

Training Saves Miners' Lives, Increases Production

KABUL - Mining sector experts and geologists believe that formal training arrangements for labourers will help reduce human losses, bolster production of minerals and excavate the resources in a professional way. The experts criticized what they called poor supervision of Ministry of Mines and Petroleum of mining operations. They noted Afghanistan would be self-sufficient economically if the ministry introduces tangible reforms for the vital sector.

Ibrahim Jafari, a lecturer at Kabul University, told Pajhwok Afghan News the contractor companies are duty bound to professionally train newly-recruited workers in line with needed standards. Jafari said: "The important issue is safety of labors. Most workers of mine sector are illiterate and cannot adopt safety measures without proper trainings." Coming hard on some private corporations for refusing funding for training purposes, the lecturer urged the minis-



try to focus on resolving the direly needed issue while awarding contracts to private firms. Absence of proper train-

ings resulting in deaths of labors, causing multiple diseases such as cancer, rheumatism and others among mining labors

in recent years. On the other hand, Jafari said mines excavation in an unprofessional way by ...*(More on P4)...*

Brawl between Two Groups Scuttle Gathering

GARDEZ - A gathering arranged in southeastern Paktia province to discuss measures as to how control growing administrative corruption was scuttled following physical brawl between two parties in southeastern Paktia province on Friday, a Pajhwok Afghan News correspondent said.



The Jirga, he said was arranged in a local hotel, which was attended by local elders and tens of youth and social activists. The gathering was

about to be addressed by a number of people to demand the central government to send a fact-finding delegation to investigate the graft cases against certain officials and their relatives. However, he said the programme was interrupted when a speaker was talking about the involvement of particular persons in graft as ...*(More on P4)...*

Police Claim Foiling Heroin Smuggling Bid

ZARANJ/ JALALABAD - Police in southwestern Nimroz on Thursday claimed foiling a big smuggling bid by recovering 250 kg heroin to Iran and detained two alleged smugglers. The illicit substances were recovered from the oil tanker at the Abrishim Border with Iran late on Wednesday, police chief Brig. Gen. Mohammad Qasim Jangal Bagh told Pajhwok Afghan News. The anti-narcotics force (ANF) recovered the heroin during a routine check of the oil tanker.

Separately, police in eastern Nangarhar province recovered 65 kg hashish from a car coming from northern Baghlan province. Police chief Brig. Gen. Fazal Ahmad Sherzad said following a tip-off, the ANF officials recovered the contraband from a car. He said another 19 kg heroin had been recovered from a rickshaw in the Tamirato locality of Behsud district. Two alleged smugglers had also been held by the police, he added. *(Pajhwok)*

Businessman Gunned Down

ZARANJ - Militants gunned down a businessman and middleman for custom department after snatching one million afghanis from him in southwestern Nimroz province, a relative of the slain person said on Friday. Lawang came under gunmen attack when he withdrew one million afs from a bank to transfer the amount to custom office late on Thursday, Abdul Zahir, a relative of the slain man told Pajhwok Afghan News. Amir Mohammad AK-hund, deputy governor,

said that Lawang had most probably been killed by his own relatives. He was carrying the cash in his car when his relative travelling with him shot him dead with a pistol. However, police had started investigation to know whether Lawang had been killed by his relatives or unidentified gunmen. Separately, police had foiled a smuggling bid of 40 kilograms drugs intended to transfer the contraband to Iran. Police said two alleged smugglers ...*(More on P4)...*

Magnetic Bombs Seized, 3 Terrorists Arrested

KABUL - Explosives 2National Directorate of Security (NDS) has seized magnetic bombs and other explosives belonging to Haqani terrorist network in Kabul. NDS which usually issues statements regarding achievements says in a statement that a terrorist who was transporting these explosives was also arrested in Pul-i-Charkhi area of the city by NDS ...*(More on P4)...*

6 Rebels Dead in Drone Strike in Nangarhar

JALALABAD - Six insurgents have been killed in US drone strike in eastern Nangarhar province, police spokesman said on Thursday. Hazrat Hussain Mashriqwal told Pajhwok Afghan News the unmanned aircraft carried out the missile attack in Lalpori district late on Wednesday evening. The missile hit militants' sanctuary in Chaknor locality of the district, he said, adding three rebels were also wounded in the attack. But Taliban have not yet commented on the incident. *(Pajhwok)*

