

Jalalabad Partly Cloudy 35°C 20°C	Ghazni Partly Cloudy 24°C 9°C	Kandahar Clear 34°C 14°C	Mazar Partly Cloudy 27°C 13°C	Herat Partly Cloudy 31°C 13°C	Bamayan Partly Cloudy 13°C 5°C	Kabul Partly Cloudy 21°C 3°C
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Senate Demands Probe into Cash Aid to Taliban Families



KABUL - Senate members on Tuesday expressed concern over cash donation to families of slain Taliban fighters in northern Kunduz province and demanded an investigation into the issue. Kunduz governor Asadullah Omarkhel in a video message had said up to 60 family members of dead Taliban had demanded cash assistance from him and the aid was given. Abdullah Qarqel, a lawmaker from Kunduz, said a delegation with 50 million afghanis in cash aid had been dispatched to Kunduz to ...*(More on P4)...(11)*

WAC-DC to Open Office in Kabul Soon: Mohib

KABUL - The World Affairs Council-Washington DC is to open its branch in Kabul soon, the Afghan envoy to the US said on Tuesday. Hamdullah Mohib wrote on his Facebook account that he met with WAC-DC Chief Executive Officer Tony Culley-Foster a day earlier. The diplomat said at the meeting Foster shared information about the opening of the council's branch in Kabul. The council, founded in 1980, is a non-partisan, educational organization dedicated to informing and educating Americans about the international events and issues that impact the United States and its relations with the world. Dr. Mohib hoped the center's opening in Kabul would pave the ground for thinkers, professionals and academicians to jointly collaborate and would provide an opportunity to the peoples of ...*(More on P4)...(12)*

57 Militants Killed, 3 Drug Smugglers Captured: MoI

KABUL - Fifty-seven Taliban insurgents have been killed including a notorious commander and 10 drug sellers arrested over the past 24 hours in different provinces, the Ministry of Interior (MoI) said on Tuesday. Intelligence agents conducted 16 counternarcotics operations in Kabul, Panjsher, Herat, Kandahar, Bamyan, Paktika and Maidan Wardak provinces. As a result, three smugglers and 10 pushers were captured. A statement from MoI said 22 kilograms of drugs and three vehicles were seized during the ...*(More on P4)...(13)*

Kandahar Mayor Gets GPM Membership

KANDAHAR - The mayor of southern Kandahar City has been awarded membership of the Global Parliament of Mayors (GPM), an official said on Tuesday. GPM works for capacity building of mayors and makes strategies and policies for cities' development. Kandahar municipality spokesperson, Zamari Sargand, told Pajhwok Afghan News Eng. Rokhan Walasmal became the first mayor in the history of Afghanistan to be honoured with GPM membership. He said Walasmal's GPM membership would positively impact the Kandahar municipality's activities. He said the development would enable the municipality to present a real picture of Kandahar City to international organizations and get budget for important projects. Sargand said Rokhan also possessed membership of the International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP) and the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI). Kandahar citizens are acknowledge development activities in the city attributed to the mayor. Haji Abdul Hadi, who lives in the first municipal district, ...*(More on P4)...(16)*

Cycling Race Promoting Reading Culture Today



KABUL - A cycling tour aimed to promote the culture of reading and knowledge sharing among Afghans will take place today (Wednesday), organisers said on Tuesday. The Social House Division of the Peace, Media and Good Governance Institute (PMG-GI) and the Afghanistan National Cycling Federation (ANCF) have jointly organised the event. The tour will start from the Youth Parliament and will finish at the Ghazi High School, where the participants will be received by Afghan and foreign officials and civil society activists at the Afghanistan-Iran book exhibition. The cyclists will pedal through one of the most densely populated parts of Kabul before finishing at the book exhibition, which will be attended by senior government officials, local and foreign visitors. The studies indicate lack of interest in reading has seriously affected the intellectual health of Afghan society ...*(More on P4)...(18)*

Hundreds Diagnosed with Tuberculosis in Ghazni

GHAZNI CITY - Local health officials on Tuesday said 1,600 people, half of them women, have been diagnosed with tuberculosis (TB) in southern Ghazni province. Provincial public health director Dr. Zahir Shah Nikmal told Pajhwok Afghan News 1,564 people, 65 percent of them, women in Ghazni suffered from TB. "This is the number of patients who are registered with us and the number may be higher," he said. Nikmal said needed measures had been taken for prevention of the dangerous disease. However, he did not elaborate. Zarmina, who is treated for TB at the Ghazni Civil Hospital:



said: "I was coughing for several days, people told me to visit a doctor. When the doctor examined me, I was infected with TB." She said doctors had told her she was treatable. Kamaluddin, a resident of Aab Band district, said people in their district were in trouble due to the absence of clinics. "We have been complaining to the officials concerned over the past several years to set up a clinic or hospital in our district, but no one helped," he said. He said people could not transfer their patients to Ghazni City or other areas for treatment due to clashes between militants and the Afghan forces on roads. ...*(More on P4)...(14)*

