

# District Chief Accused of Embezzling Project Funds

FAIZABAD - Residents of northeastern Badakhshan province on Monday accused the Duraem district of embezzling funds for reconstruction projects. But the district chief, Abdul Rauf Fahim, denied the allegation. He told Pajhwok Afghan News more than 260 development projects had been completed benefitting thousands of people. The projects include graveling and construction of roads, bridges and culverts at a cost of 300 million afghanis provided by the Department of Rural Re-



habilitation and Development Residents alleged the district chief had put all the money into his own pocket. Abdul Qadir, a local

elder, said the official had distributed 12 truckloads of wheat -- provided by the World Food Programme (WFP), -- to his own people. "We don't want such a person. He must be sacked forthwith," the elder said, calling corruption a major hurdle to the district's development. Deputy Governor Gul Mohammad Baidar said a delegation had been dispatched to the district to resolve people's problems. If the charges were found correct, the district chief would be introduced to judicial organs, he promised. (Pajhwok)

## Policeman among 5 Dead in Car Bombing

LASHKARGAH - One policeman and four civilians were killed in a suicide car-bombing in southern Helmand province on Monday, an official said. The explosion happened at 4:30pm near the entrance to a security checkpoint in Lashkargah, the provincial capital, leaving three policemen and as many civilians wounded. The injured were said to be in critical condition. Police chief Brig. Gen. Nabi Jan Mullakhel told Pajhwok Afghan News the bomber detonated his explosives-laden car during a security search. Eyewitness Fazal Khaliq saw policemen and civilians bleeding due to shrapnel injuries. He had driven to the city for selling his car. There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the bombing. (Pajhwok)

## Rocket Strike Leave 3 Policemen Dead

ZARANJ - Three policemen were killed in a rocket strike by Taliban in the Dilaram district of southwestern Nimroz province on Monday afternoon. A local security official confided to Pajhwok Afghan News the policemen were part of a patrol that came under attack on its way to the Gulistan district of Farah. One police officer and two constables were killed in the attack, which destroyed their Ranger pick-up, the source said, adding the assailants managed to escape. But Taliban spokesman Qari Yousaf Ahmadi claimed policemen and Dilaram district deputy intelligence chief Najibullah had been killed in strike. (Pajhwok)



## Pistachio Cultivated on 11,000 Acres of Land

AIBAK - Improved pistachio seeds have been cultivated on 11,500 acres of land at a cost of \$460,000 in northern Samangan province, an official said on Monday. Agriculture official Eng. Khair Khwa told Pajhwok Afghan News the seeds had been planted in Dara-i-Sauf, Ferozan Achir, Khuram and Sarbagh, Hazrat Sultan and Aibak to boost farmers' economy. Cultivation on each acre cost \$400, with 25 percent of the amount paid by growers and the remaining by the



agri-culture department, he added, hoping the initiative would help revive pistachio forests in the province. Farmers, meanwhile, welcome the move as an encouraging step. One gardener Mullah Khairuddin said he had planted pistachio on 20

acre of land with government's cooperation. At the same time, Agriculture Director Rafiullah Roshanzada said his department had grown pistachios on 2,840 acres of lands. More than 177,000 saplings also exist in Samangan greenhouses. (Pajhwok)

## 26 Rebels Killed, 37 Injured in Clashes

LASHKARGAH - Twenty-six Taliban militants were killed and 37 others wounded after they attacked security posts near the capital of southern Helmand province, officials said on Monday. Police chief Nabi Jan Mullakhel told Pajhwok Afghan News dozens of rebels stormed security posts late on Sunday in Godar and Panjaw Qala areas and suffered heavy casualties after the security personnel returned fire. He said security forces also captured six insurgents alive during the clash that lasted one hour and seized eight weapons, two bomb-rigged cars and as many motorcycles. Three policemen were slightly injured during the clash, he said. Speaking to reporters in Trikh Nawar area, the police chief said the area had been cleared of militants. The area previously served as a Taliban's stronghold, he said. A search operation was underway in the area and security forces were searching for land-



mines, Mullakhel said. He claimed security forces seized huge amount of ammunitions and explosives in the area last night, when two women were killed in a landmine blast, accusing the Taliban of planting the improvised explosive device. Col. Ghulam Nabi Qati, the 215th Thunder Military Corps first battalion commander, told Pajhwok in the Trikh Nawar area that security posts would be established in the area once fully demined. Trikh Nawar is 10 kilometres west of Lashkargah. It borders Nad Ali, Nawa and Marja districts. Brig. Gen. Sultan Mahmood, the 406 border zone police commander, said though their job was securing borders, their clashes

with insurgents in the Trikh Nawar area as part of the ongoing Operation Zulfikar had resulted in killing of Taliban or forcing them to flee. He said reconstruction work on the main road to the area had been launched and it would help security forces maintain security there. Security officials have been reluctant to provide information about casualties among security forces during the on-going operation codenamed Zulfikar, but they insist the casualties are far less. A Taliban spokesman, Qari Yousuf Ahmadi, claimed a dozen security personnel were killed in an overnight road-side bomb attack in the Sarwan Qala area of Sangin district. (Pajhwok)

