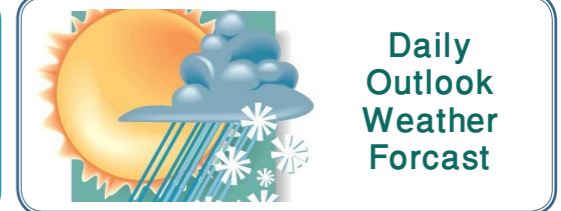


Jalalabad	Clear	Ghazni	Clear	Kandahar	Clear	Mazar	Partly Cloudy	Herat	Partly Cloudy	Bamayan	Clear	Kabul	Clear
17°C 6°C		4°C -8°C		9°C -1°C		1°C -6°C		2°C -9°C		-3°C -15°C		10°C -5°C	



Afghanistan Combating 20 Terrorist Groups: Ghani

KABUL - 'Combating terrorism needs inter-state cooperation at international, regional and national levels, President Ashraf Ghani said at the 53rd Munich Security Conference (MSC). On Saturday night, the president told the conference in Munich: "Afghanistan is a country in the frontline of the war on terrorism, fighting against about 20 terrorist groups." The terrorist outfits had been identified by the United States and United Nations, he said. More than 30 heads of state and about 80 interior and foreign ministers attended the meeting. Ghani added the fight against terrorism in his country was aimed not only at stabilising



Afghanistan and preserving freedom but also at ensuring global security. In a statement from the Presidential Palace, Ghani said terrorists used social media networks and technology for financial crimes and political offences at the international level. Terrorism did not recognise borders and no area would remain secure from it, the president remarked. "For fighting against terrorism, we need a consensus, a comprehensive approach and the use of legitimate force, taking

Govt. Slammed Over Bank Guarantee by Indian Consortium



KABUL - The Natural Resources Monitoring Network (NRMN) on Sunday blasted the Afghan government for not disclosing the exact amount of money offered as bank guarantee by the Indian consortium which signed the contract for extractions at Hajigak mine. According to NRMN there is no information about the money pledged by the Indian consortium as guarantee. They say the consortium has abandoned the project and now no-one knows whether the government received the money from the consortium or not. The Ministry of Mines and Petroleum has not given any details of the bank guarantee of the Indian company. However, the Afghanistan Anti-Corruption Network (AACN) said the guarantee provided by the Indian company was around \$50 million. According to NRMN the Indian consortium had put up some money as bank guarantee, but the fate of the money is uncertain after their withdrawal from the project. "The issue of the Indian consortium has been in the agenda of the government. As a result, the consortium smartly withdrew from the project without losing a penny. The government needs to take the matter seriously," said NRMN chairman Ibrahim Jaffari. "Our findings show that the banking guarantee of Hajigak mine ... (More on P4)...(7)

Zimbabwe Outclassed by Afghanistan



KABUL - Afghanistan won the second ODI of the series against Zimbabwe by 54 runs after bowling their hosts out for 184 having set them a target of 239 to win. Afghanistan's innings got off to a good start as Mohammad Shahzad (64) and Rahmat Shah (53) both hit fifties. They would put on 84 for the second wicket after Noor Ali Zadran nicked off to Richard Ngarava for 14. Asghar Stankizai (6) couldn't follow up his fifty in the first ODI with another solid performance as he was caught out off the bowling of his opposite number Zimbabwe skipper Graeme Cremer. The innings stuttered as wickets fell in regular intervals but Mohammad Nabi (33) and Najibullah Zadran (45) made decent contributions. Tendai Chatara was the pick of the Zimbabwe bowlers with figures of 3 for 36. In response Zimbabwe started well with Solomon Mire (54) smashing an aggressive fifty as he and Peter Moor (17) put on 69 for the opening wicket but the pair departed within an over of each other and Zimbabwe quickly lost their way. Craig Ervine (34) and Ryan Burl (27) would provide the only other partnership worth noting as they added 55 for the fourth wicket. Mohammad Nabi grabbed three wickets for 38 runs and became Afghanistan's all-time leading wicket-taker moving ahead of Dawlat Zadran who played in this match but ended wicketless. Afghanistan recorded what is their 15th win over Zimbabwe in 21 meetings in ODI cricket and look to be comfortably the better of the two sides. The tourists lead the five match series 2-0 with three matches to go, Zimbabwe will have to win all three to take the series. (Agencies)

Kabul will use 'All Means' to End Pakistani Missile Attacks

KABUL - Kabul will use all its power in response to Pakistan if it did not stop rocket attacks on Afghanistan soil, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) warned on Sunday. "We hope that Pakistan stops the attacks and that the relationship between the two countries will return to normal. If not, Afghanistan will not sit silent, but will use its internal, regional and international power in response to Pakistan's actions," Faramarz Tamana, Director of Strategic Studies at Ministry of Foreign Affairs said. President Ashraf Ghani said earlier that Afghanistan and Pakistan should unite against terrorism and not to differentiate among terrorists. "As long as we



divide terrorists into good and bad terrorists, we will lose. If we do not differentiate among terrorists and mobilize our forces, we can eliminate terrorism," Ghani said. In its reaction to the Pakistani attacks, the CEO's office said Afghanistan's national interests are a priority of its foreign policy. "Afghanistan's national interests are the most important thing for our people. We will act and go ahead based on our national interests," Jawid Faisal, deputy spokesman of CEO said. Analysts meanwhile criticized Afghanistan foreign policy ... (More on P4)...(8)

