Obama Can do Iran Nuclear Deal Even if Congress Disapproves

WASHINGTON - The September vote on the Iran nuclear deal is billed as a binary standoff between President Barack Obama and Congress. Yet even if US lawmakers reject the agreement, it’s not game over for the White House.

A congressional vote of disapproval would not prevent Obama from acting on his own to start putting the accord in place. While he probably would take some heavy criticism, his course would likely be a lot easier after the US Senate’s second vote of 100 for fulfillment. Obama doesn’t need a congressional OK to give Iran most of the billions of dollars in relief from economic sanctions that it would get under the agreement, as long as Tehran honors its commitments to curb its nuclear program. “A resolution to disapprove the Iran agreement may have substantial political repercussions, but limited practical impact,” says Robert Satloff of the Washington Institute for Near Fast Policy. “It would not override President Obama’s authority to enter into the agreement.”

Rula Underlines Media Role Against Addiction

KARUL - First Lady Rula Ghani on Sunday underlined the need that the government and the media play important role in creating awareness against drugs.

Rula Ghani suggested that people should be informed about adverse effect of drug use through media. Media play important role in awareness creation.

Union Stops Import of Pakistan Medicine

KARUL - The Medicine Importing Company - a private sector union - on Sunday announced that it will not import pharmaceutical products from Pakistan in protest over the two suicide bomb attacks in the country, for which Pakistan has been blamed. The decision was reportedly immediately helied by the Ministry of Interior.

10.000 Km of Roads Asphalted Countrywide

KARUL - The Public Works Minister on Saturday said more than 10,000 kilometers of roads has been reconstructed across the country at a cost of $2 billion, but the President’s Special Representative for security and good governance said Afghanistan still lacked proper road network. Speaking at a national conference on road transport, Public Works Minister Mohammad Mohaddel Belagh said all the 10,000 kilometer roads had been published for the help of the international community. He said the government had prioritized building roads and military lines because transport played a key role in a country’s economic development. He, however, said such projects needed enormous financial resources and time.

Iran’s Oil Products Export to Afghanistan

KARUL - The Afghanistan Ministry of Industries and Trade on Saturday said that 3,000 metric tons of oil products were exported to Afghanistan. The official said that the products were needed by the Afghan market.

Smooth Power Supply to Develop Industries: AISA

KARUL - Afghanistan is Electricity Support Agency (AISA) demanded the government to ensure uninterrupted power supply to the vital industrial sector, which would go a long way to ensure prosperity and progress in the country.

At present, 27 industrial sites are active throughout the country. AISA said 2,500 factories were available in the country, but of them, 10 didn’t get enough electricity that caused them to stop producing.

Alami Banki

3-Fold Increase in Numbers to Slide

KARUL - Afghanistan’s Inflation Rate has witnessed a three-fold increase during the past six months of the year. The latest report of the Central Bank of Afghanistan shows that the inflation rate has gone up from 3.8 percent in June to 13.6 percent in December.

Survey

Ghani’s Popularity Continues to Slide

KARUL - The latest findings of the survey conducted by AISA shows that President Ghani’s popularity has further slipped. AISA said that 35 percent of respondents expressed confidence in the performance of Ghani, while 40 percent said they were not satisfied with his performance.

The survey found that 22.9 percent of respondents were “unsatisfied” with Ghani’s performance.

British Special Forces Back in Afghanistan

KARUL - The British Special Forces have been returned to Afghanistan and reports they take part in military operations against Taliban and other militant groups.

Insecurity and PCs from Monitoring Projects

KARUL - Provincial council members say that growing insecurity have prevented them to evaluate and observe projects and supervision of local government.

The widest focus or lesser house of parliament has buried provincial councils from evaluating local government in 301 election projects.

KARUL - Most of the provincial councils have closed their offices in protest against the parliament’s decision. However, the councils have regained their right based on a presidential decree.

The congress workshop participated by all provincial council heads was held in capital Kabul on Sunday to discuss provincial councils and the provincial councils. Shoaib Ahmad Khan, the local council solidarity head, told the meeting, ‘Consultative Workshop for Internal Investigation of wholesale trade against the parliament’s decision. However, the councils have regained their right based on a presidential decree.’
Two Policemen Get 20 Years in Prison

KABUL - Two policemen were sentenced to 20 years in prison each and a child to 16 years in prison after they were found guilty of murdering and sexually assaulting two women in an eastern Kabul neighborhood.

The two policemen were arrested last year and sentenced in Kabul after being convicted of the crime.

