

(1) Enemies Tried...

but praised the security forces for their hard work.

He said that the Taliban has prepared for a few years to fight government forces after foreign troops withdrew from combat at the end of last year.

He stated that the Kunduz crisis is a lesson to government and that such incidents must be prevented from happening again in future. He said that there is no doubt that there were foreign fighters in Kunduz but government is waiting for the results of investigations before commenting. He called on the nation to unite against insurgency and to help work towards a better future. (Tolonews)

(2) Iran Could...

Chinese diplomat said, 'Peace in Afghanistan is important for regional stability which is much beyond China-Pak Economic Corridor.' Sun Weidong added, 'The regional countries could work towards a real peace process of Afghanistan. We have already worked together in different mechanisms like 'Istanbul Process'.'

China, along with Pakistan, is trying hard to pave the way for resumption of Afghanistan peace talks.

First round of the talks held in July this year in a tourist area near Pakistan capital, Islamabad and two sides agreed to CONTINUE negotiations. But the talks suddenly stopped after mysterious news on death of Taliban leader Mullah Omar published in late July. (IRNA)

(3) Over 1,900 ...

the ministry, the deadliest single incident was the airstrike on MSF hospital.

"There is no exact information about casualties of the attack on MSF. Primary reports reveal that 10 visitors were killed and nine others, including wounded patients, are still unaccounted for. At least 12 of the MSF health staff were killed and two staff members are missing," he continued.

The MoPH officials said the information has been collected from 63 hospitals and health centers, and that those wounded that were not hospitalized have not been included in this toll. (Tolonews)

(4) Afghan Officials ...

and china supports is in the favor of Afghanistan.

Terrorism is the joint enemy of the countries in the region therefore it needs joint efforts to combat it not only in Afghanistan but also in the region and the world.

Senator Nesar Hares said, "US Government efforts were so poor on combating terrorism in Afghanistan for the past several years, if Russia to equip and support Afghan security forces they will soon be capable to stand against any terrorist activities."

The other senator Habiba Danish has also stated that its needed that Russia to equip and support Afghan security forces to be capable to defeat terrorist and not to let them access middle east."

Recently the Russia deputy Defense Minister Antony Antonov has said by withdrawing of the International forces from Afghanistan Is militant groups and other extremist terrorists will try to reach middle east including some parts of china, there is other question that will Kabul be capable to defeat terrorism by its own when International forces withdraw Afghanistan?" (ATN)

(5) New Global...

900 million people continue to live in extreme poverty, and many more are at risk. "Climate change, violent conflict and other disasters threaten to undo many of our gains," he said. Recalling that the 2030 Agenda 2030 aims to ensure a sustainable future to everyone, the UN chief said that: "Leaving no one behind means ending the discrimination and abuse targeted at one half of humankind – the world's women and girls. (Xinhua)

(6) Obama 'Just...

5,500 - he just made up a number. He cut the base in half, so to speak." "Typical Obama: doing the right thing, but then withdrawing at the end 'cause you're worried about politics," he added.

Graham said that the president generally has no clue what he's doing when it comes to foreign policy. "Our foreign policy is in free fall. Barack Obama doesn't know what he's doing," Graham said adding "Radical Islam is running wild, and somebody needs to stop this."

He pointed to Iran's recent test launch of a medium-range ballistic missile capable of carrying a nuclear bomb as a sign that the Islamic Re-

public will not comply with the nuclear accord negotiated by the president's administration.

"Look at what's happened in the last couple of days. The Iranians are test-firing a missile that could hit Israel, in violation to UN sanctions," Graham said. "They're testing the international community; does the international community have the guts to push back against Iran?"

Graham, who has made national security a centerpiece of his campaign, has been struggling in the polls for the GOP nomination, well behind front-runner Donald Trump.

The South Carolina senator said he understands the frustration in the Republican Party that has allowed candidates with no political experience to rise to the top, but he stressed that, when it comes to foreign policy, experience is invaluable. "Experience does matter when it comes to being commander-in-chief," he said. "I've been to Iraq and Afghanistan 35 times. I've been in the Air Force 33 years. Our foreign policy is in free fall. So the argument I would make on my behalf is that when it comes to being commander in chief, you need to know what you're doing."

