



Afghan Investors Attend Agricultural Expo in Dubai

Officials said Afghan and Japanese investors will meet in Dubai to discuss mechanized agriculture.



KABUL - The Minister of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock, Nasir Ahmad Durrani, on Sunday inaugurated the Afghan part of an international exhibition in Dubai in which 28 investors from Afghanistan have participated. Afghanistan's saffron, dry and fresh fruit and the country's dairy have been put on display in the five-day exhibition titled

GulFood 2019. Investors from 120 countries have attended the exhibition. Akbar Rostami, a spokesman for Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL), said the ministry will continue its efforts to boost the market for Afghan products through the exhibition. He said Afghan and Japanese officials will meet on the

sidelines of the exhibition to discuss the development of mechanized agriculture in Afghanistan. "The Afghanistan part of the exhibition was inaugurated by the agriculture minister today," he said. "Afghanistan's agricultural products including dry and fresh fruit, vegetables, medicinal plants, pine nuts, and ...*(More on P4)...(7)*

Herat Rolls out Polio Vaccine Campaign

HERAT - Public Health officials in Herat confirmed a polio vaccination campaign was launched in some districts on Sunday as concerns mount over the possibility of new cas-

fact this was when internally displaced people (IDP) came to Herat," said Tamana. Local officials said the anti-polio virus drops will also be given to children in areas un-



es due to the high number of internally displaced persons in the province. Health officials said in order to prevent an outbreak of the disease, the campaign was launched on Sunday morning in districts health workers are able to access. However, floods and heavy snowstorms have cut off some areas. Officials said once the weather improves, health workers should be able to access these areas from next week. Abdul Hakim Tamana, head of Herat public health department, said over 280,000 children under the age of five will receive the polio vaccine in Herat during this campaign. "We have discovered the wild polio virus in the waste water that we test every month; in

der Taliban control. "Because the polio campaign is a national program and the children of the opposition (Taliban) also live here and they are also Afghan and living in Afghanistan; therefore mobile vaccination teams will vaccinate children wherever they are," said Ghulam Daoud Hahsimi, Herat's deputy governor. Officials said they are particularly concerned about the spread of the disease in Shindand, Zawol, Zerkoh, Poshteh-Koh, Kooch-Zoor and Qasaba districts. But local officials in Shindand say that, despite the presence of the Taliban, no children in these districts will be left out. "Insecurity does not impact the vaccination campaign. ...*(More on P4)...(8)*

Appellant Court Worker Gunned Down in Parwan

CHARIKAR - Unidentified gunmen have shot dead an employee of the appellant court in central Parwan province, an official said on Sunday. Wahida Shahkar, the governor's spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News the incident took place on Saturday evening. The official said armed motorcyclists shot dead Mirwais on his way home from the mosque. There was no immediate claim of responsibility. Also on Saturday night, the Hajj and religious affairs director for western Herat province survived a gun attack on his house. (Pajhwok)

Civil Service Employees' Biometric Registration Launched

KABUL - The Independent Administrative Reform and Civil Service Commission (IARCSC) has begun registration biometric data of all civil employees, a process which would be completed and help better human resource planning, according to a statement on Sunday. Human Resources Information Management System (HRIMS) was officially started today by registering Ahmad Nader Naderi, head of the commission as first person, the statement said. "Registration and storing accurate information of civil service officers in a central



information system helps better human resources planning and employment anticipation," the source said. According to IARCSC, the HRIMS registers a civil service officer's name, nick-

name, father's name, grandfather's name, identity card number, gender, date of birth, place of birth and current residence. The system also registers email address, ...*(More on P4)...(5)*

Parwan Residents Stress the Need for Intra-Afghan Talks

KABUL - Senior officials and dozens of residents of Parwan province have stressed the need for intra-Afghan talks and said achievements over the past few years should not be ignored in the process. Attending a gathering in Charikar city, the provincial capital, officials and residents said they support the ongoing peace efforts but called on the Taliban to enter dialogue with government. Parwan residents called on government and its international allies to speed up the peace efforts. Parwan Governor Fazluddin Ayar said at the gathering



that achievements made over the past 18 years should not be compromised in the name of peace. "We cannot bow to demands of agents of those countries who have a history of not

more than 50 years while Afghanistan has a long history," the governor said. "Those who are trying to represent Afghanistan in [peace] meetings should consult the people ...*(More on P4)...(6)*

Commander Among 6 Police Killed in Taliban Attack

MAZAR-I-SHARIF - At least six police personnel, including a commander, have been killed in a Taliban attack on their check-post in northern Balkh province, an official said on Sunday. Police spokesman Adil Shah Adil told Pajhwok Afghan News the militants stormed a police post guarding a gas supplying pipeline in the Sar Asyab area of Chamtal district on Saturday night. Commander Najibullah was killed along with five policemen, he said, adding the assailants also suffered casualties in a two-hour long clash. But he had no exact figures of rebel casualties. Meanwhile, area resident Ghulam Haidar confirmed the attack and the ensuing



clash. He said the militants attacked the check-post between Shiberghan and Mazar-i-Sahrif. On the other hand, the Taliban claimed killing 10 security forces, including two commanders, in the overnight incident. (Pajhwok)

Lack of Medicines: 5 Die in Ghor's Pasaband District

FIROZKOH - Residents of Pasaband district of western Ghor province on Saturday claimed three children and two women died recently due to the lack of medicines at the district's hospital. The residents claimed that officials at the district's hospital always rejected their demand for necessary medicines and were told to visit the Civil Hospital in Firozko, the provincial capital. Habibullah, a resident of the district, told Pajhwok Afghan News their district hospital not only lacked medicines but also doctors and nurses. He said three children and two pregnant women lost their lives within two days due to lack of medicines at the local hospital. Fazal Ahmad, another resident, expressed similar concern and said if the situation remained the same, dozens of patients who could not afford treatment abroad would lose their lives. Three days back, a pregnant woman was brought to the district's hospital where she gave birth to twins but all of them died. Meanwhile, Abdul Hai Khatibi, the governor's spokesman, also confirmed the residents' complaint and said due to continued snowfall and closure of supply routes by Taliban militants over the past few months, the situation in the Pasaband district has been bad. He said the issue had been several times shared with the central authorities but so far they received no response in this regard Civil Hospital Director Juma Gul Yaqoobi told Pajhwok they ...*(More on P4)...(10)*

Govt Inattentive to our Rights: Daikundi Disables



NEILI - A number of physically-challenged individuals in central Daikundi province complain their rights are paid no heed by the local administration as they receive a stipend once a year and no other privileges. The Article 53 of the Constitution says, "The state shall adopt necessary measures to regulate medical services as well as financial aid to survivors of martyrs and missing persons, and for reintegration of the

disabled and handicapped and their active participation in society, in accordance with provisions of the law." The article adds: "The state shall guarantee the rights of retirees, and shall render necessary aid to the elderly, women without caretaker, disabled and handicapped as well as poor orphans, in accordance with provisions of the law." Some people with disabilities in Daikundi province accuse the local administration of having neglected their

rights and say around 10,000 handicapped people live in the province without any services for improvement in their lives. The disabilities (cut off body organs or failure in movement of a part of body) of people in Daikundi have mostly resulted from the ongoing conflict, migration, natural disasters and congenital disorder, they say. Sayed Talib, who has lost both legs, told Pajhwok Afghan News, "Handicapped people in Daikundi receive an annual salary but no other assistance." Shehla, a disabled woman, said: "Many disabled women in Daikundi are facing a lot of problems, they have no access to education, recreational facilities ...*(More on P4)...(9)*