Fuel, Food Prices Dip in Kabul

KABUL - The prices of fuel, rice, flour, cooking oil and tea decrease while those of gold soared in Kabul in the outgoing week, traders and businessmen said Thursday. Abdul Saboor, a pump station owner in Wazir Abad area, told Pajhwok Afghan News the prices of one litre petrol fell from 53 afs to 48 afs, and diesel from 49 afs to 47 afs. Khan Mohammad, a firewood seller, said the prices of 560-kg unpeeled oak remained unchanged as compared to last week and was sold at the rate of 6,800 afs. The prices of 560-kg peeled oak, he said, stood at 6,500 afs. Mohammad Sharif, a gas dealer in Taimani neighborhood, said the price of

one kilogram gas was 65 afs. Fazel Rahman, the head of food traders' union, said among the food items only the prices of sugar and black tea remained unaltered. According to Rahman, a 24-kg bag of Pakistani rice was sold at 1,600 afs, a bag of 50-kg Pakistani flour 1,280 and a 16-litre bottle of Momin ghee was 1,050 afs which showed a stark decline as compared to last Thursday. However, the prices of Arabic and Russian gold have climbed. Mohammad Fawar, a jeweler in Timor Shahi area, said one gram Arabic gold was sold at 2,050 afs and one gram Russian gold ...*(More on P4)...*

Illegal Bus Stands Irk Masses in Congested Jalalabad

JALALABAD - Some residents and provincial council members of eastern Nangarhar province, the provincial capital of eastern Nangarhar province, on Thursday complained against the illegal boom in bus stands in different parts of Jalalabad, the provincial capital. They alleged self-declared in-charge of the bus stands were minting money from drivers and allowing them parking in the congested localities. He alleged the officials of transport depart-



were in connivance against the illegal parking areas. The bus stands that are unofficially established included Kabul, Turkham, Momandari, Behsud, Kamai, Laghman, Ghanikhel, Batikot and Rudat. Driver Ajab Khan said he picked passengers from the Mukhabirat square every morning and gave specific amount of money to an individual calling himself the representative of traffic police department. Jalad ...*(More on P4)...*

Kabul Doctors Conduct Successful Skull Surgery of ANA Soldier

KABUL - An Afghan National Army (ANA) Soldier has undergone a rare and successful surgery to remove a metal sphere lodged in his skull for four months in a counter-terrorism combat. The doctors at Sardar Mohammad Daud Khan Hospital of Kabul said that Atta-ul-Rahman, 24, is now in good condition after being four months in coma. The object stuck in his brain has been successfully extracted, doctors said, adding a new cranium will be implanted soon in patient's head.



According to medical reports, the right side of soldier's skull was totally damaged. "The patient has now opened his eyes and can move his hands and legs," doctors said. "We will soon implant a new cranium in his head." However, the patient is currently unable to speak because he also underwent a throat surgery. This rare surgery by Afghan doctors comes as still Afghanistan lacks professional surgeons. Still Afghan patients visit neighboring countries to undergo serious surgeries. *(Tolnews)*

Roadside Bomb Kills Policeman

TIRINKOT - A roadside bombing killed one policeman and injured two others near the capital of central Uruzgan province on Thursday, an official said. The police vehicle was heading to Tirinkot when a landmine ripped through it in the city's Shaplogh area, killing one policeman and injuring two others. The blast also damaged

the pick-up vehicle, said Uruzgan deputy police chief Mohammad Aslam Kuchi. Tirinkot hospital deputy head Dr. Mohammad Nadir said they had been delivered two injured policemen and they were in stable condition. There was no claim of responsibility for the improvised explosive device blast, a Taliban's weapon of choice. *(Pajhwok)*

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

Your irrepressible idealism won't save you from the potential trouble caused by your irreverent behavior as you seek out the next adrenaline rush. You may be so excited that you lose track of your common sense and serious problems can arise if you don't stop to think before you act. However, a carefully calculated gamble might prove to be a lot of fun if you remember to take the necessary precautions along the way.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

You might believe that you have entered a Karmic-Free Zone but, unfortunately, your current actions have very real consequences. Although you yearn to break away from someone's control today, you don't seem to be able to exert your authority over others. Nevertheless, the message is clear; no one can keep you locked up now if you think you are free.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Following your unrestrained instincts can lead you into an exciting but unstable situation today. Normally, you are tentative about your participation in a group activity until you check out all the angles. However, you're thrilled with the idea of jumping into the unknown on a whim. Don't fight the impulse to initiate action; enjoy the fun while it lasts.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

You're tired of waiting for the right career opportunity to present itself. You want results now and may be motivated to gamble on your future. However, your current sense of immediacy could trigger a hasty decision that doesn't necessarily support your long-term plans. Practicing a little more patience is your smartest strategy; you can always continue to explore your options in the safety of your own mind.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

Even if you recently cooled your jets and readjusted your timeline, taking a wait-and-see approach today won't work for you. Something unexpected occurs that requires you to react immediately. Although you still prefer to consider all of your options, you might not want to pass by an opportunity to explore something that stimulates your sense of adventure.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

