Residents of northern Baghlan province say the provincial municipality is trying to convert the only recreational area in Pul-i-Khumri, the provincial capital, into a commercial area. Daud Rahimi, a resident, said: “A major part of the park serves as home to a commercial area. Daud Rahimi, a resident, said: “A major part of the park serves as home to a commercial area. The Afghan businessmen said terrorism and drugs posed a huge threat to women who could play a key role in protection of family members from drug abuse. She said hard labor and easy access to drugs in far-flung areas encouraged children and women into taking drugs to fight fatigue. The minister said nearly 12 million children and 850,000 women were addicted to drug addiction, citing United Nations Office on Drug and Crime (UNODC) report. She termed drugs a global issue and asked the international community to cooperate with Afghanistan in dealing with the problem. Presidential advisor Habibullah Wahaj said illiteracy among women was the main reason behind their addiction to drugs. She urged government officials to pay attention to education of women. She demanded more steps to prevent children and women from becoming drug addict because they were prime victims of terrorism as well. Despite... (More on P4)...(13)

Turkmenistan Gas Pipeline to Reach Afghanistan Borders Soon

KABUL - The pipeline gas network will be established in Tajik frontier town in Herat, aiming at enabling Afghan businessmen to purchase Turkmenistan’s imported gas. President Ashraf Ghani’s adviser on Central Asian countries, Mohammed Sharif Kargar, on Wednesday said Turkmenistan’s natural gas pipeline will arrive at Torghundi border town in Herat province in the near future. The Afghan businessmen would be able to purchase the gas from the pipeline in Torghundi border town. Under the project, Afghanistan will buy 23 billion cubic meters of gas annually, he added. With the completion of the pipeline... (More on P4)...(11)

USAID Hosts Workforce Development Program (USWDP) University Chancellor’s Forum

KABUL - USAID, in collaboration with the University Support and Workforce Program (USWDP) and the Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE), held a one-day University Chancellor’s Forum on July 11, 2017, to focus on the role of Afghan universities in shaping the future of Afghanistan. The participants discussed the role of institutions of higher learning as centers of knowledge and academic excellence, and as safe spaces that promote truth and human development. The forum included presentations and panel discussions on achievements, opportunities, best practices, and challenges facing institutions of higher learning here in Afghanistan. Chancellors and Vice Chancellors from 11 universities, including, Bablu University, Herat University, Jazan University, Kabul Medical University, Kabul Polytechnic University, Kandahar University, Kandahar University, Kunduz University, Najafgarh University, Shabibi Kabi University Education University, and Sharif University, gathered with the Deputy Ministers, United States Special Charge d’Affaires for Afghanistan, USAID officials and USWDP representatives reviewed... (More on P4)...(9)

KANDAHAR - Residents and public officials in Kandahar province say a ‘special maternity hospital’ is required on the southern zone level to deal with a rise in the number of births in the province. Officials say more women are complications which are easy preventable during pregnancy and child birth. Acting Kandahar public health director Dr. Mohammad Azim Zainal, in an exclusive interview with Palwak Afghan News, said other zones of the country had maternity hospitals, but Kandahar remained deprived of the vital service. The only maternity ward in Mirwah Hospital in Kandahar City lacked facilities and staff even to cope with patients coming from within Kandahar, he said. Zainal said hundreds of patients from Kandahar, Helmand, Uruzgan, Zabul and other provinces directly arrived at the maternity ward in Mirwah Hospital. He said shortage... (More on P4)...(8)

New Afghanistan Kandahar Hot Weather Forecast

Jalalabad Ghanzi Kandahar Herat Bamyan Kabul

Women’s Role Vital in Counter-Narcotics Effort

KABUL - Counter narcotics minister Salahuddin Agha has said women’s role was crucial in fighting the drug menace in the country, adding that women should be given a chance to fight against the menace. “Women have a key role in preventing their family members from slipping into drug addiction,” he said. Addressing a gathering here, Amani said terrorism and drugs posed a huge threat to women who could play a key role in protection of family members from drug abuse. She said hard labor and easy access to drugs in far-flung areas encouraged children and women into taking drugs to fight fatigue. The minister said nearly 12 million children and 850,000 women were addicted to drug addiction, citing United Nations Office on Drug and Crime (UNODC) report. She termed drugs a global issue and asked the international community to cooperate with Afghanistan in dealing with the problem. Presidential advisor Habibullah Wahaj said illiteracy among women was the main reason behind their addiction to drugs. She urged government officials to pay attention to education of women. She demanded more steps to prevent children and women from becoming drug addict because they were prime victims of terrorism as well. Despite... (More on P4)...(16)

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KABUL - In response to an increase in the number of anti-govt protests in the past year in Afghanistan, Reporters Without Borders (RSF) is today issuing recommendations on the safety of Afghan journalists at demonstration. RSF’s recommendations take account of the worsening security situation in Afghanistan, which is close to the fact that both Taliban and Islamic-State are carrying out more attacks. Both the frequency and violence of anti-government protests have grown in the past year, and covering them has increasingly become a source of tension between journalists, demonstrators and the security forces. A dozen journalists were shot dead or beaten by public officials or by security personnel from Kabul when the president visited the central province of Bamyan on 29 August 2016. Journalists have also been injured or beaten during two other major demonstrations. A suicide bombing killed on both the Lisbon... (More on P4)...(8)

RSF’s Recommendations on Afghan Journalists and Demonstrations

KABUL - Preliminary investigations indicates that blast in the south of Kabul was triggered by a gas cylinder that killed four people and injured 15 others. Basir Mujahid, spokesman for the 101st Afghan Commandery, said the explosion happened in the limits of the sixth police district on Monday night when a number of drug addicts had the blast had resulted from a gas cylinder. The spokesman added most of the injured had been discharged from hospitals after receiving first medical aid. (Palwak)

Afghan Journalists and Demonstrations

KABUL - Afghanistan has condemned North Korea’s and Ballistic Missiles (ICBM) Test. The test of “Hwasong-14” recently launched by North Korea was in violation of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) resolutions. A spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) said on Tuesday that the test of the medium and intercontinental ballistic missil... (More on P4)...(10)

Russian ICBM Test

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