

**(1) We Recognize...**

The agreement was also shared with the Afghan officials but was not handed over to them as it was yet to be checked by the US president, Donald Trump who would probably make changes in it, he said.

Intra-Afghan talks would start soon after the US and Taliban agreement, he said, adding Norway had enough experience in peacemaking and the intra-Afghan talks would probably in Norway.

Khalilzad said Daesh and Al-Qaeda were enemies of the US and the Taliban and Afghan forces would fight against them so they would not threaten the US and its allies' security, he said.

In response to a question, he said the US would not engage in fighting against Daesh and Al-Qaeda but the Taliban would be fighting them.

About the Emirates of the Taliban, he said that the word Emirate was mentioned in the agreement but the US recognized them as Taliban.

"We recognize Islamic Republic of Afghanistan," he said.

About Afghan presidential election, he said that peace was priority of the US and the country had no stance about the election. (Pajhwok)

**(2) UN Envoy...**

Taliban assaults in Kunduz and in Baghlan resulted in grave harm to the civilian population. There were scores of civilian casualties.

The United Nations remains concerned about the harm caused to civilians by the impact of pro-government aerial and search operations, including the 31 August aerial operation in Faryab that resulted in the death of 12 civilians and injured five others, the majority women and children.

In the context of so much suffering, now is the time to seek unity and solidarity. I have spoken with a broad spectrum of Afghanistan's leaders, highlighting the importance of unity during this period leading to elections. Ensuring security in Kabul, and across the country, is an urgent priority, as this country continues to experience high numbers of civilian casualties.

As I have said repeatedly, the ultimate objective in Afghanistan must be a negotiated intra-Afghan settlement to the conflict. Meaningful steps must take place now to obtain an immediate and nationwide halt to violence. The United Nations stands ready to help.

I urge all members of the international community to continue to help put an end to this violence and support the progress made in building the foundations for a stable and lasting peace. I urge all parties, here in Afghanistan and abroad, to seize any opportunity for peace and come together in meaningful negotiations. (PR)

**(3) Around 1,000 ...**

The border gate would previously stay open for only 12 hours a day but the time was extended to full day after an agreement between Afghan and Pakistani officials. Besides cargo trucks, passengers can also move across the port day and night.

After the gate's 24 hours opening, local officials say people's commuting on the border has increased.

Nangarhar governor's spokesman, Attaullah Khogyani, told Pajhwok Afghan News that around 1,000 trucks passed the port in the last 24 hours.

"Since 6am Monday until 6am today morning, nearly 500 trucks entered Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province of Pakistan and 485 trucks entered from that side to Nangarhar province," he said. He said that the number of trucks passing the port would increase.

Drivers say previously they had to wait for days at the port to get their turn of passing the border but the port's full opening would help them move across the border without wasting time.

Anar Gul, a truck driver who entered Afghanistan side, said it was the first time he got his turn faster.

Ordinary people were also happy with the border 24 hours opening. Bilal, an Afghan who was traveling to Peshawar for medical treatment, said that people would not be allowed to cross the border to any side after 8pm in the past. (Pajhwok)

**(4) NATO Chief Meets ...**

Afghanistan on September 2 the Taliban has agreed "in principle" that any Afghan territory it controls in the future will not be used as a sanctuary for terrorists to launch attacks against the United States and its allies.

He also said that U.S. and Taliban negotiators had also agreed on the gradual "reduction and withdrawal" of Western forces from Afghanistan. Last week, U.S. President Donald Trump announced that Washington

would reduce its troop presence in Afghanistan by almost half, to 8,600, if the peace deal is finalized.

NATO ended its combat mission in Afghanistan in 2014, handing security responsibility over to the Afghans, but maintains around 17,000 troops on the ground to train, advise, and assist Afghan security forces.

Pompeo arrived in Brussels late on September 2 and held talks with European Commission President-elect Ursula von der Leyen.

He is also due to meet other EU leaders due to take over top roles in Brussels, including the EU's incoming foreign-policy chief Josep Borrell. (AFP)

**(5) Offensive Begins...**

He told Pajhwok Afghan News the clearing operations were launched today (Tuesday) morning in Qarghaio and Badpakht districts to improving security on the Kabul-Jalalabad highway.

He said led by the Afghan National Army (ANA), the offensive also involved personnel from public order police, national and Afghan Local Police (ALP).

