

Drugs Smuggled to CAR Via Badakhshan

FAIZABAD - Residents of northeastern Badakhshan province complain about an alarming increase in poppy cultivation, a rise in the number of addicts and the presence of drug-producing labs. Badakhshan borders Tajikistan, China and Pakistan. Drug production has risen incredibly in the remote province. Provincial peace committee members grumble powerful armed figures are behind hiring security officials in the province - a major reason for the hike in smuggling.



Abdul Wahid Tabibi, the hike in smuggling.

head of the Badakhshan peace committee, alleged smugglers came from several provinces and at least three of them were killed trying to cross Amu River. He said that Najibullah, the Khwahan district police chief, recently sent a 14-year-old boy to the other side in a boat full of drugs. The boy's fate has since been a mystery. Residents protested for a week and asked for the official's removal but to no ... (More on P4)...(15)

Quran Memorisation Centre Gets New Building

LASHKARGAH - A new building has been construction for a Quran memorisation centre in the Greshk district of southern Helmand province, an official said Tuesday. Deputy Governor Mohammad Jan Rassoulyar told the inauguration ceremony that the building was constructed by the District Development Programme (DDP) at a cost of 7.7 million afghanis in three years. He said that hundreds of students would benefit from the learning centre and no one would need to go to Pakistan for higher studies. Sometimes scholars, who are preaching against the government, should try to put youth on the right path, Rassoul-yar added. "The religious scholars should carry discharge responsibility by guiding people in the right direction." Education Director Abdul Matin Jafar said the building should have been completed two years ago but the delay was caused by negligence of the construction company. He ... (More on P4)...(17)

4 Detained, Pistols & Drugs Seized



JALALABAD - Security officials in eastern Nangarhar province on Tuesday said they had seized 21 pistols smuggled from Pakistan for terrorist activities. Police chief Brig. Gen. Fazal Ahmad Sherzad told reporters the pistols had been recovered from an individual in the Samarkhel locality of Behsud district. He said terrorist wanted to use the pistols in targeted killings of prominent civilians and security figures. Earlier, tribal elders expressed concerns over growing incidents of targeted killings in the province. The apprehensions were voiced at a meeting with security officials. Sherzad said police had held three smugglers and ... (More on P4)...(20)

200 Raisin-Processing Plants Being Installed

KABUL - Up to 200 raisin-processing plants will be installed in nine provinces under the Agriculture Ministry's National Horticulture and Livestock Project (NHLP), officials said on Tuesday. Khadim Hussein Hamdam, NHLP coordinator, told Pajhwok Afghan News the plants were aimed at producing good-quality raisins and boosting the income of farmers across the country. Grapes and raisins are two important exports of Afghanistan and are largely produced in central, northern, north-eastern, ... (More on P4)...(16)



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11 Militants Dead in Clearing Offensive

HERAT/ GHAZNI CITY - Unidentified gunmen shot dead a policeman in western Herat while eleven insurgents perished in an army operation in southern Ghazni province, officials said Tuesday. Nazifullah Sultani, spokesman of the 203rd military corps, said ANA had started anti-militants offensive simultaneously in five districts, including Maqur, Gilan, Khogyani, Deh Yak, Andar and Ghazni, the capital

city of the province. Eleven militants were confirmed dead in two districts, he said adding that operations were still underway in different areas. He however, said security forces personnel remained unhurt during the offensive. Obaidullah, a resident of the locality, said Afghan security forces were being attacked by militants time and again for the last three days. He said Taliban and security

forces were locked in intense fire fight on Monday night in Aday locality. However, militants had not yet commented on the fight. In Herat, unidentified gunmen gunned down one policeman and wounded two others in Darb Kandahar area, Abdul Rauf Ahmadi, police spokesman, said. He said the armed men opened fire on police officials at around 7:00 am. He ... (More on P4)...(18)

45 Days after Eloping, Girl Found Stabbed

QALA-I-NAW - An 18-year-old girl was found dead after she eloped with a man about 45 days ago in the Maqur district of northwestern Badghis province, residents said on Tuesday. Her body was found last night in the Qarghachak locality of the district. She was a resident of Baghak village of Qala-i-Naw, the provincial capital. Mustafa, a resident of Baghak, told Pajhwok Afghan News the girl had been murdered by the man she eloped with about one and a half months ago. He did not go into details.

