

### (1) Afghanistan's Economy ...

as well as its geography as a regional land bridge.

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### (2) Indonesia Pledges...

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### (3) US, Allies Fail...

He reiterated that the terrorist attacks in the globe had increased every year since the onset of Washington's invasion of Afghanistan in 2001.

Khoshrou further expressed concern over a recent joint survey by the UN and the Afghan government, which revealed that opium production in the restive country had almost doubled so far in 2017 compared to last year.

According to the survey issued last week by the Afghan Ministry of Counter Narcotics and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) the opium production rose by 87 percent and stands at a record level of 9,000 metric tons (9,921 US tons) so far this year, compared to 4,800 metric tons (5,291 US tons) in 2016. (FNA)

### (4) Noor Accuse Govt...

He also added that the Jamiat-e-Islami together with its allies will soon declare their stance regarding the conspiracies being hatched.

The ministry of interior on Monday issued a statement to clarify the government's stance regarding a controversial letter being circulated on media.

Admitting the writing mistakes in the letter, the ministry said such perceptions are baseless that the ministry has adopted discriminatory approach while recruiting new personnel in public order police forces.

The letter being shared on social media has stated that the new personnel for the new formations of the public order police forces should be recruited from the other ethnic groups, apart from the Afghan nationals belonging to the Tajik ethnic group. (KP)

### (5) Afghanistan Must be...

"There is no good or bad terrorist or violent extremist. We need to agree to fight

all forms and shades of terror. We can and should no longer harbor or support one group while fighting another and claim to be fighting terrorism in all its dimensions," he said.

In his address to the General Assembly's special meeting on Afghanistan, the CEO said his country firmly believed a conditions-based approach and clear focus on resolving the problem of regional terrorist sanctuaries and support systems were core issues that would get it closer to peace and stability.

"They also form the cornerstone of our new National Security Strategy to defeat terrorism, work with nations that share our threat perception, and protect our people against politicized violence," he added.

In recent months, he said, the Afghan security forces had effectively thwarted attempts by the Taliban, alongside the Haqqani network, as well as elements of Al-Qaeda, Daesh and other terror groups from making notable gains, or capturing a major urban centre.

"We are not dealing with one, but several terror outfits, that either mirror each other under different labels or indirectly support overlapping agendas," he observed.

Pakistan's Permanent Representative Maleeha Lodhi called the intensifying violence in Afghanistan and the growing presence of Daesh and a large number of other terrorist groups in ungoverned spaces cause for grave concern for the international community.

"These terrorist groups pose a clear and present danger for the long-term stability of Afghanistan as well as the entire region," she said.

Lodhi noted the prolonged conflict in Afghanistan had not only imposed epic suffering on its people, it had also prevented the entire region from realising its immense economic potential. A peaceful and stable Afghanistan was essential for regional stability and economic progress, she remarked.

Deputy Permanent Representative of India Tanmaya Lal stressed an end to the support the Taliban, the Haqqani Network, Daesh, Al-Qaeda and affiliates. "The special terrorist zones, safe havens and sanctuaries beyond Afghanistan's borders must end."

Addressing terrorism needed a comprehensive, uncompromising and cohesive response from the international community, he said, adding Afghanistan's security and stability was tied to that of the entire region.

India, he said, continued to support the government and people of Afghanistan in realising a stable, secure, united, prosperous, democratic and pluralistic country.

"We deeply value the continuing sacrifice of the Afghan security forces not just for their own people, but also people of the region and the rest of the world," he added.

Lal said the UN Security Council, while acting on the funds the terrorists in Afghanistan were generating through their illicit activities, could effectively utilise the 1988 sanctions regime to leverage for promoting peace.

"While the cowardliness and the frequency of terror attacks in Afghanistan have reached new heights and the terrorists continue to gain territory and resources of Afghan people, unfortunately, here in this body, we have witnessed little change," he said.

"The Security Council is still debating whether or not to designate new leaders or to freeze the assets of the slain leader of Taliban. Even as this debate is going on, we find the new threats being posed by ISIS/Daesh in Afghanistan," Lal concluded. (Pajhwok)

### (6) US, Afghan Forces...

Afghanistan became a member of the court, but would also include acts linked to Afghanistan that could have been committed in other countries since July 1, 2002. (DW)

### (7) Afghanistan to Review...

This will make Amritsar a major gateway for import and export between the two nations," he said.

The rail route can also be explored as Afghanistan is very well connected with Central Asia, Abdali said.

Pakistan has never allowed the use of its land route for trade between India and Afghanistan.

Rajdeep Uppal, former chairman, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Amritsar, said the Chabahar port in southeastern Iran, being developed and operated by India, would boost access to Iran -- the key gateway to the International North-South Transport Corridor among India, Iran, Russia, Europe and Central Asia. "Once functional, this sea port will give a significant push to the import of iron ore, sugar and rice to India," he added.

Sachin Khanna, chairman, CII (Amritsar zonal council), said Afghanistan was a strategic economic partner of India in the South Asian region.

