

Jalalabad	Clear	Ghazni	Clear	Kandahar	Clear	Mazar	Clear	Herat	Clear	Bamiyan	Clear	Kabul	Clear
17°C	5°C	-1°C	-11°C	13°C	5°C	12°C	3°C	13°C	4°C	-6°C	-15°C	5°C	-5°C



Danesh Warns Against Misuse of Peace by Regional Countries

Danish says government is ready to talk with the Taliban if the group quits violence.



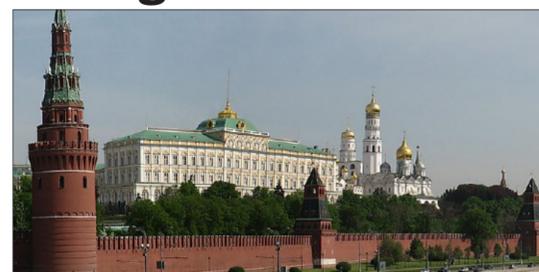
KABUL - Second Vice President Mohammad Sarwar Danish said countries in the region should not impose another proxy war in Afghanistan under the name of the Afghan peace and that they should play a constructive role in the process. Addressing a ceremony on challenges and opportunities for peace, Danish said the Afghan government welcomes regional

and world countries' support to the Afghan peace but he insisted that the final decision should be made by Afghans. "We expect from near and far foreign countries who are involved in the Afghan peace to have a facilitating and constructive role, but should not make decisions on behalf of Afghans," he said. "The regional countries also should not think that this

time they will impose another type of proxy war in Afghanistan under the name of peace." Danish said that any peace talks in absence of the Afghan government will have no results, insisting that government should be one side of the talks. "In any talks, government should be considered as the main side of the talks. Any talks without presence of ... (More on P4)...(5)

US Backs Russia's Positive Role in Afghanistan

KABUL - Regional countries can help bring peace and stability to Afghanistan, believe top Russian and American diplomats. US special representative Zalmay Khalilzad and Russian President Vladimir Putin's envoy for Afghanistan Zamir Kabulov reached the agreement at a meeting in Ankara. After Friday's meeting, Khalilzad told Anadolu Agency: "We agreed the region can play an important role in facilitating peace in Afghanistan. We talked about some options how the region could play that role." He said: "We want Russia to play a constructive role. We



don't want to monopolise the diplomacy of peace in Afghanistan. We welcome all efforts that promote peace." Afghanistan should become never again a sanctuary for terrorists, like al-Qaeda, Islamic

State (Daesh) or other global terrorist outfits, the envoy added. The two sides conferred on intra-Afghan dialogue, the need for Afghans to appoint a national team includes the government and the need for ... (More on P4)...(4)

Afghan Women May Not Attend Doha Talks After Failing to Get Visa



KABUL - Forty Afghan women, who wanted to attend the next round of talks between the Taliban and the US in Qatar, have failed to obtain visa and may not attend the talks. The next round of peace talks between the Taliban's Doha office representatives and US special envoy for peace Zalmay Khalilzad, are scheduled to take place on Monday (Feb 25). A member of the Afghan Women Network, who did

not want her name to be published, said the Qatari government had asked the Afghan government to send women for participation in the talks, but the Afghan Foreign Ministry did not agree to it until Wednesday (Feb 20). However, she said the Foreign Ministry agreed later in the day but then it was not possible to issue visas to 40 women in the single day left. ... (More on P4)...(6)

Kabul-Kandahar Highway Reopens for Traffic

GHAZNI CITY - Local officials in southern Ghazni province on Saturday said the Kabul-Kandahar highway had been reopened for traffic after a week of closure by protestors. Last week, residents of Maqur district blocked the busy Kabul-Kandahar highway, asking the government to upgrade the district as a new province. Mohammad Arif Noori, the Ghazni governor's spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News that the protestors had reopened the road after a week of closure. He said the demand of Maqur people had been shared with the central government. However, the gubernatorial spokesman said nothing about Kabul's response. Shahzada Asim, an organiser of the protest, confirmed to Pajhwok that they allowed only some vehicles to ply the highway. "We have allowed cars transporting ... (More on P4)...(7)

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