

Jalalabad Clear 33°C 21°C	Ghazni Clear 23°C 8°C	Kandahar Clear 29°C 10°C	Mazar Clear 27°C 17°C	Herat Clear 28°C 9°C	Bamayan Clear 17°C 3°C	Kabul Clear 26°C 10°C
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Stoltenberg

Afghan Forces Capable of Defending their Country

KABUL - NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg said in an interview with TOLONews this week that despite the violence currently noted in the country the Afghan security forces are able to handle the situation. "We very clearly stated when we handed over the responsibility of the security to the Afghan forces that we had to expect violence and instability," Stoltenberg said. He said addressing all the security challenges is not



an easy task for Afghan security forces, but the Afghan soldiers are able to combat the insurgents and defend the country. "The Afghan forces are capable, they are professional and they are able to respond to the attacks by Taliban and others in a very professional way," Stoltenberg stated. His remarks come after parts of the country including Kunduz, Helmand, Uruzgan and Farah provinces have witnessed heavy clashes in recent ...*(More on P4)...(10)*

US Hands Over 492 Humvee Vehicles to Afghan Police Forces



KABUL - The Afghan National Police (ANP) forces received 492 Humvee vehicles from the United States as efforts are underway to improve the capabilities of the police forces. A senior official in the Ministry of Interior, Murtaza Rahimi, said the delivery of 246 Humvees to the police forces concluded on Wednesday and the remaining 222 vehicles will be handed in the near future. He said the special operations forces of the Afghan police, public order forces, border protection forces and the remaining zones will receive the other 222 vehicles. Rahimi further added that the Ministry of Interior (MoI) will also receive 80,000 modern weapons including M-16 rifles ...*(More on P4)...(11)*

Ghani Meets Aziz on the Sidelines of Brussels Conference

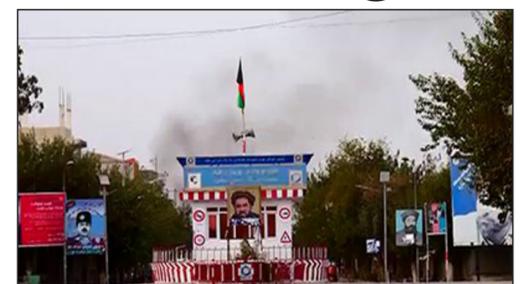
ISLAMABAD - Adviser to the Pakistani Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs Sartaj Aziz called on the Afghan President Muhammad Ashraf Ghani on Thursday on the sidelines of the

Brussels Conference on Afghanistan. While discussing efforts for long term peace and stability in Afghanistan, the Adviser reiterated Pakistan's earnest desire for lasting peace in Afghanistan

which was important for stability and progress in Pakistan. The Adviser emphasised the need for continued engagement and support of international ...*(More on P4)...(12)*

Kunduz Situation a Challenge to Afghan Govt: Pentagon

KABUL - The Pentagon says the situation in northern Kunduz province is a challenge for the Ashraf Ghani administration and Afghan security forces. "What you're seeing in Kunduz is, yes, a challenge to the Afghan security forces posed by the Taliban," a spokesman for the Defense Department told a news conference on Thursday. In a transcript on the Defense Department website, Peter Cook praised the resilience demonstrated in Kunduz over the past few days by the Afghan forces,



showing capabilities they did not have in the past. "So yes, it is absolutely a dangerous situation in Afghanistan, a challenging situation for the Afghan government, certainly for the Afghan forces who have sacrificed mightily to defend their own country," he said. *(Pajhwok)*

Publication of the Award of Contract by ICB (Single Stage-One Envelope)

Announcement Date: 8 October, 2016
Duration of Objection: 8 - 14 October, 2016

Project Name: Energy Sector Development Investment Program, Project-1, and (Phase 2) Procurement of Works for Rehabilitation, re-entry, Deepening, Testing and Completion of Two Existing Wells of Yatimtaq Gas Field in Sheberghan.

ADB Grant No. 0134-AFG - MFF

Name of ICB: Rehabilitation, Re-entry, Deepening, Testing and Completion Services of Two Existing Gas Wells in Yatimtaq Gas, Field of Sheberghan, Jawzjan, Province
Bid/Contract Reference No: NPA/MOMP/94/W-1073/ICB

Procuring Entity: Ministry of Mines and Petroleum, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Scope of the Contract: Rehabilitation, Re-entry, Deepening, Testing and Completion Services of Two Existing Gas Wells in Yatimtaq Gas, Field of Sheberghan

Duration of Contract: 365 days

Evaluation Currency: USD

Awarded Bidder:

Name: M/S Xinjiang Zhengtong Oil & Gas Co. LTD
Address: 6200 Jinxi 1 St.Karamay City, Xinjiang, China
Bid price at bid opening: USD 11,980,931
Evaluated Bid Price (in evaluation currency): USD 11,938,543
Contract Price (in evaluation currency): USD 11,938,543

