



Noor

Backing Abdullah Biggest Mistake of my Career

MAZAR-I-SHARIF - The Balkh governor and secretary of Jamiat-i-Islami (JI) on Monday called his support to Chief Executive Officer (CEO) during presidential elections the biggest mistake of his political career. Addressing a gathering marking the death anniversary of former Vice President Marshal Mohammad Qasem Fahim, Noor accused Abdullah of betraying the party and the masses, something that had hurt many. His backing of Abdullah was a political blunder, Noor said, apologising to the people on it. He blasted



the CEO of cutting clandestine deals. Abdullah only thought about consolidating his position, he claimed. "Abdullah's huge achievement is getting salary and appointing advisors," alleged the governor, who voiced pleasure over successful talks at the Presidential Palace. He would announce the outcome of the negotiations at the Nawroz ceremony. Noor said the CEO had openly opposed Nader Naderi's appointment as chairman of the Independent Administrative Reform and Civil Services Commission ...*(More on P4)...(8)*

Modern Print Factory will Enable Govt to Print Own Money



KABUL - Afghanistan and Germany will jointly invest nearly 70 million euro for the establishment of a modern Sukuk printing company, allowing the country to print its own money, the General Directorate of Enterprises and Government Companies announced. The modern Sukuk printing company is expected to be built on 22 acres of land in Jangalak industrial township. Jangalak township was initially built in 1960 and was operating in key fields such as metal production, electronics, packaging of car machines and some other fields. More than 1,500 people were working in Jangalak township. It was Afghanistan's largest industrial site. But the area has been totally destroyed in decades of war and violence. Afghanistan and Germany will provide ...*(More on P4)...(9)*

Hospital Attack: More Than 10 People Arrested



KABUL - More than 10 people, including a security officer of the hospital, have been arrested in relation to the recent attack on Sardar Mohammad Daud Khan military hospital in Kabul for which Daesh has claimed responsibility. Officials of the hospital told a TOLNews journalist that the primary findings show that the attack was masterminded three months prior and was carried out with the help of people from inside the hospital. "Since the day of the attack, security officials have been working on the investigation and between 10 and 12 people have been arrested," said Asif Bromand, surgeon of the hospital. According to a number of doctors and soldiers, the terrorists were completely familiar with the hospital. They even knew names of the doctors. An Afghan National Army soldier said: "Terrorists were knocking on the door and called out names of the doctors. They were firing pistols." "It was very dangerous and horrible. I had not seen such a situation in my life. They had white clothes (doctor's clothing) ...*(More on P4)...(11)*

Taliban Annually Pocket \$15m from Pistachio Income



HERAT CITY - The Taliban have been the biggest beneficiary of pistachio crop in the Kushki Kuhna district of western Herat province, local officials said on Monday. Syed Mohammad Chishti Modudi, the district's administrative chief, told Pajhwok Afghan News an investigation by agriculture experts showed \$15 million in annual income from pistachio crop in the district lined Taliban's pockets. He said two pistachio forests spread over 32,000 hectares of land existed in the district. The forests had been partially destroyed by local powerful individuals and Taliban, the official said. *(Pajhwok)*

Smuggling from Pakistan to Afghanistan Tripled

KABUL - The smuggling of Pakistani goods to Afghanistan has tripled since the border closure between the two countries, the Afghan Chamber of Commerce and Industries (ACCI) said on Monday. This was happening as more than 50,000 trucks full of Afghanistan goods have been stopped in Pakistan. According to ACCI, Pakistani goods enter Afghanistan markets without custom duties having been paid and are sold at four times higher prices than normal. "The smuggling of goods has increased and we know that Pakistani products have been entering Afghanistan mar-



kets in various ways and it is increasing day by day," said Atiqullah Nusrat, deputy head of ACCI. According to the Afghanistan and Pakistan Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry (APJCCI), there are around 20 smuggling routes through eight border-

