

<b>Jalalabad</b> Partly Cloudy 31°C 15°C	<b>Ghazni</b> Partly Cloudy 23°C 10°C	<b>Kandahar</b> Clear 33°C 14°C	<b>Mazar</b> Clear 32°C 17°C	<b>Herat</b> Partly Cloudy 31°C 14°C	<b>Bamayan</b> Partly Cloudy 17°C 3°C	<b>Kabul</b> Partly Cloudy 21°C 6°C
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**Daily Outlook Weather Forecast**

# MPs Split Over Ghani's Ability to Fix National Issues

KABUL - After assuming office in 2014, President Ashraf Ghani vowed to define more working and comprehensive strategies to tackle security and economic issues among others, but MPs are now almost evenly divided over Ghani's ability to deal with the ongoing crisis. On Monday, lawmakers in the Wolesi Jirga (Lower House of Parliament) expressed mixed ideas over Ghani's ability to handle the ongoing turmoil in the country. In Monday's session, some lawmakers raised deep concerns over what they described as Ghani's authoritarianism, saying that Ghani himself was part of the problem in the



country. They suggested the people must now unite and determine their own fate. Amid a surge in security threats and the recent attack by Taliban insurgents on the army camp in the northern province of Balkh, that killed over 150 soldiers, lawmakers also appear to be losing confidence in Ghani's administration. Some MPs accused their colleagues of playing into the hands of the president. "If we (lawmakers) had dealt with the hospital attack responsibly, we would not face this situation today," said MP Raihana Azad, referring to the army base attack. "We have violated the reputation ... (More on P4)...(8)

## Defence Minister, Army Chief Quit over Balkh Bloodbath



KABUL - President Ashraf Ghani on Monday accepted resignations of defence minister and army chief after the Balkh carnage at the hands of Taliban, his office said. The decision came at a high-level security meeting chaired by President Ghani and attended by Chief Executive Officer Abdullah Abdullah, National Security Advisor (NSA) Mo-

hammad Hanif Atmar and the outgoing defence minister and army chief. The security situation of the country was discussed and options for the development and empowerment of security forces were explored at the meeting, statement from the Presidential Palace said. Defence Minister Abdullah ... (More on P4)...(11)

## Bahrami Acting Defence Minister, Yaftali Army Chief

KABUL - Tariq Shah Bahrami has been appointed as acting defence minister and Sharif Yaftali as army chief, a well-placed source said on Monday. The new appointments came after Defence Minister Abdullah Habibi and Army Chief Qadam Shah Shahim were removed from their positions. Maj. Gen. Dawlat Waziri, spokesman for the Ministry of Defence (MoD), confirmed to Pajhwok Afghan News the dismissal of the minister and the army chief. However, Waziri did not confirm the appointment of Bahrami and Yaftali. Bah-



rami has served as deputy security head at the Ministry of Interior (MoI) and Yaftali as commander of the 203rd Thunder Military Corps. (Pajhwok)

## World Bank to Help Build Peshawar-Kabul Highway

WASHINGTON - Pakistani Finance Minister Ishaq Dar has urged the World Bank to finance a major project in the Pak-Afghan region, which could greatly enhance intra-regional trade. The project - Peshawar-Kabul highway - would not only link Peshawar with the Afghan capital but would also be a major commercial link between the South and Central Asian regions. The finance minister discussed this and other projects with senior officials of the World Bank group in

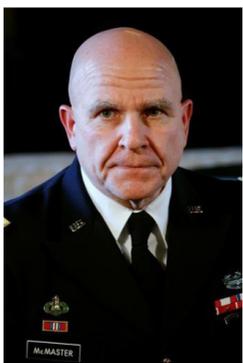
Washington last week on the sidelines of the group's spring meetings. The Pakistan Embassy, which released the details of these meetings, said the World Bank had agreed in principle to finance the Peshawar-Kabul highway project. Mr Dar also asked the World Bank to consider leading a consortium to finance the Diamer-Bhasha dam project. In his talks with officials of the World Bank group, the minister underlined the structural changes the government had introduced to encourage sustainable ... (More on P4)...(9)

## UN Condemns Ongoing Torture of Detainees in Afghanistan

GENEVA - A new U.N. report finds torture continues to be widespread in Afghan detention centers, despite the government's stated commitment to eliminate the practice. The report is being jointly issued by the U.N. Assistance Mission in Afghanistan and the U.N. Human Rights Office. The report spans a two-year period between January 2015 and December 2016. U.N. monitors interviewed 469 conflict-related detainees in 62 detention facilities administered by Afghan security forces and national police. U.N. human rights spokeswoman, Liz

