

(1) Ghani, CEO...

be determined by the election law. In line with election law, all necessary arrangements need to be formed in a manner that can ensure the just and fair representation of the entire people of the country. With consideration of the population of each province, there should be at least two women representatives in the Wolesi Jirga (Lower House of Parliament)," article 83 of the Afghan Constitution reads. "Until now we do not know about the details of the items which are related to the election law, I think we have to be patient and see what recommendations the new leadership of the election commission offers," said Shah Sultan Akefi, head of the Electoral Reform Commission (ERC). With the implementation of the law, the selection committee of the election commissions will start work. With the appointments of a new election commissioner, practical work will start to arrange for the holding of Afghanistan's parliamentary elections. (Tolonevs)

(2) Plan for...

Authority (ATRA) head, Najib Aziz who also participated in the meeting, said the RTDM system let the government better monitor services of telecom operators and improve the quality of services. Based on the plan, telecom companies will be closely monitored to ensure the quality of their services and quarterly reports would be read by ATRA. The programme would ensure more transparency by fining telecom companies for violations, he said.

Some participants suggested the security of telephonic conversations should be also improved. They said all SIM cards be registered and a team tasked with ensuring adherence to relevant laws. President Ghani approved the draft plan, saying a technical team would be appointed to manage the project. He stressed transparency in reports shared by telecom companies with the government.

The National Security Council (NSA) should be convinced of the security of telephonic conversations and telecom taxes. Ghani said the procurement process should prevent monopolisation by certain companies.

Deputy Finance Minister Mustafa Mastor said the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT) had a huge budget, but it had no plan for properly utilising it.

A commission tasked with transportation of wheat from India to Afghanistan shared its report with the participants. Astor said the Indian government had agreed to send 170,000 metric tons of wheat to Herat province through Iran's Abbas Port.

The meeting asked the finance minister to discuss the wheat transportation with Iranian and Indian ambassadors and make a plan for its distribution from Herat to other provinces.

Deputy Foreign Minister Nasir Ahmad Andesha said a draft procedure for visa issuance to foreigners such as businessmen and investors had been prepared based on a request from the Association of Industrialists.

President Ghani said he had received many complaints in this regard from traders and Afghan diplomats -- an issue he that must be resolved on priority. (Pajhwok)

(3) Peace Agreement ...

Hekmatyar should come over land or by air and it also should decide about his house, office and security," said Waqad.

Hekmatyar's name is listed on the United Nations' black list, but Qazi Waqad said the National Security Council (NSC) requested government to finalize peace talks with Hezb-e-Islami.

"The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) had a meeting on the 16th of September and their message to Afghanistan was that first President Ghani and Abdullah should resolve their tensions and second the NUG should continue peace talks with Hezb-e-Islami," said Waqad.

Moreover, the CEO's office said they do not have concerns about talking with any anti-government groups.

"We are not concerned about talks with any groups. We pursued these talks from the beginning, because it is for the benefit of the Afghan people," Abdullah said.

Hezb-e-Islami have said that nothing has been changed in the articles of the agreement written up a few months ago, but it is said that

in the new agreement, privileges have been given to Hezb-e-Islami but details have not been released. "People need to know with whom and why government negotiates. They need to know the details of the talks," said Faqir Mohammad, a political analyst.

"The agreement with Hezb-e-Islami has changed many times. Signing the agreement will pave the way for further discussions," said Tofan Waziri, a political analyst.

Peace talks with Hekmatyar started two years ago, but talks with Taliban started during Hamid Karzai's presidency.

The HPC was established six years ago under Karzai, however, it is said that this council has not had made any important achievement in the way of peace talks with Taliban.

The HPC's former chief Burhanuddin Rabbani was killed in a suicide attack carried out by the Taliban. Furthermore, the HPC said it will start peace talks with Taliban upon the completion of the peace agreement with Hezb-e-Islami. (Tolonevs)

(4) Prisoners Want ...

A group of 197 Afghans were transferred from Iranian prisons to Afghanistan and are currently being held in Herat prison.

The prisoners however are happy to be in a prison in their own country but have asked government and judicial institutions to reassess their cases.

A number of relatives of prisoners who have visited them in Herat have meanwhile welcomed the transfer.

Some relatives said that it is the first time they have seen their family members in up to 11 years. They said visiting them in Iranian prisons had been difficult.

Meanwhile, the prisoners have also called on government to transfer them to prisons in their home provinces.

"I am from Kishm district of Badkhashan. My family travel long distances to visit me in Herat jail. My family will be at risk traveling such long distances. I want government to let us serve the rest of our sentences in jails in our home provinces," said Faiz Mohammad, a prisoner.

"We urge the supreme court and president to forgive us and reassess our cases," said Shir Agha, a transferred prisoner.

