

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



Russia Ready to Supply Gunship Helicopters to Afghan Army

KABUL - The Russian officials have said Moscow is prepared to supply the Afghan army with the gunship helicopters - Mi-35 attack choppers to combat terrorism. President Vladimir Putin's special envoy for Afghanistan Zamir Kabulov has said the issue was shared during the summit in UFA attended by the Afghan officials, Russia's semi-official news agency - Sputnik News reported. Putin told his counter President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani that Moscow is prepared to work jointly with Afghanistan and United States to start work on agreements for the delivery of the attack helicopters to Afghan



Air Force, Kabulov said. He also added that Russia is prepared to review Afghanistan's request for the supply of heavy and light weapons for the Afghan army. The Afghan Air Force is currently going through reconstruction phase as the Afghan national security forces are engaged to curb the growing threats posed by the terrorist groups across the country. Afghan-Air-Force-MD-530 The Afghan Air Force received the first six Armed MD-530s earlier this year with the NATO Train, Assist, Advise Command-Air and 438th Air Expeditionary Wing, saying that the armed ...*(More on P4)...(9)*

Corruption a Huge Challenge for Balkh Residents

KABUL - A new study by the Afghan Institute for Strategic Studies (AISS) has found that corruption is one of the biggest challenges for Balkh residents after the issue of unemployment. The survey was conducted by AISS in twelve provinces of Afghanistan including Balkh. A cross-section of the population - including civil society members, government employees, university lecturers, teachers, professional workers and self-employed people were interviewed in the survey. The survey, which reached 1,226 people, showed people thought that the government sector was the most corrupt of all sectors. Ghulam Reza Ibrahim, an AISS researcher, said that according to the survey - 17 percent of people in Balkh said their biggest problem was with corruption. Ibrahim said that according to the survey, respondents view government efforts to eradicate unemployment and corruption as poor and felt this was causing a widening gap between the people and the government. "Most of the people interviewed in the survey said no legal action is taken against corrupt people," Ibrahim said. ...*(More on P4)...(10)*

Musa Qala Faces Collapse, Clashes Continue: Officials

LASHKARGAH - Musa Qala district of southern Helmand province is in danger of collapsing into the hands of the Taliban as heavy clashes continue, local officials said on Wednesday. There are however contradictory reports with some Provincial Council members have said that Musa Qala has already collapsed to the Taliban. In addition they say insurgents have torched a clinic and a school. The council members said "the insurgents have also stolen a radio system from the police forces".



But, Mohammad Jan Rasoulyar, Deputy Governor of Helmand has not confirmed reports of its collapse but said that heavy clashes continue and that more than 150 Taliban insurgents have so far been killed. "Ten Afghani-

Jalrez Probe Findings be Made Public Soon, Orders NSC

KABUL - The National Security Council (NSC) has ordered the authorities concerned to make public at the earliest the outcome of a fact-finding committee's investigation into the brutal killings of Afghan Local Police (ALP) personnel in the Jalrez district of central Maidan Wardak province. About two months ago, insurgents attacked and seized a dozen ALP posts in the Jalrez district, killing and beheading 24 ALP men. To avenge the killings, Afghan security forces conducted an operation recapturing the posts and killing dozens of militants, including three



commanders. The carnage sparked protests by family members of the victims and civil society groups demanding thorough investigation into negligence by some security officials in dispatching reinforcements to rescue the besieged ALP personnel. A statement from the Presidential Palace on Wednesday said President Ghani chaired a meeting of the NSC late on Tuesday. The fact-finding delegation chief presented before the meeting ...*(More on P4)...(12)*

Afghan-Invented Bone Reconstruction Device Utilized in US

KABUL - For the first time American doctors utilized a bone-reconstruction device invented by two Afghan doctors. Doctors at a hospital in Portland city of the state of Oregon used the tool for treating the broken knee of a woman age 83. The result of the Afghan Device was satisfactory for American doctors. This bone reconstruction device was invented by two Afghan surgeons Mohammad Ismail Wardak and Abdul Razaq in Kabul. United States has registered the Afghan Device and approved the use of it. Afghan Device which is a cheaper way of treatment for broken knees and elbows also reduces the healing period from six months to six weeks for patients in therapy. "The common method now used to treat small bones is very flawed when compared with how our invention works, requiring a person to be operated twice, "But with our method only one operation is needed and it is so minimal that the skin sometimes may not even be cut," says one of the inventors, Mohammad Ismail Wardak. Afghan Device is also utilized in several other countries including India and Pakistan. (KP)

Shindand Air Base Celebrates 90 Years of AAF



HERAT - Forces at the Shindand Air Base in western Herat on Tuesday celebrated the 90th anniversary of the establishment of the country's Air Force. The airfield commander, Gen. Asadullah Hashimi, hoped the Afghan Air Force (AAF) will soon return to its past in terms of equipment and training. "Today all the countries in the world admit that the Afghan Air Force was top in the region during 1960s both in terms of quality and quantity," Hashimi said. "As we have past experiences, I am sure we will regain our past strength in near future." Highlighting the need for a serious combat against insurgents, the AAF pilots said they were ready to conduct night operations - which were previously conducted by the foreign troops before their combat mission ended in 2014. "I am proud of being a pilot in my country," said Lieut. Gen. Akhtar Mohammad. "My message to enemies is that the Afghan Air Force is capable of defending their soil." Meanwhile, a number of retired pilots expressed that they were ready to help the sector. They urged the government to use ...*(More on P4)...(14)*

Paktia Residents Link Growing Insecurity to racks within Govt.