Rashid Khan is a Special Talent: Muralitharan

NEW DELHI - Sri Lanka's spin legend Muralitharan, who is bowling coach of Sunrisers Hyderabad, on Tuesday lavished praise on rookie Afghanistan leg spinner Rashid Khan terming him a 'special talent'. Rashid has already taken five wickets in two matches including a match-winning spell of three for 19 against Gujarat Lions in the second game. "I have seen him only for a couple of days. We choose him because we saw him playing international cricket and bowling well against quality batsmen," Muralitharan said on the eve of Sunrisers Hyderabad's third



Indian Premier League game against Mumbai Indians, in Mumbai. Muralitharan, the highest wicket-taker in Tests and ODIs, observed that the teenager's ...*(More on P4)...(17)*

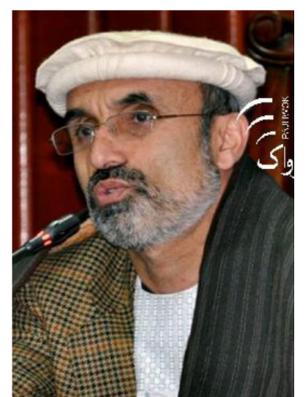
Displaced People in Need of Assistance in Kunar

ASADABAD - Families displaced by Pakistani shelling into eastern Kunar province are suffering from multiple problems, including a clean drinking water shortage. Hundreds of households have been forced to leave the Khas Kunar district of the province as a result of recent rocket barrages fired from Pakistan, residents say, complaining of different difficulties. Gul Mohammad, a resident of Shalai locality, told Pajhwok Afghan News that as many as 250 families had been displaced. But the government has provided aid to only a few households. He demanded assistance for all displaced families. Shah Mohammad, another displaced man, said they were faced with a shortage of clean drinking water. A charity provided them the drinking water facility but it was not enough for the affected people. Shafiqullah Momand, the director of refugee and repatriation department, said a survey conducted by them indicated 189 families had been given assistance. He claimed each ...*(More on P4)...(19)*

Senate Wants Verdict Against PC Head Enforced

KABUL - The deputy chairman of Meshrano Jirga on Tuesday asked the government to apply the law to the Herat Provincial Council (PC) head and not to allow any group to create fear among the people in the form of civil society movements. The tribunal sentenced Kamran Alizai to two years in jail a couple of weeks back. Earlier, Alizai along with 20 armed bodyguards had forced his way into the attorney office to free an accused who was being questioned in connection with criminal activity. After the court decision, dozens of people in Herat City took to the streets and demanded the release of Alizai. The protesters insisted Alizai was innocent of the charges

brought against him. Deputy Chairman Mohammad Alam Ezidyar, referring to recent protests in support of Alizai, said the people of Afghanistan were worried about whatever had happened in Herat. "Contacts have been established with the Senate. I hope the government would stay adhere to the implementation of law and every one of us should implement it," he argued. Referring to the armed guards, he said everyone in the country had weapons-wielding individuals. If they resorted to violating rules, the future of the country would be destroyed, he warned. Abdul Baqi Baryal, another lawmaker, stressed the implementation of the rule of law and said the government should prevent unauthorised armed groups from taking the law into their hands. (Pajhwok)



Taliban Leaders and Militants Suffer Casualties in Khalid Operation in the North

KABUL - A number of the Taliban leaders and militants suffered casualties during the ongoing Khalid operations in northern parts of the country. The 209th Shaheen Corps of the Afghan National Army (ANA) forces in the North said the militants suffered casualties in Sar-e-Pul and Faryab provinces in the past 24 hours. According to a statement by 209th Shaheen Corps, at least 16 militants including two local commanders of the group were killed and several others including a local commander of the group were wounded. The statement further



added that a local commander of the Taliban identified as Taj Mohammad was killed along with his 3 fighters during an operation in Sayad district of Sar-e-Pul. Another Taliban leader identified as Sher Mohammad also famous as Ghazanfar was wounded along with two others. At least 5 Taliban insurgents including a commander of the group identified as Mullah Rahim were killed in an airstrike in Pashtunkot district of Faryab. (KP)

Strongmen, Locals Cutting Down Kunduz Forests



KUNDUZ CITY - Residents and officials say they are worried about illegal cutting down of forest trees in northern Kunduz province, asking the government to stop the practice. The residents said some local people and border police personnel at the Sher Khan Port sold timber after cutting trees along the Amu River. He said the deforestation had caused the river to flow into farmland. Ahmad Shah, a resident of Sher Khan Port in Kunduz, criticized the cutting of jungle and said the government was doing nothing to check the illegal business. "Forests of Jems Kol and Barzangi areas of Sher Khan Bandar ...*(More on P4)...(15)*