

(1) 355 Inmates...

to the statement from the Interior Ministry, a suicide bomber blew himself up next to the gate of Ghazni prison at 02:00 a.m. local time Monday, enabling others to clash with warders of the jail during which scores of detainees had escaped availing opportunity.

Interior Ministry has also confirmed that four attackers and four police personnel were killed and seven more police sustained injuries during the firefight.

"Out of the 355 escapees inmates, 207 had been held for involvement in criminal activities and 148 for involvement in terroristic activities," the statement of Interior Ministry asserted.

According to the statement, 81 detainees had been left in the jail and operations to recapture the escapees have led to the re-arresting of three criminals; while operations continue to recapture the remaining escapees. Meanwhile, Zabihullah Mujahid who claims to speak for the Taliban outfit, in a statement sent to media outlets, claimed that the Taliban militants after attacking the jail in Ghazni city Monday morning had set free all 450 inmates including Taliban loyalists and others languished there.

He also confirmed the death of three militants during the operations, but insisted that more than 40 security personnel had been killed and injured during the attack on jail, a claim rebuffed by deputy governor of Ghazni province Mohammad Ali Ahmadi as baseless. (Xinhua)

(2) Karzai Had ...

written order.

Gen. Ahmadi further added that the main motive behind Karzai's decision to prevent the operation while he was serving as the President of the country has not been ascertained so far.

Neither the former president nor the officials close to him have commented regarding the report so far. According to Gen. Ahmadi, at least 27 Taliban militants were killed and 33 others were injured after the security forces launched an operation on the training center by receiving orders from the security council recently.

He said caches of weapons, ammunition and trucks loaded with explosives were confiscated during the operation besides the security forces discovered documents from the compound. (KP)

(3) Gen Campbell,...

According to ISPR, matters of mutual interest and regional security with particular emphasis on coordination along Pak-Afghan border were discussed.

Among other issues, reconciliation process in Afghanistan was also discussed during the meeting. (Agencies)

(4) India Grants ...

has already been disbursed to ARCS and additional disbursement would be made over the next four years.

The signing ceremony at the ARCS premises was attended by Fatima Gailani, President of the ARCS, Naim Dindar, Secretary General, ARCS, Mrs. Amena Afzali, former Minister of Labour and Social Affairs and Dr. Salim Bahramand, Health Programme Director, ARCS, besides a large number of children and their parents who are awaiting treatment including surgeries. While interacting with the patients after the event, the Ambassador of India, Amar Sinha expressed his satisfaction at being associated with such a noble task undertaken by the ARCS. (PR)

(5) CEO Dispers...

people's trust is a priority for the NUG. He said: "Regaining of the people's trust is not only the work of two leaders but is the responsibility of all officials to work honestly for the people to improve their morale." "All responsible officials have duties to improve the people's lives and move forward with their effective programs," Abdullah said.

"We have passed tough days and people face massive problems." Meanwhile, the speaker of the Wolesi Jirga [Lower House of Parliament] said that if the leaders cannot improve the situation in the country they should raise the issue with other legal entities.

"Today the situation is unbearable for many people. About ten months have passed since the creation of the NUG but yet nothing is done to respond to the people's demands," he

said adding that if the leaders aren't able to resolve issues they must turn to legal institutions for assistance and "not hold the nation hostage".

But Abdullah said that Afghanistan has gone through a tough time but that the NUG leaders are committed to improving the situation and that hopefully soon the nation's difficulties will end.

On a serious note, Abdullah called on people to stay in Afghanistan and not join the thousands of migrants fleeing the country.

"The youth have studied and their families have developed them ... now some of them are leaving the country. Escaping is not the way out and the new generation should have self-confidence and we must also show that we are standing by our commitments to improve the situation," he said.

Monday's comments comes on the heels of many promises made by the NUG leaders that they will bring positive changes to the lives of people but, say analysts, the increase in insecurity, serious economic problems and high unemployment rates have resulted in the public losing faith in the government. (Tolnews)

(6) Stop Nepotism...

basis of personnel connections.

"Be careful the unity government officials when people can bring into power a government, they can also reject it. If the administrative corruption is not prevented in ministries and government agencies, the nation will not remain silent," he said.

Educated and experienced individuals were sacked including 133 employees of the Afghanistan Investment Support Agency (AISA) by the agency new head, Mohammad Qurban Hajjo, another lawmaker from Laghman province, Haji Sahib Khan, said. He said those fired possessed master's degrees

"It is shocking, the youths are going to foreign countries due to joblessness while many of the youths who are not relatives of ministers are terminated from their jobs," he said. During Sunday's session of the Meshrano Jirga or upper house of parliament, Senator Nisar Haris said Counternarcotics Minister Salam Azimi had appointed her son as her advisor.

