

Quote of the Day

If we open a quarrel between the past and the present, we shall find that we have lost the future.

Sir Winston Churchill
British politician (1874 - 1965)

Russia to Keep Sending Free Weapons to ANSF: Matvienko

MOSCOW - Russia's upper house speaker Valentina Matvienko on Tuesday said that Moscow will continue supplying free weapons to the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) to help fight the Islamic State (ISIL) jihadist group. In early October, First Vice President Abdul Rashid Dostum asked Russia for military aid amid a fight against militants operating in the country. "We will continue the work on the organization of gratuitous supply of arms and ammunition to Afghanistan. We welcome the commitment of the Afghan government to modernize the



country's air force," Matvienko said at the meeting with Fazal Hadi Muslimyar, the speaker of the upper house of the Afghan Parliament. According to the Russian lawmaker, Afghanistan is currently considering a commercial Russian proposal for the purchase of three military helicopters. Also Matvienko stated that Russia is concerned over growing Islamic State (ISIL) influence in Afghanistan. "We are concerned by the increased ISIL influence in Afghanistan and its intentions to absorb parts of the Taliban," Matvienko said at ...*(More on P4)...(1)*

ARG Opposes Formation of Militia



KABUL - The Presidential Palace (ARG) on Tuesday opposed the creation of militia forces, calling on former commanders and those behind the plan, to halt the process. Insisting on the outcome of creating such forces, the Palace said the Afghan Local Police (ALP) forces have proved to be effective only within the framework of the Ministry of Interior (MoI), which is currently being implemented with the set mechanism. The statement by ARG was released amid concerns regarding plans to create militia forces, with the government officials, lawmakers and other political figures calling for an immediate halt of it. A number of tribal elders and former Mujahideen commanders have already ...*(More on P4)...(2)*

NSC Calls for Team to Probe Qadir's Accusations



KABUL - The National Security Council (NSC) on Monday night denied claims made by Nangarhar MP and first deputy speaker of the house Abdul Zahir Qadir that they support Daesh in the country. Qadir said in parliament earlier in the day that the NSC supported the insurgent group and that they were putting the country on a path towards destruction. "What can we do? People within government and in the National Security Council support Daesh. If we do not stop Daesh today, tomorrow it will be a massive problem," said Qadir. The NSC said the allegations are totally baseless and called for a team to be established to investigate Qadir's claims. Speaking to TOLONews, the NSC's spokesman Tawab Ghorzand said Qadir's claims were an excuse to get illegal resources to establish militia groups. "The National Security Council office strongly rejects the ...*(More on P4)...(4)*

690 Mln Children to Face Effects of Climate Change: UNICEF

GENEVA - A report published by the UN's Children Fund (UNICEF) on Tuesday found that some 530 million children live in areas with extremely high flood occurrence, while 160 million live in high drought severity zones. Released ahead of the 21st United Nations climate change conference (COP21) in Paris, the report showed that 300 million of the 530 million chil-



children in flood prone zones live in countries where over 50 percent of the population live in poverty (surviving on less than 3.10 U.S. dollars a day). The report said that out of the 160 million children living in drought-vulnerable areas, almost one third (50 million) reside in countries where over half of the population lives in poverty. "The sheer numbers underline ...*(More on P4)...(3)*

German Army Extends Afghan Mission with NATO Partners



KABUL - Germany is to maintain its military presence in northern Afghanistan in 2016 in cooperation with its NATO partners, German Defence Minister Ursula von der Leyen said on Monday. "We have agreed - and this is very good news - that we are going to go ahead with our contribution in the mission of strengthening the security architecture in Afghanistan. That is a very good result because there is still a lot to do. We want to go on with the mission "Resolute Support" in 2016. That means that we want to secure the progress that has already been made and also facilitate further steps forward," von der Leyen told reporters in Berlin after a meeting with military experts from the 20 other countries with troops stationed in northern Afghanistan as part of NATO's "Resolute Support" mission. Although ...*(More on P4)...(7)*

EU, EUPOL Urge Govt. to Eliminate Violence Against Women

KABUL - European Union and European Union Police Mission (EUPOL) in Afghanistan in a



joint statement on Tuesday on the International Day of Elimination of Violence against Women urged Afghan government to eliminate violence against women. Elimination of violence and discrimination against women and girls remains a pivotal objective of the European Union's Human Rights Policy, the statement stated. On the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, the EU in Afghanistan expressed its ...*(More on P4)...(5)*

UN Violence Against Women Not Acceptable

KABUL - Across the world, violence against women and girls remains one of the most serious—and the most tolerated—human rights violations, both a cause and a consequence of gender inequality and discrimination, UN Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN Women, Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka said in a press statement. Its continued presence is one of the clearest markers of societies out of balance and we are determined to change that, Phumzile said. Phumzile further added that on this International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women we say again that violence against women is not acceptable. It is not inevitable, it can be prevented. Although there is no single solution to such a complex problem, there is growing evidence of the range of actions that can stop violence before it happens, especially if they are implemented in parallel, she said. She added that further research currently underway will lead to more definitive strategies and interventions to prevent violence. We believe that, through concerted action by everyone involved, from governments to individuals, we can tackle the unequal power relations and structures between men and women and highlight the necessary attitudinal, practice and institutional changes. Phumzile further said Imagine how different the world would be for girls growing up now if we could prevent early marriage, female genital mutilation, the turning of a blind eye to domestic violence, abusive text messages, the impunity of rapists, the enslavement of women in conflict areas, the killing of women human rights defenders, or the hostility of police stations or courtrooms to women's testimony of violence experienced. We have made progress in improving the laws that distinguish ...*(More on P4)...(8)*

Senators Consider NUG Main Cause of Crisis

KABUL - Members of Mashrano Jirga (Upper House of the Parliament) on Tuesday accused the National Unity Government (NUG) of failing to hold election, citing the leaders of NUG even cannot hold the parliamentary election. Members of Mashrano Jirga said that they consider lead-



ers of National Unity Government are the main cause of the crisis in the country. Senators said that the delay in election drags the country further into crisis, but unfortunately the NUG leaders have no intention to hold the election. They urged NUG to specify the date of Parliamentary elec-

tion; otherwise people's disbelief to government become more. "The National Unity Government leaders functions are dangerous than Taliban, they themselves are creating crisis," Senator Nadir Baloch said. "If we do not press the government, the delay for holding ...*(More on P4)...(6)*

Govt. Offices Should Implement EVAW: MPs

KABUL - The women's affairs and human rights commission in the Wolesi Jirga (Lower House of Parliament) on Tuesday urged that all government offices should implement the Elimination of Violence Against Women (EVAW) law in a bid to stamp out the problem in the country. "The law should be overwhelmingly implemented all over the country," said the commission's chairperson Fawzia Kofi. Meanwhile, attorneys who deal with cases of violence against women believe the law will help decrease the issue in the long run. "This law should be implemented in Kabul and all other provinces. The rise in violence against women in the provinces is linked to failure to implement the law," female attorney Hasiba Amini said. TOLONews reporter Shakeela Ibrahimkhalil has interviewed some of the victims of violence against ...*(More on P4)...(9)*

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