

# Cut in Additional Police Force for Nuristan Ruled out

KABUL - The acting governor of eastern Nuristan province on Monday confirmed an additional 850-member police force would continue to ensure security in the restive region. In an exclusive interview with Pajhwok Afghan News, Hafiz Abdul Qayyum said the police force approved for the province would keep serving residents of the volatile province.

"We have 1,900 policemen in Nuristan and an additional corps of Afghan National Army (ANA). I have talked to President Ashraf Ghani, who reassured the strength of the force will not be cut," Qayyum added. Earlier, the Ministry of Interior had expressed reservations about the Nuristan police strength, indicating a re...



# 89 Drug Traffickers Arrested Last Month

KABUL - At least 89 drug traffickers have been arrested and nearly five tonnes of drugs have been seized during the past one month in different provinces of the country, the Criminal Justice Task Force (CJTF) said Monday. According to a statement from the CJTF, the criminals were detained during several operations in Logar, Zabul, Takhar, Smangan, Kandahar, Parwan, Paktia, Nimroz, Nangarhar,



Kunduz, Kunar, Kabul, Helmand, Herat, Ghor, Faryab, Balkh, Baghlan and Badakhshan provinces. Most of the drug traffickers, including six women, were detained in Kabul, Nangarhar and ...

# Four Tajik Border Guards Held Hostage not Released

QUGHON TEPPA - Four Tajik border guards, who are being held hostage in Afghanistan, have not yet been released, Abduljon Tavakkalzoda, the head of Khatlon's Panj district, told journalists on January 26.

"The Afghan side was supposed to hand over the abducted border guards to Tajik authorities on Sunday but the handover of the border guards did not take place for some reasons and the ...

# At Least 30 Taliban Killed in Military Operation

KUNDOZ CITY - Security officials in northern Kunduz province say Taliban have suffered heavy casualties in the ongoing operation in Imam Sahib District. General Abdul Saboor Nasrati, police chief of Kunduz province says at least 30 Taliban insurgents have been killed and several others wounded so far in the operation ongoing since five days. He said 31 villages in Imam Sahib District have been cleared off the Taliban presence. He confirmed that two soldiers also embraced martyrdom in the fight



with the insurgents. Kunduz has seven districts with Imam Sahib being the most restive one. Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) started large scale operation after reports of increasing insurgency surfaced from this district four days before. Kunduz is one of the few

# Spy Agency Claims Foiling Terror Bid

KABUL - The National Directorate of Security (NDS) on Sunday claimed arresting two terrorists who planned to carry out a big sabotage act in the capital Kabul. A statement from the NDS said the terrorists - Ehsanullah and Latifullah - were detained in separate operations in the 12th police district of Kabul. During initial interrogation, the pair had confessing to having links with Taliban commander Mullah Umar in Kunar and were tasked with conducting a terror attack



in Kabul. A pistol and a Corolla car were recovered from their hideouts, the NDS statement added. Separately, the intelligence agency said, insurgents planned to use a 10-year-old girl to stage a bomb attack on security forces, but she surrendered to police. Gulsoma was kidnapped by Jabbar, a Taliban commander, from Lashkargah. The commander planned to place explosives in her school bag to attack security forces. (Pajhwok)

# Dozens of Wells Dug up

MAIDAN SHAHR - The digging of 63 wells has been completed in different areas of central Maidan Wardak province, providing people with clean drinking water, an official said on Monday. Rural Rehabilitation Director Eng. Jan Mohammad Hikmatjoi told Pajhwok Afghan News 51 wells were dug up in Maidan Shahr, the provincial capital, five in Behsud and seven in Jalrez districts. He said the project was completed in one year at a cost of 5.5 million afghanis provided by the Swedish Committee for

Afghanistan (SCA) and UNICEF. Kifaytullah, a resident of Mullahkhel locality, said people had suffered a lot due to non-availability of clean drinking water. With the digging of new wells, the issue had been resolved, he added. Meanwhile, Public Works Director Mohammad Younus Najafi said work on the construction of a 140 kilometres road between Maidan Shahr and Chak district would be launched next month. During a meeting with acting Governor Abdul Hameed Khogyani, he said ...

# Residents Announce Support to Security Forces

KHOST CITY - A number of people in southeastern Khost province announced support to Afghan security forces, the acting governor said on Monday. Abdul Jabbar Naeemi urged participants of a gathering arranged to show solidarity with Afghan forces that the masses should back their security forces in the province. The gathering was attended by senior military, civil officials, tribal elders, youth and reli-

gious leaders. He lauded the professionalism of security forces and said they were able to face all challenges. "The personnel of Afghan security forces are sons of the soil. They are our brothers and we want you to support them through thick and thin," Naeemi remarked. Some anti-state elements had launched negative propaganda against the security forces, he la ...

