

Jalalabad Cloudy 24°C 12°C	Ghazni Cloudy 14°C 3°C	Kandahar Clear 24°C 6°C	Mazar Cloudy 20°C 10°C	Herat Cloudy 23°C 7°C	Bamayan Cloudy 7°C -1°C	Kabul Cloudy 18°C 5°C
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Afghan Refugees Protest in Berlin Over Deportation Move

KABUL - Hundreds of Afghan asylum seekers on Tuesday protested against Germany's changeable refugee law, calling for better measures to shelter and take them in. With the lack of unity being an issue, even open-door countries are changing their tune as hundreds of thousands of refugees continue to pour into Europe. Before last week's terrorist attacks in Paris, Germany had already announced it was re-enforcing its suspension of the so-called Dublin Regulations which, in theory, means even Syrians who enter from other European countries could be deported. Asylum seekers are confused and



fearful, and say laws are changing fast and they're being left in the dark. A demonstration in Berlin was organized by 39-year-old Afghan asylum seeker Ahmed Fahid, who says his family was caught on route in Iran and sent home. Fahid worries he may also be repatriated. "I heard some things about how Germany wants to deport Afghans back to their countries of origin because it's on Facebook and the Internet. I heard that Germany and Afghanistan have made an agreement to send us back even though we're in danger in Afghanistan," he said. Even legal professionals are struggling to ... (More on P4)...(5)

Refugee Ministry Calls for Crack Down on Human Traffickers

KABUL - The Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation (MoRR) has called on the Ministry of Interior Affairs (MoI) to crack down on human traffickers in a bid to stop Afghans from fleeing the country. According to the ministry, the number of human traffickers has significantly increased in recent months as thousands of Afghans continue to seek refuge in Europe. "The security, intelligence and legal institutions of the country are responsible to counter human trafficking," MoRR spokesman Islamuddin Jurat said. "Our request from security agencies is to take the matter seriously because they have not done enough to curb the problem."

As the numbers of migrants increase, human traffickers have started to pretend to be travel agencies in their quest to get Afghans to Europe, he added. The Interior Ministry said however that a senior-level commission comprised of 10 different government organizations has started work to track down the traffickers and curb the problem. "Many individuals and groups were arrested last week for deceiving people and trafficking them illegally to foreign countries," MoI spokesman Sediq Sediqqi said. "They are being interrogated." Meanwhile, speculation suggests that officials within the government and at foreign embassies help the human traffickers get visas for would-be migrants. According to them, the lack of action by government to crack down on these traffickers has led them to continue their illegal business without any fear. (Tolnews)

MoAL Calls on Private Investors to Further Invest in Afghanistan

KABUL - Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MoAL) on Tuesday urged the private investors to invest more in agriculture and livestock sectors. MoAL further added that the agriculture role in development of the country is valuable but there have not been enough required attention to this issue. "Afghanistan imports \$ 4 billion food from outside yearly, if the private sector works in this field the amount of money would not go out of Afghanistan," Asadullah Zamir, minister of agriculture said.



Zamir has also vowed that form appropriate markets for sale of agriculture and livestock products. He also noted that they are working on an effective solution that with implementation of it positive effects will

be created for agriculture process. Meanwhile, officials in Chamber of Commerce and Industry say that if investors' challenges solve, all investors are ready for investment in any sectors. ... (More on P4)...(6)

"Talk of War Against IS only Helps them"

BERLIN - Speaking about a war against Islamic State only helps the group behind last Friday's bloody attacks in Paris, German Vice Chancellor (VC) Sigmar Gabriel said on Tuesday, putting himself at odds with French President Francois Hollande. Hollande told French parliamentarians on Monday that "France is at war", after the militant attacks that killed at least 129 people in and around Paris. However, Gabriel, a Social Democrat (SPD) whose party is a natural ally of Hollande's Socialists, said talking about war would only fuel angst in Germany.



"We see that IS is waging war against the free world," Gabriel said in a podcast, referring to Islamic State, which has claimed responsibility for Friday's suicide bombings and shootings. But speaking about a war against Islamic State was a first step to helping the group

succeed, "as the greater the anxiety in our society, including anxiety about war, the more terror can point to success," he said. Gabriel rejected comments from Bavaria's conservative finance minister, Markus Soeder, who has said the Paris attacks change everything. (Reuters)

Taliban Plunders Home of Rukhshana's Grieving Family



KABUL - Despite widespread media coverage and a public outcry over the stoning to death of 19-year-old Rukhshana by the Taliban, insurgents along with local criminals allegedly stormed the family's house and stole all their possessions. Already devastated by the brutal murder of their daughter, Rukhshana's parents on Monday blasted government for being inept at protecting them and their house and for not bringing the perpetrators of their daughter's murder to justice. As their ordeal continues, it appears the Taliban and their counterparts are still trying to impose more suffering on the family, said the deceased's father Abdul Karim. The Taliban, in association with local lawbreakers, attacked the house in Abdak village of Ghor province, looting the family's property, Karim was quoted on Monday as saying. Three weeks ago the Taliban accosted Rukhshana to death and so far no action has been taken by government, family members said. "If she was the daughter of the president, a minister, a lawmaker or a powerful or wealthy person, the perpetrators would have been arrested immediately and jus-

