

AFGHANISTAN WEEKLY

6 July – 12 July 2026

POLITICS · ECONOMY · FOREIGN AFFAIRS · INTERNAL SECURITY · DEFENCE · HEALTH · EDUCATION · SOCIETY

POLITICS • ECONOMY • FOREIGN AFFAIRS • INTERNAL SECURITY

6 JULY – 12 JULY 2026

POLITICS

- A survey published by Zawia News (8 Jul), drawing roughly 1.7 million respondents, finds about 75% dissatisfied with Taliban rule; even self-identified lower-ranking Taliban members cite corruption, nepotism and neglect of rank-and-file fighters.
- Taliban army chief Fasihuddin Fitrat travels personally to Nusay district, Badakhshan, for direct talks with dissident commander Juma Khan Fateh, underscoring persistent internal strain in the northeast (10 Jul).
- Herat governor Noor Ahmad Islamjar's administration continues defending the fourth-week-running detentions of women and the beard-growth directive for male aid workers as “the command of God and the Prophet.”
- Deputy PM Abdul Salam Hanafi unveils sweeping tax cuts at a Kabul conference (12 Jul), framing the move as widening voluntary compliance rather than any shift in core governance posture.

ECONOMY

- USD/AFN weakens through the week, climbing from a 64.0 low on 6 Jul toward the mid-66 range by 12 Jul as the Balochistan violence and stalled peace talks weigh on sentiment.
- Da Afghanistan Bank (DAB) holds its benchmark lending rate at 7.50%, continuing to prioritise currency stability over active rate moves amid the border crisis.
- Taliban announce a cut to corporate income tax from 20% to 10%, alongside a lower property-transfer levy and a new personal income-tax exemption threshold, effective immediately (12 Jul).
- Afghanistan remains without a formal stock exchange; informal Sarai Shahzada currency-market trading continues as the primary barometer of sentiment, compounded by cross-border trade disruption from the Balochistan attacks.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

- Pakistan's military spokesman accuses India and the Afghan Taliban of orchestrating the 4–8 Jul Balochistan attacks, saying “many” militants killed were Afghan nationals — a claim Kabul has previously rejected.
- PM Shehbaz Sharif travels to Quetta (9 Jul) to chair an emergency security meeting after the deadliest four-day Balochistan toll in months.
- China continues quiet efforts toward a second round of Urumqi-format talks between Islamabad and Kabul, though a Beijing-brokered ceasefire remains elusive.
- Turkey, Qatar and Saudi Arabia continue urging de-escalation, extending mediation begun after the October 2025 ceasefire, even as direct Pakistan-Taliban engagement stays frozen.

INTERNAL SECURITY

- A four-day wave of coordinated TTP/BLA attacks across Balochistan (4–8 Jul) kills 42 people, including 38 security personnel, prompting a major Pakistani counter-insurgency response.
- ISPR reports 54 militants killed in retaliatory operations across Hanna Urak, Ziarat and Lasbela districts; relatives of slain police stage a Quetta sit-in demanding accountability.
- Taliban's Ministry for Promotion of Virtue and Prevention of Vice resumes detaining women in Herat (10 Jul), with two patrol vehicles seen removing women from the 64-Metre Road/Juma Bazaar area.
- National Resistance Front claims an overnight raid on a Taliban brigade in Ragh district, Badakhshan (9–10 Jul), killing two Taliban fighters and destroying a military vehicle.

DEFENCE · HEALTH · EDUCATION · SOCIETY

6 JULY – 12 JULY 2026

DEFENCE

- Pakistan's army escalates its Balochistan counter-insurgency response, with operations continuing at Kharan and Dalbandin alongside the main Hanna Urak, Ziarat and Lasbela engagements.
- Taliban army chief Fitrat travels personally to Badakhshan's Nusay district for talks with NRF-aligned commander Juma Khan Fateh, reflecting concern over the province's fragile security picture.
- Cross-border skirmishing continues along the Durand Line, with small-arms and artillery exchanges reported near Zakha Khel Bazaar (9 Jul).
- The wider Pakistan-Afghanistan conflict, active since October 2025, remains dominated by aerial and drone strikes rather than large-unit clashes, per regional conflict monitors.

