

(1) Unity Govt. Has...

bodies progressed in the current sluggish way, the parliamentary polls wouldn't be held in time. "And if parliamentary polls are postponed, the presidential elections will also be delayed."

However, CEO Abdullah Abdullah office said the unity government was committed to holding the parliamentary elections on its due date.

Javed Faisal, deputy spokesman for CEO, said: "The unity government keeping in view public expectations and needs is committed to holding the elections on specified time, ensuring security and providing budget to the electoral bodies."

He said electoral bodies were the real possessors of elections and the bodies had taken necessary preparations for the ballot with government support. The Wolesi Jirga and district councils' elections were first set to be held in 1394 solar year, but they were postponed amid political wrangling, and lack of financial resources and technical facilities.

The Independent Election Commission (IEC) has recently announced Saratan 16 of solar year 1397 (July, 2018) as the date for the parliamentary and district council elections. (Pajhwok)

(2) S. Korea Exhibites ...

in Babur Garden of Kabul for a week. Zahra Abdullahi, a visitor to the exhibition, says that showing women's activities and working with them can multiply women's morale.

She expressed hope and pleasure for visiting the activities of men and women, who live in remote areas, in this exhibition.

Photographs in the exhibition included women's empowerment, health, education, provision of facilities for farmers, food provision, cash assistance to migrants - who returned to the country - and support for women who fell victim to violence.

Abdul Basit, another visitor to the exhibition, said that exhibiting the country's prosperity and development, will fill people with hope and reduce the disappointment about war which is spread in social media. He hoped that such exhibitions will be held more often so that people encounter less terrorist attacks and destructions.

It is worth saying that hundreds of images of war are posted in social media every day since many horrific incidents occur in the country. Psychologists believe posting such images will have an adverse effect on the morale of the country's citizens.

The Korean Embassy officials said that they would conduct similar exhibitions in Kabul about Korea's activities.

It should be noted that in addition to South Korea, dozens of other countries are engaged in country's development and prosperity and struggle in this regard in the form of various organizations.

Korea's Ambassador in Kabul said in this exhibition that his country would support Afghanistan and wanted a stable friendship with the country. The exhibition, which was in line with the Afghan House of Culture, came as the two countries have had diplomatic and friendly relations for more than four decades.

On the other hand, Afghan-Korea Center is operating in Kabul more than a decade and train the youths in the field of tailoring, construction, car fixing, plumbing, computer, and English Language.

Political relationship between Afghanistan and South Korea was created in 1352 (solar year) but Korea shut down its embassy in Kabul as a result of three decades of war in the country. But after the establishment of interim government in 1382, Korea's Embassy was reopened in Kabul. (PR)

(3) Rights Watchdog ...

"This is a criminal act, a clear violation of human rights and it can be exemplified as war crimes," he said. This week's attacks were the deadliest incidents since the announcement of the US's new strategy on Afghanistan, according to the New National Front of Afghanistan.

"This is a response to the government against the optimism for the (US) strategy and it showed that they (militants) are still powerful. On the other hand, they (insurgents) will try to show that they will not enter the negotiations from a weak stance - if they might attend the talks table," head of the party Anwar-ul-Haq Ahadi said.

The insurgents used military vehicles in the attacks on Paktia Police Headquarters and in Ghazni province - a move that have drawn sharp reaction from the public.

Government has been blasted for not searching out and destroying military vehicles which have been seized by militants on the battlefields.

Hinting at this, Defense Ministry spokesman Dawlat Waziri said: "The Kunduz province fell to the Taliban twice and they took the vehicles. As well as in Janikhail district (in Paktia) and in Ghazni province they (Taliban) took the (military) vehicles with them, but we are trying to eliminate them (the vehicles)."

Some legislators meanwhile accused the intelligence apparatus of government of being unable to prevent such incidents.

"Andar district will fall (to militants) if the central government and the Ghazni local government remain hesitant like this. The fall of Andar (district) will mean the fall of the Ghazni province," said Amanullah Kamrani, a member of Ghazni Provincial Council.

