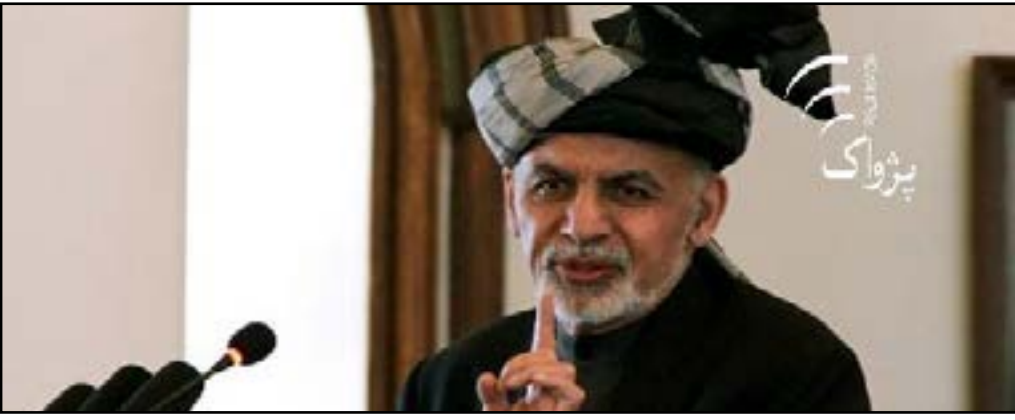


President Due in Dushanbe Next Week on Maiden Trip

KABUL - Wolesi Jirga panel to review TUTAP project route President Ashraf Ghani will pay an official visit to Dushanbe on May 10-11, Tajikistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) announced on Wednesday. During his first official trip to the Central Asian country after he took office in 2014, the president will participate in the foundation stone-laying ceremony for an ambitious power project. Leaders of Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Pakistan would also



attend the ceremony for the CASA-1000 project, Asia Plus news agency reported. As part of the project, surplus electricity will be exported from Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan to Afghanistan and Pakistan in summer months (May 1 to September 30). Kyrgyz President Almazbek Atambayev and Pakistan Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif would also fly into Dushanbe to attend the ceremony, the news agency said. (Pajhwok)

4 Policemen Dead, 2 Wounded in Paktia Check-Post Attack

GARDEZ - Four policemen were killed and two others wounded in a predawn assault on a check-post in the Syed Karam district of south-eastern Paktia province, an official said on Wednesday. Provincial Police chief, Brig. Gen. Qader Gul Zadran, told Pajhwok Afghan News the attack took place at around 2:00am in Badamkandi locality and lasted about two hours. The assailants left behind the bodies of their associates at the scene, said Gen. Zadran, who added police had arrived in the area to launch a search operation for the attackers. But Taj Mohammad Mangal, a provincial council member, alleged the attack had happened due to the negligent attitude of security forces. He said they had shared their concerns about possible attack much earlier with the officials concerned. The Taliban, who often take credit for such incidents, have not yet commented on the deadly attack. (Pajhwok)

Pakistan Must Act to Control Militancy in Afghanistan: Expert

NEW DELHI - The political transition in Afghanistan in 2014 has led to a turbulent phase in that war-torn country and the withdrawal of foreign forces has resulted in high civilian and police casualties. Radha Kumar, the Director General of the Delhi Policy Group (DPG), a think tank, is of the view that Pakistan must cooperate with its neighbours in resolving cross-border militancy to ensure a stable Afghanistan. There is a view that



the first coalition government in Afghanistan has so far failed to bring about a transformation in terms of security and economic development. Kumar is of the view that regional neighbours and interna-

Haqqani Network Attacks Foiled in Kabul City, 3 Suspects Arrested

KABUL - The Afghan intelligence operatives foiled attack plots by the notorious Haqqani terrorist network in Kabul city, the National Directorate of Security (NDS) said. According to a statement by NDS, a group of 3 suspects were arrested in connection to the attack plots. The statement further added that the suspects were involved in plotting and coordinating the attacks in crowded parts of the city. No further details were given regarding the exact location where the suspects were looking to carry out attacks but



NDS said 8 Improvised Explosive Device, a pistol and 11 mobile phone sets were confiscated from the suspects. NDS also did not provide further information regarding the location from where the suspects were arrested. This comes as the Afghan intelligence operatives have foiled a terrorist at-

