

Ghani Seeks Report on Education System in 2 Weeks

KABUL - President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani has asked the Education Ministry officials to submit a report on the state of education in Afghanistan in the next two weeks, the Presidential Palace said on Wednesday. A statement from the palace said President Ghani met top education officials on Tuesday evening and asked for a full report on the number of students, teachers, and schools across the country. Ghani also urged the offi-



cial to focus on its core responsibilities of providing quality education for all. Better coordination was needed between the education and other ministries including donors to specify the elements of high quality education and inject them into the country's education system, the president added. Based on reports currently there are 16,500 schools across Afghanistan with 11 million students and 220,000 teachers. (Pajhwok)

Ulema, Tribesmen Swing Behind ANSF

ASADABAD - Religious scholars and tribal elders of eastern Kunar province on Wednesday praised Afghan National Security Forces' (ANSF) courage and patriotism, gifting flowers and garlands at a gathering here. Speaking on the occasion, ulema representative Maulvi Ziaur Rahman Yar asked the government to increase the strength of the armed forces by recruiting more youth and provide them with necessary equipment. He urged the authorities to pay special attention to the education and living condition of the families of slain and injured security personnel. "We completely support our security forces in their mission." Haji Abdul Latif, speaking on behalf of tribal elders, said all of them had been ... (More on P4)...(3)

RIC Meeting Stresses Support for Afghanistan

KABUL - Russia, India and China have welcomed political and security transitions in Afghanistan and underlined the need for adequate measures to enhance the capacity of Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF). The 13th Russia-India-China (RIC) meeting was wrapped up in Beijing, issuing a joint communiqué, pledging support to Afghanistan. The meeting was attended by foreign ministers of the three



countries. The ministers affirmed their support for a broad and inclusive Afghan-led peace process as well as helping the country's integration ... (More on P4)...(2)

China Willing to Host Afghan Peace Parlays: Aziz

KABUL - Sartaj Aziz, Advisor on National Security and Foreign Affairs to Pakistan's Prime Minister, Has Said Beijing has offered to host peace negotiations between the Afghan government and the Taliban. The Pakistan Observer quoted as ... (More on P4)...(4)



Taliban Ban Polio Vaccination

JALALABAD - In reaction to government's move to ban pillion riding in the Ghanikhel district of eastern Nangarhar province, the Taliban on Wednesday impeded a polio vaccination campaign, the director of public health said. Dr. Najibullah Kamawal told Pajhwok Afghan News the district had been without a vaccination drive for the last three months. About 30,000 children below five years of age are yet to be administered polio drops. "The government has slapped a ban on pillion riding in the district and in retaliation the Taliban have banned the vaccination drive there," he added. Haji Akbar Khan, a local elder in the district, said that polio campaign had hit a snag for quite some time in the area but the government was not willing to reverse the tide. He said the district had been in grip ... (More on P4)...(5)

Taliban Likely to Conduct High-Profile Attacks in Cities



WASHINGTON - Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) remain stalemated with the Taliban-led insurgency, the nominee for Pentagon intelligence chief told lawmakers, expecting the ANSF to maintain stability and security in Kabul and key urban areas. "However, the Taliban, Al-Qaida, and their extremist allies will likely seek to exploit the reduced coalition presence by pressuring ANSF units in rural areas, conducting high-profile attacks in major population centers and expanding their safe havens," Lt Gen Vincent Stewart warned. Director of Defense Intelligence Agency ... (More on P4)...(1)

Study Shows Economic Woes Push Illegal Afghan Migrants Abroad



KABUL - A joint research conducted by the Afghan Research and Evaluation Unit and the United Nations Refugee Agency shows that poverty, security threats, economic austerity and unemployment are the key factors urging Afghan youth to flee the country and resort to illegal immigration in search of a better life. According to their research, almost an astonishing 44 percent of the total number of illegal migrants in the world in 2014 were Afghan citizens, and the majority were just kids. The survey study suggests that most Afghan citizens between the age of 13 to 17 migrating to Europe do so by first traveling to Iran and then through Turkey. Despite the difficulties ... (More on P4)...(6)

giz Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Invitation to Tender No. 83194037 for Transportation Service

GIZ (German International Cooperation) is a German organization working for a long time in different sectors in Afghanistan for development of the country.

