

(1) U.S Embassy...

will Trump's presidency impact Afghanistan? "Donald Trump in his electoral campaign said we will evaluate U.S aid to Afghanistan and will take a decision based on the results of the evaluation on whether to provide further aid or not. I think this is good politics," said Sediq Patman, a political analyst. Although the candidates did not mention Afghanistan in their campaign, Afghanistan's war remains a serious situation for the U.S. (Tolonews)

(2) Ghani Gives ...

Hepatitis C. A statement from the Presidential Palace said after Sharbat Gula's arrival in the country, the president and first lady met her and her family at the Palace and offered her the keys of an apartment. It said the president termed Sharbat Gula "an icon of Afghanistan's pain, oppression and hopes" and said she in the years of war demonstrated the tragic refugees' situation in a picture to the world. "Our body is still incomplete because most of the Afghans are refugees," Ghani said, assuring that the government was making all-out efforts and had a strong determination to pave the way for the return of Afghan migrants from other countries in order complete the body of Afghanistan.

A member of Sharbat Gula's family thanked the president for his support. "Sharbat Gula's life represents Afghanistan's sorrows and pains, she wants peace in the country so that other refugees return home country like her." He asked the president to help Sharbat Gula's children get education and name a foundation after her. He said the aid money to be earned through the proposed foundation should be then spent in the field of education especially women's education.

Ghani assured Sharbat Gula: "Yours and yours family life, health and education will be seriously considered and I have told the related organs to offer you every kind of help." (Pajhwok)

(3) Land under ...

with the beginning of saffron harvest season was a viable time for echoing the flower's value and economic profit. The governor said a quality-testing lab would be soon established in Herat by the MAIL in coordination with the local administration. Bashir Ahmad Ahmadi, the agriculture department deputy head, expressed happiness over the increase in saffron cultivation and said expansion in saffron cultivation meant more work opportunities for people.

According to him, currently more than 10,000 families are associated with growing and harvesting saffron in Herat, especially in Ghorian, Pashton Zarghon and Zinda Jan districts.

Arbab Abdul Razaq, a saffron farmer, said the government had so far neglected the crops; but he hoped recent promises by MAIL about paving the way for a standardized saffron spice's process and packaging and export would be implemented.

Saffron is a spice derived from the flower of *Crocus sativus*, commonly known as the "saffron crocus". Saffron crocus grows to 20-30 cm (8-12 in) and bears up to four flowers, each with three vivid crimson stigmas, which are the distal end of a carpel. The styles and stigmas, called threads, are collected and dried to be used mainly as a seasoning and colouring agent in food.

Saffron is a subtropical plant, which grows well in the areas with mild winter and hot and dry summer. Its harvest begins from mid-November and flowers are generally picked up in time of dawn before the sunrise. The flower's spice has many therapeutic properties and is also used for creating medicines, giving a good taste to food and hot drinks.

According to local sources, last year the price of one kilogram of saffron spice's hovered between 110,000 and 130,000 afghanis nearly (\$1650-1970). (Pajhwok)

(4) Taliban Oppose...

major issues Islamic countries faced.

"The Afghanistan issue is not very complex one, but is one of major issues of the Muslim Ummah," he said.

The statement added Afghanistan was ruled by Islamic laws 15 years

ago and every decision about any issue was based on Quranic and prophetic teachings.

However, a world's alliance led by America announced its enmity against Taliban by launching a propaganda war and imposing sanctions in the first phase and then attacking them, the statement said.

"This time, our enemies want to deceive our Ulema and the Islamic world by holding a conference in Jeddah city of Saudi Arabia or somewhere else," the Taliban said.

The Taliban advised Islamic scholars from all Islamic countries, particularly from Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Saudi Arabia and other Arab countries not to attend the conference. (Pajhwok)

(5) 'Taliban

pressed the Taliban to take out their councils from Pakistan to Afghanistan, it is the reason the militants have focused more on Kunduz," Kamawal said.

However, he said Afghan forces would not allow Taliban militants to use Afghanistan's soil for instability of other countries.

No Taliban spokesman could be reached for comment on Kamawal's claims.

A recent UN Security Council report puts at around 45,000 the number of militants fighting against Afghan forces. (Pajhwok)

(6) 500,000 People ...

Kamila, said. "We accompanied three families from Kunduz and came here to Kabul," said another resident, Abdul Hai.

In the meantime, government has been criticized over its inability to address the problems of these refugees

"Internally displaced families do not have good living conditions; half of them have not been given aid; government's financial resources are also not enough to address the problems of the displaced families, (especially) before winter," sociologist Hadi Meeran said.

