

Quote of the Day

Always bear in mind that your own resolution to succeed is more important than any one thing.
Abraham Lincoln

Afghan Peace a Shared Responsibility, Pakistan Tells US

ISLAMABAD - Long reviled for its links to militant outfits, the Pakistan Arm has said bringing peace and stability to Afghanistan is a shared responsibility of the international community.

A prestigious Pakistani newspaper quoted an unnamed military official as spurning America's allegations that Pakistan was not doing enough to deal with the threat from the Haqqani network.

Soon after US National Security Adviser Susan Rice wrapped up her visit to Islamabad, the security official told Dawn: "It is the responsibility of all sides and stakeholders to work toward peace in Afghanistan." Rice reportedly conveyed a list of measures that Pakistan should take to eliminate the threat posed by the Haqqani network and dismantle terror networks on its soil.

At a meeting with Army Chief Gen. Raheel Sharif, the American advisor raised ...*(More on P4)...*(3)

Poll Watchdogs Doubt Reforms' Implementation

KABUL - Election watchdogs on Monday welcomed the Electoral Reform Commission (ERC)'s suggestions about reforms in the electoral system, but called their implementation as difficult in the current circumstances.

Mohamad Naeem Ayoubzada, the Transparent Election Foundation of Afghanistan (TEFA) chief, told Pajhwok Afghan News they welcomed the ERC's suggestions, although incomplete and had their own flaws.

He said two suggestions about rearrangement of voter lists and distribution of computerised identity cards seemed not possible to be materialised in a short time.

The TEFA chief said if the government was not in a position to distribute the computerised identity cards then it should come with an alternate ...*(More on P4)...*(5)

Pakistan won't be Asked to Help Revive Peace Talks: CEO



KABUL - Chief Executive Office Dr. Abdullah Abdullah on Monday said Afghanistan would not ask for Pakistan's help for arranging the second round of talks with the Taliban.

The Afghan government and Taliban held their first face-to-face talks in Islamabad almost two months back. The second round was expected to take place on July 31, but cancelled due to

announcement of Mullah Mohammad's death.

The demise of Umar and a string of recent deadly attacks in capital Kabul forced the ...*(More on P4)...*(1)

HRW Wants Aid Donors to Stress Accountability



KABUL - A leading rights group on Monday urged Afghanistan's foreign donors to press the government to address the country's persistent human rights problems at a major international meeting of senior officials.

Human Rights Watch issued the call in letters to representatives of a dozen donor countries, who are

scheduled to gather in Kabul on September 5 for the Senior Officials Meeting to discuss humanitarian and security commitments to the country.

The meeting is a follow-up to the December 2014 London Conference and the 2012 Tokyo Conference.

Phelim Kine, deputy Asia director at Human Rights Watch, ...*(More on P4)...*(6)

HPC Labels Taliban 'War Cry' a Political Game



KABUL - A senior negotiator and member of the Afghan High Council Peace (HPC), Azizullah Din Mohammad, said Sunday that the Taliban is probably willing, although hesitant, to come to the peace talks tables but urged the U.S and China to put pressure on Islamabad to make this happen.

The remarks come only

weeks after the Taliban's new leader Mullah Akhter Mansour declared all-out war against the Afghan government forces and foreign troops - until a complete withdrawal of 'invader forces' from Afghanistan has taken place.

Referring to the so-called declaration of war by the Taliban, Din Mohammad said it ...*(More on P4)...*(7)

Concerns on the Rise over Stalled E-NIC Roll out



KABUL - While pressures mounts on the National Unity Government (NUG) to launch the pilot phase of the much-awaited electronic National Identity Card (e-NIC) rollout campaign, Homayoun Muhtat, head of the e-NIC of depart-

ment on Monday warned against further delays amid moves by international donors to suspend aid.

"Funding was suspended for the project on August 15 but [donors] will lift the suspension once the ...*(More on P4)...*(2)

Iran, UN Official Discuss Afghan Refugees' Situation, Concerns

TEHRAN - Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araqchi and Head of the Executive Committee of UN-HCR Pedro Comissario Afonso exchanged views over finding new avenues to pave the ground for the permanent return

of the Afghan refugees to their homeland.

"The principle policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the field of refugees is their voluntary return to their countries. We believe that Afghan refugees can prove efficient ...*(More on P4)...*(4)

ISI's Plots Foiled After Taliban Defeat in Kohistanat: Dostum

KABUL - The First Vice President Abdul Rashid Dostum - who has spent the past few weeks in Faryab, and more recently in Sar-e-Pul province - said on Monday that plots against Afghanistan in Sar-e-Pul by Pakistan's Inter-Services intelligence (ISI) have been foiled after the Taliban were defeated in Kohistanat district.



This comes after the military operation that

Dostum was leading managed to stamp out insurgents in the area and restore law-and-order.

He termed the retaking of Kohistanat as a big victory and CONGRATU ...*(More on P4)...*(8)

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