HEALTH

- WHO Regional Director Dr Hanan Balkhy concludes a high-level Afghanistan visit with the Polio Oversight Board (9 Jul), stressing the urgent need to eradicate polio — Afghanistan remains one of only two countries where wild poliovirus type 1 is endemic.
- The visit underscores the scale of need: more than 22 million people require humanitarian assistance, including 14.4 million needing health services, while roughly 150 health facilities have closed since January for lack of funding.
- The 2026 Health Cluster response remains critically underfunded, with only 17% of the required US\$190.8 million received as of June.
- Afghanistan's peak malnutrition season (July–September) begins amid warnings that acute child malnutrition has deteriorated in 26 of 34 provinces compared with 2025.

EDUCATION

- The Taliban's ban on girls' secondary and university education remains in force, continuing to exclude an estimated 250,000 additional girls from school each year, per UNAMA figures.
- UN Special Rapporteur Richard Bennett urges the ICC and international cricket authorities to formally recognise Afghanistan's exiled women's cricket team (8 Jul), citing players' continued exclusion from sport and education alike.
- Child labour is visibly rising across Kabul, with residents reporting growing numbers of school-age children — girls especially — collecting plastic, selling water and shining shoes instead of attending class (9 Jul).
- Economic hardship and shrinking humanitarian aid are cited as the principal drivers pulling children out of education and into informal work, according to Kabul residents interviewed by TOLONews.

SOCIETY

- The Taliban's Herat crackdown resumes on 10 Jul, with morality-police vehicles again removing women from the 64-Metre Road/Juma Bazaar area, extending a wave of arrests that began in mid-June.
- Herat businesses report a sustained downturn in female customers, with tailors and shopkeepers describing markets emptied of women since the crackdown intensified (12 Jul).
- Pakistan's 10 Jul deportation deadline for undocumented Afghans takes effect; 8,466 Afghans are expelled through Torkham and Spin Boldak over three days, including 2,902 in a single day.
- Kabul residents endure prolonged power cuts as temperatures pass 30°C, with some neighbourhoods receiving electricity for only a few hours a day (10 Jul).

News Index (1/2)

