

# 16 Held on Drug Trafficking Charge in a Week

KABUL - Sixteen drug traffickers, including two women, have been arrested by the counternarcotics police, the Criminal Justice Task Force (CJTF) said on Wednesday. The traffickers were detained in Baghlan, Nangarhar, Kandahar and Kabul provinces during the past one week, CJTF spokesman Khalid Moahid told Pajhwok Afghan News. Their cases have been shared with CJTF for investigation, he said, adding 87 kilograms of heroin, 471 kilograms of morphine, 127kg of opium and more than 1,550kg of hashish had been recovered from the detainees. He said more than 19,000kg of chemicals, eight vehicles, a rocket shell and 23 sets of mobile telephones had also been recovered from the detainees. (Pajhwok)



## 17 Taliban Insurgents Killed in Air and Ground Raids

KABUL - At least 17 Taliban insurgents were killed in separate air and ground raids of the Afghan National Security Forces in north of Afghanistan. The Ministry of Defense (MoD) said at least 6 militants were killed and 14 others were wounded during an airstrike in ChashmeSherin in the capital of Sar-e-Pul province. A statement by MoD said at least 4 others were during a separate operation in Gorkab village at Soma Qala district of Sar-e-Pul province.



The statement further added that 6 others were also wounded and 2 motorcycles of the militants were totally damaged along with 4 bunkers. MoD said at least 7 militants were killed during

a gun battle between the Afghan security forces and Taliban insurgents in Koshinde district of Balkh province. At least 4 militants were killed and their bunker ...*(More on P4)...(16)*

## Afghan Army Kills 12 Militants during Anti-Terrorist Operations

KABUL - Afghan Defense Ministry said that National Army has killed 12 militants during several anti-terrorist operations in several regions of the country. Afghanistan's National Army has killed 12 militants during several anti-terrorist operations in several regions of the country, the Afghan Defense Ministry said in a press release on Wednesday. "Afghanistan's National Army assisted by police and intelligence services has conducted several military operations in



various provinces of the country, eliminating 12 militants, another five have been injured, a number of people have been detained," the press release read. Law enforcement officers have also seized weapons and defused four mines. The operations left one serviceman dead. Afghanistan is experiencing political, social and security instability, as Taliban and other radical extremist organizations ...*(More on P4)...(17)*

## 4 Die as Floods Play Havoc in Badakhshan, Samangan

FAIZABAD/AIBAK - At least four people were killed, three others wounded and hundreds of houses and farmland washed away by powerful floods in northeastern Badakhshan and northern Samangan provinces, officials said on Wednesday. The Peshgam district chief in Badakhshan, Mohammad AzimMosovi, told Pajhwok Afghan News hundreds of residential houses, hundreds of orchards and crops on more than 500 acres of land were washed away by the floods in the district on Tuesday afternoon. A couple was killed and another three people, including a woman and a child, were injured in Suchkan, Duka and De-

histan villages of the district, he said. "The marooned people passed the whole night on mountains and in desert and are in urgent need for drinking water and food," he said, lamenting neither the government nor any NOG had provided any assistance to the victims. In Samangan, two people were killed and some residential houses were destroyed as a result of floods in Dara-i-SawfBala district, the town's administrative chief, Ahmad Ali Husiani, said. The KhuramSalar district chief, QariEbadullah-Mujahid, said 20 houses and nine shops were destroyed and dozens of acres of agriculture land was washed away by the floods in the district. (Pajhwok)

## Legs Blown off, Ex-Army Officer Sells Potatoes in Nangarhar

JALALABAD - A former Afghan National Army (ANA) officer, who lost his legs in a bomb explosion, is now selling potatoes and other vegetables in Jalalabad, the capital of eastern Nangarhar province. Riyatullah did his Masters at a military academy in former Czechoslovakia. He legs were blown off in an explosion in the mujahidin era. For the past 17 years, he has been selling vegetable at a roadside stall. The ex-army official believes he could earn a living in a more dignified way. Ignored by the government, he set up a small stall to avoid begging. "With my own hands, I have to work daily to support my family. And I'm proud of this," he remarks. During Dr. Najibullah's rule, he served as intelligence officer in a military unit and worked as technical communication officer in the President Burhanuddin era. In an exclusive inter-

