

# 38 New Projects to Irrigate 25,000 Acres of Land: Zamir

KABUL - Implementation of 38 irrigation projects would help water 25,000 acres of land in 10 provinces of the country, the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL) said on Tuesday.

Contracts for the projects were signed between Agriculture Minister Asadullah Zamir and representatives of 16 construction companies in Kabul.

At the signing ceremony, Zamir said the projects worth more than 366 million afghanis would irrigate 25,000 acres of land and benefit more than 44,000 people. The projects would also create jobs for more than 5,000 people.

Three of the projects would be enforced in Samangan, six in Balkh, four in Parwan, one in Panjsher, four in Kabul, seven in Herat, four in Kunar, three in Laghman, two in Takhar and four in Baghlan.

Construction of each irrigation network would help ...*(More on P4)...(14)*



## 5 Militants Killed in Laghman Airstrike, Gunbattle

JALALABAD - Five Taliban fighters have been killed and two others wounded during an airstrike and in a clash in eastern Laghman province, the military said on Wednesday.

In a statement, 201st Selab Military Corps said the Afghan Air Force targeted a militant hideout in the Haiderkhel Ghray area on the outskirts of Mehtarlam on Tuesday. Two militants were killed in the attack.

Elsewhere, three insurgent were killed and two wounded during a gunbattle between Taliban and security forces in Alishang district. (Pajhwok)

## Book on Hamid Karzai Foreign Trips Hits Newsstands

KABUL - A book titled 'Starai Mazal' (Tiresome Journey), dealing with former president Hamid Karzai's foreign trips, has hit the newsstands in Kabul.

Published by the Acsose Publication Centre, the 183-page book has been written by senior journalist Hakeem Basharat, who is associated with the country's largest news agency Pajhwok Afghan News.

Basharat remained close to the former president and traveled with him on four important foreign trips to Pakistan, Germany, the United States and China.

"It was important for me to write about how our presidents or other ...*(More on P4)...(15)*

## Nuristan Clash Leaves 9 Rebels, 2 Police Dead

JALALABAD - Nine insurgents and two policemen were killed on Wednesday when the rebels stormed security posts in Nurgaram district of eastern Nuristan province, the governor said.

Hafiz Abdul Quayum told Pajhwok Afghan News the Taliban coordinatedly stormed the Ganda Labuk security check post in the morning, triggering a firefight that lasted four hours.

The conflict left nine insurgents and two police dead and 11 insurgents and one policeman injured, said the governor.

Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed the fighters killed 10 government soldiers and injured another 13 besides capturing three check posts. (Pajhwok)

## ANSF Keep Pressing Militants with Daily Raids: MoD

KABUL - Up to 84 militants have been killed and 17 injured across Afghanistan since early Tuesday as the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) continued to press Taliban and other militants by conducting daily raids and operations, the Ministry of Defense said Wednesday.

The counter-insurgency operations have been stepped up since late April when Taliban militants launched their annual spring offensive to target security forces.



Those among killed since Tuesday included two senior Taliban leaders and six fighters of the Islamic State (IS) terror group, the statement noted.

The Afghan army, in close coordination with police and national intelligence agency, conducted 18 search and cordon operations, 18 special ...*(More on P4)...(16)*

## Taliban Shadow District Chief Dead in Foreign Forces Airstrike

KABUL - Four Taliban, including the group's shadow administrative chief for the Chak district of central Maidan Wardak province, have been killed in a foreign forces airstrike, an official said on Wednesday.

Police spokesman Naqibullah Amini told Pajhwok Afghan News Mualvi Abdul Razeq and three more rebels had been killed in foreign forces airstrike in the Sebka locality.

He said the slain militants tried to attack security



forces but were eliminated in the airstrike before they could launch any attack.

Governor's spokesman, Abdul Rahman Mangal acknowledged the Taliban shadow district chief killed in foreign forces bombardment.

A resident of locality who wished to go unnamed said the Taliban administrative ...*(More on P4)...(19)*



## Call to Constitute Af-Pak Joint Media Commission

ISLAMABAD - Afghan and Pakistani journalists have demanded the creation of a joint media commission to promote closer interaction between media representatives from the neighbouring countries.

The call came at a meeting at the Nawa-i-Waqt House in Islamabad, attended by a delegation of Afghan journalists, their Pakistani counterparts and information officials. Both sides underlined journalists' role in strengthening bilateral relations.