Graham said he believes voters will start paying more attention to the backgrounds of each candidate on national security as international crises worsen.

Meanwhile, The U.N Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon has welcomed Obama's move and said: "In Afghanistan, President Obama has decided, as announced, to keep a certain level of soldiers there. I was informed by the U.S. government. I welcome that decision, because then maybe one of the ways at this time - a practical measure to keep political stability, to keep people from these terrorist attacks. Otherwise there will be many Afghan people who will have to flee their communities." In addition, Russian Deputy Defence Minister Anatoly Antonov has warned that Daesh militants are planning to expand their activities into Central Asia and that they are using Afghanistan as a base for possible attacks.

Speaking at the Xiangshan Forum in Beijing, Antonov said: "The Afghan territory could be used by the Islamic State group (Daesh) to expand further towards the Central Asian republics of the Commonwealth of Independent States, and towards the Xinjiang and Uighur autonomous regions of China."

"Given that the international security forces will be withdrawn from the country, it is not clear if Kabul is able to face this threat alone," he said.

Antonov's comments come just days after Obama dropped plans for a radical reduction in U.S. forces next year, which was greeted with relief by the administration in Kabul, which had feared being abandoned by its most powerful ally, reported Reuters.

Afghan forces, who took over from international troops after NATO ended most combat operations last year, have struggled to contain a spreading Taliban insurgency and remain dependent on allies for air and logistical support. (Tolonews)

(7) Afghanistan ...

side asked Iran to share experiences in such fields.

In April, Afghan President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani insisted on opening a new chapter in the relations with Iran to study the problems separately and provide solutions for them.

"The path lying ahead of us includes taking the opportunities for mutual and multilateral cooperation and turning the region from a danger zone into an area of peace and stability," Ashraf Ghani said, addressing a joint press conference with his Iranian counterpart Hassan Rouhani in Tehran.

President Ashraf Ghani reiterated that Afghanistan is facing the serious threat of terrorism, and regretting that violence and terrorism is taking daily toll in his nation.

Also speaking at the same press conference in Tehran, President Rouhani announced that Tehran and Kabul agreed to launch intelligence and operational cooperation in their fight against terrorism and drug trafficking.

"In our talks we agreed on intelligence and operational cooperation between Iran and Afghanistan in fighting terrorism and drug trafficking along the borders," President Rouhani said.

"One of the topics that we followed up in our meeting was security and anti-drug campaign; the problem with narcotics is that its production increases every year and all of us should try to curb and reduce drug production as a first step and then end the problem of narcotics in the

region," he added.

Noting the two states' plan for joint anti-terrorism and anti-drug campaign, President Rouhani said the two countries need to have closer contacts and coordination and launch joint operations against drug trafficking.

The Iranian president said that Afghanistan needs to work out alternative farming plans to replace poppy cultivation, and said, "Our agricultural jihad ministry is ready to extend help in this regard because there are sufficient lands and water in Afghanistan and Afghans have been hard-working people throughout history."

He referred to the status quo in Iran-Afghanistan cooperation, and hoped that the two nations could maintain and further expand their extensive cooperation in future.

Iran is one of the most important donors to Afghanistan, which has kept its promises to help to the reconstruction of the war-ravaged country.

Iran has built several roads, power transmission lines, border stations and many other infrastructure projects in Afghanistan to better link the two nations.

Iran has also contributed more than \$50mln annually to Afghan antinarcotics efforts during the last five years. (FNA)

(8) Senators Welcome...

ghanistan's borders.

"I believe that Kunduz would not have fallen to the Taliban if we had an air force with more facilities and abilities and in such a case, we would not have any need for presence of foreign troops in Afghanistan," said Gul Ahmad Azami, a senator.

"The US troops should target terrorist safe havens and they should increase political and economic pressure on Pakistan to stop supporting insurgents - instead of extending their presence in Afghanistan," said Mohammad Alam Ezediyar, another senator.

