

39 Militants Killed in Military Operations: Ministry

KABUL - Some 39 militants have been killed during military operations in Afghanistan since early Tuesday, the Defense Ministry said on Wednesday.

The raids were launched by Afghan National Army in close coordination with Afghan police and intelligence agency personnel in five of the country's 34 provinces, the ministry said in a statement.

The joint security forces also found weapons and ammuni-



tion and defused several roadside bombs and landmines in the operations, said the statement that provides daily operational updates. Afghan security forces have pressed on clearing the militants in restive provinces as Taliban militants have been attempting to take territory and consolidate their positions ahead of winter in the central Asian country. The Taliban militant group has yet to make comments. (Xinhua)

31 Militants Killed in Taliban-Daesh Clashes

NANGARHAR - Nangarhar governor's Spokesperson, Atullah Khogyani, on Wednesday said that 31 militants have been killed in fresh clashes between Taliban and Daesh groups in eastern Nangarhar province. Khogyani said the clashes took place in BatiKot and Achin districts. He further added that the gun battle that erupted in Doyam Farm area of BatiKot District on Wednesday morning left 18 members of Daesh group killed and four others wounded. He said those killed include two commanders of the group by the name Ajmal and Abdul Ahad. The governor's spokesperson further said that the second clash erupted in Achin District leaving five fighters of Taliban killed and four wounded. It also left eight members of Daesh killed, Khogyani add. This comes a day after 15 fighters of Daesh were killed in a clash with security forces in Saluram Farm area BatiKot District. The group planned to at ...*(More on P4)...(15)*

MRRD/NSP Starts Maintenance Cash Grant Project

HERAT - Ahmad Shaheer Shariar, the Deputy Minister of Programmes in Ministry Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) officially inaugurated the Maintenance Cash Grant Project under the National Solidarity Programme of the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development

(MRRD/NSP) in Herat province. In addition to MRRD Deputy Minister, Alhaj Hayatullah Fazil the NSP Deputy Executive Director, Eng. Muhammad Zaki Sajnida the NSP West Region Coordinator, Alhaj Aqa Muhammad Sediqi the Herat RRD Director, Eng. Muhammad Suhail Hasan-

zada the NSP Provincial Manager and a number of influential elders have participated in the gathering. While expressing his pleasure over successful implementation of NSP projects in the rural areas of Herat province, the MRRD Deputy Minister praised the concerted efforts so ...*(More on P4)...(14)*

Suicide Incidents among Young Girls Increasing in Durzab District

SHEBERGAH - Suicide incidents among young girls have been increasing in Durzab District of northern Jawzjan province. Governor of Durzab said that 20 girls have attempted to commit suicide this year out of which six of them died. Rahmatullah Hashar told BBC that eight incidents of failed attempts of suicide took place this month involving eight girls and two boys. Hashar has further said that domestic violence is the main cause. According to Hashar, high dowry, costly marriages and lack



of public awareness have created barricades in front of youths to get married which provoke them to commit suicide. "Parents do not give a positive response to youths, ...*(More on P4)...(16)*



An Afghan policeman searches a vehicle during a military operation in Ghazni province on Wednesday January 06, 2016. (Xinhua/Wahdat Abdali)

UNAMA Condemns Recent Taliban Attacks in Kabul City

KABUL - The United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) on Wednesday condemned the recent string of Taliban attacks in Kabul city in the past few days. In a statement issued by UNAMA, they said



Taliban claimed responsibility for three separate suicide attacks in Kabul between January 1 and January 4 - killing five civilians and injuring at least 56. The victims - which included ten children and ...*(More on P4)...(17)*

Driver Killed after Truck Burned in Traffic Accident

KABUL - A driver has been killed after the bus he was driving gutted due to traffic accident in central Maidan Wardak province. The accident took place in Sisai area of Sayed Abad District around 6 am on Wednesday. A '302' model truck was

on its way from western Herat province to capital Kabul that collided with another one coming from the opposite side. The '302' truck burned into flames in which its driver Shams-ur-Rahman also lost live. Its conductor has escaped unharmed. ...*(More on P4)...(18)*

4 Soldiers Killed in Bomb Attack

ASADABAD - Four Afghan army soldiers have been killed in a blast in Kunar province, provincial police chief said on Wednesday. "Four Afghan National Army personnel were martyred as a result of an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) attack against their vehicle in Sohkhul locality of Nari district late on Tuesday," Abdul Habib Sayyedkhel told Xinhua. Some three civilian passersby were also wounded and the army jeep was ...*(More on P4)...(19)*

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

You may be so blinded by your own plans now that you could blur the lines between your true ambitions and your immediate need for some excitement. You might even be attracted to danger as your desire to flush your system with adrenaline overtakes your rational mind. It's okay to push your own boundaries, but be conscious and cautious about intruding into someone else's safe space.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

You might secretly try your hand at manipulating others today, or you may be the subject of someone else's sneaky maneuvers. As tempted as you are to pull the strings that will create the desired effects, steer clear of this kind of underhanded control, especially if your emotions seem too extreme. It's admirable to know what you want, but not if it takes over the rest of your life.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You could come on too strong in your attempts to convince someone of your competence today. Even if you believe you are making wise use of your communication skills, your quick thinking can land you in trouble before you know it. An important piece of information might be missing from your consideration now, and it may be prudent to postpone your performance until you have the entire picture.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

