



Taliban Had Demanded 5 Million before Stoning Rokhshana

KABUL - Taliban had asked for 5 million Afghans in order to free the 19-year-old Rokhshana who they later stoned to death on the accusation of eloping with a man after her family failed to manage the ransom in western Ghor province, said the local officials on Monday.

"Within two hours after capturing Rokhshana, Taliban went to her father and warned him to pay 50 lakhs [5 million] Afghans or they will kill her daughter," said Gen. Mohammad Hanif Nuristani, director of National Directorate of Security (NDS) in Ghor. After Rokhshana's father failed to manage the ransom, the Taliban stoned the woman to death, he added. But the religious scholars and locals



of Ghor said the Taliban stoned Rokhshana without having any evidence to proof the accusation of adultery against her. According to them, Rokhshana was only 13 when her parents

forcibly married her to a man who had lost his hands and legs. But she refused to accept her parents' decision and eloped with a boy of her age to Saghar district, before they were arrested by the forces who handed them over to their parents.

The second time, it was again Rokhshana's father who forced her 19-year-old daughter to marry an old person which then resulted in her escape with another local, Gull Mohammad, to Murghab district. According to religious scholars, there were strong evidences to proof that Rokhsahana was forced to marry that old man which they said was an un-Islamic act. ...*(More on P4)...(8)*

Pakistan Invites India to Key Conference on Afghanistan

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan has invited India's foreign minister to a key regional conference on Afghanistan to be held in Islamabad next month.

"A formal invitation has been sent to India and 25 other countries for the Heart of Asia ministerial meeting on Afghanistan to be hosted by Pakistan," Express Tribune of Pakistan quoted an unnamed official of Foreign Office as saying. This comes only few days after the U.S. Congress said in a report that Pakistan was fearful of strong relations between Afghanistan and India.

According to a report by Congressional Research Service (CRS), Pakistan is using proxies in Afghanistan to counter Indian influence in the war-hit country. However it is said that if New Delhi accepts Pakistan's invitation, the ice will be broken between the two nuclear-armed hostile neighbors.

The conference, which will be held on December 7 and 8, is said to be attended by several neighboring countries of Afghanistan, including Azerbaijan, China, India, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan and the UAE. An Indian diplomat, speaking to Express Tribune on condition of anonymity, confirmed New Delhi had received the invitation but said the decision on whether the external affairs minister will attend the conference has yet to be taken. The ...*(More on P4)...(13)*

Iqbal Day Observed in Pakistan Embassy



KABUL - The Embassy of Pakistan, Kabul, on Monday organized an event to observe the 138th birth anniversary of Dr. Allama Muhammad Iqbal. A number of eminent Afghan literary figures attended the event and paid rich tribute to the Poet of the East. Several poets recited their poems and scholars read their papers on Iqbal. Famous Afghan Poet and writer, Mr. Sulemain Laiq, presided over the event while Mr. Habibullah Rafi (a well known Pushto poet), Mr. Daud Nadri ...*(More on P4)...(14)*

Nomination for Int'l Children's Peace Prize Bolsters Afghan Girl's Resolve

KABUL - "It has been my dream for a long time to receive support for my services to children and my nomination for the International Children's Peace Prize has inspired me to further serve the poor and needy children as much as I can," Aziza Rahimzada, 14, told Xinhua. Teaching some two dozen students in a makeshift classroom, the ambitious girl nominated for the International Children's Peace Prize is important not just for her, but for all Afghan girls ...*(More on P4)...(15)*

Housing Scheme Project is Being Investigated: Ghani's Office

KABUL - President Ashraf Ghani's office said Monday that the government is thoroughly investigating the housing scheme project which was signed with a Kabul Bank defaulter before it was cancelled by Ghani.

The finding of the investigation will be shared with the

people soon, Ghani's deputy spokesman Sayed Zafar Hashemi said.

"The matter is being seriously investigated and the next steps will be announced through media in few days," Hashemi said. After mounting criticism of government over ...*(More on P4)...(9)*

Afghanistan Demining Program to Complete in Next 8 Years: ANDMA

KABUL - Afghanistan will solve all of its landmines problems in the next eight years, Afghanistan Natural Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA) official said Monday.

Wais Ahmad Barmak, Natural Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA) chief says that lack of enough

budgets delayed the demining program which should have been completed two years ago.

"Afghanistan should have been clear of landmines in 2013 but now we reach to 80 percent of our goal. Only 20 % remains that we hope it completes in 2023," Wais Ahmad ...*(More on P4)...(11)*

Nangarhar University Students Raise Taliban, Daesh Flags

JALALABAD - Dozens of Nangarhar University students in an unprecedented move on Sunday raised the flags of Taliban, Daesh and Hizb-e-Islami militant groups in a rally they staged against the government.

