

Pak Civil, Military Officials Stress Better Border Management

PESHAWAR - Pakistan's top civil and military officials have stressed better border management at all crossing points with Afghanistan, particularly at Torkham in the Khyber Agency. The call came at meeting of the Apex Committee of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Fata, attended by Governor Iqbal Zafar Jhagra, Chief Minister Pervez Khattak and Chief of Army Staff (COAS) Gen. Raheel Sharif. Director General of Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) Lieutenant General Rizwan Akhtar, Corps Commander Peshawar Lt. Gen. Hidayatur Re-



hmanand other senior officials were also present at Saturday's meeting. Illegal movement across the Durand Line was discussed in detail, the army's media wing said in a statement. The participants decided to implement a proper border-crossing mechanism. The governor and chief minister appreciated the wholehearted support of the Pakistan Army and reiterated the resolve to rid the province of terrorism and extremism. (Pajhwok)

Taliban Military Commander Held in Logar Raid

PUL-I-ALAM/MEHTAR-LAM - A Taliban's military commander was detained and his three fighters killed during an operation in central Logar province, officials said on Sunday. The rebel commander was detained on Saturday by National Directorate of Security forces during an operation in Dobandi locality of Khoshi district, the governor's spokesman, Salim Saleh, told Pajhwok Afghan News. He said identified the detained commander as Qari Shamsur Rahman, who spearheaded Taliban's military activities in Gardez, the capital of southeastern Paktia province. Three of Rahman's fighters, who opened fire at the security forces, were killed in retaliatory fire. Saleh said Rahman had been involved in various attacks in Logar and Paktia provinces. According to Saleh, the security forces also recovered a pickup vehicle, one machinegun, two ... (More on P4)... (17)

Construction of Gereshk-Lashkargah Road Gets Underway

KABUL - Construction work on the 32 kilometer Gereshk-Lashkargah road in southern Helmand province started on Friday, officials confirmed. Asian Development Bank are funding the \$33.7 million USD project, which is expected to take two years to complete. An Afghan company and a Chinese firm will implement the project while government will closely monitor construction activities of the road, public works officials said on Saturday. According to them, 300 villages will be connected with Gereshk and Nad Ali districts and also the provincial capi-



tal, Lashkargah. The Deputy Minister of Public Works, Ahmad Wali Sherzai, urged security forces to ensure security along the road. "Construction of the road will resolve the problems faced by people and we will thor-

Teenage Suicide Bomber Detained

KABUL - A 17 years old would-be suicide bomber has been arrested by intelligence officials in Kabul, the spy service said on Sunday. In a brief statement, the National Directorate of Security (NDS) said the detainee wanted to carry out a suicide attack in Kabul, but he was identified and arrested by intelligence operatives. Baharullah alias Asadullah was detained in 5th municipal district of Kabul. The teen age had been recruited by Taliban to carry out a suicide attack in Kabul, but NDS agents identified and captured him before reaching his target, the statement said. (Pajhwok)

Islamabad Ups Its Pressure on Taliban over Talks: Pakistani Experts

KABUL - A number of former Pakistani military officials and political experts believe that Islamabad has increased pressure on Afghan Taliban to join the peace process. They said Pakistani officials have sent a letter to the Taliban urging them to join the negotiations. According to Pakistani sources, Islamabad said in the letter that should the Afghan Taliban fail to join the peace process, members, along with their families, will be expelled from Pakistan. "Pakistan's government



sent a letter to the Taliban a few days back. In the letter Pakistan is asked to join the peace process, or they, along with families, will be expelled from Pakistan. If this is true then it will indicate that Pakistan is trying

Car-Truck Collision in Laghman Leaves 2 Dead, 3 Injured

JALALABAD - Two passengers were killed and three others injured in a car crash on the Kabul-Nangarhar highway in eastern Laghman province on Sunday, an official said. Sarhadi Zwak, the governor's spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News the Corolla model car crashed ... (More on P4)... (14)

