

Jalalabad	Clear	Ghazni	Clear	Kandahar	Clear	Mazar	Partly Cloudy	Herat	Partly Cloudy	Bamayan	Clear	Kabul	Clear
39°C 20°C		28°C 19°C		37°C 18°C		29°C 18°C		32°C 16°C		19°C 7°C		27°C 8°C	



Drive to Vaccinate Near 7 Million Kids from Today

KABUL - A Sub-National Immunization Days (SNID) campaign is being launched Today (Monday) to vaccinate over 6.8 million children under the age of five year against polio in high-risk districts in 27 provinces around Afghanistan. A statement from the Ministry of Public Health said it was launching the campaign together with WHO and UNICEF in all southern and south-eastern provinces. It said most districts in the eastern region as well as had been selected as high-risk districts across the country, including Kabul city. The campaign will also be carried out in Kunduz province along with four bordering provinces as a response to a



polio case that was reported from Dasht-i-Archi district in March. "The most recent polio case from Kunduz, a 14-month-old girl, highlights the urgency of making sure that every single child under the age of five is vaccinated during every campaign, everywhere in Afghanistan. We must all play our part in ensuring that our children are healthy and stay protected from polio," said Minister of Public Health Dr Ferozuddin Feroz. During the campaign, over 52,000 trained polio workers will go from house to house in their communities to vaccinate children. On Friday, polio teams will re-visit households to ensure that all children are vaccinated and protected. All caregivers who miss having their children vaccinated should visit their local health centre where the vaccine is available free of charge. Afghanistan, Pakistan and Nigeria are the only three countries in the world where ...*(More on P4)...(8)*

Some Uruzgan Police without Salaries for 8 Months

SHIBERGHAN - Police in central Uruzgan province complain they have not received salaries for the past eight months, making it hard for them to meet family and other needs. A former police chief for Uruzgan was among several serving policemen who claimed fighting in the front line against the Taliban in Tirinkot, the provincial capital. They said were sacrificing their lives in the defense of the country, but they had not been paid salaries for the past eight months. The complaining police are residents of Uruzgan, Kandahar and Kabul provinces. They perform duty in extremely difficult conditions. Policeman Ismatullah told ...*(More on P4)...(9)*

Over 1,630 Candidates Register for Iran's Presidential Race

TEHRAN - More than 1,630 candidates have registered to run in Iran's presidential election next month as the registration for the upcoming race closed on Saturday. Tehran's Mayor Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf and first Vice President Es'haq Jahangiri also registered Saturday for the election. Addressing reporters after his registration, the principalist Qalibaf challenged as "unrealistic" the incumbent President Hassan Rouhani's remarks about his administration's acceptable economic performance over the past four years, according to Press TV. Jahangiri also said that unity is needed to overcome challenges, citing unemployment ...*(More on P4)...(10)*

MoEW Activates MIS to Curb Corruption

KABUL - The Ministry of Energy and Water (MoEW) has activated a Management Information System (MIS) and in the next eight months all aspects of the ministry will be covered by the system, an official said on Sunday. Mohammad Gul Hamidi, MoEW's programmes and cooperation department in-charge, told a ceremony marking the launch of the new system, said the MIS was aimed at preventing corruption and improving work at the department. According to him, the MIS is a modern, computerized system that continuously gathers relevant data, which is then processed, integrated, and ...*(More on P4)...(11)*

Czech Businessmen Willing to Invest in Afghanistan

KASBUL - A number of businessmen from the Czech Republic have shown an 'increasing willingness' to resume their previous projects as well as kick start new investments in Afghanistan, the International Chamber of Commerce country director Abdul Qadir Bahman said on Saturday. He said the Czech businessmen are keen to invest in more than 100 projects in Afghanistan and they have submitted their investment plans to the Afghan government. "Government should use these opportunities to attract the attention of big Czech companies' towards investment in Afghanistan," Bahman said. ...*(More on P4)...(12)*

Karzai Meets Russian Envoy, Discusses Moscow Meeting

KABUL - Former president Hamid Karzai met with Russian ambassador to Afghanistan Alexander Mantyskiy on Saturday evening, Karzai's office said in a statement. According to the statement, during the meeting the ambassador briefed Karzai on the Moscow regional conference for the restoration of peace in Afghanistan. Karzai thanked Russia for its efforts and expressed hope that Moscow and other major powers will step up efforts for peace in Afghanistan. During the meeting Karzai said that Intra-Afghan talks is one solution to end the war and bring long lasting peace to the country, Karzai's office said. This comes after Shakib Mustaghni, spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), said on Saturday that Russia has shown its willingness to host peace talks between the Afghan government and the Taliban. Representatives from Afghanistan, Russia, Iran, ...*(More on P4)...(13)*

MoPH Assures People MoAB Bomb was Not Toxic

KABUL - The Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) on Sunday said that preliminary assessments show that the recent use of a GBU-43, a Massive Ordnance Air Blast (MOAB), also known as the 'Mother of All Bombs', by the U.S military in Achin has had no impact on people's health in the district. Preliminary assessments by the ministry of public health shows that the bomb has not affected the health of residents in Achin, said Wahid Majroh, head of the international relations department of the ministry of public health. The ministry of health says that no one should make uninformed guesses about side-effects of the bomb. "So far there is no evidence to show that the bombing had a negative impact on people's health, there is a need to be patient instead of making premature judgments and lets wait for the final results of assessments," said Majroh. On Thursday, the United States dropped the "mother of all bombs"- the most powerful non-nuclear bomb in the American arsenal - on a Daesh tunnel complex in Achin district in the eastern province of Nangarhar. The bombing sparked mixed reaction both in Afghanistan and around



the world. Many people welcomed the move but some denounced the U.S's action including former Afghan president Hamid Karzai. On Saturday, Karzai lashed out at government and the U.S over Thursday night's bombing. Karzai said he did not recognize the government, and has decided to work ...*(More on P4)...(14)*

