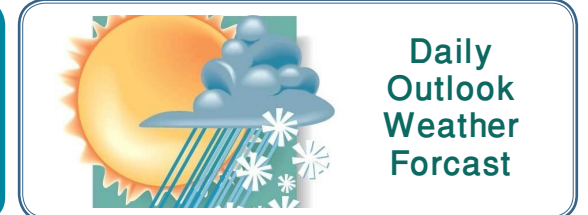


<b>Jalalabad</b>	Clear	<b>Ghazni</b>	Clear	<b>Kandahar</b>	Clear	<b>Mazar</b>	Clear	<b>Herat</b>	Clear	<b>Bamayan</b>	Clear	<b>Kabul</b>	Clear
	39°C 24°C		30°C 13°C		37°C 19°C		32°C 22°C		31°C 14°C		21°C 7°C		31°C 15°C



Daily Outlook  
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Forecast

# Council of Jihadi Party Launched in Kabul

KABUL - Afghanistan's former president Sebghatullah Mojaddedi on Thursday announced the establishment of a new political party - the Council of Jihadi - which aims to put pressure on the National Unity Government to bring about reform. Mojaddedi said that eight parties had come together to form the new party. According to him, the party's main aim is to fight corruption, bring peace and security to the country and to support civil action movements. Meanwhile, the former vice president Mohammad Karim Khalili, who has also joined the party, said that they are completely non-partisan.



"The party is totally independent and has no links to government or any foreign countries," said Khalili. The party said that they will support the National Unity Government but will also oppose it if necessary. "Ghani's government has done good but it has also made mistakes. The party aims to bring about reforms," Mojaddedi added. "The new party will support good performance by government but it will strongly oppose wrongdoing on the part of government," Khalili added. But party members raised their concerns over ... (More on P4)...(9)

## Maidan Wardak PC Members, Governor Pledge to Resolve Problems

MAIDAN CITY - Provincial Council (PC) members in central Maidan Wardak province on Thursday discussed at length administrative, judicial and other provincial issues with the governor who pledged to extend all cooperation to resolve problem of the people. Attaullah Khogyani, the governor spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News that Governor Hayatullah Hayat and other local officials attended the meeting held at the governor house. PC head Ahmad Jaffari told the meeting that several issues were there at central and district levels which needed

immediate solution. Most of the schools, he said had no buildings while some needed reconstruction. In addition, he said that children of dozens of schools were in dire need of textbooks. PC members also pointed out lack of electricity facilities amid complaints against government officials to the governor. Scores of guards who had to serve in districts and different areas were discharging their duties with high officials instead, the governor was told. Jaffari also briefed the governor on deteriorating security situation throughout the ... (More on P4)...(10)

## Ghani Commends Carpet Industry's Role in Creating Jobs

KABUL - President Ashraf Ghani has appreciated the role of the carpet-manufacturing sector, employing 1.6 million people, in the promotion of Afghanistan's economy. At a meeting with representatives of the carpet industry at the Presidential Palace in Kabul on Wednesday evening, Ghani praised the sector's contribution to the generation of employment opportunities. A statement from the president's office said the participants consulted Ghani on how to enhance cooperation with Turkmenistan in the area of carpet production. During an upcoming visit of



Turkmenistan's president to Kabul on Thursday (today), the issue of bilateral cooperation in the vital sector would come up for discussion. The statement quoted the president as directing the Ministry of Commerce to present him proposals within two weeks its strategy for resolving the problems being encountered by carpet pro-

ducers. Representatives of the industry briefed the president on issues related to carpet production, raw materials, exports, encroachment on their property, a total absence of rug laundry services, opportunities and needs. They called joint organising Afghan-Turkmen exhibitions, ... (More on P4)...(11)

## Govt. Responsible for 72% of Violence against Journalists

KABUL - A recent study by the Afghan Journalists Safety Committee (AJSC) attributes 72 percent of violence against journalists to government organizations. The findings for the first six months show that armed insurgent groups are responsible only for 12.5 percent of violence against journalists. Another 12.5 percent is caused by unknown elements and the remaining three percent by local powerful people. According to the study, Afghanistan's western provinces recorded the highest number of incidents of violence against journalists.



