The Kabul Times DAILY

Founded in 1962

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Jawza 22-1400 Saturday 12 June 2021 INo: 67- Vol: LIX

Afghanistan Constitution

Article One Hundred Sixteen

The judiciary shall be an independent organ of the state of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.

The judiciary shall be comprised of one Supreme Court, Courts of Appeal as well as Primary Courts whose organization and authority shall be regulated by law. The Supreme Court shall be the highest judicial organ, heading the judicial power of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.

Muslim World League: Declaration on peace in Afghanistan

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U.S. withdrawal constrains counterterrorism options

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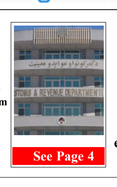

Afghan custom offices make $4m average daily revenues: MoF

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Rashid Khan helps Lahore Qalandars to late victory over Peshawar Zalmi in PSL

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Why India's second COVID surge is so much worse than the first

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President Ghani stresses impartial ICRC reports, attention to human rights in Doha talks

KABUL: President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Mohammad Ashraf Ghani, in a meeting with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) country director for Afghanistan, discussed some issues including growing violence in the country, and criticized the Committee's nonimpartial reports on Afghanistan, the Presidential Press Office said Friday.

During an introductory meeting of the ICRC country director held at the Presidential Palace, both sides expressed concern over the intensifying violence in Afghanistan, highly taking civilians lives, the office said in a statement.

"This is unacceptable," the country's president said pointing to the growing civilians death in the country.

The former country director of the International Committee of the Red Cross for Afghanistan has also attended the meeting to introduce the new ICRC Chief, saying that they were working with the Afghan security and defense institutions to support these forces in accordance with international human rights law and in case of violations, they review it and take corrective measures.

According to the statement, he added that the International Committee of the Red Cross for Afghanistan was in contact with the negotiating team of both the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and the Taliban in Doha to consider issues relating to international human rights law as a major topic of discussion in the peace talks.

Meanwhile, the country's president said that the reports of the International Committee of the Red Cross for Afghanistan are not impartial. "This should be prepared and published in accordance with the charter of the organization," the president said bringing an example saying that there was no reaction of the organization in the field of landmines and no attention has been made to the human rights issue in the Doha peace talks, and this issue should be an important part of this debate."

"We accept peace talks, but the Taliban are not willing to talk," the president said referring to the international troops withdrawal from Afghanistan. The president went on as saying: "We have the United States with us, but we emphasize Afghanistan's self-sufficiency so that we do not need international assistance, and that water management and the implementation of important infrastructure projects will lead us to that goal." **The Kabul Times**

Islamic scholars call raging war in Afghanistan 'genocide of Muslims'

KABUL: The Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) called the raging war in Afghanistan "genocide of Muslims," an official statement said on Friday.

In a statement issued by the Afghan government, Muhammad Qasim Halimi, Afghanistan's minister for hajj and religious affairs, said he met Yousef Al-Othaimeen, secretary-general of the OIC, and Mohammad bin Abdul Karim Al-Issa, secretary-general of the Muslim World League, in Saudi Arabia before participating in a gathering of religious scholars from Afghanistan, Saudi Arabia and Pakistan.

The OIC secretary-general dubbed the war in Afghanistan "genocide of Muslims," the statement said, adding that Halimi underlined on this occasion that there was no excuse for the Taliban to continue fighting in Afghanistan after the withdrawal of foreign troops.

The Muslim World League on Thursday hosted "The Islamic Conference on the Declaration of Peace in Afghanistan" in Makkah, which was addressed by Al-Issa, Halimi and Noor-ul-Haq Qadri, Pakistani minister for religious affairs.

They were joined by senior clerics from Afghanistan and Pakistan via video link for a full-day session on peace, tolerance and the role of scholars in resolving regional conflicts and supporting peace-building efforts.

The Kabul Times

COVID-19: Ministry reports 1,024 new cases, 37 deaths in Afghanistan

KABUL: The Ministry of Public Health on Friday reported 1,024 new positive cases of COVID-19 out of 2,948 samples tested in the last 24 hours.

The ministry also reported 37 deaths and 316 recoveries from COVID-19 in the same period, down from over 50 daily deaths in the last six days.

The new cases were reported in Kabul (228), Herat (48), Kandahar (51), Balkh (6), Nangarhar (70), Paktia (39), Badakhshan (53), Ghazni (52), Laghman (8), Kunar (34), Zabul (36), Uruzgan (1), Farah (18) and Khost (4) provinces. Afghanistan so far has recorded 88,740 positive cases and 3,449 deaths from COVID-19.

The new deaths over the last 24 hours were reported in Kabul (8), Herat (2), Kandahar (4), Nangarhar (1), Kunduz (3), Baghlan (1), Maidan Wardak (2), Helmand (1), Paktia (2), Ghazni (3), Laghman (5), Panjshir (2), Kunar (2) and Farah (1) provinces.