In order to facilitate and ensure timely transportation of goods and stationaries to almost all the 34 provinces of Afghanistan, GIZ is going to make a **frame-work contract** with a transport company as per to the following conditions.

1. Contract period: from 01.Feb.2015 to 31.Mar.2016
2. Deliveries: From Kabul to the relevant province of Afghanistan.
3. Number of delivery per Year/Province: Upon request.
4. Estimated delivery weight per year: 145.000 kg.
5. Amount of weight per shipment: 50 to 5.000kg.
6. Price Scale: The price range should be given as below.

Weight Range	Province: Helmand		Province: Kandahar		Province: Mazar		Province: Herat	
	Price	Time	Price	Time	Price	Time	Price	Time
50 to 100 kg								
101 to 200 kg								
201 to 500 kg								
501 to 2.000 kg								
2.001 to 5.000 kg								

The table should be extended to include all provinces.

7. Delivery time: The time needed for each province must be mentioned, realistic dates are needed.
8. Freight conditions: House-to-house, prices for loading up and unload should be included.
9. Delivery guarantee: The Transporter must guarantee the safe and timely delivery of goods and informs how he deals in case of damages and losses of goods.
10. Note: Offers which includes only some provinces are also accepted; please mention your regular tour schedules so far existing.
11. Payment: GIZ pays immediately after receiving the original invoice and receipt-confirmation of the consignee.

The interested transport companies who would like to enter into a contract with us, according to the above mentioned conditions are highly encouraged to send their offers along with the documents showing their abilities, experiences and recommendations in sealed envelopes subjected "Offer for Transportation Service: Tender # 83194039" to the reception in the below address at **8th February, 2015** not later than 4:00 pm. Offers which are received after the mentioned date are not accepted.

GIZ Office Kabul, H: # 161, Str. # 5, Taimani, Kabul, Afghanistan

Note: in case of questions you can contact the following address:
E-mail: Montaz.sultan-qaderi@giz.de
Phone: 0093 795 067 693

Iran, Afghanistan to Strengthen Security Cooperation at Joint Borders

Iranian and Afghan border guard's officials inked a security agreement to expand their cooperation and coordination in administering border-related issues.

TEHRAN - In a meeting between Iranian Border Guards Commander Brigadier General, Qassem Rezayee, and his Afghan counterpart, Major General Mohammad Shafiq Fazli, in the Afghan city of Nimroz, the two sides voiced readiness to do their best to boost security and tranquility of joint borders. General Fazli said in the meeting that Afghanistan has been en-



gaged in a war against terrorism, Al-Qaeda and drug traffickers for more than three decades, and expressed ... (More on P4)...(7)

Ashton Carter on Afghanistan, Syria, Iraq, China, Russia

MOSCOW - Ashton Carter gets a full day of congressional interrogation Wednesday, starting this morning, with the Senate Armed Services Committee set to vet his nomination for Defense secretary. He's already shared some of his views via written answers to the panel's questions. Here are his answers to those pre-hearing questions on a number of countries. On Afghanistan, Carter answered simply "Yes." to this one: "If security conditions on the ground in Afghanistan degrade in 2016, would you consider recommending to the President revisions to the size and pace of the drawdown plan announced by the President in order to adequately address those security conditions?" On China and cyber threats: "This is a serious problem and the Department should continue to take strong actions to address China's use of cyber theft to steal U.S. companies' confidential business information and proprietary technology... Further, military involvement in such theft raises additional concerns that misunderstandings about China's intentions could result in unintended ... (More on P4)...(8)

Residents Irked by Absence of Judicial Officials: AIHRC



BAMYAN CITY - Judges and prosecutors are not punctual and remain absent for months in some districts of Bamyani and Maidan Wardak provinces, the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC) said on Wednesday. Rookhullah Farogh, AIHRC regional head in Bamyani, told Pajhwok Afghan News the problem was particularly acute in the Shibar district of Bamyani and the Behsud district of Maidan Wardak. He alleged the judicial authorities' absence had caused a delay in addressing people's cases. "Access to legal and judicial department is people's right ... (More on P4)...(9)