

Jalalabad	Clear	Ghazni	Clear	Kandahar	Clear	Mazar	Clear	Herat	Clear	Bamayan	Clear	Kabul	Clear
	38°C 27°C		30°C 17°C		41°C 24°C		42°C 29°C		41°C 22°C		28°C 12°C		34°C 20°C



Any Threat Posing by Daesh will Be Eliminated: MoI

KABUL - The Ministry of Interior (MoI) on Saturday said though Daesh was a serious threat to Afghanistan's security but the newly emerged group would be wiped out completely. MoI spokesman Sediq Seddiqi told journalists in Kabul: "Daesh presence is a serious threat to Afghanistan's security and any other group that joined hands with would be destroyed in embryo." Seddiqi said 150 insurgents have recently joined the peace process in Aab Kamary district of northwestern



Badghis province. They had anti-state activities in the past few years and joined the gov-

ernment after efforts by local elders. According to the MoI spokes-

man, during the past 48 hours in different operations across Nangarhar, Kapisa,

Kandahar, Helmand, Paktia, Maidan Wardak, Uruzgan, Herat, Kunduz and Samangan provinces, more than 198 insurgents were killed, 123 wounded and two detained. In these operations, he added, 12 security forces have also lost their lives. Dawlat Waziri, deputy spokesman Ministry of Defence (MoD), said security forces would not allow insurgents to recruit new fighters. He said neighboring countries were worried about Daesh presence in Afghanistan...*(More on P4)...(8)*

UN Security Council Welcomes Talks with Taliban

WASHINGTON - The powerful UN Security Council on Friday welcomed talks between representatives of the Taliban and the Afghan government in Pakistan recently and described this as step towards peace and reconciliation. Reaffirming their commitment to support Afghanistan on its path towards peace, reconciliation, democracy and development, the Security Council in a statement encouraged parties in the talks to continue building on these efforts through an inclusive, Afghan-led and Afghan-owned dialogue as laid forth in the 20 July 2010 Kabul Conference Communiqué. The Security Council appreciated the constructive roles played by Pakistan, China, the US and international community...*(More on P4)...(9)*



Panjshir PC Fails to Deliver on Pledges: Residents

PARAKH - Some residents of central Panjshir province say despite initial optimism the provincial council has failed to deliver on promises and render satisfactory services. The result from the April 5 provincial council elections was announced after a seven-month delay due to the deadlocked presidential vote. Based on the results, Maulvi Syed Yahya Anabi, Mullah Mohammad Faizi, Wahidullah Dajhkohi, Najibullah Yaqubi, Azmuddin Mirzaee, Abdul Samad Sultani, Qalandar Khan Bahaduri, Rahela Ataee, and Wida Saedi won seats on the Panjshir council. Yaqubi, Mirzaee, Sultani, Bahaduri and Ataee are new faces while the others are reelected. Some residents say most of the members are youth and they had been hopeful the young representatives would perform well. But several months in office, their performance has not been satisfactory, the residents say. Fateh Mohammad Qudusi, a resident of the Anaba district and a civil society activist, told Pajhwok Afghan News: "The performance of the provincial council has not...*(More on P4)...(10)*

ANSF Launch Big Anti-Rebels Offensive in Zabul

QALAT - Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) have launched anti-insurgents operation in the Dai Chopan district of southern Zabul province, police spokesman said on Saturday. Fawad Askari told Pajhwok Afghan News the operations were launched on Friday night where Afghan forces were marching toward the district center. Heavy fighting underway between security forces and Taliban amid claims by Afghan forces of inflicting grave casualties on enemy. He said that foreign rebels were fighting against Afghan



security forces but he had no details about nationality of foreign fighters. Dai Chopan is a remote district of Zabul, which is situated to the east of the province, sharing border with

Uruzgan and Kandahar provinces. Hajid Mohammad Yousuf, a tribal elder, said most of the insurgents were Uzbek nationals who fled from north Waziristan tribal region. *(Pajhwok)*

Every Official to be Held Liable: Khost Governor

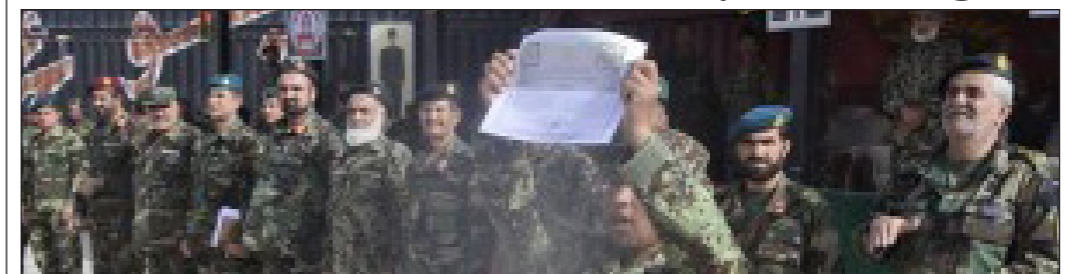
KHOST CITY - The governor of southeastern Khost on Saturday said he was committed to ensuring good governance, social justice and combating administrative corruption and elements encroaching on public land. Hakim Khan Habibi was talking to Pajhwok Afghan News in an exclusive interview about a month after he took charge as Khost governor. Achieving these goals need conducive and secure environment and coordination among security organs could improve the security situa-



tion, he said. "As the governor, it will be my top priority to enhance coordination among security organs." Cooperation with security forces by religious leaders, tribal elders, civil society ac-

tivists and the youth was crucial, he insisted. "We want all sections of the society to remain cooperative with the civil and military departments." In...*(More on P4)...(11)*

More Than 1,000 New Army Recruits Receive Military Training



KABUL - 1,002 new army recruits received military training at the military training center of Shorab garrison, 215 Maiwand Corps. The newly graduated soldiers have been given nine weeks military training and will be deployed to different parts of the country within the ranks of Afghan National Army. Ministry of Defense states that as the Afghan National Army

is comprised of every tribe of the 34 provinces of the country, the newly graduated soldiers are also from every tribe who will "as one" stand guard for the defense of their country. Afghan National Army gain more force as Afghanistan is going through some of its difficult times after the country's national defendants took full charge of the security from NATO forces months before.

