Explosives Used in Hotel Attack
Traced Back to Pakistan: NDS

KABUL - In a statement issued by the NDS, they have stated the vehicle used in Saturday’s deadly attack on the Intercontinental Hotel in Kabul had come from Pakistan.

The NDS also recovered the vehicle that attackers used to enter the hotel compound.

“The explosives materials used in the vehicle show that the material is made in Pakistan,” said the NDS in a press release.

According to the NDS statement, the explosive chemical used by the insurgents was produced by a company in Islamabad, but called Buto Industries Limited.

According to Buto’s website, the company is a modern state of the art explosive manufacturing company that is highly automated and can produce more than 2,350 metric tons of explosives per shift annually. [Read More on P4]

Polling Lists Being Elected Based on Old NICS

KABUL - Independent Election Commission (IEC) acting head Waheeduddin khatlak said on Wednesday that voter lists would be compiled based on the old National Identity Cards (NIC).

Budelshin, addressing a ceremony introducing a new commission, said the commission was busy cleaning up its activities in districts and provinces and fresh voter lists would be arranged using the manual NIC cards.

Despite efforts to launch distribution of electronic NICs, the plan could not be implemented due to a deadlock in the lower house.

According to Budelshin, doctors and the government had pledged to provide $244 million for the voter registration process.

The newly introduced commission’s third National Identification cards issue is under discussion.

He said the election process needed trust building and hard work in collaboration with other commission.

Hajizadeh added the role of security. [Read More on P4]

Pakistan Refusing Entry to Afghan Fruits at Torkham Gate

JALALABAD - Pakistan has been refusing to allow 60 tons of fruits loaded with fruits from Afghanistan to cross into the neighboring country via Torkham border crossing, officials said on Tuesday.

Shakirullah Sapi, spokesman for the Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACC), said around 60 trucks loaded with fresh fruits remained stranded on this side of the border in eastern Nangarhar province over the past eight days.

He said the issue had been conveyed to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry in Kabul.

He added the Afghan government said it would not allow the fruits until Pakistan officials resolved the issue and called on Pakistani authorities not to create hurdles for Afghan traders.

Haji Imran Khan, a fresh fruit businessman, said the issue had been shared with the central authority and efforts were being made on diplomatic front to resolve the problem.

In line with the Afghanistan Pakistan Trade Agreement (APTA) signed in July 2010, Mohammad Bashir Doda, a Nan- gharhar university teacher, said the Pakistani move to stop Afghan fresh fruits export was against the Asia Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA).

Meanwhile, Pakistan’s Embassy in Kabul said this was not limited to fresh fruits and the Pakistani government had banned imports of 800 items. (Pajhwok)