



د افغانستان د ټاکنو او روڼتيا د څار مؤسسه
مؤسسه دیده بان انتخابات و شفافیت افغانستان
Election & Transparency Watch Organization of Afghanistan

Weekly Monitoring Report of Wolesi Jirga

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

LAWMAKERS ASK IBRAHIMI TO STEP DOWN	1
WJ SPEAKER REJECTS GRAFT ACCUSATIONS	2
PRESIDENT ACCUSED OF DISREGARDING PARLIAMENT	2
<u>ETWA'S MONITORING AND ITS PURPOSE:</u>	<u>4</u>



Lawmakers Ask Ibrahimi to Step Down

A number of Wolesi Jirga members on Saturday claimed that corruption allegations against parliament's speaker, Abdul Rauf Ibrahimi, and parliament's secretariat head, Khodai Nazar Nasrat, must be investigated.

Chairing today's session, first deputy speaker Humayun Humayun asked the Attorney General Office (AGO) to step in and interrogate the graft charges against Ibrahimi and Nasrat.

He said what has been revealed is only a small portion of the money thought to have been embezzled and the bulk of it remains undiscovered.

Humayun added: "The documents show only 10 percent of corruption in parliament. 90 percent of the documents remain." A number of MPs asked Ibrahimi to resign. They called on each other to vote him out.



Another lawmaker, Ramazan Bashardost, said: "I ask those MPs that have honor, respect and are not corrupt and do not support corruption because of ethnic, religion, language or other relationships to sign and discuss parliament speaker's suspension."

Another parliamentarian, Osman Farahi, said: "Now there are accusations and documents have been sent to the AGO, thus, three, four people should vote him out as they appointed him."

"Parliament speaker himself should resign. In terms of ethics, it is not good that he comes and sits in front of us," his colleague, Abdul Rahim Ayubi explained.



WJ Speaker Rejects Graft Accusations

Wolesi Jirga, the Lower House speaker, Abdul Rauf Ibrahimy rejected allegations of corruption against him, adding he has never done anything that could tarnish the image of parliament.

He said: “There is the possibility that the first speaker of the Wolesi Jirga was speaking due to some misunderstanding, perhaps he did not know it correctly, but we explained it to the great people of Afghanistan and members of the Wolesi Jirga.”

The first secretary of parliament Khudai Nazar Nusrat also rejected allegations of corruption against him.

I never resorted to illegal appointments in parliament, said Nusrat.

But, first deputy speaker, Humayoun Humayoun struck back over the remarks, saying corruption is at its peak in parliament.



He called on the Attorney General’s Office (AGO) to take action against the issue.

“If the total budget is a hundred million afghanis for a year, it is very clear that up to 50 percent of it was embezzled,” Nasrat said.

“I request the AGO to tackle the issue seriously and avoid politicizing it, whenever a top government official is accused of corruption, he must be brought to book,” Humayoun explained.

President Accused of Disregarding Parliament

The Wolesi Jirga, or Lower House members on Monday accused President Ashraf Ghani of violating the constitution and failing to respect decisions made by parliament.

This came after parliament received a letter from the Office of the State Minister for Parliamentary Affairs notifying legislators about a delay in today’s scheduled voting session for minister’s designate.

The move sparked an outcry among MPs with some calling for the doors of parliament to be closed in protest over the decision.



Deputy speaker, Humayoun Humayoun, said: “The president of the country has violated the constitution hundreds of times including other prevailing laws.”

His colleague Zamrak Padkhawbi, said:

“In protest we should lock the doors of parliament for one week so that government respects the law and acts in line with the law.”

“Introduction of the candidates will not be possible on the due date because of some technical issues,” another legislator, Abdul Aadir Zazai stated.

But some lawmakers criticized government for being unable to stay ethnically inclusive in terms of nominating cabinet ministers.

Humayoun said: “The president has already asked individuals working for the election commission to sign blank resignation letters.”

“We want elections not selections,” another parliament member, Shekiba Hashimi said.



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ETWA'S MONITORING AND ITS PURPOSE:

Monitoring of the work of the Parliament for the purpose of informing citizens and promoting cooperation between the parliament and civil society is an effort that EWA believes contributes to the development of the political system of Afghanistan and strengthens the highest representative institution of the country, the Parliament.



EWA'S EMPLOYEES

To this end, EWA has started a program to observe the work of the

Wolesi Jirga and provide reporting and analysis that would help this institution to expand and advance its work. Collecting information on the work of the Parliament and disseminating it to the people and electorate of Afghanistan will promote this institution and has the potential to build closer links between the elected and the electorate.

EWA will remain impartial and neutral throughout its work, in particular in its observation and reporting, and will adopt a code of conduct for its observers and analysts, as well as with full preparation to successfully implement this initiative in conjunction with Wolesi Jirga.

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