"I was in jail for 11 years and my family suffered a lot. We lost everything we had; nothing has remained for me and my family. I ask government to reassess my case, because the law in Iran is different from the law in Afghanistan," said Abdul Gharib, another prisoner.

But Herat prison's chief warden Abdullah Azizi said that a number of prisoners were sentenced to death by Iranian courts. However, these sentences have since been reduced to life in prison.

"Among the transferred prisoners there are also prisoners who were sentenced to death, but the documents sent to us show that these sentences were amended to life in prison," said Azizi.

This is the second group of prisoners to be transferred to Afghanistan in three years. Reports indicate that based on the agreement, another 5,000 Afghan prisoners will be transferred to the country in future in order to serve out their sentences in their own country. (Tolonevs)

(5) Kabul Set...

international peace and security and the war against terrorism.

Meanwhile, some Afghan political commentators have urged the Afghan leadership to use the UN as an international platform to increase global pressure on Pakistan to fight terrorism honestly.

"The US senate isolated Pakistan for the second time, this time it was more serious, Pakistan moves toward political isolation, and also the Afghan government is trying to increase political pressure on Pakistan," said political analyst Saleh Mohammad Registani.

World leaders attending the summit meet at a time that the scale of violence in the militancy-riddled nation is hitting new heights amid a surge in Taliban insurgency and Pakistan's alleged continued backing of the group.

But a slight shift in tone by Washington towards Pakistan has been seen in recent weeks.

However some political analysts have criticized President Ashraf Ghani for not attending the summit as the majority of member nations are expected to be represented by presidents.

Analysts say that the absence of Ghani at the UN will have implica-

tions on the position of Afghanistan.

A total of 195 leaders including 86 Heads of State, a Crown Prince, five vice presidents and 51 ministers will address the General Debate.

"Attendance of the president could have put Afghanistan in a better position and more active. The president would have been able to take a harsh stance against Pakistan at the summit," said political analyst Ahmad Saedi.

This U.N. summit is the final one for Secretary General Ban Ki-moon and U.S President Barack Obama, and the first for United Kingdom's Prime Minister Theresa May. (Tolonevs)

(6) Refugees Return...

that Barikab town in Parwan province will be built for return refugees.

"We provide for the people land, infrastructure and facilities. People should build houses for themselves to live in," Hotaki said.

Barikab residential town will become home to more than 15,000 internally displaced families as well as for those returning to the country.

Reports indicate that currently around seven million Afghan citizens are refugees outside the country, with large numbers living in Pakistan and Iran.

Government officials said that the National Unity Government (NUG) is trying to provide facilities for return refugees in 29 provinces in the country. (Tolonevs)

reservations, Minister of Finance Ekil Ahmad Hakimi pledged full accountability by government to the international community.

He said that the National Unity Government (NUG) has undertaken all necessary arrangements to participate at the Brussels Summit on Afghanistan, adding that government has outlined a five-part strategy which will be discussed at the summit in order to secure continued international cooperation in years to come.

"We will submit five documents at the conference, the first document defines the framework of Afghanistan's national development plan, before this we had another document which was known as Afghanistan's national strategy," said Hakimi.

Responding to lawmakers' questions, Minister of Economy Abdul Sattar Murad said that the continued international aid to Afghanistan, through to the end of 2020, will enable Afghanistan to become self-reliant.

He said today nearly 39 percent of Afghan people live below the poverty line while another 39 percent are unemployed.

"Unfortunately we still have poverty in the country, 39 percent of people live below the poverty line while another 39 percent are suffering from job recession," said Murad.

The Brussels Summit on Afghanistan is scheduled in October in which the international community will decide on future aid to Afghanistan. (Tolonevs)

(8) NPC Approves...

once again stressed giving priority to domestic products and their usage and issued instructions to the organizations concerned in this regard. The NPC rejected three other projects due to technical problems. (Pajhwok)

(9) Taliban Attack...

forces in fighting the insurgents were killed and five other residents were injured.

The residents claim that the Taliban also abducted an 11-year-old boy and a nine year-old girl.

However, the Taliban have not yet commented on either the clash or the alleged abduction. (Tolonevs)

(10) Chabahar Port ...

which Pakistan uses liberally because of its location as the gate way to Afghanistan for India. But, even if these issues get resolved, Chabahar will have value as a joint venture between the three countries which have resolved to make it the premier link for Afghanistan to the sea. Once the Port is ready and the link road to Afghanistan is operational traffic of all types will grow."

Rejecting any possibility of India using the Chabahar Port to send troops to Afghanistan if the situation requires, the seasoned analyst of the world affairs said: "It is difficult to conjecture that India will consider sending troops to Afghanistan to assist the Afghan

army. This is not a traditional role that the Indian Army has played. India knows that any permanent resolution of the crisis in Kabul can only come about through an internal agreement to end the fighting and violence and turn to development."

