

Opening of Torkham Border for Free Trade

PESHAWAR - The Torkham border should be opened for free trade and business activities with Afghanistan and Central Asian countries, says a Pakistani minister. Federal Minister for Religious Affairs Noorul Haq Qadri issued the call while talking to reporters after attending a public gathering in Landikotal on Wednesday. He hailed the opening of the Kar-

tarpur corridor with India for Sikh pilgrims as a positive step, he said: "I wish we can also open the Torkham border for free trade and business activities with Afghanistan and Central Asia." Qadri chided critics of tribal areas' merger with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and the British-era law called Frontier Crime Regulation (FCR), saying: "These things are outdated. We have

entered a new phase." Quoting Prime Minister Imran Khan, the federal minister said they would create more jobs for the residents of erstwhile Fata instead of rendering them jobless. Regarding National Financial Commission Award (NFC), he said all the provinces except Sindh have agreed to give Fata districts three percent share in the NFC award. (Pajhwok)

Nearly 5,000 Families Displaced by Conflict in Faryab

KABUL - Local officials say around 5,000 families have been driven from their homes as result of the ongoing war in northwestern Faryab province. A week back, Taliban militants attacked parts of Andkhoy and Qarghan districts of Faryab and captured eight security posts. Sultan Mohammad Sanjar, Andkhoy district chief, told Pajhwok Afghan News that the number of displaced families

have recently increased as result of recent clashes. "Most of the displaced families live in mosques, enclosures and shops amid serious cold weather," he said. Mohammad Ibrahim Tinams, chief of Qarghan district, expressed concern about the bad situation of displaced families and asked the central government and aid organizations to provide some assistance...*(More on P4)...(10)*



ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN TECHNICAL & VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING AUTHORITY ASDP II (AFGHANISTAN SECOND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT)

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTANTING SERVICES – FIRMS SELECTION)

Country: Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Name of Project: Afghanistan Second Skills Development Project
Grant No.: IDA-H8340
Project ID: P132742
Assignment Title: Third Party Validation (TPV) of Disbursement Link Indicators (DLIs)
Reference No.: DMTVET/C-186
Date of Issuance: December 08, 2018
Date of closing: December 22, 2018

BACKGROUND:

The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan has received a grant from the World Bank for the Second Afghanistan Second Skills Development Project (ASDP II) implemented by the TVET Authority. The ASDP II project reflects the Government of Afghanistan's (GoA's) prioritization of the Human Capital Development agenda, and was reprogrammed in 2017 to address some of the binding constraints in skills development, including improving the quality and relevance of the formal TVET training in selected priority trades.

The GoA intends to apply part of the grant proceeds for the contract of the Third Party Validation (TPV) of the Disbursement Link Indicators (DLIs) under the Afghanistan Second Skills Development Project. Under the World Bank's Results-based financing mechanisms, the funding related to some of activities of Afghanistan Second Skills Development Project is performance based, where disbursement-linked indicators are the basis for disbursement. With this methodology, the donor does not provide financing to cover a program's expenses, but disburses upon the delivery and verification of predefined results.

OBJECTIVES:

The objective of the assignment is to verify and validate the completion of six DLI activities implemented in the year 2018 by the Afghanistan Second Skills Development Project /TVET Authority by a third party. The verification will be based on the specific parameters defined under verification protocols reflected in the ASDP II Project Paper to ascertain compliance.

SCOPE OF SERVICES:

The scope and extend of the TPV is to verify and validate the completion of six Disbursement Linked Indicators (DLIs) implemented and completed by ASDP II/TVET Authority in the year 2018. This consultancy shall require engagement with TVET Authority, TVET Teachers, various boards and technical committees including private sector representatives involved in the implementation process, concerned government authorities, and supported TVET Lead Institutes.

TIMEFRAME FOR EXPECTED DELIVERABLES:

Total duration of the assignment will be 3 months from Award of Contract or Commencement Date of the Contract.