Evaluated Bidder(s): Price Bid Evaluation Stage

Name: M/S Xinjiang Zhengtong Oil & Gas Co. LTD
Address: 6200 Jinxi 1 St.Karamay City, Xinjiang, China
Bid price at bid opening: USD 11,980,931
Evaluated bid price (in evaluation currency): USD 11,938,543

Rejected Bidder(s): Technical Bid Evaluation Stage

Name: GEOS Energy Insaat Sanayi Ticaret A.S & BOLAND TABAGHIE (JV)
Address: Ankara, Turkey & Mazar-e-Sharif, Afghanistan
Bid price at bid opening: USD 9,520,425

Reason(s) for rejection

1. Did not submit audited Financial Statement,
2. Submitted incomplete annual constriction turnover, Financial resource form Fin 1 & 4 and similar size and nature contract.
3. Submitted bid security by the name of three firms, while participated two JV firms.

Name: Zhanros Drilling LLP
Address: Aiteke, Kyzylorda, Kazakhstan
Bid price at bid opening: 11,445,617.09
Reason(s) for rejection:

1. Did not provide letter of bid, power of attorney, method of statement and incomplete audited financial statements
2. Provided bid security 4 days shorter than ITB 19.3 of bidding document.

Name: Karamay Geological Engineering Co.LTD
Address: Karamay City, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, China
Bid price at bid opening: 13,928,586 USD
Reason(s) for rejection: No bid security submitted.

Name: Xinjiang Beiken Energy Engineering Co.LTD Company
Address: Men Hu Road, Karamay, China
Bid price at bid opening: 13,909,043 USD
Reason(s) for rejection: The bid security issued by Bank of China from China, which is not correspondence Bank in Afghanistan in accordance with bidding document.

Hopes for Revival Pinned on Afghan Palace Restoration

KABUL - After years of abandonment, the ruined Darul Aman palace in Kabul, one of the most recognizable symbols of Afghanistan's decades of war, is to be restored in a project authorities hope will come to symbolize revival instead of destruction. The aim is an ambitious one, with Afghan forces fighting the Taliban insurgency across the country, Kabul regularly hit by suicide attacks and the broken economy seemingly in no better shape than the bombed-out palace itself. The project was launched by President Ashraf Ghani in May and Urban Development Minister Sadat Mansoor Naderi said the government hoped the site, next to a new, Indian-financed parliament, can become the center of a new government quarter as well as a tourist attraction. For the moment, such goals remain a long way off and the most visible sign of renewal is a crew working on preparing the site for the full reconstruction to come later. "In the team we've built here, we've got over 100 young graduates," Naderi told Reuters during a visit to the site this week. "Twenty percent of the technical engineers you see here are female," he said. In a country where opportunities for women to develop careers are severely limited, the restoration effort, which will depend heavily on support from foreign donors, is a showcase for young graduates. "This is a historical site and of course it's a new experience," said Sofia Roshan, 24, a structural design engineer who ...*(More on P4)...(13)*

MoU on Conservation of Kabul's Heritage Signed With AKCT

KABUL - An agreement has been signed with the Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC) on the conservation of key historic sites in Kabul, the Ministry of Urban Development and Housing announced on Friday. The memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed by Sadat Mansoor Naderi, the urban development minister, and Luis Monreal, general manager of AKTC, on the sidelines of the Brussels Conference. A statement from the ministry said the MoU encompassed a multi-year partnership for urban planning activities and implementation of several projects that would protect heritage assets of the capital city. This public-private cooperation aims to further develop aspects of heritage management principles outlined in the Afghan government's Urban National Priority Programme (UNPP). AKTC will provide technical assistance on planning and conservation activities currently being undertaken by the government in the former Royal Palace and the wider Darul Aman neighborhood. *(Pajhwok)*

Afghan Forces Still Struggling to Push Taliban out of Kunduz

KABUL - Afghan officials say the Taliban are still managing to hold out in the northern city of Kunduz as fighting there continues for the fifth day since the insurgents launched an all-out assault. Gen. Qasim Jungalbagh, provincial police chief, said on Friday that government forces advanced overnight, pushing Taliban insurgents from residential areas in the east and west. Jungalbagh says five members of the security forces were killed and another seven wounded. He says three civilians were also killed. The head of the provincial council, Mohammad Yusuf Ayubi, says people are continuing to leave for neighboring provinces. The U.N.'s humanitarian agency has warned of a looming humanitarian crisis as food and water run short. The attack began Monday, a year after the insurgents overran the city. *(AP)*

Women's Group Teaches Life Skills to Help Afghans in US

NEW YORK - Every day in a modest home in Queens, New York, more than 100 women of Afghan descent are crammed into makeshift classrooms. They are learning the basics of life in America, such as getting a driver's license or reading and writing English, but they also can gain help with something as complex and critical as dealing with an abusive spouse. The program is run by Women for Afghan Women (WAW), a women's advocacy group. The participants are a mixture of single, married and divorced women. Some ...*(More on P4)...(14)*