

(1) Now Govt....

Taliban and other groups to decide if they wanted to stand alongside their nation by joining the peace process like the HIA or choose to continue fighting and promoting insurgency. Ghani said: "We demonstrated with our actions that we are committed to and have the ability to establish peace, a process which has never been easy. Both the sides showed there are committed to peace and as a result the agreement was struck." He asked political leaders of the country and the international community to help bring other fighting groups to the negotiating table. (Pajhwok)

(2) Hekmatyar Calls ...

start implementing all articles of in the deal. An independent Afghanistan, national unity, respect for all sides and adherence to religious values were common goals of different political groups, he said. The HIA called on the high-profile figures of Afghanistan to support the groundbreaking deal. He urged all militant groups to the join peace process and realise their objective through peaceful means. "I am sure after implementation of the agreement conflict in the country would come to end. I am also optimistic both sides would start implementing the agreement without delay, fully realizing their responsibilities," he maintained.

The former prime minister said fighting in the country was not in the interest of the people. Internal and external enemies were beneficiaries of the ongoing war, he said, asking rebel outfits to negotiate with the authorities for at least for a few weeks and see the results. He asked President Ghani to take effective steps for peace in the country and prove his willingness in this regard. Hekmatyar demanded the president accept some terms of the Taliban, including the release of key prisoners as gesture of goodwill for the sake of stability.

The ex-premier warned a neighboring country not to invest in promoting conflict and killing in the war-torn country. He told the neighbour not to seek its interest in waging a war in Afghanistan. He hinted at a change in the government, saying such development should be acceptable to all groups. Hekmatyar also asked refugees to prepare for repatriation and reminded the government of its responsibility to reintegrate them with dignity. (Pajhwok)

(3) More Funds, ...

that SCA and the 11 organizations are concerned about," a statement from the Swedish Committee said. According to a UNAMA report, increasing violence, threats and intimidation in 2015 and rising trend in violence has led to the closing or partial closing of more than 369 schools, affecting at least 139 000 students, including 50 000 girls. "Thus, the security of schools must be in top priority of peace-negotiations by the government; schools and education facilities should be protected and the government of Afghanistan must commit not to use schools for military purposes." (Pajhwok)

(4) Pakistan Improving...

a number of projects for the social and economic development of Afghanistan, including Liaquat Ali Khan University, Balkh, Allama Mohammad Iqbal Faculty in Kabul University, Sir Syed Post Graduate Faculty of Sciences, Nangarhar University, Rehman Baba Hostel and School in Kabul, Nishtar Kidney Centre, Jalalabad, Jinnah Hospital, Kabul, and Naib Aminullah Khan Hospital at Logar", added the Ambassador. Mr. Hussain informed the participants that educational development of Afghanistan was the main priority of Pakistan. "In this context, Pakistan has sent 3,000 Afghan students on fully-funded scholarships, who are currently studying in higher education institutions of Pa-

kistan, while additional 2,000 scholarships would be offered to them in near future", said the Ambassador. He further elaborated that 7,000 Afghan students have currently been studying in Pakistani universities whereas more than 30,000 Afghans had already graduated from Pakistan during the last three decades and were contributing to the development of their country. He reiterated his government's commitment to continue its efforts for the promotion of peace and social and economic prosperity of Afghanistan. (PR)

(5) Commission ...

some media outlets had reported civilian casualties in the strikes, the Ministry of Defence had appointed a commission to investigate the claims.

Meanwhile, the Nangarhar governor's house in a statement said a delegation sent to the area for investigation had found that those killed and wounded in the airstrikes in Achin were Daesh affiliates.

The delegation met Governor Salim Khan Kunduz on Wednesday evening and apprised him about its investigation into the airstrikes, the statement said.

It said the Daesh affiliates had gathered in the area to congratulate a local resident, Haji Raees, on the performance of hajj. Raees was accused of facilitating Daesh militants.

The airstrikes killed 18 Daesh militants, including a key commander Hamza and campaigner Haji Mohammad and injured five others, the statement quoted the investigation team as telling the governor.

The statement said five civilians had allegedly also suffered casualties in the attack and further investigation in this regard was underway.

The governor's house said there were no women or children among the dead and wounded. However, a lawmaker from Nangarhar Asmat Shinwari rejected the governor's house report as incorrect and called the findings a sheer violation of the victims' rights.