For complete deliverables and information please refer to the TOR which could be provided based on a request to the following address.

THE SHORT-LISTING CRITERIA ARE:

- The consultant should have minimum 2 years' of experience in fields such as economics, education, social science or management.
- Must be financially sound with minimum Annual Turnover AFN 3,795,000 during last five years (2012 to 2017).
Note: Bank Transaction Report or Audit Report must be submitted in order to be considered for the evaluation.
- Should at least have one similar contract equivalent to or more than AFN 3,000,000 completed as a prime contractor.
Note: In order to be considered for the evaluation a copy of similar contract must be provided

A consultant will be selected under **Consultant's Qualification Selection (CQS)** method as defined in World Bank Regulation for selection and employment of consultants July, 2016. Any further information required, can be obtained at the address below from Saturday to Wednesday during office hours, [i.e. 0900 to 1500 hours].

Note: Sub-Consultants are not allowed.

Expressions of Interest must be delivered in written form to the address below (in person, or by E-mail) on or before **December 22, 2018, 14:00 hrs. (Kabul Local Time)**.

Attention To: Mohammad Tamim, (Procurement Manager)

Address: TVETA Building, Procurement Unit, TVET Authority
Dehbori, District # 3, Kabul, Afghanistan

Tel. No.: (+93) 0729 232 233

Email: walidnoori.piu@gmail.com Copy: tamimformuli@gmail.com

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



Bring things back into balance, Aries. You've probably been so focused on yourself that you've completely forgotten about others. It's time to fill in the rest of the equation and take into account what other people feel. Balance is crucial in every part of your life so that you maintain a healthy viewpoint.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



This is a good day to look at the big picture and discuss your ideas with others, Taurus. As you walk down the street, make sure you pay attention to what's going on around you. If you continue to be preoccupied by one issue, you may never see some of the other important pieces of the greater whole even though they're obvious to everyone else.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



You will be in an excellent mood, Gemini, and find your positive attitude amplified as you come into contact with more and more people. The one thing to watch out for today is laziness. There may be a great deal of it going around, especially in your camp. Don't waste the good energy of the day sitting around and doing nothing - even though it's quite tempting.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



Speak your mind clearly, Cancer. Other people aren't mind readers like you are. If you keep waiting for someone to figure out what you're thinking, it will be a long time before the truth comes out. Give people a break and let them know what's going on inside your head. Communication is important, and today it begins with you.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



You can soar to great heights on a moment's notice today, Leo. There's a fast-paced, socially minded quality to the day that will encourage people to share more of themselves with others. You will find a great deal of support from many different people now. Welcome this help with open arms.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)



Try to see the positive in people, Virgo. Relax and don't get so worked up over your internal drama. You're the one responsible for creating this turmoil. Find comfort in a creative project. Do something that you love to do that makes you truly happy. There's an expansive feeling in the air that's likely to amplify whatever mood you project.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



You should find that the adventurous side of you has the support of your emotions, Libra. These two parts of your spirit are working in harmony to help you stretch beyond your limits. Push into new realms and ask questions when you don't understand something. This is the only way you will learn, develop, and grow mentally and emotionally.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



Dress in your very best today, Scorpio. Feel free to kick up your heels and take on the town. This is a great time to go out with friends, socialize, and have a fabulous time. Put your worries aside and join a group for some lighthearted fun and merriment. Keep a smile on your face and you will find that you can walk through any door you choose.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



You will find that the more peaceful and understanding you are today, Sagittarius, the better off you will be in general. Doors will open and people will welcome you with great fanfare. Be the diplomat instead of the warrior. Focus on the positive aspects of the equation instead of the negative. Luck and prosperity will come your way when you have this attitude wherever you go.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan.19)



Make sure you leave things in better condition than you found them, Capricorn. This is a good time to tidy your personal space and the environment. This is also a great time to do some shopping for yourself. Just be careful that you don't spend too much money. When beautiful things catch your eye, it might be hard for you to resist them, regardless of how much they cost.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