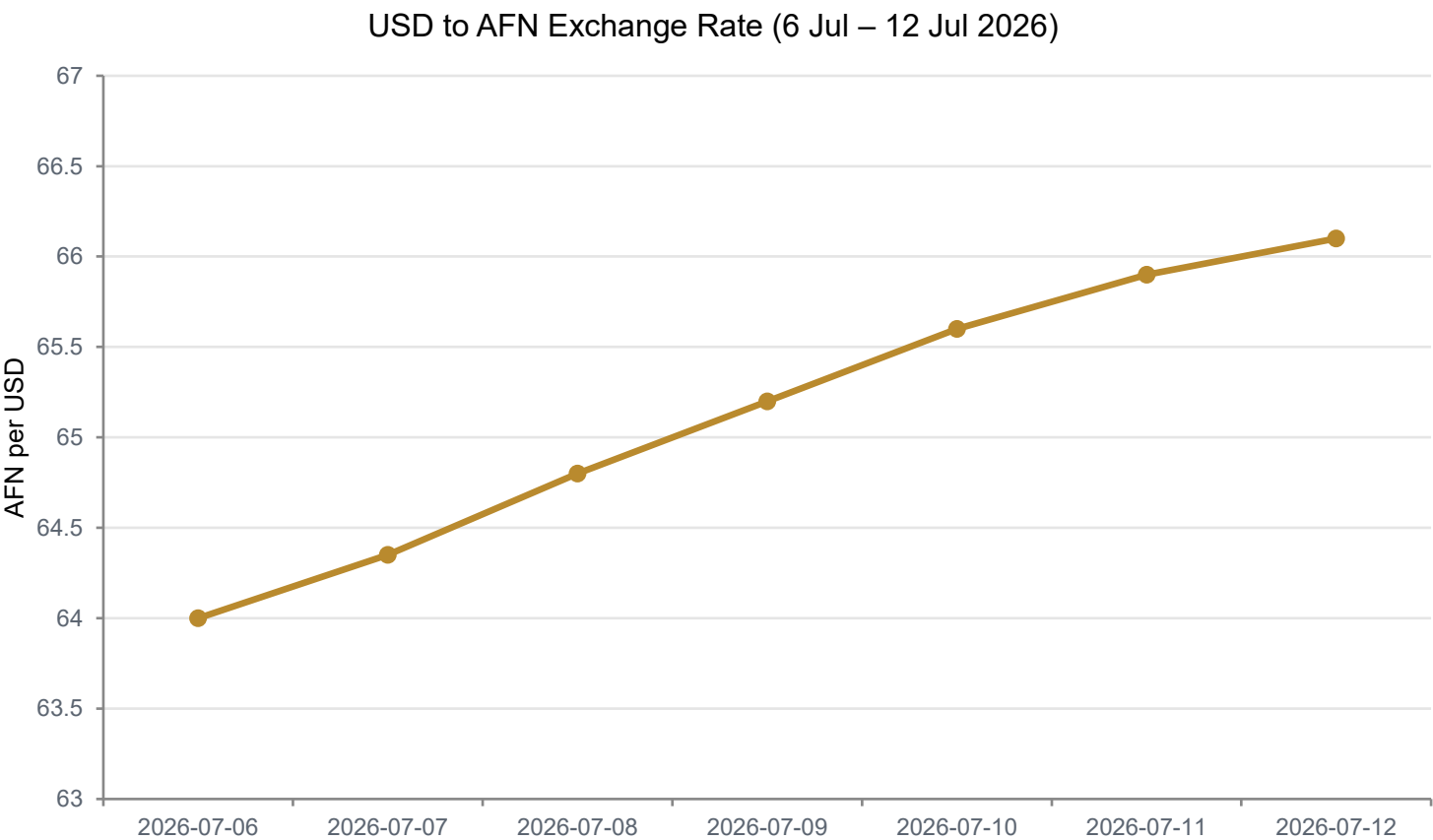
No.	Date	News Headline	Sector	Source
1	4–8 Jul	Coordinated militant assault kills 42 across Balochistan in one of the deadliest bursts of violence in months	Internal Security	Al Jazeera
2	8 Jul	ISPR says 54 militants killed as security forces repel three coordinated Balochistan attacks	Defence	Pakistan Today
3	9 Jul	PM Sharif chairs Quetta security meeting, vows to press crackdown after 42 killed in Balochistan	Foreign Affairs	HNGN
4	8 Jul	New survey shows around 75% of Afghan respondents dissatisfied with Taliban rule	Politics	Afghanistan International
5	8 Jul	UN Special Rapporteur urges ICC to recognise Afghanistan's exiled women's cricket team	Education	Afghanistan International
6	9 Jul	WHO regional director concludes high-level Afghanistan visit, presses urgent polio eradication push	Health	WHO EMRO
7	9 Jul	Child labour rises across Kabul as poverty forces families to send children to work	Society	TOLOnews / Afghan Online Press

News Index (2/2)

