

Jalalabad	Clear	Ghazni	Partly Cloudy	Kandahar	Clear	Mazar	Clear	Herat	Partly Cloudy	Bamayan	Partly Cloudy	Kabul	Clear
23°C 11°C		17°C 1°C		22°C 7°C		18°C 11°C		22°C 11°C		9°C -4°C		17°C 2°C	



Int'l Day of Persons with Disabilities Marked in Kabul

KABUL - Marking International Day of Persons With Disabilities, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) on Saturday said more than 9,500 disabled people are registered annually in Afghanistan, of whom 1,500 are left disabled through war. "Out of the 9,500 disabled people that are registered annually, more than 1,500 of them have been disabled due to war," said Najmuddin Helal, head of the orthopedic center of the ICRC. Jamila Afghan, deputy minister of labor, social affairs, martyrs and disabled (MoL-SAMD) said they are worried about the lack of public facilities for people with disabilities. CEO Abdullah Abdullah also said government has paid little attention to disabled people.



ple. "I promise you that I will advise government departments in different levels to provide you the necessary aid," Abdullah said. Qahar, a disabled man from Parwan province said he lost his leg during the Taliban regime. He is currently in Kabul, at the ICRC, where he is hoping to have a prosthetic leg fitted. "Government sees a person with a disability as an irresponsible person," he said. Statistics of the MoL-SAMD show that since 2005 nearly 2.7 percent of disabled people have severe disabilities and that 70 percent of them live in rural areas. Statistics also indicate that 90 percent of children with disabilities are deprived of schooling. (Tolonews)

Iranian Foreign Minister to Meet Ghani in Amritsar



KABUL - Iranian Foreign Minister Jawad Zarif said on Saturday he would call on President Ashraf Ghani on the sidelines of the Heart of Asia Conference, penciled in for Dec 3-4 in the Indian city of Amritsar. Speaking to journalists on his arrival in New Delhi, Zarif said he would highlight Iran's policy on efforts for the promotion of peace and stability in heart of Asia, particularly in Afghanistan, during his speech at the event. He is heading a 38-member delegation, including representatives from the Iranian Chamber of Commerce, knowledge-based companies and trade banks, which will hold talks with Indian officials. Officials from 30 countries, including the US, Russia, China, Pakistan and Iran, will participate in the conference aimed to promote connectivity and boost security in and around Afghanistan. (Pajhwok)

ANDSF Put to Test and Prevailed During 2016 Fighting Season: Gen. Nicholson

KABUL - The top US commander in Afghanistan General John Nicholson said the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces (ANDSF) were put to the test and prevailed during the 2016 fighting season. Gen. Nicholson who is also in command of the NATO-led Resolute Support (RS) mission, said the Afghan forces went into 2016 with a campaign plan in hand, compared to the year before when they reacted to enemy activity. The Afghans developed a sustainable security strategy, the general said, and used "a fight-hold-disrupt strategy, so it identified areas of the population that they would hold, areas that they would fight for, and then other areas where they would do an economy of force and merely disrupt the enemy."

AAF Going to Continue to Grow: Top US Commander

KABUL - The Afghan Air Force will continue to grow in the coming years as efforts are underway to increase the capabilities of the Afghan forces air power. The remarks were made by the top US commander in Afghanistan General John Nicholson who is leading the US forces in Afghanistan and the NATO-led Resolute GEN. Nicholson said the growth and progress made by Afghan forces in the past year is also due to the 17,000-member special operations force, which operates independently of the U.S. military 80 percent of the time, and the rapidly growing capability of the Afghan air force, Nicholson said. "They are not only adding attack aircraft," he said of the Afghan forces, "They're



adding the capability to control those aircraft on the ground." Nearly 20 aircrews have been added to the Afghan air force complement since their first A-29 Super Tucano strike combat mission in April, Nicholson said, adding, "The [Afghan] air force is going to continue to grow over the next few years and into the future." Since the start of the Taliban's

Fighting Terror Question of Region's Survival: Abdali

KABUL - Afghan Ambassador to India Dr Shaida Abdali has said Pakistani must make genuine efforts to fight terrorism and the fight against terror groups should continue. In an exclusive interview to CNN-News18's, Abdali said they had an excellent technical discussion on Saturday on the declaration they had drafted for the sixth ministerial meeting of the Heart of Asia -- Istanbul process. "We discussed all aspects including fighting terror in all its forms. There was exceptional cooperation among nations," he said. About threats posed by terrorism, the Afghan envoy said it was the question of

survival of the entire region. "There was consensus that we should fight terror with all we have for Afghanistan and the entire region. That was manifested in our discussion. We all agree on a common fight, on threats to everyone, on various outfits and that they are all terrorist groups." He said there should be no good or bad terrorists and the joint declaration would say that fight against terrorism in all forms must intensify. To a question about Pakistan's sincerity in fighting the terror, the Afghan envoy said they could not succeed in the fight against terror until they made genuine and



sincere efforts. "If there is no sincerity it will mean one day terror will affect everyone in the region. If we distinguish between terror groups we will all suffer. We hope no one will think in that way." (Pajhwok)

