

Jalalabad	Clear	Ghazni	Clear	Kandahar	Clear	Mazar	Chance of Rain	Herat	Chance of Rain	Bamiyan	Chance of Rain	Kabul	Chance of Rain
31°C 19°C		23°C 7°C		33°C 19°C		21°C 13°C		24°C 13°C		18°C 6°C		24°C 14°C	



Daily Outlook
Weather Forecast

New Parliament to be Inaugurated this Week

The State Ministry for Parliamentary Affairs on Sunday said the 17th legislative term of the National Assembly would be inaugurated this ongoing week and ministers-designate would be also introduced to the lower house.



KABUL - The Wolesi Jirga elections were held in October. However results of the elections have so far been announced from 28 provinces and those from the Kuchi constituency, Kabul, Kandahar, Maidan Wardak, Paktia, Baghlan and Kunduz provinces are yet to be declared. According to information, 127 pieces of legislation are awaiting the new parliament's inauguration and some experts believe the postponement in the National

Assembly's inauguration would push the country into despotism. On the other hand, currently 17 administrations are headed by acting chiefs and their replacements require the assembly's approval.

State Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Dr. Ghulam Faroud Wardak told a press conference here that: "As I had discussion with President Ashraf Ghani, Insha Allah, the 17th term of the National Assembly will be in-

augurated until Thursday and preparations have been made in this regard."

Wardak said the lawmakers' familiarity program with the Parliament had been also prepared and would be implemented by the president after the inauguration of the new Parliament. He also expressed concern about some administrations being run by acting heads and said after the new parliament inauguration, 12 ministers-...(More on P4)...(7)

Ghani Says Govt Has Huge Public Support

KABUL - President Ashraf Ghani visited the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology a day after the government building came under a complex attack by four attackers which left seven dead and eight others wounded.

Ghani said he praises the Afghan forces' "bravery" for pushing back the attack and for evacuating the employees of the ministry during the attack.

The security forces evacuated at least 2,000 employees of the ministry during the five hours of the attack.

Ghani said the attack did not show bravery, rather, it was the sign of "utmost coward-



ness".

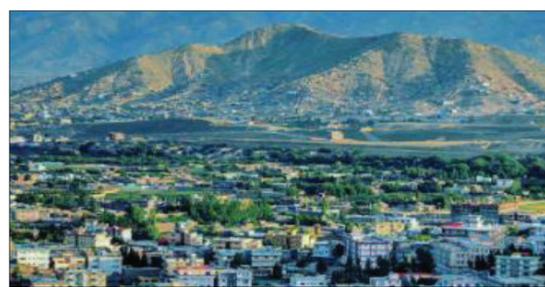
"If you (militants) want to fight against our Defense and Security Forces, it (public places) is not a battlefield... Who has given you the right to attack the honor of the people? Who has given you the right to enter people's

houses forcefully and use them as a shield?" Ghani asked. Ghani said that many families were affected as the militants "have no courage to attempt for peace".

"You (militants) don't have the courage to attempt for peace. You ... (More on P4)...(5)

NEPA Working on Plans to Reduce Air Pollution in Kabul

KABUL - The National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA) is coordinating plans with at least 20 government institutions to forge an action plan for reducing air pollution in the capital city, Kabul, officials of the authority said at a press conference on Sunday. The air pollution in Kabul is seasonal and it will increase with the arrival of summer. A report released by an American institution last year listed Afghanistan among the ten cities in the world which have the most polluted air. During winter, as the weather gets cold, the air pollution increases in the city due to the use of low-quality fuel by its residents.



Air pollution in Kabul is considered as a threat, similar to the threat posed by insurgency, as both put people's lives in danger, residents and experts said.

"One of the major problems was that there was no coordination in the past years. But

the institution (NEPA) managed to sign some MoUs with a number of institutions for launching joint projects," said Mohammad Hamidiyan, deputy head of NEPA on finance.

"In the view of the importance of the environment and in the wake of ... (More on P4)...(6)

Govt Accused of Seeking SC Verdict on Tenure Extension



KABUL - Eleven presidential candidates, saying the continuation of the incumbent government after May 22 would be illegal, claimed on Sunday the Presidential Palace was trying to pressurise the Supreme Court to allow it to work until the election.