GARDEZ - A number of religious leaders, peace committee members and local elders in southeastern Paktia province demanded the government build peace and security in remote parts of the country. Maulvi Khaliqdad, head of peace committee, said that Afghans wanted peace and stability. "Everyone should show practical efforts for peace and stability," he demanded, adding that cooperation and assistance of local populace were also equally important in this regard. Hafizullah Mubarez, deputy head of provincial council, urged government to overcome shortcomings first and then go for dialogue with Taliban. "Had the government serious for peace and stability in the country it should provide job opportunities so that people would not join militants," he explained. Kochai Ahmadzai, a leading elder, said genuine leadership was needed to build peace. Government officials had been involved in their personal disputes and did not have proper plan for peace and stability, he complained. (Pajhwok)

US Declares Haqqani Leader a Terrorist



KABUL - The United States this week deemed senior Haqqani Network leader, Aziz Haqqani, as a foreign terrorist for his orchestration of high-profile attacks against the Afghan government, the US State Department said in a press release. The announcement of Haqqani's terrorist designation comes at the same time as Washington is publicly supporting the Afghan government to negotiate a peace settlement with the Taliban.

"Aziz Haqqani has been involved in planning and carrying out improvised explosive device attacks against Afghan government targets... and assumed responsibility for all major Haqqani Network attacks after the death of his brother, Badruddin Haqqani [in 2012]," the release said on Tuesday. In August 2014, the State Department authorized a reward of up to \$5 million USD for information leading to Aziz ...*(More on P4)...(13)*

Member States Discuss Enhancing Trade in 4th TTCC Meeting



KABUL - The fourth meeting of the Transit Transport Coordination Council (TTCC) was held on Wednesday in capital Kabul to ponder ways to enhance economic cooperation in the region. Officials from Iran, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Azerbaijan, Turkey, TIR convention and a delegation from the Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Industries (ACCI) took part in the meeting. Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan also have the membership of the TTCC, but their officials did not attend the meeting. Muzamil Shinwari, deputy director ...*(More on P4)...(15)*

31 Schoolgirls Poisoned in Maidan Wardak

MAIDAN SHAHR - At least 31 schoolgirls were poisoned in Marakazi Behsud district of central Maidan Wardak province but they were stated to be in stable condition, an official said Wednesday. Governor's spokesman Attaullah Khogyani told Pajhwok Afghan News that the incident took place in Baba Wali High School in Koh Biroom area of Markazi Behsud district on Tuesday afternoon. He said it could not be immediately verified how they were poisoned but 31 partially-conscious schoolgirls were shifted to hospital for treatment. All the girls were discharged after receiving treatment. Detective and other relevant organs investigation was underway to identify the reason of poison, Khogyani said. Fazal Rahman Tariq, Maidan Wardak education department director, said that both boy and girls were in the school and the poisoned girls were studying in 11th and 12th classes. However, provincial public health director Dr. Ghulam Farooq Mukhlis said that 26 girls and five boy students were poisoned. "Health professionals could not identify what kind of poison was used," he said. Provincial council member Halimi Askari urged government to adopt measures to prevent recurrence of such cases in future. (Pajhwok)

60% Charikar Residents to Take Hectic Part in Upcoming Ballot

KABUL - Survey shows that every six persons out of 10 in Charikar, the provincial capital of northern Parwan province, pledged to take hectic part in the upcoming parliamentary and district council's elections. The survey has been conducted by the students of journalism with the help of PAYK, an investigative journalism organization. Around 150 individuals from different walks of life were interviewed in the survey. Of 60 percent of the participants 53.3 percent of them were men and 47.7 percent women vowed they would take part in the coming ballot. In addition, 42.2 percent of these individual have showed strong interest in voting, 40 percent said they would go to vote to elect their candidate and 17.8 percent said they wanted to vote in order to get resolved their problems. Another 40 percent of those interviewed 71.7 percent of them men and 28.8 women showed no interest to go to polling stations due to their lack of belief on the election process and system. Similarly, 40 percent rejected taking part in ballots due to flaws in the system and 7.5 percent did not want to vote because of security. In addition, 95 percent people termed customs, undemocratic practices, lack of awareness as main reasons for less participation by women in the election. They asked security officials to take steps to improve law and order especially during election. Charikar is the city of 642,000 people. According to provincial election commission, 54,000 men and 24,000 women were eligible for vote. Police Chief Mohammad Zaman ...*(More on P4)...(16)*