

Jalalabad	Clear	Ghazni	Partly Cloudy	Kandahar	Clear	Mazar	Clear	Herat	Clear	Bamayan	Clear	Kabul	Clear
	17°C 6°C		4°C -7°C		17°C 3°C		16°C 7°C		18°C 8°C		-4°C -10°C		9°C -3°C

Weather Forecast Brought to You by MTN Afghanistan

5 ANA Martyred, 34 Insurgents Killed

KABUL - Five Afghan National Army soldiers have embraced martyrdom in a landmine explosion while 34 insurgents have been killed in separate actions across the country, according to information provided by security officials on Saturday morning.

A statement issued by General Zahir Azimi, spokesman for the Defense Ministry does not specify the exact location of the blast in which Army soldier were martyred but states that it took place in past 48 hours.

General Zahir Azimi also writes in his statement that 27 insurgents were killed, 12, wounded and five arrested during confrontations with Afghan National Army in five provinces.

Azimi's statement does not name provinces in which confrontations occurred.

Statement adds that 27 Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) were also discovered and defused by Army.

In the meantime, statement issued by the media office of the Interior Ministry states that seven insurgents have been killed in police operations in past 24 hours.

Statement adds that the operations were conducted in Uruzgan and Ghazni provinces.

According to the information of the statement, six IEDs were also defused in the operations in Kabul, Laghman, Uruzgan, Khost and Farah provinces.

Taliban insurgents use IEDs in ...*(More on P4)...*(12)

India Invites Pakistan and, Afghanistan to Join Front against Polio

India has extended a helping hand to its two key neighboring countries - Pakistan and Afghanistan - in an attempt to form a united front to completely eradicate polio.

NEW DELHI - The Indian ministry of external affairs (MEA), along with the health ministry, recently invited teams from the two countries to visit India and adopt its model for eradicating polio, an official said.

According to the official, a delegation from Afghanistan is expected on February 21. However, India is yet to hear from Pakistan on the issue.

Both Pakistan and Afghanistan have high polio burden and therefore, India runs a high risk of importing the virus. After an outbreak last year, most coun-



tries, including India, introduced extra health checks on prospective visitors from Pakistan, which alone accounts for over 75% of polio cases globally. This is the main reason why the government here has not been able to shed its guard against ...*(More on P4)...*(9)

12 Police Officers Detained on Various Charges



KUNDUZ CITY - At least 12 police officers and have been detained in connection of different charges, including supporting militants and kidnapers, in northeastern Kunduz province, an official said Saturday.

Governor Mohammad Umar Safi told Pajhwok Afghan News after noting surge in kidnapping cases, the officials adopted measures to identify reasons behind increase in abduction.

Safi ordered detention of 32 police officers ...*(More on P4)...*(10)

Watchdogs Doubt Ghani's Electoral Reforms Plan

KABUL - Election watchdogs on Saturday praised the unity government's commitment to reforming the electoral system and stressed early creation of the proposed commission in this regard.

Electoral reforms are part of the national unity government agreement between



President Ashraf Ghani and Chief Executive Officer Abdullah Abdullah. Under the agreement, a ...*(More on P4)...*(11)

Thousands of Afghan Families Fleeing Pakistan: IOM

KABUL - The International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Afghanistan said that thousands of Afghan families are fleeing Pakistan to escape harassment after

a deadly Taliban attack on Army Public School in Peshawar.

In a statement posted on its website, Richard Danzinger, the IOM's mission chief in

Afghanistan, said more than 22,000 undocumented Afghans flocked across the border at Torkham in January, more than twice the figure for the ...*(More on P4)...*(14)

Ghani, Aliyev Discuss Mutual Interests



BAKU - President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ilham Aliyev, on Saturday has met President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani in Munich.

The parties highlighted the successful development of the bilateral relations between Azerbaijan and Afghanistan. It was noted that the two countries are carrying out fruitful experience exchange.

The sides exchanged views on the issues related to the implementation of the projects in the fields of construction, transport, agriculture, ...*(More on P4)...*(10)

Balkh Depts. Annual Performance Report Submitted



MAZAR-I-SHARIF - Local government departments in northern Balkh province on Saturday started submitting their annual performance reports to public, officials said on Saturday.

Munir Farhad, the governor spokesperson, told Pajhwok Afghan News the process to submit the report started today and would continue over the next 10 days.

The governor's office, Attorney General's Office ...*(More on P4)...*(15)

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