

Jalalabad	Clear	Ghazni	Clear	Kandahar	Clear	Mazar	Clear	Herat	Clear	Bamayan	Clear	Kabul	Clear
39°C	39°C	37°C	20°C	40°C	27°C	41°C	33°C	35°C	24°C	27°C	12°C	35°C	21°C



U.S. Team in Islamabad Tomorrow to Get Pak Perspective on Afghanistan, S.Asia



ISLAMABAD - A United States delegation, led by Acting Assistant Secretary of State for South Asia and Central Asia and Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan Alice Wells, will interact with their Pakistani counterparts here on Wednesday to get Islamabad's perspective on developments in Afghanistan in particular and South Asia overall. Accord-

ing to the Express Tribune, Wednesday's visit could contribute to a firming up of the Trump Administration's strategy for the region in the days to come. With Pakistan in a state of political transition after the Supreme Court disqualified Nawaz Sharif as prime minister over concealing assets last Friday, the Express Tribune is reporting that the talks will take place between the American delegation and Pakistan's military authorities. The delegation will also visit New Delhi and Kabul later in the week. It may be recalled that last month, the Pentagon had announced that it would not be releasing USD 50 million in military reimbursements to Pakistan after Defense Secretary James Mattis refused to certify that Islamabad had taken sufficient action against the Afghan Taliban and the Haqqani Network. American military officials, however, said that despite the blocking of funds, they still do see Pakistan as an important cog in the defence policy wheel when it comes to Afghanistan. (ANI)



Afghan Air Force Conducted 112 Sorties in the Past 24 Hours, MoD Says

KABUL - The Afghan Air Force has conducted around one hundred and twelve sorties in the past twenty four amid soaring violence across the country. The Ministry of Defense (MoD) said the sorties which included logistics, transportation, and aerial strikes were carried out during the ongoing counter-terrorism operations.

A statement by MoD said the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces (ANDSF) personnel have carried out 21 clearance and 27 special operations in the past 24 during which the Afghan Air Forces have played a key supporting role besides the artillery units continuously pounded the militants positions. MoD further added that out of the conducted sorties at least twelve of them were airstrikes which were conducted on militants positions in different parts of the country.

According to MoD, a total of 103 militants were killed and 36 others were wounded during the operations.

The operations were conducted jointly in Nangarhar, Kapisa, Paktia, Paktika, Khost, Ghazni, Kandahar, Uruzgan, Zabol, Ghor, Badghis, Faryab, Baghlan, Badakhshan, and Helmand provinces, MoD added. The ministry of defense did not disclose any information regarding the casualties of the security personnel during the operations.

The anti-government armed militant groups have also not commented regarding the report so far. (KP)

100 Athletes Partake in Kabul Pentathlon

KABUL - Some 100 athletes from 24 clubs across the country participated in contests in connection with celebrating the Independence Day in Kabul.

Organized by the Modern Pentathlon Federation of Afghanistan, the contests included riding, shooting, swimming and fencing, said Khoshal Sarwari, the federation president.

He said their federation wanted to organize similar events in future as well. "We have facilities for shooting, archery and fencing but we lack enough place and resources for swimming and riding."

Fencing federation head Ahmad Rafa Yourish, one of the participants, said organizing such events were crucial for promotion of healthy activities.

"The Afghans love fencing, the Olympics committee should provide them facilities for the game."

Khoshal Sarwari said the winners of today's games would be announced at a special ceremony to be held on Thursday. (Pajhwok)

Afghan Film to Digitalize its Archive



KABUL - Over 30,000 hours' worth of footage has been saved, some of which dates back to before World War II. Officials from the Afghan Film Directorate at the Ministry of Information and Culture (MoIC) on Monday said that

it is planning to digitalize its film archive which holds nearly 36,000 hours of film shot over the past century.

The Afghan Film Directorate, which is the only government film making body, has footage of politics, ... (More on P4)...(6)

Afghanistan Mosque Explosion Kills at Least 20 People, Official Says

HERAT - At least 20 people were killed on Tuesday in an explosion inside a minority Shiite Muslim mosque in western Herat, Afghan hospital official said.

The official, Dr. Mohammed Rafique Shehrzad, said 20 bodies were brought to his Main Hospital in Herat city, the capital of western Herat province Monday night, soon after the blast shattered the late evening.

Shiites are a minority in Afghanistan and have been threatened by the Islamic



State affiliate that operates in the country's east. No one immediately took re-

sponsibility for the attack on the Jawadia Mosque in Herat. (Foxnews)

Powerful Elements Meddling in Work of AGO



KABUL - The deputy attorney general said during a visit to Badakhshan that interference was having an impact on the work of the AGO's office.

The office of the attorney general on Monday raised concerns over what it called the meddling of powerful elements in its work, saying interference in the legal and judicial institutions was affecting the justice system

in the country.

This interference is impacting the work of the AGO, said Wahiduddin Arghon, Assistant Attorney General of Afghanistan, during a trip to the northern province of Badakhshan on Monday.

He said that one of the examples of interference is that the appeals court prosecutor in Badakhshan has not been able to probe some

of their cases.

"There are elements who are interfering in the job of the judges and legal and judicial institutions. There is no need to name people in this respect ... during my short trip to Badakhshan, I received dozens of calls in which I was asked not to accuse someone in the investigations," said Arghon.

Meanwhile, the Badakhshan governor has also raised concerns over the existence of corruption in government institutions.

"Corruption exists in all institutions. But who is able to prevent corruption, the legal and judicial institutions should remember Allah, his prophet and Sharia (Islamic law) while doing their job," said ... (More on P4)...(7)

ACCI Calls for Expansion of Trade Ties with Uzbekistan

KABUL - Simultaneously with the transit and trade challenges by Pakistan, Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI) has called for expansion of trade relations between Afghanistan and Uzbekistan.

"We have great trade relation with Uzbekistan, but in imports. The government should work more on exports," said Atiqullah Nasrat, chief operating officer of ACCI.

ACCI officials say currently, Afghanistan's trade deals with Afghanistan reaches to more than 400 million dollars.

In the meantime, Uzbek ambas-

sador to Kabul emphasized over his country's commitment for the better investment situation in the country.

Reports suggest President Ghani's recent trip was for a better trade ties with Uzbekistan.

After the formation of the NUG in Afghanistan, Uzbekistan was one of the countries that were included in the first circle of President Ghani's foreign policy and the Afghan President tried to improve relations with this country in order to enhance economy, transit and etc.

Ghani believed Uzbekistan to be the closest ... (More on P4)...(7)

Loan Applications Increase While Payouts Drop

KABUL - Central Bank officials said although loan requests increased, loan payouts decreased by 11 percent against last year. Central Bank officials said that despite improvements in the banking and financial systems, the number of loans approved, in the first six months of this year, has dropped by 11 percent against last year.

According to the Central Bank, in the first six months of this year more than 41 billion AFs was paid out as loans to the people while in the first six months of last year more than 46 billion AFs was borrowed by the people from banks.

Central Bank officials said in the first six months of this year, the



banks' value increased by seven billion AFs which indicates a five percent increase against the first six months of last year. In addition to this, in the first six months, people deposited more money into bank accounts - five billion AFs more - which shows a two percent increase in deposits against the same period last year. Meanwhile, officials ... (More on P4)...(9)

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The Daily Afghanistan-e-Ma

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