Coordinated Taliban Attack Repulsed in Kabul Province

KABUL - A coordinated attack by the Taliban insurgents was repulsed by the Afghan security forces in capital Kabul province. According to security officials, the attack was launched late on Friday in Sayidkhail district, located around 50km in east of Kabul city.

The 21st Sibgh Corps of the Afghan National Army (ANA) forces in a statement said at least six Taliban insurgents were killed and others were wounded during the clashes with the security forces.

The statement further added that the attack was repulsed with the support of the artillery units of the Afghan army.

In the meantime, the 21st Sibgh Corps said an improvised Explosive Device (IED) planted by the Taliban...[More on P4-

Above 1,000 Displaced Families Aided in Uruzgan

TIRINKOT - More than a 1,000 war-displaced families were assisted in central Uruzgan province on Saturday.

The families fled homes a year ago in the interior Tirinkot, the provincial capital, from nearby areas and districts due to clashes between security forces and Taliban militants.

Provincial disaster management department head Esmatullah Faiz told Pajhwok Afghan News the aid included rice, ghee, tea, salt and beans.

He said about 1,091 families identified through a survey were given the food items.

Recent attacks and clashes in Tirinkot and districts have rendered more than 2,000 families homeless (Pajhwok)

8,000 in the Run as Pakistan Scholarship Exams Begin

KARACHI - The candidates for the examinations for scholarships has kicked off at the Pakistan Embassy in Kabul, an official said on Saturday.

Akerd Murtaza, the attaché said Pajhwok Afghan News the examinations for the candidates started on Friday and would continue for four days.

He said the test was conducted in diplomatic missions in Kabul, Jalalabad, Kandahar, Herat and Mazar-i-Sharif. Murtaza said 8,000 Afghans had applied online for the scholarship exams and all of them had appeared in the test.

He added an independent delegation from the Higher Education Commission of Pakistan had arrived in Kabul to monitor the examination. [More on P4-

147,000 Students Quality Entry Test Xan this Year

- Announcing this year’s university entrance test results, the Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE) on Saturday declared more than 147,000 examinees as successful.

KABUL - MoHE acting minister Abdul Latif Roshty told a ceremony for the results announcement that some 109,000 candidates aced the 1395-1396 solar university exam, with nearly 147,000 making it to universities.

According to him, around 61,000 successful students would be granted admission in public sector universities and about 32,000 students would be introduced to semi-higher education institutes.

More than 55,000 students would be absorbed in private higher education institutes either against discount or free of cost (Roshty said about 67,000 students equivalent to 35 percent) who took the exam this year...[More on P6-

Honorable Return of Refugees Top Priority: Balkhi

Refugee and Repatriation Minister Syed Hussain Alami Balkhi on Saturday said an honorable and dignified return of Afghan refugees from their host countries was a top priority of the ministry.

Balkhi said Pakistan would start registering undocumented Afghan refugees on August 16 and that the Afghan government provided two types of services to repatriates — facilitation and development.

He said UNHCR provided $200 to $400 in cash assistance to every returning family in addition to cash assistance from the International...[More on P6-

Girls Follow Big Dreams in Kabul Modeling Group

KABUL - The modeling group in Kabul has 34 members of which five are girls who say they have big dreams to follow.

In a small building in downtown Kabul, five girls who are part of a 34-member modeling group say they are determined to promote the traditional clothes of Afghanistan through the art.

Members of the modeling group said that nowadays people prefer to use traditional clothes for wedding parties.

Mahmoha, 17, a school student in her last grade, said she has come from the insecure Laghman province, in the east of Kabul.

Wak follows her dreams of walking on big stages and giving modeling a new face in Afghanistan.

She is the youngest member of her family and five months ago she joined the modeling group in Kabul.

Besides modeling, Wak said she is busy in acting in Afghan movies.

"Modeling is a new trend among girls in Afghanistan. I want to become a famous model. When I came here and saw the team, my interest increased..."[More on P6-

The Wolesi Jirga commission on human rights, civil society and women’s affairs head, lawmaker Fauzia Koofi, on Saturday demanded greater role for women in the government system.

Koofi told reporters in Kabul the government had ignored women’s participation in different government departments and urged greater role for the gender women in the country’s political landscape.

She said women’s role was vital for peace and stability in the country and their participation in executive and political areas was the need of the hour.

The lower house member said a strategy for political and social empowerment of women had been developed in consultations with civil society groups and women’s rights watchdogs.

"Without participation of women, the peace process is incomplete. The process needs more coordinators," she said...[More on P6-

Saikai Calls for Early Completion of Anti-Terror Convention

NEW YORK - Mahmoud Saikal, the permanent representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations, has called for early conclusion of the Comprehensive Convention for Combating International Terrorism.

"Afghanistan calls for the early conclusion of the Comprehensive Convention for Combating International Terrorism, which is crucial importance to the international community’s counter-terrorism architecture," Saikal said at the UN General Assembly Debate on Implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

The Afghan envoy said the threats of terrorism and violence still constitute one of the most serious threats to a stable and peaceful international order.

"No country is more familiar with the horrors of terrorism than Afghanistan. Our people have been in the forefront of the global fight against terrorism for over two decades," Saikal added.

He said thousands of Afghans, the national security forces, tribal, religious and political leaders, and other members of society have sacrificed their lives to secure peace in Afghanistan and advance global security. Saikal said that Afghanistan has achieved considerable progress in the security, economic...[More on P6-

Afghanistan’s Infrastructure Development Stressed

BEIJING - Entrepreneurs and intellectuels from Afghanistan, Pakistan, India and China have underlined the need for building rail, road and hydropower connections.

Such transnational and regional infrastructure development would create employment opportunities for the Afghan people, senior officials from the three countries agreed at a seminar in Beijing.

Speaking at the event on Friday, British Ambassador to China Dame Dame Barbara Woodward stressed the importance of bringing together Afghan, British...[More on P6-

Saizbi Bank is one of the largest banks in Afghanistan serving the nation with 75 branches, 9 Extension Counters, 57 ATMs and 2 Cash Deposit Machines across the country.

Quote of the Day

You just got with the flow because life is not all about love you feel.

Post Malone