

(1) Pakistan's ...

shelter for Taliban insurgents came in the way of U.S. military success in Afghanistan. He recounted how his country has suffered unprecedented human and financial losses since joining Washington's war on terror in the aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2001, terror strikes against the United States.

He told the Council audience that Pakistan still hosts 2.7 million Afghan refugees, with 500,000 thousands of them living in temporary camps. Thousands of them move across the border every day, and Pakistani authorities are not able to determine whether or not insurgents are also among them. (VoA)

(2) Delhi Wary ...

Representative Zalmay Khalilzad on Monday.

CRS said Trump had encouraged India to play a greater role in Afghanistan's economic development. "This, along with other administrative messaging, has compounded Pakistani concerns over Indian activity in Afghanistan," CRS is an independent research wing of the US Congress, which prepares periodic reports on issues of interest for lawmakers to take informed decisions. "Pakistan's security establishment, fearful of strategic encirclement by India, apparently continues to view the Taliban as a relatively friendly and reliably anti-India element in Afghanistan," the report said.

"India's diplomatic and commercial presence in Afghanistan -- and US rhetorical support for it -- exacerbates Pakistani fears of encirclement. Indian interest in Afghanistan stems largely from India's broader regional rivalry with Pakistan, which impedes Indian efforts to establish stronger and more direct commercial and political relations with Central Asia," it said. (Pajhwok)

(3) Stoltenberg ...

NATO's support for the peace talks. The meeting happened on the margins of UN General Assembly gathering in New York, the statement said.

The Secretary General welcomed Ambassador Khalilzad's regular briefings to the North Atlantic Council. He stressed that NATO's focus remains unchanged to make the Afghan security forces stronger, so that they can fight international terrorism and create the conditions for lasting peace. (Pajhwok)

(4) Daikundi ...

would vote for their favorite candidate. She said, "We would vote for an electoral team which has one female deputy running mate because women are kind and understand well women's issues." She urged the candidates to play their role in ensuring transparency election and also urged the IEC not to allow anyone to commit fraud and rigging.

Marwarid, 20, a resident of Dashti Neili, the provincial capital, told Pajhwok she would take part in the polls as she was fully ready.

She urged IEC officials, political parties and candidates to prevent fraud and rigging.

Fatima Haidari, a resident of the provincial capital, said it was every Afghan's responsibility to take part in the election process and vote for a candidate of their interest.

She said she planned to vote for her favorite candidate in next week's election.

A number of other women held similar views and urged IEC officials to no spare no effort in conducting fair, free and transparent election throughout the county.

Meanwhile, Amanullah Habibi, IEC head for Daikundi, told Pajhwok that all preparations to hold the upcoming presidential election were in place and only three polling stations among 177 would stay closed due to insecurity.

Police spokesman Mohammad Agha Daud assured security of all polling stations and confirmed three polling stations would be closed due to insecurity, (Pajhwok)

(5) Paktia Residents ...

to take part in the electoral process and let them decide their future," he said.

Zakia Akhtari, a women's rights activist, told Pajhwok that different tactics were used to create hurdles to the election process.

She said: "Election is nothing new, it happened in the time of Prophet Mohammad (Peace Be Upon Him) as well." Akhtari also urged the Taliban to take part in the national process and let the people vote.

Laiq Wahdat, another civil society activist, termed the election process important to establish a legitimate government.

He said a strong government could conduct direct peace talks with the Taliban and could facilitate peace negotiations. Wahidullah, another resident of the provincial capital, called on the Taliban to prove they were Afghans and allow people to take the state-making process. A number of other residents expressed similar views and urged the Taliban not to make hurdles to the election.

Shir Ali, IEC spokesman for Paktia, hoped the Taliban would allow people to take part in next week's presidential polls.

On the other hand, the Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid called on people not to take part in the election as they would target polling stations. (Pajhwok)

(6) Turkey Provides ...

leaving thousands injured.

After exhausting all solutions in their war-torn country, the Sadad family left everything behind and began a long and weary journey to Turkey.

"We came here because there is a shortage of doctors and hospitals in Afghanistan," father Seyed said.

Traveling for days on foot, they reached Turkey's eastern Agri province over Iran. They have been living in Agri for a year now.

"When my daughter was born, there were bombs exploding everywhere. After one of those explosions, blood started to come out of my daughter's ears and she could not speak or hear after that," Seyed told Anadolu Agency.

He said their daughter started to hear again with the hearing aid she received from the Turkish Red Crescent.

"When she put the hearing aid in her ear, her reaction was worth to see," said Orhan Tatli, the Agri head of Turkish Red Crescent. (AA)

(7) Nearly Half ...

if they could -- and join the mass exodus that has taken place in the country since 2015, according to the survey.

