

(1) No Plot...

fundamental reforms and ensuring security after the province's collapse last year. They also demanded a cut in power tariff in Kunduz, resolution to agricultural issues and fundamental reforms within the current administration. The statement quoted Abdullah as saying "ensuring security in Kunduz and addressing people's concerns in this regard is my top priority and we will deeply discuss Kunduz related issues at this week's National Security Council meeting." "First of all we are responsible for the Kunduz collapse, it is our duty to ensure security for you and obviously it is your right. I assure you there will be soon essential discussions regarding Kunduz." The CEO said the National Security Council and Cabinet meetings would look into Kunduz people's suggestions and the government would take essential steps in this regard. He said investigation into Kunduz issue was ongoing and the displaced families' issues would also be addressed. (Pajhwok)

(2) Etisalat Honours ...

Zubair Zakir, who lost his life in the attack on American university of Afghanistan. Under this scholarship policy, Etisalat employees receive a variety of benefits to achieve academic excellence. Employees who wish to undertake higher education are supported under this scholarship; benefits include monetary support and free enrollment in specialized courses and degree programs. Employees are offered support at all levels including flextime work schedule to attend classes. Currently there are 57 employees who receive assistance under this scholarship.

Announcing the company decision, Dr. Salah Zerguerras Etisalat CEO said, "We renamed our education policy to Zubair Scholarship in memory of our beloved colleague as our tribute and to send a clear message that we value education and will strive to encourage our employees to continue their higher education by providing them with required opportunities. An educated citizen is the true strength of the Nation." Zubair's father, Mr. Mohammad Zakir said, "On behalf of my family, I would like to thank Etisalat for the support and attention given to us. I am glad that my son's name will be long remembered among his colleagues."

The 30 year old Zubair Zakir, a resident of Kabul city, worked at Etisalat Afghanistan as Accountant I - Fixed Assets & Projects. He was studying at AUAF to earn his Bachelor's in Business Administration and was a hardworking individual. He died on 24th August 2016 in the attack on American University of Afghanistan.

Etisalat commends the dedication of its employees who strive to achieve academic excellence, starting this month employees can now fulfill their dreams through the Etisalat Zubair Scholarship. (PR)

(3) Ghani Issues ...

implement the decree and probe the cases of violation against journalists. "As mentioned in the decree, it should accelerate the process of access to information and the administrative affairs should track the process and journalists should not complain in this respect anymore. Most cases of violence against journalists this year are rooted in efforts to get information," said Sediqullah Tawhidi, head of Nai, an organization supporting open media in Afghanistan. "Journalists, who have faced problems in access to information, will be able to receive information on time following the decree," said Danish Karokhail, director Pajhwok Afghan News. (Tolnews)

(4) 50 Soldiers...

have disappeared," Hayat said. He stated that the security forces continue their offensives against insurgents in parts of the province.

"Security forces have launched several military operations on Sunday night in Lashkargah [city] where over 88 militants were killed and many villages were cleared of Taliban," he added. Meanwhile, a number of Lashkargah residents said they are tired of insecurity and conflicts and that they want an end to the crisis.

"People have suffered a lot. Their homes have been destroyed, even they have lost their families and friends," said Ali Reza, a resident of Lashkargah city. (Tolnews)

(5) Selection Body...

spokesman of the committee. Talking to Pajhwok Afghan News during an exclusive interview, he said they had completed identification process for the nominees.

In the first phase, 722 people applied for the posts including 531 for the Independent Election Commission (IEC) and 191 for the Independent Electoral Complaints Commission (IECC), he said.

He said 222 applicants --- 182 applying for IEC and 40 for IECC --- were identified as unqualified in the first phase of the selection process.

The selection committee in the second phase of its operation started technical review of documents of qualified nominees, he said.

The number of unqualified applicants probably rose because most of them came from irrelevant fields.

"In the second phase, we identify qualified nominees and shortlist 63 of them for IEC and 45 for IECC, we also consider national and gender partnership in the selection process," he added.

He said shortlisted nominees would be interviewed several times and 21 of them would be selected for IEC and 15 others for IECC before being referred to the president.

"Fortunately there has been no interference from the government side, the committee does its work honestly and we all stand strong against any kind of interference, all internal and international observers attend our meetings," he said.