Throssel, tells VOA more than one-third of the detainees gave credible accounts of being subjected to torture or ill-treatment. "The majority of the people who were spoken to said that they were tortured in order to make them confess, and that once they had given a confession and had signed it or given their thumb print to the confession, the torture and ill-treatment stopped. And, what they said was that in many cases they did not understand or they could not read what was written on their supposed confession," she said. ... (More on P4)...(10)

## US Vows to Support Afghanistan in Anti-Terror War



KABUL - US National Security Advisor (NSA) Gen. McMaster has strongly condemned the terrorist attack on the Shaheen Military

Corps in northern Balkh province. In a telephonic conversation with his Afghan counterpart Hanif Atmar, McMaster promised complete support for Afghanistan on the behalf of President Donald Trump and the American people. McMaster applauded the sacrifices and devotion of ANDSF in the fight against terrorism. He hailed ANDSF's determination to safeguard Afghanistan from terrorists as unique and unrivaled. The US NSA offered condolences to the martyred soldier's families and prayed for the swift recovery of the injured ... (More on P4)...(12)

## War will not End until National Unites: Dostum

KABUL - First Vice President Abdul Rashid Dostum on Sunday donated blood for security forces who have fallen victim to recent attacks. In reaction to Friday's the deadly attack on the 209 Shaheen Military Corps Headquarters in Balkh, Dostum said after giving blood that the war will not end until the nation unites. "I just want to say one sentence - enough is enough," Dostum said. Meanwhile a number of civil society activists on Monday held a demonstration on Wazir Akbar Khan Hill and called on security officials to resign. They also sympathized and apologized to the 209 Shaheen military corps victims for the tragedy. "Officials are irresponsible, after their identification by an authorized commission they (officials) must be sent to jail," said Rizwanullah Shayon a civil society activist. "We feel ashamed of officials," said Naibullah Nangyal. On the other hand, a number of Mazar-e-Sharif civil society activists ... (More on P4)...(13)

### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Procuring Entity	National Procurement Authority (NPA) on behalf of MEW
Funded By	Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Item Description	Consultancy Services for DETAIL DESIGN OF Kelagai Storage Dam
Reference No	NPA/MEW/96/CS-1573/QCBS
Deadline for Submission of EOI	May 17, 2017, 15:00 hrs (Kabul Local Time)
Address for Submission of EOI	Request for Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail):  <b>Attention: Mr. Aziz Ahmad Obaidi</b> National Procurement Authority Administrative Office of the President Pashtunestan Wat, Kabul, Afghanistan  Email: <a href="mailto:aziz.obaidi@aop.gov.af">aziz.obaidi@aop.gov.af</a> copy to <a href="mailto:ahabmu@gmail.com">ahabmu@gmail.com</a> , <a href="mailto:mohsin.nisar@aop.gov.af">mohsin.nisar@aop.gov.af</a> , <a href="mailto:umar.sultani@aop.gov.af">umar.sultani@aop.gov.af</a>
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### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Procuring Entity	National Procurement Authority (NPA) on behalf of MEW
Funded By	Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Item Description	Consultancy Services for DETAIL DESIGN OF SAGI HYDROPOWER PROJECT
Reference No	NPA/MEW/96/CS-1574/QCBS
Deadline for Submission of EOI	May 17, 2017, 15:00 hrs (Kabul Local Time)
Address for Submission of EOI	Request for Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail):  <b>Attention: Mr. Aziz Ahmad Obaidi</b> National Procurement Authority Administrative Office of the President Pashtunestan Wat, Kabul, Afghanistan  Email: <a href="mailto:aziz.obaidi@aop.gov.af">aziz.obaidi@aop.gov.af</a> copy to <a href="mailto:ahabmu@gmail.com">ahabmu@gmail.com</a> , <a href="mailto:asadullah.haidari@aop.gov.af">asadullah.haidari@aop.gov.af</a> , <a href="mailto:n.wahedi@aop.gov.af">n.wahedi@aop.gov.af</a> ,
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### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Procuring Entity	National Procurement Authority (NPA) on behalf of MEW
Funded By	Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Item Description	Consultancy Services for detail design for Lower Kokcha multipurpose project
Reference No	NPA/MEW/96/CS-1282/QCBS
Deadline for Submission of EOI	May 17, 2017, 15:00 hrs (Kabul Local Time)
Address for Submission of EOI	Request for Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail):  <b>Attention: Mr. Aziz Ahmad Obaidi</b> National Procurement Authority Administrative Office of the President Pashtunestan Wat, Kabul, Afghanistan  Email: <a href="mailto:aziz.obaidi@aop.gov.af">aziz.obaidi@aop.gov.af</a> copy to <a href="mailto:ahabmu@gmail.com">ahabmu@gmail.com</a> , <a href="mailto:ahmad.noor@aop.gov.af">ahmad.noor@aop.gov.af</a> , <a href="mailto:umar.sultani@aop.gov.af">umar.sultani@aop.gov.af</a>
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