

(1) Ghani Highlights...

wave since the launch of anarchism and it's radically more morphing. I think we can have consensus that the level of threat posed by terrorism today is much larger than what it was in the year 2001," adding, "but the response to terrorism is country-focused, not global not regional."

President Ghani, who is in New Delhi on a day-long official visit, also met his Indian counterpart Ram Nath Kovind earlier in the day.

The two sides emphasised that the renunciation of violence and terror; closure of cross border safe havens and sanctuaries were essential for any meaningful progress and lasting peace.

The Indian side agreed to extend further assistance depending upon the needs of the Afghan defence and police forces.

Both sides agreed that the recent convergence and alignment of views at regional and international arenas have created opportunities for bringing peace, security and stability in Afghanistan. It was agreed to further deepen the bilateral strategic dialogue and consultations at all levels in order to achieve the shared objectives.

Ghani also met Prime Minister Narendra Modi and External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj and discussed bilateral and regional issues.

The visit has come at a time when the Afghanistan leadership is focusing on stabilising the war-torn country and brokering peace with the Taliban rebels. (ANI)

(2) ARG Digitally ...

the Presidential Palace (ARG).

Both sent out similar photographs of Tillerson and Ghani, along with each party's delegation.

However, the pictures issued differ and it is clearly evident that ARG digitally manipulated the photograph that was posted to its Facebook page - stating the meeting had been in Kabul.

This was not the case - the meeting had been held at Bagram Airfield in Parwan province. On the US embassy's photo, Tillerson and Ghani sit side-by-side. Above them are two large-screen TVs and above these is a digital clock and a red fire alarm.

However, the version uploaded to Facebook by ARG appears to have been taken in the same room but it has been digitally manipulated - both the clock and the alarm box have been removed.

The New York Times reported that the large digital clock showing "Zulu time" - the military term for Coordinated Universal Time - and a red fire alarm behind Tillerson and Ghani, is a giveaway that the meeting was held at an American military facility.

Graphic designers approached for comment said there was no doubt the photograph had been digitally manipulated by ARG and that the clock and alarm had been removed - possibly photoshopped.

"The picture is photoshopped," photographer and graphic designer Mustafa said. Critics have said however that manipulating photographs should not be ignored and that the ethics of the move should be investigated. "Photoshopping a picture is an obvious violation in the media and in some cases it can be investigated. It would be a good idea for the presidential palace to explain their decision to publish this," Sediqullah Tawhidi, a member of the Journalists Safety Committee said.

One critic went as far as to say Ghani had violated diplomatic principles - especially as being president, he left the capital for a neighboring province to meet with the secretary of state who is on the level of a minister.

ARG has also come under fire for putting out inaccurate information to the media - not only through the photograph but also in their statement that said the meeting took place in Kabul.

"The more false information given to the people, the more government will suffer. Thus, honesty in the president's moves and regaining peoples' trust are the very important principles," Lawyer Ainuddin Bahaduri said.

Once again this raises questions regarding the validity of information issued by government.

One key example in the past has been that of Qalandar district in Khost province which has been under Taliban control for years. The district governor works out of a container in the provincial capital yet government is adamant the district is under its control. (Tolnews)

(3) China Wants ...

discipline inspection to hold high the banner of socialism and follow the guidance of Leninism, Mao Zedong's thought.

Xi, 64, was a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the 18th CPC Central Committee. The closing session started in the Great Hall of the People in Beijing Tuesday morning.

Delivering the report to party members and journalists, Xi underlined the need for regional peace and stability. He said China wanted to work with neighbours on issues of mutual interest, including economic cooperation. (Pajhwok)

(4) Iran Hosts ...

are the majority of refugees in Iran. Based on the statistics, about 1,584,000 refugees from Afghanistan, 34,500 ones from Iraq

and 14,320 ones from Pakistan are living in Iran. (IRNA)

(5) China, Afghanistan...

relationship rests in the ties between our people - our citizens, business leaders, and our scientists... We'll never have the same relationship with China, a non democratic society, that we can have with a major democracy," he said on October 18.

The warm words for New Delhi come as China carves out its One Belt, One Road project, a series of economic and infrastructure projects that spans more than 68 countries across Europe, Asia and Africa.

"The rise of a more capable and assertive China remains the single-most important driver of the growing partnership between Washington and Delhi," Constantino Xavier, a fellow at Carnegie India, a think tank, said in an email.

The friendly tone toward New Delhi also predated the Trump administration, as the US sought to cultivate India as a bulwark against China.

"There's a huge element of continuity in all of this. All presidents from Bill Clinton onwards, all of them have strongly supported an India-US relationship," said Ajai Shukla, a defense analyst and former Indian military officer based in New Delhi. "This is equally true of Indian prime ministers, irrespective of ideology and irrespective of strategic orientation."

