Reforms for Parliamentary Vote
Expected Within Two Months

KABUL - The Electoral Reform Commission (ERC) on Sunday announced that Parliamentary reform would pave the way for a new round of par-liamentary elections to be in place within two months. Yet ERC officials have also reaffirmed their commitment to bringing broader, funda-mental reforms to the country’s electoral system.

Meanwhile, a number of election observers have expressed doubts about the ERC’s capacity to implement the necessary and funda-mental reforms they have clamored for since the tumultuous, fraud-tainted 2014 presidential election. The ERC has been given three

months by President Ashraf Ghani to get reforms in place. “If this timeline is extended, naturally we will go on three programs, a short term pro-gram for holding the parliamentary elections, a medium term program for the next two years, and a long term program for future elections in Afghanistan,” ERC Deputy Chair Salamuddin Tahmawal told on Sunday. Although the ERC has not been charged with selecting the date for par-liamentary elections, which are already two months delayed, it’s officials have hinted at the likely timeframe for the elections by pledging to undertake the necessary reforms within two months. “We need to (More on P8-9)"

ALP, Border Police Blamed for Death with Taliban

FAIZABAD - Police Chief of northeastern Badakhshan province has blamed Afghan Local Police (ALP) and border police for the alleged surrender to Taliban in West Apsher District in Ghor. Baba Jan absluted police and blamed on Na-ional Security Forces (NSF) for giving up to the police in the north and ALP for reaching a shameful deal with the enemy and handing them over strategically important base in the north. He, on his Facebook wall questioned the surren-der of border police and ALP commanders at a time when they did not run short of weapons and other equipment.

He said that border police and ALP commander had enough weapons and other equipments, hence their surrender was questionable.

Baba Jan also accused provincial council head who was appointed a few days back by security officials through his links with Taliban and now he blamed police for their surrender in Wardak.

Security officials earlier said Taliban took control of a military base of Afghan security forces and captured 150 security personnel in Wardak distric-ct of northeastern Badakhshan province.

MoIC to Add New Chapter on Social Media to Mass Media Law

HERAT CITY - The Graould General in western Herat province announced that Salma Dam is expected to be completed by mid-2016 after a recent meeting on the closure of Diversion Tunnel Gate and start of filling of dam reservoir.

Amit Kumar Mohan, the General Manager, in a state-ment said that from the filling of 20 kilometers long and 3.7 kilometers wide dam reservoir will take nine to twelve months.

Salma Dam is a 5,400 million hydroelectric and irrigation project being (More on P7-8)

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Salma Dam Expected to be Completed by Mid-2016: India

FAIZABAD - Security offi-cials on Sunday said Taliban took control of a military base of Afghan security forces and captured 150 security personnel in Wardak dis-trict of northeastern Badakhshan province.

A military base in Tagram locality of the district was under constant attacks of militants for the last four days and the facility finally fell to Taliban on Sunday night.

Provincial police chief Col. Sakhi Davi Haidari confirmed taking of the military base to militants. He told Pajhwok Afghan News that 100 security men who were manning the base were also cap-tured by the Taliban. (More on P8-9)