

<b>Jalalabad</b> Clear 29°C 17°C	<b>Ghazni</b> Clear 22°C 6°C	<b>Kandahar</b> Clear 32°C 16°C	<b>Mazar</b> Partly Cloudy 27°C 14°C	<b>Herat</b> Clear 27°C 14°C	<b>Bamayan</b> Partly Cloudy 11°C 1°C	<b>Kabul</b> Chance of Rain 21°C 9°C
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Weather Forecast Brought to You by MTN Afghanistan



# Balance of Trade Sees Imports Jump, Exports Drop

KABUL - Afghanistan trade deficit jumped to 95 percent in the year 1393 (2014), with the total value of trade reaching \$8.697 billion USD, of which \$7.697 billion USD were imports and only \$571 million USD were exports.

As a country that has strived to bolster industry and improve exports over the years, a trade deficit of \$7.126 billion USD is not a good sign. Afghanistan continues to import far more than it exports, sending more currency abroad than the country is bringing in.

According to officials at the Central Statistics Office (CSO), last year was one of the worst economically for Afghanistan on record.



"Afghanistan is a country dependent on imports, and this shows a lack of government management," CSO Eco-

nomics Director Azizullah Fageeri said on Wednesday. "The government must lay out economic plans and increase ex-

ports by using the available resources. Increase in exports will not only increase employment ... (More on P4)...(6)

## Project Educating Afghan, Pakistani Students Launched

KABUL - The UN refugee agency (UNHCR) in collaboration with the United States Embassy in Islamabad has launched two education projects benefiting more than 1,850 Pakistani and Afghan students.

As part of the Refugee Affected and Hosting Areas (RAHA) initiative, the two projects have been inaugurated in Pakistani cities of Rawalpindi and Taxila near Islamabad, the nation's capital.

Principal ... (More on P4)...(8)

## President Ghani Meets His Indian Counterpart

NEW DELHI - President Ashraf Ghani, who is on a three-day official visit to India, met with his Indian counterpart Pranab Mukherjee on Tuesday.

India's President said the meeting had been one of significance for the development of strong relations between Kabul and New Delhi.

Ghani meanwhile noted his appreciation of India and praised India's support of Afghanistan.



Earlier in the day Ghani met with the Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Together, the two leaders put flowers on the grave of Mahatma Gandhi, ... (More on P4)...(9)

## Hope for Kunduz Residents as Troops Push Back Taliban

KUNDUZ CITY - By late Wednesday Kunduz residents were able to breathe a sigh of relief as many started returning to their normal lives after days of fighting between security force

members and Taliban insurgents. Kunduz residents told TOLONews that they have put their faith in the security force and were optimistic about troops being able to clear the area of the Taliban.

In addition, they said businesses were being reopened and students were returning to school. "We believe the security forces will win and our province will not fall into ... (More on P4)...(11)

## FICCI, Afghan Chamber Sign MoU to Bolster Trade Ties

NEW DELHI - In the presence of Afghanistan President Ashraf Ghani, the Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce & Industries (ACCI) and the Federation of In-

dian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) on Wednesday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to set up an Afghanistan-India Chamber of

Commerce and Industry (AICCI) comprising businessmen and industrialists of the two countries. The MoU was signed by Jyotsna Suri, ... (More on P4)...(12)

## Governor Taliban Defeated in Many Parts of Kunduz



KUNDUZ CITY - Northern Kunduz province governor Mohammad Omar Safi said Wednesday that after Afghan security forces launched an offensive operation against Taliban in many parts of Kunduz province, the Imam Sahib district siege was shattered and brought under control. Forces also made sturdy progress in other parts such as Gor Tepa district. "We have both air and ground forces in Kunduz city and the Imam ... (More on P4)...(7)

## US Troops Withdrawal May Trigger More Suicide Bombings

Iraq and Afghanistan accounted for over 60 percent of the world's suicide bombings in 2014, according to the 2014 Suicide Index report.



MOSCOW - The withdrawal of US troops from Afghanistan may trigger even more suicide bombings in the country, the scene of almost a quarter of all suicide attacks in 2014, the author of the 2014 Suicide Index report said Wednesday. According to the report by the institute Chicago Project ... (More on P4)...(10)

# Tender Notice

MTN Afghanistan invites potential suppliers to submit their proposals regarding **Complete outsourcing of Call Center, Sims Registration and Archive for the Period of Three Years.**

Suppliers will be required to provide information with respect to:

1. The Company Profile / Factsheet
2. Valid License from GoA (Relevant License duration should be more than one year old)

3. At least 4 references of reputable organizations along with their name and contact numbers which the company has provided or are providing similar supplies and services
4. Minimum three years relevant experience
5. Financial Stability Bank Statement for Last Six Months.
6. To provide financial statement of last 3 years approved by an approved audit company.

Only qualified suppliers who meet above criteria will be shortlisted for further process.

Security Deposit at the time of signing the contract	Announcement Start Date	Last date & time for submission of Profiles
MTN AF reserves the right to request for special insurance from contractors.	From 25h April-2015 to 30th April-2015	1600 hrs on 3rd -May-2015

The completed tender documents are to be submitted in **SEALED** envelopes addressed to Procurement Manager, MTN Afghanistan in tender box located at MTNA reception.

MTN Afghanistan reserves the right to reject/cancel/postpone any or all tenders without assigning any reason and is not bound to accept the lowest tender.

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