Rashid said the selection committee was trying to complete all its operations and finalize the list of selected nominees within one month. (Pajhwok)

(6) Rula Ghani to...

who will share their inspiring experiences and success stories in the field of women's advocacy and empowerment.

UK Secretary of State for International Development Priti Patel, Pakistan's former foreign minister Hina Rabbani Kharand journalist Sharmeen Obaid-Chinoy will also speak on the occasion.

The event has been organized by The Big Heart Foundation, a Sharjah-based humanitarian organisation, and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women.

According to the newspaper, this year's conference is being held under the theme 'Building the Resilience of Women and Girls in the Arab Region'.

Importance of women's inclusion in the economic development process and their needs for education, training, employment and access to resources will be in focus.

Rula Gani is playing a ground-breaking role from a dedicated office at the Presidential Palace in Kabul, challenging Afghan traditions. (Pajhwok)

(7) 16,000 Afghan ...

bonds have been further strengthened by the cross-cultural exchange."

Speaking at the Vignan University convocation, the diplomat said over 200 universities had been set up in Afghanistan since the year 2002."

The Hindu newspaper quoted Shaida as saying that more than 20 students from Afghanistan were pursuing courses at undergraduate and post-graduate levels at the university in Andhra Pradesh. (Pajhwok)

(8) \$179 Million...

blocks and 3,330 apartments

covering 269 acres of land which has been constructed by Trojan firm.

The construction work of the project was inaugurated in mid-May 2013 in the presence of former Afghan President Hamid Karzai and the head of Abu Dhabi Development Fund.

The Ministry of Urban and Development and Housing was supervising the construction work of the project which completed under the leadership of Minister Syed Sadat Mansoor Naderi.

Minister Naderi informed regarding the completion of the project through an online statement posted on his Facebook account and said the apartments will be handed over to the owners once the Ministry of Urban Development and Housing takes over the project during a ceremony from the UAE officials.

This comes as one of the biggest housing projects in Afghanistan was inaugurated by President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani together with the Minister Naderi earlier last month. The project, Khwajah Rawash, was completed over a period of 4 years bearing a cost of AFN 6.3 billion which is equivalent to USD 94.3 million.

According to the Ministry of Urban Development and Housing, the project has been implemented over an area of 40 hectare and the practical work of the project was launched in mid-2012.

The Ministry of Urban Development and Housing launched three more major projects following the inauguration of Khwajah Rawash project, including a \$200 million township for the carpet weavers and the resumption of Benayi and Sanayi townships that will also cost up to \$200 million once completed. (KP)

(9) 370,000 Afghans...

from "continued pressure by Pakistani authorities through new visa requirements, shorter extension of proof of registration cards, increased police raids, detentions and deportations, restricted access to livelihoods, health-care and education as well as lack of employment opportunities."

"In the past week, an average of 5,200 registered refugees and 2,160 undocumented returnees have crossed the border into Afghanistan from Pakistan each day. Based on current trends, a further 446,000 (both registered and undocumented) are expected to arrive before year-end," according to the OCHA.

It says that UNHCR - with the help of local authorities and partner aid agencies - is providing support to both case-loads amid significant resource shortages.

"Aid agencies are in a race against time to provide this assistance before the arrival of the wet and winter seasons in November," warned OCHA.

UNHCR officials in Pakistan acknowledge the exodus of registered Afghan refugees is "largely voluntary." They also note that the refugee agency's decision to double the cash grant for voluntary returnees from \$200 to \$400 per person in mid-June, and a newly-launched campaign by the Afghan government to encourage the displaced families to return to Afghanistan and take part in the nation-building are among major contributing factors for the unusual rise in the number of Afghans choosing repatriation.

Pakistan hosts around 1.5 million registered Afghan refugees while another at least one million are living illegally. Most of the displaced families have fled decades of Afghan hostilities. Border security measures Pakistani authorities defend stepped-up border security measures and strict monitoring of refugees' movements, saying anti-state militants use them for hiding and plotting terrorist attacks on both sides of the border.

Critics, however, say pressures on Afghan refugees stem from tensions in relations between Islamabad and Kabul over each country's allegations of

sponsoring terrorism against the other.