Zarghona Sherzad, the women's affairs director, believed the girl might have been killed by the man with whom she ran away. Police chief Col. Mohammad Qayyum said the corpse had been transferred to the provincial hospital and police were investigating the incident. No one has been arrested so far in connection with the murder. Dr. Mohammad Mohammadi, the provincial hospital head, said the girl had been stabbed to death with a knife. She had multiple wounds on her face, he said. (Pajhwok)

Call to Set up Museum to Secure Historic Relics

MAIMANA - The Information and Cultural Director for northwestern Faryab province on Monday urged the central government to establish a museum for keeping secure historic monuments. Syed Abdul Rashid Mansuri said National Directorate of Security (NDS) operatives had recovered four historic relics in the Pashtunkot district and handed them over to the department. He said the historic objects were valuable and needed to be kept in a safe place. Mansuri asked the government to construct a new building for a museum to preserve historic monuments. More than 100 historic items have been recovered by security officials in different parts of the province. Mansuri said he had recently been appointed and had no accurate information about illegal digging for historic



items. Earlier, Mohammad Arif Siddiqui, the director of heritage protection, had said illegal digging in pursuit of historic items and their smuggling was underway in many parts of the province. He demanded a special security force for the protection of heritage sites. (Pajhwok)

4 Policemen Killed in Clash with Insurgents



TRINKUT - Four policemen were killed and four others injured in a clash with insurgents in southern Uruzgan province on Monday night, local officials said. The clash took place in Charcheno district of the province after the insurgents who were surrounded by Afghan security forces in a house began shooting at the forces, District Governor

Mohammad Ismail said. "The clashes took place for more than 10 hours, in which two of the insurgents escaped from the area and one insurgent was killed," he said. There were no civilian casualties during the clash, he added. However, the Taliban insurgents have not yet commented about the clash so far. (Tolonews)

Taliban Bomb Batikot Shrine, Damage Mosque

JALALABAD - Suspected militants have blown up an ancient mausoleum, damaging a nearby mosque in the Batikot district of eastern Nangarhar province, an official said on Tuesday. Haji Ghalib, the district's administrative head, told Pajhwok Afghan News the overnight attack on the Akhundzada Musa Babaji shrine happened in Shashkhel area. A mosque near the tomb was also damaged, Ghalib said, blaming the Wahabi Taliban for bombing the shrine. The authorities plan to conduct an operation against the ... (More on P4)...(19)

Car Bomber Strikes Police Convoy, Killing 3

LASHKARGAH - A suicide bomber rammed his explosives-laden vehicle into a police convoy on the Helmand-Kandahar highway in southern Helmand province on Tuesday, killing three policemen, an official said. Another five policemen were injured in the midday blast that hit the police convoy returning to Kabul after delivering supplies to Helmand-

