

**(1) WJ to Govt.:**

talk and his microphone was turned off. The outspoken lawmaker said sending letters to the government was meaningless and would damage the Wolesi Jirga's position. However, Haji Zahir Qadeer, 1st deputy speaker of the house, who chaired the session, said summoning of ministers was the Wolesi Jirga's red line and the house wouldn't compromise on it and the letter was aimed at cooperating with the government and not to cut a deal. (Pajhwok)

**(2) RPT-Turkmenistan ...**

That share could increase as the country, unable to sell large quantities of natural gas, processes it into liquid fuels. On the Afghan side, the link goes to the Aqina dry port in the Faryab province, but there are plans to extend it further. The Turkmen government said in a statement the railway would become part of longer link that would eventually connect landlocked Central Asia to China and Southeast Asia. (Reuters)

**(3) IEC Pledges ...**

presidential elections. "Our plan in the initial stage is to prepare the voter list, the list of those eligible to vote, this would mean that next elections will be conducted in a free and transparent manner," said Ahmadzai. The IECC officials also committed to outline more coherent strategies aimed at curbing fraud and vote-rigging in elections.

"Initially we will start our assessment to identify the vulnerabilities of the commission and to find what type of election fraud, rigging and violations are threatening the commission; then we will take action according to the law," said Arayee. Referring to the appointment of former IEC and IECC commissioners as advisors to the president, critics slammed the move as politically motivated bribery by government.

"We believe that government has grabbed the right of the national assembly for the legislation. The national assembly should swiftly reject the legislative decree on the electoral reforms," said Ahadi. Following an electoral impasse in 2014, the present government under President Ashraf Ghani and his CEO Abdullah Abdullah pledged to implement systematic reforms in Afghanistan's election institutions, but the two leaders met their commitment only after two years.

Former officials of the IEC and IECC had been accused of vote-rigging in the 2014 polls. (Tolonews)

**(4) Disabled Artist ...**

consider social problems. This painting of Mohammadi tells people that (Afghan) women should come out of the chains," said a visitor. Another visitor, Maryam Bahar Sadat, was attracted by a painting of a child laborer, saying that there are a lot of child laborers in Afghanistan. They are supposed to study now and live a good life in the future rather than working like adults when they are still so young, said Sadat.

Mohammadi's artworks are popular online, and she has many Facebook followers. (Tolonews)

**(5) Ashgabat Varsity...**

project; it's an idea to connect regional states. It will concurrently carry 500 volts of power to Pakistan via Afghanistan." He also visited the Ashgabat Olympic City, which is scheduled to host the 5th Asian Olympic Games in 2017. The president informed the hosts that athletes from Afghanistan would attend the event. Ghani director his transport and public health ministers to explore avenues of bilateral cooperation. He was briefed on transport services, particularly efforts to enhance capacity building of officials in logistic,

communications, export and import areas. (Pajhwok)

**(6) Taliban Search ...**

started searching vehicles on roads in the province, claiming that over the past one month alone, the Taliban killed 30 government servants after pulling them from vehicles on the Paktika-Ghazni highway. Similarly, Paktika Civil Society Groups coordination centre head Khurshid Aman Katawazai told Pajhwok that the problem was in Zurmat district of neighbouring Paktia province. Zurmat district borders Paktika's Mata Khan district.

Katawazai said Taliban militants used to stop vehicles in Zurmat district to look for government officials and kill them. "The threat subsides when you enter Paktika from Zurmat."

An Afghan National Army soldier Abdullah Shinwari said people could not easily travel to Paktika by road due to Taliban's threat while there were no air flights to the province from other provinces.

The spokesman for Paktia governor, Naqib Ahmad Atal, told Pajhwok Afghan News about the Taliban's presence in Zurmat district that the provincial government was trying to resolve the issue through an organized plan.

The governor of Ghazni province, Abdul Karim Matin, confirmed security problems on the Ghazni-Paktika highway and said a plan was being devised to address the issue.

"Right now a delegation is visiting the area to know where the problem originates from," the governor said, asking tribal elders to cooperate with security forces in resolving the issue.

But Paktika governor Mohammad Ilyas Wehdat said there was no problem on highways inside Paktika and that the problem existed in Paktia's Zurmat and Ghazni's Andar districts.