The lower house member told Pajhwok Afghan News all those killed and wounded in the drone strike in Achin were civilians and he was ready to prove their innocence.

"If they were Daesh, why they were not hit on the way? Some of them had come from Haska Mena district, some from Rodat and others from Nazyan district."

The MP asked the government to explain why it issued passport and visa to Haji Raees for the performance of hajj pilgrimage if he was really a facilitator of Daesh.

"Why he was not arrested during his journey to Saudi Arabia," asked the MP who threatened huge protest rallies if the government did not come with a satisfactory answer.

The US forces from their media office in Kabul once again said in a statement that "Nangarhar has been a focus for Daesh activity since 2015."

"Daesh seek to use the area to train, equip, disseminate propaganda, and expand their control over innocent Afghans," the US force Afghanistan said in the statement.

"Our Afghan partners, especially their special forces, have been working diligently to disrupt and destroy Daesh in southern Nangarhar, and we continue to work alongside them to support their efforts," it added.

The ANDSF have significantly reduced Daesh presence and inflicted hundreds of casualties on them. In addition and as part of US unilateral counter-terrorism operations, US forces also killed their leader in Afghanistan, Hafiz Sayed Khan, in late July.

"Daesh is killing innocent Afghan men, women, and children. They continue to put innocent lives at risk by deliberately surrounding themselves with civilians and dressing in female attire. We have repeatedly said that we will target Daesh wherever they are in order to disrupt their operations, degrade their attack networks, and protect in-

nocent lives."

The US forces said they won't discuss the details of the specific counter-terrorism operation conducted in Nangarhar on Wednesday because they were still reviewing all materials related to the strike.

"We take every possible measure to avoid civilian casualties in these operations, and will continue to work with Afghan authorities to determine if there is cause for additional investigation as we partner with the Afghan government in the broader fight against terrorism." (Pajhwok)

(6) Donors to

Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction strongly criticizing Washington for pouring billions of dollars into Afghanistan with so little oversight that it fueled corruption and undermined the U.S. mission.

The United States spends \$5 billion a year in Afghanistan, about \$4 billion for defense and national security and another \$1 billion in civilian assistance, plus billions more for the thousands of U.S. troops and military contractors there.

Olson said the goal is to strengthen Afghan security forces and institutions to allow them to gradually defeat the Taliban insurgency. He said he hoped the bipartisan consensus on this would survive under the next U.S. administration after the November 8 U.S. election. Earlier this month, India promised \$1 billion in aid to Afghanistan during a visit to New Delhi by Afghan President Ashraf Ghani. (VoA)

(7) Uruzgan Police ...

security. Fierce clashes around the provincial capital, where gunshots continue to ring out, have scared residents.

But Kharoti said determined efforts would be made to flush out the Taliban from their strongholds and enforce the government's writ in as many areas as possible. (Pajhwok)

(8) Afghan Govt....

until I feel confident that they can walk and then ultimately run. But they're not quite there yet. It's important for us to maintain that support and to continue to get other countries working with us as part of the coalition to provide them support," he argued

The United States was going to be maintaining a counter-terrorism platform in Afghanistan, because he did not want Daesh or Al Qaeda or coming back and creating a foothold from where they could attack the homeland.

Obama said both in Afghanistan and Iraq the two governments had to work to eliminate corruption and treat different ethnic and religious groups equally.

Afghan and Iraq governments had to be responsive to their people, and they had to work to eliminate corruption, the president stressed, calling for equal treatment of all ethnic groups and education for all children. (Pajhwok)

(9) Zakhilwal Wants ...

Ratwate lauded the Pakistan government's decision on extending the stay of Afghan refugees to March 31, 2017. "The extension is an important decision by Pakistan which recognises the importance of policies to manage the legal stay of registered Afghans."

Dr. Zeb acknowledged the Afghan government's commitment to facilitating the repatriation process and praised the steps being taken by Kabul to enable the refugees' sustainable reintegration in their country. (Pajhwok)

(10) Govt, Taliban...

Last year, the Taliban overran Khwaja Ghar district that remained under the group's control for three days before security forces wrested it back. (Pajhwok)

(11) Karzai Condemns...

of operations.

