

Number of Drug Addicts Rises in Daikundi

NEILI - A resident of central Daikundi province, Mirza Hussain, travelled to Iran for work some years back, but returned as drug addict. Instead of supporting his family, he has become a burden. Narrating his ordeal, Hussain told Pajhwok Afghan News he worked in an Iranian steel mill, whose owner provided him opium to work extra hours. With the passage of time, he sobbed: "I grew into a chronic addict."

The youth complained: "Nobody tries to appreciate my predicament, much less empathise with me. Just like the entire society, my only daughter has rejected



me; no one talks to me in a decent manner." He lamented his own daughter taunted as a dead man and told the neighbourhood people that her father had passed away several years ago. But despite his isolation and the many odds he is up against, Hussain remains hopeful about his rehabilitation. "I have been under treatment at a rehabilitation clinic in Neili, the provincial capital." Dr. Suhrab Haidari, in charge ... (More on P4)... (16)

Power Supply of 80 Megawatts to Kabul Restored

KABUL - The Afghanistan Breshna Shirkat (ABS) on Tuesday announced restoring the supply of 80 megawatts of electricity to Kabul. A couple of weeks back, heavy snowfall and avalanches in the Salang district of central Parwan province uprooted three pylons and damaged several others carrying 300 megawatts of electricity from Tajikistan and Uzbeki-

stan. ABS Director Mirwais Alami told Pajhwok Afghan News an engineering team of his department had been able to restore the supply of 80 megawatts of electricity to the capital city at around 3:00pm. Due to heavy snowfall and difficult terrain the complete restoration of power supply would take three weeks, he explained. (Pajhwok)

Policeman Held for Robbery; Suicide Vests Recovered

ZARANJ - Two individuals including a policeman were arrested on charges of robbery and two suicide vests recovered in south-western Nimroz province on Tuesday, an official said. Col. Rahma-

tullah Nasir, director of the National Directorate of Security (NDS), said the robbers were arrested on the Zaranj-Charburjak highway. Some arms and other items ... (More on P4)... (17)

Child Dead, Intelligence Officer Hurt in Blasts

FARAH CITY - A child was killed while the National Directorate of Security (NDS) director and a teacher were wounded in two separate explosions in western Farah province on Tuesday, an official said. Ghausuddin, the administrative chief for Push-trod district, alleged that militants had planted landmines in Jinkhani locality, which exploded one after another. The first blast, he said, left a child dead. He said the second explosion left NDS Director Haji Mohammad wounded after he arrived at the scene to collect evidence. He said Mohammad lost his left hand and legs in the explosion. Ghausuddin said a teacher was also injured ... (More on P4)... (18)

Former Head of Pashtany Bank Enters Eighth Day of Hunger Strike

KABUL - Hayatullah Dayani, former head of the government-owned Pashtany Bank, has entered his eighth day of hunger strike, protesting against the Attorney General's Office for overlooking the courts verdict.



Dayani and 12 other former employees of the bank were acquitted by two appellate courts af-

ter serving three years in Pul-e-Charkhi jail for, what the appeals court ... (More on P4)... (19)

Amu River Threatens Areas in Balkh Districts

MAZAR-I-SHARIF - Shor-Tepa and Kaldar districts of northern Balkh province are threatened by flooding in Amu River, officials said on Tuesday.

In the past couple of years, many acres of land and houses have been destroyed due to floods and a rise in river water level.

Irrigation Director Eng. Asmatullah told Pajhwok Afghan News every year more than 100 acres



of agricultural land were inundated by Amu water. He said there were 21 areas in Shor Tepa, Kaldar and Hairatan port where floods threatened land and residents. Last year, he recalled, three protective walls were built in Hairatan. ... (More on P4)... (20)