However, the ministry's spokesman denied his claim as baseless. He said the newly-appointed advisor to the minister was Mohammad Fahim, who had master's degree and had no relation with Azimi. (Pajhwok)

(7) Modern Credit ...

Credit Registry (PCR) systems, which became fully operational in 2014 and are now used by all commercial banks.

Bank officials in Afghanistan say with the establishment of these systems they have taken a step ahead of most of their neighbouring countries.

DAB's deputy governor Essa Khan Turab, who signed the 13 contracts, told a press conference here that the NGOs would extend the PCR system to villages.

Under the contracts, the NGOs would establish sub-offices to provide credits for bank clients, deliver information on credits and also to collect full information about the credit takers and save it in the system, the head of Afghanistan Financial Institutions union, Hashmat Ser Amarkhel, said.

He said people who had access to the internet could access the CR services online round-the-clock and with the new systems, a bank could get information about a person seeking loan if the person had already received loan from another bank.

He said people in rural areas would be issued loans ranging from \$20,000 to \$300,000 through the systems. (Pajhwok)

(8) Wolesi Jirga ...

attorney, said four policemen guarding the prison were killed and six others wounded in the daring Taliban assault, which led to the escape of 436 inmates. Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed responsibility for the attack and said three of the assailants had been killed and the remaining seven returned to their respective areas.

Ali Akbar Qasimi, a lawmaker from the province, claimed some prisoners, who kicked up a ruckus on Sunday, were shifted to the National Directorate of Security (NDS) office. Intelligence officials had been told about the Taliban plan to attack the facility, he revealed.

Despite having the tip-off, security

officials could not prevent the assault, said the lawmaker, asking how a government that could not secure a prison would defend the country.

Mir Dad Khan, head of the house internal security commission, also blamed MoI for the incident. He said the ministry had failed to discharge its duty and the house should deal with the authorities concerned in accordance with the law.

Speaker Abdul Rauf Ibrahim said the attack had raised multiple disquieting question, because it took place despite top security officials being alerted about the possibility.

He tasked the internal affairs commission with summoning the interior minister to the lower house to brief lawmakers on the prison attack. A vote of no confidence should be tabled against the minister if he failed to come up with a satisfactory response. (Pajhwok)

(9) Mullah Omar ...

The tape, Yaqoob's first public audio statement, rejected the idea that his father had appointed a successor, in an apparent jab at Mansour. "He had not appointed any one as his successor," he said.

Mansour, a strong tactician backed by some of the most powerful field commanders

But Mansour's willingness to join in Pakistan-backed peace talks with the Afghan government this year sparked fears among some commanders, who worry he is too close to Pakistani intelligence officials.

The Afghan insurgents fear Pakistan wants to manipulate their movement for its own ends, worries Yaqoob referred to.

"Our enemy is the U.S.-backed Afghan government," he said. "There are some Islamic countries which are also standing alongside our enemies."

Some militias affiliated to the Taliban have already pledged allegiance to Islamic State, the group dominating Iraq and Syria. (Reuters)

(10) MoI Assigns ...

Taliban inmates from the prison to Kabul.

At least eleven police personnel were killed and wounded during the incident which resulted in the escape of 355 inmates.

"A few days back we transferred twenty Taliban commanders to Kabul from this jail," MoI spokesman, Sediq Sediqqi said.

He said that a team of investigators has been dispatched to the province to investigate the incident and identify those responsible for it.

"A team of investigators has been sent to Ghazni to probe the incident and to find out what happened," Sediqqi added.

According to the MoI, 436 prisoners had been detained in Ghanzi prison. Of those 148 of them were incarcerated on account of terrorism and threats to national security. An additional 207 were in prison on charges of criminal acts.

However, 81 prisoners remained behind.

Insurgents associated with the Taliban launched the attack at about 2am on Monday morning. Explosives were detonated at the main entrance, opening the way for a group of armed militants to enter - enabling the inmates to escape.

MoI officials have said that a massive search operation is currently underway to re-arrest the prisoners who escaped.

Reacting to the prison break, Afghan lawmakers in parliament called it disastrous and blamed the so-called fifth pillar of government for being behind the incident. MPs however demanded the swift dismissal of the provincial police chief.

"According to our information a manhunt wasn't launched immediately to track down the prisoners. This shows government's fifth pillar planned the break," an Afghan MP said adding that authorities had received information beforehand of the planned attack.

"It is a great tragedy, it was an anticipated event and the National Directorate of Security had informed the police about the incident," MP Arif Rahmani said.

Meanwhile, a number of analysts have blasted the MoI and called it incompetent in dealing with security at prisons. Analysts say poor staff performance and substandard buildings are two main problems at these facilities.

"There are two elements behind such incidents, commonly the Ministry of Interior dealt with prisons superficially and have not been able to take necessary security measures

to secure prisons. Secondly prisons in Afghanistan are not built to standard - even in many provinces prisons do not have proper buildings," university lecturer Nasrullah Stanikzai said.