The Ministry of Refugees and Repatriations has confirmed that only half of the internally displaced families have been given humanitarian assistance.

"Since the start of the solar year (March) more than 450,000 people have been displaced in the country; the problem is that we do not have access to sufficient financial resources to meet the challenge," said Hafiz Ahmad Miakhail, media advisor of the ministry of refugees and repatriations.

Statistics show that currently the number of internally displaced persons across the nation is estimated to be over 1.2 million in total.

In recent months there has been an influx of refugees returning from Pakistan. It is believed that as many as 500,000 refugees have so far returned. (Tolonews)

(7) Afghan Writers ...

over the event. A number of Afghan writers, who presented their papers paid rich tributes to the Poet of the East. Some Afghan poets also recited their poems on Iqbal.

Speaking on the occasion, Ambassador Syed Abrar Hussain mentioned Iqbal's love for Afghans and Afghanistan and referred to various poems of Iqbal in this regard.

The Ambassador also presented a shield to Prof. Abdullah Bakhtanay Khidmatgar in recognition of his contribution towards Iqbal studies in Afghanistan.

Abdullah Bakhtanay was the first Afghan to write a book on Allama Iqbal 60 years ago. (APP)

(8) Ghani, Abdullah ...

of the United States, relations between the two countries expand further and develop in a way that is in the interest of the two countries and nations," Ghani said.

He also wished Trump further success in fulfilling his new responsibility.

CEO Abdullah Abdullah also extended his congratulations to Trump for becoming the 45 president of the U.S.

He said in a statement: "Afghanistan and the United States are strategic allies and friends. Combating extremism and efforts to bring peace and stability are the top priorities of both countries."

"With Mr Trump's victory, the chief executive of Afghanistan expects the strength and expansion of strategic economic, military, social and cultural cooperation

between the two countries," he added.

He also wished Trump "good luck".

Meanwhile, Russian President Vladimir Putin sent Trump a telegram congratulating him.

The State Duma in the former Soviet Union also reportedly broke into thunderous applause upon news of Hillary Clinton's defeat on Wednesday morning.

In a statement issued by the Kremlin, Putting expressed "his hope to work together for removing Russian-American relations from their crisis state".

Putin also said he had confidence in "building a constructive dialogue between Moscow and Washington that is based on principles of equality, mutual respect and a real accounting of each other's positions, in the interests of our peoples and the world community".

Reuters reported that French Foreign Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault said Europe must not flinch in defending its interests and people now that Trump's election win has added to the uncertainty created by Britain's decision to exit the European Union.

France is a key American ally, and its officials had in recent weeks openly endorsed Hillary Clinton's warning that Trump's "confused" foreign policy objectives were alarming for the rest of the world.

"We have to meet the challenge for a Europe that must be able to better defend its citizens and its interests," Ayrault told France 2 television.

"Europe cannot blink after Brexit, after the election of Donald Trump with all the questions being raised, Europe must stand together more, be more active and go more on the offensive even if it is just to protect itself."

Trump's comment in July that "France is no longer France", and that if it had looser gun laws then the attacks would not have happened, have upset French officials.

"The United States is our ally and we have to continue working with it in clarity," Ayrault said. "Perhaps Trump will not keep the promises he made, but you see the relations he has with Mexico, it's very serious. In China, they are worried, so France and Europe must play a role to reassure."

Trump's campaign has been marked by insults and inflammatory rhetoric with regard to radical Islam, while on international affairs he has brought into question U.S policy on everything from Syria to Iran, Mexico and North Korea.

Germany's Defense Minister Ursula von der Leyen meanwhile described Trump's gains in the U.S presidential election as a "huge shock" on Wednesday and asked him for assurances on his commitment to NATO.

Von der Leyen told broadcaster ARD that the Republican candidate's strong showing was "not a vote for him but rather against Washington, against the establishment".

Reuters reported her as saying: "It was a big shock when I saw the way things are heading."

Germany, like other European countries, was alarmed by Trump's comments earlier in the campaign that if Russia attacked a NATO member, he would consider whether the targeted country had met its defense commitments before providing military aid.

"Of course we Europeans, as a NATO ally, know that if Donald Trump becomes president, he'll ask: What are you contributing to this alliance?" von der Leyen, a member of Chancellor Angela Merkel's conservatives, said.

"But we're also wondering, what's your position on this alliance?" she added, in the first comments from a German minister on the U.S. vote. Von der Leyen said the German government now needed to find out who their contact person would be in a Trump government and what campaign announcements he wanted to implement.

"There are many questions yet to be answered," she said. Outgoing President Barack Obama meanwhile cleared his schedule Thursday to meet with Trump. In addition, the European Council President Donald Tusk and European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker invited Trump to the EU summit at the "earliest convenience".

