

Jalalabad	Clear	Ghazni	Clear	Kandahar	Clear	Mazar	Clear	Herat	Clear	Bamayan	Clear	Kabul	Clear
	34°C 29°C		24°C 11°C		34°C 19°C		30°C 19°C		31°C 13°C		18°C 06°C		27°C 13°C

Daily Outlook Weather Forecast

Govt. Collects Millions after Slapping 10% Tax on Telecom Companies

KABUL - The Afghan government last week slapped new 10 percent tax levy against telecom companies which is directly affecting mobile phone subscribers. While the Afghan general public urge transparency of the incomes received from tax levies on communication services, the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT) on Saturday announced that 78 million Afs so far had been collected since the process officially started. MCIT has renewed commitment to take all necessary measures to ensure transparency of the tax collection. Recently, government warned telecom companies against violating the law, saying that those disregarded the



law will be referred to legal and judicial institutions. As calls for cheaper internet prices deepen, ministry officials have pledged to consider plans to reduce the prices and provide world class internet services to the people. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Finance (MoF) has announced that it was jointly working with the ministry of communication and information technology to ensure close monitoring of telecom activities with the help of modern technology INSTALLED, in attempt to make sure that taxes are collected correctly. "Internet prices will be reduced in the near future if God willing, there will be ... (More on P4)...(8)

ACCI Collects \$300k to Help Kunduz Residents



KABUL - The Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Industries (ACCI) on Sunday said that it has collected more than \$300,000 USD through a commission to help Kunduz residents affected by the recent crisis. The ACCI condemned the reported division of loyalties among some residents and said the enemies of Kunduz are the enemies of Afghanistan and that the United Nations, in collaboration with warring sides, should provide the means to transfer aid to the affected areas safely. This comes after ACCI officials said their convoy of aid which was heading to Kunduz was attacked this weekend and at least 80 containers of food was torched by insurgents. They said the containers were transferring ... (More on P4)...(9)

General Abdul Raziq Taliban Plan to Shift Quetta Shura to Helmand



KANDAHAR CITY - Brigadier General Abdul Raziq, the police chief of southern Kandahar province has said that Taliban plan to shift Quetta Shura from Pakistan to Afghanistan. According to Brig. General Raziq, Taliban with support from Pakistan have ramped up their activities in northern parts of Helmand province in order to pave way for applying their plan. Brig. General Raziq has provided the following details about the plan: To occupy northern districts of Helmand province in three months and shift Quetta Shura there, Pakistan will get a chance to remove the bad name associated with it for housing Taliban and other terrorist groups, after spending about a week in Helmand province, the Shura would be moved back to Quetta and Karachi cities from where they would again continue their activities in Afghanistan under the instructions of Pakistan's military and ISI as normal. Taliban had also planned to bring their Supreme Leader Mullah Akhtar Mohammad Mansour to Afghanistan but Afghan National Security Forces foiled their plan in northern Kunduz province. A large scale coordinated attack was launched by Taliban on this province last week in order to occupy its capital and bring Mullah Mansour for a media gathering but Afghan forces rebuffed the attack. Afghan leaders say that Islamabad is in an undeclared war with Kabul and support insurgent groups in Afghanistan. In several occasions, Afghan government has asked Pakistan to act against the enemies of Afghanistan enjoying safe heavens there but so far only empty promises have been made with Afghan officials. Pakistan's Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif in a ... (More on P4)...(13)

ANSF Recapture Tala WA Barfak District from Taliban



KABUL - Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) have recaptured Tala Wa Barfak District located in the southwestern part of northern Baghlan province. Brigadier General Abdul Jabar Purdali, police chief of Baghlan province said that the district was recaptured from insurgents with the support from uprising civilians. The District was captured by Taliban on Thursday and came back to government control around 6 pm yesterday. Taliban have begun a new wave of attacks in northern Afghanistan and try to capture districts from government. They have been able to occupy districts briefly but lose them back to security forces with heavy casualties. They recently attacked the key northern city of Kunduz and had several areas under control for about two days. According to the Ministry of Defense, security forces have pushed back insurgents from Kunduz city but clearance operation is still going on. (KP)

Life Returns to Normal, Kunduz Residents Come out of Hiding

KUDUDUZ CITY - Life in the embattled city of Kunduz is slowly returning to normal but officials appealed to residents to heed the advice of troops and avoid areas still deemed insecure. TOLONews journalist Karim Amini who is reporting from Kunduz city said that residents, including women, are slowly coming out of hiding, specifically to find food. He said troops are however, deployed throughout the city. Amini says that shops, restaurants and bakeries are also slowly re-opening and public transport operators are also starting to return to work. In addition, some residents who fled the city are slowly returning home. Security forces are also handing out food to hungry residents. One child who had left the sanctuary of his home told TOLONews that his family had not had food for four days. An elderly resident who fled but who has since returned said: "We have returned to our home but we lost everything". This comes after the Taliban's six day siege of the city which saw them carry out looting sprees, mass murders and gang rapes. Torching buildings and plundering homes, businesses, shops and government offices, the Taliban managed to terrorize residents for days. However, another TOLONews reporter, Sharif Amiri, who is also in Kunduz city, said that local Security forces have warned that there are still insurgents in hiding in the city. They also warned that there might be suicide bombers hiding out in residential homes. Troops are however conducting house-to-house searches in a bid to eliminate the threat. Early Sunday, officials confirmed that security forces have killed over 400 insurgents in the city in the past few days. A further 40 have been arrested. Confirmed figures of civilian casualties and security force casualties have not yet been released. Security officials in the city have however, assured residents that "they now should not be worried about the security ... (More on P4)...(14)

