

## Quote of the Day

Youth is happy because it has the capacity to see beauty. Anyone who keeps the ability to see beauty never grows old.  
Franz Kafka

# Afghanistan Doesn't want to be in Isolation: Ghani

KABUL - Afghanistan could connect regional countries through the Silk Road and build a joint future through its primitive sources, President Ghani said on Friday, the second day of the sixth Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan (RECCA-VI) summit in Kabul. Titled "The Silk Road Through Afghanistan", the summit was inaugurated on Thursday with delegates from more than 30 countries in the region and beyond and some 40 regional and international agencies including World Bank and the Asian Development Bank in attendance. Officials from the Presidential Palace, the Chief Executive's office and representatives also attended the two-



day summit that at the Foreign Ministry's building here. Speaking on the occasion, President Ghani said today's Silk Road was full of en-

trepreneurial and commercial innovation's potential and was one of the primitive points which could connect the regional states and still remained the only point to connect the countries including Afghanistan. He said the Silk Road was a sophisticated financial and dispute resolution system with nodal cities and once a major economic source for the people. Historians say the road was one of the important trade routes around 2500 years ago. The road connected Kabul with the north and from there it went to China and western Herat province. It was the only route used for import and export of edibles and decoration products from India to China. Afghanistan ... (More on P4)...(1)

## Afghanistan Ready to Sign MoUs with SAARC: Ghani



KABUL - President Ashraf Ghani on Thursday said Afghanistan was ready to sign memoranda of understanding with the South Asia Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) on energy, disaster management, organised crimes and drug smuggling. The president expressed these views at a meeting with SAARC Secretary General Arjun Bahadur Thapa, who called on him at the Presidential Palace here. The two leaders discussed regional projects connecting Central Asia with South Asia through Afghanistan. They also conferred on Afghanistan's role and geographic location in the SAARC. The president assured the secretary general of Afghanistan's complete ... (More on P4)...(2)

## Electoral Reform Suggestions Hard to Implement: IEC

KABUL - The Independent Election Commission (IEC) on Saturday termed the work of Election Reform Commission (ERC) unprofessional, saying its flawed suggestions were hard to implement. Revamping the system was not possible in the current situation of crisis, the commission said, warning enforcement of the proposals would give birth to more problems that might put a negative im-

pact on coming polls. A statement from IEC questioned calls for giving 100 seats to political parties in current circumstances. It said political parties needed more time to mature before being made part of the system. The election body also showed reservations about the introduction of a new system, saying the people of Afghanistan were not familiar with ... (More on P4)...(3)

## Russia Pledges Major Investment in Afghanistan

KABUL - Russia has pledged to expand Moscow's economic projects in Afghanistan by investing in housing construction sector in the country. The commitment was made during a meeting between Russia's deputy minister for energy Yury Sentyurin and Afghanistan's minister of urban development affairs Syed Sadat Mansoor Naderi. Sentyurin further added that Russia will invest in housing construction projects in Afghanistan by exporting latest Russian technologies and facilities to build affordable ... (More on P4)...(4)

## EU Asks Kabul to Move from Words to Deeds on Reforms

KABUL - The European Union (EU) has urged the Afghan government to move from words to deeds to show the Afghan people it was serious about implementing reforms. At the Senior Officials' Meeting in Kabul, the international community reiterated its support towards the Afghan people, a statement from the EU mission in Kabul said. It said the meeting com-



mended the Afghan government and the international community's efforts to refresh the Tokyo Mutual Accountability Framework -- a mutual agreement for cooperation between the government of Afghanistan and the international community. After ... (More on P4)...(5)

## Abdullah Satisfied with SOM Outcomes

KABUL - Abdullah Abdullah, the Chief Executive Officer of the National Unity Government (NUG), on Saturday evening announced that the Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) was a success and that international donor delegates had recognized Afghanistan's achievements. He said the conference delegates also assessed the responsibilities and priorities of the government adding that Afghanistan was committed to keeping its promises made to its international partners and to the people of Afghanistan. Highlighting a number of ... (More on P4)...(6)



## Iran Offers to Train Afghan Police

*Iranian Interior Minister Abdolreza Rahmani Fazli said his country is ready to transfer its experiences to Afghanistan's police force.* TEHRAN - "Iran's police force is ready to share training and security experiences with their counterparts in Afghanistan," Rahmani Fazli said in a meeting with his Afghan counterpart Nur ul-Haq Ulumi in Kabul on Saturday. He also called for more serious cooperation between ... (More on P4)...(7)

## Work on Connectivity Projects in Full Swing: Pakistan

KABUL - Pakistan on Friday stoutly supported President Ashraf Ghani's vision for a developed, prosperous and regionally integrated Afghanistan, as well as plans for regional connectivity. Addressing the 6th edition of the Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan in Kabul, Pakistan's national security advisor said his country was working on a number of cross-border and trans-regional connectivity projects. ... (More on P4)...(8)

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