

Jalalabad	Cloudy	Ghazni	Clear	Kandahar	Clear	Mazar	Chance of Rain	Herat	Clear	Bamayan	Chance of Snow	Kabul	Chance of Snow
	19°C 8°C		6°C -3°C		14°C 2°C		8°C 6°C		9°C 0°C		1°C -2°C		7°C -2°C



Weak Rule of Law Behind Access to Justice: Activists

KABUL - Speaking at a conference on women's access to justice, a number of rights activists and officials said on Sunday that government's weakness in terms of rule of law was the reason for women not having proper access to justice. According to delegates, women living in areas under the Taliban's control have markedly less access to justice to those in other areas. Women's rights activist Zahra Sultani said: "Government's weakness in the judicial sector and the culture of impunity, a lack of government effort to address cases of violence against women and public executions by insurgents are reasons ... (More on P4)...(7)"



An Afghan man carries plastic cans for sale in Kabul, Afghanistan, Sunday, Nov. 22, 2015. (AP Photo / Rahmat Gul)

Passengers Blast Govt. over 'Insecure' Highway

KABUL - A number of bus passengers on Sunday voiced concerns over the lack of security along the Kabul-Kandahar highway and accused government of not ensuring their safety. This comes a day after 20 bus passengers were forcibly taken off four buses by unknown gunmen on Saturday on the highway. There has however been conflicting reports on the situation with tribal elders stating 17 bus passengers are still being held hostage by insurgents.



Ministry of Interior spokesman Sediq Sediqqi said that there had been 16 hostages, nine of whom had been released. Seven others are still being held captive, he said.

Sediqqi said: "Nine hostages have been released and efforts are underway for the release of the remaining seven. Due to security concerns we cannot ... (More on P4)...(8)"

Mohammadi Signs Yet Another 'Irregular' Document

KABUL - In a letter addressed to the Attorney General's Office (AGO), President Ashraf Ghani's suspended legal advisor Abdul Ali Mohammadi allegedly instructed the legal body to investigate the case of the six Urban Development Ministry officials - a move deemed by legal experts to be outside the parameters of his authority. According to the document, Mohammadi also reportedly assigned a team to follow up the case, another move beyond his authority.



The urban development officials were arrested early June at the Afghan border with Tajikistan when they were trying to flee the country. They were accused of taking bribes in exchange for allotting houses, providing apartments to high-ranking government officials and constructing below-standard apartments. This latest document allegedly signed by Mohammadi has led to strong criticism among legal experts who say that according to the law, an advisor may not instruct a judicial body - especially the AGO - to conduct an investigation into a case.

In addition they said Mohammadi did not have the authority to assign a task team to probe a case. Mohammad Sabir Insan Dost, a professor of law, said: "Mohammadi is not in a position to make decisions. He is clearly an advisor and everything he wants to do must be sanctioned by the president ... (More on P4)...(9)"

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Fuel Prices Rock Markets, as Residents Complain

KABUL - Fuel prices have increased across the country and have provoked the concerns of the residents, the residents have accused the Government for poor management to control the fuel prices in the markets. According to their statements 10 Afghani increased on one liter of petrol and sold in markets. Officials in Gas-Fuel Union have said the fuel prices in the country has gone high as US dollars price increased in the world. One week earlier one liter of petrol was sold in markets in 43 Afghani but now one liter is sold 51 Afghani, annually Afghan residents do complain hike in fuel price in Afghanistan, which the Government hasn't paid attention to it yet.