Another major issue: Afghanistan, which remains in the grip of a bloody, 16-year conflict. In August, speaking at Fort Myer in Arlington, Virginia, US President Donald Trump renewed the US' military commitment in Afghanistan, while also calling on India and other regional players for more support in bringing stability to the country.

"We appreciate India's important contributions to stability in Afghanistan but India makes billions of dollars in trade from the United States and we want them to help us more with Afghanistan, especially in the area of economic assistance and development," he said.

India has a longstanding partnership with Afghanistan, supplying about \$2 billion in aid, namely in developmental and infrastructural projects.

But New Delhi is not about to get involved militarily, says Shukla. "Every statement from both sides has been oriented towards the understanding that India will step up humanitarian aid and developmental projects." Pakistan

India's longtime rival Pakistan - where Tillerson stopped Tuesday - is also likely to feature in his conversations in New Delhi.

Although Trump called out Pakistan for giving "safe haven to agents of chaos, violence, and terror" in his speech in August, he recently appeared to shift tack, tweeting effusively about the relationship with Islamabad after Pakistani forces helped rescue an American woman, her Canadian husband and their three children held captive by a Taliban affiliated group.

As Tillerson headed to South Asia, there was also news that Pakistan was extending the detention of Hafiz Saeed, the alleged mastermind behind the devastating 2008 Mumbai terror attacks, sidestepping a potential political banana skin that could have erupted during Tillerson's visit.

"[His arrest] took place because of a realization within the Pakistan army that Hafiz Saeed was endangering Pakistan's insistence that it was not supporting terrorist groups. What we saw was a change in the Pakistani strategic projection," Shukla said. "The factors that are driving this, which is Trump's pressure, India's pressure, all of these issues are keeping Pakistan towards that change in strategic orientation." (CNN)

(6) Parliament Approves ...

at any time," said Sediqullah Osmani, deputy head of the commission.

The Financial Commission says the total of 1396 (2017) fiscal year's budget is 417 billion AFs. (Tolnews)

(7) Women Get ...

run and market her business.

Sharifi says she is also trying to promote the culture of using locally produced goods.

"There are a lot of problems in the business sector, but at this center we were able to learn a lot of work to improve our business, and this center assures us that we can be successful in our business," Sharifi said.

Some of these newcomers are however working on new business ideas and innovations. "I want to build a software manufacturing company in the future and this center provided us with the opportunity to develop our skills and to start a successful business," said Fagan Yaftali, another center student.

The center however teaches its students to assess the market before they start their business and to review the demand for their services. Following a thorough assessment, they then decide on whether their business would be viable. One of the center's trainers, Ghayour Baware, said that to succeed in terms of opening a business, a small investment and technical advisory services in the country are needed. "A large number of people who have a commercial idea come to this center and we try to provide technical assistance to enable these people to achieve their goals," said Baware. Officials at the Start-Up-Valley center said that so far, with the help of the USAID, they have been able to assist 17 women

who have gone on to start small businesses. According to some economists, the growth of small and medium businesses is the only solution to solving economic problems and unemployment in the country and have said government must support such initiatives. (Tolnews)

(8) Foreign Investors ...

travel law were in compliance with paragraph 16 of Articles 64 and 70 of the Constitution of Afghanistan.

The new provisions were drafted by the Cabinet in September and then endorsed by the president. Foreign entrepreneurs entering Afghanistan would be provided with visas on arrival at the Karzai Airport.

The statement added the exclusive visas would be issued by representatives of Afghan Border Police (ABP) under the Ministry of Interior (MoI) after an assessment of documents by MoFA officials at the airport.

The visas will be granted on payment of specific amount of application fee based on the amended Article 27, according to the MoFA statement. (Pajhwok)

(9) Senators Allege...

not divide us so one should never think we would be divided by fence."

First deputy chairman, Mohammad Alam Izdyar, also said the installation of fences on the border was underway amid rumors the Afghan government had reached an agreement with Pakistan on the issue.

He said Afghans had been sacrificing their lives for the Durand Line over the four decades so their sacrifices should not be ignored, he said.

Senators Rahmatullah Achakzai and Rona Tari were also of the same view and demanded suspension of the fencing. Chairman Fazal Hadi Musliymyar said fencing the Durand Line was against international norms and Pakistan could not take such an action. He said the Afghan government should stop Pakistan from fencing the border.

The Meshrano Jirga summoned deputy foreign minister Hekmat Khalil Karzai to brief senators about the quadrilateral meeting held last week in Muscat.

The meeting was attended by representatives from Afghanistan, Pakistan, China and the US.

Karzai was asked questions about fencing of the Durand Line by Pakistan and interferences of some other countries.

However, the session went off-camera at the request of Khalil Karzai and the meeting continued behind closed-doors. (Pajhwok)

(10) Nai Blasts ...

to information, because the people of Afghanistan have the right to know about the results of the president's trips. It is the right of the people of Afghanistan," Khelwatgar said. The presence of free media reporters is critical to the coverage of the president's trips, he said.

