

Jalalabad	Clear	Ghazni	Clear	Kandahar	Clear	Mazar	Clear	Herat	Clear	Bamayan	Clear	Kabul	Clear
36°C	25°C	26°C	10°C	33°C	16°C	32°C	21°C	30°C	17°C	18°C	7°C	27°C	13°C



US Calling for Closure of Taliban Office in Qatar

Any request to close the office would need to be initiated by Kabul but the decision ultimately lies with the Qatar government.

WASHINGTON - Reliable sources told TOLONews on Tuesday that Afghan President Ashraf Ghani and US President Donald Trump have discussed the issue of closing the Taliban's office in Doha, Qatar. Should this happen, it's not clear where the Taliban leaders, who work out of the office, will go. The UK's Guardian newspaper meanwhile reported that Trump discussed the issue with Ghani in a bid to get the Afghan president to agree to the closure. According to this report, Ghani



is said to be considering the proposal. An estimated 36 Taliban leaders are stationed in Doha, in what the insurgent group calls its political office. Both the Saudi and Emirati monarchies have called for the closure of this office since its establishment in 2011. The Guardian reported that a request to close the office would have to be formally initiated by Kabul but that the ultimate decision lies with the Qatari government. ...*(More on P4)...(9)*

Taxpayer Call Center Opens; 75 Females Graduate

KABUL - The General Directorate of Revenue on Tuesday inaugurated a call center to provide better services to taxpayers while separately 75 young women graduated from a training program, USAID said. The call center's inauguration was attended by deputy finance minister Najeebullah Wardak, representatives of private sector, international donors and employees of Revenue Department and media during a press conference here. Taxpayers' problems, complaints and suggestions will be heard at the USAID-funded centre every day from 8am to 5pm and then shared with authorities, the agency said in a statement. Wardak in his opening remarks said: "We are committed to reforms and equipping departments with modern technology. Establishing this center is another step towards ...*(More on P4)...(10)*

Transport Ministry to Help Ease Cross-Border Trade

KABUL - Acting transport minister said they are drafting land transit agreements in a bid to ease the transportation of goods to regional countries. The Ministry of Transport (MoT) on Tuesday said it is drafting trade and transit agreements with regional countries in a bid to ease cross-border transport processes. According to the ministry, the lack of transport agreements between Afghanistan and some neighboring countries has resulted in numerous problems for long-distance truck drivers trying to move goods across borders. The acting transport minister Hamidullah Tahmasbi said once



these agreements have been signed with neighboring countries the trade volume between Afghanistan and regional countries will increase. "Unfortunately there are not proper transit agreements with the neighboring countries in place. We are trying to pave the way for our trucks and passen-

ger vehicles to enter neighboring countries," said Tahmasbi. Tahmasbi also said there has been no transparency in the past few years in terms of revenue collection in this sector. He said the ministry is working hard to increase revenue as it works to stamp out corruption. According ...*(More on P4)...(11)*

UN Envoy in Iran Warns Against Surge of Narcotics Trade in Afghanistan



TEHRAN - The temporary representative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to Iran expressed concern over the growing trend of production and trade of illicit drugs in Afghanistan and said the annual sales of heroin in the

country amount to \$28 billion. Addressing an expert meeting titled "Sustainable Development and Job Creation in Areas at Risk" in Tehran on Tuesday, Alexander Schmidt said opium production in Afghanistan in 2016 ...*(More on P4)...(12)*

Violence Against Women Drops in Khost this Year

KHOST CITY - Incidents of violence against women significantly decreased in southeastern Khost province from 55 last year to so far 17 incidents this year, an official said. Khost women's affairs director Malala Wali told an academic research seminar on violence against women here that the incidents happened this year included denial of inheritance right, divorce, underage marriages, forced marriage and beating. She said her department had been able to address seven of the cases in consultation with legal experts.



