

Jalalabad	Clear	Ghazni	Clear	Kandahar	Clear	Mazar	Clear	Herat	Clear	Bamayan	Clear	Kabul	Clear
	38°C 26°C		32°C 15°C		43°C 25°C		33°C 23°C		36°C 18°C		24°C 11°C		33°C 18°C



Ghazni Governor Accused of Meeting Daesh Leaders

KABUL - Accusing the governor of southern Ghazni province of having hands with Taliban, civil society organizations alleged that he had a meeting with Daesh leaders twice in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). But Governor Musa Akbarzada rejected the allegations as groundless. Some civil society activists and Ghazni lawmakers in parliament expressed concerns about spike in kidnappings and insecurity in the province.

They alleged that routes leading to Jaghori, Malestan, Nawar, Jaghato and Qara Bagh districts had turned deadly. Ali Akbar Qasemi, a lawmaker from Ghazni, said majority of



Ghazni districts were under insurgents' control and the government had no writ there. He has repeatedly

informed the government about the plight of the people, but to no avail. He alleged

Ghazni governor had hands with insurgents in the province and had secret meetings with Daesh... (More on P4)...(9)

Taliban Torch Civilians Houses in Maidan Wardak



MAIDAN SHAR - Taliban set five houses of civilians on fire in the Chak district of central Maidan Wardak province, an official said on Tuesday. Governor Spokesman Attaullah Khogyani said the incident took place late on Monday in the Ala-i-Sang locality. Security forces have reached the area and controlled the

situation. Four security men suffered casualties. Mohammad Tahir, a resident of locality, told Pajhwok Afghan News Taliban forced their way into civilians' houses and started beating women and later they torched the houses and left the area. He said a 13 year old boy also burnt to death. (Pajhwok)

Over 60 Taliban Insurgents Killed in Musa Qala Clashes

LASHKARGAH - More than 60 Taliban insurgents, including their two commanders, have been killed in clashes with security forces in Musa Qala district in southern Helmand province, officials said on Tuesday.

Local officials in Musa Qala warned that Taliban insurgents were preparing for a massive attack on the district, adding that "the government should send in reinforcements." "Currently, Nawzad district in Helmand is completely controlled by militants, and Musa Qala is also under big



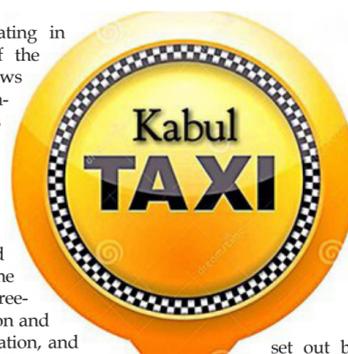
threat," a member of Provincial Council of Helmand, Bashir Shaker told TOLONews. Another member of Helmand provincial council said: "If the illegal ways which are connected to all districts are not closed, the war will con-

tinue and will change into a long-term conflict." Meanwhile, Dawlat Waziri, Deputy Spokesman for the Ministry of Defense (MoD) said that Pakistani, Arab and Chechen Taliban insurgents are ... (More on P4)...(10)

NAI Accuses NSC of Gagging the Press

KABUL - The National Security Council (NSC) reportedly summoned a number of members of the press to their offices over the past month and accused them of administering Kabul Taxi - a popular, satirical Facebook news page that is run by an anonymous person. The Facebook page has garnered more than 30,000 Likes in just three months and takes a tongue-in-cheek approach to issues of the day including local politics, warlords, corrupt officials and bureaucratic aides. The NSC media office says however that the Facebook

page was operating in contravention of the country's laws by using an unknown address and by trying to unveil secret government information. The NSC in an statement said that it respects the principles of freedom of expression and access to information, and requests relevant agencies to ascertain the identities of the individual(s) who violated the guidelines of media use



set out by the laws of the country in order to prevent further breach of information. The ... (More on P4)...(11)

Nangarhar PC Welcomes President's Shake-up Plan

JALALABAD - Provincial Council (PC) members on Tuesday welcomed President Ashraf Ghani's proposed changes in the administration of eastern Nangarhar province and urged him to appoint qualified and deserving individuals.

Reports say the Presidential Palace is planning to remove more than 10 provincial departmental heads and replace them with honest and qualified individuals.

President Ghani was expected to arrive in Jalalabad, the provincial capital, but bad weather forced him to cancel his trip.

The Nangarhar PC members told reporters they wanted changes in the provincial administration by removing corrupt and unqualified people and that was why they welcomed the president's decision in this regard.

PC member Zabihullah Zamaraei said: "We want reforms in the administrative system and want to see honest, patriotic and educated people on key posts." He said the province had become insecure after militants ... (More on P4)...(13)

SAARC Launches Bamiyan Festival



KABUL - The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) officially launched its artist camp and 7th Silk Road Festival in central Bamiyan province.