Unidentified Gunmen Kill Couple in Badakhshan

FAIZABAD - Unidentified gunmen killed a couple on Monday in the eastern Badakhshan province.

The couple, identified as a police officer and his wife, were shot dead in the capital of the province.

Ratna was serving in the district of Faizabad and had recently returned from a trip to Kabul.

The district is known for its lawlessness and pirate attacks.

Badakhshan Taliban Extort Money, Harass Government

FAIZABAD - Taliban have been extorting money and harassing government officials in the eastern Badakhshan province.

The Taliban have been known to extort money from government officials and businesses in the region.

Jailbreak Attempt Averted in Herat, Man Arrested for Digging Tunnel

HERAT - The National Directorate of Security (NDS) foiled an attempt to free a prisoner from a jail in Herat.

The prisoner was arrested on Sunday and was being held in a jail in the city.

Outlook Horoscope

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

This month is likely to be a period of change and uncertainty. You may feel emotionally vulnerable and may need to seek support from others.

Lion (July 21-Aug. 20)

Your energy levels may fluctuate, so it is important to listen to your body and adjust your pace accordingly.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

This is a time of change and transition. You may need to make decisions that will have long-term consequences.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)

You may need to be patient and flexible, as things are changing rapidly around you.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

This month is likely to be a period of change and transition. You may need to make decisions that will have long-term consequences.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

You may need to be patient and flexible, as things are changing rapidly around you.

Pisces (Feb. 19-Mar. 20)

This month is likely to be a period of change and transition. You may need to make decisions that will have long-term consequences.
By Dilawar Sherzai

In post-withdrawal Afghanistan, one of the countries that can play the most important and supportive role in People's Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is China. In recent years, the Afghan government has repeatedly requested the assistance of China, and China has also made significant contributions to the stabilization and development of Afghanistan. The year 2015 is being celebrated as the year of Friendship and Cooperation between China and Afghanistan and both countries have already conducted several high-level diplomatic visits. There are hopes that both the countries will continue to strengthen and develop their relations.

There is no doubt in the fact that Sino-Afghan relations are at a historical point in time as China could be in the lead for a long time as the post-withdrawal Afghanistan. It can definitely play a constructive role in the peace process in Afghanistan and China has already given the indication that it is ready to support Afghanistan in this regard. President Ashraf Ghani has also declared that China could be really supportive for Afghanistan in the upcoming challenges of today and tomorrow. He has also mentioned that Beijing could play proactive role in Afghan peace process and China has also emphasized that it is in Afghanistan's interest to have an Afghanistan that would benefit Afghanistan, China and the whole region.

On the other hand, China can also have an immune role to play in the realm that is a source of security in the region and it would be a serious and without any political conditions. In the 1950s and 1960s, China's alliance in the region, at that time, still built some aid projects such as the Sarian irrigation system and Kandahar Hospital for Afghanistan which is still under construction and working in the region and which is still its modern to the world and local people in many years. China has also made an effort in the area of peace and social and development projects.

By the end of October 2014, China had provided total grant and gift aid to Afghanistan totaling 1.32 billion yuan. These have been invested in 269 infrastructural and social projects in Afghanistan, built important projects such as Agro Industrial Hospital, Teaching Building of Chinese Language Department and Guest House of Kabul University, National Center of Science and Technology Education, and National Media of Afghanistan, Old Palace for Afghanistan. All of these have played effective role in promoting the development of Afghanistan and the country has gained praises from all walks of life of Afghans.

During President Xi's visit to Afghanistan in October, China committed to provide 2 billion yuan of grants and credits to the Afghan government in various fields in the next five years. Not long ago, a working delegation from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China held talks with the Afghan side in Kabul on how to make good use of the 2 billion yuan of grants.

China has clearly shown the willingness that it will not have any interest in Afghanistan. It is in need of both political stability and economic assistance. It is important to note that the announcement of around USD 3.5 billion for the development of Aynak Copper mines is another important point that can have a lasting impact on the overall economy of Afghanistan.

Apart from economic and political strategy, China has always been supporting Afghanistan in many other sectors as well. Education and capacity building have been among the most important ones. China, during President Ghani's visit, also promised a total assistance of 200 million dollars in the near future. President Ashraf Ghani had said earlier, "Afghanistan views China as a very important brother. China can and should help it speed up its development and is ready for a long-term role in the development of Afghanistan." It is worth noting that China's support for Afghanistan shows real value and China does not have a false sense of the role in Afghanistan. In addition, the peace process Talibin is being supported by China and its role in the peace process is very important.

