

**(1) Mohib to UN...**

movement of goods, people, and ideas throughout South and Central Asia. "Our mission now is to bring peace that can end the suffering of all Afghans. Only when we have peace will each and every Afghan be able to experience the freedoms and opportunities of this democracy we have sacrificed so much to build," he concluded. (Tolo News)

**(2) IEC Secretariat ...**

the level of the participation of the voters was too broad. There were numbers on a provincial level, but, in some cases, they were changed," said Abdullah Ahmadzai, the former head of the IEC secretariat. According to Ahmadzai, the IEC secretariat has the responsibility for initiating policies and then referring them to the IEC leadership for approval, however the secretariat failed to do so, which can be considered a violation of principles and of election law.

Election observers had previously accused members of the IEC secretariat of incompetence and warned that this would have grave consequences for the election process. (Tolo News)

**(3) IEC National ...**

Taliban's repeated threats, Afghans lined up at polling stations on September 28 to cast their votes in the fourth Afghan presidential elections.

A total of 18 candidates were registered for the presidency including President Ashraf Ghani and Chief Executive Abdullah Abdullah. However, four candidates withdrew from the competition.

More than 9.6 million voters were registered with the IEC to cast their votes but apparently there was a low voter turnout.

The preliminary results is scheduled to be announced on Oct. 19 and final ones on Nov. 7.

If none of the candidates win over 50 percent of votes in the first round, the two leading candidates will enter a runoff. (ATN)

**(4) Work in 9.3m ...**

building, he added. Governor Abdul Latif Ibrahimi at the inauguration ceremony said that the contractor should use quality materials in construction of the school building.

In Samangan, currently 119,000 students, including boys and girls, are studying in 300 schools. (Pajhwok)

**(5) 11 Police Killed ...**

police and armed locals—including the district governor and the district police chief—have been held under siege by the Taliban for the past two days in the Darzab district of the province, officials say. Lotfullah Azizi, Jawzjan provincial governor, said that the district capital is under the Taliban's control and that the Afghan forces are pinned down close to the district bazaar.

Azizi said that so far no reinforcements have arrived to the area. Hafizullah Nadrat, a member of the Jawzjan provincial council, said that if reinforcements are not deployed, the government forces will be captured by the Taliban. (Tolo News)

**(6) 20 Defaulting ...**

their debts in installments during a period of one to five years, he said. "It is our commitment to collect even one afghani owed by companies and transfer it to the national treasure," he said.

"If the defaulting companies do not pay their debts, their licenses would be cancelled and they would

be introduced to AGO", he added. Meanwhile, Ibrahim Jaafari, an expert on issues related to mining, said that MoMP should wave off most of these outstanding amounts because some of the companies had not been engaged in extractions or had limited progress in the area due to security problems or shortage of reserves.

"Companies signed their contracts before visiting the mining areas, but when they went to the areas, things were not as they had anticipated, but they had to extract a defined amount of minerals in first and second years, but they failed while the ministry demanded money from them based on the contracts," he said.

According to MoMP, there are 1,400 mineral deposits across the country worth around 3 trillion US dollars. (Pajhwok)

**(7) Rebels Among ...**

operations over the past two weeks in Surkh Rud, Behsud and Chaparhar districts, Torkham Township, and Jalalabad City, the provincial capital. (Pajhwok)

**(8) Trump Hugs ...**

enemy on Earth can match the awesome might of the American Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, and the United States Marines," Trump said in a speech, according to CNBC.

"We have spent \$2.5 trillion, far more than this country has ever thought of spending. But we had to have a modern, great military with the most magnificent and the finest machinery, planes, boats, ships, weapons of all kinds," he added.

"We will remain the world's premier fighting force, respected by our friends and feared by our adversaries," Milley said at the ceremony, thanking Trump for his leadership and the outgoing chairman, Marine Corps Gen. Joseph Dunford. "I know I have big shoes to fill. I have known Joe Dunford throughout my career, served with him in combat, and I consider him a close personal friend — a friendship forged with the unbreakable bonds of combat that only shared sacrifice can produce," Milley said. (News Max)

**(9) U.S. Troops ...**

withdrawal from occurring until Afghans make peace with one another will only keep the United States in a conflict the American people rightfully see as unworthy of further sacrifice.