5 Militants Killed, 11 Wounded During a Clash with Afghan Army

KABUL - At least 5 militants were killed and 11 others were killed during a clash with the Afghan National Army (ANA) forces in the central Maidan Wardak province of Afghanistan. The Ministry of Defense (MoD) said the gun battle between the militants and Afghan forces erupted during a clearance operation in Chak district. A statement by MoD said the operations were conducted as part of Badr Operation of 203rd Corps of Afghan National Army. At least 4 motorcycles used by the anti-government armed militants were also destroyed during the operation, MoD added. The anti-government armed militant groups including the Taliban insurgents have not commented regarding the report so far. Meanwhile, MoD said a Taliban insurgent who was wounded during an airstrike by coalition forces in Hesarak district of Nangarhar province was arrested by the Afghan army. MoD also added ... (More on P4)... (20)

Taliban Commander Killed, 5 Fighters Captured

FAIZABAD - Afghan forces killed a Taliban group commander and captured five of his fighters in Arghistan district of the northern Badakhshan province early Wednesday, an army spokesman in the province, Abdul Khalil said. "Acting upon intelligence report, a unit of national army laid ambush against a group Taliban militants in Dahan-e-Dara village of Raghistan district in the wee hours of today killing a group commander Qari Samihullah on the spot and captured five of more militants," Khalil told Xinhua. Taliban militants who have been fighting over the past couple of months to consolidate positions in Badakhshan province, haven't commented. Khalil said over a dozen Taliban fighters have been killed in parts of Badakhshan province over the past couple of weeks. (Xinhua)

18 Taliban Fighters Including Key Commander Killed

KANDAHAR - A total of 18 Taliban militants including key commander Khakrizwal have been killed in Khakriz district of the southern Kandahar province over the past four days, security official Niaz Mohammad Majahid said on Wednesday. "Units of security forces launched operations against Taliban rebels in Darazab valley of Khakriz district on Sunday and since then 18 rebels including Taliban key commander Mullah Khakri-



zwal have been killed," Majahid told Xinhua. Khakrizwal, according to the official, had served as military operational commander of Taliban in Khakriz and Arghandab

Flash Flood Blocks Faizabad-Takhar Highway

FAIZABAD - Triggered by heavy rains, flash floods have blocked the main highway linking north-eastern Badakhshan province with Takhar province over the past two days, officials and residents said on Wednesday. Eng. Abdul Ghani, Badakhshan public works director, told Pajhwok Afghan News the floods had blocked the highway in Sabzi Bahar, Qara Kamar, Kazarha and Samadi areas. "The flooding was so strong that we could not independently remove the sands and soil it about along covering the road. Then we requested support from the governor's house and GRC road construction company to help reopen the road as soon as possible," he said. Ghani said the highway had ... (More on P4)... (19)

2 More Afghan Translators of British Forces Face Deportation from UK

KABUL - Days after a tragic incident in United Kingdom involving the suicide of a former Afghan translator who had served with the British forces in Afghanistan, two more translators are facing deportation after receiving warnings from the authorities. According to the local media reports, the two translators who have previously served with the British forces in Afghanistan have applied for UK asylum after fleeing Taliban and paying people-smugglers to bring to Europe. The two translators were arrested and held at immigration centres before being released and told they could be deported to the first European country where they were fingerprinted, according to MailOnline. This comes as a former British forces translator, 29-year-old Nangyalai Dawoodzai, committed suicide after his application was rejected by the British authorities. ... (More on P4)... (21)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

You may be offered a new deal that emphasizes the extraordinary potential of an unexpected opportunity. You can't rely on previous assumptions since the rules of the game are changing as it's being played. You might think that everything you imagine will unfold according to your plans but overconfidence is not your friend.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

You're at another turning point in your life, but everything could seem more significant than it actually is. Although it still may take several months to see real progress on your long-term goals, your current choices are instrumental in setting your new direction. Don't worry if you can't bundle all your desires into one major goal today.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You're bouncing around from one amazing distraction to another, but you are afraid that others might perceive you as being flighty and unreliable. Unfortunately, your innate restlessness increases if you limit your self-expression by trying to finish every single thing you start. Luckily, you can complete projects soon enough; just enjoy your high spirits now, even if you're secretly worrying that you're just wasting your time and energy.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

It seems as if someone is pushing you to go faster than your comfort level. You are enthusiastic about the prospects of where your work is leading, even if the current instability triggers a familiar fear of change. Don't let old memories get in the way of new opportunities. Thankfully, you won't need to sacrifice too much security in order to keep up with how quickly your life is progressing.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

An authority figure may grant you the freedom of choice today. You are being offered a clean start, but you still must take the initiative in order to follow your dreams. The path you choose requires time to manifest, but you are given a chance to set your intentions. Don't wait; take action now. Even if some of the details are not in order yet, you can put the pieces together along the way.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

