated at around \$350 million USD. However, officials from the Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Industries (ACCI) raised hopes that the two countries will increase this figure

to around \$1 billion USD by the end of next year. (Tolonews)

(5) Terrorists from ...

there are no such fears." "Turkmenistan has the longest border with Afghanistan, followed by Uzbekistan and Tajikistan. As far as I know, everything is calm in those states, but they have been taking some measures," he said.

The remarks by Nazarbayev came as there are concerns that the terrorist groups operating in Afghanistan are attempting to expand their insurgency to the Central Asian countries.

The Central Asian leaders as well as Russia are mainly concerned regarding the attempts made by ISIS loyalists to expand foothold in the country despite the Afghan and US forces conduct regular counter-insurgency operations to eliminate the terror group.

The Afghan and coalition forces officials earlier warned that the ISIS loyalists are attempting to turn the Nangarhar province into a regional operational base and establish the Khurasan Caliphate in the region. (KP)

(6) Most Crime ...

lawyers in the country, but their number should be 10,000 keeping in view the current high graph of crimes, Qarizada said. Financial and administrative chief at the Ministry of Justice (MoJ), Sayed Mohammad Hashemi, confirmed the lack of suspects' access to defense lawyers in most of the districts. However, he said the MoJ was trying to pave the ground for such facilities.

Currently more than 30,000 people were held at detention centers and a number of prisoners were unaware about their own rights, he said, but added any ruling from court in the absence of defense lawyers was not credible. (Pajhwok)

(7) Afghanistan...

the main cities, refugees repatriation, construction of unplanned buildings, severe poverty, violation of urban laws, lack of attention to environment, and lack of urban infrastructure.

However, Naderi said necessary steps were taken in the past one year to establish a responsive urban system which include establishment of the high council of urban development, completion of urban condition study, printing of cities Atlas, launch of documents distribution to unplanned areas, preparation of Urban National Priority Program (UNPP), conclusion of municipalities law, urban development and land, full implementation of coordination between urban development sectors, establishment of department for the development of the capital, launch of Citizens Charter program, preparation of strategic programs for the cities, and some other programs.

Naderi also pointed towards the achievements of the Ministry of Urban Development and Housing, including preparation of housing, preparation of urban programs, rehabilitation of historical sites and mosques, preparation and implementation of policies, administration reforms, anti-corruption campaign, development of local facilities.

According to Naderi, some major and historic projects completed in housing sector include Khushal Khan and Khawajah Rawash projects, United Arab Emirates project, resumption of work to complete the Halkim Sanayi and Benay major housing projects, completion technical and design assessment of 10,000 housing units to be built by China, technical study for the construction of 1,000 housing units by Qatar, and transition of land for reconstruction of thousands of housing units in Herat and Khost, and comprehensive plan to build affordable housing units in Kapisa, Laghman, Logar, Paktia, Balkh, Baghlan, Takhar, Daikundi, zabol, Faryab, Kundu, and Sar-e-Pul provinces. (KP)

(8) Afghanistan ...

confirmed in Barmal district of the eastern Paktika province recently while some cases were detected in eastern Kunar and southern Helmand and Kandahar provinces. "Wherever children are not immunized, children's lives are at risk everywhere in Afghanistan. We urge all caregivers to vaccinate their children against polio because the polio vaccine is the only way to protect children from permanent paralysis and even death," Minister of Public Health Ferozuddin Feroz was quoted as saying.

The ongoing insurgency and conflicts have been hindering the efforts to stamp out the disease in the mountainous country. A four-day nation-wide polio campaign was carried out in mid last month. "Afghanistan remains one of the three polio-endemic countries together with Pakistan and Nigeria," reads the statement. (Xinhua)

(9) UNAMA Probes...

urges authorities to ensure an independent, impartial and prompt investigation at the earliest opportunity, and for appropriate steps to be taken to ensure accountability, compensation

for victims and the prevention of such incidents in the future.

This incident took place in the context of significant countrywide violence, with civilians bearing the brunt, said UNAMA.

In the past week, UNAMA has documented 46 separate incidents of conflict-related violence, resulting in severe civilian harm, including deaths and injuries from ground engagements, improvised explosive devices, aerial attacks from rotary and fixed-wing aircraft, targeted killings and explosive remnants of war.

According to the statement, between 30 October and 5 November, the mission documented a preliminary figure of 206 civilian casualties (95 civilian deaths and 111 injured).