"The Indian industry is looking for profitable investment opportunities in Af-

ghanistan in sectors such as mining, agriculture, textile, energy, infrastructure and telecommunications," he said. (Pajhwok)

### (8) Incidents of Human...

Afghanistan has been promoted to the tier-two category, which implies that some incidents of human trafficking were still taking place in the country.

He assured addressing human trafficking incidents in the far-flung areas by saying anti-human trafficking strategies had been organised and help from the local administrations would be sought for their implementation.

Nangarhar Youth Affairs Director Matiullah Ahmadzai also said that great work has been done on the information campaign on human trafficking and now almost every individual is well informed about the issue.

The practice of baad marriages, forced hard child labour, the forcible use of children and women as sex slaves and other cases of harassment are called human trafficking.

Article 3, paragraph (a) of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Person defines Trafficking in Persons as the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs. (Pajhwok)

### (9) Nabil 'Spills'...

decision-makers," Nabil added. Nabil also claimed that fake US dollars were used during the 2014 presidential election campaign and contracts were awarded to people in advance.

"Foreign Intelligence money used in our campaigns, people's property had been sold and even contracts were given in advance," Nabil added.

Furthermore, he said the 2004 election had been better run but that problems increased in the 2009 elections and further increased during the 2014 polls.

"According to my information that I had when the 2009 elections ended, some commitments were made at the time by the president of that time (Hamid Karzai) and one of the 2014 presidential election candidates who was told he would be the next candidate," Nabil said.

"And based on the commitments between the former president and the one presidential candidate in 2014, some national processes were started under the name of a security transaction process from foreign forces over to the Afghan forces and that process was absolutely a campaign process because that process was not established based on any analysis nor based on achievements, and if it was based on achievements we would not now be seeing more troops coming in to Afghanistan," Nabil said. (ToloNews)

### (10) Unidentified Individuals...

one of the victims, recalled the incident, "We were going to course, when abruptly some persons threw something on our faces. We firstly thought it was some kind of boiled water. But (then) our faces started inflammation."

"We then yelled and screamed and a shopkeeper next to us threw two buckets of water on us. I don't remember anything since then. We used to hear about such incidents. But today we ourselves became a prey to it. I can't even dare to get out of home anymore."

She urged the government to ensure security of the citizens of Herat.

Aminullah Ahmadi, the father of the victims and a civil society activist, said, "Police had told me about 80 days back that I am under threat. But we never thought that my daughters would be attacked in 6:30am in the morning."

He criticized the government's failure to provide security to its people.

According to the sources of the provincial hospital, this is the second incident of acid attack in the province this year. (Pajhwok)

### (11) Above 1,650...

families received cash money in the province. Zwak said the families included 17 those who had lost one family member each to war and 76 those whose relatives had been wounded in fighting.

The cash was distributed by the Deputy Governor Mazlomlyar personally, he said, adding each family received about 100,000 afis in compensation for a person killed and 50,000 afis for a relative wounded.

Zwak quoted Mazlomlyar as calling upon insurgents to avoid civilian casualties during fighting. Some of the aid recipients expressed gratitude to the provincial administration and unity government while asking

rebels to shun violence. (Pajhwok)

### (12) Waziristan Refugee ...

to meet their needs.

National Youth Council member Abdul Haq Faqiri said the government should assist the displaced families whose condition was deteriorating and their children were ill.

Mohammad Rahman Iyaz, the governor's spokesman, said about 8,000 families were displaced from Waziristan to Paktika during the past few years.

He informed the provincial Refugees and Repatriation Department and the Natural Disaster Management Authority were ready to assist the displaced families in winter and they would receive assistance regularly under a new plan.

Thousands of families had been displaced as a result of the Pakistani forces operations against militants in the North and South Waziristan. (Pajhwok)

### (13) 8 Taliban Killed...

security forces have raided a house and killed some people. He said the clash continued for hours and security forces also suffered casualties.

The Taliban have not yet commented about the incident. (Pajhwok)

## Nicholson Sees Signs of Disagreements within Taliban

WASHINGTON - The commander of US and NATO forces in Afghanistan, General John Nicholson, sees signs of friction and disagreements within Taliban.

"In 2017, the Taliban failed to meet any of their military objectives. They failed to take any cities, as they've attempted for the last two years. They suffered a significant amount of casualties from the Afghan-led offensive operations.

"And we are seeing signs of friction and disagreement within the Taliban leadership ranks," Nicholson told Pentagon reporters during a video conference call from Kabul. He said the Taliban knew they could not win in the face of growing capabilities of Afghan security forces. The rebels had decided to stop attacking cities, trying to seize and hold terrain, he claimed. The insurgents had resorted to suicide attacks and attempts to inflict casualties to prove their relevance, Nicholson said.

"And this is a step back in terms of enemy tactics to a guerrilla warfare type of strategy, from one where they attempt to seize and hold terrain," the commander remarked. The Taliban, he said, were interested in making money and to some extent they had evolved into a narco-insurgency. The profits from narcotics now exceed their operating expenses.

"And we find that the leadership of the Taliban fight over the money, and it's often divided along tribal lines," he added. "Our message to the enemy is that you cannot win the war.