"The reluctance of the intelligence and investigative bodies as well as problems in the local government in Paktia helped the incident to happen," said Mohammada Jan Mangal, a senator.

A number of former military officials meanwhile called on government to identify those who might have helped the attackers from inside Paktia Police Headquarters. (Tolonews)

(4) Six Charts that ...

attacks have skyrocketed over the last five years. UNAMA said this amounts to "disturbing trends of intentional killings" targeting religious leaders and others seen as supporting the government. IRIN recently reported on how moderate imams preaching peace have become targets.

Casualties caused by attacks against religious targets spiked in 2016; the 84 deaths recorded in the first nine months of 2017 are already nearing the mark set for the whole of last year. Civilian casualties from attacks targeting religious figures and places of worship

The enduringly high casualty numbers suggest the Afghan government may be paying a high price for its strategy to concentrate on defending areas with larger populations, while the Taliban makes gains in rural areas seen as less vital.

"This change has led to an increasing number of clashes for control over lines of communication and vital infrastructure," UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said in a September report to the Security Council. "In addition, the more secure hold of the Taliban over some rural areas has allowed them to undertake more frequent attacks in the north of Afghanistan."

The Afghan government's physical control of its own territory has steadily eroded over the last two years. In a 30 July update, the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction, which reports to the US Congress on how American funding is spent, said that less than 60 percent of the country's 407 districts were under government control or influence. The government had control or influence over 72 percent of its districts as recently as November 2015.

District control in Afghanistan The Afghan government's authority of its own territory has eroded over the past two years. It has control or influence over less than 60 percent of the country's 407 districts.

Amid the simmering conflict, violence continues to displace Afghan civilians. Conflict has forced some 260,000 Afghans to flee their homes so far this year - part of a steady increase shown over the last eight years.

Number of people displaced in Afghanistan, 2010 - 2017

While insecurity climbs, the national mood in the country is at a record low, according to the Asia Foundation, which conducts annual public opinion surveys in Afghanistan. Almost 70 percent of respondents said they fear for their personal safety - the highest level in a decade, according to the most recent poll.

Fear for personal safety Almost 70 percent of Afghans say they fear for their personal safety always, often or sometimes, according to an Asia Foundation survey. (Monitoring Desk)

(5) Russia, NATO...

foster the Taliban during that conflict.

The Taliban, which went on to rule Afghanistan, was toppled during the 2001 U.S. invasion, in retaliation for Taliban-connected terrorist attacks on New York and Washington. Afghanistan's leadership is now closely allied with the U.S. (Monitoring Desk)

(6) Ghani Hails Fallen ...

attacks, the enemy is sending a message of death - however, death is not the future of Afghanistan, peace is the future, he said.

He said Abdyani sacrificed his life for his country and said "the son of Mr. Commander (Abdyani) asked me who should he call his father? I told him, call me father... He was a hero and his heroism will never be forgotten."

Abdyani, who graduated from the military academy in 1984, had worked in different military departments and had been commander of the armored vehicle unit and was deputy head of ground forces for the ministry of defense.

He then moved to the ministry of interior and worked in different departments over the years as deputy head of 606 Ansar Police Western Zone, deputy police chief of Kandahar and police chief of Farah and Paktia provinces.

Ghani said at the ceremony he was a highly respected police chief and had been earmarked to take over as police chief of Herat province.

"Toryalai Abdyani was one of the most experienced officers of the Ministry of Interior. He was about to work as the Herat Police Chief at the end of this week but he was martyred in the Tuesday attack," acting interior minister Wais Barmak said.

"Mr. Abdyani was one of the most honest and experienced officers," acting defense minister Tariq Shah Bahrami said.

Two of Abdyani's sons, who are studying in India, returned home early Wednesday for their father's funeral. "I am proud of those soldiers and officers who sacrifice their lives while defending the country. Our country is our mother and we must sacrifice for her," Abdyani's father said. (Tolonews)

(7) India Ready ...

