

(1) Dozens of States...

"totally destroy" the country of 26 million people and mocked its leader, Kim Jong Un, as a "rocket man."

The treaty was adopted in July by two-thirds of the 193 U.N. member states after months of talks, which the United States, Britain, France and others skipped. They instead pledged commitment to a decades-old Non-Proliferation Treaty, which aims to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and weapons technology. (Reuters)

(2) Bamyan Governor ...

appreciate investors and constructively support them," he promised.

More than 1200 government officials, business leaders and cultural elites from all over the world attended the opening ceremony. Zuhair also said models and techniques used for preservation in Gansu could transfer to Bamyan as "a precious everlasting gift". Bamyan has a total of eight jostorival sites, including the Buddha Statues, and seven others, already registered as world heritage by UNESCO.

Similarly, Bamyan's sister province Gansu has also seven historical sites being registered by UNESCO. However, the heritage in Afghanistan faces preservation challenges. Zuhair sought support from the Gansu government to help preserve the heritage sites in Afghanistan. The international expo has organized nearly 500 enterprises from more than 20 Belt and Road countries including Afghanistan to participate in the event. China's Culture Minister Luo Shugang indicated Beijing's willingness to join hands with all Belt and Road countries for cooperation in culture, economy and trade, tourism and other sectors and build a bridge for the integration of the Silk Road culture. (Pajhwok)

(3) Risk to Girls' ...

leaders, NGO workers, experts, and national and provincial-level government officials.

"We gratefully acknowledge the kind assistance we received from a number of Afghan government officials during our research for this report. We hope very much that you — and the members of your government — will view this report as a sincere effort to work with your government to strengthen the education system and to strengthen international support for the Afghan government's efforts to educate girls," the report summary maintained.

The HRW report also documented serious remaining deficits in girls' education and a risk that the progress achieved is already eroding in some areas and could face further backsliding in the years ahead.

Below is a summary of key findings in the forthcoming report:

Low—and sometimes falling—participation of girls in education

Discrimination against girls in the education system

Lack of schools and poor infrastructure

Community-based education—effective but unsustainable

Failure to implement constitutional provisions regarding compulsory education

Donor dis-engagement and insecurity pose serious risks to girls' education

Officials of the Education Ministry could not be reached for comment.

(4) Barmak Calls...

security sector particularly we are going to focus this year on the ministry of interior. The ministry of interior is the heart of corruption in the security sector and it is unacceptable and it will be reformed," said Ghani in May. "Inside the ministry of interior, all documents of the ministry of interior are supposed to be classified, but unfortunately, everything is recommended through individuals out of the ministry of interior who himself is a beneficiary and then puts on the table of the minister or deputy minister," said Barmak.

"Where do the expenses of these twenty vehicles go? Where is the fuel going and where are other expenditures going? Is it OK? Does it have a driver or not; maybe there are ghost drivers," added Barmak.

"We pursued professional and tactical training in the police," said one cadet Toryalai.

"There is a course about capacity building and accounting," said another cadet Abed. 389 cadets received their graduation certificates on Wednesday.

It is believed that war, impunity, poverty, unemployment, economic issues, low wages and shortcomings in the law were among key factors behind endemic corruption in Afghanistan. (Tolonews)

(5) Ghani Receives ...

Ghani reciprocated greetings to President His Highness Sheikh Khalifa, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid and His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed, stressing his country's keenness to strengthen its relations with UAE.

During the meeting, they discussed ways of developing and strengthening the friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries in various economic, developmental and social fields to achieve the aspirations of the two countries and their peoples.

They also exchanged views on a number of regional issues of common interest on the UN meeting agenda.

The Afghan President expressed his country's thanks and appreciation to the UAE government and people for their generous

efforts and contributions to the reconstruction of Afghanistan, supporting the development of its sectors in the fields of health care, education and the establishment of the infrastructure of the Afghan society as well as its efforts to support Afghanistan in addressing violence, extremism and terrorism.

His Highness Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan affirmed the UAE's keenness to support the Republic of Afghanistan and its friendly people and to promote bilateral relations to serve the common interests and develop cooperation between the two countries in various fields.

The meeting was attended by Faris Mohammed Al Mazrouei, Advisor to the Ministry of Presidential Affairs, and Ambassador Lana Zaki Nusseibeh, the UAE's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York. (WAM)

(6) Mirziyoyev Backs...

The President noted that Uzbekistan will further contribute to the development of Afghanistan, in particular, modernization of the transport and energy infrastructure and staff training. (AKI)

(7) Ghani Renews...

to counter terror and stabilise South Asia, Afghanistan's enduring partnership with the United States and the international community had been renewed and redirected.

"We welcome this strategy, which has now set us on a pathway to certainty. The Afghan people have looked to the US for this type of resolve for years. We pay tribute to all the men and women of allied nations who have served with us, particularly those who paid the ultimate sacrifice," he said.