Russia to Intensify Syria Airstrikes Against IS

MOSCOW - Russia's air forces will intensify airstrikes against the posts of extremist group Islamic State (IS) in Syria, a senior military official said Saturday. "We will not only continue conducting our airstrikes, but will also increase their intensity," Andrey Kartapolov, deputy chief of the General Staff of Russian Armed Forces told reporters. The primary targets are IS command points, ammunition and explosives depots, communication hubs, workshops to produce weapons and militant training camps, he said.



Russia's aircraft have carried out more than 60 missions and destroyed over 50 IS facilities during the round-the-clock airstrikes, he said. "Over the past 72 hours, we have managed to undermine the material and technical base of terrorists and significantly reduce their combat potential," Interfax news agency quoted Kartapolov as saying. He added that reconnaissance units obtained information of terrorists leaving districts under their control. Meanwhile, the official stressed ... (More on P4)...(10)

international community as well as national governments to promote shared prosperity and well-being for all over the next 15 years. In an exclusive interview with Xinhua, Lyksetoft said on that agenda, the UNGA can do much to keep civil society as well as business community worldwide on board, meanwhile urging member states to create framework for economic activities to

UNGA President Pledges to Push for Early Implementation of new UN Development Agenda

UNITED NATIONS - The UN General Assembly (UNGA) can push for an early implementation of the sustainable development agenda within the following year, said Mogens Lyksetoft, president of the 70th session of UNGA. On Sept. 25, 193 UN member states adopted here the ambitious agenda which comprises of 17 sustainable development goals, serving as the launch pad for actions by the

international community as well as national governments to promote shared prosperity and well-being for all over the next 15 years. In an exclusive interview with Xinhua, Lyksetoft said on that agenda, the UNGA can do much to keep civil society as well as business community worldwide on board, meanwhile urging member states to create framework for economic activities to

make the agenda "obvious." "So here we can do some work in promoting the whole agenda and pushing for early implementation," he noted. Lyksetoft said with promoting the agenda, "we are in particular promoting the interest of developing countries to get better access to the resources of this world, (and) to get better access to influence ... (More on P4)...(11)

Russia Making 'Grave Mistake' in Syria: Turkey's Erdogan

ISTANBUL - Russia's bombing campaign in Syria is a "grave mistake" and its support for the regime will be judged by history, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan warned on Sunday. Russia and Turkey have long been at odds over Syria, with Moscow emerging as Syrian President Bashar al-Assad's key international backer and Ankara seeing his ouster as the only solution to the conflict. "What's Russia trying to achieve there anyway?" Erdogan asked. "It intervened because this was what the regime in Syria demanded. But there's no obligation to respond like this every time a regime insists on it," he said. Erdogan blamed "not only Russia" but also Iran, which was defending Assad and "waging state terrorism" in Syria. "The countries that cooperate with the (Syrian) regime will be accountable to history," he warned. Russia, which began the airstrikes in Syria last week, insists the operation only targets jihadists. But Turkey and several of its Western allies have said moderates fighting Assad's regime ... (More on P4)...(12)

Obama Extends Condolences over Kunduz Airstrike



WASHINGTON - The President of the United States Barack Obama has expressed his deepest condolences over the death of the medical staff and civilians in a US airstrike in northern Kunduz province, the White House said in a statement. "On behalf of the American people, I extend my deepest condolences to the medical professionals and other civilians killed and injured in the tragic incident at a Doctors Without Borders hospital in Kunduz. The Department of Defense has launched a full investigation, and we will await the results of that inquiry before making a definitive judgment as to the circumstances of this tragedy," the statement said. Obama in the statement has also said that "I have asked the Department of Defense to keep me apprised of the investigation and expect a full accounting of the facts and circumstances. Michelle and I offer our thoughts and prayers to all of the civilians affected by this incident, their families, and loved ones." ... (More on P4)...(15)

Int'l Charity Leaves Afghanistan after Bombing Destroys Hospital



KABUL - The International medical charity Doctors Without Borders said on Sunday it had withdrawn from the northern Afghan city of Kunduz after a deadly airstrike destroyed its hospital and killed 19 people. The humanitarian crisis in the city, which briefly fell to the Taliban last week before the government launched a counteroffensive, has been growing increasingly dire, with shops shuttered because of ongoing fighting and roads made impassable by mines planted by insurgents. "All critical patients have been referred to other health facilities and no MSF staff are working in our hospital," said Kate Stegeman, the communications manager for Doc-

tors Without Borders, using the French acronym for the organization. "Some of our medical staff have gone to work in two hospitals where some of the wounded have been taken," she added. Investigations are continuing into the bombing of the hospital on Saturday, which killed at least 19 people, including 12 MSF staffers. The group blames a U.S. airstrike for the death and destruction. Afghan officials said helicopter gunships returned fire from Taliban fighters who were hiding in the facility. Stegeman said there were no insurgents in the facility at the time of the bombing. AP video footage of the ... (More on P4)...(16)