

(1) ERC....

and called for urgent measures to provide legal cover to the proposals. Following month-long discussions with different segments of society, the reform panel submitted its first set of suggestions last week to the president.

In his decree, Ghani praised the performance of the panel and approved its suggestions for short-term reforms.

A member of the panel, wishing to go unnamed, told Pajhwok Afghan News the three suggestions (first, second and eighth) that the president did not include in his decree were related to changes to the system, making some constituencies smaller and formation of a transparency panel.

He added the president had directed the reform panel to present the technical and practical details of these suggestions to the government during the remaining four and a half months term of the Wolesi Jirga. After the Wolesi Jirga's recess, he believed, the president could issue another decree. (Pajhwok)

(2) Govt. Indifferent ...

in quick succession. Muslimyar said it had been six months the people in Nangarhar were getting killed but nobody was paying any heed to them.

He said the people in eastern province had surrendered their weapons to the government 10 years back and now it was government's responsibility to ensure their security.

Last week, elders and lawmakers from eastern provinces at a gathering in Kabul urged the government to launch clearing operations or people would rise in arms against them.

The Senate chairman said the eastern people were in favour of peace but currently they needed security, for which they had no choice but to take some steps.

He said if the government provided one-third of the facilities Gen. Dostum enjoyed in the north, people in the east would easily vanquish Taliban and Daesh fighters.

He alleged the government's indifference towards the east's security was because no one from these provinces held a top position in the regime. (Pajhwok)

(3) NPC Endorses...

were postponed for further evaluation.

The meeting also discussed facilities for investors and modernization of customs departments, said the statement. The president urged Finance Ministry officials to exercise utmost care in this regard.

Second Vice-president Mohammad Sarwar Danish, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Abdullah Abdullah and ministers of finance, justice and economy were also in attendance. (Pajhwok)

(4) Days of...

Nawi Deh villages from where hundreds of families had fled, he said.

The district headquarters has been surrounded by Taliban and could fall to them if no immediate action was taken, a resident of Khost village, Ihsamuddin Pashtun, said.

However, the governor's spokesman, Jawad Afghan, said Afghan commandos reached the district on Saturday to drive militants from the areas. (Pajhwok)

(5) Afghanistan,...

"Afghanistan wants to improved ties with Iran and the proposed committees will monitor cooperation in various sectors," the NSC statement quoted Atmar as saying.

At the meeting, the Iranian envoy said his country valued its relations with Afghanistan based on certain principles of brotherhood. (Pajhwok)

(6) Delay in Get 10 years, he believed. Flynn said Pakistan had been against the presence of American forces in its tribal areas because Islamabad believed their presence would create problems for the country.

He said the Americans should have conducted joint operations with the Pakistanis focused on right targets and should have told the Pakistanis that these raids were not against any Pakistani but against the Arabs and other foreign militants who had misused Pakistan's concessions.

Lt. Gen (r) Michael Flynn said it was a wrong idea that the Americans entered Afghanistan but left untouched terrorist safe havens in Pakistan. "We should have put pressure on Pakistan for this. But

we made unwise decisions to go to Afghanistan and Iraq and the decisions were a result of a wrong foreign policy."

He said whatsoever Pakistan was saying today, it would see in the mirror that it had given refuge to terrorists and the history would also say Pakistan could have done much in the war against terrorism what it had done.

The former intelligence chief said he had worked with the Pakistani military and he considered the Pakistan army extremely brave and had many sacrifices in the war against terrorism, but there were many shortcomings in the war's political aspect.

He said military use in insurgencies had only one aspect and was a minor element in complex wars like terrorism. "We have to think even now how to fight this war."

Flynn said the international war against terrorism had given birth to a complex situation the world had never seen in the past 75 years. "Now our target is an ideology. I know the element of extremism exists in the world's religious and political systems. I think one of the political challenges all the Muslim states face today is how to throw away the unbelievable level of extremism." He said there was a rare example in the history of wars of the use of technology by terrorists in today's world. (Pajhwok)

(7) Protests over ...

thousands of people in eastern Kunar province took to the streets, calling for the addition of "Afghan and Islam" in the new ID cards.

Led by members of the provincial council, the protest gathering was attended by tribal elders, religious scholars, youth and civil society activists.

The demonstration began at 8am in the morning and continued until 11am. One of the organizers, Senator Rafiullah Haideri, told Pajhwok Afghan News the people of Kunar wanted the government to enforce the Article Second and Fourth of the Constitution across the country. (Pajhwok)

(8) Kandaharis ...

Communications and Information Technology spokesman Nusrat Rahimi had said the president wanted to settle the unsettled issues linked to the new ID cards before launching the process.