If your intuition tells you that something isn't right, do yourself a favor and listen. Powerful emotions are washing over you now, and you might feel overwhelmed as you attempt to sort out your priorities. You're drawing from a wide palette of feelings today, and you may be afraid of being inundated with too much detail. Instead of needlessly withdrawing into denial.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

You are riding on a trajectory of inevitability that is changing everything in its path. Unfortunately, you can't assume total control, even if your intentions are honorable, for others might interpret your actions as power-hungry meddling, rather than just helpful. If something breaks down, this could be a cosmic sign that it needs to be eliminated from your life as you clean up your act and prepare for the future.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

Although you are extremely confident about what you are doing today, your over-expressive zeal could lead others to assume you are insincere. The fact is there may be something you are hiding and the secrets just add to the appearance that you're trying to mislead someone. You might think you can handle this dilemma by sweeping it under the rug and moving on, but consider the radical alternative of telling the entire truth.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

You might say more than you ever intended, if you feel like you're being forced up against a wall. What comes out of your mouth now could even shock your sensibilities, for your words can be highly charged with extreme emotion. But these aren't normal times, leaving you to believe drastic measures are in order. You know what needs to be done and you possess the power to make it happen.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

There's plenty riding on how you handle an explosive situation while the Sun is still wrestling with your key planet Pluto. You may pack more of a punch than you realize today, even if you are normally comfortable with your own strength. If you stay conscious of your actions now, you will be able to inch closer to your goals. But if you react unconsciously.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

You're playing at the top of your game today, but you might not have the common sense to show some self-restraint. You may wrongly assume that you're unstoppable now, and you know exactly when to call it quits. You could provoke unneeded resistance from others who feel you are baiting them. Even if you're experiencing a lucky streak, you're probably not as important as you would like everyone to believe.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

You're fully aware of your inner strength now as you resolve to do a project your own way. However, problems arise if your extreme behavior motivates you to steamroll over someone who is resistant to your control. Nothing positive will come from intense ego battles. It makes more sense to soften your stance today instead of acting like the tough guy. Like water wearing down a rock.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

An irrepressible urge to act in a rebellious manner can wreak havoc if you choose to unleash it now. It won't be easy to recover what you may lose in the process if you follow your impulses too far over the edge. What seems like an unbelievably exciting moment at first turns into a complex web of unspoken passion. Be cautious, since heading down this path also requires you to change in unexpected ways.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

You must step up and fully own the magnetic power others see in you today. If you remain in denial about your place in the world, the challenges will continue to grow. However, a strategy based on avoidance could leave you feeling victimized by the unfolding circumstances. The truth is you can learn a lot about the depth of your determination if you face your fears instead of looking for the easy way out.

Across

1. Keg, 5. Supplemented, 10. Church alcove, 14. Stake, 15. Exotic jelly flavor, 16. Geographic illustrations, 17. Untouched, 19. Distinctive flair, 20. Drunkard, 21. Go in, 22. Licorice-like flavor, 23. Anagram of "Seedily", 25. Front or back lawns, 27. An Old Testament king, 28. Servilely submissive, 31. A hard kind of stone, 34. Epee or saber, 35. Do it yourself, 36. Disabled, 37. Japanese stick fighting, 38. A pack of playing cards, 39. Ambition, 40. Crinkly, 41. A friction match, 42. Interpreted, 44. Bro or sis, 45. Unsuccessful person, 46. Include, 50. Shame, 52. All excited, 54. 54 in Roman numerals, 55. Glove, 56. A moderately quick tempo, 58. Found in some lotions, 59. Split, 60. Journey, 61. German for "Mister", 62. Varieties, 63. Alleviate.

Down

1. Stimulate, 2. Irk, 3. Condition, 4. Hemp, 5. Order of business, 6. Channels, 7. A romantic meeting, 8. Everyone, 9. Father, 10. Restitution, 11. Walls, 12. Resorts, 13. Feudal worker, 18. A belligerent little mongrel dog, 22. Dry, 24. Alley, 26. Relating to aircraft, 28. Possessed, 29. Agreeable, 30. Kid, 31. Flutter, 32. Den, 33. One who sacrifices by fire, 34. Singly, 37. Cabbagelike vegetable, 38. Anagram of "Buds", 40. Desire, 41. Roughage, 43. Nurture, 44. Billows, 46. Strainer, 47. Extreme, 48. Specks, 49. Call forth, 50. Nursemaid, 51. Digestive juice, 53. Dud, 56. Play a role, 57. French for "Summer".

Yesterday's Solution

action, ankle, biopsy, bladder, break, came, care, cease, comet, create, definite, deity, destruction, doctor, dwell, finale, great, headache, impact, master, mill, newt, operate, raffle, ratio, rave, reams, remove, secret, severe, slam, solo, stair.

DESTRUCTION ZU
TVFHEADACHEOR
BASXMSORATIO
IRBEOUMCEASE
OAEELVPACTION
PFOAEEENSROYU
SFBYKRRRKTERC
YLLCDFTEALETR
BEAOEIHGDTERE
CRDMICITRWEIA
TIDEFINITEEAT
UOETYAKFINALE
THRILLIMPACTL