Trump's election victory is be-

ing widely reported to have proved that 2016 was the year that everything the political class thought it knew was wrong.

Trump's defeat of Hillary Clinton upended years of experience as to how campaigns operate, and showed how America's demographics are changing and how a controversial nominee can win the race. Media around the world have reported on how the polls were wrong, how projection models were wrong and how veterans of previous presidential campaigns were wrong.

As CNN stated, Trump's victory is one of the most stunning upsets in American political history. Political professionals will now spend the coming weeks and months studying just how and why everyone missed it, the news channel reported. (Tolonews)

(9) Trump to...

rival candidate Hilary Clinton, initial polling results showed on Wednesday.

The voting process to elect new president for the world powerful country began on Tuesday morning from New York and later started in other states.

Large number of America-based Afghans voted in favor of Hilary Clinton.

A number of Afghans believed Trump would withdraw US forces from Afghanistan and limit support to the Afghan government.

However, former NATO advisor and expert in America's University of Maryland, Shafiq Hamdam, said Trump would follow the policy of the US government and the Republicans about Afghanistan.

In an exclusive interview with Pajhwok Afghan News, Hamdam said the war in Afghanistan was begun by former US president George W Bush, a republican.

He said Trump was also a republican and therefore he would continue cooperation with Afghanistan by following America's foreign and party policy.

Hamdam said republicans supported the presence of more troops in Afghanistan and financial support to Kabul.

"Though Trump is against the presence of US forces in foreign countries, his holds a different view about Afghanistan. The new US president has clearly said he would not withdraw forces from Afghanistan", Hamdam added.

Currently around 10,000 US forces are present in Afghanistan as part of NATO mission to train Afghan forces besides taking part in counterterrorism operations. (Pajhwok)

(10) Body to ...

announced the committee's formation in Aibak, the provincial capital, on Wednesday.

Based on the meeting's decision, the governor's spokesman, the information and culture director, a representative of the appellant court, the police spokesman, the intelligence spokesman, head of Samangan Journalists Association, head of North Journalists Association and head of Civil Society Coalition were chosen as members of the committee.

Najibullah Danish, head of Civil Society Coalition, was chosen as deputy head and Mohammad Seddiq Azizi as secretary of the committee.

The meeting decided the committee would meet once in 15 days. All journalists and media officials should be registered with the committee and given journalist cards, the participants decided.

The creation of a coordination center for ensuring security of journalists by police headquarters and the creation of a center supporting media and journalists by the provincial National Directorate of Security (NDS) were also agreed upon at the meeting.

Samangan deputy governor, Akhtar Mohammad Khairzada, said journalists' phone numbers, workplaces and residential areas would be also noted to keep them under security organs' protection.

Before traveling to remote areas for reporting, journalists should inform the authorities concerned so that police take measures for their protection, he said.

Similar steps would be taken in all provinces of the country to ensure security for journalists and media outlets in line with the approved strategy.

As many as 65 journalists and media workers, 46 of them Afghans, have been killed in Afghanistan since 2002.

Only five murder cases of jour-

nalists have so far been addressed. (Pajhwok)

(11) Afghanistan ...

Pakistan's nuclear weapons, he said.

Kawon believed the security situation in Afghanistan might improve keeping in mind Trump's views about Afghanistan.

He said: "Trump has pledged improved relations with Russia and revoking the deal with Iran and he may mount pressure on Pakistan to act against terrorists."

Bashir Safi, another political analyst who lives in the US state of Taxes, said the Afghan-Americans cast their votes to Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton in the election.

US citizens who originally hailed from South Asia and Central Asia favored Clinton during the presidential election, he said.

He said Trump would like to improve relations with Russia which may harm strategies of Central Asian countries and Pakistan.

He said under Trump presidency the situation in Afghanistan would improve because the Republican candidate would start Pakistan's accountability from every angle.

According to Safi, if Trump put pressure on Islamabad, it would halt interference in Afghanistan and cross border infiltration of terrorists.

However, a political analyst, Faiz Mohammad Zaland, said the election of the new US president would have no impact on Afghanistan situation in early years of the new leadership.

"Trump is a serious man, he would likely bring some changes after July 2017, because strategies of his predecessor would continue for some time," he said.

In such a situation, Afghan officials should think how to get advantage of Trump's foreign policy on Afghanistan, he said, adding the new US president might bring some pressure on Pakistan.

Another political analyst, Javid Ghafar, said nothing would change in Afghanistan with the new US president.

"America has special doctrines and think tanks that make foreign policy based on their country's interests, so I don't think an changes would come with the new president," he said.

