

# Most Lawmakers' Vehicles Carry Fake, Illegal VRP

KABUL - Apart from five each official Vehicle Registration Plates (VRP) for the Wolesi Jirga and the Mesharano Jirga administrative panels, all other plates associated with the parliament are fake, the Ministry of Interior (MoI) said on Tuesday.

Without going into details, MoI deputy spokesman Nasrat Rahimi said so far a number of individuals who used vehicles with fake VRP associated to the Parliament had been arrested and handed over to the authorities concerned. He said talks with the Traffic Department were going on distribution of separate VRP to parliamentarians in order to avoid illegal acts.

According to Pajhwok Afghan News, tens of vehicles carried registration plates associated to the Parliament and most of the parliament ...*(More on P4)...(13)*



## Ministry Plans to Attract Investment in Pine Nuts Trade

KABUL - Officials say Afghanistan's pine nut exports can value up to \$1 billion a year if processing becomes available inside the country.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL) on Tuesday held a meeting in Kabul titled "Pine Nuts Development Investment Conference" where officials encouraged investors to invest in pine nut processing.

The Agriculture Minister Nasir Ahmad Durrani said Afghanistan's pine nut exports will reach \$1 billion a year if processing of the dry fruit is provided inside the country.

He said the ministry will pay loans and provide land to those investors who are interested in this sector.

"You invest and help us to preserve this national property," Durrani said as he addressed investors. "We have plans for storing the products. We will build collection centers and facilities for farmers to store their products."

Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Industries (ACCI) said some countries in the region get a high benefit from Afghanistan pine nuts due to lack of processing and packaging centers in the country.

The CEO of the ACCI, Atiqullah Nusrat, said the pine nut business will help increase the country's revenue if processing and packaging opportunities are available inside the country.

"If we invest, even to a small extent, in pine nut factories, we can address the market demands by using Afghanistan brand on the product," said Nusrat.

Meanwhile, head of the Pine Nuts ...*(More on P4)...(15)*

## Daikundis Worried About Skyrocketed Fuel, Food Prices

NEILI - The prices of fuel and food items have skyrocketed with the advent of winter in central Daikundi province, complain residents.

Ahmad Shah, a resident of Neili, the provincial capital, told Pajhwok the prices of fuel and food went up in winter in the province despite people's poor economic situation.

He said the local administration has been reluctant to take necessary steps and check the price-hike. He said the price of a rice sack increased from 2,300 afghanis to 2,500 afghanis and of one kg gas from 70 afs to 80 afs in recent past.

Banian Hujati, another resident and a university student, told



Pajhwok that he was living in a rented room and it was hard for him to buy food and pay the rent due to the price hike. He urged the government to pay attention to poor students and residents. ...*(More on P4)...(14)*

## Operation Underway for the Arrest of Nahzat-E-Islami Leader Abdul Hamid Khurasani

KABUL - An operation is underway in Kabul for the arrest of Abdul Hamid Khurasani, the leader of Nahzat-e-Islami group, the Ministry of Interior (MoI) said late on Tuesday.

According to a statement released by the Ministry of Interior, Abdul Hamid Khurasani is under the pursuit of the government of Afghanistan on charges of extortion, kidnapping, murder, leading criminal armed gang, drugs smuggling, spreading chaos and terror, and insulting the government officials in video and audio messages.

The statement further added

that Khurasani specifically had role in smuggling illicit drugs by disguising in a convoy of mourners.

According to MoI, Khurasani had managed to escape from the pursuit of law under various pretexts. The statement by MoI also added that the police forces had the capabilities to suppress Khurasani but avoided to use force in a bid to prevent civilian casualties. According to MoI, Khurasani managed to escape the police siege by taking women and children as hostages to escape the police raid which was conducted for his arrest. (KP)

## Six Security Force Members Killed in Balkh Clash

MAZAR-E-SHAROF - A local police commander in Balkh said the clash happened in Charbolak district in the province on Tuesday night.