Wehdat said the security problem on highways would be resolved jointly with officials of neighbouring provinces and the issue would be taken up with government leaders in Kabul. The Taliban have not yet commented about the issue, but previously their spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid had said the fighters did not bother common people.

About a week ago, Taliban militants pulled four policemen from vehicles on the Ghazni-Paktika road and later killed them. Paktika borders Ghazni, Zabol and Paktia provinces as well as Pakistan. (Pajhwok)

**(7) Kunduz War...**

of a road in Rawza area. We covered the sheet with old clothes and things to keep us warm," he added.

Firzo said they spent about one and a half months on the roadside and people paid them little money like beggars.

About other members of their family, he said one of his brothers had gone to Iran for work several years ago. They had no information about his brother's whereabouts in Iran, he said.

To questions about their future, Firoz remained silent and could not say anything. However, he was hopeful about his mother treatment in the hospital.

Mohammad Ashraf Rawan, a doctor at the mental health section, said Mahria Khal was brought the hospital by security personnel on Saturday. He said the woman at first was in Rawan called her illness Schizophreniform disorder --- a mental disorder diagnosed when symptoms of schizophrenia are present for a significant portion of the time within a one-month period, but signs of disruption are not present for the full six months required for the diagnosis of schizophrenia. People who face many problems develop such diseases, the doctor said and hoped Mahria Khal's health would be recovered soon. (Pajhwok)

**(8) Loya Paktia ...**

the nuts to China." Experts believe if all Afghanistan's exports legally reached the world market, it would help

traders improve their income and positively impact Afghanistan economy.

Khost chamber of commerce head, Nawab Amirzai, said the problem could be resolved if the government controlled the private sector.

"Exports could not be done the way that both the government and the private sector get advantages due to absence of needed facilities," he said. (Pajhwok)

**(9) 4 Security...**

had hand in disruptive activities and terrorist attacks against government officials. In fact, the source said, six men including two accomplices of the security officials had been taken into custody on the basis of incriminating evidence of their involvement in anti-state activities.

Two of the detainees are Afghan National Army soldiers, Rahmatullah and Mohammadullah, also known as Loi Lala, assigned to the 205th Atal Military Corps. Habib Shah and Izzatullah are border police personnel based in Spin Boldak district.

The NDS source said the detainees, led by Mohammadullah, misused their positions and worked for militants. Sayed Ghulam Hider and Ghulam Ali were their partners in the area.

The security men had killed an NDS official, two government workers and four policemen in different parts of the province, the sources added. The detainees have allegedly confessed their crimes. (Pajhwok)

**(10) Intelligence...**

media after investigations against the reporter were over. Mubarez Mohammad Zadran, the governor's spokesman, confirmed the arrest. But he said it remained unclear why Faizi had been arrested.

Faizi has worked for several local radio stations over the past several years. For a year or so, he has been working for the Inekas radio. (Pajhwok)

**(11) Young Girl...**

shot dead by unknown gunmen who were riding a motorcycle in western Herat province of Afghanistan around ten days ago.

The officials said the main motive behind the murder is not clear and search operation is underway to arrest the perpetrators.

Earlier, a woman shot by her in-law's family after she attempted to elope with her love in Ghor province of Afghanistan. (KP)

**(12) 1,000 Islamic...**

Major General Abdul Ghani al-Asadi, one of the commanders of the special forces, said troops had adapted their tactics, surrounding one district at a time to cut off the militants' supplies and protect civilians.

"Progress was faster at the start. The reason is we were operating before in areas without residents," Asadi told Reuters in Bartella, on Mosul's outskirts.

"We have arrived in populated districts. So how do we protect civilians? We have sealed off district after district."

He said around 990 militants had been killed in fighting in the east so far. He would not say how many casualties there were among government special forces. (Reuters)

**(13) China, Turkey...**

during the ancient Silk Road period which connected the entire world," said Umit Kiler, deputy president of the Independent Industrialists' and Businessmen's Association.

For Irem Calisici, an academician from Dokuz Eylul University based in Izmir, western Turkey, the unique Chinese porcelain collection in Topkapi is the "most striking evidence" of the diplomatic and commercial relations existing between the Ming Dynasty and the Ottoman Empire. (Xinhua)

**(14) Merkel Says...**

(CDU) party, which was trounced by the populist Alternative fur Deutschland in both her home state and the capital Berlin. (AP)

**(15) Trump Warns ...**

led to greater political and religious freedom in Cuba, while economic reforms have come slowly and fitfully.