In the midst of the deadliest year for Afghan civilians since the United Nations began documenting casualties--and as millions of Afghans also grappled with food insecurity--a record-high 41% of Afghans said they would move to another country permanently if they could.

Afghans' desire to migrate has increased in every region of the country within the past two years, but it is highest in South-Western Afghanistan, where the Taliban have retaken control and where severe drought has driven many Afghans deeper into poverty and food insecurity, the survey says, adding that a slim majority in the South-Western region (52%) said they would like to move away permanently if they could.

According to the survey, the percentage of Afghan women who say they would like to move has nearly tripled since 2016, and for the first time, significantly more women (47%) than men (35%) want to leave.

The survey reveals that Afghans who say they would like to move to another country are most likely to name Germany (19%) and Turkey (19%), the two countries where Afghan refugees make up the second-largest refugee populations after Syrians, as their preferred destination.

Moreover, it shows that the US, which is often the No. 1 desired destination for most of the world's potential migrants, is the next-most mentioned after the first two, with 12% saying they would like to move there. (Tolo news)

(8) Third Annual ...

Embassy of Afghanistan, India; and T.S. Tirumurti, Secretary, Economic Relations, Indian Ministry of External Relations.

The 2018 Passage to Prosperity event, held in Mumbai, yielded more than USD \$71 million in signed contracts between Indian buyers and Afghan vendors. (PR)

(9) Ministry of ...

... for years on improving capacities and transparency and efficiency mechanisms for successful implementation of development projects."

The ministry said Kabul was aggressively increased oversight of large-scale infrastructure projects envisioned in the national budget and through international funding to improve implementation timelines and hold accountable the parties responsible for delays and mismanagement.

Of the 13 public finance-related reform benchmarks under the Incentive Program, the MoF claimed achieving over 70 percent of the indicators.

"For the remaining benchmarks, we report good progress and remain on track to claim the USD 60 million withheld funds by mid-November 2019." (Pajhwok)

(10) Hanif Atmar ...

"However, I will remain a candidate if the ballot was postponed. I will stay neutral and won't join any ticket in this election," he was quoted as saying in the statement.

"As a citizen of this country and die to my love for the people, I will always stand with allies and friends for justice, democracy and responsible governance. We will continue efforts for peace," he added.

A day earlier, a number of politicians underlined the need for peace negotiations and expressed their concern over possible fraud in the presidential election. (Pajhwok)

(11) Trump Says ...

in fact strong-arm the Ukrainian government, mainstream media outlets such as CNN quickly dismissed the story outright as a "conspiracy theory." The Ukraine allegation found its way back into the headlines after reports last week that President Trump asked his Ukrainian counterpart Volodymyr Zelenskyy during a phone call to open a new corruption probe into Biden and his son. Trump has defended the call, arguing that he did not put undue pressure on Zelenskyy, and said he was considering releasing a transcript of the interaction. (RT)

(12) Boris Johnson ...

decision, the U.K. Supreme Court unanimously declared that Johnson's order to close Parliament earlier this month was "void and of no effect" and that his government had instead shut down the legislature in an effort to squelch debate on Britain's divorce from the European Union.

"The suspension was unlawful because it had the effect of frustrating or preventing the ability of Parliament to carry out its constitutional functions without reasonable justification," Supreme Court President Brenda Hale said in a statement.

Immediately after the landmark ruling, opposition Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn led the calls for Johnson's resignation.

"I invite Boris Johnson, in the historic words, to consider his position," he said during a party conference Tuesday, adding that Johnson should "become the shortest-serving prime minister there's ever been."

Meanwhile, Scottish National Party legislator Joanna Cherry said: "His position is untenable and he should have the guts for once to do the decent thing and resign."

House of Commons Speaker John Bercow welcomed the historic verdict and said Parliament would resume its business Wednesday morning.

He said the ruling "vindicated the right

and duty of Parliament to meet at this crucial time to scrutinize the executive and hold ministers to account."

In a country without a written constitution, the case marked a rare confrontation between the prime minister, the courts and Parliament over their rights and responsibilities.

It revolved around whether Johnson acted lawfully when he advised the queen to suspend Parliament for five weeks during a crucial time frame before the Oct. 31 Brexit deadline when Britain is scheduled to leave the European Union. (Fox News)

(13) UAE Entities ...

UAE could have a food reserve in India. "They [UAE entities] have expressed their interest to invest up to US\$5 billion in mega food parks, logistics and warehouse hubs, fruits and vegetable hubs in various Indian cities, which would create 200,000 jobs across India," said the minister who was in the UAE earlier this week on an official visit.

The proposed projects are in various cities, such as mega food parks in Kutch in western state of Gujarat and Aurangabad in western state of Maharashtra, Goyal said.

A food park in Pawarkheda in central state of Madhya Pradesh, logistics and warehouse hub in Itarsi in Madhya Pradesh, fruits and vegetables hub in Nashik and warehousing hub in Bhiwandi in Maharashtra are other projects, he explained.

