

Jalalabad Clear 42°C 24°C	Ghazni Clear 28°C 13°C	Kandahar Clear 40°C 23°C	Mazar Clear 38°C 24°C	Herat Clear 33°C 19°C	Bamayan Clear 22°C 9°C	Kabul Clear 32°C 16°C
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Kerry Upbeat about Warsaw Summit on Afghanistan's Future

KABUL - NATO foreign ministers, at their meeting in Brussels, are reviewing the progress of the Resolute Support mission and the need to continue financial assistance for Afghan forces. US Secretary of State John Kerry told reporters in Brussels ahead of Friday's session he would reiterate America's commitment to maintain 9,800 troops in Afghanistan through most of the current year and 5,500 thereafter. Sounding upbeat about the Warsaw Summit, Kerry said the foreign ministers would make sure that the event had the ingredients of success. He said 3,400 of



the remaining troops would be assigned to NATO responsibilities. He said NATO was enhancing its forward presence in the east of Europe. "It is why we are projecting stability in the south. And it is why we are deepening our cooperation with the European Union and the counter-Daesh coalition." He would attend a French conference next month aimed at reviving peace talks between Israel and the Palestinians, Kerry said, defending the Obama administration's efforts to move the dialogue forward. (Pajhwok)

Russia Ready to Establish Helicopters Service Center in Afghanistan

KABUL - The Russian helicopters company officials have said they are prepared to establish a service center in Afghanistan to provide repair and other technical services to the Afghan Air Force. The Chief Executive Officer of the Russian Helicopters Alexander Mikheev has said the company is also prepared to assist the Afghan Air Force in training the Afghan technical staff and engineers. According to the State-run Sputnik News Agency, Mikheev made the commitment during a meeting with Shakir Kargar, the special presidential envoy to Commonwealth of Independent States. Mikheev has also proposed to send a group of experts of the Russian Helicopters company to Afghanistan to assess the technical condition of the helicopters, ... (More on P4)... (9)

Kabul University Launches MBA Program with USAID Support

KABUL - The Kabul University launched Master of Business Administration (MBA) program with the support of United States Agency for International Development. The Vice Chancellor of Kabul University, Professor Raihana Popal, announced the new advanced degree program at Kabul University that will develop and support the careers of business professionals. "United States Agency for International Development (USAID), through its University Support and Workforce Development Program (USWDP), invested in the establishment and development of the Master in Business Administration degree at Kabul University," a statement by USAID said. The statement further added that USWDP partnered with Ball State University in the United States to develop the degree program to meet international standards. "The first cohort ... (More on P4)... (10)

Concerns Raised over Hizb-E-Islami's Weapons



KABUL - Political analysts on Friday raised concerns over the fate of the weapons belonging to Gulbuddin Hekmatyar's Hizb-e-Islami party after it signed a draft peace agreement with the National Unity Government (NUG). According to the draft accord, numerous agreements on different issues have been made between the two sides but no mention has been made regarding the weapons. A number of MPs and analysts believe that Hizb-e-Islami could own hundreds of weapons and stockpiles of ammunition that is stored around the country. "I think it is an important issue and according to the constitution if Hizb-e-Islami joins the government then the party must hand over all weapons to the government," said Siddiq Patman, a political analyst. "This is a serious issue whenever any ... (More on P4)... (11)

US Aid to Pakistan Tied to Action against Haqqanis

KABUL - The US House of Representatives on Thursday voted 277 to 147 in favour of a defence policy bill, tying military assistance to Pakistan to a rigorous crackdown on the Haqqani network. The House passed the \$602 billion National Defense Authorization Act 2017, which will block \$450 million in aid to Pakistan unless it takes concrete action the rebel group, a threat to US forces in Afghanistan. Under the measure, the Pentagon will have to certify that Pakistan does not allow the Haqqanis to use North Waziristan as a safe haven and actively coordinates with the Afghan government to fight against the network.



At least three amendments related to Pakistan were added to the bill and passed by a unanimous voice vote. A fourth requirement to release the aid is the administration's certification that Pakistan has shown progress in prosecuting top leaders of the group. The House version is not final as it must be combined with a Senate bill before being sent to the White House for President Barack Obama to sign, or veto. (Pajhwok)

Afghan-Pakistan Trust Key to Peace in Region: Abdullah Waheed

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Afghans Asked to Get Visas before Travelling to Pakistan

