

Jalalabad Cloudy 16°C 2°C	Ghazni Cloudy 3°C -10°C	Kandahar Clear 9°C -4°C	Mazar Clear 4°C -3°C	Herat Clear 7°C -4°C	Bamayan Clear -5°C -13°C	Kabul Clear 8°C -5°C
---	---	---	--------------------------------------	--------------------------------------	--	--------------------------------------

Daily Outlook Weather Forecast

Daesh 'Recruitment' in Baghlan Triggers Alarm Among Residents

KABUL - Local officials in Baghlan province voiced their concerns on Thursday over reports that Daesh militants are trying to recruit in the area, warning that if government does not do something quickly this move will further escalate violence in the region. According to some residents, militants apparently associated with Daesh have in recent weeks tried to forge a foothold in the province and settle their families in the area in a bid to recruit fighters. Residents believe this could pose enormous security threats to the people in future. Up to 70 Daesh families have reportedly been deployed to one district in Baghlan and are recruiting, members of Baghlan provincial council were quoted



on Thursday as saying. "I have information that 70 Daesh families were deployed in Barkah district and are recruiting; they force the residents to provide them with food. Government is

aware of the development, but it hasn't taken any action," a member of Baghlan provincial council Mohammad Hanif said. "Taliban and Jandallah groups are already operating in Baghlan, but now Daesh has added to these groups. The government is not taking action against them and militants freely recruit. So government must act," a Baghlan resident Zikrullah said. "Daesh and Taliban militants are recruiting in Baghlan. Government must act and suppress them during the winter," another resident Nasir said, adding that if action is not taken against them now, ...*(More on P4)...(11)*



Afghan men ride their motorbikes, following the coffin of Mohammad Sami, 21, who was killed in clashes between Taliban fighters and Afghan forces in Kandahar Airfield, on Thursday, December 10, 2015. (AP Photos/Allauddin Khan)

Balkh Police Officer Fasts in Bid to Highlight Corruption and Insecurity

MAZAR-E-SHARIF - Nazamuddin Frotan, a Balkh police officer, has fasted for the past four years over corruption and in a bid to send a message of peace to the Taliban. Frotan, who works for the public order police, said he will continue his fast until corruption has been rooted out. Frotan believes that this is the only way to highlight the problem and that only through Allah can the problem be solved.



He says all statesmen must fear Allah and return to Allah. "Allah is aware of this dissension and division in our country - and aware of the corruption which is a bad phenomenon in our country - may Allah remove it from our ...*(More on P4)...(12)*

Afghan Refugee Teacher Shortlisted for Global Teacher Prize

ISLAMABAD - An Afghan refugee teacher in Pakistan along with two Pakistani female teachers have been shortlisted for the Global Teacher Prize 2016. The Global Teacher Prize is a one million dollar award that is given to an exceptional teacher who has made an outstanding contribution to the profession. The Varkey Foundation launched the Global Teacher Prize in 2014 to raise the stature of the teaching profession. Only those teachers are shortlisted who inspire their students and community around them.



There were over 5,000 nominations and applications from 127 countries for the inaugural year of the Global Teacher Prize which generated a huge amount of media interest around the world. At the Global Education and Skills Forum 2015, USA educator ...*(More on P4)...(13)*

MSF Members March to White House over Kunduz Hospital Strike

WASHINGTON - Members of Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) on Wednesday marched to the White House to deliver petitions calling on U.S President Barack Obama to allow an independent organization to investigate the U.S air strike on the MSF's hospital in Kunduz in October. MSF board president Deane Marchbeing said: "More than 66,000 patients had been treated at our hospital since it opened in 2011. Now, hundreds of thousands are cut off from life-saving care. The patients who were killed believed they had come to a safe place to be treated. They could not have imagined that they would instead become targets. The staff were brave individuals committed to providing health care for all regardless of ethnicity or political persuasion." The air strike killed 30 people, including doctors and staff. ...*(More on P4)...(17)*

Afghan Analysts Eye Revival of Peace Talks with Reservations

KABUL - Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif alongside Afghan president Mohammad Ashraf Ghani on Wednesday once again described Afghanistan's enemy as Pakistan's enemy and vowed to facilitate the resumption of the stalled peace talks between the Afghanistan government and the Taliban outfit. Addressing the "Heart of Asia" Conference in Islamabad on Wednesday, Pakistani Prime Minister Sharif clearly stated that, "Enemies of Afghanistan are the enemies of Pakistan" and that the Pakistani government would continue to support an Afghan-led and Afghan-owned peace process. The proposed peace talks, will reportedly be held within two weeks.