A large crowd of Afghan and foreign guests were present at the event which was declared as SAARC's Cultural Capital for 2015 by the organization in June. The SAARC festival which includes cultural programs, arts camps, the Silk Road festival, a film festival, a local food festival and handicrafts ex-

hibition, will continue for five days. Tahir Zahir, the Provincial Governor urged SAARC members to name Bamiyan as the permanent host for its meetings and events. "We call on SAARC countries to not forget Bamiyan and to accept this city as the secretariat of this organization and deliver messages of peace, friendship and historical civilization of this ancient province to their members," Zahir said. He went on to say that the "opening ... (More on P4)...(14)

Marawara Elders Back Govt. Policies, Programmes

ASADABAD - The residents of Marawara district of eastern Kunar province on Tuesday held a huge gathering in the provincial capital, voicing support for the unity government's policies and programmes.

Tribal elders, who addressed the gathering in Asadabad, stressed people's role in strengthening security and maintaining peace, said Ghani Musammim, the governor's spokesman. The gathering was also addressed by the provincial Tribal Affairs Director, Dost Mohammad Mamond, who said the Mamond tribe living on both sides of the Durand Line had long been facing numerous problems. He said the Mamond tribe had been neglected over the past 14 years and asked the government to pay special attention to multifaceted reconstruction of the Marawara district.

He said the people of Marawara district had been cooperative with the government in maintaining security, peace and countering narcotics. Tribal elders, who spoke on the occasion, said the security situation in the Marawara district had deteriorated creating hurdles for development, peace and stability. Tribal elder Hazrat Rahman said: "The Mamond tribe is united and wants other tribes to strike unity in their ranks." He urged the government to deliver on its promise to construct a canal in the district. He said the ... (More on P4)...(17)

Islamic Scholars in Kandahar Stress Greater Unity

KANDAHAR CITY - Islamic scholars in southern Kandahar province on Tuesday voiced that they should become united to convince people from misusing and killing innocent people.

A conference to build strong coordination between Helmand, Farah and Nimroz Ullamas was held where tens of Islamic scholars participated. Kandahar deputy governor Abdul Ali Shamsi called the gathering important and stressed on unity between



Sunni and Shia Ullamas. He said that Islam was the religion of peace and love but it was misrepresented by the enemies of the country that had been inciting people for violence. He said that Islamic scholars

should prevent such practices among people and build unity to protect people. "Ullamas role is of immense importance for peace and stability. They play a highly significant role to promote harmony," ... (More on P4)...(12)

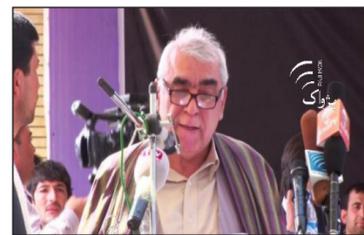
60pc of Schools without Buildings in Kandahar

KANDAHAR CITY - Education officials said on Tuesday lack of school buildings, less number of teachers and a shortage of text books have slowed down the education process in southern Kandahar province. Deputy provincial education director Auz Nazari told Pajhwok Afghan News during an interview that the most serious issue was the lack of school buildings.

"In Kandahar City and districts nearly 60 percent of schools have no buildings and students in these schools study in the open or under tents," he said. Calling the current strength of teachers as insufficient, the official said Kandahar needed another 800 teachers to be appointed. He said there had been 105 classes of 12th graders in the previous academic year in Kandahar City and districts and this academic year 25000 out-of-school children would be enrolled which meant the addition of 900 more classes. Therefore, he said hundreds of teachers needed to be appointed. Calling schools which have been closed for various reasons as another serious issue, Nazari said 147 of the total 307 schools across Kandahar had been shut. He said though the security situation had recently improved, they could not reopen closed schools due to the absence of local expert teachers. (Pajhwok)

Pakistan Fomenting Ethnic Tension in Afghanistan: Junbish

MAZAR-I-SHARIF - Junbish-i Milli Islami Afghanistan, the predominantly ethnic Uzbek party,



on Tuesday accused Pakistan of fomenting tribal differences in Afghanistan. The accusation comes after three alleged bombers, who planned to target the party's leader Abdul Rashid Dostum, also the first Vice-President, were arrested in northern Faryab province. Azizullah Kargar, who heads the Junbish party's ... (More on P4)...(15)

Sherpao Foresees Marked Improvement Afghan-Pakistan Ties

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan's former interior minister and senior politician from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province Aftab Ahmad Khan



Sherpao foresees a marked improvement in Islamabad-Kabul relations in near future. Also the Pakhtunkhwa Qaumi Party chairman, Sherpao told Pajhwok Afghan News on the periphery of the Af-Pak Youth Dialogue in Islamabad that peace in one country was directly linked to stability in the other. While making a strong pitch for joint efforts to restore ... (More on P4)...(18)

Plot to Attack Dostum Foiled, 3 Bombers Held



MAIMANA - Three would-be suicide bombers, who planned to attack First-Vice President Abdul Rashid Dostum, have been arrested in northern Faryab province, a politician said on Tuesday. Junbish-i-Milli Islami (JMI) party's deputy head Masoud Ahmad Massoud told Pajhwok Afghan News the

men wearing suicide vests were arrested in Qaisar district last night. They hatched a plan to attack Dostum, he said, adding that one of the attackers had managed to flee but police were conducting raids to nab him. The detainees told their investigators that they had received ... (More on P4)...(16)