

More Security Check Posts Established in Balkh: Police

MAZAR-E-SHARIF - Following spike in insecure situation, the numbers of security check posts have been increased in every districts of northern Balkh province, provincial police chief said on Sunday. Major Gen. Sayed Kamal Sadat expressed these views at a press conference after busting a group of kidnapers. Three kidnapers of the group, he said had been detained by the police and the group was planning to abduct a local person. He said police was discharging duty 24-hours to improve law and order and thwart any untoward incident in the province. He said that the number of security check posts had been increased in the insecure districts of the province. (Pajhwok)



Militants Kill 3 Security Personnel in Ghazni

GHAZNI CITY - Unidentified gunmen shot dead three Afghan security forces personnel with a silencer gun in southern Ghazni province on Sunday, the governor's spokesman said. Shafiq Nang told Pajhwok Afghan News that guard of Ghazni Municipality was gunned down by unknown militants. The attackers fled the scene after committing the crime. Khalil-u-Rehman, a shopkeeper, confirmed a municipality worker was shot dead by unidentified gunmen. Nang said that two Afghan security forces were shot dead with a silencer gun late on



Saturday. He said no one had been arrested in this connection but police had started investigations to identify the perpetrators. Taliban claimed killing two Afghan security forces the other in Qala-e-Jawz locality but didn't about today's incident. (Pajhwok)

Work to Restore Nangarhar Electricity Supply Begins



JALALABAD - Local officials said on Sunday that work has been started to restore power supply to eastern Nangarhar and Laghman provinces. The power lines had been cut by Taliban in Uzbin area of the district from the past 10 days and faced the residents of the provinces with problems. The residents had also held protests against disconnection of power supply and accused central government of negligence. Nangarhar power director Eng. Muhib Rahman Momand told Pajhwok Afghan News that tribal elders and Ulama of Laghman province and Sarobi district helped them start

repairing the electricity lines today. He said that a delegation of Ulama and tribal elders had been sent to the area to hold talks with people to let them repair the broken lines. The technical team had arrived at around 4:00am this morning and would try to provide electricity to Nangarhar and Laghman today, Momand said. A day earlier, Da Afghanistan Breshna Sherkat (DBAS) or power utility spokesman Wahid Tawhidi said two Taliban commanders were preventing the power lines from repairing. He said that tribal elders convinced the Taliban militants to let them repair the power lines. (Pajhwok)

Taliban Blow up Mobile Phone Towers in Logar

PUL-I-ALAM - Taliban blew up two telephone towers in the Baraki Barak district in central Logar province, the district chief said. Mohammad Rahim Amin told Pajhwok Afghan News that unidentified militants destroyed towers of Mobile Telecommunication Networks (MTN) and Etisalat mobile networks on Saturday night.

Amin said that the damaged towers covered large swaths of the districts and provided services to thousands of users. Meanwhile, the mobile phones users are facing serious problems to communicate to each other, after getting disconnected from the rest of the areas. However, militants have not yet commented on the incident. (Pajhwok)

57 Insurgents Killed in ANSF Military Operations

KABUL - At least 57 insurgents have been killed in a series of coordinated operations over the past 24 hours by the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF), the Ministry of Interior (MoI) said in a statement on Sunday. In addition, 23 other insurgents were injured. The operations were conducted in Takhar, Kunduz, Badakhshan, Sar-e-Pul, Logar, Uruzgan, Paktika and Helmand provinces, the



statement said. "During the same 24 hour period, Afghan National Police discovered and defused 11 different types of IEDs placed by enemies of Afghanistan for destructive activities in Takhar, Uruzgan and Logar provinces," it said. The MoI, however, did not comment on whether any security force members were injured during the operations. (Tolonews)

Taliban Splinters as ISIS Makes Inroads in Afghanistan

KABUL - The Afghan Taliban is struggling to maintain a unified facade amid reports of splits within the group and some of the militants fighting each other in the east of the country. According to two commanders within the Taliban - which has been fighting an insurgency against the Afghan government and foreign



forces since being toppled by the U.S.-led invasion in 2001

- and two Afghan intelligence officers, the group has splintered into at least three parts. The groups roughly are those still loyal to the original Taliban, others fighting under the name of ISIS and those who want to lay down arms and join the peace process with the Afghan government, a Taliban... (More on P4)... (17)