Monday's Ghazni prison break is the second such incident in the past few years. Four years ago, Kandahar prison was also breached and 500 inmates escaped. Only 65 of them were ever re-arrested. (Tolnews)

(11) Govt. Dismisses...

its neighbor Pakistan dramatically improved following President Ashraf Ghani's first state visit to Islamabad back in November when Pakistan pledged to get the Taliban to the peace talks tables in a bid to end the ongoing war.

In May, Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif announced that the enemies of Afghanistan are enemies of Pakistan. This was followed by various other stakeholders attempting to enhance cooperation in curbing the influence of the Taliban.

In addition, the Pakistani army chief general Raheel Sharif visited Kabul several times where he held talks with Afghan officials on key issues facing the two countries - particularly that of the detention of at least five Pakistani Taliban leaders by the Afghan forces.

Later, Kabul agreed to allow agents of the Pakistani Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) investigate the issue.

Afghan officials then came to realize that Pakistan was not being totally honest in its dealings with Afghanistan. As such, Ghani asked in a letter to Pakistani premier Nawaz Sharif that Pakistan address and abide by the commitments it made to Afghanistan.

Following the reported death of Taliban's leader Mullah Omar, another group's top commander Mullah Akhter Mansour claimed to be Omar's successor. Mansour swiftly declared all-out war against Kabul and against foreign troops in Afghanistan. He was reportedly based in Quetta, the capital of Pakistan's province of Baluchistan.

Mansour's war cry was followed by a public outcry and for the first time Afghan religious scholars announced the Taliban's war cry was un-Islamic.

"The question about when and where the peace talks will take place, this needs more consultations and deliberations. The second important issue is that if peace talks are kicked off, this time, we need to review it systematically and broadly," a senior member of the government peace delegation, Mohammad Nafiqi said at the time

These developments apparently were the initial steps that drastically soured ties between the two countries after the Taliban's onslaught strengthened across the war-ravaged country. The Taliban appeared with more force on the battle fields and the group's fighters launched several offensives against Afghan troops in Helmand, Faryab, Badakhshan, Kunduz, Nangarhar and Kunar provinces.

But, this was not the end. After a series of deadly attacks in August in the Afghan capital, particularly in Kabul's Shah Shaheed area where high level explosives were used, Ghani accused Pakistan on live TV of being the source of the violence in Afghanistan by aiding the Taliban militants.

Security perceptibly deteriorated in Afghanistan's northern regions after this - an area once seen as secure. The issue forced Ghani's first Vice President, general Abdul Rashid Dostum to don his army uniform and join troops on the frontline and fight those he called agents of ISI. The Afghan spy agency also accused ISI of plotting the attacks on Kabul and vowed to revenge.

"The only option is that those plotting against Afghanistan on Pakistani soil must be arrested and handed over to Afghanistan and also those who are conspiring against Pakistan on Afghan territory must be arrested and handed over to Pakistan," Pakistani political analyst Mukhtar Pacha said recently.

Rumors however persist that Pakistan's Aziz tabled demands to Ghani calling for the dismissal of key Afghan officials - including Nabil from the NDS. Ghani reportedly refused.

Pakistan meanwhile accused NDS of colluding with the Indian intelligence agency to destabilize some areas in Baluchistan province.

In a recent move, Washington also criticized Pakistan of not being honest enough in its fight against insur-

gency. US officials warned it would cut financial cooperation to Pakistan if it does not take solid action against militants. (Tolnews)

(12) 23 Afghan...

concern over the situation urges government to give positive response to the demands of the journalists and find way out of the crisis. (KP)

(13) Teachers' Strike...

them under a residential scheme.

The protesting teachers on Monday held a gathering in Tanai district, speaking on behalf of the teachers from Gurbuz district, Faiz Mohammad Zaland, a teacher at Ghaziabad school, told Pajhwok Afghan News that the government should distribute the allotted plots to teachers.

He said the land for teachers had been specified in Tanai district's Segi area, but the plots had recently been occupied by some other people.

"The residential scheme had completed all the legal stages nine years ago, but since then we have been denied our rights. Powerful individuals, officials and some other people are involved in the land's usurpation," he said.

Another teacher from Tanai district, Badsha Muslimyar, said though the officials concerned had promised them the plots' distribution, practical steps were yet to be taken.

"If teachers are truly regarded as guides in the society and the world, then why they are denied their rights?" he asked.

Yet another teacher Hidayatullah Massoudi said if the government did not accept their demand, they would continue boycotting classes.

"The government is responsible to hear our voices. If our demands are not considered, we will approach the Presidential Palace and will carry out indefinite protests," he warned.