On Sunday's "Meet The Press," Trump adviser Kellyanne Conway said "the major priority now is to make sure Cubans on Cuba have the same freedoms that Cubans here in America have, which is political, religious and economic freedom, make sure those political prisoners are finally released into freedom." She also said the Trump administration wanted to ensure that Cuba extradites American fugitives to "face the law."

But Conway declined to spell out what specific steps Trump would take, or whether he would keep some parts of Obama's approach in place. "None of that has been decided," she told moderator Chuck Todd. (AP)

**(16) Syrian Army...**

fled to government-controlled areas in western Aleppo, following the advance of the Syrian army.

Meanwhile, Syrian national TV has aired several interviews with civilians who have reached government-controlled areas in western Aleppo, with people blaming rebels for the dire humanitarian situation there.

The interviewees accused rebels of previously preventing them from leaving Aleppo. They also spoke of hunger they have been suffering from over the past four months. (Xinhua)

**(17) Polish, German...**

states, Slovakia and Hungary and its tasks also include monitoring of the region's security environment and coordinating military operations. (AP)

**(18) Turkey's Emergency**

to limit or suspend rights and freedoms as they deem necessary. Since then, more than 125,000 people have been sacked or suspended accused of links to the plotters. (Reuters)

**(19) More than...**

military task force and police have been deployed to stem the tide of attacks and ensure security of lives and property throughout the state. (Xinhua)

**(20) Senior Chinese ...**

increase the law-abiding awareness, and to resist and guard against religious extremism.

Yu congratulated the success of the congress and spoke highly of the work of the IAC over the past five years.

More than 370 people from across China attended the congress, which elected the new leadership of the IAC, chaired by Yang Faming, a renowned Imam from Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region. (Xinhua)

**(21) Iran Hopes...**

on the production of each country and would present its views on the proposal in the OPEC meeting in Vienna on Wednesday, Zanganeh said. He added that his talks with the Algerian energy minister discussed a plan to exempt Iran from OPEC production cut scheme, he added. (Xinhua)

**(22) Turkmenistan Joins.**

several countries, which are members of the United Nations (UN) Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. The Agreement opens up new development prospects for landlocked countries and areas facing the challenges of prohibitive costs and complex logistics to get their goods and services to market. (Trend)

**(23) RSF Reinforces ...**

November under which criminal proceedings can be brought against anyone "insulting or defaming the Initiator of Peace and National Unity and Leader of the Nation" - the title that has recently been awarded to Emomali Rahmon, placing him about all other citizens. This new crime is punishable by up to five years in prison. (Monitoring Desk)

**At Least 26 Al-Shabaab Fighters Killed in Fresh Fighting in Central Somalia**

MOGADISHU - About 26 Al-Shabaab militants were killed and several others were wounded in fresh fighting between the insurgents and Galmudug State forces in Harardhere town in Mudug region of central Somalia, officials said on Monday.

Security Minister for Galmudug State in Somalia Osman Isse Nor told reporters that the militants were defeated during the fighting, noting that their attempt to revenge and rob locals failed. "Our forces killed 26 terrorists and more others were injured, Galmudug State forces are part of the battle and supports the locals to fight Al-Shabaab in east of Mudug region," Isse said.

He called on the Somali government and the African Union peacekeeping troops to help locals and Galmudug State forces in the fight against Al-Shabaab. Independent sources say there are casualties on the locals who are fighting with the militants. The militants had cut off the communication in the area before launching the attack early Monday.

This is the second time in a week that heavy fighting is taking place in Mudug region as the insurgents face resistance from the locals who are livestock farmers. (Xinhua)

**55 Killed in Western Uganda Clashes**

KAMPALA - At least 55 people, including 14 police officers, were killed on Saturday in fierce fighting between security forces and a separatist militia linked to a tribal king in western Uganda, a police spokesperson said Sunday.

Uganda police spokesman Andrew Felix Kaweesi told Xinhua that 14 police officers and 41 assailants were killed in clashes between police, Ugandan military and tribal fighters in the western Ugandan district of Kasese.