Akbarzada Rejects Claims of Abducted Hazaras in Ghazni

KABUL - The acting governor of Ghazni, in a phone call to TOLONews, refuted the reports that the abducted Hazara passengers had been transferred from Zabul to Ghazni province, claiming it as baseless. Mohammad Musa Akbarzada's statement came after some Ghazni representatives in Parliament claimed that the abductors had shifted the 31 Hazara passengers to the unsafe districts of Ghazni. "We also heard

that they were transferred to Ghazni, but since there is no evidence we strongly reject this claim," Akbarzada said. Two weeks have gone by since the abduction of the 31 passengers belonging to the Hazara ethnic minority, but their fates are still unknown, sparking large citizen criticism over the government. The incident happened on Kabul-Kandahar highway when armed masked men stopped several ... (More on P4)... (21)

74 Taliban Insurgents Killed in Military Operations

KABUL - At least 74 Taliban insurgents were killed 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 Tuesday.

Forty-nine other insurgents were in-

jured, while 11 others arrested. The operations were conducted in Nangarhar, Parwan, Baghlan, Takhar, Kunduz, Badakhshan, Sar-e-Pul, Jowzjan, Balkh, Kandahar, Zabul, Uruzgan, Logar, Ghazni, Paktiya, Herat, Farah and Helmand provinces, the statement said. "During

the same 24 hour period, Afghan National Police discovered and defused 21 different types of IEDs placed by enemies of Afghanistan for destructive activities in Paktiya and Uruzgan provinces," it said. The statement, however, did not provide details of possible ANSF casualties. (Tolonews)

15 Uplift Projects to be Executed

KABUL - At least 15 development projects benefitting 170,000 people would be implemented in eight provinces, officials said on Tuesday.

The projects include graveling of 95 kilometres of road and completion of five water supply schemes in Kabul, Ghazni, Paktia, Uruzgan, Faryab, Takhar and Khost provinces.

Nasir Ahmad Durrani, minister of rural rehabilitation and development, inked contracts for the projects with private construction companies in Kabul. Ten schemes would be executed in sev-

en provinces with a cost of over 180 million afghanis to be funded by the World Bank (WB). He said that five other water supply projects would be carried out in western Ghor province with 10 million afghanis to be provided by the Asian Development Bank (ADB). The projects, he said would be completed by the year end. Security was the biggest challenge to carry out the projects, he said, vowing that he would not make any compromise on the quality and hurdles in the way of projects. (Pajhwok)

Woman Gives Birth to Quadruplets

AIBAK - A 26-year-old woman from the Hazrat Sultan district of northern Samangan province gave birth to four babies Monday night, an official said on Tuesday.

Shakila Nasir Muradi, head of the maternity home, told Pajhwok Afghan News the mother and her quadruplets - two baby boys and two girls - were in good

condition. Muradi said the woman, who had been under their medical care for more than six months, had five babies in her womb but she had one of them aborted. The four babies were born after the woman from Shur Qul area underwent a C-section on Monday night, the gynecologist explained. ... (More on P4)... (22)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

You can't help but say yes to a special invitation today, even if you know you should be more responsible. You get along famously with others while your key planet Mars is harmonizing with joyful Jupiter.

Nevertheless, don't take the easiest path just because you can; putting in a little extra effort could turn a wonderful opportunity into an extraordinary one.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

You might be needlessly licking your wounds from an emotional disappointment yesterday. Although warrior Mars is waving his banner today, you don't have to wage a battle to achieve victory. The truth is you only need to be honest and speak from your heart. However, be ready to back up your words with meaningful action, if needed.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You are motivated to make a name for yourself by climbing the ladder of success today, and it appears as if your efforts will soon be rewarded.

However, your outward accomplishments may not be as important now as your recent change of attitude. Even if reaching your goals takes longer than you expect, your confidence allows you to shine like a star.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

Although you are often happy to play the role of a nurturing friend, you're having trouble balancing your tender feelings with deeper emotions that are working their way to the surface today. It's as if there are contrary sides to your personality vying for recognition.

This inner conflict may be just as confusing to you as it is to others.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

Your future looks exceptionally bright, but you may be missing an important piece of the puzzle. Instead of only concentrating on the approval you receive from others and the good fortune coming your way, look within yourself now to create a more meaningful existence. Reconsider your core values, analyze your recent assumptions and uncover hidden issues.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

You are highly capable of managing your business affairs now, but a knight in shining armor may still ride to your rescue. Unexpected assistance from a good friend or helpful advice from a coworker could make your life a lot easier.