According to the recent decision by Obama, at least 5,500 American troops will remain in Afghanistan after 2016. (Tolonews)

(9) Millions...

million Afs have been embezzled through ghost teachers and this should be tackled seriously, Baghlan appeal court said.

"I announce from the tribune of the attorney to probe the case after the alleged culprits are identified," attorney Din Mohammad Quraishi said.

Baghlan education department has rejected the allegations.

"The majority of teachers are formal teachers, and there are no ghost teachers at our schools, we are prepared to cooperate with those investigating the case," Abdul Qadir Rassouli, acting chief of Baghlan education department said.

The existence of ghost schools and ghost teachers has often sparked controversy in the country in the past, however the former minister of education rejected rumors that money received from international donors is going towards paying ghost teachers. (Tolonews)

(10) Heavy Clashes ...

be announced later. Meanwhile, officer of the public relations of 215th Maiwand Corps says that air strikes killed 18 Taliban in Babaji area.

A Taliban commander was among those killed in the air strikes, Colonel Mohammad Rasoul Zazai said. Taliban in a message claim severe casualties to government forces. (KP)

(11) Over 300 ...

report that the National Directorate of Security [NDS] has provided to us reveals that at least 1,950 people were wounded and taken to hospitals and 900 Taliban insurgents were killed in Kunduz clashes, while security forces have suffered low casualty tolls in this battle," said Mirdad Nijrabi, head of the Wolesi Jirga's internal security commission and chairman of the investigative team. He added: "At least 34 police force members, one NDS operative and seven army troops have been killed and 54 police have been wounded in the Kunduz battle."

The delegation meanwhile is not providing more details about civilian casualties. However, reports show that at least 70 civilians were killed in the Kunduz siege.

"They [militants] went into our neighbors' house. I saw that they killed five men in our neighbor's house and then they went into another house," an eye witness told TOLONews. "I saw with my eyes. I walked through the dead bodies," the eye witness added.

"As I saw the situation in the city, it was miserable. When we woke up

in the morning we saw that the Taliban was all around the area. I don't think that the situation will get back to normal soon. Kunduz situation is really miserable," another eyewitness and resident of Kunduz told TOLONews.

The MPs fact-finding team has urged the government to continue their military operation until the province is completely cleared of Taliban. (Tolonews)

(12) Peaceful Afghanistan..

emphasized the need for addressing basic concerns of the people of the region and to deny space to extremist elements who take advantage of the fault lines existing in their respective societies.

There exists "a need to introduce a counter narrative along with a comprehensive social, economic and political reforms package in line with the culture, traditions and aspirations of the populace", said the defence minister while addressing the Xiangshan Forum's plenary session on the topic 'regional terrorism: roots and solutions'.

According to a press release from the Pakistani embassy, the minister condemned all acts of terrorism and called on the world community to recognize the basic reasons responsible for the fissures and fault lines existing within terrorism affected regions.

"Need to recognize Pakistan's sacrifices"

Asif also mentioned the unresolved conflicts of Palestine and Kashmir, the unending events of gross human rights violations and unfulfilled promises by the world community failing to address the root causes of these conflicts.

He said that Pakistan gave refuge to over three million Afghan brothers during the Afghan war. The CONTINUED instability in that country had severe impacts, he said. In addition, Pakistan has suffered a loss of 60 thousand lives and billions of dollars in economic loss, he said.

He said that Pakistan's armed forces have conducted various operations in tribal areas since 2003 and the latest operation Zarb-e-Azb vastly outnumbered achievements compared to other international forces' achievements in Afghanistan since 13 years.

The world needs to recognize the sacrifices by Pakistan over the past three decades, he stressed.

Referring to South Asian security and stability, he said that all disputes needed to be resolved amicably to offset chances of escalation.

"While Pakistan has been forcefully advocating early resumption of dialogue process with India, there was a need to reduce tension by avoiding escalation of hostilities at the Line of Control and the Working Boundary," the minister underscored.

