UNAMA Records Continuing Trend of Civilian Casualties

KABUL - Latest figures from the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) showed a continuing trend of recorded high civilian casualties, with deaths and injuries from ground engagements in Afghanistan remaining the leading cause of civilian deaths. A statement released by the UNAMA said on Sunday that today, with the release of UNAMA's findings from the first quarter of 2015, UNAMA called on all parties to the conflict to recognize and act to prevent harm to civilians.

The statement read with the European Union delegation to Afghanistan and the office of the EU special representative.

Local publication for call for proposals

Expansion and Improvement of Services to People Living With Mental Disorders and to People Living With Disabilities

Reference: DCL-AFSE/136-712

The deadline for submission of concept notes is 25 May 2015. An information session on this call for proposals will be held on 25 April 2015 at 14:00 at the EU Delegation for Afghanistan.

For security reasons, those interested in attending this session are required to confirm their participation in advance by sending an email with the name of each attendee and their affiliation to the following email address: delegations.istanbul@ec.europa.eu

Ministry of Health, Kabul Province, 8th Zone, Kabul City, Afghanistan.

MPs Blast Govt. Leaders over Growing Insecurity

KABUL - The Moshtarak Jirga stepped up attacks on government targets, killing 70 people and wounding dozens during the last four days. Nearly half of the victims were civilians. The Moshtarak Jirga or Senate on Sunday debated security issues.

No Room for Daesh in Afghanistan: Mol

KABUL - The government's campaign against Daesh on Sunday, brought the Islamic State group to its knees in Afghanistan, according to the country's security forces. An official at the Ministry of Interior said that the government had launched a massive offensive against Daesh in the country.

Govert. Urged to Resolve Kuchi-Hazaras Dispute

KABUL - The government was urged to resolve the dispute between the Kuchi and Hazaras. Senior officials called for a solution that would benefit both communities.

Sikhs Celebrate Vaisakhi

JALALABAD - The Sikh minority removed their demand for the government to establish separate schools for their children in Jalalabad, when they celebrated the 37th Vaisakhi festival in eastern Afghanistan.

Women and Children Forced Into Slavery over Loans

KABUL - A provincial council member in Jelalabad said that 20 Afghan National Army (ANA) soldiers were killed in a Taliban attack on their military post in the western district of northwestern Badakhshan province. Sources said the incident took place on Friday night and that the Taliban took 18 ANA soldiers hostage and have since beheaded four of them. The Taliban has attacked a number of ANA posts in the province with small and heavy weapons.

More Than 20 ANA Soldiers Killed in Badakhshan Attack: Officials

FAZAFAR - Military sources Sunday confirmed that more than 20 Afghan National Army (ANA) soldiers were killed in a Taliban attack on their military post in Jelalabad district of northwestern Badakhshan province. Sources said the incident took place on Friday night and that
District Mayor Detained on Corruption Charges

**Tuvalu**

Police arrested district mayor of the northeastern island of Funafuti on corruption charges. A source told Tuvalu News that the arrest was based on evidence gathered during an investigation. The mayor had been accused of embezzling funds meant for community development projects. The investigation is ongoing, and the mayor is expected to be brought to court soon. 

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**Lanka**

The government has announced plans to use defense forces to support health efforts in the country. The announcement comes as the country continues to grapple with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The defense forces will assist in contact tracing, vaccination drives, and other public health initiatives. The move is seen as a way to accelerate the country's vaccination drive and contain the spread of the virus. 

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**Pakistan**

Two soldiers were killed and several others wounded in a traffic accident in southeastern Pakistan’s Balochistan province on Thursday. An official said the accident took place on the road when a car collided with a motorcycle. The victims were identified as soldiers accompanying the provincial governor. The cause of the accident is under investigation. 

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**Thailand**

The Supreme Court has upheld the conviction of a high-ranking official in the military for corruption. The official, who is a retired general, had been accused of embezzling public funds. The court ruled that the official had used his position to benefit himself and his family. The ruling is final and cannot be appealed. 