Sardasht people for the clinic and said more development projects would be inaugurated in Nimroz in near future. "Our country is committed to cooperating with Afghanistan in every area," he said.

About the export of fruits from Afghanistan to India via the Afghan-India air corridor, the diplomat hoped Nimroz as "the warehouse of Asia" would also start exporting fruits from its airport to India.

Bhandari said his country was planning to execute 160 development projects worth \$80 million in 31 provinces of Afghanistan in near future.

Nimroz public health director Dr. Khesraw Yousfzai said the clinic's construction cost nine million afghanis donated by India. The clinic would provide health services to 15,000 families in the area, he added. (Pajhwok)

(8) BRI has Created ...

of 2,287 delegates to the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China have been approved. The congress will hear and examine a report submitted by the 18th CPC Central Committee.

It will also deliberate on a report from the 18th Central Commission for Discipline Inspection besides adopting amendments to the party's constitution and electing its 19th Central Committee and 19th Central Commission for Discipline Inspection. (Pajhwok)

(9) Karzai Condemns ...

The statement further added that the former president has called the attack and casualties to civilians, a move against the humanity and all principles and values of Islam.

The Taliban insurgents group claimed responsibility behind the attack.

The ministry of interior of Afghanistan in a statement said the attack was carried out by group of at five heavily armed insurgents.

The statement by the ministry of interior further added that the insurgents detonated vehicle-borne improvised explosive devices near the police commandment and police training center. The ministry confirmed that the police chief of Paktia province Gen. Toryalai was among those killed but did not provide further information regarding the exact number of casualties. However, the local officials in Pak-

tia are saying that the death toll has climbed to at least 41 people, including security personnel and civilians, while more than 150 others have sustained injuries. (KP)

(10) Gen. Bajwa...

Arabia to attend the inaugural session of the second International Conference on C4I Solutions at the King Saud University, Riyadh. Organised by the Saudi defence ministry, the theme of this year's conference was "Alliance Against Terrorism: Strategies and Capabilities".

Gen Bajwa met Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman on the sidelines of the conference, the report said.

Pakistan is believed to be having a critical role in the Afghan peace process as the observers believe the country has considerable influence on the Taliban group who are believed to having leadership councils in the country.

However, the Taliban group rejected to participate in the QCG meeting which was convened on Monday to revive the Afghan peace talks. (KP)

(11) Uruzgan Govt. ...

with serious hardships. Ordinary residents, civil society activists and provincial council members hit out at the government for its failure to properly discharge its responsibility.

A shopkeeper in Tirinkot, Haji Obaidullah, complained the security situation had nosedived over the past one year across the province.

He told Pajhwok Afghan News that Taliban were still active in areas around the governor's house but their activities were widespread in the districts.

"Whenever I earn has to be spent on a two hours commute to my shop, which is just 20 minutes away from my home. But all short routes have been closed by the Taliban."

A civil society activist, Javid Khpalwak, held a similar view, saying more than six generals had come to the province as police chiefs over the past one year, but no tangible improvement had been witnessed.

He blamed Kabul-based government officials for paying no heed to Uruzgan, which had slipped from their attention.

"If other provinces have been in a similar predicament, the president and all his cabinet members would have converged on them to resolve public problems," he remarked.

Khpalwak said no high-level government official had come to assess Uruzgan's situation in the past one year. As a result, no solution to the problems has been found yet.

A tribal elder in the Talani locality of Tirinkot, Malak Tawos, claimed security forces and other officials were locked in internal disputes and paid no heed to people's problems.

He accused the local administration of having failed to discharge their duty properly. There was no coordination among security organs during operations, he maintained.

Tawos alleged areas were left to insurgents intentionally in many cases. He stressed the need for strong leadership of security forces to forge solid coordination among different organs. Meanwhile, the provincial council also expressed concern over the security situation, asking the central government to find a solution to the problems in Uruzgan.