"To us, the agreement is for protecting the lives of Afghans from terrorists and preventing their attacks on the country's sovereignty."

The group also said the Afghan government's silence over the latest US attack on civilians was of great concern and the silence had created many questions.

It said if the Afghan government could not ask about the Afghan lives lost in such attack, it would lose its legitimacy in the eyes of Afghans.

"We ask the government to completely discharge its responsibility of protecting the lives of people and should investigate any negligence in this regard and compensate the families of victims in line with the international laws." (Pajhwok)

(12) IFJ Hails ...

journalists and supported the struggle for press freedom and journalists' rights.

"The IFJ hopes that the journalists of Afghanistan and Pakistan will be able to play a key role in promoting peace, human rights and democracy in both countries," a statement from the Federation said. (Pajhwok)

(13)10 Illegal...

acknowledged around 600 Afghans sneaked daily into the neighbouring country from the province. But half of them are sent back. (Pajhwok)

(14)25 Insurgents...

Treekh Nawar neighbourhood of Marja district.

On the other hand, the Taliban claimed killing a large number of security personnel in attacks in different parts of the province. (Pajhwok)

(15)6 Dead,...

Himmat, all the dead and injured were occupants of the car and members of the same family.

A resident of Bazoo village said the car was moving in the right direction but the speedy bus hit it.

Most of accidents on the highway are blamed on drivers' negligence. (Pajhwok)

(16)UNAMA Condemns...

occurred. Civilian victims of the strike included students and a teacher, as well as members of families considered to be pro-Government. Government sources report that ISIL/Daesh personnel also died in the attack.

In a press release issued on 28 September, United States Force-Afghanistan acknowledged conducting the airstrike but refrained from elaborating further while they "are still reviewing all materials related to the strike."

UNAMA reiterates the need for all parties to the conflict to adhere to their obligations under international humanitarian law. UNAMA calls on the Government and international military forces to launch a prompt, independent, impartial, transparent, and effective investigation into this incident.

UNAMA expresses deepest condolence to the families of those killed in this incident and wishes a speedy recovery for all those injured. (PR)

(17)Fifth Round...

and Da Maiwand Atalan. "Both teams are good. They play very well. One team will be announced winner but I think both of the squads are winners," Abdullah said.

"This league brings happiness to Afghans. It is a big achievement," Said Farid Hamidi, the Attorney General of Afghanistan.

A large number of women were also among the audience at the stadium.

"My friend told me about the match and I came here to watch it," said Aasia, a university student.

"There were more women among the spectators this year," said Maryam, a resident of Kabul. (Tolonews)

(18)U.S. Congress...

killed nearly 3,000 people in New York, Washington D.C. area and Pennsylvania. Osama bin Laden, the mastermind

of the terror attacks, was also a Saudi national. (Xinhua)

(19)Clinton Expected...

Presidency and Congress, told Xinhua, explaining that more educated and moderate Republicans will swing to Clinton.

But now is not the time for Clinton to rest on her laurels, as she will need to maintain her momentum and continue to highlight her experience, while also continuing to bait Trump into making gaffes that cause him to appear unsuited for the presidency. (Xinhua)

(20)No Post-Brexit ...

more complete picture of the economy as the Brexit story unfolds over the longer term." ONS also said the services sector was estimated to have increased by 2.9 percent in July 2016 compared with July 2015.

All four sectors of the services industry reported increases in July. The components of the services industries cover distribution, hotels and restaurants, transport, storage and communication, business services and finance, as well as government and other services. (Xinhua)

(21)Turkey's Main

down, more than 50,000 people, among them military officers, civil servants, lawyers, academicians and journalists, have been detained.

Kilicdaroglu stressed that an additional 93,000 others, including prominent intellectuals of the country, have been dismissed from their posts.

In his view, the statutory decrees adopted under the state of emergency have given the president unlimited power above the constitutional institutions, including instant detention of anyone and shutting down of media outlets at his own discretion. (Xinhua)

(22)4th BRICS...

considerable disparity still exists in education development, which requires further efforts to promote education equity. Thirdly, improving education quality is one of the top priorities in China's 13th 5-year education plan.