She linked the decrease in violence against women to her department's ...*(More on P4)...(13)*

Pakistan Importing Tomato from Afghanistan, Iran

PESHAWAR - Pakistan has opted for importing tomato from Afghanistan and Iran, refusing to relax conditions for trade with India. Relations between Islamabad and New Delhi have long been strained on several issues, including their long-running dispute over Kashmir. Tomato prices recently shot up to Rs200 a kilogram due to a shortage of the vegetable in Pakistani markets. The domestic crop is expected to ripe in a couple of weeks. On Monday, 14 trucks of tomato arrived in Lahore from Kabul, with another 17 trucks expected to reach the capital of Punjab today (Tuesday), The News reported. Meanwhile, Federal Minister for National Food Security and Research Sikandar Hayat Khan Bosan denied the import of tomato from India. Given Pakistan's growing demand, Indian vegetable exporters have been bringing hundreds of tomato-laden trucks to Amritsar for export. But the tomato could not find their way to Pakistan because of quarantine laws, which Islamabad is unwilling to relax. Lahore division needs 50 trucks of tomato daily but the supply is not even 20 trucks. Local traders, therefore, are negotiating imports from Afghanistan and Iran. (Pajhwok)

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING (NCB)

For

Procurement of Mobile Salary Payment in 2 Lots

Lot 1	Data Collection and Verification
Lot 2	Payroll processing

IFB No: NPA/MOF/96/NCS-1899/NCB

The Ministry of Finance, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, intends to apply a contract from (Asan Khidmat) budget for the **Procurement of Mobile Salary Payment in 2 Lots**

The National Procurement Authority (NPA), acting on behalf of Asan Khidmat/Ministry of Finance, invites sealed bids from Eligible and qualified bidders for carrying out the **Procurement of Mobile Salary Payment in 2 Lots**, IFB No: NPA/MOF/96/NCS-1899/NCB

- The Bidders may bid for any lot of activities indicated in Section 5: Activity Schedule. Bidders shall quote for the complete requirement of activities as indicated in Section 5 on a single responsibility basis.
- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures specified in the Procurement Law and Procurement Procedure of Afghanistan, and are open to all bidders from Eligible Source Countries as defined in the Bidding Documents.
- Interested eligible bidders may download bid document in English version from NPA Website: www.npa.gov.af or obtain by email from address: nooria.parsa@aop.gov.af copy to: wais.rahimi@aop.gov.af, ghayoor.zahoor@mof.gov.af or receive by flash memory at the address given below **from 8:00 hrs to 4:00 hrs** on any working day from Saturday to Thursday
- Bids must be delivered to the address below at or before **18 Oct, 2017 10.00 Hrs (local time)**. Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected unopened. Bids will be opened immediately after the deadline of bid submission at the same place of bid submission in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend in person at the address below at the afore-mentioned date and time
- All bids must be accompanied by a **Bid Security as below:**

Bid Security (AFN) or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency.	Valid as per below
Lot 1: 300,000 AFN Lot 2: 970,000 AFN	Bank Security should be valid for 118 days from bid submission deadline till 12/02/2018.

A pre-bid Meeting will be held on **08 Oct 2017, 10.00 Hrs (local time)** at below Address:

Address: Ministry of Finance :Pashtoonistan Watt, Kabul, Afghanistan
Attention: Ghayoor Zahoor
E-mail: ghayoor.zahoor@mof.gov.af
Telephone: +93700921416

- Qualification Requirements of bidders for Post Evaluation Purpose are as below:
 - The minimum amount of liquid assets and/or credit facilities net of other contractual commitments of the successful Bidder shall be for **Lot 1: 3,683,000 AFN** and for **Lot 2: 12,026,000 AFN**
 - The minimum required annual volume of Services for the successful Bidder during last five (5) years shall be for **Lot 1: 14,740,000 AFN** and for **Lot 2: 48,103,000 AFN**
 - The experience required to be demonstrated by the Bidder as a prime Contractor should include at least one contract in the same nature and complexity that has been executed during the last five (5) years in the following value for **Lot 1: 7,370,000 AFN** and for **Lot 2: 24,052,000 AFN**
- The address referred to above is:

National Procurement Authority (NPA), 5th Floors, Administrative office of the president (AOP) Kabul, Afghanistan,
Pashtunistan Watt, Kabul, Afghanistan.
Telephone: +93-020-2147536, +93791045505
E-mail: Nooria.parsa@aop.gov.af