

<b>Jalalabad</b> Clear 35°C 21°C	<b>Ghazni</b> Clear 27°C 11°C	<b>Kandahar</b> Partly Cloudy 38°C 19°C	<b>Mazar</b> Clear 28°C 17°C	<b>Herat</b> Clear 29°C 14°C	<b>Bamayan</b> Clear 20°C 4°C	<b>Kabul</b> Clear 30°C 14°C
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# Nawa District Back Under Taliban Control: MPs

**GHAZNI CITY** - A group of Ghazni MPs grabbed attention in the Lower House on Saturday, claiming that Ghazni's Nawa district had once again fallen into the hands of the Taliban, despite efforts made by the security forces. The Ghazni lawmakers said the proximity of the district to the border of Pakistan make it particularly susceptible to militant pressure. Nevertheless, while the Taliban have denied official statements that the district has been reigned in under government control in videos released by the group's spokesmen, officials at the Ministry of Interior (MoI) have said that the district is secured by Afghan forces. Just a week ago, security officials cel-



ebrated what seemed a landmark achievement in the capturing of Nawa district after nine years of Taliban rule. "Although local officials do not confirm the fall of the district to the Taliban, as far as we know, security forces had taken this district, but could not resist and it fell once again," Ghazni MP Muhammad Akhlaqi said on Saturday. The lawmakers' claims have been substantiated by videos released by the Taliban showing their presence in Nawa district. "When the governor of Ghazni announced that security forces had taken control of this district, I doubted the accuracy of the news," Ghazni MP Muhammad Arif ... (More on P4)...(9)

## 56 Zabul Areas Purged of Anti-State Elements



**QALAT** - After killing and injuring scores of militants in the wake of Nijat military operation, security forces claimed purging 56 areas of anti-state militants in southern Zabul province. Brig. Gen. Syed Waqif Shah Saeedi, commander of the 205th southern military corps, told Pajhwok Afghan News on Saturday the Nijat offensive met with desired results. Afghan security forces, including Afghan National Army (ANA), Afghan National Police (ANP), National Directorate of Security (NDS) and commandos took part in the operation backed by air support. He said that writ of the government had been established after flushing out Taliban from ... (More on P4)...(10)

## Ministry of Education Faces Acute Books Shortage



**KABUL** - President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani on Saturday went through the 100-day plan presented by the Ministry of education and directed the officials concerned to promptly address curriculum books shortage issues. The president issued directives to the education minister to hold meetings with the Ministry of Finance and donors and seek their support for printing required books, a statement from the Presidential Palace said. Mohammad Kabir Haqmal, the spokesman of the Ministry of ... (More on P4)...(12)

## 100 Inmates Set Free from Kandahar Jail

**KANDAHAR CITY** - Over hundred prisoners were released from Kandahar prison on Saturday while jail term of 64 others inmates had been reduced following presidential decree on the eve of Mujahedin's victory day, an official said. Col. Ghulam Farooq, a prison official at Kandahar jail, told Pajhwok Afghan News most of the inmates were criminals who completed their terms while others were released benefiting from the decree. Abdul Ali Shamsi, the deputy governor, said the unopened cases of prisoners would be opened soon and suggested the released people to play their role in national building. Mohammad Naeem, a newly released prisoner, said he had spent over a year ... (More on P4)...(13)

## Govt. to Fully Back Free Media: President

**KABUL** - President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani on Saturday reiterated that ensuring free media and resolving problems of media-people were among priorities of his government. Ghani expressed this after meeting with minister and other officials of the Information and Culture Ministry to evaluate their 100-day plan in office, a statement from Presidential Palace said. ... (More on P4)...(11)



## "Kill Mullah Fazlullah or Allow us to do So", Pakistan Asks Afghan Govt.

**ISLAMABAD** - Islamabad has formally asked the government of Afghanistan to kill the Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) chief Mullah Fazlullah or allow them to do so. According to

reports, the demand was made by Pakistani authorities during a meeting with the Afghan officials. A local newspaper in Pakistan - The News Tribune reported Saturday that the Pakistani agencies have handed over the intelligence reports to the Afghan government regarding the involvement of Fazal Ullah in fanning the ... (More on P4)...(14)

## Watchdog US Needs to Push Ahead with Handover of Afghan Aviation

**NEW YORK** - After spending more than \$500 million over 12 years rebuilding Afghanistan's four international airports, the United States is still running Afghan civil aviation and needs to ensure it hands over control, a watchdog agency said on Friday. John Sopko, head of the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction (SIGAR), said international funds had helped rebuild Afghanistan's civil aviation system but it had been hard to train enough local air traffic controllers. Also a failure by the Afghan government to award an ... (More on P4)...(15)

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