



Sugar, Ghee Prices Down in Kabul

KABUL - The prices of sugar and ghee have dipped while other items' rates remain stable during the outgoing week in capital Kabul, market sources said Saturday.

Mohammad Hamayon, head of Kabul Food Traders Union, told Pajhwok Afghan News that the price of 49 kilograms of Pakistani sugar was declined from 1,940 Afghanis to 1,920 Afghanis and a tin of 16 liters of Khurshid ghee from 1,120afis to 1,100afis.

However, he said that 49 kilograms of Kazakhstani flour cost 1,440afis, 24kg of Indonesian green tea 280afis and the same quantity of African black tea 300afis, same rates of last week's. Ahmad Samim, who owns a grocery store in Taimani area of Kabul, sold a 50-kg sack of Kazakhstani flour for 1,480afis, a 49-kg bag of sugar for 2,000afis, 24-kg of Pakistani rice 2,500afis a 16-litre tin of ghee for 1,150afis, one-kg of Indonesian green tea for 300afis and the same amount of black African tea for 350afis—higher than wholesale rates.

Fuel prices also remain steady. Abdul Hadi, a worker at Wazirabad Fuel Station in Kabul said that the price a liter of petrol cost 53afis and the same quantity of diesel 49afis.

Ahmad Javid, a liquefied gas seller in Taimani area, said the price of one kilogram of the commodity was 70afis, the same rate of last week's.

Haji Fawad Ahmad Salehzada, a jeweler in Timor Shahee area of Kabul, said that the price of one gram of Russian gold was 2,170afis and the same quantity of Arabian variety 2,650afis, no changes have recorded in gold prices.

Haji Mir Hussian Sadaqat, a money-changer at the Money Exchange Service in Sara-i-Shahzada, said one US dollar was accounted for 79.40afis and 1,000 Pakistani rupees for 540afis against last week's 80.20afis and 541afis. (Pajhwok)

Taliban Militants Suffer Heavy Casualties in U.S. Airstrikes in Badghis and Ghor



KABUL - The U.S. forces based in Afghanistan carried out a series of airstrikes in North-western Badghis and Ghor provinces inflicting casualties on 24 Taliban fighters.

The 207th Zafar Corps in a statement said the U.S. forces carried out the airstrikes in support of the Afghan armed forces in Bala Murghab district of Badghis and Shahrak district of Ghor.

The statement further added that the airstrikes killed 20 Taliban

militants.

In addition to this, the airstrikes killed one of the commanders of Taliban identified as Mullah Hay-attullah.

Furthermore, the airstrikes injured at least four other Taliban fighters, the 207th Zafar Corps added.

The anti-government armed militants including Taliban have not commented regarding the airstrikes so far.

The security situation in some districts of Badghis and Ghor provinces

has deteriorated during the recent months.

Taliban militants often carry out terrorist related activities in the restive areas of the two provinces.

In the meantime, the Afghan forces are busy conducting counter-terrorism operations against the anti-government armed elements in the two provinces. Similarly, the U.S. forces conduct regular airstrikes in restive districts of Badghis and Ghor to suppress the Taliban and other anti-government militants. (KP)

Paktika Gathering Demands Ceasefire During Eidul Fitr



SHARANA - Hundreds of residents of southeastern Paktika province held a gathering to ask all the warring parties to the conflict to declare ceasefire during Eidul Fitr.

The gathering in Yahyakhel district was attended by hundreds of elders and youth and spoke in support of the peace process.

Tribal elder Haji Sarwar Khan said war was no solution as no side could win the war during the past 18 years. He said the only solution to the Afghanistan conflict was intra-Afghan dialogue.

Khan said the ceasefire during the previous Eidul Fitr brought joys to people's lives and urged the Taliban, the US and the Afghan government to accept the people's demand of an end to the war.

The elder said the warring parties should declare ceasefire in respect to the holy festival of Eid and announce an end to fighting as part of the ongoing peace talks.

Another tribal elder Haji Gul Khan said this time the people of Afghanistan were hoping for a long-term ceasefire. He said if the warring sides really respected people's wishes, they should show it in practice and announce ceasefire until the end of peace talks.