The strategy consolidated all instruments of American power, conveying a message that the Taliban and their backers could not win militarily. Only through political settlement, he explained, enduring peace could be achieved.

"I call upon all ranks of Taliban to engage in intra-Afghan dialogue," Ghani said. "We now also have an opportunity for a dialogue with our neighbours on how we can work together earnestly to eliminate terrorism and contain extremism.

"I call upon Pakistan to engage with us on a comprehensive state-to-state dialogue on peace, security and regional cooperation leading to prosperity," the president remarked.

Afghanistan, he said, looked to its neighbors in south and central Asia, and was simultaneously strengthening national, global and regional connectivity.

"Afghanistan will again become a multi-faceted hub in the 21st century — for transport, energy, water and mining — for the benefit of the entire region's economic prosperity and security," he concluded. (Pajhwok)

(8) Over 250,000...

undocumented returnees and refugees received humanitarian assistance, according to the statement.

More than 1 million Afghans have been displaced due to conflicts since 2001 as worsening security situation and the ongoing insurgency have forced the people to leave their houses for safer places.

The Afghan civilians also continue to bear the brunt of armed conflicts as more than 1,660 civilians were killed and over 3,580 others injured in conflict-related incidents in first half of the year, according to figures released by the United Nations mission in the country. (ANA)

(9) Afghan Forest...

of Finland, which had supported Afghanistan in various areas during the past 15 years, would continue cooperating with the conflict-torn nation.

Finland was ready for any type of technical support for the rehabilitation of Afghanistan's jungles, he said, adding technical teams of both countries could prepare a plan in this regard.

The two leaders also exchanged views on strengthening economic cooperation, ensuring peace and improving commerce and transit, according to the statement.

Ghani said Afghanistan was transforming into an regional intersection. Considering its strategic location, Afghanistan could help boost economic, transit and commercial cooperation. In the region, he concluded. (Pajhwok)

(10) Pak PM, US Vice...

bilateral relationship and discussed matters relating to peace and stability in Afghanistan and the region, a statement from the Pakistan foreign office said on Wednesday.

"It was agreed that the two countries would stay engaged with a constructive approach to achieve shared objectives of peace, stability and economic prosperity in the region," the statement said.

"We look forward to exploring ways so that we can work even more closely with Pakistan and with your government to advance security throughout the region," Pence told Abbasi.

In response, Abbasi said Pakistan intended to continue efforts to eliminate terrorism in the area.

"We have made our contributions, we fought a very difficult war, we suffered casualties and have suffered economic losses and that is the message that we bring to the world," he said. "We are partners in the war against terrorism."

A strong US delegation would travel to Islamabad next month to discuss bilateral and regional relationship with Pakistani officials. According to a media report Pakistan PM met Turkish president and talked the Afghan issue with him. Both leaders agreed that Afghan conflict should be resolved politically and urged trilateral meeting of Turkey, Pakistan and Afghanistan should resume. (Pajhwok)

(11) MPs Urge...

by Sawabdin Makhkash, the deputy chief of monitoring and observation at the Administrative Office of the President.

The document was reportedly meant to be shared only with a select group of senior officials, from the Administrative Office of the President, in a different Telegram group, but instead was accidentally posted to another group.

The document, called Main Deliverables, has 12 articles and appeared to refer to discrimination in the appointment process of officials in the Administrative Office of the President. "The Herat Pashtuns who cannot speak Pashto shall be appointed and we shall symbolically appoint Tajiks and Uzbeks who will definitely work based on our demand in order that people would think that the officials of the Administrative Office of the President are from all ethnic groups," reads the 9th article of the document.

MPs on Wednesday said such moves can widen the gap between government and the people and that anyone involved in such actions must be held accountable for what they have done.

"Afghanistan is the shared home of all Afghans. Provoking ethnic, linguistic and religious discrimination are crimes here," Mohammad Nazir Ahmadzai, second deputy speaker of parliament said.

A number of MPs blamed groups close to the president of distancing the nation through fueling ethnic and linguistic differences.

"If the president gives time to such fanatical people, it means that the president does not respect the peoples vote. If the president himself organizes such moves, then he should make his stance clear," MP Abdul Satar Darzabi said.

"There are groups close to the president that want to provoke ethnic and geographically-based discrimination," MP Lalai Hamidzai said.

Meanwhile, another MP Nader Shah Bahar, urged government to implement justice on the individuals who try to create discord among people by making ethnic-sensitive moves.

"We will wait to see how the National Unity Government will react to this case and the Afghan people are waiting to hear the result of government evaluation in this regard," said Bahar.

Sawabdin Makhkash meanwhile resigned from his post following the incident but has rejected the claims against him.