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**Vietnam**

The government has announced plans to boost tourism in the country. The announcement comes as the country begins to reopen to international tourists. The government is aiming to attract 5 million foreign tourists this year, up from 16 million in 2019. The move is expected to boost the country’s economy, which has been hit by the pandemic. 

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**Nauru**

A high-ranking official in the government is under investigation for alleged corruption. The official is accused of misusing public funds for personal gain. The investigation is being conducted by the Anti-Corruption Commission. The official has denied the allegations and is awaiting the outcome of the inquiry. 

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**Maldives**

The Maldives is considering lifting travel restrictions for visitors from certain countries. The move is being considered as a way to boost tourism and the country’s economy. The decision will be made after consulting with the health authorities. The Maldives has been hit hard by the pandemic, with tourism revenues suffering. 

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Release of 31 Abductees; A Afghan Forces

By Amayarji

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An Afghan official said on Sunday that 31 men being detained by the Taliban offensives in the north of the country have been released by officials. The announcement comes as the government has been under pressure to release prisoners as part of its efforts to improve its fragile stability and pave the way for peace negotiations with the Taliban.

The official said that the prisoners had been arrested for various crimes, including terrorism, and were held in different facilities across the country. He added that the government had negotiated with the Taliban to secure their release, and that the prisoners were due to be transferred to a rehabilitation center in the north of the country.

The official also said that the government had taken steps to ensure the safety and well-being of the released prisoners, and that they would be provided with medical and psychological support as needed.

Meanwhile, the government has been facing increasing challenges in its efforts to combat terrorism and ensure stability in the country. The Taliban has been active in various parts of the country, and there have been reports of clashes between the government forces and the Taliban in recent weeks.

The release of the prisoners is likely to be seen as a positive development by both the government and the Taliban, as it could help to improve relations between the two sides and pave the way for future peace negotiations.

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Editorial and Opinions

In the Name of God, the Most Merciful, the Most Kind

April 13, 2015

The Onset of Taliban Spring Offensive

A
Afganistan has witnessed a spate of insurgent attacks in recent weeks in the Taliban’s bid for a fresh spring offensive. According to sources, over 20 Afghan soldiers and 17 Taliban fighters have been killed in the latest assaults, which have been directed at police stations, government offices, and other strategic points throughout the country. The Taliban has been using a variety of tactics, including roadside bombs and rocket-propelled grenades, to strike at a time when the Afghan government is already under pressure to improve its security situation.

The Taliban offensive has been met with a strong response from Afghan security forces, who have launched counter-attacks and launched air strikes against Taliban targets. However, analysts say that the Taliban has gained momentum in recent months, and that its attacks have been more successful than in previous years.

The Afghan government has appealed for international support to help in the fight against the Taliban, and has called on the United Nations and other international organizations to provide additional assistance. However, the international community has been slow to respond, and there has been little concrete action to combat the Taliban’s resurgence.

The Taliban’s offensive has been accompanied by a surge in violence in other parts of the country, including the northern provinces of Badakhshan, Baghlan, and Jowzjan, where the Taliban has been particularly active. The government has been under pressure to improve security in these areas, but analysts say that it is facing significant challenges in its efforts to combat the Taliban’s resurgence.

The Taliban’s offensive is likely to continue for some time, and the Afghan government will need to take a comprehensive approach to combat the Taliban and improve its security situation. This will require a combination of military actions, political negotiations, and outreach programs to win the hearts and minds of the local population.
The conflict to take all necessary measures to prevent the spread of the virus, Nicholas Haynes, the Secretary-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) and head of the UN mission in Afghanistan, Haynes said. "The parties in panic are nowhere to be found, and the non-combatants and the people of Afghanistan are paying the price."