However, Ghafar said America's foreign policy had changed during the past 14 years and would probably change again in future.

About the defeat of Hilary Clinton, he said, "The Americans proved they treat women as pleasure and entertainment, they do not believe in woman leadership. America has reached its peak in democratic immorality; the downfall of America begins with the election of Trump."

Mohammad Shafiq Hamdam, a political analyst in the US, said the US election began few days ago and ended on Wednesday.

"In some American states, internal political parties and national elections are held prematurely, it is because provincial council, congress and senate elections are also held besides the presidential election, the voting process has begun few days ago, but the national Election Day was November 8," he said.

According to official sources, 42 million people including former president Barack Obama cast their votes before November 8.

The US Senate has 101 and Congress has 435 seats with three of them allocated to Washington. From 539 total electoral votes, a candidate needs at least 270 votes to enter the White House.

The presidential election campaign for the November 8 US elections had begun 19 months ago.

Hilary Clinton spent \$345 million and Donald Trump around \$800m during their election campaigns. (Pajhwok)

(12)2 Haqqani ...

responsible for many high-profile attacks against Afghan troops.

The Afghan security forces have stepped up security operations against Taliban and other militant groups recently as the rebels have been attempting to take territory and consolidate their positions ahead of winter in the mountainous country.

The network, which was designated as a terrorist group by the United States in 2012, has yet to make comments. (Xinhua)

(13)4 Terrorists ...

possession of detainees who confessed to their crime during initial investigations and said they conducted terrorist activities by the

direction of Taliban commanders Bilal and Abdul Khaleq.

Separately, seven militants were killed and two others wounded during a clash between security forces and militants in Ghulmin village 40 kilometres from Ferozkoh, the provincial capital, said Brig. Gen. Ghulam Mustafa, police chief of Ghor.

One security man was also wounded during the clash, he said, adding that anti-rebels operation was successfully underway. Militants have not commented about the incident. (Pajhwok)

(14)10 Taliban,...

five policemen, he said.

Rohullah, a resident of Kodalo area in Zankhan district, said the clash in their area erupted last night and stretched into Wednesday morning, but he had no information about casualties.

A Taliban spokesman, Zabihullah Mujahid, rejected casualties to the fighters and said Zankhan district remained under their control.

He said two Afghan local Police (ALP) members were killed in the clash in Maqur district.

A police tank hit a roadside bomb in Mastana locality of Ghazni City, killing five police onboard, Mujahid said. (Pajhwok)

(15)Vladimir Putin...

have two choices: either another world war or consent to a multipolar world. Clinton was a symbol of World War III, but Trump now has an opportunity to change this situation," he said. (Reuters)

(16)Iraqi Forces ...

al-Tahrir and al-Salam, the source said.

Earlier in the month, hundreds of the CTS commandos and Iraqi army made a significant progress at the eastern side of Mosul, and managed to seize six districts.

The advance unleashed the most intense street battles against IS militants since the offensive to retake the city began more than three weeks ago. (Xinhua)

(17)Syrian Army...

1070 Apartments area since summer.

A military media unit run by Hezbollah carried a similar report.

Hezbollah, a Lebanese Shia group, is fighting in support of President Bashar al-Assad in Syria's war, now well in its sixth year. (AL JAZEERA)

(18)Turkey Urges ...

of American people will lead to good steps for basic rights and freedoms, democracy and future of our region," Erdogan said, adding that he intends to maintain a positive perspective.

In addition, the Foreign Ministry said that election results reflect American peoples' preference and that Turkey will respect whoever is elected president in the U.S.

"U.S.-Turkey relations are independent from individuals," the statement said, adding that Turkey is determined to maintain relations with the U.S. (Xinhua)

(19)Brussels Presents...

"market economy status" and ensure that the bloc's trade defence arsenal could maintain an equivalent level of protection.

The Commission, the EU's executive arm, left open the option to use "international" price and cost reference in further anti-dumping cases if "market distortion" was found in a third country, which could still fall short of its obligation to international trade rules. (Xinhua)

(20)Over 16,000...

Liberation Army-in opposition led by ousted First Vice President Riek Machar and troops loyal to President Salva Kiir.

"Since 2013, around 2,000 children have been released. The largest group was early last year also in the Greater Pibor Administrative Area when 1,775 children were released," he added. (Xinhua)

(21)EU Adds ...

region's population for the free democratic expression of their will," the ministry was quoted as saying. (Xinhua)

(22)China Expects...

some arguments saying China-U.S. trade had affected employment of the American people," Lu said. "In fact, bilateral trade had brought benefits to the two peoples and increased employment in the United States." (Xinhua)