"In accordance with its mandate to support the protection of civilians in armed conflict, UNAMA will continue to investigate credible allegations of harm caused to civilians by all parties to the conflict," their statement read. (Tolonews)

(10) Attorney ...

governments, restored to them. Abdullah, an employee of Kabul Municipality, said his property was grabbed 20 years ago. He said he lodged his complaint with the AGO. "Land-grabbers took my land. The AGO sent an order and I reclaimed my property after 20 years," he said. Meanwhile some of those who visited the Attorney General complained about judicial centers and said their problems were not addressed at provincial justice centers

They said they have come to Kabul to seek justice.

"I visit government offices every day, but my problem is not addressed," said Mohammad Shah, a resident of Balkh. A number of those who met with the Attorney General said their land had however been grabbed by judicial institutions.

"Officers used to address problems by taking bribes. The one who grabbed my land wanted \$50,000 USD from me, but now the AGO has issued an order to restore my land," said Gul Ahmad, a schoolteacher. (Tolonews)

(11) Taliban Commander...

Kohistani, a military analyst. Meanwhile, the defense ministry's deputy spokesman, Mohammad Radmanish, said: "Serious measures will be taken against them according to the army's capacity."

Reports indicate that a number of Taliban members have also returned to the battlegrounds after being released from prison by government. (Tolonews)

(12) 'Wrangling ...

authority in the government. Ahmad Zia Massoud, president's special envoy on good governance, had also expressed unhappiness with the government's performance.

"Differences among government leaders have badly affected the security forces because their morale has been weakened and the enemy strengthened," Shirzad said.

The differences besides leading to many issues also created hurdle to holding of elections, issuance of electronic ID cards and convening of a Loya Jirga, he believed.

He said the country's economic situation improved after the unity government coming into power and projects were executed in many provinces; but the government had no achievements on security and political fronts.

Shirzad asked the government leaders to put aside their disputes, if not then assign their responsibility to others so that the country could be saved from the current mess. Mullah Abdul Salaam Rockety, another member of the Kandahar's people council, said, "We ask the government leaders to leave aside their differences and pay attention to their national and religious responsibilities towards Afghan people." He said the recent insecurities, fall of some districts to insurgents and the precarious situation in some provinces resulted from the rift between government leaders. The differences should be resolved soon, he stressed, otherwise insecurities would enhance and the unity government undermined. At the end, a resolution letter from the council was read out calling for an end to the differences among government leaders, solutions to issues and progress in the peace process.

The resolution said the Kandahar people's council stood by the government and backed security forces; but wanted Kandahar's cadres to be appointed on government posts. (Pajhwok)

(13) Zakhilwal Doubts ...

of a National Identity Card (CNIC). Over the past few days, it has been a hot issue on social media that photographer Steve McCurry has been providing money in aid to Sharbat Gula over the past few years through a prominent journalist Rahimullah Yousafzai, but the money never reached her. Afghan ambassador in Islamabad Hazrat Omar Zakhilwal has written in

detail about the matter on his Facebook page. Zakhilwal said it was being speculated on the social media over the past few days that the senior journalist had not given the aid money to Gula.

Zakhilwal said Yousafzai was a respected personality and that he had no evidence to make a judgment, but the journalist's recent explanations to media outlets raised some questions as there were contradictions in his statements.

The ambassador said Yousafzai first denied he had anything to do with the money to Sharbat Gula from the photographer and later acknowledged she received all the aid from the magazine through him.

Yousafzai had said the American magazine sent \$5000 to his bank account for the woman after her arrest but he could not withdraw the amount under the Pakistani law and had to send the money back to the magazine.

But Zakhilwal said the fact was that Gula received \$200 per month from the National Geographic through Yousafzai. He said the journalist had confirmed a 10-year contract between Gula and the magazine.

The envoy said Yousafzai should explain whether the \$200 she received per month was assistance or her salary. "The reality is that neither Gula nor any of her family members was aware of the 10-year contract's details. No one was given a copy of the contract." He said if the American magazine provided more than \$200 to Gula, it had a different meaning and if she really received \$200 from the magazine, it was injustice with Gula.

The ambassador said the American magazine had been using Gula's photograph in advertisements over the past 31 years and according to Yousafzai the magazine had signed a 10-year contract with the woman in 2002, but the value of her current asset (a home) stood at \$30,000.

He said Yousafzai called Gula as his daughter in interviews but he did not assist her when she was chased for eight months and then arrested.

"When the money issue was raised, Yousafzai tried to record her explanation but I prevented his attempt." He said there were contradictions between Yousafzai's statements and the facts.