The rise and spread of Taliban-led insurgency across many Afghan provinces since the withdrawal of U.S.-led international combat troops in 2014 had until now significantly slowed the UNHCR-funded voluntary repatriation of Afghans from Pakistan and Iran. The United Nations recently launched a flash appeal of \$150 million to meet urgent needs of more than one million Afghans it estimates will be on the move in Afghanistan by the end of 2016 because of continued displacements by the war and the unusually high number of refugees returning home. (VoA)

(10) 5 Killed, 3 ...

condition, he said. Provincial police spokesman, Fahim Amarkhel confirmed the accident and said all the victims and injured were members of one family. (Pajhwok)

(11) 'Illegal Afghans...

Pakhtunkhwa police high ups. It quoted Jalili as saying that the illegal Afghans would be informed in advance about an operation against them.

He said the repatriation of Afghan refugees from Pakistan was final and the Afghan government welcomed their return and was ready to assist them within the available resources. The statement said a meeting involving officials from UNHCR, Afghan Commissionerate and relevant Khyber Pakhtunkhwa officials conferred on all issues relating to Afghan refugees and decisions were made about their solution.

According to UNHCR, so far this year nearly 250,000 Afghan refugees have returned to Afghanistan from Pakistan. Still two million registered and unregistered Afghan refugees live in Pakistan. (Pajhwok)

(12) Some 1,000 ...

fighting has been continuing in parts of the country, including Kunduz, Farah and Helmand provinces.

The latest graduation will boost the capacity of the ANA and enable the security forces to further check subversive activities, Rizae noted.

Since January 2015, Afghan National Security and Defense Forces have assumed the full security charges from NATO and U.S. forces after the foreign troops switched mission from combat to support role, which focuses on training, advising and assisting Afghan forces. (Xinhua)

(13) MoD Concerned...

forces; they have even taken 45 Humvees in Kunduz and have fled from the province," Danishi said.

"Taliban has equipment that Americans have provided to the Afghan security forces - including tanks and Rangers," said Mohammad Hashim Alokozay, a member of Meshrano Jirga (Upper House of Parliament).

According to reports, clashes are ongoing between security forces and Taliban fighters in Kunduz, Helmand, Faryab and Farah provinces. (Tolnews)

(14) Nangarhar...

regard." He said if blind people were educated, their concerns would be eliminated and they wouldn't consider themselves as burden on the society as they would be able to protect and live by themselves.

Qari Ibad-ul-Halim, a blind who was provided with a white cane by the Swedish Committee for Afghanistan (SCA), attended the gathering. He called the white cane as helpful as eyes and said the cane had 40 benefits if learnt it would help the blind walk without any difficulty. Hamidullah, 16, said he had little learned writing Braille--a form of written language for blind people--at SCA but his studies remained incomplete due to economic issues.

"The government should set up a special school for us with transport service so we have education." Meanwhile, SCA officials said they had launched efforts at

facilitating blind and disabled people to jointly get education with healthy people. They said if separate areas were established for the blind and disabled, they would feel isolated. The Nangarhar Disabled Union said at least 1,331 blind people facing severe problems have been registered with the union from eastern Nangarhar, Kunar and Laghman provinces. (Pajhwok)

(15) 14 Taliban ...

residents in the district. The people were imprisoned by the Taliban after being accused of cooperating with the government.

However, the statement did not provide details about casualties among security forces during the operation. (Tolnews)

(16) Over 7,000 ...

families from Uruzgan, 1,300 families from Helmand, 200 families from Zabul and 970 families from five districts of Kandahar had streamed to Kandahar City.

The families displaced inside the province belong to Shah Walikot, Mianshin, Ghorak, Khakrez and Maroof districts, where the security situation has recently deteriorated.

The refugee registration process was underway and so far 1,226 families had received aid, Pashtun said, voicing concern at lack of shelter for refugees in Kandahar City ahead of winter. "There is no a specific place or camp for refugees to live in Kandahar; most of them live in rented houses or with their relatives," he said.

He said 30 families that recently arrived at midnight from Helmand in Kandahar lived in the tribal affairs department's guesthouse for 48 hours. Unfortunately, such shelters are temporary.

The national traders recently promised to provide water and food items for the war-hit families, he said, adding the Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS) had pledged 200 blankets for the displaced.