# Bomb Rips through Hotel; 5 Wounded

JALALABAD - Five people were injured on Monday when a blast ripped through a hotel in Jalalabad, the capital of eastern Nangarhar province, a police spokesman said. Col. Hazrat Hussain Mashriqiwal told Pajhwok Afghan News that the explosion took place at the Ahmad Zia Abdulzai, the governor's spokesman, confirmed the incident and said the injured had been evacuated to hospital ...

# ANSF Raids Kill Two Insurgents

KABUL - At least two insurgents were killed and 11 others captured during a nationwide operation led by the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) in the past 24 hours, the Ministry of Interior (MoI) said in a statement on Monday. The operations were conducted in Helmand, Uruzgan, Logar, Ghazni, Khost Zabul and Kandahar provinces, the statement added. "During the same 24 hour period, Afghan National Police discovered and defused three different ...

# Angry Protestors Torch French Flag in Jawzjan

KABUL - Over a hundred residents of northern Jawzjan province on Monday rallied against the recent publication of sacrilegious cartoons in a French weekly and demanded punishment for the perpetrators. Heavily-armed men attacked the magazine Charlie Hebdo on Jan 8, killing 12 people, including the editor-in-chief and prominent cartoonists. In its latest edition, the satirical weekly republished the cartoon of an Arab man but with tears in his eyes, holding a "Je

Suis Charlie" sign under the headline "All is forgiven". Enraged by the blasphemous caricatures, Maulvi Yar Mohammad, one of the protestors, demanded punishment for all those involved in the publication of the cartoons. He said the French government should ban such practices, urging respect for religious values. He warned anti-Islamic propaganda would lead to more dangerous consequences. Another protester, Mo ...

# Former Primary Court Official Gunned Down

KABUL - A former official at the primary court in the 2nd police district of Kabul was shot dead by unidentified gunmen in Company area on Monday morning. Izzatullah Noori, who had resigned his court job, had no personal enmity with anyone, his brother Hikmatullah Noori told Pajhwok Afghan News. No one has so far claimed responsibility for the attack. On December 13, Supreme Court's Secretary Attiqullah Raufi was gunned down in a similar attack. (Pajhwok)

## Outlook Horoscope

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

You're highly motivated to inform everyone of your feelings today, but your radical honesty could backfire unless you're gentle in your delivery. Nothing will be gained if you scare people off before they hear what you have to say. Luckily, your day improves dramatically if you soften your rhetoric just a notch.

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

You might feel quite hopeful about getting some much-needed rest and relaxation, but this weekend may bring more action than you prefer. You could be pulled into someone's emotional drama today, but you don't have to get fully involved unless you want to participate. At first, it's challenging to resist taking the bait, but it's smarter to keep quiet before you find yourself in over your head.

### Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Ironically, you will discover a new direction to take once you make a real commitment to finish whatever is already on your plate. Unfortunately, it may not be all that easy to concentrate now because you long to jump into the next distraction as soon as it comes your way. Leave plenty of time to fulfill your responsibilities today, even if your friends tempt you with intriguing alternatives.

### Cancer (June 21-July 20)

There's no reason to conform to people's narrow expectations today just because they assume you want to stay home, comfortable in your shell. Your current adventurous streak may surprise everyone when you spontaneously head out to do something exciting on your own now without even discussing your plans with anyone else.

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

Although you may not be completely free to do anything you want today, it's still healthy to make some special plans for the immediate future. You can derive much enjoyment from simply dreaming up something wonderful, even if the opportunity to escape hasn't arrived yet. In the meantime, think on a large scale.

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

There's a lot of commotion around you today, making you feel nervous if you think that you might become uprooted from your secure place in the world. Alternatively, relinquishing control might prove to be exhilarating now, assuming you can find the courage to go on an emotional joyride. Thankfully, you will probably end up in better shape than you started in, so say yes to an invitation for fun before the opportunity passes.

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

Defending your position might be necessary this weekend, especially if you feel your emotional security is tied up with the need to protect yourself. You don't have to go too far out of your way and waste energy trying to be nice if anyone acts disrespectfully toward you. Although you may startle others if you push back to make your point, no one has the right to be overly bossy or take advantage of your good nature.