view with Pajhwok Afghan News Riyatullah expressed optimism he could work efficiently in the field of communications. Given a chance, he thinks he can perform other military duties as well. "I was deprived of both legs in an explosion that hit our vehicle at a time when Prof. Rabbani was the president of the country. I have since been selling potatoes." He is ready to serve an impoverished country that sent him to study abroad. "I don't have any complaint in my life. People remember me with honour because I don't ask anyone for help," says the former military officer, who looks determined to deal with the ups and downs in his life. He wants disabled people to have self-confidence and avoid seeking alms. Another shopkeeper in the area, Mohammad Haider, hailed Maj. Riyatullah as very bold man. He called on government to provide a job opportunity for him. (Pajhwok)

## Smugglers Use Catapult to Get Drugs over Iran's Borders

KABUL - Traffickers make use of any means to smuggle illegal substances into and out of Iran, finally transferring them to other countries, Jazini said, as reported by Entekhab and translated by IFP. Now that Iran's police have managed to block the land borders and maintain great control over the waterways, smugglers are resorting to means such as catapults to get their drugs into Iran, he noted. "This has mostly happened around the Sistan and Baluchestan borders [in south-east Iran, bordering both Afghanistan and Pakistan]," Jazini noted, adding that the individuals who had retrieved the thrown bundles of drugs had been arrested and punished. (Agencies)

## Ghee Being Distributed to Flood Affectees in Logar

PUL-I-ALAM - The process to distribute cooking oil among thousands of flood-affected families kicked off on Wednesday in the central province of Logar, an official said. A total of 40,000 litres of ghee worth four million afghanis would be distributed among a total of 3,333 families affected by natural disasters in the provincial capital, Pul-i-Alam and the districts, the Afghanistan Natural Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA) head for Logar,



NajibullahNaibi, told Pajhwok Afghan News. Each family would be given 12-litre of ghee, he said while launching the aid distribution. A recipient of the aid in

Pul-i-Alam, Syed Habibullah, said the recent floods washed away wheat crop on his 2.5 acres of land. He criticised the government for the meagre assistance. (Pajhwok)

## 3 Persons Die in Panjsher, Kapisa Accidents

CHARIKAR - Three people died on Wednesday in two separate road accidents in central Panjsher and Kapisa provinces, officials said. Panjsher traffic officials said a corolla car veered off the road and crashed into a mountain in Karbashi area of Bazarak city, the provincial capital, on Wednesday morning, killing two people. Provincial traffic department head Ahmad Shah Wahid linked the incident to the driver's carelessness. Elsewhere, a 50-year-old man was killed in an accident in Kapisa province. The Hesa-i-Awal district chief, Abdul FatehShafiq, said the man was passing the road when hit by a truck in MahmudRaqi area of the district on Wednesday noon. The truck driver was detained, he added. (Pajhwok)

### Outlook Horoscope

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

You may feel as if you're not getting enough sleep these days but you're probably still raring to go. The Moon's early morning square to electric Uranus wires your nervous system today, but your body might not be so quick to follow your brain. You could push yourself too hard now, so watch your physical energy level for signs of exhaustion before piling more on your busy schedule.

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

You continue to wait for the best moment to express something that's been on your mind. Your current frustration might provoke you to start a difficult conversation now even if the timing isn't ideal. However, people will lose interest if you allow your words to wander aimlessly. Keep your message short and sweet. Reassure everyone that you aren't looking for a fast answer.

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

Starting a new project requires laying the groundwork, yet you don't seem able to move beyond the preparation stage. There are so many choices in front of you now that it's nearly impossible to pick just one mission. In fact, you thought your plan was infallible until you began to reconsider all the unexplored options. In order to narrow your field of vision, rein in your ambitions for the next few weeks and then reevaluate your long-term goals.

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

Your thoughts may double back on themselves today, making you doubt your recent decisions. The reflective Moon forms several uncomfortable aspects while finishing up her monthly visit to your cautious sign. You prefer to contain your emotions now, and even people close to you might not realize the magnitude of your unsettled moods.

