

# 15 Militants Eliminated in Helmand, Nangarhar Operations



LASHKARGHA - At least 15 Taliban and Daesh (Islamic State) militants have been killed during operations in southern Helmand and eastern Nangarhar provinces, officials said on Sunday. Helmand police spokesman Abdul Salam Afghan told Pajhwok Afghan News that security forces

conducted an operation -- backed by the air force -- in Marja district against militants late on Saturday. He said 10 Taliban fighters were killed and 18 landmines defused in Marja. Another 13 landmines were defused during a nighttime raid in

the limits of the 3rd police district of Lashkargah. The Taliban have not yet commented on the Marja offensive. Qari Yousaf Ahmadi, the group's spokesman, said casualties had been inflicted on the security personnel in Garmser and Greshk districts. *... (More on P4)... (14)*

## Afghan Govt Approves Two New Major Electricity Projects worth \$113m

KABUL - The Afghan government has approved two new major electricity projects to be implemented jointly by private and public sectors and having a total value of \$113 million.

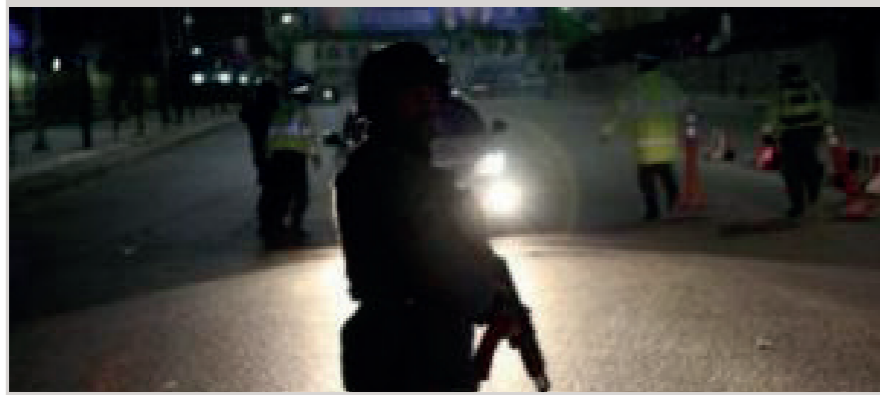
The Office of the President, ARG Palace, said the contracts were approved during the meeting of the national procurement commission chaired by President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani on Saturday.

According to ARG Palace, the first project covers the construction of the gas power/electricity generation facility in Sherbarghan which will be built with an investment of \$38.8 million by Bayat Power Corporation.

The second project covers the construction of electricity generation facility in Mazar-e-Sharif city which will be built with a total investment of \$75 million by Ghazanfar Group and International Financial Corporation.

According to the ARG Palace, the Afghan government institutions including Da Afghanistan Breshna Sherkat, ministry of energy and water, ministry of mines and petroleum, and the independent land authority will also be involved in the implementation of the project. The DLA Piper company has been appointed as the consulting firm to assist in agreement with the IMF and IDA for the preparation and ownership agreements and the test and evaluation of the projects. The ARG Palace also added that the Sherbarghan natural gas electricity production facility will generate 40 megawatts of electricity while the Mazar-e-Sharif facility will produce 50 megawatts of electricity. (KP)

## 11 Wounded in Mazar Explosion



MAZAR-E-SHARIF - At least 11 people were wounded in an explosion on Saturday in Mazar-e-Sharif city of Balkh province, local officials said. The blast occurred Saturday evening when a magnetic mine was placed in a police Ranger and det-

onated. Local officials said as the result nine civilians and two military personnel were wounded. Balkh police said that injured were in good condition. No group, including the Taliban, have claimed responsibility for the attack. (Tolonews)

## 4 People Injured in Farayb Explosion



MAIMANA - Four people were injured as a result of a bomb explosion inside a shop in the capital of northern Faryarb province on Sunday, police said. Police headquarters said in a statement received by Pajhwok Afghan News said the blast took place in a jewelry shop in

Maimana city around 12pm. It said the explosives had been placed under a table that went off, injuring four people including a woman. The injured were delivered to hospital immediately, the police statement said. Dr Mohammad Mosamam, public health director, confirmed the casualties. Pajhwok

## 1,900 airstrikes on rebels in 9 months: AAF chief

KABUL - The Afghan Air Force (AAF) carried out 1,900 air strikes against militants over the past nine months, the force commander said on Saturday.

