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Afghanistan Constitution

Article One Hundred Twenty-Three

With respect to the provisions of this Constitution, statutes related to the formation, authority, as well as proceedings of courts and matters related to judges, shall be regulated by law.

India-Taliban connection in the offing: how will it look?

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Afghanistan: COVID-19 at crisis point as hospitals overflow

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Turkey leaves interest rates unchanged, nods to lira weakness

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Teqball clubs in Afghanistan participate in tree-planting program

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World Refugee Day: How a Pakistani risked everything to reach Europe

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War of words: MoFA asks Pakistan to avoid unrealistic, untrue statements on Afghanistan

NSA Mohib, who is critical of Pakistan over its ties with the Taliban, recently accused Islamabad of enabling a violent offensive by the terror group in Afghanistan.

KABUL: Ministry of Foreign Affairs in a statement on Saturday asked Pakistan to avoid unrealistic and untrue statements against Afghanistan. "Given the sensitivity of the situation and the opportunities arisen to achieve a permanent peace in Afghanistan and the region, comments and statements that spoil this trend are not favorable to the Afghan Peace Process," the statement said. The MoFA went on saying that the Afghan government and the international community call on Pakistani government officials to utilize their influence and control over the Taliban to bring them back to the negotiating table for meaningful talks to end the war and bloodshed in Afghanistan, thus ensuring peace in Afghanistan would help eliminate global terrorism threat benefiting Pakistan and the international community. "Unrealistic and untrue statements will obstruct strengthening relations between the two countries. Afghanistan is determined to discuss important and key issues with Pakistan through diplomatic channels," the statement further said. This comes as Pakistan once again hit out at Afghanistan's National Security Adviser Hamdullah Mohib for what it called his "repeated impertinent and unwarranted remarks" and accused him of trying to "disregard and nullify" the progress made in the Afghan peace process.

In a rejoinder to a tweet by NSA Mohib on Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi's interview with Afghanistan's Tolonews, the Pakistan Foreign Office said: "Repeated impertinent and unwarranted remarks" were "a calculated attempt by his office to disregard and nullify the progress in the peace process so far", Dawn reported.

NSA Mohib, who is critical of Pakistan over its ties with the Taliban, recently accused Islamabad of enabling a violent offensive by the terror group in Afghanistan.

In the interview with Afghanistan's Tolonews, Pakistan foreign minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi has sought to absolve the Taliban for the high levels of violence in Afghanistan. Sre P7

Urgent healthcare services delivery government's top priority, President Ghani

KABUL: Presided over by President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani, a meeting was held yesterday to discuss 3rd wave of coronavirus, prioritization of providing urgent healthcare services and oxygen to the people.

In the meeting held at Presidential Palace, acting minister of public health by delivering information in connection with importing oxygen from outside, reactivation of oxygen systems and increasing beds in hospitals said the 3rd wave of coronavirus is passing and people are seriously asked to observe health instructions.

President Ghani praised doctors and health workers for their efforts towards delivering health services in consideration to current possibilities, saying that delivering urgent healthcare services was in top priorities of the government.

The country's President assured the people that the 3rd wave of the pandemic has been managed in a better way so far, saying that presence and future decisions were made based on previous scientific basis and experiences.

Pointing to fair distribution of coronavirus vaccines, President Ghani said that the vaccines should be injected to aged people and public awareness should be given to people to prevent from much crowd upon receiving vaccines. **The Kabul Times**

FM Atmar hails EU principled stance on Afghan-led peace process

KABUL: Foreign Minister Mohammad Haneef Atmar at a meeting with EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Josep Borrel, has commended the European Union's principled stance on the Afghan-led and Afghan-owned peace process. FM Atmar also praised EU's emphasis on preserving Afghanistan's hard-won gains over the last two decades, the MoFA statement said yesterday. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs said the two sides discussed the new chapter of cooperation between Afghanistan and the EU following the withdrawal of foreign forces and the fight against the third wave of the coronavirus.

He went on to underline the importance of continued assistance from the European Union to Afghanistan in the fields of security, defense, economy and the joint fight against terrorism.