You might be uncomfortably aware that something significant is missing from your life. Describing your feelings is challenging now, but you realize that it's time to release your old assumptions about what you can and can't do. You may feel as if you're caught up in a big wave of uncertainty. However, if you try to plant your feet in the ground and resist, you could end up regretting that you missed an opportunity of a lifetime.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

Excessive drama isn't typically your cup of tea. Nevertheless, someone could rock your world by sharing surprising news, an unusual opportunity or an innovative idea today. However, it's not wise to jump too quickly. Instead, exercising cautious optimism is prudent since anything that enters your life now looks better than it really is. Nevertheless, if you don't jeopardize your current stability.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

Making minor improvements to your lifestyle by introducing new habits into your daily routine can have lasting positive impact. Fortunately, it's easier than you expect to move past old emotional patterns that previously prevented you from taking the next step on your path. However, there's no room for halfway measures today. You know exactly what you must do now.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

Although incoming waves of nostalgia remind you to gently let go of the past, you have a rather narrow window of time in which to launch yourself into the future. Luckily, you're not likely to turn down an invitation that courts adventure, so set your sights on a distant galaxy, buckle up and prepare for lift-off. Just don't allow your confidence grow into arrogance because you're still likely to encounter a little turbulence along the way.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

This is your chance to reinvent your life by remembering your personal history and then re-writing your story with a new ending. Creating a different perspective enables you to envision a radically different future. However, your desire to break out of your current rut might stress you out because of the lack of security it will bring. Don't be too hard on yourself if you need more time to put your ducks in order before making your move.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

You can't avoid the realization that your life is gradually transforming, although the pace of events in your personal world seems accelerated today. Even if you're not keeping up with everything, there's no immediate need for worry; at least, the new routine looks like it could be a lot of fun. However, if you experience a glimmer of self-doubt, remember that he who hesitates is lost.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

Expressing a sigh of relief is appropriate today as the pressure to get ahead at work temporarily eases. Just keep in mind that your current phase of expansion isn't over; it's just on a short holiday. In the meantime, continue to move a project along at your own speed by taking a good idea and developing it further. You might be tempted to start immediately, but impulsive actions won't create lasting results.

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-62.

Across: 1. 11th Hebrew letter, 5. Mosey, 10. Protagonist, 14. River of Spain, 15. One who murmurs lovingly, 16. Beasts of burden, 17. Fast terrestrial bird, 19. Iridescent gem, 20. Except, 21. Cowboy movie, 22. Genuinely, 23. Avoiding detection, 25. Something to shoot for, 27. Spelling contest, 28. Literary criticism, 31. Breakfast and supper, 34. Wakefulness, 35. Frozen water, 36. Paris airport, 37. Ancient English chiefs, 38. He writes in verse, 39. In the past, 40. Scrawny, 41. Discovers, 42. No longer legally acceptable, 44. Feline, 45. Exploits, 46. Maybe, 50. Vermin, 52. Whiskers, 54. Attempt, 55. Hodgepodge, 56. Nefarious, 58. Stow, as cargo, 59. Metal bar, 60. Annul, 61. 1 1 1, 62. Onyx.

Down: 1. Curbs (British spelling), 2. More or less, 3. Chatter, 4. A box for bricks or mortar, 5. Sharpen, 6. Usually 30 or 31 days, 7. Part of a skeleton, 8. With an arch oblique look, 9. Mistake, 10. Yippee, 11. Ejection, 12. Genuine, 13. Unique, 18. Parts portrayed, 22. Express in words, 24. With competence, 26. Speaker's platform, 28. Broadcast, 29. Frozen, 30. Collections, 31. Groan, 32. Therefore, 33. Next to, 34. Disappearing, 37. Shock, 38. Gist, 40. Low in pitch, 41. The language of Persia, 43. Votes that block a decision, 44. Ointment, 46. He flies a plane, 47. Redress, 48. A very proper person, 49. Sysadmin, 50. Game on horseback, 51. Distinctive flair, 53. Aquatic plant, 56. By means of, 57. Gist.

Yesterday's Solution

about, aficianado, apply, balm, battle, brake, corset, could, damper, earnest, emblem, faith, force, frost, gadget, happy, humidor, invent, mesas, mitt, moist, normal, pedal, plain, prayer, quilt, rang, reels, round, shock, situation, skate, somebody, system.

A B O U T H U M I D O R M
F R O S T K H A P P Y A C
I O Q E C X R F E S C N I
C R S O M E B O D Y O G S
I O H K Y B W R A S R A T
A S U A A Q L C L T S D E
N A R L N T U E T E E G E
A P I I D B E I M M T E A
D P A N O R M A L H V T R
O L M V S I T U A T I O N
P Y Z E A L O T B R A K E
R O U N D B A T T L E L S
F A I T H T D A M P E R T