

Jalalabad Chance of Rain 23°C 14°C	Ghazni Chance of Rain 15°C 3°C	Kandahar Clear 19°C 8°C	Mazar Partly Cloudy 17°C 9°C	Herat Clear 21°C 8°C	Bamayan Snow 6°C -2°C	Kabul Clear 18°C 8°C
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Weather Forecast Brought to You by MTN Afghanistan

Karzai Rules out Political Comeback

KABUL - Ex-president Hamid Karzai has ruled out the possibility of staging a political comeback, supporting continuity of the democratic order. In an interview with an American new channel, Karzai said had played his political role as two-term president. "It would be a failure on my part and on the part of Afghanistan if I were to return." He told CNBC new generation of Afghans leaders should serve the country, which must have new presidents and continuity of the political process rather than stagnation. "My return... would be stagnation, and that's not... (More on P4)...(8)



400 Projects Costing Afs308mln Executed in Wardak

MAIDAN SHAHR - Nearly 400 various projects have been completed in central Maidan Wardak province, last year, benefitting 50,000 families, an official said on Saturday. Implemented under various programmes, the projects include karez water systems, retaining walls, water reservoirs for irrigation, construction of canals, bridges, playgrounds, wells, water tanks, small hydropower dams, vocation courses, buildings for schools, roads and others, the governor's spokesman said. Attuallah Khogyani said the projects were completed in Maidan Shahr and several districts costing nearly 308 million afghanis, the bulk of which had been provided by the Ministry of Rural Development and Rehabilitation. He said 5000 people, including women, were training in various skills as part of the projects and currently 35 similar projects worth 135 million... (More on P4)...(9)

Poppies Destroyed on 400 Hectors of Land



KANDAHAR CITY - So far about 400 hectors of land has been cleared of poppy crop as part of an ongoing poppy eradication campaign in southern Kandahar province, an official said on Saturday. The campaign launched a month back in Zheri and Maiwand districts was on Saturday extended to the Panjwai district, said Gul Mohammad Shakran, the provincial Counternarcotics Department head. He told Pajhwok Afghan News the crop had been sown in Zheri, Panjwai, Maiwand and Shah Walikot districts and the cultivation had dropped to zero level in other districts of Kandahar. He said the campaign was focused on the three districts where the banned plant's cultivation was widespread as compared to other towns. He said the campaign was extended to Panjwai's Zangabad area, previously the scene of fierce clashes between insurgents and security forces. The district is now under government's control. The official said poppies were destroyed this year in... (More on P4)...(10)

Utah National Guard Soldiers Return from Afghanistan



KABUL - Six soldiers assigned to the Utah Army National Guard's 19th Special Forces Airborne returned to Utah Friday after a six-month deployment to Afghanistan. The soldiers arrived Friday morning at Salt Lake City International Airport. The mission of the soldiers was in support of Area Security Operations for Operation Enduring Freedom/Resolute Support in Afghanistan. (Deseret News)

70 Firms Importing Low-Quality Drugs to be Blacklisted

JALALABAD - Public Health Minister Dr. Firozuddin Firoz on Saturday announced around 70 companies importing low-quality drugs would be blacklisted soon. Speaking at a graduation ceremony for 55 midwives in Jalalabad, he termed the quality of medicines and services of private hospitals unsatisfactory. Firoz told reporters investigations were underway to unearth the companies involved in low-quality drug imports. In response to a question, the minister



said expired medicines were imported from India, China, Pakistan and... (More on P4)...(11)

Dr. Abdullah Visits CENTCOM

WASHINGTON - Afghanistan's Chief Executive Officer Abdullah Abdullah expressed gratitude to the US army, in a speech delivered during a visit to Central Command (CENTCOM) at MacDill Airforce Base in Florida, late on Friday. "Dr. Abdullah thanked US service members... (More on P4)...(12)



Women Prisoners Go on Hunger Strike

CHARIKAR - At least 20 women prisoners in central Parwan province have been on hunger strike since last Thursday to protest what they call an inordinate delay in their release, an official said on Saturday. Nadera Giya, the women affairs director, told Pajhwok Afghan News



three of the protesting women had sewn up their lips. But the overall health of the strikers was not worrying, she said. ... (More on P4)...(13)

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