Participants from Pakistan also included several scholars and intellectuals including the Chairman Institute of Strategic Studies Mr. Khalid Mehmood, President Institute of Regional Studies Mr. Arif Ayub, and Director South Asian Strategic Stability Institute Maria Sultan.

In addition to defense ministers, the forum was also attended by senior military officials from participating countries, as well as noted scholars and academics. (Monitoring Desk)

(13) MSF Says ...

which killed at least 22 patients and hospital staff, should be investigated as a possible war crime, said Christopher Stokes, general director of Doctors Without Borders, which is also known by its French abbreviation MSF.

The trauma hospital was bombed during a firefight between Taliban and government troops, as U.S. advisers were helping Afghan forces retake the city after the insurgents overran it and seized control on Sept. 28. Afghan authorities say they are now largely back in control of Kunduz.

U.S. President Barack Obama has apologized for the attack, and the commander of U.S. and NATO troops in Afghanistan, Gen. John F. Campbell, said it was a mistake. He said the strike had been called in by Afghan forces, but has not explained exactly how it happened or who granted final approval. Internal military investigations are underway, with preliminary results expected in coming days.

According to Associated Press reporting, American special operations analysts were scrutinizing the Afghan hospital days before it was destroyed because they believed it was being used by a Pakistani operative to coordinate Taliban activity. The analysts knew it was a medical facility, according to a former intelligence official who is familiar with some of the documents describing the site.

It's unclear whether that information ever got to commanders who unleashed the AC-130 gunship on the hospital.

"The hospital was repeatedly hit both at the front and the rear and extensively destroyed and damaged, even though we have provided all the coordinates and all the right information to all the parties in the conflict," Stokes said, standing in the burned-out main hospital building.

"The extensive, quite precise destruction of this hospital ... doesn't indicate a mistake. The hospital was repeatedly hit," Stokes said. The bombing went on for more than an hour, despite calls to Afghan, U.S. and NATO to call it off, MSF has said.

Stokes, who has called for an independent inquiry into the incident, told The Associated Press in an interview in the remains of the hospital on Friday that MSF wanted a "clear explanation because all indications point to a grave breach of international humanitarian law, and therefore a war crime."

Afghan authorities have refused to comment before investigations are complete. President Ashraf Ghani's deputy spokesman, Zafar Hashemi, told reporters on Saturday that the Afghan government has "faith" in investigations being conducted by the U.S. military, and by a joint Afghan-NATO team. (AP)

(14) Iran Deal...

would be lifted in exchange for limits on Tehran's nuclear activities.

Separately, Iran told the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on Sunday it would fulfill a commitment under the deal to implement the Additional Protocol to its Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement, allowing U.N. nuclear inspectors more intrusive access to Iranian facilities.

Iran would take that step on "implementation day", the IAEA said in a statement. Under the deal, that is when the agency is due to have verified that Tehran has put restrictions on its nuclear activities in place and sanctions should be lifted. (Reuters)

(15) Nearly 200 ...

men were injured in the clashes," he said.

However, he did not provide more details about the incidents.

The Taliban has not yet commented about the attack.

The highway is a key transit route as it connects Kabul with Ghazni, Kandahar, Helmand, Herat and Farah provinces in the country's southern and western parts. (Tolonews)

(16) Senate Shows...

to ensure the safety of journalists in the cities and in provinces."

Meanwhile, CEO Abdullah Abdullah praised the courage of TV channels for continuing their work despite receiving threats from the Taliban.

He however promised to ensure the protection of journalists and media organizations.

"Despite receiving threats, the media continues their work and we really appreciate it," Abdullah said. "It is the responsibility of government to ensure the safety of journalists and the government is doing that."

This comes after a number of Afghan and international rights and media advocacy groups also denounced the threats of Taliban to media. (Tolonews)

(17)3rd Social...

tributions from individuals, companies, government departments and the media.

The Afghan public will nominate their favorite social media users, campaigns, companies, TV stations, civil society organization and many more. Then the public will vote. Impassioned Afghanistan and an invited Afghan and international jury will ensure that the whole process is fair and transparent. (Wadsam)

(18)Kabul ...

in Afghanistan have had it tough, and we have lost (a lot of opportunities) for children," said Farima Naderi, a Kabul native who worked with the United Nations to help set up the initiative. "This program ... will widen opportunities for Afghan women."