You may be pulled into someone's emotional melodrama today, reactivating old fears from days gone by. Ironically, you are eagerly anticipating a chance to conquer your demons and put them to rest once and for all. You have skirted around this scary memory long enough; it's now time to dive into the heart of the matter and finally release the past.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

Although you have recently experienced many unusual things, your partner or a friend might do something today that takes you totally by surprise. In fact, you may secretly wish that you were the one rebellious enough to break the rules and behave in an outrageous manner. Get ahead of the curve by planning how to make your unrealized dreams come true.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

The familiar pattern of your daily routine is often reassuring and enables you to feel secure about your life. However, you may be longing to break free from your regular grind so you can do something radically different today. But it's tricky to put your plan into motion because you don't know how much effort to exert to get what you want.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

You may be climbing the walls today, especially if your creativity is being restrained in any manner. You are so eager for adventure that you could overlook your current responsibilities to pursue your eclectic ideas. Unfortunately, you're still expected to play according to the rules, and your brilliance might not have a chance to shine if you end up offending others.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

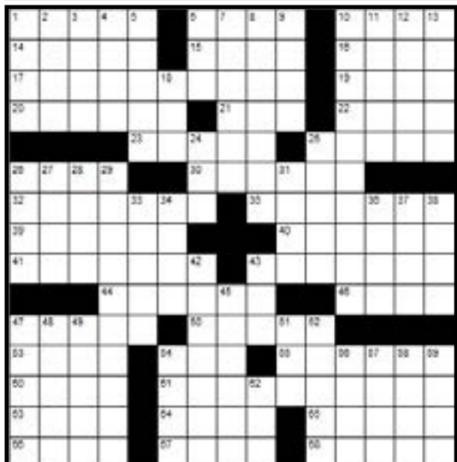
You might be overly worried about keeping your secrets quiet today, especially if you have something wild in your background that others don't know about. But your fears may be unwarranted; be brave and risk judgment by sharing your story with someone you trust. Your shy resistance could quickly transform into giddy exhilaration as soon as you start to talk.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

An unexpected conversation with a coworker or close friend can rattle your nerves today because you are shocked where the discussion goes. Luckily, you're not receiving bad news; it's more about having your old assumptions questioned and your core values challenged. Don't cling to a familiar belief that has outlived its purpose; instead, focus on the freedom that a new perspective brings.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

You are poised to do something today that is totally out of your normal range of conduct, but you believe that extraordinary times require extraordinary measures. The vast array of possibilities is intoxicating, but it's prudent to exercise a bit of discretionary caution or you might end up wasting money on something you don't really need.



Across
 1. Healed, 6. Cocoyam, 10. Rant, 14. A kind of macaw, 15. Marsh plant, 16. Twin sister of Ares, 17. Noteworthy, 19. Aureate, 20. Hyrax, 21. "___ the season to be jolly", 22. Small island, 23. Billiards bounce, 25. Bismirch, 26. Resorts, 30. American songbird, 32. Consume, 35. A surveying instrument, 39. Give in, 40. Inveigle, 41. Answer, 43. Demesnes, 44. Athletics, 46. "___ we forget", 47. Extent, 50. Coming up, 53. Oceans, 54. Reverence, 55. Comparison, 60. Sodium chloride, 61. Instigator, 63. If not, 64. Ancient Peruvian, 65. Tall woody plants, 66. Russian emperor, 67. Matured, 68. Begin

Down
 1. Credit or playing, 2. Component of urine, 3. Adult male sheep, 4. Historical periods, 5. A gold coin of ancient Persia, 6. Historic period, 7. Someone who owes, 8. Delineate, 9. Poems, 10. Belonging to a regiment, 11. Come up, 12. Country house, 13. A chemical compound, 18. New Zealand parrot, 24. Caviar, 25. Tilt, 26. Box, 27. Rate, 28. Circle fragments, 29. Daughter of a step-parent, 31. Mining finds, 33. Take as one's own, 34. Gambling game, 36. Location, 37. Frosts, 38. Exam 42. Illustration, 43. East southeast, 45. Therefrom, 47. Something of value, 48. Breakfast and supper, 49. Light wood, 51. American Sign Language, 52. Weight loss plans, 54. Diva's solo, 56. Shopping place

Yesterday's Solution

after, angel, ballad, brake-man, bread, bring, broken, cross, drugs, expect, frost, great, instrument, kneel, lane, leper, lover, lumberjack, naked, never, pare, pipeline, point, raise, ream, respect, seep, shovel, side, speak, thread, thrill, trucks, water, woman