"This act by President (Ashraf Ghani) can be called censorship because we are left unaware about what has happened during the president's trips," he said.

This is not however a new trend as Ghani has failed to take journalists with him on key foreign trips in the past including that to United Nations meetings in New York, Brussels meeting, and to other countries, including this week's trip to India.

"Even in dictatorial and closed-system governments, presidents take journalists with them on their trips. For instance, we can name Iran," Khelwatgar said.

However, the Presidential Palace has said that journalists are welcome to accompany Ghani but they have to cover their own costs. (Tolnews)

(11) India Ready to...

and pluralistic nation.

The visiting dignitary also met his Indian counterpart Ram Nath Kovind earlier in the day.

He also met India's External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj and discussed bilateral and regional issues. (ANI)

(12) Nabil Claim...

in a Facebook post.

Calling the National Unity Government "imperfect", Nabil also stated that the NDS chief should drive out the Pakistani ISI-linked figures within the system, instead of making "conspiracy" against him.

In response to Nabil's remarks, the NDS has not reacted to so far.

Some Afghan analysts, however, say the political parties which are being registered at the Justice Ministry, are allowed to continue to its political campaigns. But "if the parties' activities contrary to law and against the national interests then legal actions must be taken against them," said Mohammadullah Babrak, a political analyst. (ATN)

(13) 'IECC Secretariat ...

officials had been creating hurdles, particularly the five removed officials.

He cited a number of violations from not obeying the president's orders to creating hurdles in reform programs, refusing to accept orders of senior officials, violations of decisions and not attending group meetings. He said the sacked officials had used pistols to deny monitoring to the internal monitoring commission and election watchdog TEFA.

"They have brazenly violated the law, they

have committed crime and hiding a crime is also a crime."

Aryai claimed the sacked officials forced their way into their offices and were sitting there while having guns. "It should not have happened," he said.

But deputy IECC head Humira Haqmal later told a separate press conference that the five officials had

She called the move a tribal coup and the removed officials were Pastuns and the IECC had promised his favorite individuals to appoint them on the posts.

She said the commission had so far done nothing except hatching conspiracies.

She said the allegations against the five officials were baseless and alleged the body was rife with corruption in political, financial and administrative affairs.

IECC secretary Mohammad Ali Satigh also said the five officials had not removed against the law.

He said the decision to fire the officials was illegal and non-implementable. He said the IECC secretariat had not been consulted about the decision to fire the five officials.

Wali Akbar Sarwari, who was removed as deputy head for technical affairs at the IECC secretariat, said that he and the other four officials could not be sacked because the decision to remove them had been declared illegal based on 13 different legal arguments. He said the IECC chief turned their foe after the secretariat blocked his illegal activities. (Pajhwok)

(14) Kabul Told...

were killed by the Soviet Union during the Jihad.

While visiting Paktia, Ghani said: "(Taliban) be proud that you are receiving support from a country has killed 1.5 million Afghans."

Russia's foreign ministry said in a statement that Moscow does not support insurgents in Afghanistan and asked Ghani to refrain from making anti-Russia remarks.

The statement also said such anti-Russia comments were being reported by a number of western media outlets.

Russia's foreign ministry also said Afghan officials, at various levels, have in the past lodged such accusations against Moscow.

"We consider unacceptable such statements by the head of state of friendly Afghanistan. We recall that Afghan officials have confirmed at different levels that such accusations against Moscow are groundless," read the statement.

"On the contrary, Moscow is rendering multiple forms of assistance to Kabul, including help in consolidating the combat capabilities of its national security forces, and is actively facilitating inter-Afghan dialogue with a view to establishing peace and stability in that country as soon as possible.

"We urge Afghan leaders not to follow along with the anti-Russian hysteria fanned by some Western media," read the statement.

A number of political affairs analysts meanwhile said government needs to have proof of foreign interference in Afghanistan's affairs and then resolve the issue through diplomatic channels.

"It is better for Afghan officials that instead of accusing Russia or other neighbouring countries, they hold discussions with them," a political affairs analyst, Ali Akbar Jamshidi, said.

However, US officials have also in the past accused Moscow of supporting the Taliban. US generals first suggested they were concerned the Russian government was seeking to arm the Afghan insurgents back in April, In July, Moscow issued a statement rejecting the claims.

However, the Russian defense ministry confirmed two months ago it had been in contact with the Taliban but said this had been aimed at preventing Daesh from gaining a foothold in Central Asia.

Taliban however has rejected receiving any support from Russia. (Tolnews)

(15) Police Round ...

There are also believed to be at least 40,000 intravenous drug users in Afghanistan, making them vulnerable to HIV and other infections. The U.N. estimates that around 7,000 people in the country live with HIV and believes the epidemic is mainly centered among those injecting drugs.