Deputy education director Matiullah Fazli acknowledged the teacher township land in Segi area had been partially usurped, but said no one had the right to close schools and create problems for the education process.

"For the last three days, 71 schools in the two districts have been closed, a move that has deprived 41,000 boys and 17,000 girl students of studies," added Fazli, who said they were serious in pursuing the matter and had launched joint efforts with the provincial administration and council. (Pajhwok)

(14) 15 Afghan ...

The scholarships have been granted to the Afghan students in BS Honors and Master's degree courses as part of the British Chevening Scholarship Programme.

The Afghan students would get quality education in management, public relations, health and oil and gas disciplines at different universities in the UK, the ambassador said.

She said since the launch of the Chevening scholarships programme in Afghanistan in 2001, so far around 170 Afghan students had the opportunity to get higher education in the UK.

The envoy hoped more Afghan students would apply till November 3 for the 2016-17 scholarship programme.

The Chevening Scholarships is the UK government's global scholarship programme, funded by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) and partner organisations. The programme awards scholarships to outstanding scholars around the world to study post-graduate courses at UK universities. (Pajhwok)

(15) Helmand ...

his government, he said, adding: "Since taking office, I have been asked repeatedly for infrastructure projects and security."

But Deputy Mayor Ahmad MasoudSelab denied distribution of parks or other green areas, saying some of spaces had been converted into commercial sites in line with order of the Ministry of Urban Development.

A resident of Lashkargah, Sardar Mohammad, said dozens of markets, shops and houses had been distributed to people over the past few years in the absence of a municipality plan.

There was no government land left in the city for the establishment of government buildings in case of need, he concluded. (Pajhwok)

(16) Filmmaker...

Wakil Safi, while hitting himself in protest.

His colleague Fatima Hussaini accused the government of negligence towards the cinema industry and forcing artists to leave their profession.

"As Azimi did burn his documents, we will do it as well to awaken the government. If the situation remains the same, we will be obliged to say goodbye to our profession," she added. (Pajhwok)

(17) 2 Notorious ...

sneaked into Nangarhar last month to fight against Islamic State fighters. Some people say the commanders were killed by security forces, others claim they were put to death by the IS," Faig said.

Afghan Local Police (ALP) commander in TagabKhwaja Agha Safi also said the security situation had become better after the rebel commanders' killing. (Pajhwok)

(18) Three Afghan...

India on September 1 intending to go to Israel and settle there. They came here on tourist visas and Afghan passports but planned to get Israeli passports to present themselves as Israeli nationals, the police official said.

"After arriving in Delhi, they paid 60,000 US dollars to an agent to arrange Israeli passports for them. Based on these fake passports, the agent, identified as Haji, also made fake visas and asked them to board a Doha bound flight from Ahmedabad on September 10," the police official said.

During interrogation, they told the police that the agent told them to meet him at Doha Airport from where they were supposed to board a flight bound for Israel. (Agencies)

(19) WHO Session...

will continue its support to countries by offering medical supplies, training personnel and providing information materials.

It was also decided that a high level WHO conference would be organized as soon as possible to agree on a common public health approach to large-scale migration in Europe. (Xinhua)

(20) Cameroonian

people died and 14 others were injured in the twin attacks in Kolofata. An earlier statement by Cameroon's Communication Minister Issa Tchiroma Bakary had placed the provisional death toll at seven. (Xinhua)

(21) UN Human...

civilians had been killed as a result of shelling from both sides.

Meanwhile in his speech on Monday, the human rights commissioner said he welcomed the vision shown by President Maithripala Sirisena since his election in January 2015, and the commitments made by the new government under his leadership. (Xinhua)

(22) Turnbull Wins...

ditional consultative" and one that made decisions in a collaborative manner.

"The prime minister of Australia is not a president, the prime minister is the first among equals," he said. He seemed to imply that Abbott had been failed to listen to fellow party members in decision making and had made a number of unpopular "Captain's Calls". (Xinhua)

(23) Chinese, ...

the two meetings in China this year. Russia is making good preparation to ensure a success of the meetings, he said, voicing his belief that with concerted efforts from both sides, the Russia-China relations and cooperation within the SCO will achieve new progress. (Xinhua)

BEIJING - Chinese Premier Li Keqiang on Monday held phone talks with his Russian counterpart, Dmitry Medvedev, to discuss relations between their countries. (Xinhua)

(24) JCPOA,...

right to enrichment, while preserving all its existing nuclear infrastructure," saying Tehran is determined to further develop peaceful nuclear technology for national needs.

On July 14, Iran and the IAEA signed a roadmap for "the clarification of past and present issues" regarding Tehran's nuclear program in the Austrian capital city of Vienna. The deal came on the same day Iran and the P5+1 - the United States, Russia, China, France, Britain and Germany - finalized the JCPOA in Vienna. (PressTV)