In the first three months of 2023, civilian casualties in Afghanistan increased by 8 per cent compared to the same period in 2022. Grounding between January and March 2023, insurgent and government forces caused 251 civilians to be killed, an increase of 18 per cent from the same period in 2022. During this period, 1,369 civilians were injured, an increase of 7 per cent from the same period in 2022. In 2023, the Afghan government has continued to receive reports of civilians being killed and injured in attacks. The security situation in Afghanistan remains volatile, with both insurgent and government forces engaged in intense fighting. The ongoing conflict has a significant impact on the civilian population, with many families displaced from their homes and struggling to access basic necessities such as food, water, and healthcare. The situation in Afghanistan is complex and multifaceted, with a range of factors contributing to the conflict, including political instability, economic hardship, and historical grievances. Addressing these challenges will require a sustained and coordinated effort from all parties involved.
U.N. Calls for Safe Passage from Damascus Refugee Camp

DAAMASCUS - The head of the U.N. agency re- sponsible for the care of displaced persons said on Saturday that the cease-fire agreement between Syria’s government and rebels was welcome but insufficient to ensure the safety of civilians trapped inside the besieged city of Damascus. Since the start of the civil war four years ago, an estimated 70,000 people, including refugees, are believed to be holed up in the city, which is surrounded by government forces. The government has promised to evacuate civilians, but the rebels have so far refused to allow them to leave. UNHCR, the U.N. refugee agency, said it had heard reports of people being killed and injured in Damascus on Friday.

Israel PM Fears Immediate Removal of Bans as per Iran’s Demand

BERLIN - Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has said that the removal of sanctions against Iran would be a “red line” for his government. In a speech to the Israeli parliament on Monday, Netanyahu reiterated his belief that a nuclear Iran would pose a threat to Israel and the region. Netanyahu also warned that a deal with Iran would be “unrealistic” and would not solve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Fresh Aid Reaches Yemen Capital

SANA'A - The Red Cross on Saturday delivered a second planeload of aid to war-ravaged Yemen in as many days, as the stricken city of Sana'a continued to receive much-needed supplies. The aid is urgently needed to alleviate suffering in fighting between government forces and Houthi rebels, who are aligned with President Abdrabbuh Mansour Hadi.

Clinton Campaign to Focus on Economic Security, Opportunity

CHICAGO - Hillary Clinton, the former secretary of state and potential 2016 Democratic presidential candidate, is expected to launch her campaign next week with a focus on economic security and opportunity. Clinton has said that she will take on “the two greatest threats to the middle class: stagnant wages and stagnant opportunity.”

Obama Optimistic about Iran Nuclear Deal

PANAMA CITY – U.S. President Barack Obama expressed optimism on Saturday that the diplomatic path to an agreement with Iran could lead to a deal that is “worthwhile and good for everybody.” The president said he was confident that a deal could be reached if both sides were willing to make concessions.

Nigerian News

Boko Haram sues government over missing children

BOKO HARAM - Boko Haram, the militant group that has been responsible for thousands of deaths and injuries in Nigeria, has filed a lawsuit against the Nigerian government for failing to rescue its members. The group alleges that the government has ignored its demands and that its members have been subjected to torture and abuse.

Pakistan FM to discuss border issues with Tajikistan

ZHOB - Pakistan Foreign Minister Khawaja Asif and his Tajik counterpart will meet here on Monday to discuss border issues. The meeting will be held at the border town of Zhoob.

U.S. and China to complete nuclear deal

WASHING...
RS Condemns Killing of “Save the Children” Workers

KABUL — The NATO-led Afghan Security Forces have detained the three armed men who opened fire on a group of people in a southern Afghan city, killing one and injuring three others. The attack occurred in the city of Kandahar, which has been the site of several such incidents in recent weeks.

Kandahar residents say the attack was carried out by a group of men on a vehicle, possibly a motorcycle. The victims were reportedly traveling on a main road when they were approached by the attackers, who then opened fire.

The Kandahar police said the attackers fled the scene after the shooting. They added that one of the victims was in critical condition and the other two were treated for minor injuries.

Local media reports indicate that this is not the first incident of its kind in Kandahar. In recent weeks, there have been reports of similar attacks in other parts of the province.

The military operation to clear the city of militants is still ongoing, and the army has been in the process of clearing the city block by block. The goal is to eliminate any remaining pockets of resistance and restore normalcy to the area.

Kandahar residents have been urged to remain vigilant and report any suspicious activities to the authorities.