12 Soldiers Killed in Ongoing Kunduz Clashes

TRINKUT - Twelve military soldiers have been killed and 16 others injured in ongoing clashes in northern Kunduz province, local officials said on Sunday. The clashes took place in Kunduz city after Taliban insurgents took control of Chardara district of the province, Head of the Provincial Council in

Kunduz, Mohammad Yusuf Ayoubi said. "About 70 other soldiers are surrounded by the Taliban insurgents and clashes still continue in the city. The insurgents are moving forward after taking control of Chardara," he said. He called on government to send in reinforcement troops and stated that unless this

happens insurgents will take control of the province. The Taliban insurgents started their offensive against security forces on Friday night and by late Saturday had taken control of Chardara. However, officials did not provide details about the casualties of the insurgents during the clashes. (Tolonews)

Suicide Bomber Kills 6 ALP Officials in Ghazni



GHAZNI CITY - Six Afghan Local Police (ALP) men were killed in a suicide attack in the Qarabagh district in southern Ghazni province, the governor's spokesman said. Shafiq Nang told Pajhwok Afghan News that heavily-armed insurgents stormed police check post in the Khaghli locality of the district. The suicide attack followed by gun shots left six policemen dead on the spot and three others wounded, he added. Ten militants, he said were also killed and five others

injured in the ensuing gun battle. Niamatullah, a resident of the locality, said that a huge blast took place first, which was followed by intermittent gun fire. He said that ambulances were ferrying dead and wounded to hospitals but he had no exact figure into casualties. But Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said that it was a tactical attack not a suicide one. He claimed 12 ALP men were killed and insurgents' seized the check post after the clash. (Pajhwok)

Unidentified Armed Men Gunned Down Doctor



PUL-E-KHUMRI - Unidentified armed men have gunned down a doctor in northern Baghlan province.

Shamsuddin Sarhadi, governor of Doshi District says that head of the clinic of Kaihan Valley was gunned down in his residence last night. He said the gunmen fled from the area after carrying out the attack. Neither there is claim of responsibility for the shooting nor motive behind it identified yet but Sarhadi said that an investigation has been initiated into the incident. (KP)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



Trivial facts can be annoying today, especially if they get in the way of your ambitious goals. However, you're in a hurry to produce results and could judge others harshly if they can't keep up with your accelerated pace. Naturally, practicing patience might alleviate tension before it even arises, but you just don't have the time to wait.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



You don't have a lot of bandwidth for frivolous activities; however, a bit of fun isn't out of the question. You are ready to temporarily set your responsibilities aside, especially if you believe it's possible to learn something valuable from an extracurricular experience. Find out in advance how much time you need to allow for play so you can finish up your chores later on.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



You aren't necessarily the most meticulous worker in the world, yet you can move very quickly once you start a job. Unfortunately, you might put too much attention on the details if you are trying to impress someone today. But even with the very best of intentions, your work may not bring the emotional satisfaction you seek. Nevertheless, don't be too self-critical; just do the best you can at every turn.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



You can accomplish more today if you prepare in advance instead of making everything up on the fly. Attending to your work commitments early allows you to have time to get in touch with your feelings. Meeting your obligations is honorable, but don't be so focused on the clock that you miss a truly wonderful chance to connect with your heart.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



You want to catch up on financial matters today while your mental acuity is so sharp. However, the best application of your analytical skills isn't to pay bills or balance your accounts. The current issues are more significant and affect nearly every aspect of your world. If you must make a choice about allocating funds now, use your resources in the most practical way possible.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)



You might be uncomfortable with your irrational mood swings. Avoid tasks that require high levels of concentration now, for you may not be able to prevent your mind from wandering. Even if you want to take the day off, you're unwilling to disappoint those who depend on you. However, scheduling short breaks throughout the day improves your ability to capitalize on the brilliant ideas that light up your mind.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



Containing yourself is nearly impossible today even if you're not quite ready to let others know your feelings. Ironically, keeping your emotions quiet now can heighten your spiritual awareness as long as you don't slip into denial about what's going on in your relationships. Don't succumb to external pressures; you'll know exactly when to act if you trust your intuition more than anyone else's advice.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



