**Eltaisolat Afghanistan was Recognized for its Contributions towards Women Empowerment**

KABUL - Afghan Ministry of Women’s Affairs recognized Eltaisolat Afghanistan for its contributions towards women empowerment in Afghanistan.

In the ceremony organized on 31 March 2019, H. E. Ali Akaal Dehbor Nazari, minister of Women’s Affairs of Afghanistan presented the recognition award to Eltaisolat CEO. Speaking in the recognition ceremony, the minister said, “We thank Eltaisolat for considering gender equality within its office premises and providing female staff with standard workplace environment and other facilities. Eltaisolat is among few private companies that have always strived to empower women through its numerous educational and social programs.”

Eltaisolat Afghanistan through bringing more women and supporting their presence in social services has been committed to develop cultural agents and women who can start their own business.

**Taliban not Allowing Us to Buy Food: Daikundi Residents**

NEIL - Some residents of Puts district of Daikundi province said on Saturday that Taliban militants were preventing them from buying food items and as a result they faced starvation.

The residents said if the situation was not addressed, it could lead to a humanitarian crisis. Zahir Ali, a resident of Sagat village, told Pajhwok Afghan News that in the village the Taliban banned from which they bought food items was under Taliban's control. “Sometimes people receive food items secretly but Taliban after getting information about it throw them into waste,” he said. The residents have been lacking food items and medicines. He said road connecting the district with Nati, which was damaged in the flash floods, the residents still faced the absence. MSF upgraded Ahmad Shah Baba was the first project MSF opened when it started working in Afghanistan in 1992, after a five-year absence. MSF upgraded Ahmad Shah Baba to a comprehensive hospital, with a focus on emergency department. **Afghan Forces Hold ‘Full Control’ of Key Highway in Southeast**

KABUL - A strategic highway linking Khost with Pakistan in the southeast of Afghanistan is fully under control of the Afghan forces over the past year while it was under influence of the Taliban and Haqiqati network for five years.

The road, almost 50 kilometers in length, connects Zari Maidan district of Khost with Dare Av Patan district of Pakis.

Security forces are now able to travel by one vehicle through the gravely road, which is mostly rough and has only one lane.

Dare Av Patan is a district in Paktia which borders the Kurrum tribal region of Pakistan. Zari Maidan or Jaji Maidan is located in the northeastern part of Khost. It borders Kuk district to the west, Paktia province to the north, and the Kurrum Agency of Pakistan to the north and east.

The district center is the village of Zari Maidan, situated in the eastern part of the district. **ICRC Work Process Makes Slow Progress Towards Upcoming Elections**

KABUL - The Independent Election Commission (IEC) has not yet recruited provincial electoral chairs and short term employees for the upcoming elections.

The presidential election which has been postponed by two months will be held on 28 September and authorities try to iron out problems with the voting process.

The IEC was expected to hire permanent and short term employees for the upcoming presidential and provincial council elections. But it has not yet managed to hire provincial election chairs and short term employees.

A special plan has been prepared between the election commission and administration reform commissions and employees will be recruited for both electoral commissions and short term employees.

We have approved this plan and sent it to the administrative reform commission,” said Maslona Abdullah, a member of the IEC. **MSF Hands Over Ahmad Shah Baba Project to Health**

KABUL - After almost 10 years of working in the hospital in Ahmad Shah Baba, MiaLac Sains Frontières (MSF) has handed over the last of its activities to the Ministry of Public Health, according to a statement on Sunday.

“Taking the decision to leave is never easy, especially after so long. But our intention when we opened this project was to support and not to replace the Ministry of Public Health. We have worked closely together over the years and it is now time to hand services back”, explains Priscilla, MSF’s Afghanistan Programme manager. “We are grateful to the community and the staff for their support during this process.** Ahmad Shah Baba was the first project MSF opened when it started working in Afghanistan again in 2005, after a five-year absence. MSF upgraded Ahmad Shah Baba to a comprehensive hospital, with a focus on emergency department. **Food-Affected Families in Herat Call for Help**

HERAT - Herat residents are seeking help from government as many of them have lost their homes and properties in last week’s flash floods which mostly affected central parts of the western province.

Figures by Natural Disaster Management Authority indicate that at least 25 provinces were hit by flash floods in last two weeks and thousands of people and livestock were missing. The figures also indicate that 1,600 houses were completely destroyed and 11,081 were partially damaged. The floods hit Gazer, Emi, Zin-jan, Ghizar, Zinda Ba-e-sang, Paktia, Sangyan, Bia, Shindand and Zowal districts as well as Sibayi, Sanadik Bala, Bang Abad, Kow Bad, Sang-e-dash villages on the outskirts of Herat city, according to local officials. Almost 200 houses have been damaged in the flash floods, the officials said. Herat residents said government has not paid the required attention and asked to address their problems.

**Daily Outlook Weather Forcast**

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- **Taliban Dry, Fresh Fruit Exports up by 40pc**
  - KANDAHAR CITY - More than 130,000 tonnes of dry and fresh fruits worth $100 million have been exported to foreign countries from southern Kandahar province last year, according to a press conference on Sunday.
  - Eng. Abdul Raziq Bana, deputy head of the Kandahar Chamber of Commerce and Industry, told Pajhwok Afghan News that in 1398 solar year, 16,000 tonnes of dry and fresh fruits were exported from Kandahar compared to 1397 solar year’s 15,000 tonnes to foreign countries.
  - The dry fruit included raisins, fig, pista, peach, almond, and walnut and fresh fruits included pomegranate, grape, figure, herbals, saffron and others.
  - He said a total of 31 items were exported, with the major part going India and Pakistan and some to Arab countries.

- **Pakistan not Allowing mangoes and dates to be sold in Central Asia**
  - For its natural flavor and taste, there is no market for mangoes and dates in Central Asia.

- **Health**
  - Against diseases and providing health services to local people in different areas, the MSF has spent $192 million.
  - A member of the IEC sent this plan and sent it to the administrative reform commission.

- **Weather Forecast**
  - The weather forecast predicts a slight increase in the temperature over the next few days. **ICRC Work Process Makes Slow Progress Towards Upcoming Elections**

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