tice would had been served. But three weeks have passed since the incident happened and no one has done anything. If I wait one hundred more weeks, nothing will change," Karim said. "I raised her strictly until she became mature, but they [Taliban] stoned her in a brutal manner, she was part of my body," Rukhshana's mother said. However, a team of investigators has been sent to Ghor to investigate the case. They have been ordered to report back to President Ashraf Ghani. Meanwhile, Enayatollah Baligh, who is heading up the team expressed outrage at the relevant institutions in Ghor, which failed to prevent the murder. "There is no doubt that a number of institutions showed negligence in rescuing Rukhshana. We will continue our investigation and will submit the report to the president. Of course anyone who has been negligent will be held accountable," he said. Joining Rukhshana's parents, a number of civil society activists also stressed the need for justice to be served regarding the stoning to death of the young girl. "Ghor women demand the perpetrators who stoned Rukhshana are arrested and ... (More on P4)...(8)

Girls Struggle to Get Education 14 Years After Taliban Ousted

LONDON - Girls were banned from going to school during the Taliban's rule in Afghanistan from 1996-2001. Despite significant progress since then, many girls still miss out on education. * An estimated 3.3 million girls are in school today in Afghanistan but 3.3 million children are still out of school, the majority of them girls. * Just over half of girls in urban areas attend school, but only 28 percent in rural areas. * Afghanistan has the world's highest level of gender disparity in primary education, with 70 girls in school for every 100 boys. There are only 55 girls per 100 boys at secondary level and 33 at tertiary. * In rural areas, only 4 percent of the poorest girls complete primary school. * Cultural barriers, including a lack of female teachers and early marriages, are the main reasons girls do not attend school. * Just under a third of Afghanistan's 187,000 teachers in 2013 were female. Around a fifth of districts had no female teachers at all. * Around 40 percent of Afghan girls marry before they turn 18, and 15 percent before 15. * The Taliban's ban on girls' education means many women now in their early 20s missed out on school. The poorest women aged 20-24 have spent, on average, barely a month of their life in school. * Only 12 percent of adult women are literate. Rates are much lower in poor rural areas. ... (More on P4)...(9)

Authorities

Troop Numbers 'Far Less' in Helmand Than Reported

KABUL - Local authorities in southern Helmand province have reported that the number of security force members listed in the province is inaccurate and that there are far less troops on active duty than records indicate. It is believed that of the 18,000 army personnel registered in Helmand, only 11,218 Afghan National Army (ANA)

soldiers are actually on active duty. The total number of Afghan National Police (ANP) registered in the province is 8,000 but only 4,890 are active. The Afghan Local Police (ALP) numbers a registered 2,420 but in fact there are only 1,200. The rest are reportedly dead or have deserted their posts,

say local officials. The head of the provincial council Mohammad Karim Atal said: "The public order corps (part of the ANA) has four battalions and each one should have more than 350 members but currently 280 members of the entire formation are absent." A TOLONews investigation during ... (More on P4)...(7)

MoUD Official Caught Taking Bribe in Sting

KABUL - The Attorney General's Office (AGO) reported Tuesday that a senior official from the Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD) was arrested on charges of taking Afs 2 million bribe. The arrested official who worked in the ministry's finance department was allegedly caught red-handed by the NDS while accepting the bribe. AGO spokesman Basir Azizi said: "The AGO ... in cooperation with the NDS arrested one of the managers from the admin and finance department while he was accepting a bribe of two million Afghans." Meanwhile some sources told TOLONews on condition of anonymity that the head of the finance department, who was also accused of corruption, has fled. However, AGO officials refused to comment on these claims. Meanwhile the Independent Joint Anti-Corruption Monitoring and Evaluation Committee (MEC) links the increase of corruption and failure to bring the accused to justice to the fact that there is no attorney general in the country. MEC head Rashid Behroz said: "The recent corruption case comes after six senior officials from the same ministry were charged with corruption but due to problems in their cases they were sent to court but referred back to the AGO. Their cases are still pending." About four months ago, six senior officials from the same ministry were arrested and charged with pocketing millions of dollars in a housing scheme project. (Tolnews)

Insurgents Access Military Database, MoI Rejects



KABUL - A number of security force members from Helmand province on Tuesday claimed that the Taliban has access to a national database of security force members which is putting troops at great risk. However, these claims have been rejected by the Ministry of Interior (MoI). According to the soldiers, a number of security force members have been identified by the Taliban as being troops after having their finger prints scanned by insurgents. The troops said they wear civilian clothes under their uniforms and sometimes fight on the battlefield in civilian clothes. "Most of them have private clothes under their uniform. When war intensifies, they take off their uniforms and then escape," an army

commander told TOLONews. "They [Taliban] captured four of our colleagues. They scanned their fingers through a computer and found that they were security force members. Taliban has access to biometric [technology]," an army soldier said. The Ministry of Interior (MoI) meanwhile rejected the claims and said these were unfounded rumors. "This issue is not real. It is completely baseless," said Najib Danish, the deputy MoI spokesman. "The issue of biometrics in Afghanistan has its own privacy that allows no one to access to it," he added. Such an issue was raised after the Kunduz battle where it was said that militants had access to modern weapons and technology including biometric systems. (Tolnews)