KABUL - Islamabad is taking additional measures to regulate cross-border movement at Torkham, a spokesman for the Pakistan embassy in Kabul said on Friday. In line with the proposed measures, Pakistani media says, Islamabad will not allow Afghans to enter the neighbouring country without valid travel documents after May 31, 2016. Approached for comments on the subject, Press Counsellor Akhtar Munir confirmed some additional steps were being taken at the Torkham border with effect from June 1. The new initiatives were essentially aimed at curbing drug smuggling, illegal cross-border movement and facilitating genuine visitors, the diplomat explained. He said the Embassy of Pakistan in Kabul had also introduced additional facilities on its premises and in consulates to swiftly issue free visas within three working days on receipt of applications. Patients are issued visas on a priority basis; businessmen could approach the embassy through the commercial section and there was a separate counter for those having air tickets. Munir urged all Afghans to get visas before travelling to Pakistan to avoid any untoward incident at the border after enforcement of the new measures. (Pajhwok)

56 People Killed in Intensified Fighting

KABUL - Insurgency and counter attacks have intensified in conflict-hit Afghanistan as 56 people, including 12 civilians and 44 militants, have been killed since Thursday, officials said on Friday. In the latest bloody fighting, which flared up in Marja district of the troubled Helmand province in south Afghanistan on Thursday, 13 Taliban fighters have been killed, according to a security official. "Security forces launched major offensive against Taliban rebels in Marja district ... (More on P4)... (12)

Daesh Commander Guns Down 11 Associates in Achin

JALALABAD - A notorious commander of the Islamic State group, also known as Daesh, has shot dead nearly a dozen associates in eastern Nangarhar province, an official said on Friday. Commander Zamin Jan, alias Abu Bakar, gunned down 11 of his men in the Karkana area of Achin district on Friday night, Attaullah Khogyani, the governor's spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News. Elsewhere in the province, the head of the Hewad Foundation teaching centre came under armed attack in Kama district. Ilham Yasini said gunmen fired at him from a nearby ... (More on P4)... (14)

Invitation for Bidding (IFB)

National Procurement Authority on behalf of National Radio Television of Afghanistan (RTA), Islamic Republic of Afghanistan intends to conduct procurement of International Turnaround TV Transmission Service across the world for National Radio Televisions of Afghanistan with IFB Ref No: NPA/RTA/95 /NCS-1181/ICB from Development Budget of 1395 in accordance with the Afghanistan Procurement Law and Procedures through International Competitive Bidding (ICB).

The interested eligible bidders can download the completed set of bidding documents from the website (www.npa.gov.af) or through email by sending a request to the address below. The bids shall be submitted in sealed envelopes to the address below on or before June 22, 2016 at 10:00hrs (Kabul Local Time) by writing the name and reference number of the tender on the envelope. All bids shall be accompanied by bid security in form of Bank Guarantee as per Terms & Conditions of the Bidding Documents. The amount of bid security shall be US\$11,800.0 or equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency. A pre-bid meeting will also be held on June 08, 2016, 10:00hrs Kabul Local Time at RTA Conference Hall.

The above Address is:

Administrative office of the president
National Procurement Authority (NPA)
Fifth Floor, Kabul-Afghanistan
Aziz Ahmad Obaidi
Tell: +93-020-2147556

Email: aziz.obaidi@aop.gov.af
Website: www.npa.gov.af

District Police Chief Killed in Ghor

FIROZ KOAH - A district police chief lost his life in clash with Taliban militants in the western Ghor province on Friday, provincial police chief Mustafa Mohsini said. "Abdullah Khan Dawlati, the police chief of Pasawand district, was killed as clash erupted in parts of the restive district in the wee hours of Friday," Mohsini told Xinhua. The official, however, avoided providing more details. Taliban militants who are active in parts of Ghor province including the Pasawand district are yet to make comment. This is the second ranking security official who has been killed over the past two days. In the previous incident, a senior army official, General Abdul Basir Shahrwand, was killed as a roadside bomb struck his van in Shah Wali Kot district of the southern Kandahar province Thursday morning. (Xinhua)

Afghan Army Must Block Taliban Gains to Spur Talks: Pakistan

ISALAMBAD - Afghanistan must limit military gains by the Taliban and offer incentives to the insurgents to revive a faltering peace effort, Pakistani's top foreign ministry official said, after the latest round of talks yielded little progress. The Afghan Taliban control or contest more territory than at any time since they were ousted by a U.S.-led intervention in 2001. The militants did not show up at talks on Wednesday in Islamabad, which also involved China and the United States. Afghanistan declined to send a full delegation to Islamabad in protest against



what it says is Pakistan's unwillingness to do more to pressure Taliban leadership, including those on Pakistani soil, to join talks. Pakistani Foreign Secretary Aizaz Ahmed Chaudhry, the ministry's top bureaucrat, said efforts to persuade the Taliban to talk directly ... (More on P4)... (13)