The allegation was leveled against the Palace by Ahmad Wali Massoud, Ibrahim Alkozai, Abdul Hakim Torsan, Rahmatullah Nabil, Shahab Hakim, Noor-ul-Haq Ulumi, Enayatullah Hafeez, Ghulam Farooq Nijrabi, Faramarz Ta-

mana, Hanif Atmar and Noor Rahman Lewal.

The presidential election is scheduled for September 28 this year, while the tenure of the incumbent government ends on May 22. A total of 18 have so far jumped into the battle for the presidency.

"In line with documents available to us, President Ashraf Ghani will get a verdict from the Supreme Court on the extension of the existing government," the candidates said in a joint statement. ... (More on P4)...(9)

OIC Strongly Condemned the Fresh Round of Violence in Afghanistan

JEDDAH - The General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) has strongly condemned the recent offensive across Afghanistan including the capital that experienced a senseless violence when a suicidal gang of terrorists stormed government buildings in central parts of the city recently leaving behind scores of dead and wounded.

Secretary General Dr. Al-Othaimen deeply deplored the recent escalation in violence in Afghanistan and appealed to all Afghans to end hostilities and avail themselves of the approaching holy month of Ramadan to engage in constructive Afghan-owned, Afghan-led peace dialogue for an inclusive and honorable political settlement. Dr Al-Othaimen conveyed his sincere condolences to the families of the victims as well as to the Government and ... (More on P4)...(10)

Investigative Journalists are Not Safe in Afghanistan: Tawhidi

KABUL - Journalists support institutes on Saturday expressed their concern over increasing violence against media workers, saying investigative journalists were not safe in Afghanistan particu-

journalism as investigative reporters are under high security threat, he said, adding that lack of access to information, law violations and refusal to share statistics were the main challenges



larly when they seek information. Many journalists and media officials from capital Kabul and different provinces of the country on Saturday here attended the second conference of 'Investigative Journalism in Afghanistan' for discussing problems and solutions to investigative reports.

Sediqullah Tawhidi, executive director of Journalists Protection Committee who attended the conference said that journalists faced various challenges since 2014 and they were subject to more pressures and limitations with the passage of time. Journalism is a difficult job particularly investigative

journalists faced. "Investigative journalism in Afghanistan is difficult and pricy, because any investigative report is about revealing corruption," Tawhidi said. He said lack of protection and high security threat were biggest challenges investigative journalists and other media workers were facing. "Investigative journalists are not sure about their work safety," he said. "Sixty percent of violence against media workers happen when they ask for information, most of journalists are insulted when they request for information, they faced with violence and even threats, the government officials ... (More on P4)...(11)



Naghlu Dam Power Output Doubles to 100mw

KABUL - The power utility, Da Afghanistan Breshna Shirkat (DABS), said on Sunday the Naghlu dam's power generation capacity has doubled from 50 megawatts to 100 megawatts after its two turbines were rehabilitated. A DABS statement received by Pajhwok Afghan News said due to special attention of DABS, the power production zone and the World Bank, the Naghlu dam's two turbines were recently fundamentally activated. ... (More on P4)...(8)

Lawrence to Play Afghan War Veteran in Her Next Film



KABUL - Jennifer Lawrence is set to play Afghanistan war veteran in her next movie, according to British newspaper Dai-

ly Mail report. The Oscar-winning star has joined forces with acclaimed theatre director Lila Neugebauer for an as-yet-

untitled movie that will see her play the role of a US soldier who suffers a traumatic brain injury in Afghanistan, the report said. Jennifer's on-screen character struggles to recover from her injuries upon her return home, according to Collider. The Oscar-winning Silver Linings Playbook star is a producer on the project along with Scott udin, Eli Bush and Justine Polsky with production set to begin in June in New Orleans. Jennifer could star in the movie alongside Atlanta star Brian Tyree Henry, who has already

held discussions about taking on the role of the male lead. Neugebauer's star has been rising with a number of feted Broadway and off-Broadway productions under her belt, including 2018's rendition of Kenneth Lonergan's The Waverly Gallery starring Elaine May and Lucas Hedges. Meanwhile, Jennifer revealed plans to take a career break back in 2017. Announcing her hiatus two years ago, the Red Sparrow star said: 'I'm taking [a break]. I don't have ... (More on P4)...(12)