Maj. Mohammad Haroon Yousufzai, spokesman for the Afghan army's 201 Selab Military Corps, told Pajhwok that the operations were carried out after complaints from drivers and passengers about insecurity on the highway.

Besides maintaining security on the Kabul-Jalalabad highway, the operations were aimed at facilitating the upcoming presidential election, he added.

Yousufzai said Zangoir, Mahajar Township, Surkhkakan, Naranj Bagh and Khirokhel villages of Qarghaio districts were cleared of militants' within the past 24 hours.

Meanwhile, Jan Mohammad, a passenger in Jalaabad City, the capital of Nangarhar province, welcomed the operations and urged the offensive's extension to Surobi district of Kabul province as well.

A number of other passengers held similar views and urged the government to keep continue the clearing operation in the areas. (Pajhwok)

**(6) Ex-Election ...**

Abdul Qadir Quraishi, Sayed Hafizullah and Maliha Hassan were also accused of adding or reducing parliamentary candidates votes.

The Attorney General's Office said that all the accused, except Wasima Badghisi, appeared at the hearing on Tuesday. Ahmad Shah Zamanzai, former head of the Election Commission's secretariat and Sayed Ibrahim Sadat, former head of the IT department were acquitted, the Attorney General's Office said in a statement. (Tolo news)

**(7) Deadly Taliban ...**

Like other compounds built to house the thousands of foreign contractors and agency staff who work in Kabul, Green Village is a fortified complex of concrete blast walls and steel gates protected by armed guards.

While such compounds have been attacked repeatedly over the years, the main victims are often Afghan civilians living in the surrounding area.

The timing of the attack, as Khalilzad's interview was still being broadcast, appeared to be deliberate, with Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid declaring the blast had destroyed rooms and offices and caused countless casualties among "invaders".

"Enemy claims of civilian losses are false as no civilians were allowed close to the site of the attack," he said in a tweet.

Khalilzad, a veteran Afghan-born diplomat who has been leading U.S. negotiations, said almost 5,000 U.S. troops would be pulled out and five bases closed in exchange for Taliban guarantees that Afghanistan would not be used as a base for militant attacks on the United States and its allies.

But the deal did not include a formal ceasefire and Monday's attacks, as well as major assaults on the northern cities of Kunduz and Pul-e Khumri, underlined doubts about whether it would lead to an end to violence.

On the other side, officials in the southern province of Helmand, one of the Taliban's main strongholds, said 15 insurgents, including the commander and deputy commander of a special operations unit, were killed by U.S. air strikes. (Reuters)

**(8) EU, US, NATO...**

condolences to victims and families, gratitude to Afghan security forces response," the envoy said in a statement. NATO's Senior Civilian Representative SCR, Nick Kay, also added his voice to the condemnation by Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg of recent violence, including last night's attack on Green Village in Kabul.

"Be assured that #NATO remains committed to supporting Afghan security forces so Afghans can achieve lasting peace."

Meanwhile, Pakistan strongly condemned the terrorist bomb attack at the foreigners' compound in Kabul that led to loss of several lives.

"We want to express our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families, as we pray for early recovery of the wounded," a statement by the Foreign Office read.

The Foreign Office said Pakistan maintained that there was no military solution to the complex issues in Afghanistan. (Pajhwok)

**(9) Ex-Mps...**

He said the assembly of ex-MPs will support any step take for peace and stability but the other sides should renounce violence because the people of Afghanistan rendered sacrifices daily in the ongoing conflict.

About Taliban recent attacks in Kunduz and Baghlan, he said weak management and offering huge importance to the Taliban help incidents of insecurity in the north.

He added the militants had increased violence recently in order to show their power and magnitude.

Mohammad Nazir Ahmadzai, former representative of Kuchi in Wolesi Jirga, said peace remained public priority because the nation was tired of the conflict.

He urged the government; Taliban, politicians and international community to end the 18-year-old conflict in the country and do not oppose peace.

Saleh Mohammad Saljoqi, former representative from Herat people, while referring to recent Taliban attack, said the Taliban could not legitimise their power at the negotiating table by escalating violence.

He called on Taliban and government to halt attacks and operations.

Other members of the assembly expressed similar views and stressed the need for peace instead of election. (Pajhwok)

**(10) France Pushes...**

credit lines that would give Iran some respite from sanctions that have crippled its economy and cut off its oil exports.