Socializing with your friends and coworkers in an unconventional setting offers the change of pace you seek today. But don't try to micromanage the situation and shift the energy to your advantage. Instead of wasting time by attempting to create a memorable event, just stay flexible; there's nothing to be gained now by trying to control the current dynamics.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



Unrealistic attempts to juggle one-too-many tasks today could lead to giving a poor performance across the board. Tread lightly in all of your interactions because understating your responses is the most efficient use of your energy now. Just take care of every problem in a calm and collected manner as soon as it pops up. Your confidence suddenly returns when others acknowledge how well you are handling a complicated situation.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



Powerful forces are at work, yet they may be lurking in the shadows, leaving you on edge. However, it's not your smartest move to accept the adage, "out of sight, out of mind." You might be tempted to overlook a minor detail, but the tiniest thing could be the catalyst that turns your day around. Instead of jumping from one task to another, stick with each one until you are sure that the energy has run its course.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

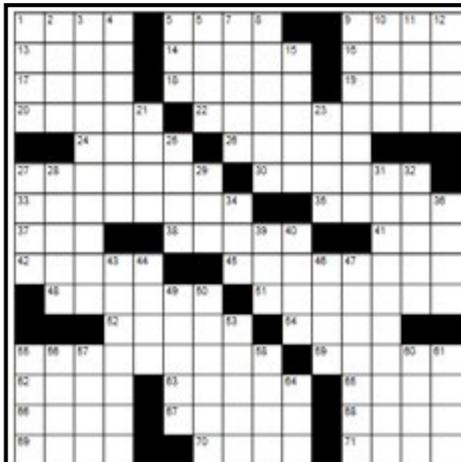


There are numerous benefits to working in close collaboration with a partner now, whether you're starting a new endeavor or just running through your regular tasks. Someone might reveal important information that widens your perspective. However, you may be so quick to judge the contributions of others today that you shut them down before you hear what they have to say.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



You may feel as if everything you do today doesn't quite meet other people's standards. But the fact of the matter is someone might be highly critical of your actions if he or she doesn't understand you or your behavior. Rather than responding as if you are an underappreciated victim, carefully explain your intentions one more time. Even if you're heading back over familiar territory, it's still more advantageous to share your feelings.



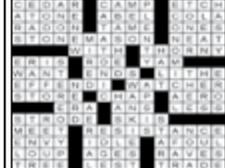
Across

- Laugh, 5. "What a shame!", 9. Large brown seaweed, 13. Auspices, 14. Scruffs, 16. Found on a finger, 17. Blockhead, 18. Kiss lightly, 19. Sea eagle, 20. Award, 22. Widened, 24. Pearly-shelled mussel, 26. Caper, 27. Flee, 30. Deprave, 33. Registered, 35. Potatoes, 37. Estimated time of arrival, 38. Unpaid, 41. Spy agency, 42. Relating to audible sound, 45. Language variants, 48. Azotic, 51. Queen of the jungle?, 52. American symbol, 54. Gestures of assent, 55. Without appeal, 59. Sheriff's group, 62. Indian music, 63. Fertile area in a desert, 65. Small brook, 66. French for "State", 67. Roasters, 68. Dirt, 69. Used to be, 70. Being, 71. Terminates.

Down

- Steering mechanism for a vessel, 2. Chills and fever, 3. A language of India, 4. Sideways, 5. Autonomic nervous system, 6. Young sheep, 7. 3-banded armadillo, 8. 1/60th of a minute, 9. Patella, 10. Acquire deservedly, 11. Connects two points, 12. Implored, 15. Hockey footwear, 21. King of the jungle, 23. Claim, 25. Savvy about, 27. Mimics, 28. Wand, 29. Morning moisture, 31. Sequence, 32. Makes changes to, 34. Accomplished, 36. Back talk, 39. Zero, 40. Acquire, 43. Go over again, 44. Study hard, 46. Coil, 47. Approve of, 49. Snow house, 50. Split, 53. SSSS, 55. Team, 56. Despire, 57. Food thickener, 58. Transgressions, 60. Skidded, 64. South southeast.

Yesterday's Solution



ahead, cadence, career, crawl, crisp, crush, disputed, dots, douse, fists, flog, glass, gourd, grind, groans, hanger, heart, hybrid, melon, minute, peace, pound, purse, quiver, rough, scrub, sees, sent, shirt, shock, stamp, sweater, technology, tights, waver, ways, wear, worth.