About the rising violence by the Taliban and the group's noncompliance with its commitments, Atmar highlighted the government's vision and roadmap for peace and a political settlement to the conflict.

Borrell reiterated EU's strong commitment to upholding the gains of the last two decades and contributing to the Afghan peace process. He noted the EU had played an important role in promoting democracy in Afghanistan over the last two decades and that it would continue to stand by the Afghan people in preserving those gains.

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Afghan, Iranian, Turkish FMs to meet in Antalya today

KABUL: The Turkish Foreign Ministry announced that a trilateral meeting between foreign ministers of Iran, Turkey, and Afghanistan regarding Afghanistan peace process will be held in Antalya on Sunday, June 20.

In this trilateral meeting, the three countries of Iran, Turkey and Afghanistan will discuss latest developments on peace process in Afghanistan.

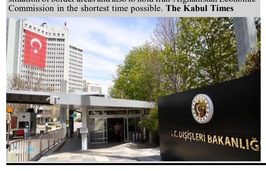
In this regard, Afghan Foreign Minister Mohmmad Haneef Atmar, who is in Turkey for participating in Antalya Diplomacy Forum (ADF), met and held talk with his Iranian counterpart Jawad Zarif on relevant issues.

During the meeting, Iran's Zarif said that his country is ready to participate effectively in strengthening stability in Afghanistan and emphasized the need for cooperation of all political current inside Afghanistan in restoration of stable security to this country.

Iranian foreign minister also said that Iran is ready to hold Iran-Afghanistan Economic Commission as soon as possible.

Afghan foreign minister, for his part, expressed special thanks to the Islamic Republic of Iran, on behalf of Afghan government, for sending humanitarian health and medical aids and also oxygen consignments to Afghanistan to deal with the coronavirus pandemic and called for continuation of bilateral cooperation in all fields.

FM Atmar also briefed his Iranian counterpart on the latest security situation in Afghanistan and announced that Afghanistan is ready to cooperate with Iranian side especially with regards to the security situation of border areas and also to hold Iran-Afghanistan Economic Commission in the shortest time possible. **The Kabul Times**



President appoints new acting ministers to key security institutions

KABUL: The Presidential Palace (ARG) said on Saturday that in line with President Mohammad Ashraf Ghan's decree, new acting ministers have been appointed to key security institutions as well as to the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development.

According to the administrative office of the president, Bismillah Mohammadi has been appointed as Acting Defense Minister, replacing Asadullah Khalid; Abdul Sattar Mirzakwal, has been appointed as the Acting Interior Minister and Hayatullah Hayat as Acting Minister of Rural Rehabilitation and Development. Presidential palace added that the acting ministers will be introduced to parliament for a vote of confidence in the near future. Meanwhile, President Ghani appointed Mujeeb Rahman Karimi as Senior Presidential Advisor for Development and Infrastructure.

In separate decree, the president also appointed Enayatullah Kamal as new Faryab governor and Wali Mohammad Ahmadzai as Chief of Army Staff, replacing Gen. Yasin Zia.

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Ministry reports 1,384 new COVID-19 cases, 92 deaths in Afghanistan

KABUL: The Ministry of Public Health on Saturday reported 1,384 new positive cases of COVID-19 out of 4,389 samples tested in the last 24 hours.

The ministry also reported 92 deaths in the same period, a bit high than the previous day's record. The figures show that 497 recoveries from COVID-19 were also reported in the last 24 hours.

Afghanistan has so far recorded 101,906 positive cases and 4,030 deaths from COVID-19. The total number of recoveries from COVID-19 in the country is 63,956.

According to Johns Hopkins University, the number of deaths from COVID-19 globally is more than 3,852,893 and the number of known global coronavirus cases is 177,884,219.

With the increase of positive cases, oxygen demands for COVID-19 patients have also increased.

Health officials said this week that each day hundreds of COVID-19 patients are coming to hospitals for treatment. "Each day about 300 are hospitalized and most of them are over 40," an official said.

Previously, health officials warned the people to consider the advice of the Ministry of Public Health and to wear masks and practice social distancing. "Otherwise, the country will face a disaster," the officials said.

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