



Afghan situation: Dilemma of Pakistan

See Page 2



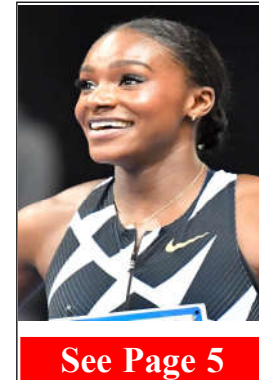
RSF asks international community to ensure safety for Afghan journalists

See Page 3



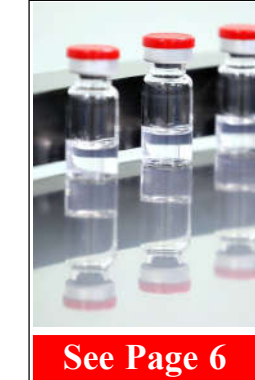
Eurozone out of recession after economy grows 2%

See Page 4



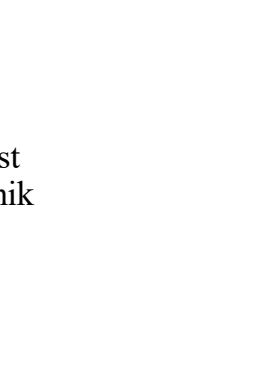
Tokyo 2020 Olympics: Dina Asher-Smith ready to thrive on greatest stage of all in Tokyo

See Page 5



Uzbekistan produces first batch of Sputnik V vaccine

See Page 6



Political leaders drum up support for ANDSF, Afghanistan's sovereignty

Afghan, Turkish defense ministers discuss security of Kabul International Airport

KABUL: During a phone talk with Minister of Defense of Afghanistan Hossain Mohammed, Turkey's Defense Minister Hulusi Akar said Turkey will stand by the Afghan people as long as they want. Anadolu news agency reports.

The ministers discussed issues related to the region and security at Kabul International Airport, the press release of the Turkish Ministry of Defense reads.

Akar was quoted as saying that Turkey and Afghanistan had developed solidarity in the face of the difficulties both countries had faced throughout history.

According to the statement, Turkey has long been carrying out its activities for the peace and welfare of its Afghan brothers. Turkey pledged to continue supporting the Afghan people, as it was important to keep the peace process in Afghanistan going.

Turkey has been in talks with the US on guarding and securing the Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul after the exit of NATO troops from Afghanistan.

During a briefing for the press on Thursday, the ministry declared that Turkish troops won't play an operational role in Afghanistan after the pullout of US troops. **The Kabul Times**



Airstrikes kill 21 militants in northern Jawzjan province

KABUL: A total of 21 militants were confirmed dead as fighting rages in northern Jawzjan province in Afghanistan's northern Jawzjan province on Friday, army officials in the northern region Mohammad Haidar said.

The series targeted Taliban positions and hideouts in Murghab, Hainatash, Arma and adjoining villages along the road linking Jawzjan to the neighboring Sar-i-Pol province on Friday afternoon, killing 21 insurgents and injuring 10 others, the official said.

Taliban militants, who have intensified activities since the onset of the U.S. and France pull-out from Afghanistan early in May, had been reportedly over-run about 200 militants, have yet to make contacts.

The Kabul Times



MoFA condemns Taliban attack on UNAMA office in Herat



KABUL: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan condemned in the strongest terms the armed attack by the Taliban on UNAMA office in Herat province.

"By carrying out such attacks, the Taliban have taken violence to a new phase, entailing dangerous consequences. The continuation of such crimes will severely endanger the continuation of international organizations' presence and their activities in Afghanistan," a MoFA statement said yesterday.

Widespread violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, including arbitrary killing of civilians, kidnapping prisoners, mutilation of bodies, public flogging of women and destruction of infrastructures, and now the attack on the United Nations, which represents the international community, are proof of war crimes that the Taliban are perpetrating, according to the statement.

The MoFA said that the international community is expected to exert necessary pressure on the Taliban to prevent their continued bloodshed and war crimes.

The Kabul Times

20 killed, 18 wounded in two separate traffic accidents in Laghman

KABUL: Officials said today 20 people including women and children were killed and 18 others wounded in two separate traffic accidents on the Kabul-Laghman highway.

According to the Laghman provincial office, 12 other people were killed and eight injured in another traffic incident on Saturday morning.

He said both accidents were caused by driver negligence.

The Kabul Times



Ministry reports 319 new COVID-19 cases, 28 deaths in Afghanistan



KABUL: The Ministry of Public Health reported on Saturday 319 new positive cases of COVID-19 and 28 deaths in the last 24 hours.

The ministry also reported 23 deaths and 559 recoveries from COVID-19 in the same period. The data shows that there is a decrease in the number of new cases and daily deaths from COVID-19.

Based on the ministry's report, the total number of cases is 147,472 and total deaths stand at 6,716.

The ministry said the positivity rate for COVID-19 is 10.9%.

According to Johns Hopkins University, the total confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the world stands at 197,462,143 and total deaths are at 4,221,041.

The Kabul Times