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

Losing your temper over something that may ultimately be unimportant can add a simple twist of fate to your day. Your perspective is slightly warped now by your heightened sense of urgency, but acknowledging you are more impatient than usual helps you manage your feelings more effectively.

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

Keeping the lid on your feelings is not a good idea today. It's wiser to let them out gradually, rather than waiting until they explode at the wrong time. You aren't doing anyone any favors by bottling up your emotions because they will just continue to intensify out of your control. Act consciously by discussing your concerns objectively, instead of throwing a tantrum later on.

### Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

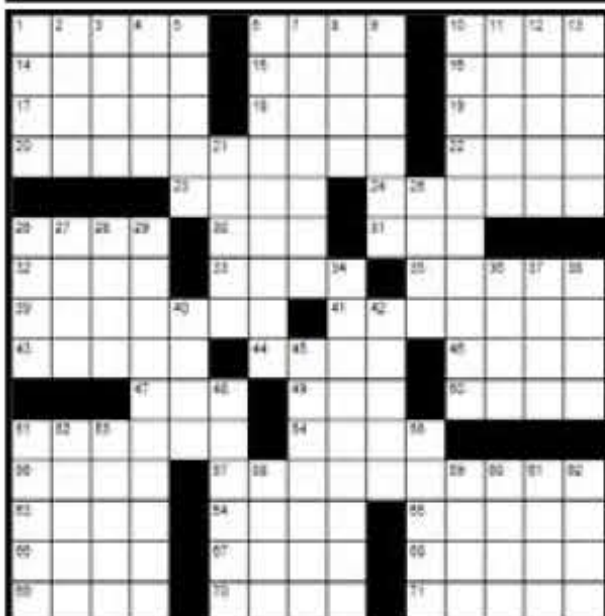
You won't have to go too far to discover something new and different now. The excitable Aries Moon's presence in your 4th House of Home and Family indicates that adventure could find you wherever you are. Even if you don't think you need an extra adrenaline rush, you probably won't be able to resist the inevitable.

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

You might be looking for a quick getaway and this weekend could be perfect for escaping to a special place. Don't let previous plans stress you out because you should be able to put your obligations on temporary hold. Naturally, you'll need to return to unfinished chores, but in the interim, relax and enjoy your mini-retreat.

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

Your current confidence makes all the difference between a quiet day that comes and goes without much notice and a memorable one that is made for the record books. The self-directed Aries Moon emboldens your 2nd House of Self-Worth, empowering you to take responsibility for whatever you do now.



**Across**  
1. Rise, 6. Soft drink, 10. Immediately, 14. Hue, 15. Affirm, 16. Unadulterated, 17. Bicker, 18. Provide nourishment, 19. Arab chieftain, 20. In a crosswise direction 22. Untruths, 23. Collections, 24. Sewing tool, 26. Air force heroes, 30. Born as, 31. Pair, 32. Flutter, 33. Region, 35. African antelope, 39. A pasta dish 41. A 17th century style of music, 43. A drama set to music, 44. A long way off, 46. White aquatic bird, 47. Bother, 49. French for "Summer", 50. Harvard rival, 51. Sleeping sickness carrier, 54. Distribute, 56. Nobleman, 57. Graniteware, 63. Swing around, 64. Whimper, 65. Districts, 66. Cuts off, 67. Biblical garden, 68. Mountain lakes, 69. Picnic insects

**Down**  
1. Leave in a hurry, 2. Unit of pressure, 3. Aquatic plant, 4. Person, place or thing, 5. Put on clothes, 6. Self-serve restaurant, 7. Supervise, 8. Dregs, 9. Fervent, 10. Scientific study of caves, 11. Abnormally distended, 12. Disney mermaid, 13. Brusque, 21. Corrupt, 25. Pitcher, 26. Hairdo, 27. Applaud, 28. Overhang, 29. Apathetic, 34. Respite, 36. Shade of blue, 37. Nonexistent, 38. Expunge, 40. Paddles, 42. Mountain crest, 45. Women, 48. Custodian, 51. Electrical pioneer, 52. Beauty parlor, 53. Blow up, 55. Gladden, 58. Naked, 59. Envelop, 60. Relating to aircraft, 61. South African monetary unit, 62. Being

**Yesterday's Solution**  
after, babe, baker, believe, beside, broke, brownies, chair, compliment, cost, dinner, dismay, eager, early, expect, front, greet, halter, hint, lair, loss, rice, pause, place, quick, reach, rots, school, second, sent, short, slight, smile, tale, teenage, there, tonight