Earlier, the CEO's office had said the distribution of computerised national identity cards would begin in two weeks.

The cards issuance was earlier scheduled to begin before last year's presidential election, but it had to be delayed for some reasons.

The distribution drive is a joint venture of the ministries of interior and telecommunications and information technology. A contract for the project was signed five years ago. (Pajhwok)

(9) Refugee Minister ...

This comes as TOLONews' Parwiz Shamal, who is covering the refugee situation from Munich in Germany, said the migrants risk their lives and travel for months without decent food or shelter to reach their destination.

According to Munich police, 63,000 refugees have arrived in the city since August 1. These are mostly Syrians but there are also Iraqis and Afghans among them. According to them, about 1,000 arrive every day in Munich - the first stop en route from the eastern parts of Europe. (Tolnews)

(10) 15 Afghan ...

officers to "remember the troops you will command are the finest in the world and you must treat them decently and with respect".

Later, he presented the "Sword of Honour" for Best All Round Gentlemen/Lady Cadet to Senior Under Officer Pragun Bali and the "Gold medal" for standing first in the Order of Merit to Battalion cadet Adjutant Vishwaraj Singh. (KP)

(11) Deaf People ...

representation in parliament to defend our rights." "We would act against laws if the government does not respond to our demands."

Mohammad Younis Karimi, a protester, told Pajhwok Afghan News he had been jobless and unable to find work for himself.

On Saturday, dozens of youth staged a protest demonstration against what they said growing unemployment which they termed the main reason behind insecurity, capital flight and migration.

Criticising government's policies in this regard, the protestors who had gathered in front of the parliament house in Darul Aman area of capital Kabul demanded the government address the issue.

According to the National Workers Union (NWU) as many as 16 million people in the country were eligible to work out of which three million had jobs and the remaining were jobless. (Pajhwok)

(12) Security Threats...

thwart many threats due to the rising morale of Afghan SECURITY forces and professional management of the war against the insurgents.

TOLONews survey also illustrates that the month of August saw civilian casualties decrease and casualties amongst Taliban increase. 1089 terror and anti-terror events were recorded during August with 13 percent of the events similar to the events that were recorded during July. ANSF extended their military campaigns during August and launched 666 military operations which show a 26 percent increase compared to the previous month.

"The opponents were seeking to have some gains in various regions of the country. We also faced some challenges this year and utilized the available sources against the enemy and the terrorists," Sediq Sediqqi, spokesman for Ministry of Interior said on Saturday.

ANSF posed serious damage to the armed opponents during August, 3482 rebels were killed including 48 local commanders and 1940 others were wounded.

ANSF also suffered in August. 396 security personnel were killed during this month and 137 soldiers wounded which shows a 29 percent increase compared to July.

"Rising morale among the security forces and better management of war during August led to the expansion of military operations and the gains made by the ANSF. But the important point is how to secure these gains," TOLONews researcher Abbas Hussaini said.

Faryab remained the most vulnerable province in August in terms of security. 101 terror events were recorded in the province during August while this figure was around 91 events in July.

Besides Faryab, provinces of Helmand, Nangarhar, Uruzgan and Ghazni were also the most insecure. Civilian casualties dropped in August compared to July, 196 civilians were killed during August and 653 others were wounded, this shows a 16 percent decrease compared to July.

August remained a dark month for residents of capital Kabul as the city witnessed three deadly suicide attacks and a major explosion.

"The basic issue is that we have retaliatory operations, but we do not have targeted plans and a joint strategy with the NDS personnel and local governments in order to reach our targeted objectives," military analyst Jawed Kohistani said.

Based on TOLONews survey, statistics of abductions were also high in August, at least 75 people constituting civilians, military personnel and foreign nationals were abducted by the armed opponents and unknown gun men which show 32 percent increase compared to July.

THE SURVEY found that the National Directorate of Security had major achievements during August and arrested 356 insurgents including a number of Taliban shadow governors and masterminds of suicide attacks said to have plotted deadly attacks on Kabul. (Tolnews)

(13) Dozens of ...

the insurgents attacked a military base in Chenargai village in Bak district of the province.

The local officials said that the insurgents crossed the border from Pakistan and attacked the base.

In western Farah, at least 19 insurgents were killed and 27 other insurgents were injured in clashes with security forces in the Khak-e-Safid district of the province, Daoud Rahmani, a spokesman for the military forces in the province said. He said that the security forces have however secured the district after the Taliban had surrounded it for two days.

Rahmani said the operation still continues but that two soldiers have been injured.

However, the Taliban have not yet commented about the operations. (Tolnews)

(14) Traders Give ...

and Industries (ACCI) deputy head, told a press conference Wahdatullah, son of Haji Mohammad Asif, chairman of food traders' union, was abducted by five people in NDS uniforms from district.

