

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| Jalalabad Partly Cloudy 37°C 26°C | Ghazni Clear 31°C 16°C | Kandahar Clear 42°C 25°C | Mazar Clear 40°C 28°C | Herat Clear 39°C 21°C | Bamayan Clear 27°C 13°C | Kabul Clear 32°C 19°C | | Daily Outlook Weather Forecast |
|---|--|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|

Taliban Demand "United National Government" in Afghanistan

KABUL - The Taliban representatives who met with Afghan delegation in Pakistan have demanded the formation of a "United National Government" in Afghanistan. Pakistan's The Express Tribune news agency quoted an official source close to the talks as saying that both the Taliban and Afghan government delegation in their recent face-to-face closed-door talks exchanged lists of their demands. The official said that Afghan delegation asked Taliban for an immediate ceasefire stat-



ing that negotiations and attacks cannot move together. "The Afghan side told the

Taliban representatives that negotiations and attacks cannot move together," the

source is quoted by The Express Tribune as saying. The source has further said

that the Taliban agreed to halt attacks and apply a ceasefire if Pakistan and China would guarantee that a "United National Government" would be formed. According to the source, both sides will take the exchanged lists of demands to their respective leaderships before scheduling another round of peace talks. The Express Tribune further states that the Afghan side agreed to include the third-tier leadership of Taliban in the government but Taliban representatives demanded ...*(More on P4)...(10)*

Karzai Calls on Warring Parties to Stop Fighting Amid Talks

KABUL - Former President Hamid Karzai on Thursday called upon all warring parties to stop fighting in the wake of crucial round of talks between the Afghan government and Taliban in Pakistan. Peace talks hosted by Pakistan between Afghan officials and Taliban held in Islamabad, which were observed by China and US. Both the sides agreed that talks process should continue and the second round of negotiations would be held after the holy month of Ramadan. In a statement, Karzai had a meeting with Haji Din Mohammad who led the meeting with Afghan representative in Pakistan. Haji Din Mohammad briefed Karzai about the peace talks and hoped that the parleys would turn positive. *(Pajhwok)*



Hundreds Displaced, Houses Washed Away in Badakhshan Floods

FAIZABAD - Nearly three hundred families have been displaced and over hundred houses were washed away as a result of flash floods in northeastern Badakhshan, officials said Friday. The flooding which began Wednesday from Shuhada district in Badakhshan has possibly left several people dead as a number of villagers have gone missing, according to the local officials. "My husband is missing," a woman who is left homeless told TOLONews. "I don't know where my husband is, either trapped in the rubble or has been washed away." Meanwhile, the displaced families complained to have not received any assistance from the government or aid agencies. "We have no food, no shelter and no clothes," another displaced woman said. The villagers said over a thousand hectares of crops were also destroyed. Provincial Council members, meanwhile, also admitted zero assistance to the affected families. The provincial lawmakers warned many others villages were also on the verge of being ...*(More on P4)...(14)*

Russia's Federal Drug Control Service NATO has Done Nothing to Fight Drug Output in Afghanistan

MOSCOW - NATO forces have done nothing for the fight against drug production in Afghanistan, Russia's Federal Drug Control Service (FSKN) head Viktor Ivanov told a briefing on Friday in the Russian city of Ufa, the venue of an SCO summit (the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation). "Afghanistan's budget totals \$13bln while the drugs 'are forged' at the amount of \$150bln," Ivanov said noting that the country cannot alone cope with the problem and the shadow economy lends



money to illegal production. "If we pin our hopes on temporary forces, we can see that NATO troops have done nothing there," he said. "Moreover, Special Inspec-

tor General for Afghanistan's Reconstruction John Sopko, the US citizen, used to say that opium fields flourished right outside the territories of ...*(More on P4)...(11)*

Ulomi Visits Faryab, Vows Districts Won't Collapse



MAIMANA - Amidst deteriorating insecurity conditions across northern Afghanistan, Interior Minister Noor-ul-Haq Ulomi visited northwestern Faryab province on Thursday, where he promised to not let the province deteriorate as neighboring Kunduz has. Accompanied by Police and Army generals, Ulomi stated the militants had not enough strength to seize control of districts. His comments came weeks after a number of districts in northern provinces fell to the Taliban, especially in Kunduz

and Badakhshan. "Unlike to other provinces, we have come to Faryab before something happens here," Ulomi said, referring to security failure to take preventive measures ahead of any incident occurs. A special unit of police forces has moved towards Faryab to eliminate all insurgent hideouts, Ulomi told local officials and elders. He vowed the security forces would have no mercy upon insurgents. "We have started the move from Kunduz and will continue ...*(More on P4)...(12)*