Paktia Traders Threaten to Tie up Businesses

GARDEZ - Traders, industrialists and wholesalers in southeastern Paktia province on Sunday complained they were paying taxes to both the government and the Taliban and warned of closing down their businesses. At a joint press conference in Gardez, Paktia's capital, the speakers warned traders and industrialists would lockdown their stop activities if their problems were not solved. Abdul Nasir Alimyar, who heads Paktia chapter of the Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said the Taliban in Ghazni and Logar provinces had imposed 5,000 afghanis tax on each trader. He also complained about what he said mistreatment of traders at entry gates to Gardez city. He said a businessman was seriously beaten up at one of the gates on Saturday. "The Taliban in Tangi area of Logar and Ramak and Tasang areas of Ghazni give bills to cargo vehicles and charge each vehicle 4,000 to 5,000 afghanis, if a driver denies giving the money, the Taliban either torch his vehicle or damage his goods," Alimyar said. The traders also complained they had not been provided services by the government, compared to the tax they paid to it. They said the municipality should collect revenues related to itself, not by a contractor. Ismael Dildar, Paktia Industrialists Association head, said they were struggling with many problems as militants extorted money from traders while the government collected taxes from them. "Government officials are unconcerned about our problems. We pay taxes to both the government and the Taliban, only poor people suffer in such a situation," he said. Haji Abdur Rahim, a national businessman, also said the current situation was unacceptable. He said traders should be at least provided basic facilities ...*(More on P4)...(18)*

Iran's Shamkhani Denounces US for Massive Bomb Drop on Afghanistan

TEHRAN - Secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council Ali Shamkhani slammed as "illegitimate" the US move to drop a large bomb on Afghanistan, reminding Washington that bombardment of other countries would not guarantee its national security. "Bombing people and countries could never strengthen that country's (US) national security," Shamkhani said in a meeting with Defense Minister of Azerbaijan Zakir Hasanov, held in Tehran on Sunday. His comments came after the US dropped the "mother of all bombs" - the largest non-nuclear weapon ever used in combat by the US military - on an area of eastern Afghanistan on Friday for what it called targeting Daesh (ISIL) terrorists. Elsewhere in his remarks, Shamkhani said "unilateral measures" by the US and some of its allies have emboldened terrorist groups in the region and ...*(More on P4)...(15)*

Corruption Threatening Afghanistan's Self-Reliance: EU



KABUL - Lurching its third them of 2017 anticorruption campaign which is focusing on prevention of corruption in Afghanistan, the European Union (EU) in a statement on Sunday said it believed in new generation of the war-torn country with new attitude. The EU termed corruption as a threat for Afghanistan's self-reliance and stressed the need for its elimination citing President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani who earlier said: "The hope lies with the new generation of young Afghans who want to break away from the culture of patronage and corruption." "The fight against corruption has to be fought in multiple arenas at the same time. Alongside ending impunity we need to do more to prevent corruption. Fighting corruption must be fought from the top will need support from below by the Afghan people," the statement said. Critical media and civil society organisations can play a key role by holding public officials accountable" says European Union Special Representative if Afghanistan, Ambassador Franz-Michael Mellbin. The Government must make sure that proper integrity measures for the ...*(More on P4)...(17)*

Rahimpour Iran Hosts 3 Million Afghan Refugees



TEHRAN - Iran joined a number of regional countries in Russia for a new round of International Afghanistan Peace Conference to find a diplomatic solution to problems that have plagued Afghanistan for years. Delivering a speech at the conference in Moscow, Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister for Asia-Pacific Affairs Ebrahim Rahimpour outlined Tehran's stances on the situation in neighboring Afghanistan, Tasnim News Agency reported. Rahimpour noted that Iran has been hosting some three million Afghan refugees over the past decades, voicing Tehran's readiness to cooperate with the Kabul government for the establishment of peace in Afghanistan and for the settlement of local and regional problems, including drug trafficking and security issues. "Regional countries should express determination to fight terrorism as a clear message for terrorist groups," he said. It was the third regional meeting on Afghanistan in five months. In December 2016, Russia hosted a trilateral meeting with China and Pakistan. In March, the Russian Foreign Ministry had announced that at least 12 countries, including the US, had been invited to the Moscow conference. The US, however, turned down the invitation and refused to attend the conference. (Agencies)

The Way Forward IS Dialogue Not Violence, Taliban Told

KABUL - Afghan government has said that any peace talks aimed at bringing peace and stability to Afghanistan should be Afghan-led and Afghan-owned and regional countries must support the government of Afghanistan in its quest for sustainable peace. The views were expressed by Afghan foreign ministry's spokesman here after a regional conference on Afghan peace and reconciliation efforts in Moscow held on April 14. Russia, China, India, Iran, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Kyrgyzstan participated in a meeting of regional consultations hosted by the Russian Federation in Moscow. The discussion also highlighted regional concern about the multiplicity of security threats—including terrorism, radicalism, and criminality (drug production and trafficking)—which undermine Afghanistan's ...*(More on P4)...(16)*