Twenty-eight students in all - 18 women and 10 men - have enrolled in the first class of what will be a two-year program at the state-funded university. The mission, according to a United Nations Development Program press release, is "to create a platform for training future advocates of gender equality; generate research on gender, violence against women and underprivileged groups; and raise awareness about men's and women's social responsibilities."

The government of South Korea (whose President, Park Geun-hye, is

a woman) has funded the program. It will include information on women's legal rights and what role they can play in reducing poverty, resolving conflicts and taking part in the political process.

"This program will serve as a model that universities throughout the country can replicate ... in the future," Afghan Higher Education Minister Farida Momand said.

There have been times in recent Afghan history, of course, when the idea of girls attending school or training female activists might have seemed preposterous. (CNN)

(19)Officials ...

Badakhshan has long been the scene of fierce fighting by insurgents and Wardooj and Baharak districts have fallen a few times to the Taliban.

"The collapse of Wardooj district also resulted in the collapse of Baharak district to the Taliban," Badakhshan MP Zakaria Sawda said, calling for government to pay serious attention to the security situation of the north-eastern province. (Tolonews)

(20)Bodies of ...

said. According to our latest information, bodies of 90 militants from different parts of Baghlan including Pule-Khumri city, Baghlan-e-Markazi district and other parts were sent to their families," he added.

He said four insurgents were also recently arrested during clashes in Kunduz, adding that at least eight Taliban fighters were killed and 12 others were wounded in recent clashes in Baghlan. (Tolonews)

(21)Angela Merkel...

vented his grievances with Europe this week, pointedly taking swipe at talk of awarding Merkel the Nobel Peace Prize for welcoming hundreds of thousands of migrants. (AP)

(22)UNSC...

several rounds of dialogue between the conflicting parties since last September, but clashes persisted despite a truce agreed by the warring factions. (Xinhua)

(23)500 Belgian...

have died, 128 returned to Belgium and 62 were prevented from leaving in the first place.

In total, 46 foreign fighters have been prosecuted, all associated with the group Sharia4Belgium, the report added. (Xinhua)

(24)Syrian Army...

Syria aims primarily to secure the international road connecting Aleppo with the southern region and the capital Damascus by securing and recapturing several towns and villages in the central region, mainly in the central province of Homs and Hama. (Xinhua)

(25)Kerry Pleads ...

UNESCO's objectives." He laid out efforts made to counter extremism, announcing that the United States would help UNESCO launch an education initiative "to equip teachers and students with the skills and values to embrace tolerance and inclusion and resist violent extremism." Kerry also pledged the United States would help in areas such as the destruction of heritage by extremist groups, the safety of journalists and the environment. (AFP)

(26)EU, U.S. ...

sanctions. Whenever they approve the law to lift or stop sanctions, a joint statement will be issued by Zarif and Mogherini," Araçchi said. Based on the agreement, the nuclear deal should have gone into effect on Oct. 18. (Xinhua)

(27)China ...

redesign project achieve progress. According to Hua, the three countries issued a joint statement on Sunday to show their willingness to cooperate on the redesign project. China also communicated with other parties from the P5+1 countries and Iran to promote consultations for an official document on the redesign. (Xinhua)

(28)Uzbekistan ...

nesses. Uzbekistan produced about 17.5 million of fruits and vegetables, including 9.3 million tonnes of vegetables, 2.5 million tonnes of potatoes, 1.7 million tonnes of melons and gourds, 2.5 million tonnes of fruits and 1.5 million tonnes of grapes. Uzbekistan increased production of fruits and vegetables by 9.2% year-on-year in 2013.

Samarkand (16.8% from total produced fruits and vegetables), Tashkent (15.5%), Andijan (12.9%), Ferghana region (8.7%), Surkhandarya (8.1%), Namangan (7.1%) and Bukhara (6.8%) regions produce the most fruits and vegetables in Uzbekistan. (PR)