"The question is to know whether we can reach this \$15 billion level, secondly who will finance it, and thirdly we need to get at the very least the tacit approval of the United States. We still don't know what the U.S. position is," said a source aware of the negotiations. A senior Iranian official familiar with the negotiations said: "France has offered the credit line of \$15 billion but we are still discussing it. It should be guaranteed that we will have access to this amount freely and also Iran should be able to sell its oil and have access to its (own) money."

"President Macron is trying hard to resolve the issue and help to save the deal .. and we have overcome some issues and narrowed gaps but still there are remaining issues."

A second Iranian official said: "Although the EU and particularly France have goodwill, they should convince the U.S. to cooperate with them .. If not, Iran is very serious about decreasing its nuclear commitments. There is no logic to respect the (2015) deal, if it has no benefits for us."

A European diplomatic source confirmed the \$15 billion figure. (Reuters)

**(11) Russian Deputy...**

foreign ones in terms of popularity in China.

Practical cooperation is much wider, covering book publishing, the collaboration between news agencies, television channels, radio stations and leading newspapers, Chuychenko said. (Xinhua)

**(12) UK Parliament...**

demonstrate Johnson's "ruthlessness." Former Cabinet minister Justine Greening said she feared her beloved party was "morphing into Nigel Farage's Brexit Party." Former Treasury chief Philip Hammond warned of the "fight of a lifetime" if officials tried to prevent him from running in the next election. All three are opposing Johnson, with Hammond saying he expected a procedural vote to take control of business. If it passed, a vote to block a no-deal would be considered Wednesday.

"Many colleagues have been incensed by some of the actions over the past week or so, and I think there is a group of Conservatives who feel very strongly that now is the time to put the national interest ahead of any threats to us personally or to our careers," Hammond told the BBC. "I think there will be enough people for us to get this over the line today."

As Brexit faces crucial days, international investors are showing concern. The pound sterling fell as low as \$1.1960 on Tuesday, down about a cent on the day before, stabilizing around \$1.1990. That was its lowest level since a "flash crash" in October 2016, when uncertainty after the Brexit referendum was particularly high.

A no-deal Brexit is considered dangerous because it will sever decades of seamless trade with the single market of 500 million. But Johnson insists the potential for leaving without a deal must remain as a bargaining chip in negotiations with the EU.

Though the EU is Britain's biggest trading partner, a no-deal Brexit would also be disruptive to Europe — a fact not lost on Brussels. Johnson's supporters said lawmakers were weakening the government's negotiating position with the EU.

"The one thing that has helped focus minds in the EU is that we're leaving come what may and we've got a very focused task of what a good deal would look like," Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab told ITV. "But the lingering doubt they've got is: Will the shenanigans in Parliament somehow lead to the cancellation or the delay of Brexit?"

"That's encouraging them, and weakening our position to actually get the deal we all want."

The bloc is adamant it will not renegotiate the agreement struck with former Prime Minister Theresa May, which Johnson considers unacceptable.

Johnson has told French President Emmanuel Macron and German Chancellor Angela Merkel he could come up with a better alternative to the main sticking point in the stalled Brexit negotiations — the deadlock on the Irish border question.

But with the clock ticking, the EU said Tuesday it had received no proposals from the British government aimed at overcoming the impasse in Brexit talks.

European Commission spokeswoman Mina Andreeva said the EU's executive body, which supervises Brexit negotiations on behalf of Britain's 27 European partners, is operating on the "working assumption" that Britain will leave the bloc on Oct. 31. (AP)

**(13) Pence Aide...**

but his staff scrambled to reshuffle the schedule after Trump canceled his planned visit to Poland and asked Pence to take his place.

Short said advance teams and Secret Service had already done weeks of planning work to secure the site, so they decided to keep the Doonbeg plan in place and commute by plane into Dublin for meetings Tuesday, including coffee with Irish President Michael Higgins and lunch with Irish Taoiseach Leo Varadkar and his partner.

The vice president is personally covering all costs for his mother and sister, Short said. Trump, who owns hotels and golf clubs across the U.S. and in Europe, has come under intense criticism for frequenting properties he owns and profits from — giving them taxpayer-funded publicity and racking up millions of dollars in taxpayer costs. Democratic Rep. Ted Lieu of California accused Pence of "funneling taxpayer money to @POTUS by staying at this Trump resort," calling the move "soooooo corrupt."

"Your tax dollars: making the Trump family richer," the Democratic National Committee added by tweet. (AP)

**(14) Turkish Minister...**

and his government accuse the HDP of links to the PKK militant group that is designated a terrorist group by Turkey, the European Union and the United States. The HDP denies such links.