The kidnappers, posing as intelligence agents, said they wanted to take the boy for questionings to the 97th department of NDS. He said some of the people who tried to rescue Wahdatullah were beaten. The traders fixed a 48 hours deadline for the government to find and release the boy, otherwise they would close their shops and will stop importing food items, the ACCI official said.

"We realise the problems of our people, to whom we apologise for this decision because we have no other option. We have to make the government realise its duty and ensure our security or find food for the citizens," he remarked.

By using government facilities, weapons and vehicles, some elements have been kidnapping traders and loot their assets, he added. The people should know why the government did not prevent such activities, he continued.

"An NDS official told me yesterday that a person has been arrested on the charge of kidnapping a trader, but he was freed by a member of parliament after an hour," he said, adding the businessmen were not threatening by the Taliban. Their enemies were within the government, Alokozai alleged.

Over the past two months, 38 traders were kidnapped and one of them was killed.

The food traders' union head in north, Humayoon Khwaja and deputy chairman of ACCI in the southern zone, Younus Momand, also voiced their support for the decision, They promised they would continue their protest if the boy was not release.

Mohammad Asif, the captive's father, said he did not know why his boy had been kidnapped. He asked the president and the CEO to find his son whether he was with the NDS or somewhere else.

He urged the government to pay due attention to the safety of traders and avoid forcing them to leave the country.

A day earlier, nearly 100 traders gathered in the Bagh-i-Qazi area of Kabul and closed their shops in protest.

Wahdatullah was kidnapped by five men in NDS uniforms on Saturday from Bagرامي district, businessman Attaullah Rahman told Pajhwok Afghan News.

The kidnappers beat his brother then abducted him from the area when the police checkpoint was also available, he said adding the security personnel have so far taken any action against the abductors.

In a resolution, the traders set a 48 hours deadline for the security personnel to secure the release of Wahdatullah; otherwise they would close their shops in Kabul. They also asked the security personnel to take necessary steps to ensure safety for traders.

Similarly, dozens of people on Saturday protested against the abduction and closed a road to the city from 3:30pm to 8pm. A search for Wahdatullah has been mounted, the police headquarters and NDS said. (Pajhwok)

(15) Afghans Recount ...

that their needs were being prioritized while the Afghans weren't.

Speaking to TOLONews' Parwiz Shamal, who is covering the story from Munich in Germany, scores of Afghan migrants said they had risked their lives and traveled for months without decent food or shelter to their destination.

According to Munich police, 63,000 refugees have arrived in the city since August 1. These are mostly Syrians but there are also Iraqis and Afghans among them. According to them, about 1,000 arrive every day in Munich - the first stop en route from the eastern parts of Europe.

One Afghan refugee told Shamal: "My three friends who were coming by boat [from Greece] disappeared in the dark of night." He said he contacted the Greek police but after three days has heard nothing.

The Munich train station recently saw about 30,000 refugees gathered there but, reports Shamal, police cleared them and moved them to camps after asylum applications had been submitted.

Another refugee told TOLONews that the journey to Europe had been treacherous.

She said: "We had a dangerous journey. We almost drowned at sea."

Meanwhile, on Saturday night a large group of German nationals gathered at the station to welcome the incoming migrants. Handing out food and clothing many clapped and shouted out words of encouragement.

"My opinion is positive as I think we have to help the people who have big problems in their countries," one German woman said at the station.

But not all locals shared the same sentiment. One German woman made it clear that she was not happy with the arrival of Afghan refugees.

"I don't like Afghans because my experience with the Afghans is very very bad," she said, adding that a number of Afghans living in the UK, who she knew, had after 15 years not yet integrated into society nor learned to speak English.

But one sector that is happy to have the refugees is the industrial one. With an ageing population and a very low birthrate, concerns have been raised over labour shortages.

German media reports state that the influx of refugees is considered a potential boon for the industrial sector as it could help ease the labor shortage issue.

One of the main reasons for Afghans fleeing their country is that of unemployment, along with SECURITY. But in order to leave the country, migrants are forced to spend thousands of dollars and risk their lives and that of their families to travel overland across Turkey before boarding mostly overcrowded dinghies in Turkey for Greece. Most of them have until now eyed Germany as their final destination. (Tolnews)

(16) School Building, ...

several problems.

Ahmad Zubair, one of the school students, said: "Fifty students used to sit in one small room, with the congestion problem badly affecting our ability to learn." He added the new school building offered an enabling environment.

The department says 90,000 students, including 35,000 girls, are enrolled in 160 schools across Nimroz, where 40 percent of schools still lack proper buildings.

Meanwhile, a conference hall worth of three million afghanis for the customs department was also inaugurated.

