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January 01, 2015

<b>Jalalabad</b> Clear 20°C 3°C	<b>Ghazni</b> Clear 7°C -7°C	<b>Kandahar</b> Clear 18°C -1°C	<b>Mazar</b> Clear 16°C 7°C	<b>Herat</b> Clear 18°C 0°C	<b>Bamayan</b> Clear 0°C -10°C	<b>Kabul</b> Clear 11°C -4°C
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### Projects worth 36m Afs Completed in Samangan

AIBAK - More than 3,000 people would benefit from development projects worth 36.2 million afghanis, which have recently been completed in northern Samangan province, an official said on Tuesday.

Rural Rehabilitation and Development Director Mohammad Asif Daulat Shahi said the projects were executed in 18 villages and in Aibak, the provincial capital. They cost 36.2 million afghanis, which had been provided by the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development under the National Solidarity Programme (NSP).

The projects included buildings for nine social centres, four water reservoirs, retaining walls measuring 76 metres, a 400-metre irrigation canal, a 1,060-metre stream and 13 wells.

Residents of the areas expressed happiness over completion of the projects. ...*(More on P4)...(10)*

## Karzai Meets, Advises Successor "Almost Daily"



KABUL - Afghanistan's retired president, Hamid Karzai, meets his successor almost every day and advises him on key policy issues, he said in an interview, a role that could raise concerns in the West over ties with Kabul.

The former leader's relationship with the United States deteriorated sharply towards the end of more than a decade in power, but any hope foreign governments had of Karzai slipping quietly into retirement would appear to be misplaced. ...*(More on P4)...(11)*

### Deeper Pak-Afghan Ties to Help Tackle Challenges: Aziz

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan's advisor to the prime minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs has reiterated Islamabad and Kabul are needed to adopt joint steps to banish the scourge of terrorism.

In his meeting with Afghanistan parliamentary delegation, Sartaj Aziz said that both the countries had pledged not to allow the use of their soil against each other's interests. He noted that peaceful, stable and developed Afghani-



stan had of immense importance for Pakistan. Underlining enhanced Pak-Afghan ties, the visiting Afghan delegation expressed grief and sympathy over the loss of lives in the tragic Peshawar ...*(More on P4)...(12)*

### 75 Norwegian Troops to Stay on: Envoy



KABUL - Seventy-five Norwegian troops would remain in Afghanistan post-2014 as part of NATO's new mission to "train and support" Afghan forces, the country's ambassador to Kabul said on Wednesday.

Tomorrow, Afghan army and police will take charge of their country's security as the US-led International Security Assistance Force combat mission ...*(More on P4)...(13)*

### Afghanistan, Ukraine Dominate NATO Agenda in 2014

BRUSSELS - Thirteen years after its creation, NATO's combat mission in Afghanistan, called the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), ends officially today and will be replaced by NATO-led Resolute Support mission.

The new non-combat mission will consist of about 12,500 troops focused on assisting, training and building Afghan National Security Force. The 28 NATO member



states and 14 partner nations will contribute to the mission in different ways.

Besides Afghanistan, the conflict in Ukraine overshadowed the 28-member Alliance's ...*(More on P4)...(14)*

### NATO Awards Montenegrin Troops in Afghanistan

Montenegro's unit in the ISAF operation in Afghanistan has been awarded a NATO medal for its 'outstanding contributions' to the allied operation, which has ended after 13 years.

KABUL - Montenegro's contingent in the NATO-led ISAF operation in Afghanistan was awarded on Tuesday in a ceremony held at the Allied base in Mazar-e Sharif in northern Afghanistan.

"NATO medals have been awarded to members of the armed forces in recognition of the commitment and successful fulfillment of the ISAF mission's tasks," Montenegro's Defence Ministry said on Tuesday.

The unit of 15 members will end its six-month stint in Afghanistan on Wednesday.



The small Balkan country first deployed troops in the NATO ...*(More on P4)...(15)*

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