Speaking on behalf of the youth, Ali Mohammad Sadat said the only victims of the war were Afghans. He urged the warring sides to show mercy on Afghans and respond positively to their demand for peace. (Pajhwok)

9 ALP Personnel Killed, 3 Wounded in Taliban Attack



PUL-I-KHUMRI - At least nine Afghan Local Police (ALP) personnel have been killed and three others wounded in a Taliban attack in western Baghlan province, an official said on Saturday.

Bismillah Atash, a member of the provincial council, told Pajhwok Afghan News the militants stormed an ALP check-post in the Haji Hashim area of Pul-i-Khumri late on Friday night. He said nine security personnel were killed and three others

wounded in the overnight gunbattle.

Abdul Wali, a resident of the area, confirmed the firefight and casualties.

Police spokesman Ahmad Jawed Basharat told Pajhwok three ALP members were killed and two others wounded.

Without giving specific figures, he said the militants had also suffered casualties. The Taliban have not yet commented on the incident. (Pajhwok)

Over 180 Killed in Deadliest Week of Current Year



KABUL - As many as 134 pro-government forces and 47 civilians have been killed in Afghanistan during the past week, the deadliest seven days of the current year.

The New York Times, noting a spike in militant attacks, reported on Friday the deadliest incident occurred in Ghor Province, where the rebels stormed a village and killed 18 people. Three members of the Afghan special forces, two police personnel and 13

residents -- supporting the security forces -- were among the fatalities.

In Badghis, 16 Afghan commandos were killed and 15 others wounded when the fighters assaulted the Bala Murghab district centre, capturing the district police headquarters.

US and Afghan Special Forces killed two growers working in a wheat field in the village of Larkhahi in Gul Tapa district, where Taliban hideouts were bombed... (More on P4)...(9)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



Relations with colleagues could be a bit strained due to increased job stress. If you've been thinking of entering a business or romantic partnership, this isn't the day to decide. Your mind may be a bit muddled. Misunderstandings or misinformation could cause you to doubt the wisdom of the partnership. This needs to be considered objectively, Aries. Your doubts may be groundless.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



Today you might feel a little under the weather due to physical and emotional stress over the past few days. Take it easy today if you can. This isn't the day to be too busy or start new projects. Miscommunication could cause an upset or two, Taurus, so try to maintain your cool. Don't make mountains out of molehills. Nothing will come up that can't be handled.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



Disturbing dreams or unsettling moods could arise today, causing you to wonder if something is wrong or something bad is going to happen. Let it go, Gemini. If anything goes wrong, it isn't likely to be anything major. A recent event may have triggered old impressions that are causing these feelings. You could also be picking up on others' moods, as your intuition is high.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



Disconcerting developments in the lives of family members could cause some stress at home. There could be some problems with the structure of the house itself. Perhaps the plumbing or electricity needs attention. If a family member is upset, Cancer, keep the lines of communication open. If there are problems that need attention, get them out of the way now.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



Don't be surprised if many visitors come to your door today. A relative or co-worker could be in a black mood, which could spill over to you, as you're feeling more intuitive than usual. Realize that this isn't coming from you, Leo, and let it go! Misinformation could come your way by phone, email, or mail. Check out the facts before you buy into it.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)



Low biorhythms could have you feeling a little depressed. You may tend to doubt your goals and abilities. Don't let this send you into a fit of gloom, Virgo. All is better than it seems. Realize that today you're likely to blow every little setback out of proportion. Give everything you try your very best effort. Go out tonight and have a good time!

