

# UNSC Extends UNAMA Mandate for a Year

WASHINGTON - The United Nations Security Council on Tuesday unanimously extended its mission in Afghanistan for another year. As a result, the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan -- called UNAMA for short -- will be in the country at least till March 17, 2017, unless further extended. "In 2016, Afghanistan is being as severely tested as it was in 2015, by the task of managing its difficult transition with its interrelated political, economic and security challenges," said the UNAMA head.



In his address to the Security Council, Nicholas Haysom listed the hurdles being faced by the government, including a contracting economy, an intensifying insurgency. An increasingly divided political environment, significant medium-term financial demand and the need to achieve progress towards sustainable peace were cited as other challenges. In its 57-paragraph resolution, the Council called for full respect for human rights and expressed concern at illicit opium cultivation, ...*(More on P6)...(11)*

## MoI Spurns Laid-Off NIC Department Workers' Claims

KABUL - The Ministry of Interior (MoI) on Wednesday denied it had hired new employees against high salaries to replace laid-off workers at the National Electronic Identity Cards (NIC) department. MoI in a statement said ...*(More on P6)...(14)*

## 10 Soldiers, 15 Militants Killed in Uruzgan Clashes

TRINKUT - At least 10 security force members and 15 Taliban insurgents were killed in heavy clashes in southern Uruzgan province in the past week in ongoing military operations, local officials said on Wednesday. In addition, several Taliban insurgents and 11 other security forces were injured. The clashes took place in ...*(More on P6)...(15)*

## War Has Been Imposed on Afghans: APRC

KABUL - The Afghanistan Council for Peace and Salvation (ACPS) on Wednesday said the war had been imposed on the government and an intra-Afghan dialogue was the only way to end the conflict. Comprised of religious scholars and university teachers, the ACPS said it was striving to establish peace and stability through a third party that was not involved in the conflict, a step which had not been taken so far. Gul Rahman



Qazi, head of the council, told reporters that peace had been a prime demand of the people. He asked parties to the conflict to respond in a positive way to the nation's genuine demand. The peace process must be led and owned by Afghans, Qazi said they were ready to mediate between the warring parties. The people of Afghanistan ...*(More on P6)...(12)*

## 6 Daesh Militants Killed in Nangarhar Clash

JALALABAD - At least six Daesh or Islamic State fighters were killed and another four injured during a clash with security forces in eastern Nangarhar province, officials said on Wednesday. Daesh militants attacked some Afghan Local Police (ALP) security posts in Mazdaki locality of Haska Mena district on Tuesday night, Attaullah Khogyani, the governor's spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News. He said at least six Daesh gunmen were killed and another four wounded after the ALP forces returned fire. He said the ALP personnel ...*(More on P6)...(13)*

## Pakistan Violated Afghan Border 56 Times in 3 Months: Envoy

WASHINGTON - Afghanistan on Tuesday told the UN Security Council in the last three months, Pakistan had violated its territorial integrity and sovereignty at least 56 times by crossing the Durand Line. The violations would further jeopardize the relationship between the neighbors, Afghanistan's top diplomat at the United Nations



told members of the Security Council. "We want an immediate end to regular incursions along the Durand Line, which cannot and will not be tolerated by Afghanistan," said Mahmoud ...*(More on P6)...(16)*

## Lashkargah Mayor Claims 47pc Surge in Revenue

LASHKARGAH -The revenue of the municipality in Lashkargah, the capital of southern Helmand province, has increased by 47 percent while the department's expenses decreased by 50 percent, the city's mayor said on Wednesday. Matiullah Baheer told a news conference here that his department had collected more than five million afghanis in taxes during the past one month, showing a 47 percent increase over the returns that stood at three million afghanis two months ago. He said the five million afghanis had only been collected at the city's entrances because problems existed in other spheres and plans had been chalked out to resolve them. He did not mention the nature of the problems. "Before I came here, the municipality consumed at least 44,000 liters of fuel a month, but now the amount has been decreased to 19,000 liters," he said. To a question in this regard, the mayor said the nation should determine who lined their pockets with that money. Baheer vowed to use all his ability making the municipality a professional and effective department to ...*(More on P6)...(19)*

## Kabul's Acting Mayor Praised But City Challenges Remain

KABUL - The Chief Executive's office on Wednesday praised the activities of the acting Kabul mayor despite numerous challenges the city faces. Residents have however raised their voices over what they call poor services on the part of the Kabul Municipality. The First Deputy Executive Chief Mohammad Khan said at a gathering that he wishes success to the acting mayor and other officials who serve the country. Meanwhile, a number of residents blamed Kabul Municipality for the lack of attention to building a proper water drainage system and to removing garbage in the city. Coincidentally, the acting mayor was lauded on Wednesday amid a heavy

...*(More on P6)...(17)*

## ANSF Kill 10 Militants, Detain Taliban Shadowy District Governor

ASADABAD - Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) in crackdown against the Taliban outfit have killed 10 armed insurgents in the eastern Kunar province and captured a Taliban shadowy district governor in the northern Baghlan province over the past two days, officials said Wednesday. Units of Afghan National Army (ANA) during operations against militants in parts of the eastern Kunar province launched on Tuesday, ...*(More on P6)...(18)*

...*(More on P6)...(18)*

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### Outlook Horoscope

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

It may feel as if you don't have the time to do those things that could bring you the most spiritual and emotional growth. But your concern is based on a faulty illusion because progress originates from very practical places in your life today -- like fulfilling your responsibilities at work. Don't worry about what you might be missing.