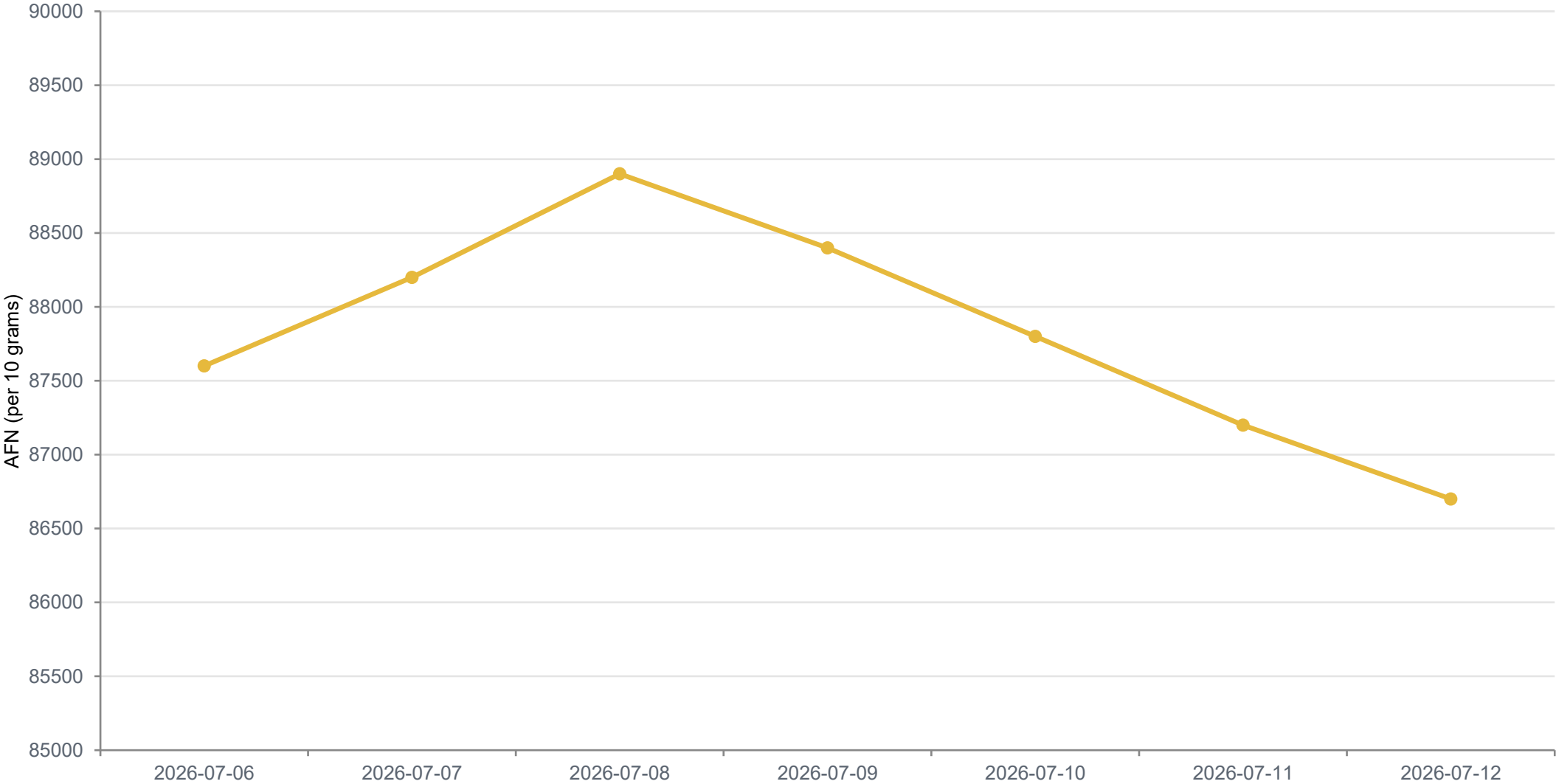
No.	Date	News Headline	Sector	Source
8	9–10 Jul	National Resistance Front claims attack on Taliban brigade in Badakhshan's Ragh district	Defence	Afghanistan International
9	10 Jul	Taliban army chief Fitrat travels to Badakhshan for talks with dissident commander Juma Khan Fateh	Politics	Afghanistan International
10	10 Jul	Taliban resume Herat crackdown, detain more women along the 64-Metre Road	Internal Security	Afghanistan International
11	10 Jul	Pakistan's 10 July deportation deadline takes effect; 8,466 Afghans expelled in three days	Society	Amu TV
12	10 Jul	Prolonged Kabul power cuts worsen as temperatures pass 30°C	Society	Amu TV
13	12 Jul	Herat businesses suffer as women stay home amid ongoing dress-code crackdown	Society	Arab News Pakistan
14	12 Jul	Taliban announce corporate tax cut from 20% to 10% to widen compliance	Economy	Amu TV

ECONOMIC INDICATORS | Week of 6 July – 12 July 2026 | Afghanistan

USD / Afghan Afghani (AFN) Exchange Rate



Gold Price in Afghanistan (24K per 10 grams, AFN) – 6 Jul to 12 Jul 2026



Silver Price in Afghanistan (per 10 grams, AFN) – 6 Jul to 12 Jul 2026