The Presidential Palace said however on Tuesday that the leaked document reflects Makhkash's own view, not that of the government. (Tolonews)

(12) President Ghani...

timelines provided a certainty over US support for Afghanistan which he said the Afghan people had been seeking "for years."

Ghani sought to link the fight in Afghanistan to the global fight against terrorism. "The future of Afghanistan matters because we are on the front lines of the global effort to eradicate the threat of terrorism," Ghani said.

Murtazavi said the president would also be meeting UNDP head, prime ministers of Georgia, India and England in New York. He said Ghani and Trump were expected talk about expanding bilateral ties, cooperation in fighting terrorism in Afghanistan and region, and building the capacity of Afghan security forces. (Pajhwok)

(13) Denmark to Help...

He added Afghanistan needed to benefit from Denmark's experience in energy management.

Lars Løkke Rasmussen replied his country was ready to support Afghanistan in the energy sector. Ghani invited Rasmussen to visit Afghanistan at a proper time.

The Danish prime minister, evincing an interest in visiting Kabul, said he would like to discuss important issues with the Afghan leaders in detail. (Pajhwok)

(14) Austria to Help...

towards development of professional education and renewable energy in the war-torn country.

He said Afghanistan has the capacity to collect renewable energy and in this regard Austria's help could be effective.

Van der Bellen was pleased meeting Ghani and said his government and people of Austria always stood with Afghanistan and his country was ready to cooperate with Afghanistan in the development of vocational education and renewable energy.

Meanwhile, President Ghani also met UAE foreign minister Sheikh Abdul bin Zayed Al-Nahyan on Tuesday noon on the margin of the UN General Assembly at the UN headquarters.

The UAE FM said: "We will always be a partner with the people of Afghanistan, and we will support Afghanistan in fighting terrorism."

He called the new US strategy for Afghanistan as "beneficial" for the stability and secu-

urity of Afghanistan and the region.

He expressed concern over distinguishing between "good" and "bad" terrorism in the region and said the threat of terrorism in had to be understood and jointly fought.

Sheikh Abdullah invited President Ghani to attend the inauguration ceremony of the UAE Museum in November, or to send a delegation from Afghanistan.

Ghani praised UAE's cooperation with Afghanistan in various fields and called the UAE as a friend and brother of Afghanistan. "UAE is one of Afghanistan's strong partners in combating terrorism."

Thankful for inviting him to the oil-rich nation, the Afghan leader said terrorism "is a major threat for regional countries and the world and needs a united strategy." (Pajhwok)

(15) China to Build...

by recently floods, rendering many families displaced and homeless. They said the families were currently living in tents.

The statement said the CEO for addressing the shelter issue of the victims on Wednesday met Chinese Ambassador in Kabul, Yao Jing. Abdullah asked Jing for assistance and construction of homes for the victims of Darwaz districts keeping in view the harsh conditions they lived in.

Yao Jing in the meeting expressed his country's readiness to assist and establish shelters for the flood-affected families in Darwaz districts — Maimay, Nusay and Shekay.

According to the statement, it was decided that the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) would soon start working on establishing 130 residences, a health clinic, a school in the area with financial support from China. (Pajhwok)

(16) US Increases...

our number of fighters. We had 12 F-16s; we now have 18," said Harrigan, who oversees missions at the Combined Air Operations Center at Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar.

According to Military.com, Harrigan said: "Our close-air support role continues and, as you look at the strategy coming forward, we're actually right now working with [Commander of US forces in Afghanistan] Gen. John Nicholson's staff on how to best synchronize his advice-and-assist strategy going forward to optimize the placement of the air assets."

Harrigan said there has been a large focus in the north and eastern part of Afghanistan in provinces such as Kunar and Kunduz.

"But there's a recognition that we're going to have to distribute our force, and that's going to require a lot of airpower support."

The emphasis will be on supporting ground forces as they position throughout the country. And Harrigan plans to "optimize" drones, such as MQ-9 Reapers, operating in the area, reported Military.com.

The US Defense Secretary Jim Mattis said Monday the United States will send in more than 3,000 additional troops to Afghanistan. Mattis told reporters at the Pentagon he expected to sign an order sending the troops soon, but offered few details.

"The president has been very clear that we are not going to broadcast to the enemy how many [troops] are going [and] where exactly they are going," he said. (Tolonews)

(17) UNAMA Welcomes...

to be honest, impartial and capable, are all elements that will enhance trust in the process and confidence in the outcome."

Kardel, who is also acting-head of UNAMA, pledged the international community's support as a partner throughout the electoral preparation process. She noted that political leaders and candidates also bear a great responsibility to ensure a credible processes and accepted outcomes.

"We strongly believe that elections must take place in order to uphold the Afghan people's constitutional right to vote," said Kardel. "We do this also because we are convinced that credible elections are essential for stability and to progress towards peace." (PR)

(18) Daesh Rebels...

killing of husband and wife, he said.

