KABUL - The delegation to the southern province included Afghan Interior Minister Wais Ahmad Barmak, National Directorate Security (NDS) chief Mohammad Masoom Stanekzai and the commander of the US-forces and NATO General John Nicholson. The American Ambassador to Kabul John R. Bass was also present. 

Nicholson. The American Ambassador to Kabul John R. Bass was also present. 

Security officials in Afghanistan, both local and foreign, visited Kandahar province on Monday and called on the residents to participate in the election process. 

The number of female drivers has increased substantially in the northern province of Balkh in the past two months, local traffic department officials said on Monday. Over the past three months, at least 150 women have passed their driver’s test, said the officials. 

"Since the month of Jaddi (January), over 210 women..." (More on P6, 0)

Women Drivers Increase in Northern Balkh Province

Mashreqo Jirga Condemns Pakistan for Border Violation

KABUL - A number of Mashre- no Jirga or upper house members on Tuesday termed Paki stan forces’ attacks on Zazai Maidan district of Kunar prov ince and parts of Kunar prov ince a blatant violation, asking the government to equip the people of the attacked areas with weapons for defense. 

According to local officials, Pak istani militia and forces sneaked into ZazaiMaidan dis trict on last Saturday and they were trying to build a security post there, but faced with local people and Afghan forces’ re ac tion. The Ministry of Defense (MoD) on Monday said 14 Pakistanis were killed and 17 others wounded in the bor der clash. It said two civilians of Zazai Maidan district were also killed in the battle. In addition, Pakistan forces consecutively fired rockets from across the Durand Line to parts of Kunar province.

Mohammad Hasham Alokozay, a senator from southern Helmand province... (More on P6, 4)

Top Officials Visit Kandahar to Assess Security

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Women Drivers Increase in Northern Balkh Province

Pakistan Should Honour Promises, Says Abdullah

KABUL - Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Dr. Abdullah on Tuesday said a clash between Afghan and Pakistani forces had ended and both sides were trying to deescalate tensions on the Durand Line. The CEO told a gathering here the bodies of five Pakistani paramilitary soldiers, who were killed during the clash with Afghan forces, had been handed over to Pakistan. 

"I want to repeat it again that the people of Afghanistan, especially ZazaiMaidan, are not to blame. Unfortunately, there was aggression..." (More on P6, 0)

Pakistan Should Honour Promises, Says Abdullah

Tree Plantation Drive Etsital Afghanistan

KABUL - Under the theme ‘Save tree, Save life’, Etsi- al Afghanistan undertook tree plantation drive in several parts of district 10 of Kabul city, on Monday. Around 100 saplings were planted and over 50 protec tive fences were installed to provide care and protection for the plants. 

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Salah Zerguerras, EA CEO said, ‘Planting a tree is a lifelong investment. A tree...’ (More on P6, 0)