In the peace process in Afghanistan, China's technological innovation and its considerable contribution to the economic and social development of the region is very evident. China has a strategic role in the region and in the peace process in Afghanistan.

The Chinese side is ready to cooperate with the Taliban and play a constructive role in the exclusion and inclusion process.

And, China seems determined to put it to practice, as well.

Hujjatullah Zia, an Afghan journalist, is the current editor of OutLook Afghanistan. He can be reached at email:s2afghan@gmail.com
3) Power Shifts... 

Rebellions, coups, and political turmoil are reshaping the political landscape across the region. 

[Text continues with details about recent political events and developments in the region, including references to specific leaders and countries.]
The image contains a page from a document with various articles and headlines. The content includes news articles about events in the Middle East, particularly focusing on the Middle East peace process. Here is the text extracted from the page:

**Title:** Indian PM’s Visit to Prove of Strong Bilateral Ties: UAE

**Subtitle:** Hillary, Jeb Talk Jobs on Iraq as White House Race Heats up

**Main Article:**

**Headline:** Libyan FM Sends Letter to UN for Aid against IS

**Subheadline:** Syria Not to Allow Disintegration of its Territory: Syrian Minister

**Main Article:**

**Headline:** Syria Not to Allow Disintegration of its Territory: Syrian Minister

**Subheadline:** Tajikistan Cracks Down on Pop Idol Traffic Rule Breakers

**Main Article:**

**Headline:** Obama Must Decide if Cuba is Enemy or Not: Cuban Expert

**Subheadline:** No Rescuers Harmed by Chemicals in Tianjin Blast

**Conclusion:**

The articles cover a range of topics, including political events in the Middle East, economic developments, and international relations. The headlines suggest a focus on peace efforts and bilateral relations, highlighting the importance of cooperation and stability in the region.
EVAW Law’s Parliamentary Approval to Check Violence

KABUL - Civil society groups and the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC) on Sunday said not approving the Elimination of Violence against Women (EVAW) Law could be blamed for the increasing crimes against the gender.

The bill was dropped into law through an executive order by former president Hamid Karzai in July 2009 when the parliament was in recess. During such periods, the Constitution allows the president to issue decrees for emergency purposes, but the Constitution also requires such decrees to be forwarded to parliament for approval.

The law criminalises child marriage, selling and buying women to settle disputes, assault and more than a dozen other acts of violence and abuse against women.

A gathering, "We Support Elimination of Violence against Women" was arranged by the Afghan Civil Society Institute Network for Peace in Kabul. The participants stressed that the EVAW law should be approved by the parliament.

The network’s head, Humaira Safi, said one thing the Afghan women had hidden during the past 19 years was the EVAW law which needed to be fully enforced.

"The violent legs has adopted a stance of ignorance about the laws, but we want the law to be approved," she said.

Fatou Haider, Women’s Commission head, said some women in the Ministry of Interior (MOI) were in a better place and were protected.

Police Chief, who is leading the way in Nowshar district has said that "sweep the district will be cleared of insurgents." He added that the security forces have managed to relocate most parts of the district.

The MOI is working towards cleaning up the province.

EVAW Law's Parliamentary Approval to Check Violence

77 Insurgents Killed in Helmand Clashes: Officials

KABUL - At least 77 Taliban insurgents have been killed in 21 days of clashes in Nowshar district of southern Helmand province, local officials said on Sunday. In addition, more than 100 others were injured.

Gen. Atiq Razik, Kandahar

Helmand Governor Wants Improved Security in a Month

KABUL - The governor of southern Helmand province on Sunday directed security forces to improve law and order in the entire province within one month.

Charging a high-level meeting of security officials, Mirza Khan Rahimi said he would himself observe security situation in the province and take notice of security lapses. The governor made it very clear that if any security official found demonstrating negligence in discharging his duties would be fired without serving any notice.

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Workshop Underway to Assess Provincial Councils

KABUL - Technical authorities from the Independent Directorate of Local Governance (IDLG) on Sunday announced that on the basis of a presidential order, the working procedures, performances, monitoring and authority of provincial councils will be assessed during a three-day workshop in Kabul.

"Strategy be Worked out to Regain Control of Kunduz Areas"

KUNDUZ CITY - Citing officials' inefficiency after the Taliban's fall in Kunduz and some other parts of the northern Kunduz province to Taliban, Provincial Council (PC) scheduled a workshop, which kicked off in Kabul on Sunday, is being attended by heads of provincial councils from across the country.

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