The violent incidents included one murder, four cases of assault, 19 incidents of beatings, two detentions and 13 cases of threats against journalists, the report added. Twenty-eight of a total of 39 cases occurred from January to June and were attributed

to government organizations, AJSC head Najib Sharifi said. "In this study, the government is responsible for 72 percent of violence against journalists because the government is obliged to provide a safe working environment for ... (More on P4)...(12)

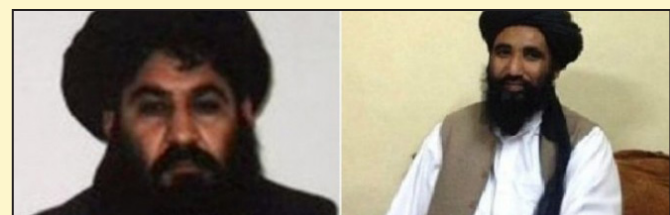
## Balkh PC Links Growing Insecurity, Graft to Cracks within Govt.

MAZAR-I-SHARIF - The provincial council head in northern Balkh province on Thursday said differences within government leaders was a major reason behind spike in graft and insecurity across the country. Mohammad Ibrahim Khair Andesh, provincial council head, told Pajhwok Afghan News law and order was deteriorating at accelerated pace amid rampant corrup-



tion in government departments. He was of the opinion that still no serious efforts have been taken otherwise the two main challenges could be curbed. For a country like Afghanistan, he said, security was the utmost priority. "Officials that are responsible for fighting corruption and bringing security are themselves creating problems," he added. Khair Andesh said if differences among government leaders deepened, they would lose the masses' trust which would lead to further chaos. He said at this situation people had also become disappointed with the government and did not have much hopes as much as they had in the beginning. Now, he said, people expected the government leaders to come to terms with each other and not to have difference over major issues of national importance. According to Khair Andesh, people's biggest expectation was security and it could only be achieved if the government leaders put aside their differences. He said at such critical situations the people also needed to stand behind the government. A lot of youth and investors are queuing up to leave the country on daily basis, which is a bad omen for the country, he added. (Pajhwok)

## Mullah Mansoor Deployed 600 Militants to Fight Mullah Dadullah in Zabul



KABUL - Amid growing rift among the Taliban leadership regarding the appointment of the group's new leader, reports have emerged from southern Zabul province regarding preparation for a major clash between rival groups. Mullah Akhtar Mansoor who was appointed as the new leader of Taliban has reportedly deployed around 600 armed militants Khak-e-Afghan area to fight with the militants of Mullah Mansoor Dadullah. Reports regarding the possible outbreak of a major clash between Mullah Mansoor and Mullah Dadullah have

been confirmed by local residents have who are witnessing growing deployment of militants in Khak-e-Afghan. This comes as Mansoor Dadullah warned of further divisions among the Taliban militants earlier this month while expressing his deep opposition with the appointment of Mullah Akhtar Mohammad Mansoor as successor of Mullah Mohammad Omar. Dadullah called on immediate actions to appoint a new supreme leader for the Taliban group who should be acceptable for all. He announced his support to Mullah ... (More on P4)...(14)

## "Defensive Groups" Created in Badghis Towns

QALA-I-NAW - "Defensive groups" have been created in consultations with the police headquarters, public representatives and local residents to maintain security in Jawand and Qadis districts of northwestern Badghis province. Though some military expert say the creation of such militias is not in the interest of the country, the Badghis police headquarters says they are beneficial for strengthening security and the groups are being monitored by the police. The militia in Qadis was

created about a week back. Badghis provincial council chief Haji Bahauddin Qadisi told Pajhwok Afghan News residents of the Qadis district had demanded the provincial council create the defensive group in cooperation with local residents after a recent surge in insecurity. After consultations with people in the district's centre, Boya, Shash Mani, Langar Sharif and Qadis Khordak villages, a 250-member group of volunteers was created to defend their areas during an emergency situation. He said ... (More on P4)...(15)