At least six security force members were killed in a clash with Taliban in Balkh province on Tuesday night, a local police commander for Charbolak district, Mohammad Aman, said.

The clash occurred in Temorak village in Charbolak district in Balkh province and continued through to Wednesday morning, Aman said.

Aman said among those killed in the fighting are three Special Police Force and three local police force members. Seven other local police force members were taken hostage by the Taliban, Aman said.

Aman said ...*(More on P4)...(16)*



## Outlook Horoscope

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



A temporary upset with a partner might distract you so you can't function as effectively as you normally do. Don't let your anger get the best of you. The situation is probably due to a lack of communication, and could be cleared up with explanations, understanding, and an agreement as to how similar situations should be handled.

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



Unexpected responsibilities could interfere with plans to take a trip of some sort. Someone might need your help, and you may well have to put your own activities on hold for a while. This could be frustrating. Taurus. It only delays whatever you're doing but doesn't stop it. Take care of whatever you need to do and then continue with your plans. You will feel better if you do.

### Gemini (May 21-June 20)



An unexpected development might interfere with your plans to attend a social event, group activity, or get-together with your partner. This isn't going to sit well with those you've been planning to meet, Gemini. It's going to be frustrating for you, too, but it has to be done. It's best if you just postpone your plans and take care of business. Your friends will forgive you.

### Cancer (June 21-July 20)



Arrangements for a get-together you're planning to host could go awry, with everything turned upside down and nothing happening the way you planned. This isn't going to halt your plans, Cancer, but it's going to require more effort to get things back on track and make it happen. This is going to be exasperating for you, but don't waste time moaning about it.

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



Your usually abundant energy may experience a sudden setback today, Leo. Work pressure could create stress that leaves you feeling exhausted and out of sorts. This will pass. You should be strong and healthy and so able to overcome it quickly. It's going to drive you crazy to not feel as active as you usually are. Relax and spend a day resting.

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



A trip through exclusive boutiques or antique shops might have you throwing financial caution to the wind and buying luxury items you hadn't planned for. This is all right - up to a point. Take care not to buy more than you can use. Don't go to the opposite extreme and be too miserly either. You've worked hard and deserve a treat or two.

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



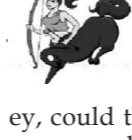
Unexpected visitors might throw you into a dither. You could panic over how to dress, what to say, and what to serve. Don't make yourself crazy, Libra. Follow your heart and go with the flow. Spontaneity is the best policy. Your guests will enjoy yourselves more if you worry less about being the perfect host. Have fun.

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



Some rather disconcerting information may come to light today. This could throw you into a daze, as it isn't anything that you expected. This isn't necessarily bad news, Scorpio. In fact, it might be great news, but it may be something you never expected in a million years. Work through the shock and try to view it from all sides.

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



Even though everything is going well for you, Sagittarius, a sudden upset of some kind, probably involving money, could throw you into a momentary panic. You may wonder if your good fortune is going to end as quickly as it began. This probably isn't the case. The situation is temporary. With a little effort, you should be able to straighten everything out and put yourself back on track.

### Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan.19)



Upsets regarding your career or the activities that take up most of your time are likely to negatively affect your self-confidence. Don't fall into this trap, Capricorn. The forces are beyond your control and the situation doesn't reflect any shortcomings on your part. You might have to put in some effort to straighten things out and return to normal.