In Kapisa, police have arrested kidnapper who abducted people for ransom. The detained man hailed from the Badakhshi village of Najrab district, said Police spokesman Mohammad Ayub Yousufzai. (Pajhwok)

(19) Kunduz: Taliban...

Taliban had ordered the blackout. However, he said, the issue was under investigation and soon a solution would be found.

A telecom company in-charge in the province, on the condition of anonymity, said: "We suspend our services in night to avoid facing any security issue."

Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said the fighters had barred telecom services at night because security personnel used SIM cards in night during operations against militants. (Pajhwok)

(20) Kabul Gets 121...

been built in Kabul province, which will boost the sector and ensure a decrease in spoiled onions.

"Establishing the cold rooms was part of our plan for this year that has now been implemented in Kabul's districts. We are trying to establish more cold rooms in the same districts for next year," said Zamir. Out of the 121 cold rooms, 116 of them are small cold storage units that can hold up to 15 tons of

onions, five others are medium-sized units that can take 60 tons of onions.

A number of the units have been built in Char Asyab district, where residents called on government to build more such units.

They also said the agriculture ministry should distribute modified seeds during cultivation season.

"There are lots of problems. We face a shortage of water and modified seeds are not distributed during cultivation season; we hope that these problems also get resolved," Sakhi Ahmad, a member of Char Asyab district development council said.

"Government should build us big cold rooms that can address all our problems," Char Asyab resident Gulab Khan said.

Farmers in the district focus on onions and can harvest up to 100,000 tons a year.

These farmers however said that until now, up to 40 percent of their produce rots before being sold as they have had limited market opportunities and no cold storage facilities.

(21) Customs Issues...

at their union office in Kandahar on Tuesday said they will stage protests if government remains silent.

"The route (port in Spin Boldak) was closed for one month. They (customs officers) ask us to do many processes which are quite difficult. The goods of the investors have been stopped there and they face many hurdles," said Mohammad Rasoul, another businessman in the province.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Finance said government has a serious commitment to support the private sector.

He said such problems in any province will be assessed by the relevant offices.

"The Ministry of Finance continues its efforts to stand by the national investors and not create problems for them. We have directed central and provincial (customs) offices to support the national investors in this respect in accordance with the law," said Ajmal Hamid Abdulrahimzai, spokesman for the Finance Ministry.

Kandahar investors said they would end up bankrupt if such issues and trade relations between Afghanistan and neighboring countries do not improve. (Tolonews)

(22) US Military...

Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland.

"Our study offers a much broader accounting and provides some indicators of resources expended," Learn said by email. "It also uses the context of global burden of surgical disease to demonstrate how this care made an impact in a country that still faces substantial health challenges."

For the study, researchers examined military data on noncombatant local patients over the age of 15 who underwent at least one surgical procedure.

A total of 2,933 procedures were classified as war-related because they dealt with injuries and conditions that occurred as a direct consequence of the conflict in Afghanistan, including both acute and chronic health issues. Compared with patients who had war injuries, those treated for non-combat issues were generally older and had shorter hospital stays with fewer total procedures and lower death rates, the study found.

Traumatic injuries accounted for 2,762 surgical procedures, and these were often orthopedic cases involving fractures.

Many cases involved operations to treat common civilian health problems like hernia, cataracts, urinary obstruction or appendicitis. One limitation of the study is that researchers lacked detailed data on the exact medical conditions patients had or the precise circumstances that brought them to the hospital.

Still, the results show military treatment facilities in Afghanistan provide a substantial amount of civilian care, said Army Colonel Dr. Mary Edwards, a researcher at San Antonio Military Medical Center on Fort Sam Houston in Texas, who wasn't involved in the study.

Edwards said this report, and other data cited by the research team, "likely underestimate the total humanitarian care provided by the U.S. Military in Afghanistan during recent conflicts."

Many surgeries unrelated to combat might have been necessary at least in part because local medical services were not readily available after years of war, she said.

"During times of war and civil unrest, accidental injury becomes more common, as normal public safety measures fail and the existing medical infrastructure of the local community becomes disrupted or overwhelmed," Edwards said by email. (Reuters)

(23) 9 Militants Killed...

Alingar district on Tuesday night.

He said seven Taliban, including a notorious commander named Gul Mohammad Adalat, were killed, three wounded and four others captured by the security forces.

He added Adalat was involved in terrorist activities against the government and was wanted by the government.

In Nangarhar, two Daesh fighters were killed and two others wounded during a US drone strike in the Manogan area of Haska Mena district on Tuesday.

Attallah Khgyani, the governor's spokesman, said heavy and light weapons belonging to IS fighters were also destroyed during the strike. Taliban and Daesh have not yet commented on the offensives. (Pajhwok)