

Quote of the Day

Laws and institutions must go hand in hand with the general progress of the human mind.
Thomas Jefferson

Afghan Earthquake Rocks Asia, Over 150 Killed

KABUL - A strong earthquake in northern Afghanistan shook buildings from Kabul to Delhi, cut power and communications in some areas and caused more than 150 deaths, mainly in Afghanistan and Pakistan. Pakistani officials said that at least 147 people were killed and nearly 600 others wounded across the country, while Afghan officials said 33 people were killed and more than 200 wounded. The U.S. Geological Survey said the epicenter of the 7.5-magnitude earthquake was in the



Hindu Kush mountains, in the sparsely populated province of Badakhshan, which borders Pakistan, Tajikistan and China. It said the epicenter was 213 kilometers (130 miles) deep and 73 kilometers (45 miles) south of the provincial capital, Fayzabad. Afghan President Ashraf Ghani sent his condolences to families who had lost relatives and property, and appointed an "assessment committee" to ensure emergency relief reached the needy as soon as possible, his office said. In Takhar province, west ...*(More on P4)...(1)*

Abdullah Calls for Urgent Aid to Quake-Hit Areas



KABUL - Just hours after a powerful 7.5 magnitude earthquake hit Afghanistan on Monday afternoon, CEO Abdullah Abdullah held an emergency meeting and then addressed the nation on the situation. He also called on aid agencies and other organizations to help with urgent aid to those affected. Centered in the Hindu Kush mountains in Jurm district of ...*(More on P4)...(6)*

Gen. Murad Ali Murad Kunduz will not Fall to Militants Again



KABUL - Gen. Murad Ali Murad, the deputy chief of staff for the Afghan National Army (ANA), said on Sunday that the ongoing operation in Kunduz province is paying dividends and in addition to pushing back the Taliban to remote areas, troops have also retaken military hardware seized by insurgents in the past few weeks. Murad said: "We assure all the Kunduz ...*(More on P4)...(7)*

Atmar Expects China to Encourage Neighboring Countries for Actions Against Terrorism

KABUL - The National Security Advisor Muhammad Hanif Atmar said that China's role in security, improvement of economy and expanding business ties of Afghanistan has a high importance. Muhammad Hanif Atmar in a meeting with the newly appointed Chinese Ambassador to Kabul said that he expects China will use its influence in the ...*(More on P4)...(8)*

Berlin, Kabul Start Talks on Repatriation of Afghans: Merkel

BERLIN - German Chancellor Angela Merkel has said that she has started talks with the Afghan government on the repatriation of Afghan refugees from Germany. Media reports have stated in the past few days that Germany will expel refugees from Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan. Merkel who is a defenders of refugees' rights says all refugees including Afghans - with the exception of Syrian refugees - will be expelled



from Germany. "We have talked with Turkey to take primary steps as it is the main route for refugees to reach Europe. We have ...*(More on P4)...(2)*

Russia to Assess Afghan Weapons Wishlist

KABUL - Russia's Ambassador to Kabul has said that Moscow has received an official "defense wishlist" from Kabul for light and heavy weapons and that his country will assess the list. Military helicopters and artillery are included in the wish list submitted by Kabul to Moscow. The Afghan Defense Ministry says Afghanistan is in the first line of war and that all world countries should help this country.



"Afghanistan is in the first line of war against terrorism and this war is not Af-

ghanistan's war; it has been imposed on the country. All the neighboring countries and the world countries should help Afghanistan in this war," the Defense Ministry spokesman Dawlat Waziri told TOLONews. Meanwhile, analysts believe that Afghanistan needs military support from world countries in such a situation but they state that Kabul needs to get NATO member countries to agree on military ...*(More on P4)...(3)*

Iran-Afghanistan Talks Focused on Helmand Water Right

TEHRAN - Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif underlined that Iran-Afghanistan talks have always encompassed Helmand water right. Speaking during an open session in the Parliament on Monday, Dr. Zarif said Iranian Foreign Ministry urges efforts to

take into consideration Iran-Afghanistan water disputes over Helmand River, a main issue of contention between the two countries, especially in recent decades. "The issue has been frequently raised during multiple ...*(More on P4)...(4)*

Iran, Russia FMs Discuss Political Process in Syria: Moscow

TEHRAN - Iran and Russia have exchanged views about possible political solutions to the four-and-a-half-year crisis in Syria, says Moscow. In a telephone conversation on Monday, Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif and his Russian counterpart

Sergei Lavrov discussed the latest developments in Syria and the ongoing fight against terrorist groups in the crisis-hit country, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia reported. The top Iranian and Russian diplomats underlined ...*(More on P4)...(5)*

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