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

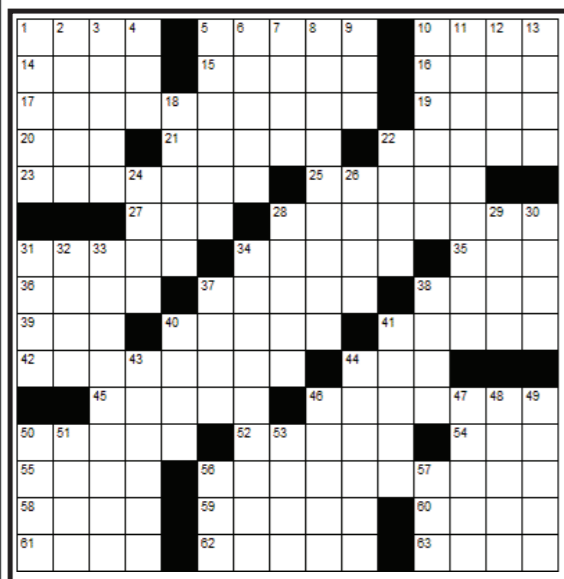


New scientific or archaeological discoveries could temporarily shake your faith in your spiritual path, Aquarius. You may suddenly doubt something you've always accepted. This could propel you to study, primarily to reaffirm your faith. You're likely to find that your discoveries don't invalidate your ideas, but actually confirm them.

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



You might not be able to accomplish what you'd hoped today, Pisces. Some minor but irritating conflicts could occur within a group. You might find this exasperating, as petty squabbles interfere with reaching the group's objectives. You could be called on to use your intuition and sensitivity to spread oil on troubled waters. Be direct, fair, and clear, and try not to let your irritation show.



### Across

- Climax, 5. Bitten, 10. Join, 14. Outcropping, 15. Half of six, 16. Shade of blue, 17. Money paid for a service, 19. Carpets, 20. Eastern newt, 21. Submarine, 22. Garbage, 23. Take aback, 25. Artist's workstand, 27. Consumed food, 28. Make more city-like, 31. Manicurist's board, 34. Weeper, 35. \_\_\_zag, 36. Docile, 37. Good person, 38. Gambling game, 39. Former boxing champ, 40. Held on tightly, 41. Masses of floating ice, 42. Chickadee, 44. Ottoman governor, 45. Latin name for our planet, 46. Capable of being molded, 50. Rise, 52. Author Mark \_\_\_\_, 54. Actress Lupino, 55. Clue, 56. A distinctive characteristic, 58. Ancient Peruvian, 59. Overgrown with ivy, 60. Conspiracy, 61. Rind, 62. Fixes,

### Down

- Throbs, 2. A small farm, 3. Devilfish, 4. Conceit, 5. Horse barn, 6. Spasm, 7. Mures, 8. Castrating, 9. Precious stone, 10. A colony of rabbits, 11. A tying score, 12. Totes, 13. Ardor, 18. Full of ruts, 22. Russian emperor, 24. Unusual, 26. Assist in crime, 28. Pee, 29. Pizazz, 30. Prima donna problems, 31. French for "State", 32. Anagram of "Mail", 33. Amount emitted, 34. Producing an effect, 37. Disparage, 38. Lock openers, 40. Unit of cut wood, 41. Keno, 43. Not physical, 44. Screens, 46. Beeped, 47. Name of a book, 48. Fool, 49. Desert plants, 50. Transport commercially, 51. Prong, 53. Large open farm wagon (archaic), 56. Not brilliant, 57. Operative,

### Yesterday's Solution

LETUP DOSS USEID  
 APARIA EDIT LORE  
 MERIT COLA TIERN  
 BENCHMARKS RUES  
 ANA DAY HEARD  
 CATNAP SHINS  
 ARRAY SPONSORED  
 RIOT SUITING NARY  
 SATURNINE STINGE  
 RIOTS VICTOR  
 TMAGO AIRCOTISM  
 ANA PATRICIISM  
 TAXI TIBIS GURID  
 ONES NERO GRETA  
 PEST GLEN ONSET

raven skull, smile  
 strengthen anybody, arise,  
 assistance, build, crime  
 dam, devil, diminish,  
 drone, funny, guide, hap-  
 pen, study, sword,  
 toast, today, trash, vanity  
 heart, hurry impact  
 intervene, knock, manage