He said the tribal fighters linked to the royal guards of the king of Rwenzururu, Charles Wesley Mumbere, attacked the security forces that were on patrol in Kasese town.

"We lost 14 police officers and two soldiers injured after the militia attacked our forces that were on patrol. They threw improvised explosive devices at them," said Kaweesi.

"This is not an insurgency but rather a violent crime. We believe these attacks have a political motive," he said.

The local fighters with the support of their fellow Bakonzo in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) have taken up arms to agitate for the creation of the Yira Republic, which would cover territory in Uganda and part of North Kivu in DRC. The security forces on Sunday stormed the palace of King Mumbere and arrested him. (Xinhua)

**IS Gone, Mosul District Residents Adjust to New Life**

GOGJALI, Iraq - Until three weeks ago, many of Abu Osama's customers were Islamic State militants who brought their wives and children to his pharmacy on the eastern edge of Mosul for injections and treatment.

Now, most of them are Iraqi security forces who recaptured the Gogjali neighborhood earlier this month and are pushing further into the city, which has been under Islamic State control for more than two years.

As the militants retreat, civilians are adjusting to a new reality in their wake and a clearer picture is emerging of what they did to survive the punishments and deprivation of Islamic State rule. "Whether Daesh (Islamic State) or army: my door is open to everyone," said Abu Osama, taking the blood pressure of an Iraqi policeman. "If my worst

enemy comes here, I must treat him."

Several Islamic State militants, both local and foreign, lived in Gogjali and it was mainly their families that visited the pharmacy because the militants themselves were often away, Abu Osama said.

The front of his shop and those next door are marked with the Arabic letter "z" for zakat, meaning alms, and beside it an identification number Islamic State bureaucrats assigned to record donations made at the shop for their self-proclaimed caliphate.

Advancing Iraqi forces have sprayed Shi'ite slogans over it. (Reuters)

**Turkey Targets Foster Families in Post-Coup Crackdown: Official**

ANKARA - Turkish authorities are investigating foster families for suspected ties to a failed coup and may remove children from homes if their guardians are found to be supporters of the putsch, a government official said on Monday.

The government has so far detained or dismissed 125,000 people over alleged links to the network of Fethullah Gulen, a U.S.-based Muslim cleric accused by Ankara of orchestrating the July 15 coup. Gulen, who lives in self-imposed exile in the state of Pennsylvania, has denied involvement in the putsch and condemned it.

The scope of the crackdown has alarmed human rights groups and Turkey's Western allies who fear President Tayyip Erdogan is using the coup as a pretext to curtail dissent. The government says its investigations are necessary to stamp out the influence of Gulen's network, which it refers to as the "Gülenist Terror Organisation", or "FETO".

"It would not be right for a child to remain with a (foster) family if links to FETO are confirmed as a result of the examinations," the official from the Ministry of Family and Social Policy told Reuters.

The official, who declined to be identified, said the investigations had been going on since August 23.

"This is a slow process in which detailed examinations are being carried out. So it is out of the question for children to be suddenly ripped away from their families," the official said, adding that the psychological health of the children was being closely monitored. (Reuters)

**Polish PM Calls for 'Good Compromise' on Brexit**

LONDON - Poland's prime minister called Monday for a Brexit "compromise" and said Europeans in Britain and Britons in Europe should not be "made to feel like hostages" as she kicked off a landmark trip to London. Britain's shock vote in June to leave the European Union sparked fear among the 800,000 Poles living in Britain, particularly following a spate of xenophobic attacks after the referendum. Beata Szydlo pledged Poland would be a "constructive partner" in potentially fraught negotiations to set the terms of Britain's divorce from the EU, but that London had to set out a clear vision for its post-EU future. "We need a good compromise which gives both our countries the best possible options for economic and security cooperation," she wrote in Monday's Daily Telegraph.

"But the initiative for determining British ambitions and expectations as to the future level of cooperation with the EU has to come from London." Five months after the Brexit vote, Szydlo pressed London not to use migrants like her UK-based compatriots as a bargaining chip in the negotiations.

"One thing is certain: millions of UK citizens living across the EU, and millions of EU-27 citizens living in the United Kingdom, should not be made to feel like hostages," she wrote. (AFP)