



Pakistan to Pressure Taliban into Peace Talks: CEO

Chief Executive Officer Dr. Abdullah hopes the new Pakistani government would pressure the Taliban to enter peace talks with Kabul.



KABUL - In an interview published on Thursday, the CEO believed Pakistan could exercise its influence in bringing the Taliban to the negotiating table.

"It is a new government and Prime Minister Imran Khan has promised stability. The region might miss out on further opportunities if security challenges are not addressed," he said. Speaking to The Indian Express, Abdullah said he was hopeful of the new Pakistani government pushing the Taliban into reconciliation with the Ashraf Ghani administration.

Abdullah was in Mumbai on Wednesday to open the second India-Afghanistan International Trade and Investment Show, sponsored by the US-AID.

US sanctions against Iran would not affect progress of the Chabahar Port, he said. "We cannot influence the broader context of relationships among different countries."

"At the same time, as far as we are concerned, we are in a situation where we need co-operation from all neighbouring countries, especially all the countries of the region." (Pajhwok)

HPC Delegation in Nepal to Learn from Moist Truce

KABUL - A High Peace Council (HPC) delegation has been in Nepal to meet with government and political leaders and learn from their experience in conflict resolution, an official said Thursday.

HPC spokesman Syed Ehsan Taheri, who is accompanying the delegation, told Pajhwok Afghan News over the phone from Nepal that they arrived in the Himalayan nation for one week.

Nepal succeeded in striking a peace agreement with the Moist rebels in 2006 after almost 12 years of a bloody conflict.

As a result of the agreement,



the monarchy in Nepal was replaced by total democracy and lasting peace.

The HPC spokesman said their Nepal trip was a great experience and they would

strive to learn and apply the Nepalese model in Afghanistan.

Taheri said delegations from Northern Ireland, Columbia and Liberia had also arrived in Nepal and ... (More on P4)... (5)

Noor Predicts Victory in Next Presidential Poll

MAZAR-I-SHARIF - Jamiati-Islami Afghanistan (JIA) executive chief and former governor Atta Mohammad Noor on Thursday said they would reach the power corridors through elections 10 months later. He said they would stop the election process if it were not transparent.

Meanwhile, Noor's successor Ishaq Guzar asked the people of Balkh province to participate in the upcoming polls enthusiastically.

The two JIA leaders were addressing participants of an event marking the Martyr's Week in Mazar-i-Sharif, the



provincial capital. Atta Mohammad Noor said the Independent Election Commission (IEC) lacked the ... (More on P4)... (6)

Offensives Stepped up Against Militants Ahead of Polls

KABUL - Offensive operations against Taliban and other insurgents groups have been intensified in various parts of the country ahead of the Oct 20 parliamentary elections, the Ministry of Defense (MoD) said on Thursday.

The ministry said the main goal of these operations was to hit the enemies in various parts of the country in an attempt to ensure the security of voters during the elections.

Addressing a press conference at the Government Media and Information Center (GMIC), MoD spokesman Sayed Chafoor Ahmad Javed, said: "There are some elements who want to harm the peace process and elections by orchestrating attacks against civilians in several cities."

However, he said the Afghan defense and security forces would not allow the enemies and these groups to continue their maneuvers and disturb the democratic process in the country.

According to Javed, the increase in offensive operations resulted in the killing of 294 Taliban militants and injuring of another 109 others by ground and air strikes of Afghan Air Forces during the last three days.

"We assure the people of Afghanistan that Afghan forces will do their utmost to protect the population ... (More on P4)... (8)

Afghan Air Force to Take Delivery of Light Attack Helicopters



KABUL - The first five light attack and reconnaissance helicopters ordered a year ago have arrived at the Kandahar airport, says a report.

MD Helicopters Inc. -- Arizona-based aerospace manufacturer - said the helicopters were part of a wider US Department ... (More on P4)... (7)

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (REOI)

Procurement Entity	NPA on behalf of Ministry of Communications & Information Technology (MCIT), Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.
Funded By	World Bank
Item Description / Ref No.	Consultancy Firm to carry out Technical Study and Technical Advisory Support to enhance Afghanistan National Portal and design Priority e-Services and e-Catalogue for government, NPA/MCIT/97/CS-2036/QCBS
Deadline for EOI Submission	October 6, 2018 by 00:00 Hours (Local Time).
Address for Submission of EOIs	Infrastructure Sector Department, First Floor, Geodesy Building, National Procurement Authority (NPA), Administrative office of the President -Pashtonistan Watt, Kabul-Afghanistan
REOI is available at	www.npa.org.af Interested Consultants may download the REOI and TOR from our website. In case of any problem in downloading, may obtain the same by sending e-mail at the address given below: Email Addresses : zabihulrahman.rahmani@aop.gov.af, to fawad.anwarzai@mcit.gov.af copied to nooria.parsa@aop.af, amjad.dabs@gmail.com, hayatullah.hamidi@aop.gov.af, hikmat.farahmand@aop.gov.af

ALLAMA MUHAMMAD IQBAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME FOR AFGHAN NATIONALS

Higher Education Commission Pakistan announces "Allama Muhammad Iqbal Scholarship Programme for Afghan Nationals" for their capacity building through imparting quality education to 3,000 students in the next three years in fields of Medicine, Engineering, Agriculture, Management and Computer sciences etc.

The aim of this programme is to strengthen bilateral relationship between Pakistan and Afghanistan by enhancing people to people contacts between the two brotherly countries. Scholarship programme covers living allowance, books allowance, hostel dues & University tuition fee.

Important Note

- Scholarship will be awarded on merit.
- 100 seats will be reserved for female applicants.
- Candidates will be short-listed on the basis of Aptitude Test Score (Conducted by HEC) and academic credentials scores.
- Candidates who are already availing any other HEC Government scholarship are NOT eligible to apply.
- Candidate must have acquired the requisite academic qualification on or before the closing date.
- Candidates having foreign qualification must provide Equivalence Certificate from IBCC & HEC.

How to Apply

- Applicants are required to submit application online through HEC website <http://pakafghan.hec.gov.pk>
- HEC reserves the right to postpone or cancel the scholarship process at any stage without assigning any reason.

For further detail, please visit <http://pakafghan.hec.gov.pk>

Eligibility Criteria

Afghan Nationals with strong academic background are welcome to apply. Scholarship Applicants are especially encouraged in MBBS, Engineering, Agriculture, Social Sciences, Biotechnology, Software Engineering, Pharmacy and Management Sciences.

Undergraduate Students:

- Undergraduate applicants must have a 12-years education degree with at least 60% marks in Shahadanama as per IBCC (Pakistan) equivalency.
- Minimum age to avail this scholarship is 23 years.
- Must have completed 12th Grade exam not later than 2016.

Masters Students:

- Under this category, 16-years of formal education is required, with at least 60% marks in Bachelor's Degree as per IBCC (Pakistan) equivalency.
- Applicant must have a 4-years Bachelor's degree or a combination of Bachelors and Masters.

Ph.D. Students:

- Under this category, 75% marks or 3CGPA is required (as per HEC Pakistan equivalency) for all those applying for Ph.D. scholarship.
- 18 years of formal education (Masters, M.Phil. or comparable degree) is required for Ph.D. scholarship from an accredited university.

Last Date for Application

- Last date for submission of online application is **30th September 2018**
- Application in Hard form will not be entertained

HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION
H8 ISLAMABAD

Phone: +92-05190408036
Email: pakafghan@hec.gov.pk

EMBASSY OF PAKISTAN
KART-E-PARWAN, KABUL

Phone: +93-202202745-46
Email: scholarships@pakembassykabul.org