We are so concerned about the current life condition here in Afghanistan, there is no peace and rule to control and monitor the situation, poor people can't afford it the other resident of Kabul Najib said. Head of the Gas-Fuel Union Azarakhsh Hafizi said, "we don't have acceptable policy for domestic production of gas and fuel, instabilities of money also cause the prices of fuel or gas to go high." A number of Kabul residents have urged that the high pricing of US dollars has caused the fuel-gas prices go high in the markets, and it will have impact on the basic necessary items which is difficult for poor to manage. (ATN)

Anti-Narcotic Unit Seizes Over 100 Tons of Drugs this Year



KABUL - Interior Ministry's deputy head of the anti-narcotics department, Baz Mohammad Ahmadi, said Sunday that anti-narcotics officials has made great strides in the past year in its fight against the scourge and has seized over 100 tons of drugs to date. Ahmadi said this haul was netted during 1,135 operations since January. He said they had specifically had good results in anti-drug operations in Azra district in Logar province. According to him one of the department's biggest prob-

lems is the lack of air support. He said with such support they would be able to destroy drug manufacturing factories, especially those in insecure areas. He said the department has also seized over 400 vehicles, 240 weapons and 244 mobile phones from drug dealers and smugglers. During these operations, 16 security force members from this department were killed and 16 injured, he said. However the seizure of drugs increased by 16 percent this year and alcohol by 36 percent. Security force members from the unit ... (More on P4)...(12)

Illegal Afghan Nationals Among 193 Suspects Arrested

PESHAWAR - More than 193 suspects, including Afghan nationals having no legal documents of staying, were arrested during search and strike operation from Peshawar, Nowshera and Swabi districts. According to Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Operations, Mian Saeed, the first search and strike operation was conducted in Ali Muhammad Banda area, close to Khyber Agency border and arrested at least 43 suspects, including illegal Afghan nationals. The police also claimed to have recovered arms and drugs from the arrested suspects. In another search operation the Nowshera police also carried out in various areas ... (More on P4)...(10)

25 Development Projects Completed in Ghor Province

KABUL - 25 infrastructure projects worth AFN 29,104,195 recently completed in Shahrak and Chakhcharan districts of Ghor province by the National Solidarity Programme of the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD/NSP). According to NSP Provincial Manager in Ghor province, these development projects include the construction of retaining walls, water supply networks, micro hydro power stations, irrigation canal, rural roads, culverts and excavation of wells equipped with hand pumps. Approximately, 2,910 families in various communities have gained access to basic human needs upon completion of these projects. (PR)

Afghani Falls as Food & Fuel Prices Shoot up

KABUL - The Afghan currency - Afghani - lost its value by 11 percent against the US dollars and the Pakistani rupee in the past four months, when rates of food items and other commodities increased by 18 percent and fuel by 40 percent. In 2003, new banknotes were printed for the first time when, one US dollar accounted for 48 afghanis. Later, the greenback rose in value, selling for 52 Afghani. But the currency has depreciated in the past two years. Moneychangers said on Sunday the buying rate of one US dollar was 68.50afs while



1,000 Pakistani rupees accounted for 636afs. On July 2, the buying rate of one US dollar was 60.50afs and 1,000 Pakistani rupees 584afs. Statistics show the value of the local currency has fallen by 13 percent against

the dollar and nine percent against the rupee. However, the rates of food and other daily-use items have continually soared. Ghulam Sakhi, a worker of the Shahr-i-Ara filling station in ... (More on P4)...(11)

EU Grants EUR 8 Million to Afghanistan

KABUL - The European Union Delegation to Afghanistan and the Ministry of Public Health organized a ceremony to mark their continued cooperation towards the improvement of delivery of public health services. The European Union will award two grants with a total value of 8 million EUR to support the expansion and improvement of services to people living with disabilities and mental disorders. This EU-funded program will be implemented over the next 3 years. More than 400 health

professional - physiotherapists and psychosocial counsellors - will receive diploma training and will be deployed in public health clinics after graduation. The program will also support a number of governmental institutions and departments and raise awareness of hundreds of other health workers in the fields of mental health and disability. "My congratulations to Handicap International and to the Health Net International on their successful bid. I have every confidence that you will implement ... (More on P4)...(13)"



An Afghan man prepares for tea as he waits for customers at sunrise in Kabul, Afghanistan, Sunday, Nov. 22, 2015. (AP Photo/Rahmat Gul)