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



Communication with friends or family may not come easily today, Libra. An unusual level of inhibition could keep you from reaching out to others. You might try to shake this off by working too hard, even if you aren't sure exactly what you want to do. This is a good day to read, study, or work on projects in solitude. A long walk during the day could clear your head and reignite your enthusiasm.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



Your intuition is likely to be operating at a very high level today, Scorpio. This isn't a good day to be around sick or depressed people. You will probably pick up their gloom and it could possibly spoil your day. This is a good day to finish old projects that you may have postponed. Your insights and ingenuity are likelier than usual to give you the motivation you need.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



Fear about your financial security could plague you today, Sagittarius. Dissatisfaction with some of your work you've been doing and delays in reaching some of your goals might have you wondering what you could do better. Doubts about a friend's motives might cause you to waver in your trust of that person. Take the time to consider everything objectively. All is probably not as it seems.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



Have you been wondering if you're in the right profession? Disillusionment with your field could have you feeling mildly ill from stress and considering a total career change. Perhaps this is the right course of action to take, but perhaps not. Look into the options available and see how you feel about them, Capricorn, but wait a few days before making any final decisions.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

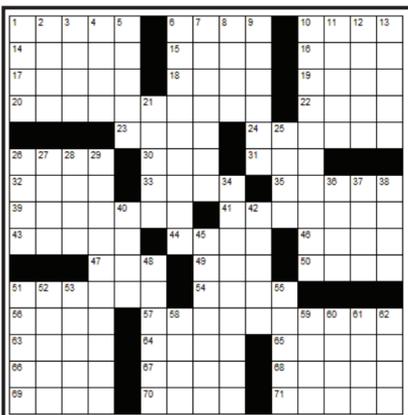


Unsettling news from far away could have you somewhat upset and a little depressed. The temptation to withdraw and brood might seem too strong to resist, but this may not be the best course of action. Getting things done is likely to be the best therapy in emotional situations like this, Aquarius. So if there's a new project you've been

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



A friend might be ill, causing you considerable worry. One of the goals you've been trying to reach could be delayed in some way, causing frustration. Your financial situation could also be on your mind. You could be worrying needlessly, Pisces. The situation is cloudy and may not be as unsettling as it seems. You may have received some misinformation. Check the



Across

- Send, as payment, 6. To tax or access, 10. Frosts, 14. Chopin composition, 15. Dogfish
- Eve's opposite, 17. Cancels, 18. Minor quarrel, 19. Urgent request, 20. A superficial person, 22. Stone, 23. Satisfy, 24. 30, 26. Gave money, 30. Bamboozle, 31. Sweet potato
- Unit of land, 33. Moving within, 35. Cut wood, 39. Red wine, 41. Hostage, 43. Electrical pioneer, 44. Does something, 46. Hawaiian strings, 47. An uncle, 49. A flatbottom boat
50. A building for skating, 51. Stock certificates, 54. Not closed, 56. Centers, 57. Greeting
63. Nursemaid, 64. Beers, 65. Symbol of authority, 66. Hubs, 67. Bygone era, 68. A drama set to music, 69. Snare, 70. Oceans, 71. Assault, ,

Down

- Cleave, 2. Decorative case, 3. Think (over), 4. Doing nothing, 5. Exams, 6. A form of schizophrenia, 7. Distinguished, 8. Sieve, 9. Personal security, 10. Endorsement, 11. Hue
12. Construct, 13. Serpentine, 21. Implied, 25. Metal fastener, 26. Agreement, 27. Throb
28. Colored part of an eye, 29. Car franchise, 34. Devilfishes, 36. A collaborative website, 37. Not odd, 38. Writing table, 40. What a person is called, 42. Heretofore (2 words), 45. An acute intestinal infection, 48. Literary compositions, 51. Second person singular of shall, 52. The quality of being funny, 53. Hemp, 55. Wealthy man, 58. Balm ingredient, 59. Adhesive strip
60. Midmonth date, 61. Monster, 62. Tidy, ,

Yesterday's Solution

SLASH BEMER UTAH
PARTY ANEW NINE
ACCIDENTAL DATA
DESERT TANS ERST
ACRIB DRAHVS
ASPS ELEVEN
CLIPPED RELEASE
FOLLOW STAMPS
SMERED STATION
STRUCK HATE
MATHS BOARS
IBID WIN CENTRAP
DEMO REDECORATE
SLEW ATOM GENOA
TERRN PYRE SKIIPS

active, asks, beats blip, brief, brisk, chemical coffin, crumb, eavesdrop, entire, episode, exist, failure, floor, garden glove line, middle mulch, offspring, pare perky, pitch, print, quarrelsome, rainy, rear