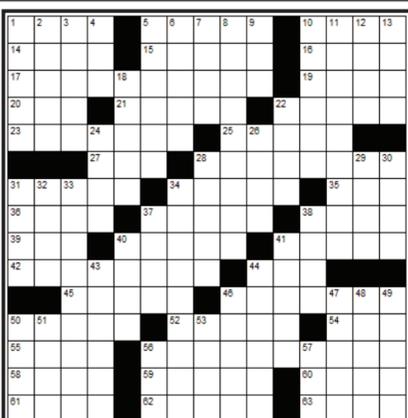


This is one of those days in which it's easier to be yourself, Aquarius. Don't feel like you need to change your personality to fit a situation. You naturally add an important dynamic to the group. Your detached, unbiased, and knowledgeable view of the situation will be an important asset to today's events. People would do well to listen to you, so be bold when expressing yourself.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



Communication is a key part of the day, Pisces. You will find that a great deal of information is available to you when you ask for it. You can pull from many different resources, so don't be afraid to tap the different wells available to you. Emotionally, this may not be the best day for you, but you can overcome this as long as you keep a lighthearted, optimistic approach.



Across

1. Kid, 5. Reprimand, 10. Grooming tool, 14. Notion, 15. The day after yesterday, 16. Operatic solo, 17. Gather responsibilities and authority, 19. Warbled, 20. K, 21. Distress, 22. Pig sounds, 23. Defamation, 25. Indian hemp, 27. Dawn goddess, 28. Observation posts, 31. Deceive, 34. Chimes, 35. Pair, 36. Acted like, 37. Roof overhangs, 38. Jail (British), 39. New Zealand parrot, 40. Woodcutting tools, 41. Washing machine cycle, 42. Magnified, 44. Chitchat, 45. Group of 8, 46. Pustule, 50. Periods of 60 minutes, 52. A ring-shaped surface, 54. Furrow maker, 55. Along with, 56. Solemnity, 58. Monetary unit in Bahrain, 59. A bleaching vat, 60. Leave out, 61. Playthings, 62. Malicious burning, 63. Family lines,

Down

1. Check marks, 2. Something to shoot for, 3. East African country, 4. Consume, 5. Phases, 6. Hue, 7. Norse god, 8. Layabout, 9. Coloring agent, 10. Gambling house, 11. Large long-armed ape, 12. Furry mammal, 13. Flexible containers, 18. A radioactive gaseous element, 22. Trees of the genus Quercus, 24. Require, 26. Pigs, 28. Adored, 29. 2 2 2 2, 30. Only, 31. Birthday or cheese, for example, 32. Not closed, 33. In an enthusiastic manner, 34. A geographical dictionary, 37. Border, 38. Tomcats, 40. Anagram of "Star", 41. Lift, 43. Astride, 44. Causes wheat allergies, 46. A cry of approval, 47. Motif, 48. A red fluorescent dye, 49. Relaxes, 50. Dagger handle, 51. Hedgepodge, 53. Poems, 56. Calypso offshoot, 57. Holiday drink

Yesterday's Solution

SITTED AREA GLAD
 ANODIE DOGE RILLE
 SCRIM IBIS ELAN
 HARTIBEGEST EATS
 FAU PRINCE
 CURVED FRESH
 OSIER PRITTIERED
 LECR LIVED ATIRY
 ADHESIVE RIGINE
 MITES BITTER
 GREBE REMUNERATE
 GLEB REMUNERATE
 RENT APES TINES
 ABEL REST TICONS
 DEWY YEAS CLEISE

barge, betray, bright, career, cheap, cloud disaster, dodge earth, exist, family, felt, flown, grind, hill, hopeful lair, latex, manipulate, mention, other plead, purple, read, repent, ribs, scene, shiny, singular

