KABUL - The US Department Deputy Secretary of State John J. Sullivan who briefed reporters on his visit to Afghanistan said all militant groups in Afghani stan are read to join the peace process except the Taliban who by their deadly attacks on civilians showed that they do not have the intention to leave violence.

The US deputy secretary visited Kabul on Tuesday.

Pakistan Extends Afghan Refugees' Stay for 2 Months

PESHAWAR - In an expedi ened move, the government on Wednesday extended the stay of documented Afghan refugees in Pakistan for two months.

The decision came at a federal cabinet meeting in Islamabad, chaired by Prime Minsiter H ahad Khanz. Pakistan has been home to a total of 2.5 million Afghans.

Earlier, in the day, the Ministry of State and Frontier Region

4 of a Family Killed as Mortar Hits Helmand Home

LASHKARGAH - A mortar shell fired by security forces during a clash with a militia struck a house in the Nad Ali district of southern Helmand province, killing four members of a family including two children.

The attack was launched near the Basir Sayad police station.

KABUL - Nearly 40 insurgents have been killed during security op erations in various parts of the country over the past 24 hours, the Ministry of Defence said on Friday.

Another eight civilians were wounded and a dozen others captured alive during the joint operations in Nangarhar, Laghman, Kunar, Ghazni, Khottak, Logar, Masialan Wardak, Paktia, Kandahar, Uruzgan, Zabol, Fayroz, Baghlan, Farah, Nimroz and Helmand provinces, a MoD statement said.

The statement claimed the dead Taliban included four members of the Quetta Council and six captured enemy during the joint operations.

Nearly 40 Insurgents Killed in Past 24 Hours: MoD

KABUL - The political parties and movements have called for a more substantial role for them in the coming parliamentary and district elections.

Jame-e-Islami, Hizb-e-Islami led by Abdulah Abdullah, the National Islamic Movement of Afghanistan, also known as Jamahe-Milli, and five other political parties have called for an amendment to the election law, arguing that past elections failed to win the public trust.


The parties and movements have... (More on P6).