So far, 519,802 samples have been tested in government centers and there are 24,438 known active COVID-19 cases in the country, data by the ministry indicates.

According to Johns Hopkins University, the number of deaths from COVID-19 globally is more than 3,773,635 and the number of known global coronavirus cases is 174,879,141.

The Kabul Times

Afghanistan holds political consultation with Poland after 30-year

KABUL: Afghanistan's Deputy foreign ministries Mirwais Nab, and Polish Deputy Foreign Minister Marcin Przydacz had the first round of political consultations almost after 30 years, according to a statement on Friday.

Main topics of discussion included bilateral relations, peace process, the new chapter of partnership with the Republic of Poland post foreign troops' withdrawal from Afghanistan, cooperation in the fields of economic, agricultural, banking and education, the UN as well as regional and international cooperation.

Deputy Foreign Minister Nab expressed his gratitude to the Polish Government for its investment in blood and treasure over the past 20 years. He paid homage to the 44 Polish soldiers who lost their lives in Afghanistan.

Nab stressed on the importance of further strengthening the bilateral ties between Afghanistan and Poland. He also hoped that the new chapter of partnership opened new horizons of collaboration with Afghanistan's partners especially with Poland.

Deputy Foreign Minister Marcin Przydacz expressed his satisfaction with the possibility of holding consultations for the first time since 1993 and recalled the almost century-long historical ties between the two countries.

He underlined that since 2002 Poland has supported Afghanistan with the military presence of its troops and contributed nearly 30 million EUR towards the development of Afghanistan and its society. He declared his country's readiness to continue its support

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Prince Harry calls killings of HALO Trust staff in Afghanistan an 'act of barbarism'

KABUL: Ten members of The HALO Trust (Hazardous Area Life-support Organization), which works to remove debris left behind by war, were killed in Afghanistan and another 16 were injured in the attack on Tuesday.

UK's Prince Harry, a member of the British Royal Family, has worked with the organization on multiple occasions and visited a HALO Trust mine site in Angola in 2019 - 22 years after his late mother Princess Diana's poignant walk through a minefield in the same country.

"In all, 26 members of The HALO Trust's Afghanistan team were killed or injured on Tuesday night in what was nothing less than an act of barbarism," he said in a statement released Thursday. "I honor those who have been lost and encourage support for the survivors and the families of those affected."

"Those who work for HALO in Afghanistan face risks every day to remove the lasting - and still deadly - scars of war and conflict," continued Harry, 36. "The men who were attacked come from the very communities in which they work. They joined HALO to protect and restore their country and their homes. As I understand it, the deminers who lost their lives were also protecting their friends."

Prince Harry added, "These workers put their lives on the line every day to make the world a safer place. This brutal act reminds us that we must stand in solidarity with humanitarian aid workers and the communities they serve. I would urge all of HALO's supporters across the world to rally to their cause and help in any way they can."

During his 2019 visit to Africa with Meghan Markle and their son Archie, Harry gave a speech about the importance of clearing landmines in the context of conservation and for humanitarian reasons. "This historic commitment is a key step forward for the movement to rid the world of mines and lay the foundation for a safe and just future for the next generation," he said. "Landmines are an unhealed scar of war. By clearing the landmines, we can help this community find peace, and with peace comes opportunity."

Prince Harry's statement comes less than a week after he welcomed his daughter, named Lilibet "Lili" Diana in tribute to Queen Elizabeth Princess Diana, with Meghan.

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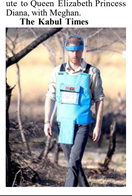

MoIC remembers Ghazal maestro Sarahang on his death anniversary

KABUL: Ministry of Information and Culture (MoIC) commemorated the 39th death anniversary of Afghan Ghazal maestro, Ustad Mohammad Hussain Sarahang, during a ceremony here in Kabul, the ministry said Thursday.

Addressing a gathering on the occasion, acting Minister of Information and Culture, Mohammad Tahir Zuhair, said that the last forty years of war has badly affected music and hindered its growth and development in the country.

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China-donated COVID-19 vaccines arrive in Afghanistan

KABUL: A batch of COVID-19 vaccines donated by the Chinese government arrived in Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan on Thursday.

The shipment of Sinopharm vaccines are the first Chinese donation of the COVID-19 vaccine Afghanistan has received.

Afghanistan has administered about 1 million doses of the COVID-19 vaccine as of early May, largely to frontline healthcare workers, security forces members, journalists, and teachers.

Amid a third wave of COVID-19 infections, currently the war-torn Asian country is suffering a vaccine shortage. The Ministry of Public Health on Tuesday announced it had run out of the COVID-19 vaccine.

Afghanistan recorded 1,822 new confirmed cases of COVID-19 on Thursday, raising the total tally to 87,716, the ministry said.

To combat COVID-19, the ministry has repeatedly urged the Afghan people to wear a face mask in crowded places, practice physical distancing and keep personal hygiene.

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