MP Rejects Allegation of Sexually Assaulting Dancer in Peshawar

KABUL - An Afghan parliamentarian who has been accused of sexually assaulting a female dancer in Peshawar city of Pakistan said on Sunday that his enemies are spreading propaganda against him. While talking to a press conference in Kabul, Haji Shir Ali Ahmadzai said that ... (More on P4)... (15)

Pistachio, Asafetida Grown on 600 Acres of Samangan Land

AIBAK - Up to 600 acres of land in northern Samangan province has been cultivated with pistachio and asafetida seeds provided by the Ministry of Agriculture with World Bank's support, officials said on Saturday. Provincial National Horticulture and Livestock Programme (NHLP) head, Eng. Abdul Majeed Khairkhwah, told Pajhwok Afghan News the asafetida herb seeds and pistachio plans were distributed to farmers owning 350 acres of land on the outskirts of Aibak, the provincial capital, 50 acres in Fairoz Nakhchir, 75 acres in Hazrat Sultan, 75 acres in Khoram Wa-



Sarbagh district and 50 acres in Dara-i-Sauf districts of the province. In addition to the seeds, protection fences for gardens and water tanks with the capacity of storing 3000 litres of water were also given to these farmers for half an acre of land and \$300 in cash assistance to each grower, he said. Asafetida is a medicinal herb from the genus of Ferula. As a medicinal plant, its characteristics are anti-flatulent, digestion aid, fighting influenza, remedy for asthma and bronchitis, anti-microbial, ... (More on P4)... (16)

Nimroz Court Sentence 2 Alleged Kidnappers to Death

ZARANJ - A primary court in southwestern Nimroz province on Sunday sentenced two men to death on charges of kidnapping and killing a 5-year-old child. Qazi Noor Ahmad, act-

ing head of the appellant court, said Zakria, 5, was killed after being kidnapped from the provincial capital Zaranj three months ago. He added police had arrested four people red-handed while burying the child's corpse in a house. The four accused were present in the primary court. Of them, two were sentenced to death and two others acquitted for lack ... (More on P4)... (19)

Women among 4 Killed, Farmlands Damaged by Daikundi Floods

NIELI - At least four people have been killed and agriculture land damaged as result of rain-triggered floods in central Daikundi province, an official said on Sunday.

Provincial disaster management director, Reza Sidiqi, told Pajhwok Afghan News two women were among the dead. Hundreds of acres of farmland were damaged by the floods. The women were died in Kiti district, a 25 years old man in Miramor and another man on the outskirts of Nieli, the provincial capital, he ... (More on P4)... (20)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

You see exciting possibilities nearly everywhere you look today. However, don't expect to be suddenly struck over the head with answers to all of your pending questions. Instead, notice how your perspective is changing when it comes to your future. You're more willing to let an ambiguity resolve naturally. It's healthy to visualize the desired outcome to a situation now.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

Although you wish you could make plans for the future, you're not that eager to peer too far into the distance now. You may believe you are close to reaching an important milestone on your path to success, even if there's still a long way to go. But there is no reason to waste energy by concentrating on an immediate problem or unforeseen obstacle today.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You might experience an uncharacteristic desire for solitude today, but your friends will probably seek you out and ask you to accompany them on their latest adventure, anyway. Don't waste your time trying to rationalize your reclusive behavior because your logic won't resonate with others. Save your energy and just say yes. Once you resign yourself to joining the group, you'll quickly forget why you wanted to be alone earlier.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

If you're not comfortable with the interpersonal dynamics in a relationship, you have a perfect opportunity to push beyond your fears and speak up today. Although you often cling to the familiar because it fosters security, be courageous and take an emotional risk. Nothing is gained now by playing it safe; do whatever you can to align your deeds with your needs.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

An eccentric might arrive on the scene while the non-conformist Aquarius Moon reflects the energy of your 7th House of Others. A potentially exciting invitation may not be what you expected, but you could be tempted to turn down the offer because of scheduling constraints. However, today won't likely unfold according to your original plans anyhow.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

You may have several unusual tasks on today's to-do list, and you're eager to get started. However, you're not clear how everything will unfold until you actually begin, so don't waste time trying to fill in the details. Your best strategy is to relinquish your need to micromanage and simply make impromptu decisions along the way. You already have the necessary skills in your toolbox for whatever obstacle you might encounter.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