At the end 2014 NATO forces ended its combat role in Afghanistan and began a follow-on Resolute Support mission which is aimed at providing further training, advice and assistance for the Afghan security forces and institutions. The combat operations are independently run by Afghan forces since January this year. *(KP)*

Key Member of Taliban Quetta Shura Held in Zabul

KABUL - A key member of Taliban's Quetta Shura was arrested in a special raid conducted by the National Directorate of Security (NDS) operatives in southern Zabul, the intelligence agency said in a statement on Saturday. Mawlawi Faizullah, a resident of Daichopan district in the province, was an active member of Shura's military commission, the statement read. Faizullah was the commander of Ma'az 10 wing of Shura for southern provinces of Zabul, Kandahar and Ghazni, according to the NDS. He was said to have been engaged with recruiting militants for Taliban, kidnapping passengers on the highways and financing and supporting militants with logistics. *(Tolonews)*

Insurgents Seize Control of Military Post in Baghlan District: Officials

PUL-E-KHUMRI - The insurgents have reportedly seized control of another Afghan National Army (ANA) post in Dand-e-Ghori district in northern Baghlan, local officials said on Saturday. This was said to be the last post being collapsed into the hands of the Taliban in the district, a member of Provincial Council of Baghlan, Bimillath Atash said. He warned of further deteriorated situation if reinforced troops were not deployed to the area. The security officials, however, are yet to comment on the fall of the security post. The...*(More on P4)...(15)*

Over 42,000 Afghans Repatriated from Pakistan in 2015



ISLAMABAD - Over 42,000 Afghan refugees in Pakistan returned home in the last six months as part of the repatriation policy of the Islamabad government, today revealed a UN source. Quoted by APP News Agency, an official of the office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) said that 22,000 of them lived in the western Pakistani province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. He stressed that the UNHCR has REGISTERED 1.6 million Afghans in this nation. How-

ever, media and analysts believe the figure could be doubled. In December last year the Pakistani authorities initiated a plan to expatriate all Afghans, after a deadly attack on a school in Peshawar, which killed 148 people, mostly children. Islamabad then said that the slaughter was planned in the neighboring country. The press and various sectors of Pakistani society held a heated debate about the Afghan...*(More on P4)...(12)*

Abdul Ghafar Nazari Named Among 'Asia 21 Young Leaders'



KABUL - The Asia Society in New York selected Abdul Ghafar Nazari from Afghanistan to become a member of Asia 21 Young Leaders Class of 2015 by joining 31 others from 21 various countries. Nazari is the Manager of Training and Development Human Resources in Roshan Telecommunication Development Company. The Asia 21 Young Leaders Initiative has become a ro-

bust network of more than 800 young leaders from 30 nations during the past ten years. The President and CEO of Asia Society Josette Sheeran said "The new class of Asia 21 Young Leaders is a remarkable group. We are excited to introduce these leaders of the Asia-Pacific region to the Asia 21 Network, where they will find mentors, potential...*(More on P4)...(16)*

Stanikzai Failure to Win Trust Vote Disappointed Campbell



KABUL - Expressing disappointment over Wolesi Jirga (WJ) move to reject Masum Stanikzai as candidate for defence ministry, Gen. John F. Campbell, the NATO led Resolute Support (RS) mission commander, on Saturday said Stanikzai was a suitable person for the slot. Speaking to reporters here, Campbell said Stanikzai had enough experience in military affairs, and was an honest man. Campbell said Stanikzai, who represented his country in the recent NATO summit, worked closely with NATO officials and always strived hard how to strengthen the

country's nascent security forces. He asked President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Abdullah Abdullah to render more powers to Stanikzai during his acting ministerial period so that he could work more effectively. The Wolesi Jirga or lower house of parliament did not approve Mohammad Masum Stanikzai as defense minister a week earlier. However, he could not win the vote of confidence from the lawmakers. Of the 213 lawmakers present during the session, 84 voted...*(More on P4)...(13)*

Liwal Vows to Revive Border Ministry's Past Glory

KABUL - The newly-appointed deputy minister for border and tribal affairs on Saturday said cultural activities that played positive role in boosting Afghanistan's image abroad should be revived. Abdul Ghafoor Liwal expressed these views during his introduction ceremony in Kabul. He said the Ministry of Border and Tribal Affairs was a great national institute but its position was gradually affected by changes in governments. "The prolonged wars, formation of different governments and other problems in Afghanistan weakened the role of the Ministry of Border and Tribal Affairs, but the ministry affairs somehow improved with reforms introduced by the new government," Liwal said. He added during his tenure as the deputy minister, he would try to revive the im-

portant role the ministry had been playing in the past. Border and Tribal Affairs Minister Gulab Mangal told the ceremony that Liwal had good achievements in cultural activities, journalism, writings and analysing political issues. He said positive characteristics were a reason Liwal was appointed as the deputy minister. "We have a research and investigation department and a department for publications and public relations so we needed someone like Liwal who keeps close contacts with tribes and different communities," he said. Mangal added he was committed to appointing experts in the ministry to help improve its position. Abdul Ghafoor Liwal is the son of Maulvi Ali Mohammad Khan Hussainkhalil and was born in 1973 in Mushi district of the capital Kabul. Before...*(More on P4)...(14)*