Washington doesn't need the Taliban's cooperation or permission to extricate the U.S. military from an 18-year stalemate. It should withdraw right now without waiting for the Taliban to sign an accord it's highly unlikely to abide by anyway. There should be no sugarcoating about what will happen when U.S. forces finally leave. The Taliban will capture more territory; human rights abuses will continue; and Kabul will struggle to maintain its position. But it's past time for U.S. policymakers to acknowledge that Afghanistan will remain at war internally, regardless of how many U.S. soldiers are sacrificed on the ground. Thanks to its superior intelligence and strike capabilities, the United States can continue to defend against anti-American terrorism without indefinitely supporting the weak, corrupt Afghan government. (Washington Post)

**(10) Saudi Multi-Million ...**

commercial, services and consumer solutions meet the needs of worldwide operators in the industrial, commercial petrochemical and services sectors. These solutions range

from air-conditioning manufacturing to food processing, plastics to steel fabrication and travel services. The Group is also involved in banking and industrial investment, paint, fencing systems and packaging. (Trend)

**(11) Iran's Top General ...**

Western allies over the United States' withdrawal from a controversial pact that promised eased sanctions if Iran curbed its nuclear ambitions.

Tehran also made recent headlines after its Saudi neighbors accused Iran of attacking its oil facilities. On Monday, Iran said that the missile-and-drone attack was an act of "legitimate defense" by Yemen's Iran-allied Houthi rebels.

The Sept. 14 assault was claimed by the Houthis, though Saudi Arabia said it was "unquestionably sponsored by Iran." The kingdom has been at war with the Houthis in Yemen since March 2015. (Reuters)

**(12) Finland School Attack ...**

rearranges the constellation of power in favor of the revolution. Iran's Islamic evolution will be on top of this constellation," Salami said, adding, "In the second step, we will be thinking of the global mobilization of Islam."

Salami's incendiary comments come amid heightened tensions between Tehran and Western allies over the United States' withdrawal from a controversial pact that promised eased sanctions if Iran curbed its nuclear ambitions.

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**(13) North Korea and US ...**

drills with South Korea.

The two countries agreed to have preliminary contact on Oct. 4, followed by the working level talks, KCNA said, citing a statement issued under the name of Vice Foreign Minister Choe Son Hui. It did not mention where the talks would be held, or give any more details.

"The delegates of the DPRK side are ready to enter into the DPRK-U.S. working-level negotiations," Choe said in the statement, using North Korea's official name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK).

"It is my expectation that the working-level negotiations would accelerate the positive development of the DPRK-U.S. relations."

Although North Korea has lately expressed willingness for working-level talks, messages carried by its state media attached a caveat that Washington should show more flexibility. North Korea's chief nuclear negotiator Kim Myong Gil said in a statement last month that the United States should present the "right calculation method at the upcoming talks."

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said in September that Washington was ready to meet North Korean counterparts and believed it was important to do so, although ousted former U.S. National Security Adviser John Bolton warned on Monday that North Korea had no intention of giving up its nuclear weapons.

"We welcome the agreement between North Korea and the United

States to proceed with working-level negotiations on Oct. 5." South Korea's presidential Blue House said in a statement.

"Through this working-level negotiation, we hope that substantial progress will be made at an early date to achieve complete denuclearization and permanent peace on the Korean Peninsula." (Reuters)

**(14) Roundup: Egypt ...**

"This is not only for Egyptians, but for our common human heritage," Anany told the foreign ambassadors who were present at the NMEC.

U.S. Charge d'Affaires Thomas Goldberger attended the ceremony. Anany said the repatriation of this «unique, wonderful» artifact shows a «very strong solidarity» between Egypt and the U.S.

He extended his thanks to the U.S. side for his cooperation in repatriating the piece to its motherland, noting «the mutual coordination efforts meant to prevent the illicit traffic of human heritage.»

The coffin will be showcased in Egyptian Grand Museum in 2020, according to the minister of antiquities.

The gilded coffin was looted and smuggled out of Egypt in 2011, in the aftermath of the protests, Shaaban Abdel Gawad, supervisor general of Egypt's Antiquities Repatriation Department told Xinhua.