You're easily enticed into avoiding your long-term responsibilities for a while as you pursue a bit of pleasure today. Take time to express yourself in the present moment while the Moon is spotlighting your 5th House of Play. Don't be overly concerned about your unfinished business; you can complete your obligations tomorrow. For now, be creative in all your endeavors.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

Your friends will need to put extra effort into convincing you to go out today because the Moon's presence in your 4th House of Security reminds you of how much pleasure you derive from staying home. You wish you could watch the world go by quietly since your inner experience is much more compelling now than scattering your energy socially.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

Your need for independence is so strong these days that you might not be willing to justify your desires to anyone else. Obviously, you are willing to discuss almost any subject, but no one has the authority to tell you what to think or insinuate that your beliefs are wrong. The Moon's harmonious connection with stabilizing Saturn in your optimistic sign today lifts your spirit above the mundane events of your daily life.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

You might want to make a decision about money matters today, but it's tricky to focus on the specifics when you're being pulled in several directions. There are a few things you would like to do now, but there may not be enough cash to go around. Although social obligations can make your choices more complicated, remember to be nice to yourself, too. Ultimately, you must follow your bliss and encourage others to do the same.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

It's unnecessary to hide your heartfelt needs just because someone else may be uncomfortable with them. The Moon's current visit to your eclectic sign grants you permission to express your feelings, even if they're not what others expect. Nevertheless, you don't have the right to spew your opinions without doing so in a kind and respectful manner. Being considerate of those you love might change your words.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

Your spiritual orientation is currently capable of turning the most boring chore into a sacred act of gratitude. Luckily, this will be a magical day if you remember that it's up to you to create a positive atmosphere wherever you go by virtue of your attitude. Honor the richness of your imagination and aspire to experience beauty, even if it cannot be put into words.

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-71.

Across: 1. Smell, 5. Types of an engine, 9. Fog, 13. Marry, 14. Smell, 16. Cards with 1 symbol, 17. Nights before, 18. Sulk, 19. Stink, 20. Pub game, 22. Fortitude, 24. Romances, 26. Water vapor, 27. A type of hormone, 30. Silly talk, 33. Positioned, 35. Discussion group, 37. Mist, 38. Marsh, 41. African antelope, 42. A Musketeer, 45. Fosters, 48. Plaster, 51. Mishmash, 52. Anklebone, 54. A promiscuous woman, 55. Witness, 59. Warn, 62. Soft drink, 63. Skirt fold, 65. At a distance, 66. "What a shame!", 67. Steam bath, 68. Ballet attire, 69. Lease, 70. Court order, 71. If not.
Down: 1. Was indebted, 2. Opera star, 3. Obese, 4. Repair, 5. Boxer's punch, 6. Makes a mistake, 7. Sweetie, 8. Polished, 9. Xylophone, 10. Frosts, 11. Appear, 12. Sounds of disapproval, 15. French farewell, 21. Any day now, 23. Temporary living quarters, 25. Seats oneself, 27. Couch, 28. Moves briskly, 29. Morning moisture, 31. Thankless, 32. Segments of DNA, 34. A tribe of Israel, 36. Verdant, 39. Cup, 40. Not amateurs, 43. Pariah, 44. Leave in a hurry, 46. Western Russian city, 47. Emit long loud cries, 49. Applauds, 50. Criminal, 53. French for "Sister", 55. Stigma, 56. Barbershop emblem, 57. Dash, 58. Hindu princess, 60. Rodents, 61. Not false, 64. Make lace.

Yesterday's Solution: A crossword puzzle grid with the word 'BUTTON' highlighted.

Word search grid with words: STRAIN, BUTTON, POTRAWL, RREEFM, LCUDDLE, AJAEVN, UCLRJ, FLSUISOO, CHLSCLISRNDHV, KIEEIEGBUNDLE, FERTANRNERVEL, RFSCIRETTRCFR, ESTVUEEWEVAST, SMARTSNPRDRTO, HSLSCORENPBAX, FILETRIAAHOTI, LAYERTPKLCNEC.