Herat Residents Complain of Ramadan Price-Hike

HERAT CITY – Some residents of western Herat province complain of increasing food prices in Ramadan, saying rates of essential items are lowered in other countries in the holy month. Gholam Rasoul, a resident of the provincial capital, said prices of all food items had shot up with the advent of Ramadan. People were unable to buy these things, he grumbled.

Before Ramadan, the price of one bag of rice — 25 kilograms — was 2,000 afghani. But the current price of the same quantity of 2,300 afghani.

Abdul Hadi, another inhabitant of Herat, alleged: “Prices have shot up abruptly while business owners are selling these at a higher rate. afghani falling in value or the country’s currency.

Low-income groups and poor families were the worst affected by the price-hike, he said, asking the authorities concerned to take effective measures to control the situation. "(More on P4)..."

President May Manipulate Powers Conferred on Him by Peace Jirga: Experts

Some political experts argue that the Peace Jirga gave some powers to the president which he might use them for political purposes and that the peace process may be faced with challenges.

Dostum Warns Against More Inattention to North Security

He said the Jirga gave the power of creating a negotiating team to the president. Certain characteristics, numbers and other specialities of the participants had been explained in details. But Political Expert Ghulam Jilani Zwak told Pajhwok Afghan News the president may manipulate this point for political advantage.

KABUL - The Peace Jirga was launched on April 29 continued till May 3 and is to final 25-point statement on its fifth and last day. The Jirga stressed over intra-Afghan talks and asked the government and the Taliban to enter a ceasefire. The grand assembly of elders suggested to the president to control the peace talks from one unified address and form a negotiating team. But looking at the 11th and 18th points of the statement of Consensus Peace Jirga, expert believed the president confused huge powers which might be manipulated for political gains. The 11th point of the statement demanded the creation of a delegation to lead peace negotiations with the Taliban. Certain characteristics, numbers and other specialities of the participants had been explained in details.

KABUL - A number of losing Wolves Jirga candidates on Wednesday closed the road to the Presidential Place in the Zambaq Square of Kabul. Around 60 candidates from Helmand, Kandahar, Nangarhar, Maidan Wardak, Farkhunda, Logar, Baghlan, Takhar, Badakhshan, Samangan, Herat and the Kuchi constituency demanded a special court to address fraud in the polls. They warned of staging widespread demonstrations and closing "(More on P6)..."

KABUL - National Security Advisor (NSA) Hamid Khalilzad has met Pakistan Ambassador Zahir-ul-Malik and discussed regional coopera
tion and peace process. A statement from NSA media’s office received by Pajhwok Afghan News said the two sides discussed the Afghan peace parleys, regional cooperation, counter-terrorism and President Ashraf Ghani’s upcoming visit to Pakistan on the invitation of Prime Minister Imran Khan. "(More on P6)..."