

<b>Jalalabad</b> Clear 39°C 22°C	<b>Ghazni</b> Clear 28°C 12°C	<b>Kandahar</b> Clear 39°C 20°C	<b>Mazar</b> Clear 37°C 23°C	<b>Herat</b> Clear 37°C 19°C	<b>Bamayan</b> Clear 20°C 8°C	<b>Kabul</b> Clear 31°C 14°C
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# Kabul Municipality Officials Arrested on Corruption Charges

KABUL - Two senior officials of the Kabul municipality have been arrested on corruption charges by the Ministry of Interior (MoI), an official said on Sunday. The detained officials were identified as Administrative Assistant Mohammad Aslam Akrami and Human Rights Director Ahmad Kamal Qasimyar. Municipality spokesman Ab-



dul Qadir Arzo told Pajhwok Afghan News the officials were arrested by the Major Crimes Task Force on Saturday. He did not provide details of the accusations but said investigations were underway and the results would be shared later with the media. Akrami had been serving as acting head of the municipality until last week. Pajhwok tried to contact MoI for more information on the issue, but failed. (Pajhwok)

## Pakistan Seal Durand Line Crossings in Khost

KHOST CITY - Pakistani security forces have blocked crossing points along the Durand Line in southeastern Khost province, restricting the movement of travellers and vehicles, an official said on Sunday. Border Police Commander Col. Raz Mohammad Mandozaitold Pajhwok Afghan News that Pakistani forces had assigned no reason for blocking the border crossing. He believed Islamabad was trying to do something fishy. "Pakistan has always created problems on the Durand Line and the latest adventure may be the beginning of a new crisis," the commander remarked. Meanwhile, businessmen and resident complained they could not cross over into Pakistan due to the closure of border crossings. The traders said they had to wait for the arrival of their goods. Inam Rahmani, head of the Khost City Shopkeepers and Traders Association, said prices of essential items had increased because of the Durand Line closure three days ago. Nothing was allowed to enter Afghanistan, he alleged. The price of a bag of floor shot up by 100 afghanis; there is also a surge in demand and a decline in supplies of basic items. Rahmani warned if goods were dispatched to Khost from Torkham, prices would further shoot up. Mubarez Mohammad Zadran, the governor's spokesman, said the blockade of border crossings by Pakistan soldiers had created multiple problems for traders and people who needed to go to the neighbouring or come to Khost. "The issue is a bilateral matter and the provincial government would inform authorities in Kabul of the situation," he concluded. (Pajhwok)

## 1st Phase of Drinking Water Project Completed in Samangan

AIBAK - With the completion of the first phase of a project in Aibak, the capital of northern Samangan province, dozens of families have gained access to clean drinking water, an official said on Sunday. Mohammad Sediq Azizi, the governor's spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News the water of a fountain in Khurram Sarbagh district was transferred to Takht Rustam locality through a 38-kilometre pipeline. He said the project was completed at a cost of almost \$9 million from the government's development budget in three years. The second phase involves the establishment of a house-to-house network of pipes benefiting thousands of people, who traverse a long distance daily to fetch drinking water. Janat Gul Nazari, in charge of the water supply authority in the northern zone, said water would be supplied to Aibak, Dara-i-Zhwandoon and Sar Kanda villages. Residents of Aibak, meanwhile, expressed pleasure over the completion of the first phase of the vital project. Earlier, they had to traverse a long distance to fetch potable water. Samangan is among the provinces whose residents are faced with lack of potable. A survey by the Rural Rehabilitation and Development Directorate says Samangan has been facing drought and lack of drinking water over the past few years. (Pajhwok)

# Bulgaria to Return 53 Detained Afghan Migrants to Greece

KABUL - At least 53 Afghan migrants detained in Bulgaria will be returned to Greece by the Authorities who are saying the move will be taken in a bid to send a strong message" to others who might be tempted to use the same route to western Europe. According to reports, the authorities in Bulgaria fear the migrants may try to transit its territory on their way north as the Greece's border with Macedonia just to the west is now effectively closed to migrants.

Georgi Kostov, chief secretary of the Bulgarian interior ministry, told Reuters "All of them (the Afghan migrants) are registered in Greece and they will be returned to Greece." Kostov further added that a further 34 illegal migrants had been detained on Friday night. "(By returning the migrants back to Greece) we want to send a strong message to all who have chosen this route," he said. According to a statement by the Interior Ministry of Bul-



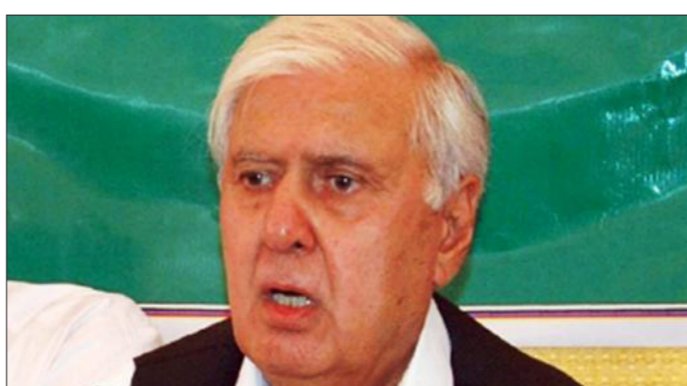
garia, it would send troops to assist border police in guarding the frontier against an influx of refugees. Bulgaria's fears have grown following Athens' decision this week to shut a makeshift refugee camp, the largest in Europe, on its border with Macedonia due to deteriorating humanitarian conditions. (KP)