Custom Director Mohammad Wais Sultani said the hall, 18 metres long and six metres wide, was funded by the Ministry of Finance and support from national traders.

One of traders, Mohammad Daud, said there was no proper place for conferences and foreign guests. Therefore, they coordinated with the department on constructing the hall. (Pajhwok)

(17) Roshan ...

traditional distinctions between commercial success and social contribution. For Roshan, Afghanistan's development is more than just connected to our profit - it is inseparable."

Roshan is Afghanistan's leading telecoms provider with over 6.5 million subscribers and a network that covers 287 districts and cities across all 34 provinces.

However, ensuring service to its client base has not always been that easy. During the 2009 elections in Afghanistan, Taliban insurgents trained their weapons on cellphone towers belonging to Roshan.

Eighteen towers worth 14\$ million USD were bombed. But Roshan refused to accept defeat and pay the extortion money that would have protected them from such acts.

As Fortune Magazine states: "Perhaps no other company on this list operates under such stress, and yet Roshan has become a foundational cornerstone for a new, developing Afghanistan."

The company was founded by the Aga Khan Development Network in 2003 and established a communications system in the company.

Despite their continued efforts to maintain a consistent service in the war-torn country, the company has also plowed more than 600\$ million USD back into the country's infrastructure, with telemedicine projects, schools, and soup kitchens as part of their community services policy.

Fortune Magazine also singled Roshan out for operating as an ethical and responsible enterprise, despite the challenges faced in conducting business in Afghanistan.

(Tolnews)

(18) 325kg of...

fickers were also equipped with weapons, he said. The pick-up, the detainees and the drugs were shown to reporters.

It is the first time such an amount of narcotics has been seized from a military vehicle in Nangarhar. (Pajhwok)

(19) UAE Vows...

library, teachers' capacity development, classrooms and other facilities need immediate attention," the governor explained, hoping the UAE would provide the requisite support. (Pajhwok)

(20) Graveling of...

Dara, but they have no paved road, according to tribal elder Maulvi Abdul Ghaffar. He said sometimes they lost sick people on the way when they wanted to transfer them to hospital -- about a day-long foot journey.

During the launching ceremony, Governor Wahidullah Kalimzai urged the area people to help in implementation of the project. For the first time, the road would be gravelled and paved next year, he concluded. (Pajhwok)

(21) Taliban ...

Nangarhar province. On September 2, a bomb exploded on a convoy of vehicles belonging to the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) in the outskirts of the capital city Jalalabad which did not have casualties but partially damaged the vehicle. (Agencies)

(22) NATO Vows...

adaptation and long term measures to long security environment. The NATO meeting focused on the implementation and progress of the readiness action plan, regional security and its challenges, NATO's current mission in Afghanistan, Resolute Support, and the Western Balkans.

The meeting came at a time when tension between NATO and Russia over the Ukrainian crisis is mounting with an alliance decision to increase its deterrence in the Black Sea, Baltic Sea and Eastern Europe. (Xinhua)

(23) Iran Slams

failed due to the lack of cooperation on the part of Saudi Arabia and the questionable silence of some Arab and Western countries.

In a bid to undermine the Houthi Ansarullah movement and bring back to power Riyadh's staunch ally and fugitive former Yemeni president, Abd Rabbuh Mansour Hadi, Saudi Arabia started its military aggression against its southern neighbor on March 26 without a UN mandate.

According to the UN, the conflict has so far left about 4,500 people dead and thousands of others wounded. Local Yemeni sources, however, say the fatality figure is much higher. (PressTV)

(24) Refugee ...

, tens of thousands have arrived in the last week alone, many making the arduous and dangerous journey from the Middle East through Turkey, across the Aegean to Greece and then by land through the Balkans, Hungary and Austria.

She took the lead, her advisers say, to avoid an imminent humanitarian disaster, and German society seems ready to back her for the moment.

A poll earlier this month showed 33 percent of respondents wanted fewer refugees. But collectively they were well outnumbered by the 37 percent in favor of Germany continuing to take a similar number in the future and the 22 percent who believed their country should accept more.

For some, it is hard to reconcile Merkel's generous approach to the refugees with her hard line on bailing out Greece, where she has sometimes seemed to bow to public opinion and put German interests above all else. (Reuters)

(25) Iran Pins...

sues are concerned. For his part, Vieira said Brazil seeks closer and stronger ties with Iran, and eyes the two countries' complementary roles in the economic cooperation, according to IRNA.

Brazil attaches significance to Iran's part in the creation of stability in the regional and international arena, he said.

Vieira arrived in Tehran on Saturday for talks with senior Iranian officials on international issues as well as expansion of mutual ties in diverse areas. (Xinhua)