Maj. Gen. Mohammad Shoib Pilot told reporters in Kabul the AAF conducted a total of 27,000 flights in the period.

These flights also included 900 supportive, 200 surveillance and the rest logistics supply, airlifting goods weighing 3,300 tonnes.

He said the armed opposition had sustained heavy casualties in the 1900 airstrikes, but provided no figures.

He said the AAF whenever called in backed security and defense forces during ground operations and air supplies.

"The AAF is strong compared to the past, and we have devised a four years plan which is being executed to further strength the force," he said without going into details. (Pajhwok)

## Taliban Execute Abducted Lecturer and Student in Nangarhar

JALALABAD - The Taliban militants have executed a lecturer and a student, days after kidnapping them in eastern Nangarhar province of Afghanistan.

The provincial government media office in a statement said a lecturer of the agriculture institute and a student were kid-

napped b the Taliban insurgents from an area between Bati Kot and Jalalabad two days ago. The statement further added that the lecturer identified as Imam Jan and his student Gulbadin were executed on Friday, two days after they were abducted. No further details have been giv-

en regarding the circumstances surrounding the abduction and execution of the two individuals. The Taliban insurgents and militants belonging to the other insurgent groups often kidnap civilians on charges of supporting the government and security forces. (KP)

## Deadly Suicide Attack Foiled in Jalalabad City in East of Afghanistan

JALALABAD - The Afghan security forces have foiled a plot by the anti-government armed militant groups to carry out a deadly suicide attack in Jalalabad city, the provincial capital of Nangarhar province.

The provincial government media office in a statement said a

suicide bombing vest packed with massive explosives and ball bearings was confiscated from a shop in Khogyani district.

The statement further added that the Taliban insurgents were looking to use the suicide bombing to carry out an attack in Jalalabad city.

According to the governor's office, the suicide bombing vest was recovered from a shop and at least one person has also been arrested in connection to the bombing plot. The anti-government armed militant groups including the Taliban insurgents have not commented regarding the report so far. (KP)

## Outlook Horoscope

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



Aries The gulf between dynamics on the home front and your ambitions for the year ahead might seem too wide to bridge now, but you're hopeful about finding a solution anyway. Although the Cancer Full Moon highlights your 4th House of Security, you may feel as if professional goals could distract you from family matters.

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



Taurus Seeing the brighter side of life might be a struggle today because there's a formidable amount of hard work in your future. Although you're not afraid of making commitments that demand high performance, the Cancer Full Moon's presence in your 3rd House of Distractions tempts you with activities that don't contribute to your success.

### Gemini (May 21-June 20)



Gemini You can think of many ways to get ahead next year, but you can also imagine just as many reasons that you might not succeed. Fortunately, you're not in a hurry now; you're willing to wait for the right moment before putting your plan into action. In the meantime, explore the various alternatives before choosing the best one.

### Cancer (June 21-July 20)



Cancer Sometimes, you must speak your mind even if you know your words will run into resistance from others. However, you might decide to keep your feelings to yourself for a while longer. Unfortunately, what starts out as common sense could turn into an excuse. Overcoming your own fear may require an act of faith.

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



Leo You hope that putting on a good show by meeting all your obligations in a timely manner allows you to hide behind a wall of efficiency. Your actions are quite calculated today because you want others to focus on your outer behavior rather than your emotions. The moody Cancer Full Moon sensitizes your 12th House of Invisibility, prompting you to bury your feelings.