## Afghan Teen Invents Gadget to Foil Terror Attacks



KABUL - A local teenager, Khalil-ur-Rahman Afghan, says he has invented a gadget that could be used to foil terror attacks from a distance. He said his gadget, which is much like a jamming device, works from 300 meters away, while a similar, foreign product, works only up to 100 meters away. The 17-year-old boy urged government to help him to improve his invention and introduce it to the security organizations. Afghan has made the gadget from computer and bicycle parts. "The gadget weighs 1.5 kilograms and can foil a suicide vest which works on a circuit system. It costs \$7,000 USD but the same gadget made in America costs \$20,000 USD," he said. He said his gadget is more efficient than the one that is used by U.S troops in Afghanistan. According to him, nearly 10 of his gadgets are already being used by government officials. This comes after a number of Afghan youths recently started inventing new gadgets which many say brings hope to other youths - who should stay and help build the country. (Tolonews)

## Sherpao Wants Afghan-Pakistan Highway Included in CPEC



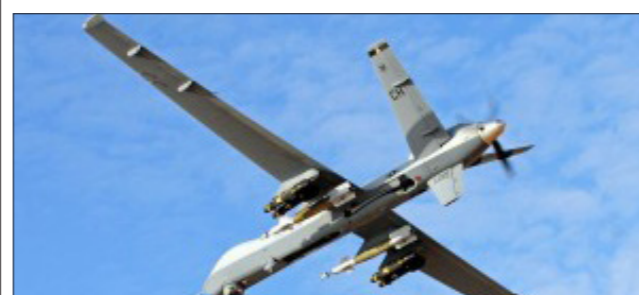
PESHAWAR - A senior politician from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province has called for Islamabad to include the Afghanistan-Pakistan Highway in the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project. Addressing a public rally in Charsadda district on Saturday, Qaumi Watan Party (QWP) Chairperson Aftab Ahmad Khan Sherpao argued such a move would boost the economies of both neighbours. He said: "Only strong communication networks can boost the country's weak economy. The highway should be included in the \$46 billion project. Linking the Pak-Afghan Highway to CPEC will provide traders easy access to Central Asian markets." Also a former interior minister, Sherpao asked the federal government to begin work on the western route of CPEC on a priority basis. "Industrial zones should be established. Other projects should also be initiated in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa as per the agreement." (Pajhwok)

## Ghani Wishes Ailing Sharif Speedy Recovery



KABUL - President Ashraf Ghani on Sunday wished Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif a swift recovery from his heart problem. Currently in London for an open-heart surgery, Sharif's absence has triggered calls from his political foes for the nomination of a new prime minister. In a message on his Twitter account, Ghani wrote: "We pray for his speedy recuperation." The prime minister is scheduled to undergo the surgery on Tuesday (tomorrow). Sharif is supervising government affairs from London. Critics, including former chief justice Iftikhar Chaudhry, want the premier to be sacked. (Pajhwok)

## Pakistan Registers U.S. Drone Strike Case that Killed Afghan Taliban Chief



ISLAMABAD - Police in Pakistan's southwestern Balochistan province Sunday registered a case against unnamed American officials for the U.S. drone strike that killed Afghan Taliban leader, Mullah Akhtar Mansoor, and driver of a taxi in which he was travelling on May 21. Akhtar Mansoor, who had been living in Pakistan as Muhammad Wali, was killed in the drone strike in Noshki district as he crossed the border from Iran, officials said. The police registered the case on a complaint by Muhammad Qasim, brother of the cab driver, Muhammad Azam, who was also killed in the attack. The report did not mention any American by name but the applicant said several American officials have publicly claimed responsibility for the attack and action should be taken against them. Police in the region said that terrorism sections have also been included in the case. "My brother did not have links with any terrorist group. He was an innocent and a poor man, the father of four children and the lone earner in his family," the brother said in his application. Azam told the police his brother would run his personal taxi between the border town of Taftan and Quetta and an individual had hired the taxi from the border, who was later identified as Muhammad Wali. "The America officials have intruded into Pakistan and killed my brother and another man in the drone strike. I do not know the name of the American officials but their names have been circulated in the media. I request legal action against those responsible," Azam said. He said he rushed to site as he received information that the vehicle of his brother was blown up in an explosion in Noshki area. "I saw the burnt and destroyed car of my brother as I arrived at the scene while the police had shifted the body of my brother and the passenger." The Interior Ministry said on Saturday that two officers have been arrested for helping the Afghan leader get fake Pakistani identity card and Pakistani citizenship for his second wife and children. (Xinhua)

## BBC Reporter Detained in Nangarhar

JALALABAD - A reporter of British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) for eastern zone, Naimatullah Karyab, was arrested by security personnel, officials said on Sunday. Karyab was held on Saturday evening for interrogation in Jalalabad, the



provincial capital of Nangarhar, the governor's spokesman, Ataullah Khogyani, told Pajhwok Afghan News. The journalists would be released soon, if he was found innocent, he said. However, Karyab's brother Abdul Wahid said his brother went to Jalalabad on Saturday when foreign troops arrested him but later they handed him over the National Directorate of Security (NDS) on Sunday. During a meeting with journalists, Nangarhar governor Saleem Khan Kunduzi said that the reason behind the arrest would be cleared later. He has been trying to release the journalist as soon as possible. In addition to his job as BBC reporter, Karyab also works as a lecturer at Syed Jamaluddin Afghan University in Kunar and lives in the province. (Pajhwok)