

Jalalabad Chance for Rain 11°C 6°C	Ghazni Snow Showers 1°C -9°C	Kandahar Clear 9°C -3°C	Mazar Snow 2°C -2°C	Herat Partly Cloudy 3°C -6°C	Bamayan Snow Showers -4°C -14°C	Kabul Snow 2°C -7°C
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Weather Forecast Brought to You by MTN Afghanistan

Security Officials Defend Drone Strategy as Necessary, Effective

KABUL - Despite the controversy that has surrounded them, U.S. drone strikes in Afghanistan and across the border in the Pakistani tribal belt have been crucial in weakening militant groups and reducing their safe havens in the more inaccessible parts of the region, Afghan security officials have said. U.S. drone attacks have been running for years, serving as the main arm of the U.S. counterterrorism mission in Pakistan.



American drones have recently targeted militant hideouts in Miran Shah, Mir Ali, Haidarkhail, Essa Khail and North Waziristan. While these attacks assist the Afghan security forces' struggle against the Taliban in Afghanistan because it ensures insurgents are no longer untouchable once they retreat across the border to re-group, re-arm and strategize, drone activity in Afghanistan itself has also been important. Fazel Ahmad ...*(More on P4)...*(9)

Surajkund International Crafts Mela 2015



KABUL - Surajkund International Crafts Mela (fair) was held in Faridabad (Haryana). It was jointly hosted by Haryana Tourism Corporation and Surajkund Mela Authority in collaboration with the Indian Union Ministries of Tourism, Textiles, Culture and External Affairs. This festival has come to occupy a place of pride and prominence, attracting more than a million domestic and foreign visitors during the Mela fortnight. The Mela is held every year which showcases the richness ...*(More on P4)...*(10)

Atmar Holds Talks with Qatri Prime Minister



KABUL - Mohammad Hanif Atmar, Afghan national security adviser, who is in Qatar to attend a conference on Afghanistan, held marathon discussion with the Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa Al-Thani in Doha. A Qatari news agency reports that Atmar who headed a delegation discussed range of issues specifically latest situation with Khalifa Al-Thani following reports of peace talks between the Afghan government and Taliban. ...*(More on P4)...*(15)

Ministry of Water and Energy

Afghanistan Wastes 36 Percent of Water Resources Annually

KABUL - Officials from the Ministry of Water and Energy (MoWE) on Tuesday reported that a startling 36 percent of the country's annual water supply flows into neighboring Iran, Pakistan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan without being utilized for the benefit of the Afghan public. Experts, meanwhile, have stressed that



building more dams is the key to properly exploiting Afghanistan's water resources. Afghanistan is believed to have one of the largest fresh water reserves in the region, much of it frozen in ice and snow in the country's many mountains. However, when the hotter months come every year, ...*(More on P4)...*(11)

Mechanism to Deal with Droughts Being Evolved



KABUL - With drought gripping at least 160 districts in the country, the government is working on a mechanism to reach out to the hardest-hit areas with relief activities, said the president's special representative on good governance and

reforms on Tuesday. Addressing a gathering of representatives of foreign NGOs in Kabul, Ahmad Zia Massoud said insufficient rains and snowfalls this year could threaten crops in many areas. He said Afghanistan was an ...*(More on P4)...*(12)

Indo-Afghan Trade Likely to Touch \$3b Soon

KOLKATA - Afghanistan is considering to open a consular office in east Indian city of Kolkata to boost trade ties with the region while pitching to make Mazar-e-Sharif in Afghanistan a sister city of Kolkata, Afghanistan's ambassador to India said. Speaking to reporters at a

meeting organized by The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry here, Shaida Mohammad Abdali said: "I have suggested to my government to open a consular office in Kolkata. It is likely to boost trade relationship between Afghanistan and Kolkata in eastern India." Abdali ...*(More on P4)...*(13)



Wardak PC Fails to Appoint Administrative Board

MAIDAN SHAHAR - The provincial council members of central Maidan Wardak province could not appoint the administrative board

due to absence of some council's members, officials said Tuesday. Dr. Niamatullah Wardak, director Independent Election ...*(More on P4)...*(14)

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