"Of course, this is not in the interest of the Army-Industrial complex in Pakistan. Suitable measures need to be taken by the international community led by the US to neutralise the power of the Army in Pakistan. It is possible that even China will not object to bringing the Pak Army to a point where it is disciplined by the civilian authorities in Pakistan. After all, China is as affected by the curse of Islamic terror bred in Pakistan as is Afghanistan," he added

Advocating an only-Afghan peace process in Afghanistan, Sanjeev Ahluwalia said: "Iran, US, China and India all have self interest in supporting a peace process in Afghanistan. I agree, of course, that the peace can only be negotiated internally by the Afghans themselves. But it is important that India is assured that the 'deep State' of Pakistan does not find a haven in Kabul. Similarly, both the US and China have an interest to ensure that neither gets a foothold to destabilise the peace."

"For Iran, since Afghanistan is a neighbour, it is important that it is included in the process so that it contributes and owns the process of bringing peace to Afghanistan. The only joker in the pack is China which is currently in an expansionary phase of power and needs to be seen as the biggest regional power. China has vast resources and determination," Sanjeev Ahluwalia added.

"But India will never allow it to destabilize South Asia by replacing the US as the main backer of the Pak Army and related security Agencies. India has very friendly relations with Soviet Russia just as Iran does. So there is a real prospect that a group of Afghanistan's friends can nudge China to curb its imperialistic ambitions." (IRNA)

(11) Viral Disease ...

Las year's total yield stood at 1,554 tonnes.

This year, the red date was grown on 1,200 hectares of land and each hectare produced 1.2 tonnes and the total production was 1,440 tonnes, the official said.

The fruit faced such a major threat from pests once in several years, he said, adding the main reason behind the disaster remained unknown, but watering gardens too much could be a factor.

He said the Farah agriculture department lacked specialists and facilities and had been so far unable to prevent the viral disease.

Abdul Qader, a resident of Nawbahar village on the outskirts of Farah City, who owns a jujube orchard, said: "Jujube trees were infested by insects this year and the fruit was of poor quality as it was empty inside and lightweight."

Compared to past years when Qader's garden spread over one acre of land would produce 1,000 kilograms of jujube the harvest declined to 500kg this year and most the fruits were destroyed.

He said there were more than 300 orchards in Nawbahar village and most had infected with the viral disease.

He asked the government and welfare organizations to conduct a study and detect reasons of the disease and then take serious steps for its prevention.

Mirwali, a resident of Raj village of the provincial capital, said the disease had also infected jujube fruit trees in their area.

"Most of the people in our district cope with their whole year's expenses through selling jujube fruit harvest, but the disease-hit fruit this year couldn't be sold and people have to face economical problems."

He said there were 500 jujube orchards in Raj village and their owners earned livelihood through selling them. The jujube fruit market has also been corrupted.

Murshid, a shopkeeper in Farah City, sold a kilo of jujube for 300 afs last year but sold the same quantity this year for 150 afs because of the fruit's bad quality.

The jujube harvest season starts at end of Asad month of the solar year and continues until Sunbula ends. The jujube fruit grows very well in Farah and have a good yield.

Earlier people would traditionally plant jujube trees without considering their harvest but over the past few years, people have turned their attention towards establishing beneficial and economically vi-

able jujube orchards.

The agriculture department has also been giving attention to establishment of special commercial jujube orchards - a trend that has encouraged people.

Currently hundreds of jujube orchards exist in different parts of the provincial capital and Shibkoh, Pusht Koh, Push Rod, Khak-i-Safaid, Jowin, Bakwa and Balabolok districts of the province. (Pajhwok)

(12) Need for Peace...

While supporting the peace process, the society welcomed the measures taken by the government to bring security and prosperity to the common Afghans.

"Peace is Allah's command and the most basic need of the people of Afghanistan. The government and those involved in the conflict should respond to the public's call for peace."

Those creating obstacles to the peace process were disregarding Allah's order and should be exposed to the nation, NSS said, urging international stakeholders to support the process.

"In the best national interest, we also call on Taliban militants to come forward and have fruitful negotiations with government," the society said. (Pajhwok)

(13) Checkpoints near...

construct security posts near schools in unstable areas.

"Security forces often set up security posts close to schools in Tagab district that caused casualties to teachers and students and damaged school buildings," the director pointed out.

Principles of schools had shared the issue with the education department, which took it up with the central government. Officials of the ministries of interior and defense have promised security forces would no longer build posts near schools.

Many schools that were closed as result of insecurity had been reopened by the education department, Safi claimed.

"We have 274 education centres, including general education, religious studies, primary and secondary education, in Kapisa. Some 170,000 students are enrolled there," he revealed.