But the journalist had rejected these allegations against him in interviews and the photographer Steve McCurry had also rejected the allegations against Yousafzai.

Sharbat Gula will be discharged from hospital today and she is expected to return to her home country in the near future. (Pajhwok)

(14) Locals Voice ...

and rivalry has not been seen in the United States previously," said Anwar Ghorri, a university lecturer.

"Bad is better than worse. I think Clinton is better than Trump," said Habibullah, a university student.

"Clinton is the first lady in the US to be nominated as a presidential candidate in that country. I think it will be a big change particularly for US women," said Musadiq, a resident of Kabul.

Meanwhile, other residents said they believe that the results of the US election will not bring any changes to Washington's policies towards Afghanistan.

"What Trump used to say in his electoral campaign showed that he is anti-Islam. This will have an impact on Islamic countries including Afghanistan (if he wins)," said Khalid, a student.

"We see that recently Trump insulted Muslims. He believes that Muslims should not travel to the U.S.," said Ahmad, another Kabul resident.

Neither candidate has said, during their campaigns, what approach they will take to Afghanistan in the event of them winning. (Tolonews)

(15) Education...

protests if the irregularities continued. Meanwhile, the security committee head at the provincial council, Bashir Ahmad Shakir, said the Helmand education department had been politicized and every circle wanted their own people to be given jobs.

Shakir said the disorder and interferences had resulted in closure of more than 200 schools in Helmand. "Continuation of the current situation means elimination of Helmand people."

Helmand governor's spokesman, Omar Zwak, told Pajhwok Afghan News the recent closure of schools had a bad impact on education process.

He said the governor would soon discuss the issue with the president and the education minister.

Attempts at seeking comments from the Ministry of Education were unsuccessful. Currently 385 schools have been closed in Helmand including 153 schools shut due to insecurity. (Pajhwok)

(16) 'Ghazni PC ...

national identity card but there is no one at the PC office to sign my application," he said.

He said the public representatives were busy dealing with their personal matters and they interfered in affairs of

government departments.

Jan Mohammad from Ab Band district said: "We daily come to the provincial council office and police guards at the office gate use to tell us there is no one inside, come tomorrow."

He said some of the PC members had gone on picnic tours and they arrived in the provincial capital only to get hired their blue-persons in government offices.

A resident of Ghazni city, Mohammad Ibrahim, said the PC members were unavailable because they were busy in personal engagements.

Ghazni police chief Brig. Gen. Aminullah Amarkhel confirmed some PC members interfered in their affairs and said such meddling could lead to collapse of districts.

The police chief warned if the public representatives did not stop interfering in their affairs, he would expose their names to the media.

In this regard, PC head Hamidullah Nawroz told Pajhwok Afghan News that none of their members had the right to interfere in affairs of other departments.

"The police chief should show us those interfering in their affairs so we talk to them," he said.

A member of the council, Khaliqdad Akbari, said except official trips the PC members used to attend office. "Sometime the members go to Kabul or elsewhere on official trips but it does not mean they don't come to office." (Pajhwok)

(17) Massoud Promises...

Massoud hosted Abdul Agha for a dinner on Sunday night after his story went viral in media and particularly in social media which is widely used across the country.

"Afghan soldier Abdul Agha lost his eyesight and his right arm defending Afghanistan, he must be sent for treatment, we are forever in his debt," Massoud said in a Twitter post.

The story of Abdul Agha reflects the burden of difficulties the Afghan National Security Forces (ANDSF) members are facing on daily basis, specifically those suffering from severe injuries in the line of duty.

The casualties of the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces (ANDSF) have dramatically increased during the recent months amid a rampant insurgency led by the anti-government militant groups.

At least 5,523 members of the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces (ANDSF) lost their lives in the first 8 months of the year 2016, the US Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction (SIGAR) said in a report late last month.

According to SIGAR, the Afghan forces suffered a total of 15,000 casualties during the period which includes 5,523 fatalities.

The report further added that the Afghan government lost 2.2 percent territorial control during this year's fighting. SIGAR said at least 257 Afghan security personnel lost their lives in insider attacks from the start of the year and at least 125 others were wounded in the attacks. (KP)

(18) Taliban Local ...

provinces have been the scene of heavy clashes over the past couple of months as Taliban has been trying to challenge the government forces in the once relatively peaceful region.

Taliban militants captured major parts of the provincial capital of Kunduz city on Oct. 3, but were forced to retreat from the city in mid October. (Xinhua)

(19) Moscow Demands...

on November 3. "About 20 civilians were wounded, about 20 houses were destroyed," the Russian foreign ministry said.