Congo Virus Spreads through Herat, Claims 10 More Lives

HERAT - At least six women and four men have so far died of fatal Congo virus in western Herat as the province saw 32 suspected cases over the past two months, provincial health officials said Thursday. The Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever (CCHF) virus have been recently reported and confirmed by health officials in Kabul, Herat, Nangarhar, Helmand and Nuristan provinces. However Herat Public Health Department officials told TOLONews the infectious disease was not new in Herat and it has spread dramatically through the province. According to officials, each year dozens of residents suspected to have Congo virus were being shifted to the Herat Regional Hospital. "My ...*(More on P4)...(13)*

SIGAR Vows Transparency in Spending US Money

KABUL - Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction (SIGAR) John F Spoko on Thursday said he would make joint efforts with the Afghan government to bring transparency in utilisation of US-funded money to Afghanistan. Spoko, who called on Chief Executive Office Abdullah Abdullah at his office, said they would soon launch training programmes jointly with the Afghan government to combat corruption.



He said the anti-corruption effort would be multifaceted and serious. He praised the unity government's latest

efforts at countering administrative corruption, a statement from the CEO office said. ...*(More on P4)...(15)*

Report Details Insurgents, Political Parties Recruiting in Afghan Schools

KABUL - A new report by the Afghanistan Research and Evaluation Unit (AREU) reports that armed opposition groups and political parties are seeking to embed themselves high schools around the country in order to extend their influence and recruit among Afghan youths. Research indicates that militant groups such as the Taliban, Jundallah, Hizb-e-Islami and Hizb ut-Tahrir are all already active in recruiting students from Afghan schools to join their ranks. "The survey covers 136 schools in 18 provinces and 431 teachers and students were interviewed," AREU deputy Mir Ahmad Joyenda said of the research methodology.

CEO Unhappy with Court Ruling in Farkhunda Case



KABUL - Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Abdullah Abdullah on Thursday said he was concerned about the Appellate Court's decision overturning death sentences in the mob killing of Farkhunda. Abdullah, who met with family members of the slain woman, said the court verdict

had raised multiple questions among the masses, a statement from his office said. Parents of Farkhunda had rejected the court decision quashing death sentences given to four men in the broad daylight lynching in March in the capital Kabul. An ...*(More on P4)...(16)*

Govt. Urged to Ensure Child Protection Measures in Talks



WASHINGTON - A top UN official on child rights on Wednesday urged the Afghan government to inject child protection measures into any negotiations with the Taliban. "It's essential to highlight the importance of child protection from the very start of talks," said Leila Zerrougui, the Special UN Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) for Children and Armed Conflict. The ideologies of the Taliban and other armed groups have precluded talks or cooperation with the United Nations, but the engagement of the government of Afghanistan with representatives of the Taliban offer an opportunity for direct dialogue on behalf of children with this group,

he remarked. Zerrougui said that in the absence of direct dialogue between these armed groups and the United Nations, it has always been important to search for other ways to try to improve the protection of children in the face of violations committed by the groups. The Taliban, Haqqani Network and Hezb-e-Islami are considered to be persistent perpetrators of violations against children in Afghanistan, and all three groups have been listed as such since 2007 in the UN Secretary-General's global Annual Report on children and armed conflict. The groups continue to use children to make, transport and ...*(More on P4)...(17)*

Herat Owes 900 Million Afs in Delinquent Electricity Bills: DABS



HRRAT - Up to 900 million Afs in delinquent electricity bills is owed to Da Afghanistan Breshna Sherkat (DABS) by the government in western Herat province, officials of the company revealed on Friday. "Up to 900 million Afs in delinquent bills is owed by government institutions, including a number of lawbreakers who refuses to ensure payment," acting head of BRESHNA Wahid Ahmad Kamrani said. "We have cut off the electricity of some of the lawbreakers permanently and yet despite that positive outcomes have not received." Independent analysts have questioned the DABS ap-

proach to reconciling the outstanding debt, saying that the government should support its efforts. "Cutting the transmission line will not be an effective measure," economic analyst Sayed Massoud said. "The government must act and get the money from the debtors; delinquent bills will also impact the quality of services and of course it is a major lose to our economy." Local officials in Herat have warned that, because the province's electricity is being provided by Iran and Turkmenistan, if bill payments are not made on time, there is a possibility the countries could terminate the power supply. *(Tolonews)*

Gigantic Anti-Rebels Operation Being Launched in South



KANDAHAR CITY - Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) were all set to launch a six-month joint military operation code named "Zaffar" to ensure government writ and flush out militants from southern provinces of the country, security officials said on Thursday. Afghan National Army (ANA), Afghan National Police, Afghan Local Police (ALP), border police and public order police would

take part in the offensive in southern Kandahar, Uruzgan and Zabul provinces. The governors, provincial police chief of the provinces, Directors of National Directorate of Security (NDS) and heads of other departments concerned of the three provinces decided in the joint meeting chaired by 205 military corps. Kandahar Governor Dr. Humayun Azizi said that co ...*(More on P4)...(19)*