Hao Ping also proposed three suggestions to further enhance education cooperation among BRICS countries, including promoting more cooperation among BRICS universities, encouraging more joint research and teaching, and providing supporting policies and services to facilitate student and faculty mobility. (Xinhua)

(23)Humanitarian Crisis...

rials per week, which we use to buy food and some basic products," he said. "Many families in the region don't have incomes and lack everything, who can't find a way to make a proper living."

In recent weeks, activists circulated photos of severely malnourished kids and men while calling for urgent interventions to help the population in Hodeida.

After 18 months of civil war and a Saudi-led bombing campaign, 14.1 million people in Yemen are food insecure, of whom 7.6 million are one step from famine, the UN said. (Xinhua)

(24)Migrant Pressure ...

Hungary. Many were refugees fleeing conflicts in countries such as Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan.

Numbers are lower this year, partly because of an agreement under which the EU pays Turkey to house Syrian refugees, and partly because border fences along the route have made the journey harder. But the trickle is growing, and more than 100,000 have reached the Balkans so far this year.

Border patrols deterred most of the migrants, Serbian defence ministry spokesman Jovan Krivokapic said, but 960 illegal migrants had recently been caught and taken to reception centres.

"Over the past two weeks we have seen increasing pressure from the Bulgarian side of the border," he said. "Groups of up to 50 people are taking advantage of good weather to enter

using wooded areas and rugged mountain passes." (Reuters)

(25)Senior UN...

some 320 civilians were killed and 765 injured in the first days of the offensive.

Also on Thursday, Ramzy Ezzeldine Ramzy, the deputy special envoy for Syria, spoke to reporters in Geneva and reiterated the need for the bombing in Aleppo to stop and for the cessation of hostilities to be restored.

He said that many hospitals in Aleppo have been damaged by air strikes, and medical supplies are dwindling. It is estimated that many of the 600 wounded cannot be provided with adequate treatment.

And just on Wednesday, two of the remaining eight hospitals in eastern Aleppo were reportedly hit by shelling, taking them out of service, Ramzy said. (Xinhua)

(26)Pakistan Army...

the participants along with their trainers for achieving very high standards of physical fitness and professionalism, said an ISPR release. (Monitoring Desk)

(27)OSCE Holding ...

support the host government in implementing its commitments under the Vienna Document," she said. (Trend)

(28)Israel Nukes ...

Israel, which has refused to sign the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) or allow inspections of its military nuclear facilities, keeps an estimated stockpile of some 200-400 nuclear warheads. (Presstv)

UNGA to Hold Interview with New UN Chief Candidate from Bulgaria

UNITED NATIONS - The UN General Assembly will hold an interview with Kristalina Georgieva, a second candidate for the next UN secretary-general put forward by Bulgaria, next Monday, Peter Thomson, president of the 71st session of the UN General Assembly, said here Thursday.

The General Assembly interview will start at 1:00 p.m. EDT (1700 GMT) on Monday, Thomas said at a reception of the UN Correspondents' Association in honor of him at UN Headquarters in New York.

The new Bulgarian candidate will enjoy the same treatment in the interview as the other candidate vying to succeed the current UN secretary-general, Ban Ki-moon, who is retiring after his maximum two five-year terms on Dec. 31.

During the interview, she is expected to share her vision on the world body with member states and answer questions from diplomats and civil society on she will manage the global organization if elected.

Georgieva, a Bulgarian diplomat who is the vice president of the European Commission and a former World Bank economist, entered into the race for the post of the world's top diplomat. The Bulgarian government on Wednesday nominated Georgieva for the post of the UN chief and withdrew support from its previous candidate Irina Bokova, who was nominated by Sofia in February for her candidacy. (Xinhua)

France Launches New Anti-IS Operation in Iraq from Charles De Gaulle Warship

PARIS - France on Friday launched new operation against the Islamic State (IS) in Iraq from its largest warship Charles de Gaulle in order to intensify strikes and retake Mosul, the group's stronghold, local news channel BFMTV reported.

Eight Rafal fighter jets took off from the carrier in the eastern Mediterranean. But it was not clear whether the French jets were to carry out air strikes or were on a reconnaissance mission.

Speaking to news channel BFMTV, Vincent Desportes, general of ground forces division, said the aircraft carrier's deployment in the fight against the extremist group in Iraq was "important but it doesn't change the situation." (Xinhua)