## Afghanistan Renames Salma Dam to Afghan-India Friendship Dam

KABUL - The government of Afghanistan has renamed the name of Salma dam to Afghan-India friendship dam following a robust investment by India in reconstruction of the dam. The decision was reportedly taken by President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani during a meeting of the cabinet of ministers. Salma dam is located in western Herat province of Afghanistan and it is expected that the dam will incur a cost



of around \$300 million by the time of its completion. The reservoir filling in Salma dam project started late in the month of July with the closure of the dam's diversion tunnel gate. According to the Indian

Consulate in western Herat province, the dam reservoir will be 20 kilometer long and 3 kilometer wide. The storage capacity of the reservoir will be 640 million cubic meters of water, the Indian ... (More on P4)...(13)

## Taliban-Designated District Chief Held in Nangarhar

JALALABAD - Four militants' commanders were killed and another Taliban's-designated chief for Sherzad district nabbed in eastern Nangarhar province, provincial police spokesman said on Thursday. Col. Hazrat Hussain Mashraqiwal told Pajhwok Afghan News that Taliban's shadowy district chief Qudratullah aka Bilal and another commander were arrested in Patiabad locality of Sra Rud district late Wednesday evening. "Both the detained Taliban commanders were coming on motorbike when apprehended by the police. They are being quizzed by the police," he added. However, Taliban have not yet commented on the incident. Separately, four militants were killed in airstrike in Kadokhel locality of Sherzad district on Wednesday. (Pajhwok)

## Pak Govt. Yet to Kick off Registration of Afghan Refugees



KABUL - Pakistan has yet to start registering undocumented Afghan nationals as outlined in the 20-point National Action Plan (NAP), devised to deal with terrorism in the aftermath of Army Public School tragedy, media reports. The Dawn.com reported that over one million unregistered Afghan nationals, who were supposed to be registered in the fulfillment of the plan, still stay undocumented while two years extension in the stay of registered refugees is also on the card. The exercise to register the undocumented Af-

ghans has delayed twice. The ministry of states and frontier regions (Safron) had first fixed July 25 to kick start the registration process but later deferred the drive to August 25. The ministry has released Rs170 million to National Database and Registration Authority (Nadra) to undertake countrywide documentation process of the Afghans for which it has planned to set up 22 centres in the four provinces and Azad Jammu and Kashmir. Estimated cost of the plan has been billed at Rs500 million. Safron Secretary Pir Baksh ... (More on P4)...(16)

## Taliban Kill 22 ALP Members in Faryab

MIAMANA - At least 22 Afghan Local Police (ALP) force members and three civilians were killed in a Taliban ambush in northwestern Faryab province, said local authorities. The incident took place Thursday when nearly 40 ALP personnel were moving towards the Shirin Tagab district to assist fellow members battling the insurgents. Taliban killed 22 of the forces in an ambush before taking them hostage, said Mohammad Tahir Rahmani, a member of Faryab provincial council. He accused the local security authorities of negligence in the incident. "The government is very week. It does not support the forces that defend the country day and night," Rahmani said. However, the provincial police chief said the forces had gone to Shirin Tagab without any coordination with the police. Meanwhile, Rozi Mohammad, an ALP member who managed to escape the ambush, told TOLONews that all the forces were from Khowaja Sabzposh district. "Taliban opened fire at the forces after taking them hostage," Mohammad said. "Most of the forces were my own relatives and family members." This has been the first insurgent attack after the First Vice President Abdul Rashid Dostum spent nearly four weeks in Faryab and declared to have cleared the province from armed rebels. (Tolonews)