Afghan Special Forces Free Dozens from Taliban Prison

LASHKARGAH - Afghan special forces have freed up to 32 people, including four policemen, imprisoned by Taliban insurgents in the southern province of Helmand, the defense ministry said on Monday. Swathes of Helmand are controlled by Taliban fighting to overthrow the United States-backed government in the capital, Kabul, and install a strict interpretation of Islamic law. Late on Sunday night, special



forces launched the raid in a village in the district of Nad Ali, after gathering intelligence that the Taliban were holding dozens of civilians and security personnel, security officials in Helmand said. Four of those freed were policemen and the rest were civilians, the defense ministry said in a statement. American ...*(More on P4)...(12)*

Leaflets Call on Logar Youth to Join Daesh



PUL-I-ALAM - Daesh militants have been dropping propaganda leaflets on streets and near homes in central Logar province to encourage the youth into joining the group. Ahmad Javed, who lives in Sar Sang area of the provincial capital, Pul-i-Alam, told Pajhwok Afghan News the propaganda leaflets had been dropped many times at night during the past week. "They drop the leaflets on roads and throw into people's homes. In the leaflets, the youth are urged to join the group," he said. Similarly, a tribal elder in Shah Mazar area of Barak-i-Barak district, Haji Gulab, said the same leaflets were found in their area. "In the past, people could not spend a day in peace due to the Taliban, now Daesh has emerged, it will make living in this area hard for locals," he said. The elder urged the government to prevent Daesh or Islamic State from spreading its propaganda. A copy of the

leaflet is available with Pajhwok Afghan News. With Daesh flag printed on the leaflet, a sign reads "Islamic State Khorasan zone." The letter is addressed to the people of Barak-i-Barak district. The message on the leaflet reads "Daesh wants to fight against the Taliban in Logar and take the control in own hands." The letter asked the people of the district to support Daesh in eliminating the Taliban. The Barak-i-Barak district chief, Mohammad Rahim Amin, confirmed the issue and asked the government to be quick in preventing the group from gaining strength in the province. Similarly, the Azra district chief, Hamidullah Hamid, also said Daesh activities had lately increased in the district. He said the group had started recruiting the youth and the recruitment should be prevented at the earliest. The Logar governor's spokesman, Salim Saleh, did not ...*(More on P4)...(13)*

New Chief Vows to Revive Ariana Airlines' Past Glory



KABUL - Newly-appointed chairman of the state-owned Ariana Afghan Airlines (AAA) took charge on Sunday, vowing to address challenges the airlines faced. Mohammad Nader Omar, who assumed office on Sunday, told Pajhwok Afghan News the national flag carrier currently faced problems and he would try to resolve them. He said first shortcomings would be determined and then resolved through a specifically devised plan. Omar recalled the past glory of the Ariana Airlines and said its flights were famous for safety but unfortunately that reputation had been hurt. He vowed to revive the AAA's past glory and restore its reputation. He urged the government to buy new planes and support the national airline. *(Pajhwok)*

Ex-Envoy Claims Helping US Kill Al Qaeda Chief



KABUL - A former Pakistani ambassador says he had helped the Obama administration kill Al Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden in the garrison town of Abbottabad. Husain Haqqani, then ambassador to the US, said his contacts had led to closer cooperation between Islamabad and Washington in the war on terror. He wrote in The Washington Post his contacts eventually enabled the US to eliminate bin Laden without depending on Pakistan's intelligence service, which were suspected of protecting militants. The diplomat said his friends in the Obama campaign team, who later became National Security Council officials, asked him for help in stationing US Special Operations and intelligence personnel in Pakistan. "Although the United States kept us officially out of the loop about the operation, these locally stationed Americans proved invaluable when Obama decided to send in Navy SEAL Team 6 without notifying Pakistan," he added. In November 2011, Haqqani claimed he was forced to

assist as ambassador after Pakistan's military-intelligence apparatus gained the upper hand in the country's power struggle. One of the complaints in the Pakistani security establishment against Haqqani was that he had facilitated the presence of many CIA agents who helped track down the Al-Qaeda ...*(More on P4)...(14)*