Islamic Banking Gets Special Place in Banking Act

KABUL — Afghanistan’s parliament has passed a banking act that includes provisions for Islamic banking. The new law was signed into law by President Ashraf Ghani on Wednesday after being approved by the unicameral parliament.

Islamic banking has been a controversial issue in Afghanistan, with some factions supporting it and others opposing it. The new law aims to regulate Islamic banks and provide a legal framework for their operations.

The law was introduced by the government in 2015 and has undergone several revisions before being passed. It includes provisions for the establishment of Islamic banks, their supervision by the Central Bank of Afghanistan, and the issuance of Islamic financial instruments.

Islamic banks are allowed to offer various financial services, including savings, investments, and insurance, all based on Islamic principles. The law also provides for the establishment of a regulatory body to oversee the operations of Islamic banks.

Ghazni Rally Wants Hostages Freed Unharmed

GHAZNI CITY — A large number of people on Saturday marched in southern Ghazni province to ask the government to take effective steps for safe release of the 37 kidnapped people in neighboring Zabul province.

According to one of the leaders of the protest, the people of Ghazni have been demanding the释放 of the hostages for more than three months.

The people of Ghazni have been facing a lot of hardships due to the ongoing conflict in the region. The province has been witnessing frequent attacks by Taliban and other militant groups.

The leaders of the rally said they have been trying to negotiate with the Taliban for the release of the hostages, but their efforts have been unsuccessful.

They demanded that the government should take immediate action to release the hostages and provide them with all necessary assistance.

They also called on the international community to pressure the Taliban to release the hostages and end the conflict in the region.

India’s BLK Super Specialty Hospital Inks Pact with Afghan Govt.

NEW DELHI — The Delhi-based BLK Super Specialty Hospital has announced a special partnership with the Afghan Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) which shall pave way for further access of patients to high-class healthcare facilities. The hospital shall also provide assistance to the Ministry in different areas.

BLK Super Specialty Hospital is one of the leading hospitals in India and has a strong presence in the Afghan market. The hospital has been providing various healthcare services to Afghan patients, including treatments for various ailments.

The MoU was signed by the Public Health Ministry’s Director General, Dr. Jawaid Khan, and the hospital’s CEO, Mr. Mohd. Hamid.

International Relations, Dr Jawaid Khan, and the hospital’s Managing Director, Dr. Mohammad Shahid, were also present at the signing ceremony.

The partnership will provide Afghan patients with access to advanced medical treatments and facilities at BLK Super Specialty Hospital. This will help to improve the quality of healthcare services available in Afghanistan.

Jawahar Drinking Water Plan Facing Fudungs

SABAR QABUL — Officials on Thursday announced that a drinking water project in Sabar Qabul district of northern Jawzjan province, which was supposed to provide drinking water to over 200,000 people in the area, has been completed.

The project was supposed to cover most of the villages in the area and provide drinking water to over 250,000 people in three districts of northern Jawzjan province.

Local officials said that the project was completed due to the hard work of the people in the area.

The project was part of a larger plan to provide drinking water to all the districts in the province. The government has been implementing various projects to improve the drinking water supply in the province.

The government has been working to improve the drinking water supply in the province, and the project in Sabar Qabul district is a part of this ongoing effort.

It is expected that the project will provide a reliable source of drinking water to the people in the area, thereby improving their quality of life.

2,300 More ANA Officers, Soldiers Complete Training

KHOST — A batch of another 2,300 Afghan National Army (ANA) officers and soldiers has completed a training program at the Khost Military Training Center (Khost MTC), the Ministry of Defense said on Sunday.

Addressing the graduation ceremony, Maj Gen Abdul Hakim Khan, the training and logistic commander, said that the young officers and soldiers were proud that they had completed this training and were now ready to serve their country.

He added that the graduates would be deployed to various parts of Afghanistan to carry out their duties.

The training program was designed to provide the officers and soldiers with the necessary skills and knowledge to perform their duties effectively.

The graduates were also given a medal and a certificate of completion at the ceremony.

It is expected that the graduates will play a vital role in strengthening the security forces in the country and in fighting against the enemies of the nation.