Scores of Afghan Citizens Detained in Punjab Raids

PESHAWAR - Scores of Afghan citizens have been arrested in search-and-sweep operation in the Punjab province of Pakistan, police said. After a deadly attack in Lahore earlier in the week, law-enforcement agencies (LEAs) personnel made the arrests in different areas of the province in the last 24 hours. Intelligence agencies continued search operation across the province on the fifth day to arrest the suspects involved in terror activities, a spokesman said. With police focused on intelligence-based search operations, the detainees were shifted to undisclosed locations for further interrogation, the official added. The search operations were conducted in Badami Bagh, Raiwind, Civil Lines, Old Anarkali, Gulshan-i-Ravi, Gulberg, Ghalib Market, Nishtar Colony, Sanda, Naseerabad, Township and other areas of Lahore. He said 144 suspects were held in the city, where police recovered two pistols, 78 bullets, one Kalashnikov and a rifle. Biometric machines were used to identify suspects and those failing to produce identity documents were taken into custody. Another 58 suspects, ... (More on P4)...(9)

Notorious Al-Qaeda Commander Eliminated: NDS

KABUL - An Al-Qaeda commander was among dozens of foreign militants killed during an operation by intelligence agents in southern Ghazni province, the spy service claimed on Sunday. A statement from the National Directorate of Security (NDS) said Special Forces of the intelligence agency killed Al-Qaeda commander Saifullah Akhtar along with his associates in the Nawa district of the province. Killed on December 29, 2016, Akhtar allegedly led Pakistani insurgents in Afghanistan during Taliban's rule. He commanded nearly 30,000 Pakistani militants in Afghanistan for war in central Asia, the NDS said. The slain commander, together with Ayman al-Zawahiri, was then in charge of an important insurgent camp in the Bagram district of central Parwan province. He supervised a foreign militants' camp in the Riskhor area of Kabul. According to NDS, Akhtar, had been caught two times in Pakistan but was freed by the authorities and sent back to Afghanistan for fighting. He has long been spearheading anti-government Pakistani insurgents. (Pajhwok)

Thousands Rally Against Cross Border Shelling



JALALABAD - Thousands of people on Sunday staged a protest rally in eastern Nangarhar province against recent rocket shelling from across the border in Pakistan. As many as 4,000 residents of the Lalpura district took part in the demonstration. The protesters, who blocked the Jalalabad-Torkham highway for few hours, chanted 'death to Pakistan' and torched a flag of the neighboring country. Local officials claim Pakistani forces have been firing rockets into the Lalpura district over the past four days, forcing more than 2,000 families into fleeing homes. Four people have been wounded in the periodic shelling. Malak Sayed Ahmad, one of the protest organizers and tribal elder, said Pakistani forces were firing rockets and arterially rounds into Parchao, Rini, ... (More on P4)...(11)

Heavy Rains in Kabul Kill 7 and 100 Houses Collapse

KABUL - A number of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) have said that up to 100 houses have collapsed in Kabul over the past two days following heavy rains in the capital city. Safiullah is a resident of Kabul who lost seven members of his family after the roof of his house collapsed overnight. "All of them were alive when we pulled them out of the rubble. However, some of them died on the way to and others at the hospital," he said. Residents blasted President Ashraf Ghani for not delivering on the campaign promises on improving living conditions. "We call on Ashraf Ghani to deliver on his promises, you are our brother and you can see what conditions we live in today," said an IDP from Helmand Wali Khan. "People are trapped inside the mud, they have lost their homes," said another resident, Ibrahim. The rains also killed seven members of a family in Qala Ahmad Khan village of Bagrami district. Several other houses ... (More on P4)...(12)

Mayor Above 60pc of Kunduz Residents Don't Pay Tax



KUNDUZ CITY - More than 60 percent of residents of the capital of northern Kunduz province have not been paying cleanliness tax to the municipality over the past many years, the mayor said on Sunday, calling insecurity a major challenge. Najibullah Omarmkhel told Pajhwok Afghan News during an interview that once again losing a number of areas near Kunduz City, the provincial capital, to the Taliban had a negative impact on all the sectors, including the municipality. He said Kunduz's municipality suffered huge financial losses after the city's falling to the Taliban. Markets were set ablaze, the municipality's building was damaged and more than 12 vehicles were stolen, recalled the mayor. "The municipality is now facing many problems." "We have been working from dawn to dusk over the past one month to repair the damages. The municipality building and the torched markets were demolished and reconstructed." Calling insecurity as main hurdle to the municipality's works, the mayor said insecurity besides creating other issues had negatively impacted the municipality's revenue collection effort. He said about 60 percent of residents didn't pay taxes and as a result his department's revenue had declined. "If people continue not paying taxes, it will render the municipality unable to deliver services." He said those not paying taxes ... (More on P4)...(10)

464 New Police Officers Graduate

KABUL - If police forces only concentrate on their duties, no power - including terrorists - can destroy Afghanistan, said Masood Ahmad Azizi, deputy Minister of Policy and Strategy in the Ministry of Interior (MoI). Speaking at the fifteenth graduation ceremony of police officers on Sunday, he said "If policemen leave shopping and do their as-

signed duties, no one and no power can destroy our country." Referring to circumstances within the police force, Azizi said police salaries and equipment are being stolen. He criticized the force for its lack of good planning. "Officers don't get their uniforms on time," he said. At the ceremony 464 new police officers graduated after six months of training.

Police training commander, Sebghatullah Saaq, said during investigations into and assessments of security departments many problems were found. "We found that police, instead of stopping crime, are responsible for crimes themselves," Saaq said. At the ceremony, the police were also criticized for corruption among its forces and for the lack of good operational plans against terrorists. "Discovering crimes, fighting against crimes, maintaining security and protecting people are the jobs of police," said Abdul Raouf Enami, secretary of Wolesi Jirga (Lower House of Parliament). Currently a total 150,000 of policemen make up the force. This includes numbers of so-called ghost soldiers. (Tolonews)