## 5 Roads Rehabilitated, Handed Over to Authorities

KABUL - The spy service on Monday claimed detecting three secret arms depots belonging to the Haqqani terror network in southeastern Paktia province. The National Directorate of Security or NDS in a statement here said the three depots were found during a series of operations in various parts of the province. It claimed the weapons and ammunitions were aimed to be used for terrorist activi-

ties. The seizure included heavy and light guns, 50 landmines, 12 kilograms of explosives, two walkie-talkies, bullets of various guns and some military gear, the statement said, but did not provide an exact date and locations of the de-pots. The NDS statement said the seizure prevented possible terrorist attacks in Paktia. However, the insurgents have not commented about the NDS's claim. (Pajhwok)

## 2 Women Killed, 4 Injured in Ghazni Bombing



GHAZNI CITY - Two women were killed and four others, including a newly born baby, wounded in a roadside bombing in the Taliban-infested Andar district of southern Ghazni province, an official said on Monday. Shafiq Nang, the governor's spokesman, told

Pajhwok Afghan News the victims were members of a family returning home in their car from hospital. They had accompanied a pregnant woman to the hospital. Nang added the newly born baby's mother and another woman were killed. The baby and three ... (More on P4)... (18)

## Suspected Murderers among 15 Detained

KABUL - Fifteen individuals have been arrested on murder, kidnapping, robbery and smuggling charges in Kabul during the past 24 hours, the Ministry of Interior (MoI) said on Monday. Two murder suspects were arrested in Musahi, two alleged kidnapers in 12th police district, two robbers in Pagh-



man and five stealers of vehicle number plates in 10th and 13th police districts. A statement from MoI said that border police at the Hamid Karzai International Air-

port in Kabul arrested 4 people in connection with smuggling two kilograms heroin. The suspects are under police interrogation. (Pajhwok)

### Outlook Horoscope

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



Although you have come to the conclusion that practicing patience is your smartest strategy now, you still might feel as if you're jumping out of your skin.

You're enthusiastic about the future, yet you can't decide whether to laugh joyfully at the possibilities or scream out of frustration at the delays.

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



You might appear somewhat subdued today as you settle into a steady pace and go about your chores. You're not concerned about receiving recognition for your individual contribution now; you're more driven just to get things done right. Your friends and relatives see you as a real team player because you're happy to trade anonymity for the overall success of a group project.

#### Gemini (May 21-June 20)



You wish that being observed by others didn't make you feel uncomfortable today. You might think that you would be happier once you escape public scrutiny. Whatever you do, you seem to garner more than your fair share of attention now; however, you might end up growing more accustomed to the spotlight as the day wears on. Unfortunately, your dramatic performance could make someone uneasy.

#### Cancer (June 21-July 20)



Following the rules might not make sense to you now, but it still isn't advisable to bite the hand that feeds you.

Be respectful and work within the existing constraints even if they seem illogical. You can always question authority later, especially since rebellious behavior today won't likely make you any friends or influence those who matter.

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



You probably know better, but it's so tempting to say what's on your mind today if you think you can balance the score by uttering a few clever words at exactly the right time. However, you might believe that some things are better left unsaid.

Don't waste energy by holding a grudge if you have unexpressed anger that needs venting.

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



You are usually quite rational in your approach to solving problems; however, a friend or partner could confuse you with their stories, even if you think your logic is sound.

At first, you may doubt your ability to accurately interpret what you hear, but as you listen further you realize that you aren't the cause of the current misunderstanding.

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



You may be at odds with someone today, and you don't understand how the warm and fuzzy feelings could have cooled off so quickly.

Thankfully, a lover's quarrel or a business conflict won't last long if you can maintain mutual respect, no matter how strongly you disagree. But don't force the issue now because tempers might flare without warning.

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



A heated debate with an acquaintance can rattle your nerves today and pull you off track.

Although you may be tempted to settle the score right away, it's impossible because there's actually no single correct answer. Fortunately, you're probably amenable to accept the difference of opinions if you feel like your words are heard.

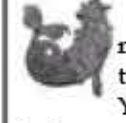
#### Sagittarius (Nov. 23-Dec. 20)



You may believe that cooling your jets now will help you stabilize your position with someone you like, but the idea of new projects at home spark your interest before you slow down enough to matter.

