

Quote of the Day

Your depression is connected to your insolence and refusal to praise.
Rumi

CEO Warns Against Ethnic-Oriented Politics

KABUL - Afghan Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Abdullah Abdullah Tuesday warned that politics in the country based on ethnicity would have serious repercussions for the nation. Speaking at a gathering marking the 15th assassination anniversary of former Jihadi commander Ahmad Shah Massoud, the CEO underlined Masoud's political vision and said Masoud had been opposed to making deals and had worked with people regardless of their ethnicity. The gathering was held at the Loya



Jirga tent in Kabul where a number of dignitaries denounced what they deemed was a monopolization of the nation's martyrs to a certain ethnicity group. In the wake of the recent rift between President Ashraf Ghani and his CEO Abdullah Abdullah, participants at the gathering also focused on the role of the Afghan Mujahedeen in national politics. They said gains made by the present government were as a result of the historic endeavors of the Mujahedeen factions. Abdullah said that the move towards ethnic-oriented politics ...*(More on P4)...(1)*

Afghanistan Exporting \$200m Beverages: President

KABUL - Afghanistan's economy is gradually picking up as the war-battered country exports beverages worth \$200 million annually, the president says. The statement came at a meeting that Ashraf Ghani chaired on human resource development and promotion of informal technical education at his office. A statement from the Presidential Palace quoted him as saying the government ...*(More on P4)...(6)*

US to Deploy 1,400 Airborne Troops to Afghanistan

KABUL - The U.S Army has announced plans to send an additional 1,400 troops to Afghanistan later this year to support Operation Freedom's Sentinel, according to reports. The soldiers from the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) in Fort Campbell, Kentucky, will be deployed to Afghanistan. Rakkasans from the 3rd ...*(More on P4)...(7)*

Watchdog Skeptical of NUG's Children's Rights Policy

KABUL - The Independent Human Rights Commission of Afghanistan (AIHRC) on Friday raised concerns over government's failure to improve the lives of Afghan children. Despite the government's commitment to finalizing a law aimed to revitalize the living standards of children, no practical measures have been put in place as the draft law is still pending at the justice ministry, the AIHRC ...*(More on P4)...(8)*

Afghanistan-Iran Railway Construction Kicks off

HERAT - The construction of a railway line between Afghanistan and Iran officially kicked off near the western Herat province of Afghanistan on Wednesday. According to the local officials, the construction work of the railway line in Afghanistan launched as 90 percent of the railway work inside the Iranian soil has been completed. The railway line will be established from Iran to Ghoryan district and will further go towards Zindjan district ...*(More on P4)...(9)*

Danish Reiterates NUG's Reform Agenda

KABUL - President Ashraf Ghani's Second Vice President Mohammad Sarwar Danish Thursday reiterated the government's commitment to implementing systematic reform in the election law. He said that the neces-

sary arrangements had been completed to finalize the rollout of electronic national identity cards and conducting the elections. "Electoral reform process and preparations for holding the elections and rolling out the electronic

identity cards have started," said Danish. Danish's remarks on electoral reforms come amid renewed hope among the nation but amid reservations by the Chief Executive Abdullah Abdullah over the reform agenda. ...*(More on P4)...(2)*

Dostum Assures Ghani of Cooperation on Security Issue

KABUL - President Ashraf Ghani on Thursday won a strong assurance of cooperation on different issues from his Vice-President Gen. Abdul Rashid Dostum. Dostum held out the cooperation promise during a meeting with

Ghani at the Presidential Palace in Kabul in the evening. The security situation in the country came up for discussion. The Uzbek warlord briefed the president on the overall security environment and growing public support to the se-

curity forces, a statement from the Presidential Palace said. He vowed to continue working for further strengthening the security organs, the statement said, adding Ghani welcomed the pledge from ...*(More on P4)...(3)*

EU Calls on NUG Leaders to Unite

KABUL - Stefano Manservigi, Director General for International Cooperation and Development of the European Union, has called on the National Unity Government's (NUG) leaders to be united during the cur-

rent situation. Manservigi said in an interview with TOLONews on Friday that he is optimistic about the achievements of the NUG in development and in its fight against corruption but insists that Brussels Sum-

mit will pave the way for Afghanistan to receive more financial aids. The NUG leaders are currently working on government's reports that will be presented to delegates at the summit next ...*(More on P4)...(5)*

Study Finds August Most Insecure Month in Two Years

KABUL - A study by TOLONews found that in the month of August security incidents increased by more than 30 percent against last

month - with an incident toll at over 1,300 around the country. The study found that over the past two years, August was the bloodi-

est month - at least four districts fell to the Taliban of which two districts are still under the control of the insurgents. Mean ...*(More on P4)...(4)*



Funding opportunity for civil society organisations under the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights

The European Union has launched a call for proposals under the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) globally.

The overall amount made available under this call for proposals is **EUR 31,034,000**

These funds will support activities addressing the following specific objectives:

The **global objective of this call for proposals** is to support civil society in its actions to support the protection and the promotion

of human rights and fundamental freedoms worldwide.

The **specific objectives of this call for proposals** are to support civil society and human rights defenders working outside the EU in five key areas of human rights corresponding to the five recurring lots of 2014-2017 EIDHR global calls for proposals:

- Lot 1: support to women Human Rights Defenders and/or Human Rights Defenders working for women's and girls' rights where they are the most at risk
- Lot 2: support to civil society actions fighting against torture

and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

- Lot 3: support to the implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights
- Lot 4: support to the rights of persons belonging to minorities and persons affected by caste-based discriminations
- Lot 5: support to addressing impunity and to transitional justice

The full guidelines for applicants are available for consultation on the following website:

<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome&PubliList=15&orderby=upd&orderbyad=Desc&searchtype=RS&aofr=152550>

**Apply latest
14 October 2016**

The deadline for submission of concept notes is **14 October 2016 at 16:00 hrs. Brussels time.**



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