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



Virgo You may not say much today, but you still could be the puppet master, pulling the strings that causes everyone else to dance. Oddly enough, your friends might not realize that you are quietly running the show. But you are proudly willing to admit the role you carved out for yourself once someone else takes notice. The Cancer Full Moon spotlights your 11th House of Social Networks, inspiring you to fulfill your emotional needs by maintaining close contact with others.

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



Libra You are motivated by a sense of what you want to accomplish, but may be hesitant to share your plans with anyone today. The Cancer Full Moon energizes your 10th House of Career, encouraging you to set objectives for the year ahead. However, you believe that remaining quiet offers you the flexibility you need to fine-tune your goals.

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



Scorpio You may think you lack enough information to make a wise decision about your future, but that's most likely not the case. The Cancer Full Moon casts its light into your 9th House of Higher Thought now, reflecting your insecurities about how much you don't know. However, you probably possess more good data than you realize and gathering more will only add to your uncertainty.

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



Sagittarius You're not so quick to walk away from an intense experience today, even if it puts you in touch with feelings you often try to avoid. People rely on you to shift serious conversations into discussions that are removed from feelings, enabling everyone to participate without being too personal. However, your desire to wax philosophic fades as the Cancer Full Moon settles into your 8th House of Intimacy, inspiring you to reveal your emotions.

### Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



Capricorn Unresolved relationship issues are in the spotlight today as someone close to you brings up their buried feelings. Although hearing about emotional pain isn't easy, you are drawn into the conversation because the Cancer Full Moon occurs in your 7th House of Partners, stimulating your own memories of suppressed hurt.

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



Aquarius You are receptive to the suggestions of others as you create your agenda for the day. The Cancer Full Moon resonates in your 6th House of Logistics, opening your mind to other people's needs. It feels like a real holiday when you can shift your attention away from your personal goals and your plans to achieve them.

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



Pisces You are in your own element today as your emotions reflect your place in your community. Caring for those you love comes easily while the nurturing Cancer Full Moon strengthens your 5th House of Spontaneity. There's no need to overthink your day as long as you have an outlet to creatively express yourself. But your passion is a powerful tool now.



**Across**

1. Stigma, 5. Dings, 10. Scoff at, 14. 1 less than 10, 15. Glorify, 16. Component of urine, 17. At the peak of, 18. Practices, 20. Beginning, 22. Saliva, 23. Help, 24. Loamy deposit, 25. Worrisome, 32. Fire residues, 33. Package holidays, 34. Obtain, 37. Skidded, 38. Disney mermaid, 39. Soft drink, 40. Cool, once, 41. Slop, 42. Not rural, 43. Classing, 45. Ancient Greek marketplace, 49. Mayday, 50. Cornice, 53. Stableboy, 57. Theater, 59. Relating to aircraft, 60. Midmonth date, 61. Sad song, 62. Falls behind, 63. Stringed instrument, 64. Glacial ridge, 65. Blackthorn.

**Down**

1. Catch, 2. Give as an example, 3. Again, 4. Echoed, 5. Mock, 6. Former lovers, 7. Greatest possible, 8. Foot digits, 9. Smack, 10. Zest, 11. Angry, 12. Chimes, 13. Relieves, 19. Streamlets, 21. Knights, 25. Short run, 26. Small island, 27. Transport commercially, 28. Stripes, 29. Dirties, 30. Combustible substances, 31. Website address, 34. Mongolian desert, 35. Dash, 36. A tart spicy quality, 38. Hole-making tool, 39. Gems, 41. Barely enough, 42. Flying saucers, 44. Chemical cousin, 45. Utilize, 46. Flashy, 47. Not younger, 48. Lift, 51. Cypher, 52. Anagram of "Sire", 53. Large, 54. Loyal (archaic), 55. Therefore, 56. Thorny flower, 58. Bother.

**Yesterday's Solution**

alter, beyond, bind, bitter, bleak, bronze, build, cloud, combination, diner, door, enjoyment, force, haunt, hotel, hurry, instead, jello, laugh, leader, legal, load, lounge, lout, musical, noise, paint, plant, preparation, rage, ranges, rough