If you are wise, you won't take off with an intriguing idea until you give it plenty of time to develop. However, you could become obsessed with your scheme and try to launch it prematurely.

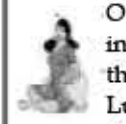
#### Capricorn (Dec. 21-Jan 19)



You might decide that being patient is more prudent than climbing mountains today, trying to achieve impossible results. You could exhaust yourself if you attempt to force a river to flow uphill now that the Moon has returned to your ambitious sign.

But it's pointless to fight the inevitable, even if you feel the need to stand your ground.

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



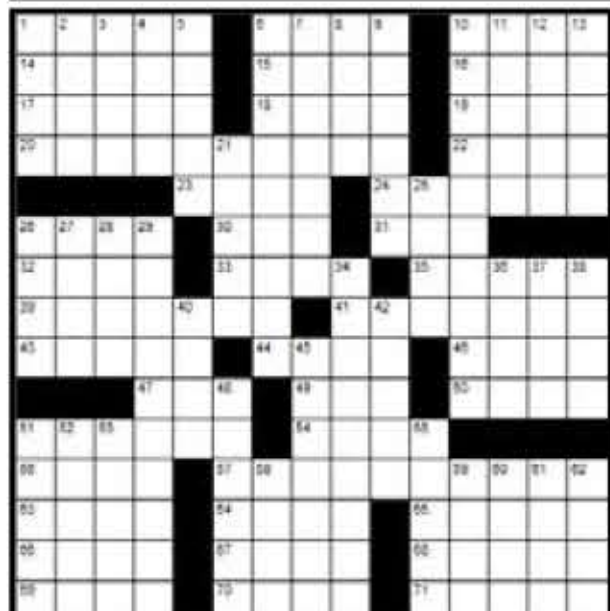
Oddly, you are more certain about your feelings today, even if a close friend or relative thinks you're barking up the wrong tree. Luckily, you're wise enough to recognize that there can be differing methods to successfully handle the same issue. Establish common ground and then agree to disagree on the specifics.

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



Although you're in an agreeable state of mind today, a conflict could erupt if you say more than is necessary. Ironically, your attempts to avoid an argument only seem to agitate it.

Unfortunately, you may be more confused about an important issue than you realize, and your lack of clarity fogs your communication now.



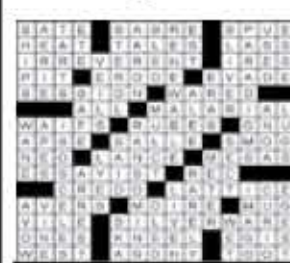
#### Across

- 1. Improvise, 6. Close violently, 10. Not legs, 14. Direct the course, 15. A landlocked African republic, 16. Not this, 17. Breathing problem, 18. Visual organs, 19. Scramble piece, 20. In spite of everything, 22. A Freudian stage, 23. Airhead, 24. French for "Again", 26. Feudal worker, 30. Hale, 31. Comes after Mi and Fah, 32. Pinnacle, 33. Provide nourishment, 35. Picture, 39. Outdo, 41. An endocrine gland, 43. Provide with a permanent fund, 44. Threesome, 46. Standard, 47. Mayday, 49. N N N N, 50. Checks, 51. Replenish, 54. Goulash, 56. Send forth, 57. Disinfectant, 63. River of Spain, 64. Vitality, 65. Betel palm, 66. Sverve, 67. Burden, 68. Turbine part, 69. Countercurrent, 70. Defrost, 71. Go on a buying spree

#### Down

- 1. Food thickener, 2. Hoodwink, 3. Water chestnut, 4. Notion, 5. Whiskers, 6. Stinkiest, 7. Kit for a baby, 8. Beers, 9. Overlooks, 10. A supplementary part, 11. Rhinoceros, 12. Of the cheekbone, 13. Inscribed pillar, 21. Takes off, 25. French for "Black", 26. Lack of difficulty, 27. Twirled, 28. Egghead, 29. Informative, 34. Prissiest, 36. Dwarf buffalo, 37. Dress, 38. Shade trees, 40. Absent Without Leave, 42. Units of medicine, 45. Relaxing, 48. Ski race, 51. Female ruff, 52. Implant, 53. Terminated from a job, 55. Dons, 58. 1 less than 10, 59. Brace, 60. French for "Head", 61. Computer symbol, 62. Credit or playing

#### Yesterday's Solution



- adore, agree, amuse, bacon, bail, barren, bonus, branch, chick, cope, dale, deserve, dribble, drool, eternal, family, farad, forever, happy, judges, mingle, nation, propose, purple, realm, reel, shovel, start, television, threat, title, together, ken, tutor