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

Your creativity is longing to run wild and free today. Thankfully, the roadblocks that were standing between you and your satisfaction are finally falling to the wayside. Ironically, circumstances are not shifting enough to give you a break from the dramas of ordinary life; it's more likely that you're cleverly surfing on a wave of cosmic power now. The world is your oyster.

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

Your inner confidence is on the rise today, especially with your family and friends acting as a source of genuine encouragement. Channel the support you receive to boost your resolve even higher. Everyone goes through periods of doubt, but now it's time to reclaim your inheritance and put your natural talents to good use. In the meantime, don't let the opinions of others consume you when you're following your dreams.

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

You're certain your conclusions are correct and you're all set to tell the world your viewpoint exactly as you see it. Although you're willing to shout your message from the mountaintop today, you're unsure if you are up for the climb. Something may still be holding you back from fulfilling your appointed destiny. There's no need to fight the obvious resistance now.

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

You can make a lot of progress now by taking stock of your resources and managing them to the best of your ability. The good news is you stand to gain both financially and emotionally if you don't push too hard to be on top. However, you can easily fall victim to unrestrained optimism today, especially related to how you handle your money. Don't get distracted by an immediate payoff or a shortcut to success.

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

Your expectations are lofty, even if reality has been testing your resolve on every level lately. Don't quit when things are finally starting to take a turn for the better; make the most of your positive attitude while your mind can transform hardship into great opportunity. This auspicious energy could be most apparent in your love life where relationship difficulties may finally begin to find resolution.

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

Invisible helpers seem to be watching you back today. You may assume that it's just good luck, but you could actually have spirit guides or guardian angels who are looking out for your best interests. Although your analytical mind won't let you entertain the possibility of supernatural friends, your subconscious mind is now the source of guidance that will get you out of a difficult situation.

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

You can feel your idealism slowly making its return today. Even if you've been through a crisis of confidence, there is good reason to be more optimistic in your outlook now. However, do your best to avoid manipulating others, even if you think you're being kind to someone else while also helping yourself. You might inadvertently create sticky webs when you are motivated by ulterior motives.

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

This could be the time of your life if you were simply in it for the payoff. However, you know it's not only about fame and fortune because your soul craves meaning and passion. Nevertheless, it is still prudent to reevaluate your current career path if you look at it from a lifetime perspective. Ask the important questions: Are you making the most of your skills and talents? Are you happy or is there something else you would rather be doing.

#### Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

You might not be out of the woods yet, but jolly old Jupiter is flying around you like a hummingbird returning to the feeder. Sure, there still may be some tricky situations to handle, but they need not define your life. The most crucial thing to understand is the effort you exert now will have lasting impact. Reflect over the past few months prior to projecting forward. Don't sit and wait for something magical to happen.

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

It might seem as if something precious is being taken from you now, but believe it or not, things will still likely work out for the best. You are being offered an important opportunity, although what the gift is may not become apparent until you've made enough room in your life for it to manifest. Your hard work in the present moment can pay off in the future.

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

It's time to rush to the rescue where your friends are concerned. In addition, help is also on the way to you, even if you don't think you need it. The good news is that you can actually do amazingly well if others appear with just what you need. However, you must first get past your initial resistance to outside interference. There is cosmic magic working on your behalf now. Don't hold back; your current actions determine your future.

**Across**

1. Indian dress, 5. Extent, 10. Wimp, 14. Absent Without Leave, 15. Light wood, 16. Against, 17. Bigger than a teaspoon, 19. Twosome, 20. Barely manage, 21. Animal hides, 22. 10 cent coins, 23. Preordain, 25. Water park slide, 27. Play a role, 28. Conferences, 31. Steals, 34. Tarnish, 35. Fitting, 36. Speech disorder, 37. Pierced, 38. Fender blemish, 39. Astern, 40. Makes less distinct, 41. Hard liquor, 42. Backside, 44. Disencumber, 45. Assisted, 46. Spray can, 50. Anagram of "Coast", 52. 1/16th of a pound, 54. Pair, 55. Module, 56. Growing, 58. Stare, 59. Incited, 60. Margarine, 61. Sleigh, 62. Not here, 63. Marries.

**Down**

1. Filled to excess, 2. Conscious, 3. Gowns, 4. Sick, 5. Not present, 6. Official tree of Canada, 7. Smudge, 8. Kind of triangle, 9. Buff, 10. Large North American deer, 11. Unchanged, 12. Anagram of "Ties", 13. Knights, 18. Long stories, 22. Responsibility, 24. Pack down, 26. Grasped, 28. Black-and-white diving bird, 29. Sludge, 30. Bristle, 31. Happy, 32. Vitality, 33. Shun, 34. A leaven of dough, 37. Delight, 38. Extinct flightless bird, 40. Offers, 41. A small olive-grey bird, 43. Rampaged, 44. Ebb, 46. Roil, 47. Attendance counter, 48. Possessed, 49. Corporate symbols, 50. Yanks, 51. A Freudian stage, 53. Desire, 56. Wager, 57. At this time.

**Yesterday's Solution**

DI V I N E V I R T U E Y  
 F I G H T A P P L A U D D  
 B L C H O C O L A T E G J  
 R A N C H C H A R M O N Y  
 C R A N K E D N B L M C M  
 F O U N D N I E A E E A B  
 C A I R N T S M L D D R E  
 P L U A L U M B E R I N S  
 B L E N D A A E V S C I I  
 D R E A M T L M L T I V D  
 B R E A K E H U M A N A E  
 A R T I S T B S P M E L S  
 D A I R Y E P E O P L E K

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