The International Organization for Migration, Save the Children and the World Food Program had also pledged providing aid to 10,000 refugees in Kandahar, Pashtun added. The Presidential Palace has been asked to allocate 15,000 afghanis to each displaced family.

He added 5,000 afghanis should be paid to each of the affected families in repatriation cost.

Samim Khpalkwak, the governor's spokesman, confirmed around 7,000 refugees had arrived in the provincial capital. The registration process was underway, with the governor's house trying to provide assistance to 1,000 families every week, he said.

Khpalkwak added hundreds of families had so far received food aid from national traders, charity organisations and government organs. However, the displaced families say they have suffered huge losses and want to go back to their regions as soon as possible.

Nasrullah, one of the displaced people from Helmand, said they had sought shelter in Kandahar City due to heavy clashes in his province.

"I have to support a nine-member family. I worked on my farms in my village and earned enough for my children. But now we are not able to pay the living cost for even a single day here," he commented, urging the government to ensure security in their area.

Jan Mohammad, a displaced man from Tirinkot, the capital of Uruzgan, complained about multiple problems. He said they were forced by war to come to Kandahar City.

"People here in Kandahar have increased the rent of houses for refugees instead of showing them mercy," he remarked. A house that was rented for 5,000 afghanis in the past now accounts for 10,000 afghanis.

Mohammad also asked the government to take steps improve the security situation in their area and thereby enable the displaced families to return to their homes. (Pajhwok)

(17) Multilateral Syria

partners to discuss a multi-lateral approach to resolving the crisis in Syria, including a sustained cessation of violence and the resumption of humanitarian aid.

Taking place in a luxurious lakeside hotel, the high-level discussions also come against the backdrop of failed bilateral efforts between the United States and Russia.

A short-lived ceasefire was brokered last month by Kerry and Lavrov after lengthy talks in Geneva.

The idea was to emulate a similar truce brokered in February this year which enabled critical relief operations to reach civilians in need. (Xinhua)

(18) Turkey-Backed...

Observers believe that Turkey does not want to see the Kurds expand influence near its borders as a result of the long-standing enmity between them. (Xinhua)

(19) UN Meeting...

made millions across the world flock into cities in pursuit of economic opportunities, leading to the expansion of slums and other illegal settlements in the periphery of major communities, as well as increasing crimes, diseases and chaos. (Xinhua)

(20) Putin Says

operations against terrorists of Islamic State and the Nusra Front will be continued," the ministry said.

Saturday's talks, convened by US Secretary of State John Kerry in the Swiss city, failed to agree on a common strategy with Russia to end the conflict in Syria, now in its sixth year. (AP)

(21) Russian Flagship...

part of its Northern fleet based in Murmansk -- will join the Russian deployment after undergoing a refurbishment.

The defence ministry did not specify how long the aircraft carrier's mission would last. (AFP)

(22) Egyptian...

resolutions, which failed to pass at the world body, out of keenness on a relief for the Syrian people, particularly those in Aleppo, regardless of any political considerations. (Xinhua)

(23) UN Chief...

reduce global warming by 0.5 degrees celsius by 2100.

HFCs were introduced in the 1990s to replace chemicals that had been found to erode the ozone layer, but turned out to be catastrophic for global warming. HFCs are greenhouse gases used in refrigerators and air conditioners.

"As HFCs are also the fastest-growing of all greenhouse gases, curbing their use will help limit near-term warming of the planet," the statement said.

The Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol builds on the strong global momentum for multilateral efforts to address climate change, including the landmark Paris Agreement, which will enter into force on Nov. 4; the adoption last week of a global, market-based mechanism for emission reductions by the international aviation industry; and other multilateral efforts under the United Nations Framework for Climate Change Convention (UNFCCC) process, the statement said. (Xinhua)

(24) DPRK's...

Claimed it already secured a nuclear missile technology capable of striking the U.S. mainland. The medium-range Musudan missile is known to have a range of 3,000-4,000 km that can reach the U.S. military base in Guam. (Xinhua)

(25) Syria Rebels...

Ankara-backed rebel faction involved in the battle, said Dabiq had fallen "after fierce clashes". Fastaqim said rebels then went on to seize several nearby towns, including Sawran, Ihtimaylat, and Salihyah. (AFP)