

## Quote of the Day

Train yourself to let go of the things you fear to lose.  
George Lucas

# President Barack Obama Afghanistan a Major Drug-Producing Country

WASHINGTON - US President Barack Obama on Monday determined Afghanistan and Pakistan as major illicit drug-producing countries. In all, on the list of drug producers are 22 countries including Bahamas, Belize, Bolivia, Burma, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, India, Jamaica, Laos, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru and Venezuela.



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## Abdullah to Represent Afghanistan at UNGA



KABUL - Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Abdullah Abdullah would represent Afghanistan in the 70th United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) set to open on Tuesday, sources said. Whishing anonymity, a government official told Pajhwok Afghan News President Ashraf Ghani would not take part in the UN general assembly meeting. Another source said doctors had advised the president to rest and avoid going on long trips. It is worth mentioning that President Ghani underwent a foot surgery last month in Germany, where doctors had advised him to rest most of the time. Meanwhile, Javed Faisal, the CEO spokesman, confirmed that Dr Abdullah would be representing the Afghan delegation to the ... (More on P4)... (2)

## Top Taliban Leaders on the Run after Ghazni Prison Break



KABUL - Documents received by TOLONews show a so-called Taliban judge, several senior commanders and three would-be suicide bombers were among 158 inmates - considered to be serious threats to national security - who escaped from Ghazni's maximum security prison early Monday. Mawlawi Sahib Jan was the so-called judge, and scores of senior members of the Taliban, including Mawlawi Naqibullah, Mullah Halim Akhonzada, Mawlawi Abdul Hakim Wardak, Mawlawi Esmatullah, Mullah Aziz and Mawlawi Takbeer. The Ministry of Interior Affairs (MoI) had earlier said however that 148 of the escaped ... (More on P4)... (6)

## Kabul Residents Protest Closure of Roads for Lawmakers

KABUL - Kabul residents on Tuesday protested the closure of roads to facilitate lawmakers' travel to the parliament, creating traffic problems for commuters in the capital. About a hundred capital inhabitants gathered in front of ... (More on P4)... (3)

## AGO Summons Two Ex-Kabul Mayors over Corruption Charges

KABUL - The Attorney General Office's has summoned two former Kabul mayors to explain allegations of corruption lodged against them. The AGO spokesman Abdul Basir Azizi said that one former ... (More on P4)... (4)

## Senators Say Concerned over Youth Migration

KABUL - Mesharano Jirga members on Tuesday expressed their deep concern over the Afghan youth joining the refugee stream to Europe and asked the government to generate jobs for them. Reports say the number of Afghan youth seeking migration to foreign countries has considerably increased during the past three months. There are no exact figures for the Afghans who had



already left, but Senator Jumadin Gyanwal said hundreds of people could be seen standing in front of the passport office on a daily basis. Criticising the government's performance, he said poverty ... (More on P4)... (5)

## Ghazni Jailer Arrested, Hunt for Fleeing Inmates on



GHAZNI CITY - The central jail chief officer has been arrested following a brazen Taliban attack that enabled hundreds of inmates to flee the facility in southern Ghazni province, an official said on Tuesday. The Taliban stormed the central jail in Ghazni City, the provincial capital, on Saturday night using a car suicide bombing to breach the prison's wall. The ensuing shootout left four Taliban attackers and as many policemen guarding the jail dead while ... (More on P4)... (7)

## E-NIC Rollout in Limbo Pending Meeting Between NUG Leaders

KABUL - The CEO's office on Tuesday said the Electronic National Identity Card (E-NIC) rollout has been delayed pending a final meeting between President Ashraf Ghani and Chief Executive Abdullah Abdullah. The deputy CEO spokesman Jawed Faisal however said the process will be launched in the near future. "The e-NIC authority is completely ready to start rolling out the identity cards. There



Meanwhile, an MP from Herat, Mohammad Reza Khoshak said: "Those who are holding back this process should be recognized by government and their names should be made public because we will face serious problems in future if the process does not start soon." "The donors which are financing the process will gradually reduce their assistance ... (More on P4)... (8)

## Afghan-Pak Trade Drops 40 Percent in Three Months: PAJCCI

KABUL - Officials from the Pakistan Afghanistan Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PAJCCI) said on Monday that trade between the two neighbors has dropped by just over 40 percent in the past three months. The officials believe that the recent souring of relations between Afghanistan and

Pakistan is largely behind this development and say that Afghan businessmen in particular have reduced the number of products, particularly food, that they import and are instead turning to other regional countries for supplies. There are however other issues ... (More on P4)... (9)

## Iran, Afghanistan to Bolster Border Cooperation



Kabul - Iran's Ambassador to Kabul, Mohammad-Reza Bahrami, and Afghan Foreign Minister Salahuddin Rabbani on Tuesday held talks on rewriting of border signs and documents. Bahrami and Rabbani also exchanged views on upcoming sessions of Iran-Afghanistan joint consular and border affairs commission.

Iran and Afghanistan share about 940 kms of borders. The Afghan government plans to increase the number of its customs offices alongside borders with Iran to make more income and to fight contraband and drug trafficking. Iran, which has a 900-kilometer (560-mile) common border ... (More on P4)... (10)

## Nazarbayev Expresses Concern over Situation in N. Afghanistan



BISHKEK - Speaking at the enlarged meeting of the Collective Security Council of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) on Tuesday in Dushanbe, President of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbayev expressed concern regarding the current situation in the northern Afghanistan bordering with the Central Asian countries.

"Terrorist organizations pose threat in modern conditions," said Nazarbayev. "And this is especially true here in Central Asia." "Tajikistan is at the front of fight against terrorism, extremism, drug trafficking and arms trafficking," said Nazarbayev. He noted that Kazakhstan will ... (More on P4)... (11)

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