

<b>Jalalabad</b> Clear 15°C 4°C	<b>Ghazni</b> Partly Cloudy -1°C -9°C	<b>Kandahar</b> Partly Cloudy 14°C 0°C	<b>Mazar</b> Clear 9°C 4°C	<b>Herat</b> Clear 16°C 4°C	<b>Bamayan</b> Partly Cloudy -5°C -8°C	<b>Kabul</b> Partly Cloudy 6°C -4°C
--	--	---	-------------------------------------	--------------------------------------	---	--

Weather Forecast Brought to You by MTN Afghanistan

### Number of Children with Pneumonia Doubles

KHOST CITY - A number of children have died of pneumonia in southeastern provinces this Afghan year, when more minors contracted the infectious disease, public health officials say. Speaking to Pajhwok Afghan News, public health officials in Logar, Paktia and Khost provinces said hospital statistics showed a nearly 50 percent increase in pneumonia cases during the solar year that ends on March 21. Paktia civil hospital director Dr. Haya Gul Paktin said more than 1500 children of pneumonia patients were brought to the hospital this winter alone. He said the number of children suffering from pneumonia stood at 900 last year and this year's figures showed a 40 percent increase in the patients. "We were delivered 900 children with pneumonia last year and the number of such patients rose to more than 1500 this year," he said. Khost civil hospital head Dr. Abdul Majeed Mangal said they had recorded up to 40 percent increase in the number of children suffering from pneumonia this year. He did not provide figures for this year's infected children, but said their number had lately increased. Logar Public Health Director Dr. Zarif told Pajhwok Afghan News a 30 percent increase in child pneumonia patients had been noticed in the province this year, but gave no figure. Health officials in these provinces linked the disease spread to a prolonged dry spell, dry, cold and dusty air and carelessness by parents. Meanwhile, Paktika Public Health Director Dr. Wali Gul said there had been some decrease in the number of child pneumonia patients this year. He said during the last six months of last year, 1155 children with pneumonia were brought to the civil hospital against 900 children during the same period this year. "Though dry and filthy air contributes to pneumonia spread, I believe the disease declined in Paktika due to a lack of snowfall." These officials said a number of children might have died of the disease, but they had no official figures. A resident of Mandozai district of Khost, Mohammad Rauf Khan, said he had changed many doctors in a bid to get his girl child recovered from pneumonia. "I have shown the child to a number of doctors over the last three days. The doctors have subscribed her piles of medicines, but she is not recovering." A child specialist, Dr. Mohammad Arif Thanai, said minors needed to be kept warm and away from infected ones. They could be protected from contracting pneumonia, if secured from cold, smoke and other unhygienic things. (Pajhwok)



# Provincial Councils Barred from Overseeing Local Departments



KABUL - The Wolesi Jirga, or the lower house, on Wednesday reiterated its stance that provincial councils did not reserve the right to supervise or evaluate the performance of local departments. Last year, the assembly amended the relevant law wresting the right from ...*(More on P4)...(8)*

## Target Haqqani Network inside Pakistan: Ex-US General

WASHINGTON - The Haqqani network is operating from its safe havens inside Pakistan, a former American general claimed on Tuesday, calling for targeting the terrorist outfit there. "We have got to step up to what two (US) presidents have failed to do, and that is deal with these sanctuaries in Pakistan from which intelligence, support and training for operations inside Afghanistan comes," he said. Gen (R) John M. Keane told the Senate Armed Ser-



vices Committee during a Congressional hearing that action against terrorist safe havens in Pakistan was necessary to deal with the issue of the insurgency. "There are Afghan Taliban sanctuaries in Pakistan, and specifically, the Haqqani Network should

be targeted just like Al Qaida. In targeting them, we will disrupt it, disrupt their command and control..." he said. Keane insisted the Haqqani Network posed a major danger to the security situation in Kabul. In his judgment, Afghan security forces did not have the capability currently to be able to deal with that harsh reality. "What makes this so serious strategically inside Afghanistan is Kabul's presence of the Haqqani ...*(More on P4)...(10)*