The UAE entities plan to make an indicative investment up to US\$2 billion in contract farming, sourcing of several agro commodities, setting up of food parks and other related infrastructure for food processing, the minister said. They are considering western Indian states of Gujarat and Maharashtra for the proposed projects and the possibility of eight food parks is being currently evaluated, Goyal revealed.

The food export possibilities to the UAE and wider region are explored, which will turn into a win-win situation for both India and UAE, he said.

Reports in 2018 said that India had suggested to the UAE leadership it could be a partner in the UAE's food security.

Although India grows enough food for its 1.3 billion people, 30 percent of that food is wasted for lack of appropriate infrastructure for storage, processing and transportation, which could be built by the UAE's investments.

The UAE can buy the food produced by the project at a cheaper price while Indian farmers will get a comparatively better price for their crops. (WAM)

(14) Walrus Sinks ...

archipelago to investigate the flora and fauna of the region, as well as making glaciological observations.

It is also mapping historical expeditions such as those of Austro-Hungarian military officer Julius von Payer in 1874, and American explorer Walter Wellman in 1898. (CNN)

(15) Venezuela Denounces ...

Assembly, the Venezuelan minister has held bilateral meetings with authorities from countries such as Portugal and Equatorial Guinea.

He also signed a Memorandum of Understanding for future collaboration with the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet.

As part of the document, the possibility of an agreement that would allow the establishment of a UN office in Venezuela was evaluated.

The memorandum includes the strengthening of national mechanisms for the protection of human rights and access to justice, while facilitating possible visits by UN special rapporteurs over the next two years.

The details of these activities will be agreed in a work plan to be defined between the government of the South American nation and the UN Human Rights Office within 30 days of signature. (Prensa Latina)

(16) Air Strikes ...

Saudi-led coalition. There was no im-

mediate comment from the coalition.

Saudi Arabia leads a coalition that intervened in 2015 to restore the government of President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi, which the Houthis ousted from power in the capital Sanaa in late 2014. It has carried out many air strikes in Houthi areas.

Two residents told Reuters that 17 people had died in the strikes on Qataba, a frontline town which lies on the main north-south route between Houthi-controlled Sanaa and the southern port city of Aden.

Aden is nominally the interim seat of Yemen's internationally recognised government, but southern separatists seized control of the city last month.

Violence from both sides during the war has killed tens of thousands of people and pushed millions to the brink of famine.

Nine people, including three children, died this month when shelling from Houthi-controlled territory hit their house south of the major port city of Hodeidah, medical sources told Reuters.

The medical charity Medecins Sans Frontieres said eight women and one child had been admitted to a nearby hospital after shelling. (Yeni Safak)

(17) German Lawmakers ...

accolades from Germany's left-wing parties, conservative lawmakers raised alarm over Thunberg's incendiary approach.

MP Roderich Kiesewetter, a member of the Christian Democratic Union (CDU), said that Thunberg was attempting to bully those who seek respectful, fact-based dialogue about environmental issues.

"Anyone who wants to argue rationally is already discredited from the outset," he wrote, adding that objectivity was being thrown out the window.

Another CDU deputy, Jana Schimke, accused Thunberg of spreading "incipient mass hysteria."

Gerd Müller, the minister of economic cooperation and development, noted in response to the activist's fighting words that "climate protection does not start with Greta Thunberg." (RT)

(18) China Win 8th ...

set when they switched off as happens sometimes, they had the strength and the will to come back and win an important match for us."

Serbia coach Aleksandar Vladislavljev praised his opponents' performance.

"South Korea played better today and deserved to win. In the first two sets, we were totally absent," he said. "In the third set, we played much better, but in the fourth their experience and the quality of Kim decided the set and the match. Now, we have three matches left and I hope we will play better."

Cameroon came close to their first victory at this tournament after winning two sets in a row, only to find Argentina fight back to take the next three for a come-from-behind 21-25, 20-25, 25-20, 25-20 and 15-12 triumph.

Lucia Fresco led Argentina with 32 points.

"Today was very difficult. Cameroon's defense is very strong, but the fact that we could turn it around after losing two sets is good as it gave the team confidence," said Argentina captain Julieta Constanza Lazcano.

The United States and Russia both improved to a 7-1 win-loss record. Inspired by Andrea Drews' 23-point performance, the American women beat Dominican Republic 25-22, 25-23 and 25-9 while Russia overcame the Netherlands 26-24, 25-18 and 25-20.

On Tuesday evening, Brazil swept Japan 25-14, 25-21 and 25-23 for their fifth win in eight tries.

After eight rounds of play, China led the standings with a perfect 8-0 record, followed by the United States and Russia on 7-1.

The 12 teams competing here will have two rest days with the action to resume on Friday. (Xinhua)