Speaking in the northeastern province of Bursa on Tuesday, Interior Minister Suleyman Soyulu said the dismissals of the three mayors, who were elected in late March, were in line with the law.

"Ignorant. Know your place and your limits," Soyulu said of Imamoglu. "This country has been handling this terrorist organization for 40 years... If you meddle in things that are not your job, we will devastate you."

The minister added: "This is very clear... While there are people who have suffered from terror for years, such a support for men who mourn at terrorist funerals will hurt our hearts and those of our people."

The comments come a week after Imamoglu's announcement that the Istanbul municipality canceled the transfer of more than 350 million lira (\$61 million) to some pro-AKP foundations, in one of his first moves against Erdogan since being elected.

Erdogan has previously said that his government would also replace mayors in other parts of the country if they were found to be linked to militants. But Imamoglu has dismissed those

comments as meaningless and saddening. (Reuters)

**(15) Singapore Hotels...**

traits," said Derek Tan, an analyst at Singapore's biggest bank DBS, citing businesses switching conference venues from Hong Kong.

The Global Wellness Summit, a gathering of around 600 health and beauty industry delegates scheduled for mid-October recently said it was moving to Singapore from Hong Kong. The event's spokeswoman said this was "to ensure travel is as seamless as possible."

Marcus Hanna, general manager of Singapore hotels, Fairmont Singapore and Swissotel The Stamford, said he had a 60-strong business group last month switch from Hong Kong for a five-night stay. Hanna said his hotels, which offer conference and meeting facilities, have received a number of inquiries from companies looking to move events out of Hong Kong amid the unrest.

Jefferies analyst Krishna Guha said events in Hong Kong would have been a factor in lifting Singapore's hospitality sector. Revenue per available room, a key performance metric for the hotel industry, rose to \$203.7 in July, its highest since October 2015, and from \$200.2 in July 2018.

He said the unrest would have weighed on tourists' summer travel plans, while other factors included tightening hotel supply in Singapore during its peak season for North Asian visitors and a weaker Singapore dollar.

In Hong Kong, the city's airport has suffered repeated disruptions due to demonstrations and hotel operators have reported lower occupancy rates and booking cancellations. Many countries such as Singapore have advised their citizens to defer non-essential travel to the former British colony. (Reuters)

**(16) Italian Parties...**

5-Star said in a blog on Tuesday, calling on its supporters to back the deal. Italian benchmark 10-year bond yields hit record lows on Tuesday in a sign that investors believed the new administration would take office, heading off the risk of an early election and prolonged political instability.

At the head of the 5-Star/PD policy list was a commitment to use the coming budget to help the stalled economy grow, but also a promise that they would not endanger public finances.

Italy has the second-largest debt burden in the European Union as a proportion of economic output, and the pact called for greater flexibility from Brussels to overcome the "excessive rigidity" of existing budget rules.

Emphasizing social justice, the two parties pledged to introduce a minimum salary, avoid a VAT hike set for January and boost spending on education, research and welfare. The program also called for a web tax on multinationals and the creation of a public bank to help boost development in the poorer south. (Reuters)

**(17) Tanzania Lawmakers ...**

where the ruling party enjoys a commanding majority with about 75 percent of all seats, analysts say.

"How could we be part of the oath while Lissu has been unfairly expelled from parliament? Everybody knows that he is currently still receiving medical treatment," opposition MP Esther Bulaya, who joined other CHADEMA lawmakers to boycott the brief swearing-in ceremony of the new ruling party member of parliament, told Reuters.

"It's very cruel ... this raises questions if authorities are really interested in having a multi-party democracy in place in our country," Bulaya said by phone from Tanzania's capital Dodoma where the national assembly meets. National assembly speaker Job Ndugai has defended the decision to remove Lissu from his seat, saying he breached parliamentary procedures.

Lissu has filed a case in Tanzania's commercial capital Dar es Salaam to challenge his expulsion. His lawyers lost a bid on Monday for a court injunction to block the swearing in of the ruling party MP who took his former seat, but the court is expected to rule next week over the legality of his expulsion.

Magufuli condemned Lissu's attempted assassination in 2017 and called for a swift investigation. No suspects have been arrested. Local media reported that Lissu vowed to return to Tanzania this week to resume his political activities. Some analysts see Lissu as a possible front-runner to become the main opposition presidential candidate in next year's general election to challenge Magufuli's bid for a second and final term in office. (Reuters)