The protesting students - many of them wearing masks used by Taliban and Daesh - said they were tired of the government and they want an ...*(More on P4)...(10)*



108 Development Projects Completed in Nangarhar Province

JALALABAD - 108 development projects worth AFN 148,698,000 completed in Nangarhar province, the projects were funded by the Na-

tional Solidarity Programme of the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD/NSP), a press statement from MRRD/NSP stated Monday. The completed projects are in Khugyani, Baktikot, Behsud, Nazian, Pachiragam, Shirzad, shinwari and ...*(More on P4)...(12)*

Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation & Development (MRRD)
National Solidarity Program (NSP)
REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (REoI)
For
National Individual Consultant Head, Engineering Department
(Reference # MRRD/NSP III/CN/105)

Country: Afghanistan
Ministry: Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation & Development (MRRD)
Type: Individual (National) Consultant
Project: National Solidarity Programme Phase Three (NSP III)
Project ID: P117103
Grant #: ARTF (and/or other grants as may be available)
Issue Date: 10th November, 2015
Closing Date: 23rd November, 2015

I. General Introduction:

The National Solidarity Program is the largest of the Afghanistan Government's national priority programmes and is the second largest development programme in the world. The Program is implemented by the Afghanistan Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) and currently into its 13th year and 3rd phase. NSP consists of four core elements:

- Facilitation at the community level to assist communities establish inclusive community institutions known as Community Development Councils (CDCs);
- Building the capacities of CDC and community members;
- Providing direct block grant transfers to fund approved subprojects; and
- Linking CDCs to government agencies, NGOs, and donors to improve access to services and resources.

NSP Phase Three (NSP III) includes two sub phases: a) covering some of the remaining communities in the country through rollout to an additional around 12,000 new communities, and b) providing a second round of block grants to a select 11,400 existing communities that have successfully utilized their first round of block grants. NSP aims to build local governance and provide socio-economic productive infrastructure to rural communities in Afghanistan. In addition to its core structure comprising over 800 national employees, the NSP contracts an international firm to serve as its Financial Management Agent (FMA) and other individual international and national consultants to provide technical assistance to its various departments. The NSP also contracts around 30 firms (including UN agencies and NGOs) to serve as Facilitating Partners (FPs).

II. Introduction to the NSP Engineering Department:

The Engineering Department (formerly referred to as the "Technical Support Department or TSD") is to ensure that the technical quality of NSP block grant financed community subprojects is satisfactory and in keeping with expected standards of environmental and social safeguards. It provides technical trainings to NSP PMU and FP engineers in the main sectors of NSP financed subprojects. It assists the PMUs in the review and approval of all complex infrastructure subproject proposals and also assists the NSP Monitoring and Evaluation Department (M&ED) in the post-implementation review with regard to the technical quality of NSP financed infrastructure subprojects.

TSD has to undertake bi-annual upgrading of the NSP Technical Manual (TM) and the NSP Project Cost Database (PCDB) which include detailed technical specifications, sample designs, material costs and other information on the different types of infrastructure subprojects that may be considered as community subprojects utilizing NSP block grant financing. Liaison with other line ministries at the central level, as necessary, for necessary approvals for certain categories of infrastructure subprojects

III. Specific Responsibilities of the Head, Engineering Department:

- Oversee the performance of the 3 Units within the department through close oversight and management of the heads of the units.
- Prepare, oversee the implementation, address problematic areas, and report on the department's decentralized training plans.
- Complete ToR is available in ACBAR and NSP Websites.

IV. Qualification Requirements

EDUCATION

- The minimum educational qualification for the position is a Bachelors Degree in Civil Engineering from a recognized, accredited university. A master's degree in engineering/ management with the stated bachelor's degree would be a distinct advantage.

EXPERIENCE

- A minimum of 5 years of professional experience related to engineering, with at least 2 in a project/programme management capacity is required. Experience of one year or more in large development programmes in a managerial capacity would be a distinct advantage.

Submission of Expression of Interest:

The NSP/MRRD now invites eligible Individuals-Afghan Nationals ONLY ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Individual Consultant (IC) method set out in the Consultant Guidelines.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours 08:00-16:00hrs Saturday to Wednesday.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by fax, or by e-mail) by 23rd November, 2015.

Address of Focal Person for Enquires and Submission of EoIs:

Mohammad Saleem Sr. Procurement officer, Procurement Department, National Solidarity Program (NSP), Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD), Afghanistan
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