

Jalalabad Partly Cloudy 22°C 7°C	Ghazni Clear 8°C -3°C	Kandahar Clear 16°C 1°C	Mazar Clear 13°C 5°C	Herat Clear 15°C 1°C	Bamayan Clear 1°C -9°C	Kabul Clear 12°C -0°C
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Daily Outlook Weather Forecast

Iranian President Terrorism Knows No Boundaries

TEHRAN - Iranian President Hassan Rouhani on Wednesday has warned that terrorism knows no boundaries, urging an international campaign to be launched to eliminate this scourge.

"Today, it has been proved that terrorism will serve the interests of no country and it cannot be confined to a region as it is spreading like a dangerous disease," Rouhani said in a meeting with Luxembourg's Foreign Minister Jean Asselborn in Tehran on Wednesday.

Rouhani said certain countries are mistaken to think that they can use terrorist



groups as a means to achieve their political ends, or that they can limit terrorism to a certain geographical region or some countries.

He added that some Western countries seem to lack serious determination to battle terrorism, adding that growing terrorist activities across the globe are indicative of the urgent need for taking firm action against terrorism.

Iran, as a victim of terrorism, is ready to cooperate with all countries and the European Union in the anti-terror campaign, Rouhani concluded. (PressTV)

Nangarhar Urges Govt. to Probe Qadir's Claims

JALALABAD - A number of Nangarhar residents, tribal elders and civil society activists on Wednesday appealed to government to investigate claims made this week by first deputy speaker of the Wolesi Jirga, Abdul Zahir Qadir, who accused the National Security Council of being in support of Daesh.

Those present at the meeting also urged Qadir not to conduct any activities against government's orders.

"If the remarks are true then people must know what to do and the government must clear up the issue so people know the truth," said Fraidon Momand, a Nangarhar MP. Meanwhile Nangarhar tribal elders asked the central government to send a delegation to investigate reasons behind insecurity in Nangarhar.

"People demand that a delegation is sent to investigate reasons for insecurity in Nangarhar and people should not have to live in fear," said Malik Osmani, one tribal elder.

"If Zahir Qadir's remarks are true then for his legitimacy he must provide documents otherwise Qadir must avoid making such remarks," said Zahir Haqani another tribal elder.

Meanwhile Salim Khan Kunduzi, Nangarhar provincial governor, spoke out about sending illegal armed men to Achin district of Nangarhar province.

"First deputy speaker of the house Abdul Zahir Qadir - without discussing or coordinating with local government - has sent more than 200 illegally-armed men to ... (More on P4)...(8)

Afghan Forces Attempt to Rescue Soldiers Held Hostage by Taliban

ISLAMABAD - Afghan authorities said Wednesday that a security operation is underway in a northern part of the country to rescue 16 soldiers and two foreigners who the Taliban took captive after their helicopter crash-landed in a district controlled by insurgents.

Defense Ministry spokesman Dawlat Waziri told VOA the MI-17 helicopter owned by a private foreign company was on its way to Faryab province Mazar-i-Sharif and due to a



problem forced pilot to make an emergency landing in Pash-tun Kot district.

Waziri said Taliban insurgents

surrounded the helicopter, prompting a shootout that killed two Afghan soldiers and a crew ... (More on P4)...(6)

Frozi Transferred from Bagram Prison to Kabul Hospital

KABUL - National Directorate of Security (NDS) ordered to transfer Khalilullah Frozi, who was sentenced to 10 years in prison late last year for his part in the Kabul Bank scandal, from Bagram Prison and transferred to Shah Amanullah Hospital on the orders of the officials said Wednesday.

In a letter issued by the NDS, orders were given to move Frozi due to health problems.

"A letter was sent by the 40th-Chairmanship (division) of the NDS where it stated that Khalil Frozi should be transferred to Shah Amanullah Hospital due to diabetes and cardiac problems in order to take care of him," said Mir Sahibgul, head of Bagram Prison.

Asked whether an investigative agency had the authority to transfer a prisoner, Sahibgul said: "Should we leave a sick prisoner to die and not



transfer him?"

Frozi was also recently embroiled in the controversial signing of the Smart City housing project. One of President Ashraf Ghani's special representative, Ahmad Zia Massoud, was also allegedly present at the signing. But Massoud's legal advisor said in questions over this that Massoud had been unaware of any problems with regards to the deal.

But the legal advisor for the Ministry of Urban Develop-

ment Affairs (MUDA) - one of the main bodies that is said to have played a key role in the deal - said there had been a problem with the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) which has since been sent to the Attorney General's Office (AGO). The AGO meanwhile has denied receiving such a letter by MUDA. "We have not received any letter and we do not want to say anything in this regard," said Arif Noori, head of ... (More on P4)...(7)

Pakistan Considers Extending Deadline for Afghan Refugees



ISLAMABAD - Registered Afghan nationals are likely to be allowed to stay in Pakistan till December 2017, said official sources.

Pakistan media reports the Ministry of State and Frontier Region (Safron) put up a summary to the Pakistani prime minister secretariat a few days ago proposing that Afghans with Proof of Registration (PoR) cards should be given extra time to stay in the country.

If the federal cabinet approves the summary, this will be the fourth extension given to the refugees.