Javid Siddiq, director of Nawa-i-Waqt Group of Publications, welcomed Afghan journalists and believed them on the freedom of the press in Pakistan. He believed media could play a positive role in shaping foreign policies of the two countries.

He said the press freedom had a long history in Pakistan, something that remarkably helped in bringing reforms and development to that country.

Afghan freelance journalist, Wahidullah Ghazikhel, said only free media represented the nations. The media could play its role in correcting government policies and strengthening relations between the two nations, he said.

Ghazikhel agreed creation of a joint media commission was needed to organise activities of journalist between the two countries and work together on issues of common interest. ...*(More on P4)...(17)*

## 5 Including Women Killed in Lashkargah Suicide Attack

LASHKARGAH - At least five people, including women, were killed and 42 others wounded in a suicide bombing in Lashkargah, the capital of southern Helmand province, on Wednesday.

Provincial police chief, Brig. Gen. Abdul Ghagfar Safi, told Pajhwok Afghan News the explosion took place at around 11am. "Afghan soldiers receiving salaries from Kabul Bank were targeted by a suicide attacker."

The Kabul Bank branch is located inside the Helmand police headquarters. Safi said the Rahmani Mosque was also damaged and a number of seminary students were injured as result of the attack.

An official at the Lashkargah Emergency Hospital, who wished to go unnamed, confirmed receiving 42 wounded people and five bodies from the scene of the bombing. Three women and two ANA soldiers were among the dead.

The source said 20 of the wounded were madrasa students and the rest border policemen and ANA soldiers.

The governor's spokesman, Omar Zwak, confirmed five people including three women were killed ...*(More on P4)...(18)*

### Outlook Horoscope

#### Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

**Aries** Although it may be contrary to your desire to roam free without any strings tying you down, you also long for the emotional security of nurturing love now. However, your internal conflict between safety and excitement reaches a crescendo when sweet Venus in sensitive Cancer squares radical Uranus in your impulsive sign.

#### Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

**Taurus** Irrational desires explode into awareness today, rattling your cage and disturbing the peace. You can imagine how expressing your feelings now could shake up a current relationship or inspire a new one. However, you may simply bury your newly awakened attractions because you don't necessarily like the idea of change.

#### Gemini (May 21-June 20)

**Gemini** Your friends might be testing your boundaries today by telling you about their recent escapades. They could even exaggerate their stories to epic proportions in order to shock your delicate sensibilities. But you are an inquisitive Gemini and can't help but ask lots of questions. Regardless of your personal values, the unconventional Venus-Uranus square titillates your imagination.

#### Cancer (June 21-July 20)

**Cancer** Everyone has different workstyles - and yours may be meticulous and methodical today. You need extra assurances that everything will be done on time because it's difficult to take people at their word when their behavior is so erratic. You expect others to fulfill their promises, but are unsure of their intentions since they don't seem as committed to the goals of the group now.

#### Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

**Leo** You may be harboring secret dreams that are very different from the life you currently lead. Wild Uranus squares romantic Venus as she hides out in your 12th House of Invisibility, encouraging you to keep your fantasies under wraps. But unexpressed feelings can turn into obsessions if they are not acknowledged now.

#### Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

**Virgo** Your need for community is strong but you don't necessarily share all the same values of your peers. Although you may feel alienated from the group because you believe your objectives in life are vastly different, you might be more alike than you realize now. However, the only way you will ever discover common ground is to push past your fear of rejection and let others know who you really are.

#### Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

**Libra** Your desire for companionship stems from the fact that you like being around people more than you enjoy being alone. But some of your friends seem more distant today, and the gulf between you makes you nervous. At first, it appears as if someone is emotionally unavailable, but this might not be the case at all.

#### Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

**Scorpio** You're uncomfortable with the weird dynamics at work today, and it's tricky to know exactly what's going on behind the scenes. You can tell something is awry because a coworker who is usually very approachable may be standoffish now. You enjoy getting to the bottom of a psychological mystery, but it might be better to just let this anomaly rest without further investigation.

#### Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

**Sagittarius** Fantasy and reality overlap in confusing ways today, motivating you to sidestep an emotional encounter. However, your evasive tactics don't necessarily resolve the issue and could lead to further uncertainty. Although asking a few simple questions may be enough to bring clarity, the answers you receive could raise twice as many concerns. Fortunately, you don't have to understand everything now; you only need to know the facts.

#### Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

**Capricorn** People frequently rely on you Mountain Goats when they are trying to get their bearings. However, it's as if your GPS doesn't match up with reality now, leaving you unsure how to navigate through the unpredictable energies of the day. Unfortunately, the more you try to wrap your mind around the logistics today, the more disappointed you become.

#### Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

**Aquarius** You're secretly thrilled about the prospect of tossing out your schedule and simply starting over from scratch. Perhaps you worked yourself into a corner by putting so much on your calendar today that the slightest deviation could bring it all down like a house of cards. Instead of waiting for the inevitable, you're able to pull the plug yourself and breathe a sigh of relief.

#### Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

**Pisces** Life is a juggling act today. On one hand, your associates may be pushing you for more details about your work schedule. On the other hand, you are less interested in the specifics of the real world while you are happily preoccupied with the supernatural dimensions of your daydreams. Normally, you can balance the two realms with great finesse, but you have little patience now for the trappings of the mundane.

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53			54						55			
56			57						58			
59			60						61			
62			63						64			

**Across**

1. "Oh my!", 5. Versed, 10. Quash, 14. Start over, 15. Oddity, 16. Portent, 17. Castrate, 19. Christmas season, 20. Pull, 21. \_\_\_\_\_ fit, 22. Trades, 23. A Christian recluse, 25. Blockage of the intestine, 27. One or more, 28. Expressive of contempt, 31. Office worker, 34. Started, 35. Petroleum, 36. A building for skating, 37. Brandish, 38. Stake, 39. Mineral rock, 40. Mild and pleasant, 41. A friction match, 42. Blanches, 44. Gangster's gun, 45. Curmudgeonly, 46. Sandstorm, 50. Welcome, 52. Fall color, 54. Flee, 55. Tardy, 56. Type of chalcedony, 58. Relating to urine, 59. Love intensely, 60. Nameless, 61. Engineering school, 62. Daisylike bloom, 63. D D D D,

**Down**

1. Mountain crest, 2. Bushbaby, 3. Maxim, 4. Mayday, 5. Wit, 6. Coarse edible red seaweed, 7. Historical periods, 8. Compassionately, 9. Foot digit, 10. Peeping Tom, 11. Colloids, 12. Express in words, 13. 1 1 1 1 8. Crack, 22. Observed, 24. Assign a grade, 26. A feudal vassal, 28. Appears, 29. Anagram of "Tine", 30. Delight, 31. Prune, 32. Former Italian currency, 33. Industrious, 34. Wallets, 37. Ragamuffin, 38. Car, 40. Match, 41. Fees for buses, 43. Rear of tube, 44. Beam, 46. Beach, 47. Duplicate, 48. Small boat, 49. Portents, 50. Oversupply, 51. Unusual, 53. Codger, 56. Bleat, 57. Little bit,

**Yesterday's Solution**

S	L	E	E	P	T	T	W	O	S	D	R	A	W
P	O	L	A	R	H	A	I	R	M	A	I	O	W
A	G	A	T	E	O	N	C	E	A	L	A	R	
M	O	N	O	M	E	N	T	A	L	I	S	M	
B	E	I	G	T	E	N	S	E					
R	E	S	E	L	L	E	T	E	N	G			
O	V	I	N	E	S	W	O	R	D	S	M	A	
M	E	T	A	R	I	E	L	S	T	O	R	O	
P	R	E	M	I	E	R	E	D	H	I	N	T	
E	B	B	E	T	J	O	C	O	S	E			
I	L	L	O	G	S								
G	R	O	W	U	N	D	E	R	W	R	I	T	
O	K	R	A										
B	E	A	R	N	E	O	N	A	I	D	E	D	
B	E	A	R	D	R	E	E	S	C	O	L	D	
I	D	L	E	S	O	R	T	H	E	L	L	O	

accident, affirmative, bride, chest, compel, crack, derelict, drift, enzyme, fever, grave, health, held, hued, ignore, level, liver, locket, male, math, other, pirate, relate, service, slack, slight, snout,

R T V T C O M P E L L S M  
E V I C T I M T M A O O H  
V I S I O N A A Y T C U T  
I G I L F L L O Z O K R L  
L N T E E W R N T E C A  
W O O R V A C H E S T E E  
T R S E E C S T O M A C H  
H E L D R C R A C K R I U  
N H A F F I R M A T I V E  
O T C S V D R I F T P R D  
O O K I E E V A R G K E I  
P V A P H N N E X I V S R  
S L I G H T T U O N S B B