"It's time to lay down your arms and enter into a reconciliation process. And if they don't, they're going to be consigned to irrelevance, as the Afghans expand their control of the country, or death," Nicholson said. The Afghan government is expanding its control through offensive operations and brings those areas back under control, according to the general.

"Then we expect to see those areas under cultivation, when the farmers have a choice and they don't necessarily -- they aren't forced to be growing poppy -- we believe the government, in those areas has been pushing agriculture," he said.

"Why is this new? Because the markets in India are being opened up to Afghan-listed agriculture, as you've heard President Ghani talk about the air bridge to India and the export of agricultural products to India is a major push," he concluded. (Pajhwok)

## New US Envoy Assured Unity Govt's Cooperation

KABUL - The new US ambassador to Afghanistan has said the Americans have been in the war-torn country to help the Afghans build their future.

John R. Bass expressed these views during a meeting with the Afghan envoy in Washington, Hamidullah Mohib.

Mohib said the new US ambassador was interested to work in different fields in Afghanistan. Mohib talked with Bass on strengthening relations between the two countries. "I assured the new US ambassador for Afghanistan the national unity government's cooperation with him and Afghans' support and hospitality," he said. Bass would start his job in Kabul in near future. Few days back, US's Special Chargé d'Affaires Ambassador Hugo Llorens left Kabul after farewell meetings with Afghan officials. (Pajhwok)

## Bahrami, Shanahan Support US Strategy for S. Asia

KABUL - Afghan and American defence officials have supported President Donald Trump's new South Asia policy. Acting defence minister, Lt. Gen. Tariq

Shah Bahrami, and Deputy Defense Secretary Pat Shanahan backed the strategy at a meeting in the Pentagon on Monday.

Shanahan's spokesperson Sarah Higgins said the two leaders reaffirmed their continued support for the US-Afghanistan strategic partnership.

She said: "They discussed measures to support the president's South Asia strategy" announced in August to stabilise Afghanistan.

They also conferred on US forces continuing to work by, with and through NATO allies and partners to train, advise, assist and provide fire and air support to the Afghan government. (Pajhwok)

## 3 Kunduz Agriculture Officials to Face Graft Charges

KUNDUZ CITY - The Appellate Court in northern Kunduz province has detained three provincial agriculture department officials over alleged corruption.

Appellate court prosecutor Mohammad Arif Mubashir told Pajhwok Afghan News that they started investigation into alleged corruption in the Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Department of Kunduz as per directives of the Attorney General Office.

"We finally found six managers involved in embezzling projects' money and forgery," he said.

He said three of the suspects had been detained and the remaining three had managed to flee. Mubashir asked detective organs to capture the officials at large.

The Kunduz agriculture, livestock and irrigation department refused to comment about the case. (Pajhwok)

## 55 Rebels Killed 10 Injured in Kandahar Operations

KANDAHAR CITY - Fifty-five insurgents have been killed and 10 others injured in security forces joint operations in the Maiwand and Zherai districts of southern Kandahar province, an official said on Tuesday.

Police spokesman Zia Durrani told Pajhwok Afghan News 30 insurgents were killed and some injured in Monday operations by army, police and public order police in the Kala Shamer and Jagroom areas.

The operation lasted for about nine hours, he said, adding 21 motorcycles and two vehicles were destroyed and 21 landmines planted by militants were defused.

Durrani said security forces conducted a separate operation on Monday night in Sang Bur area in which five rebels were arrested, nine motorcycles and one vehicle was destroyed.

In Maiwand, 25 militants were killed and 10 others injured in security forces operation in the Qari Saleem valley. Afghan Air Forces also supported the Maiwand operation.

Thirty Motorcycles and some weapons had been recovered during the offensive. (Pajhwok)

## Key Taliban Commander Among 8 Killed in Logar Operations

PUL-I-ALAM - A key commander of the Taliban group was among at least eight militants killed during the operations of the Afghan security forces in central Logar province of Afghanistan.

The provincial government media office in a statement said the militants were killed in an area located between Baraki Barak and Tangi Wardak area.

The statement further added that the Taliban commander killed during the operation has been identified as Agha Gul.

Originally a resident of Honai Safli area of Logar's capital, commander Gul was believed to be an important Taliban leader who was actively involved in anti-government armed insurgency.

According to the provincial government, the remaining militants all hailed from Babus area and Maidan Wardak province. The anti-government armed militant groups including the Taliban insurgents have not commented regarding the report so far.

Logar is among the relatively volatile provinces in central Afghanistan where the Taliban insurgents as well as militants belonging to other terrorist networks are actively operating in its various districts. The Ministry of Interior of Afghanistan earlier in September informed regarding the deaths of the Taliban leader and his fighters today morning.

A statement by the ministry of interior said the Taliban leader was killed in an airstrike and was identified as Qari Ismail who was also famous as Mir Mohammad. The statement further added that the three other Taliban group members killed in the airstrike have been identified as Qari Sirajuddin, Ahmad Gul and Mohammad Tahir. (KP)