It is up to the federal cabinet to approve or reject the summary," said an official who did not want to be named, reports Dawn Media.

He said that during a meeting of the tripartite commission held in Kabul in August last year, the Afghan government had sought a three-year extension for registered refugees. The commission comprising Pakistan, Afghanistan and United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) had discussed a draft plan for repatriation of refugees.

Federal government had issued PoR cards to 1.6 million Afghans. The cards renewed last year will expire on December 3, 2016.

The stay of registered and unregistered Afghans for a

longer period was discussed at a recent meeting of Corps Commanders. Return of Afghans, particularly those not registered, was listed in the National Action Plan.

The government decided to expel all unregistered Afghans after the massacre at the Army Public School and College, Peshawar, in December 2014. But the implementation of the decision was put on hold because the federal and provincial governments could not work out a mechanism for the repatriation of illegal Afghans.

"We know nothing about compulsions of the federal government for its lenient policy despite the fact the establishment and provincial governments also wanted to resolve the refugees' issue," said a senior official.

"This may be the last extension for registered Afghans," he said. If the cabinet approved the extension plan, sources said, the government, instead of renewing the PoR cards, would issue a notification to the quarters concerned to consider the document valid till December 2017.

The Afghan government and UNHCR are against forcible repatriation of registered refugees and have asked Islamabad to let them return to their country through the voluntary repatriation programme. The ... (More on P4)...(10)

NDS Arrest Head of Hizb Ut-Tahrir

KABUL - Abdul Qayoum, the head of Hizb ut-Tahrir which has been accused of encouraging the youth to join insurgent groups has been arrested by the National Directorate of Security (NDS).

The head of Hizb ut-Tahrir which has allegedly been distributing books and pamphlets promoting extremist ideas and encouraging people to join militant groups and of threatening people in western Nimroz province has been arrested. Documents in his possession were also seized, said the NDS in a statement. The move comes just days after CEO Abdullah Abdullah said at the Council of Ministers (COM) meeting that the Hizb ut-Tahrir organization is actively encouraging young people to join insurgent groups. Abdullah said this group is not a political party but an informal body among insurgent groups and conducts covert activities in Afghanistan. He said nothing much has been done in the past to stop the activities of this group but government is now taking the matter seriously and investigating the group. "An organization under the name of Hizb-ut-Tahrir is operating with in the academic environment and at a community level particularly among the youth. The group constitutes the unofficial or civilian branch of insurgent groups that motivate the young generation and the people to move toward terrorist activities," Abdullah said. The Ministry of Justice has acknowledged that despite not being licensed to carry out activities, the group is active in numerous provinces. The group is believed to be very active in the West, particularly in the ... (More on P4)...(11)

Saeedi Blames 'Fifth Pillar' for Attack



KABUL - Political analyst Ahmad Saeedi who survived an assassination attempt on Tuesday evening urged government to track down the perpetrators and bring them to justice. But at the same time he blamed the so-called 'fifth pillar' for being involved.

Speaking to TOLONews, Saeedi blamed what he called was the 'fifth pillar' within government for the attack, adding that "I was attacked neither by Taliban nor by al-Qaida; I have been attacked by the 'fifth pillar' and the government should explain this." He said that government officials have asked him to go abroad for treatment but he has not accepted this.

"I will not go abroad for treatment. I have told them if I die they must

bury me alongside army and police martyrs," he added.

Doctors at Kabul's Emergency Hospital said although Saeedi had been shot in the head twice, he survived and is in a stable condition. "The wounds are in his head but it has not damaged his brain. He is in a good condition," said Nkila Radili, a coordinator at the hospital.

"There were two bullets in his head. We took one of them out and the operation was successful."

The Interior Ministry meanwhile said that it has started investigations into the incident. "We started investigations straight away and we have a number of leads. The motive does still need to be established," said Sediq Sediqi, the Interior Ministry spokesman. (Tolonews)

Kunduz Bombing: US Attacked Clinic 'in Error'



KABUL - A US aircraft attacked a Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) clinic in Kunduz city because of "human error", a US military inquiry said Wednesday.

The investigation found that the crew of the AC-130 gunship mistook the clinic for a nearby government building that had been seized by Taliban.

At least 30 civilians were killed in the 3 October attack, amid a campaign to retake Kunduz from Taliban forces. MSF described the attack as a war crime and demanded a

thorough investigation. The medical charity also disputed initial US justifications for the attack, which suggested US forces had struck near the hospital because they had come under fire in the area. The US military later admitted that the strike was a mistake and launched an investigation.

On Wednesday, the US commander in Afghanistan, Gen John Campbell, said on Wednesday that the crew of the AC-130 had mistaken the MSF clinic for a nearby security ... (More on P4)...(9)

Britain Announces 5 Mln Pounds for Quake-Affected Families in Afghanistan

KABUL - Britain has announced a grant of five million pounds for Afghan families affected by a powerful earthquake in October.

President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani has said that the grant would be distributed to 7,100 families whose houses were completely demolished by the 7.5 magni-

tude earthquake.

In a meeting with the British Ambassador to Kabul Karen Pierce in Presidential Palace "ARG", President Ghani added under the each quake-affected family would receive from Afs 60,000 to Afs 100,000 each through the National Solidarity Program and ... (More on P4)...(12)