Naturally, you can be your own superhero, but today's cosmic energy is so positive for relationships, it's not smart to strike out on your own.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

You can express yourself with an assertive flair today, especially through your artistic creation or spontaneous behavior. Unfortunately, words might fail you now, so don't bother trying to explain your emotions; follow your instincts and demonstrate your feelings, instead. When all is said and done, your actions really do speak louder than anything else.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

You don't need to tone down your intensity today; your powerful emotions are compelling and your friends and acquaintances will probably want more of you rather than less. You are so highly attuned to sexy Mars that it's nearly impossible to wipe that all-knowing smile off your face. Luckily, exuberant Jupiter encourages you to take charge in your relationships.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

Your high spirits are inspirational today as visionary Jupiter raises new possibilities everywhere you look. The secret to your success is to align your heart with energetic Mars and act on your desires. Thankfully, expressing your emotions moves you closer to someone you really like. Don't become so sure of yourself that you miss the obvious signals; sometimes the most awesome opportunities are right in front of your nose.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

Sometimes you aren't the greatest communicator in the world, especially when it involves sharing emotions that make you feel vulnerable. Nevertheless, you tend to fare better today if you steer clear of more rational realms and reveal your feelings, even if you don't know where the other person stands. It's not time to be shy when it comes to acknowledging what's in your heart.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

You may believe you're slipping and sliding down a slippery slope of emotions now as you share your ambitions for the future. However, this journey of revelation is not about furthering your career goals or finding your life purpose. It's more about an illogical attraction, a warm and fuzzy feeling that often acts like a warning sign - especially when your heart means business.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

Your enthusiasm might be over the top today, or, perhaps, you are experiencing someone else's jubilant attitude. In either case, there's more going on than meets the eye, and, fortunately, what comes to the surface now can be quite pleasant. Don't try to hide your feelings, even if you're worried that things could turn out badly. Be courageous and put your wishes out in the open for the world to see.

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-56.

Across: 1. Animal foot, 5. Feints, 10. Aquatic plant, 14. Ammunition, 15. Watchful, 16. Coil, 17. Inheritor, 18. Discourteous, 20. Aerial, 22. Weird, 23. Best seller, 24. S S S, 25. They keep dozing off, 32. Paperlike cloths, 33. German iris, 34. A type of large sandwich, 37. Breezed through, 38. Orderly grouping, 39. Dad, 40. Type of whiskey, 41. Law and 42. Moses' brother, 43. Running away, 45. Sight-related, 49. Big fuss, 50. Pee-pee, 53. Terminate, 57. Permissiveness, 59. Doing nothing, 60. Always, 61. A French dance, 62. Tidy, 63. A musical pause, 64. Hinder, 65. Horse feeda

Down: 1. Laugh, 2. Portent, 3. Leave out, 4. Brow, 5. Chipper, 6. Forearm bone, 7. Beer barrel, 8. Makes a mistake, 9. Immediately, 10. Assumed name, 11. Diving birds, 12. Edge tool, 13. Church recesses, 19. Pepperwort, 21. Bites, 25. Sun, 26. Delicate, 27. Type of sword, 28. Mob, 29. Made a mistake, 30. A kind of macaw, 31. Do it yourself, 34. Indian dress, 35. Atop, 36. Pow!, 38. Biblical boat, 39. Light tan horse, 41. Academy award, 42. Contributes, 44. Prissy, 45. Not inner, 46. Demonstrate, 47. Anagram of "Islet", 48. Unreactive, 51. Labels, 52. French for "State", 53. Bad end, 54. Notion, 55. Thin strip, 56. Collections, 58. Old World vine

Yesterday's Solution: A crossword puzzle grid with the solution words filled in.

Occupation Word Search: A grid of letters with words related to occupations hidden within.