He pointed out that investigations undertaken by the Manhattan District Attorney's Office lasted for nearly 20 months, during which Egypt has submitted evidence of ownership.

The stolen coffin was neither gifted or sold by the Egyptian side to any country, Abdel Gawad said, explaining that before the promulgation of Antiquities Protection Law of 1983, Egyptian law allowed the export of some artefacts.

The coffin is craved in wood and covered with a layer of gold inscribed for Ndjemankh, a high-ranking priest of Heryshef of the city Herakleopolis, which is located in the upper Egypt province of Beni Suweif, he said.

The elaborately decorated surface included scenes and tests in thick gesso relief that were intended to protect and guide Ndjemankh on his journey from death to eternal life as a transfigured spirit, Abdel Gawad added.

The coffin's return back took place in light of the 2016 joint agreement between Egypt and the U.S. regarding the protection of Egyptian Antiquities, he added.

The 2-meter-long coffin was initially restored in the American prestigious museum, but its feet was damaged during the long journey of smuggling, Abdel Gawad added.

"The return of the unique coffin is a message for all the museums, exhibitions, private collections, bids and dealers around the world that Egypt will never abandon its stolen heritage," he added, stressing Egypt is fighting to return all heritage back.

He reiterated more efforts are still exerted for tracing hundreds of other looted pieces abroad.

Egypt restored around 200 pieces in 2019 and 222 pieces, and 21,660 coins in 2018, and 574 ones in 2017, he added.

"Our main objective now is to add more pieces in many museums inside and outside the capital about our history to attract more tourists," he pointed out.

Egypt has repatriated its looted antiquities no to keep it safe in warehouses like before, but to display its beauty for the tourists, he added.

The tourism industry, a lifeline to

the struggling Egyptian economy, has recently started to recover. Official figures show that growth rates are on the rise and tourists are coming back. (Xinhua)

**(15) 7 Killed in Rain ...**

happened on Tuesday, but residents did not pay heed.

The injured people were shifted to a nearby hospital, while the rescue for the trapped is going on in the area.

In two separate incidents in Mardan district of KP, five people were killed in roof collapses. Four people have also been injured and were shifted to hospital.

According to the country's National Disaster Management Authority, over 230 people were killed and 180 others injured in rain-triggered accidents in the country from July to September this year. (Xinhua)

**(16) Belt and Road ...**

2019, which was 26.7 percent less than 153,550 for the same month last year.

The company had recorded a decline in sales by over 36 percent on year in August 2019.

As a cost-cutting exercise, the company had earlier announced laying off as many as 3000 temporary employees. (Xinhua)

**(17) Imran Takes ...**

delayed, kept unattended indefinitely or filed without taken any action thereon.

"The above exercise shall be carried out by all concerned and a report shall be submitted after four weeks for perusal of the prime minister (in case of federal government) and chief minister (in case of provincial governments)," the notification said.

The report by the heads of division, attached organisations, chief secretaries, field formations etc will certify about taking-up of the pending service delivery-related applications.

"This will help the citizens to know in advance the probable processing timeline of their cases," it added.

The reason for delay of those cases, which cannot be disposed of in stipulated time or required further time, will be explained to the applicant in writing.

The progress on cases will be constantly monitored by all federal and chief secretaries, and heads of organisations who will submit a quarterly certificate to the prime minister's office or chief minister's office. "The measures on this account will factor into the performance evaluation of the officer concerned and laxity would deem to be considered inefficiency in terms of Efficiency & Discipline Rules and dealt with accordingly," the notification added.

### Trump Congratulates China's Communist Party on Anniversary, Drawing Criticism

WASHINGTON - President Donald Trump congratulated China on the 70th anniversary of communist rule there in a tweet that belies America's foreign policy position and ignores decades of human rights abuses.

"Congratulations to President Xi and the Chinese people on the 70th Anniversary of the People's Republic of China!" Trump tweeted on Tuesday morning.

Shortly thereafter, House Republican Conference Chairwoman Liz Cheney of Wyoming released a statement contradicting the president, and pointing to the People's Republic of China's oppressive governing tactics.

"This is not a day for celebration," Cheney said in a joint statement with Rep. Mike Gallagher, R-Wis. (Strips)