"We resolutely condemn the death of civilians in U.S. bombing of Kunduz," the ministry said. "We demand an urgent and objective investigation and punishment of those responsible for the tragedy in order to prevent recurrence of such egregious cases."

"It should be noted that it was not the first case when civilians die in Afghanistan in indiscriminate use of weapons by the American military," the ministry said. (TASS)

(20) Family ...

"I could not see anything. We were only aware of deaths, going hungry for days. Finally, we managed to flee the area after 10 days of excruciation," he remarked.

Mano Gul, the family head, grumbled they were in deep trouble but the government was yet to take any step to mitigate their plight. He said that they left their house on first day of the fighting, but due to heavy clashes they had to live in a relative's home.

"We had been trapped in our home due to the presence of a Daesh post near us and there was no chance for anyone to go out," he recalled. "Our children were in bad condition; we had to feed them dried pieces of bread.

Malang, an elder man of the family whose wife has disappeared, said he had also lost a son and a grandchild in

the fighting. The government had just shown them the way out of their home, he complained. (Pajhwok)

(21) Terminal...

infrastructure committee, told Pajhwok News with the completion of this project, people would not face any problem in catching passenger vehicles.

She said the terminal was equipped with all needed facilities like sheds for vehicles, washrooms for passengers, canteens and offices for travel agencies. Drivers can also benefit from the terminal.

Beheshta Fida added seven million afghanis had been donated by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) for the project and three million afghanis by the municipality.

She said 14,000 afghanis to be collected in tax from the terminal would be used for its maintenance. (Pajhwok)

(22) 19-Year-old...

took place in Kohistan district at around noon. At least three rebels were killed and another four were wounded. Meanwhile, a 19-year-old girl committed suicide by strangling herself in the Kohistan district centre, Amanullah said, adding the reason behind the suicide was unclear but a forensic team had been tasked to find the nature of the incident.

Dr. Sadaat, a public uprising commander in Kohistan district, said the girl was engaged and she killed herself due to domestic issues.

He said on Sunday night there was a verbal clash among the girl, his brother and father, which likely led to her suicide. (Pajhwok)

(23) Balkh Man ...

police have mounted a search for him. The official did not say what the motive for the killings was.

Issa, a resident of the locality, confirmed the incident but did not provide details. He knew neither the killer's identity nor reason for the murder. (Pajhwok)

(24) 3 Daesh Militants...

and civilians suffered no casualties during the operation.

He also said police had seized 13 kilograms of heroin from a car in Rodat district near the Ghazi Amanullah Township. A man named Zainullah was arrested in connection with the drugs. (Pajhwok)

(25) Taliban Judge...

information about the Taliban attack was received.

A resident of locality, who wished anonymity, said Mullah Arif - known as Sanaullah - had shot dead a common man, Ghulam Sakhi, some days back. (Pajhwok)

(26) Fake Tweets...

While many bots are designed to provide service to the online community, many others, like the ones found here, intentionally pose as humans, keeping their artificial identity undisclosed. (Xinhua)

(27) FBI Chief...

confident he would - that he has confirmed the conclusions he reached in July and we're glad this matter is resolved," said Jennifer Palmieri, a spokeswoman for the Clinton campaign. (Xinhua)

(28) Germany Boosts...

desert and by sea on rickety, overloaded boats to European shores.

Well over a million migrants, from Africa as well as the Middle East and Asia, have reached Europe since last year. Thousands have died en route. Major destination countries including Germany have struggled to cope with the human waves, and anti-immigrant sentiment and violence have spread. (Reuters)

(29) UN Envoy...

The UN move came after previous peace-mediated efforts to end the 19-month war between dominant Houthis backed by Saleh's loyal forces and Hadi's government army backed by Saudi-led military coalition.

Ould Cheikh said he will head to Riyadh, the Saudi capital, to meet Hadi and offer him the proposed roadmap. (Xinhua)

(30) Negotiations at...

Both Cypriot President Nicos Anastasiades and Turkish Cypriot leader Mustafa Akinci are set to discuss long-standing territorial issues as well as other outstanding matters in the presence of UN Special Adviser on Cyprus Espen Barth Eide. (Xinhua)

(31) Syrian Armed...

and the U.S.-led airstrikes were targeting the IS positions in the north of the city. "The fight will not be easy, and will require accurate and careful operations because the IS will defend its bastion desperately and it knows that the loss of al-Raqqa will mean it is finished in Syria," SDF spokesman Talal Sello told AFP. (Xinhua)