However, some Afghan political experts are looking with pessimism at the promise and opined that no peace talks can commence unless and until Pakistan closes down the alleged Taliban sanctuaries on Pakistani soil. According to Afghanistan political observers, the internal differences and fragmentation within the Taliban is also making it difficult for the Afghan government to initiate the peace negotiation at ...*(More on P4)...(19)*

Five Degree Mercury Rise in Hindu Kush by 2050, Warn Experts

NEW DELHI - Temperatures across the Hindu Kush, a mountain range extending west of the Himalayas, will increase by about one to two degrees Celsius, in some places by four to five degrees, in the next 35 years, international researchers said on Friday. They warned that extreme rainfall events are becoming less frequent but more violent and are likely to increase in intensity. These startling facts came to light in a climate and water atlas, "Mapping an uncertain future: Atlas of climate change and water in five crucial water basins in the Hindu Kush Himalayas", published by three international institutes. They are the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), GRID-Arendal, a Norwegian Foundation, and the Centre for International Climate and Environmental Research-Oslo (CICERO). The first-of-its-kind atlas offers ...*(More on P4)...(14)*

UNAMA Puts Death Toll from Kandahar Airport Attack at 54



KABUL - The United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) on Thursday afternoon said preliminary findings indicate the death toll from the Kandahar Airport attack is 54. According to a UNAMA statement, of the 54 killed, 39 were civilians, including four children. 15 were security force members. UNAMA said at least 42 people were injured - 23 of them civilians and 19 security force members. Their statement read that all civilians killed were male, of whom at least four were boys. In addition 13 Afghan National Army soldiers and two Afghan National Police were killed. "The majority of the deceased appeared to be civilian shopkeepers working at the bazaar and civilian ...*(More on P4)...(15)*

Global Climate Talks Stumble Near Finish Line; Fabius Optimistic

PARIS - Efforts to craft a global accord to combat climate change stumbled on Friday with China and many other nations refusing to yield ground, forcing host France to extend the U.N. summit by a day to overcome stubborn divisions. After a night of often fraught discussions on issues including a proposed goal to phase out net greenhouse gas emissions in the second half of the century, French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius conceded the two-week summit would not end on Friday as planned.

He said a final text, meant to chart a way to far wider use of greener energy such as wind and solar power, would now be presented to nearly 200 nations for review only on Saturday, a day later than planned. "We are nearly there. I'm optimistic," Fabius told reporters in the early afternoon, flanked by U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. "I'll present a text tomorrow at 0900 (0300 ET) to the parties that I'm sure will be adopted." Ban called a 27-page draft text already on the table "a

good basis" for a deal to help avert more powerful storms, droughts, and desertification and rising sea levels. "I appeal to all parties to take a final decision for humanity." Delegates said China was resisting calls, led by the United States and the European Union, for all nations to review and update their national plans for curbing greenhouse gas emissions every five years. President Xi Jinping has already promised that carbon dioxide emissions from China's rapidly developing ...*(More on P4)...(16)*



An Afghan laborer pushes his handy cart after a rain storm in Herat City. (AP Photos/Hoshang Hashimi)

Russia backs Free Syrian Army Alongside Assad Troops: Putin



MOSCOW - Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Friday Russia supports the opposition Free Syrian Army, providing it with air support, arms and ammunition in joint operations with Syrian troops against Islamist militants. His statement appeared to be the first time Moscow said it was actually supporting Syrian President Bashar al-Assad's opponents in the fight against Islamic State

forces. Putin said last month the Russian air force had hit several "terrorist" targets provided by the Free Syrian Army. Western and Arab states carrying out air strikes against Islamic State for more than a year say that Russian jets have mainly hit other rebel forces in the west of Syria. "The work of our aviation group assists in uniting the efforts of government troops and ...*(More on P4)...(18)*