### Militants, Tribal Tradition Hamper Female Education

FIROZKOH - Director Women affairs for western Ghor province has said that illegal armed men, militants and local tradition are preventing thousands of girls to stay away from getting education. Masooma Anwari in her exclusive interview with Pajhwok Afghan News said women department in Ghor had implemented multiple



programmes for improvement of women's situation. She said much more was needed to be done to protect women rights. She said the main challenge ...*(More on P4)...(9)*

### Security Situation Seen as Precarious in Eastern Zone



WASHINGTON - There has been considerable improvement in the political situation in Afghanistan after President Ashraf Ghani came to power, but the security environment remained at risk, lawmakers were informed on Tuesday. US Gen. (R) John M. Keane told members of

the Senate Armed Services Committee during a hearing on Global Challenges and US National Security Strategy the situation in the south was relatively stable with some exceptions, But security in the east was not satisfactory, he said, adding the problem was ...*(More on P4)...(11)*

### 19 Development Projects Completed in 3 Provinces

MAZAR-I-SHARIF - At least 19 different development projects have been implemented in northern Sar-i-Pul, Balkh and southeastern Paktia provinces, benefitting thousands of families, officials said on Wednesday. Farid Ahmad Sadat, head of the National Solidarity Programme (NSP) in the northern zone, told Pajhwok Afghan News nine schemes had been executed in Sayyad and Sancharak districts. The projects include link roads, repairs of school buildings, small bridges and retaining walls. The projects were completed at a cost of over 15 million afghanis provided by the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development. In addition, work on 500 different projects is underway in Sar-i-Pul province, according to the official. Similarly, in Balkh province, repairs of six school buildings were completed. In Paktia, four big projects including a mosque and roads were executed in Gardez, the provincial capital, Mayor Agha Mohammad Saeedi ...*(More on P4)...(13)*

## 102 Militants Eliminated in Waziristan, Tirah Airstrikes

KABUL - More than 100 suspected insurgents have been killed in airstrikes by the Pakistan Army in the north-western tribal badlands near the Afghanistan border, the military said. Warplanes pounded militant hideouts in the volatile regions of North Waziristan and Khyber on Tuesday, killing the fighters, including foreigners, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said. A statement from the army's media wing said: "In a precise strike in the Dattakhel area of North Waziristan in the afternoon, 53 militants, including 12 foreigners, were killed. Six hideouts, an ammunition dump and seven



explosives-laden vehicles were destroyed." Militant positions were pounded in Kharh Tangi, it said, adding most of the foreigners killed were Uzbeks. In another raid in the same area later, 23 militants were

### ANSF Gain Control of District Chak after 13 Years



KABUL - Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) have pushed back militants from the district of Chak in central Maidan Wardak province after 13 years under Taliban control. This marks another achievement since assuming the security responsibility from their foreign counterparts. Chak was considered the Taliban's provincial center over the past 13 years. The militants had established several check posts in the area, according to ANSF officials.

"Previously, even we were unable to transfer our supplies through air because of the worsened situation, but now security is ensured here," said Noorzai, a police officer. Security officials said the Taliban-run court where the group used to organize public trials was now the check post of security forces. The local police forces have also played a significant role in pushing the militants back from the district.

## MCN Plans to Eliminate Fields Cultivated with Opium

KABUL - The Acting Minister for the Ministry of Counter Narcotics (MCN) Mohammad Haroon Rashid on Wednesday reported that 224,000 hectares of land across the country have been used to produce poppy in 2014, but MCN has succeeded in removing up to 24,000 hectares of poppy nationwide. "On the basis of the drug eradication campaign, this year we plan to eradicate 10 percent of the poppy cultivation," Rashid said. "In some districts there are issues of commitment and provincial officials who are not dedicated in the



fight against drugs." Meanwhile, a number of district governors have said that drug production will continue in Afghanistan unless local officials end their support for smugglers. "Unfortunately, in some cases

drugs are transferred from one area to another inside vehicles of security forces, which officials support," Rostaq District Governor of Takhar province Abdul Manaf Faizi said. ...*(More on P4)...(14)*

Outlook AFGHANISTAN

برای دریافت اخبار عاجل از روزنامه آوت لُک افغانستان 10 را دایر نموده و به شماره AFE ارسال نمایید

Get latest news on your mobile from Daily Outlook Afghanistan by sending 150 to 824