3 Former MoI Officials Banned from Foreign Travel



KABUL - Three former Ministry of Interior (MoI) officials have been banned from travelling abroad and referred to the attorneys in compliance with a presidential order, an official said on Saturday. The government official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, told Pajhwok Afghan News the officials banned from travelling abroad included three former deputy interior ministers -- Mujtaba Patang, Jamil Junbish and Ja-

'Above 1,000 Pro-Assad Afghans Killed in Syria'

KABUL - A research organization has said that more than 1000 Afghans have been killed in Syria fighting in support of Bashar al-Assad regime. According to a report by Azadi Radio, the deaths of Afghans have been revealed by an investigative organization, Middle East Monitor or MEMO. The report said a number of Afghans were still fighting in Syria in support of al-Assad, the Syrian president. The report claims the Afghans were paid money by Iran and sent to fight against rebel groups in Syria. Each Afghan fighting in Syria was paid \$500 as monthly salary, given permanent residence documents in Iran and provided all other facilities by the Iranian government, the report said. Human Rights Watch (HRW) has also previously said Iran sent thousands of Afghans to fight in Syria since 2013. Afghanistan Ministry of Foreign Affairs has expressed concern over the issue and has said it was investigating the matter. (Pajhwok)

30 Percent of Logar Govt. Departments without Buildings

PUL-I-ALAM - Local officials and residents say 30 percent of government departments are without buildings in central Logar province, where rented premises have created governance problems. Governor Mohammad Halim Fidayee told Pajhwok Afghan News staff of 30 percent of government departments in the provincial capital and districts faced problems discharging their duties. "We have 40 government departments at the provincial level but 16 of them still lack buildings, a problem that is taking toll governance quality and efforts at providing services to the people," he said. Departments of refugees and repatriation, labour and social affairs, urban development, provincial council, water and irrigation, traffic, transport, public health, statistics and Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS) do not have their own buildings. Fidayee said the police headquarters in Kharwar, Charkh and Azra districts also had no buildings. The departments were housed in rented houses, which created problems for staff and visitors, he added. Urban Development Director Hamidullah Sangar said ... (More on P4)...(9)

Review of Islamic Subjects in Universities Stressed



KABUL - Government officials on Saturday stressed a review of Islamic subjects taught at universities and urged prevention of anti-government propaganda. Hajj and Islamic Affairs Minister Fiaz Mohammad Usmani, Deputy Education Minister Dr. Mohammad Shafiq Samim, Deputy Higher Education Minister Barai Seddiqi and Deputy Information and Culture Minister Muzhgan Mustafawi appeared before the Wolesi Jirga regarding anti-government propaganda. The officials were summoned

after a lawmaker Hafiz Mansoor recently claimed that most mosques in the country were promoting extremist ideology and Islamic education taught in universities lured students towards getting terrorist training. Mansoor's remarks drew harsh reaction from a number of lawmakers and people who accused him of insulting Islam. Hajj and Islamic Affairs Minister Osmani told the Wolesi Jirga that most of religious scholars supported the government. He said there was no ... (More on P4)...(8)

55 Prisoners Released from Herat Prison

KABUL - Fifty-five prisoners were released on Saturday from the main prison in western Herat province in compliance with a presidential decree. Abdullah Azizi, the Herat prison warden, told reporters here that the prisoners were released under the 109th presidential decree issued on the occasion of Eid-ul-Adha. Azizi said the released persons included 52 men and three women who had served most part of their sentences. He said the released persons had been convicted of

various crimes. Abdul Haq Ahamadi, the attorney office head, about prisoners' complaints that their cases are not processed and remain undecided, said every case from the start to the end lasted six months in accordance with the law, so no prisoner's fate remained undecided. He said usually eligible prisoners who qualified the benefits and pardon under presidential decrees were released. According to local officials, currently 2,662 prisoners are held in Herat jail, including 143 women. (Pajhwok)

Afghanistan Sells Top Export Products at Exhibition Afghanistan

DUBAI, UAE - The United States Agency for International Development (USAID), in partnership with Afghanistan's Ministry of Commerce and Industries, is launching a five-day (December 6-10, 2016) event called Exhibition Afghanistan in Dubai to drive exports of Afghan products. The two-part program consists of a business-to-business matchmaking event

on December 6-7, and will continue with a business-to-consumer event in which Afghan products are sold to the public on December 8-10. "Exhibition Afghanistan" will help Afghan traders increase sales and connect with Gulf and other international buyers, enabling about 70 of Afghanistan's best companies to display products and negotiate deals with more than 100 international buyers. (PR)