Amir Mohammad Barakzai, the provincial council head, told Pajhwok the security situation had been precarious over the past one year and all district roads were blocked.

Telecom services are inactive, commercial flights stopped, hospitals closed and thousands of families displaced, he lamented.

Fighting is ongoing in all districts, with Chora town teetering on the verge of collapse a few days ago. Most of the problems have emerged due to the inattention of the central government, he believed.

Provincial council members have visited Kabul and shared the problems of Uruzgan with the president and chief executive several times. The promises held out by them were not kept, he regretted.

He demanded comprehensive clearing operation in the province and a delegation from Kabul should be tasked with supervising anti-militant offensives.

Local officials acknowledged the public complaints but said Afghan forces had been significantly successful in their operations, having captured

large swathes from militants.

Police chief, Brig. Gen. Rahmatullah Seddiqi, said despite frequent rebel attacks on district centres and the provincial capital, security threats had been reduced more security personnel had been recruited.

Many Afghan forces had sacrificed their lives in conflict with the militants in recent months and their achievements should not be ignored, he commented.

Many areas on the outskirts of Tirinkot had been cleared of militants during the past one year and search operations were still underway, Seddiqi explained.

Hundreds of militants had been killed or wounded during ground and air operations over the past year, he said, adding reforms were being introduced in police ranks. Qualified individuals are being employed in at the police headquarters.

Seddiqi said a 100-member security unit equipped with all needed weapons was also created for the security of the provincial capital.

But Governor Mohammad Nazir Kharoti claimed there was good coordination among military, civilian officials and NATO-led forces.

He said they were trying to control the situation and provide a peaceful environment for the people.

After the announcement of the new US strategy, Taliban activities had declined in Uruzgan and many commanders had opted for shunning the insurgency, he claimed.

Large-scale operations have already been planned to defeat the militants in the province. The offensive would begin from Chora district, he added.

The operations are aimed to improve security in Tirinkot and help pave the ground for the return of thousands of displaced families to their own areas.

Another goal of the operations was to reopen all blocked roads in the restive districts to facilitate people's movement, he concluded. (Pajhwok)

(12) HIA Warns ...

an airstrike in Kunar province last week while a Madrasa student was killed and another one was wounded in Nangarhar province by the US forces on Monday.

The party also added that a surge in troops number and airstrikes will not have a positive ending, warning that none of the party involved in the war will achieve victory through military means.

Hezb-e-Islami also insisted that the only solution to the ongoing violence in the country is through negotiations and talks.

This comes as at least 41 people including civilians were killed and more than 150 others were wounded in a coordinated attack in Gardez city on Tuesday.

However, the officials have not confirmed the civilian deaths in Kunar and Nangarhar provinces so far, as initially claimed by ex-President Hamid Karzai and Hezb-e-Islami. (KP)

(13) 6 Daesh, ...

joined peace process in Jawzjan since the launch of Peace Committee work in the province.

He said the privileges distribution process for those who joined the reconciliation process may resume. This process was once suspended in the past.

Separately, police have handed over 58 weapons of different kinds to the DIAG in Faryab. Police chief Brig. Gen. Delawar Shah said the weapons were recovered by police and intelligence personnel on different occasions.

He warned people who carry illegal arms with them will be arrested and treated according to the law. (Pajhwok)

(14) Heavy Storm ...

Losses as well due to the strong, but he had no exact figures. Jawzjan public health director Dr. Fraidon Habib said security forces transferred four injured people to the civil hospital last night and a fifth one had died before reaching the hospital. The four injured people included a woman, said Dr. Habib, adding one of the injured was in critical condition and under intensive care. In neighboring Baghlan province, residents complained about the dusty storm, saying they were forced to close shops and not to attend jobs and schools. Last night's storm which affected residents of Faryab, Sar-i-Pul, Jawzjan, Balkh, Samangan, Baghlan, Takhar and Badakhshan provinces was said to be unprecedented in recent years. (Pajhwok)