Jan Agha, a schoolteacher from Tagab district, agreed the teaching-learning process was faced with problems in unstable areas. "Students cannot continue their studies during operations or clashes, because they do not feel safe." (Pajhwok)

(14) Hesarak Securit...

leading to Hesarak from Sarobi district of Kabul had been ensured, which had a great impact on the district's security scenario.

"The security situation of Hesarak was linked to security on the Sarobi road."

He said the failure to dispatch logistics and other supplies to the town in-time brought the district to the verge of collapse and if the Sarobi road remained open, the district's security situation would never deteriorate. (Pajhwok)

(15) Afghan Migrants...

report on international migration released on Monday, the Paris-based international organization recommended countries address the local impact of the arrival of migrants.

The OECD said "large and sudden" inflows of migrants are often concentrated in the most disadvantaged areas and that governments should scale up public services in those areas.

The organization is also suggesting that countries step up international cooperation and is urging the international community to "significantly increase its effort in terms of resettlement".

Migration flows increased by 10 percent in 2015 across the OECD area, which is made up of 35 leading industrial countries from all around the world. (AP)

(16) Zabul PC...

be named said that three militants were killed during a clash with police.

No any militant groups so far commented on the incidents. (Pajhwok)

(17) 3 Uprising...

Taliban militants equipped with mortar, rocket, machine guns and other heavy weapons stormed the Khowaja Sabzposh district yesterday night.

He said the clashes continued until 3am and the Taliban were retreated after reinforcements arrived.

He said that seven rebels were killed and three uprising members and five civilians wounded during the

fight.

Uprising members and civilians were wounded as result of a rocket strike fired by Taliban militants, he added.

Fayaz asked the officials concern to equip uprising groups otherwise they would not resist against militants. (Pajhwok)

(18) Nangahar Police...

situation here was very bad. On the day two of assuming charge, Zahid moved to the Shinwari zone and entered the fight against Daesh. He bravely fought against the Pakistani forces at the Torkham border and went on to protect the people of Hesarak where he lost his own life."

Kunduzi urged the president and the Ministry of Interior to name the Nangahar police training academy after Zahid. (Pajhwok)

(19) Leishmania Cases...

Kalam Jan, a resident of the Kharsino area of Khost City who brought his daughter to the centre, said she had been affected by leishmania for the past one year.

But he said his daughter's condition was improving with each passing day due to regular visits to the centre.

"A huge pimple appeared on my daughter's hand. We put some azure on it but it did not heal. Later someone gave me the address of this clinic, now her disease is in better condition," he said. (Pajhwok)

(20) Russia to...

Liberal Democrats party collected 13.24 percent, while Just Russia won 6.18 percent.

Putin said the result was good for his party, but it only represented a token on confidence that the party had yet to justify. (Xinhua)

(21) Netanyahu to ...

said. "Additionally, the leaders are likely to discuss continued implementation of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action and other regional security issues," Earnest added. (Xinhua)

(22) Germany's Merkel...

of the vote. AfD is not yet represented at the federal level, but its showing Sunday means it will now be represented in 10 state legislatures in Germany. The Left Party, an anti-capitalist group with ties to former East Germany, also did well. It won 16% of the vote. (USA TODAY)

(23) UNICEF Calls...

"Every child, in every country, in every neighbourhood, in every household, has the right not only to a seat in a classroom, but to a quality education -- starting in the early years of life, the single most important stage of brain development," said UNICEF Executive Director Anthony Lake.

"We need to invest early, invest in quality, and invest in equity -- or pay the price of a generation of children condemned to grow up without the knowledge and skills they need to reach their potential," he said. (Xinhua)

(24) Britain Says ...

that the raid in Deir al-Zour allowed it to take over a strategic mountain overlooking the city.

The U.S. military has said it may have unintentionally struck Syrian troops while carrying out a raid against IS on Saturday.

The U.S. military said it halted an air raid intended for IS in eastern Syria after being told by Russia that it might have struck Syrian government forces. A senior Obama administration official also said the United States relayed regret through Russia for the unintentional loss of life. (Xinhua)

(25) Aussie PM...

determine whether or not coalition forces could have coordinated better.

"As soon as the coalition were advised that there were Syrian government personnel that had been affected by the strike, the operation was discontinued," Turnbull told reporters overnight.

"We regret the loss of life and injury to any Syrian personnel affected."

A senior advisor to Syrian President Bashar al-Assad said the Syrian government is of the belief the airstrikes were an "intentional" move, however an Australian Defence Department statement issued after the attack said the loss of life was tragic and accidental. (Xinhua)

(26) S.Korea, U.S. ...

New Zealand and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) will join the exercise by sending only transport planes and aerial tankers. (Xinhua)