For authorities, the fight against narcotics is also the fight against the Taliban, who control and run the opium and heroin trade from the south, where the vast poppy fields are located. The Taliban have been waging war against the Afghan government since 2001, are heavily involved in poppy growing.

The militants' growing control in the south has meant that government eradication efforts have almost completely halted, while cultivation of the flower has grown by 10 percent. (Monitoring Desk)

(16) Olympic Committee ...

Afghanistan's flag at foreign competitions," said Noor Rahman Tarakhail, provincial deputy head of the committee for Kabul.

"We have been given a duty and we will try to carry it out seriously," said Hedayatullah Kamawal, an advisor for the committee.

The medal winners meanwhile welcomed the move and called for further attention to be given to sport.

"There were 286 of us sportsmen and 186 of us were able to attend competitions. Twelve of us got medals," said Hayatullah Khairi, a medal winner.

"We want budget from government for up-

coming competitions in order to get good results," said Zahra Husaini, another medal winner.

This comes after Afghan athletes brought home 12 medals from the Asian Martial Arts and Indoor Championships in Turkmenistan where 66 countries participated.

Other athletes, Ahmad Yasin Salik Qaderi, got gold medals at two other international events. (Tolnews)

(17) Kunar Starts ...

the registering process, many terrorist and criminal incidents would be proactively prevented.

A resident of Asadabad, Nisar, said the government should provide documents to both right and left hand drive vehicles in order to boost revenue.

Many 'Afghan-hand' cars have long been plying roads in Kunar without having documents.

Some people call such vehicles as 'stolen'. Now the process of registering the vehicles has started. (Pajhwok)

(18) Former HIA ...

assassination and said "Mualvi Hanif was recently replaced by another head.

There was no claim of responsibility for the incident. (Pajhwok)

(19) 7 Civilians ...

of the district on Monday night.

Seven people were killed and five others were arrested by security forces, he said, adding investigation had been launched for their identities.

District chief Mohammad Naseem also confirmed the casualties and arrests, but had no information about the identities of those killed and detained.

On the other hand, a security official said on the condition of anonymity the operation was carried out near the airport. Seven civilians were killed and five others detained, he added.

According to him, the special forces raided the house of Mohammad Omar, alias Haji Modo, The dead included two of his sons, three nephews and a grandson. Three of his sons were among the detainees.

A tribal elder, who declined to be named confirmed the civilian casualties during the raid, but was unaware of the exact number. (Pajhwok)

(20) Afghan Force ...

forces and in coordination with the security personnel belonging to the other security institutions.

The statement further added that the Afghan forces on Monday raided the ISIS hideouts in Mamand Dara area of Achin, leaving three ISIS militants dead.

The Afghan forces also confiscated a machine gun as well as a rocket propelled grenade launcher during the operation, the statement added.

The provincial government also added that the operations are still being conducted and the local residents and security personnel have not sustained casualties so far.

In the meantime, the 201st Silab Corps of the Afghan national army in the East said the operations are being conducted under the name of Hamza-3 operations which have been launched to totally wipe out the loyalists of the terror group and other insurgents from the area. (KP)

(21) Under Attack...

group leader, who parted with the main Taliban group after the death of the insurgency's founder Mullah Mohammad Omar.

Mullah Samad lost eight fighters and Mullah Nangyali eight to the Saturday's clash that stretched into Sunday morning, the governor's spokesman had said

The Mullah Rassoul Group Council in a statement said their rivals attacked them thrice in Shindand.

It said the Mullah Rassoul faction of Taliban had always defended Islam and the nation and would continue to do so. It would let no one trample on Afghans' freedom.

"After the demise of our supreme leader Mullah Mohammad Omar, some foreign serving people (in Taliban) did not hesitate from committing any kind of illicit and wrong actions for own interests and goals."

The Mullah Rassoul group alleged some individuals disguised as Taliban at orders from Iran attacked major dams in southwest such as Kajaki, Salma, and Kamal Khan dams and they did not allow the vitally important national projects to be completed.

The group said it was now targeted for preventing Iran's 'subversive' acts and vowed to defeat its rivals for the sake of the country's defense.

There has been so far no word from Taliban's Mullah Haibatullah faction in this regard. (Pajhwok)

(22) Afghanistan ...

360, talks on a series in Sharjah, which would also include the first Test, are already underway. The stadium general manager, Mazhar Khan, hinted the Test would be

He told the media outlet: "They are working on getting a date in February with Zimbabwe. This is what they are telling us and hopefully we will be hosting a Test match between Afghanistan and Zimbabwe."

Ireland would take on Afghanistan in three ODIs on December 5, 7 and 10, Khan said. "We are happy that another Test playing nation is going to play at our venue." (Pajhwok)