based personnel, police officer Col. Mohammad Ismail told Pajhwok Afghan News. The injured policemen belonged to Kandahar. They were escorting colleagues from Kabul when came under attack, he said. Helmand deputy police chief Col. Bacha Gul Bakhtiyar said the convoy was heading to Kabul from Helmand after delivering logistic supplies. (Pajhwok)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)
Your drive to explore new territory is countered by uncharacteristic feelings of self-doubt today. An inner voice reminds you to honor other people's needs over your own. However, this advice won't likely prevent you from acting on a brilliant idea if you have the chance. Just remember to temper your desire for action with kindness so you don't inadvertently hurt someone you love.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)
You just might save the day with an amazing plan inspired by a stroke of genius at the very last minute. Your logic is sound today, even if the electric Sun-Uranus alignment means it's unconventional and unexpected. Sharing your original idea encourages others to lend their support to your solution.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)
You are flying at top speed today, yet you still sense something weighing you down. The feeling of carrying too much baggage may be associated with an unpleasant memory that raises issues of self-doubt. However, you can't get very far as long as you're burying your head in the clouds. Thankfully, you can change everything by simply being more aware of your emotions and taking responsibility for your actions.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)
You want to express your emotional needs as forthright as possible today, and you expect people to sit up and take notice of your integrity. There might even be one particular person you hope to impress, prompting you to act in a manner that is completely out of character. Your spontaneous behavior could attract the attention you seek, but not in the way you wish.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)
Helping others is a top priority today, but you prefer to do it sight unseen while the Moon is still hiding out in your 12th House of Invisibility. Thankfully, you can accomplish something that means a great deal to someone close to you after the Moon's midday shift into your sign. You might not even realize what you did, but your generous actions could bring deep healing to a loved one.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)
There is no reason to take the fall for someone else's erratic behavior. If a coworker does something that catches you off guard today, just do your best to maintain your composure. Luckily, unexpected twists and turns could open your eyes to a different way to respond to changing circumstances. It might seem like a reach at first, but you may discover that you're the only one who has been standing in the way of your success.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)
You want to follow your own agenda today and have little patience for social niceties just to earn the support of your coworkers. Although you prefer to feel connected with your friends and associates, you won't let them stand between you and your current goals. The Sun in your 5th House of Creativity is receiving a blast of ingenuity from irrepressible Uranus, so make the most of this cosmic gift while it lasts.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)
You might panic for no reason today, feeling as if there's no way out of your previous commitments. You're willing to resign yourself to honor your word, even if you're unhappy with how things have developed. Thankfully, your mood can suddenly flip as an ingenious idea lights up your brain like a flash of lightning.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)
Fitting into the standard constraints of a traditional relationship is challenging now that your emotions express in their own unique way. A rebellious Sun-Uranus sextile graces you with something very special to offer, so don't be too self-judgmental if your heart refuses to take orders from your head. Fortunately, those closest to you already know that your intentions are well-meaning.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)
You are more in touch with your feelings now as you attract emotionally expressive people into your orbit. You often avoid revealing too much vulnerability, but you might be needy enough today to open up to someone you trust. Exploring a tough issue gives you a chance to learn more about yourself. Luckily, a tense situation can rapidly morph into a more pleasant one if you're willing to roll with the incoming waves.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)
You might believe you're headed for a major battle today, when out of the blue the energy dramatically improves. Don't try to rein in anyone's behavior; your fear of a negative outcome could actually coax it into manifestation. Thankfully, you have the power to sidestep an unnecessary dispute if you remember that open conflict won't bring you any closer to your goals.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)
It could be safer than you think to jump into the abyss of the unknown today, as long as you trust that everything will work out for the best. Fortunately, you are able to gather the support you need now as long as you establish clear priorities. Nevertheless, your creative visualizations only take you so far. The power of positive thought still needs to be reinforced with a concrete plan and solid effort.

Across

1. Nematode, 5. Relieves, 10. A city in western Russia, 14. District, 15. Plant life, 16. Colored part of an eye, 17. Glance over, 18. Deaths, 20. Discussion, 22. Weird, 23. Snagged, 24. Leg joints, 25. Inapplicability, 32. Thresholds, 33. Steer clear of, 34. Unhappy, 37. Young girl, 38. 3-banded armadillo, 39. Balcony section, 40. An uncle, 41. Hoar, 42. Canoe, 43. Ceramic ware, 45. Abyss, 49. Band booking, 50. Breach, 53. Craftsperson, 57. Desperate, 59. Windmill blade, 60. Phone, 61. Anagram of "Coast", 62. Prima donna problems, 63. Leg joint, 64. Seethes, 65. Lease

Down

1. Stinging insect, 2. Killer whale, 3. Genuine, 4. Administrators, 5. Decadent, 6. Winglike, 7. Drunkard, 8. Historical periods, 9. Sodium chloride, 10. Moon of Saturn, 11. Pee, 12. Feudal lord, 13. Donkeys, 19. Annoyed, 21. Volumes (abbrev.), 25. Doing nothing, 26. Wander, 27. Thorny flower, 28. Steam, 29. Nautical for stop, 30. Not south, 31. Spy agency, 34. Kind of bean, 35. Food thickener, 36. Apollo astronaut Slayton, 38. Genus of macaws, 39. A maker of laws, 41. Leg bone, 42. Make a sweater, 44. Exit, 45. A painful muscle spasm, 46. What we are, 47. Big name in computers, 48. Inscribed pillar, 51. Rodents, 52. French for "State", 53. Affirm, 54. Wise one, 55. Nameless, 56. Where a bird lives, 58. Frozen water

Yesterday's Solution

across, ahead, apply, avoid, cancel, coast, communicate, dens, drive, every, express, force, headlines, hers, improve, index, major, meld, nature, note, overnight, pays, reduce, ride, ship, shower, southern, spell, storm, sunset, system, tasted, today, track, travel

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