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

Someone at work might place unspoken demands on you today and you're unsure of the best way to respond. You know that you are clever enough to dance around the edge of the unknown, but you quickly realize that your logic won't help you regain control of your day. Attempting to guess the motives of others only brings frustration now.

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

You aren't sure how to establish new objectives at work today because you're being pulled in two different directions at once. Furthermore, separating the useful information from those facts that only support your position can be a challenging endeavor. Evaluating all your choices is a daunting task if you believe a long-term decision is required now. Thankfully, you have more time than you realize to sort out your next move.

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

You like the idea of picking up the pace, but reality might be more of an obstacle course than a race track. You're missing the bounce to your step as Saturn pesters your ruling planet Venus, giving you one reason after another why you still must wait for the green light. Nevertheless, it's still beneficial to dream about your ideal future without worrying about whether or not it's actually possible.

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

Other people's expectations may conflict with your personal needs today. Unfortunately, you could become disillusioned if you don't see a simple way to get your basic needs met. Denial is not an option; your unconscious desires will only grow in volume if you don't monitor your feelings as they develop. Naturally, digging deep is a significant part of being a passionate Scorpio.

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

Staying serious throughout the day challenges you high-spirited Archers, even if there are important obligations to fulfill. Nevertheless, it seems as if your best of intentions are not enough to keep you on the straight and narrow track. Although stern Saturn is quite demanding as it slowly moves through your sign, pleasure-seeking Venus is currently playing her own game of fortune.

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

People seem extra needy today, amplifying your anxiety and prompting you to protect yourself from unnecessary emotional entanglements. The Moon is finishing up her monthly business in your 7th House of Others today, highlighting how you respond in a relationship rather than what you might do on your own. Unfortunately, everything could quickly grow more complicated if you attempt to take the lead now.

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

You may consider staying home today, even if your real-world responsibilities are calling. Your friends and coworkers might assume that your current desire for solitude is a sign that something's wrong, but they couldn't be further off target. Taking time for personal matters is a powerful way to get in touch with beautiful Venus in your 4th House of Roots.

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

Awkward planetary positions distract you from meeting your commitments today. You are likely to aspire to ambitious goals since Saturn is holding ground for an extended stay in your 10th House of Status; however, opportunities for play outweigh the rewards for hard work as the day progresses. It's smarter now to set aside your previous plans and simply make up new ones as you go along.



**Across**  
 1. Gist, 5. Awkward, 10. Jokes, 14. Monster, 15. Player, 16. Dwarf buffalo, 17. Nutritious, 19. Not short, 20. Loving murmur 21. Sweater eaters, 22. A type of dance, 23. Socks and stockings, 25. Adhesive, 27. Half of a pair, 28. Common man, 31. Throng, 34. Gloomy, in poetry, 35. Nigerian tribesman, 36. Sister and wife of Zeus, 37. Rise rapidly, 38. Stair, 39. Append, 40. Not these, 41. Pizazz, 42. Arduous, 44. G, 45. Microwaves, 46. Topmost planking of a boat, 50. Lawn cover, 52. Twice, 54. Female sib, 55. Parental sister, 56. Spectacles, 58. A single time, 59. Adjust again, 60. Wise one, 61. Lascivious look, 62. Pretentious, 63. Visual organs.

**Down**  
 1. Hunt illegally, 2. Snow house, 3. Threesomes, 4. Skirt's edge, 5. Overlook, 6. Dapper, 7. Nursemaid, 8. Persist, 9. Attempt, 10. A group of star systems, 11. Namelessness, 12. Chime, 13. Palm starch, 18. Make improvements, 22. Unit of pressure, 24. Hawkeye State, 26. Legumes, 28. Delete, 29. Cain's brother, 30. No, 31. Gossip, 32. Start over, 33. Regulation, 34. Predictor of disaster, 37. Sneaker or pump, 38. Goulash, 40. Sounds of disapproval, 41. Ringworm cassia, 43. Sheen, 44. Not innocent, 46. Measuring instruments, 47. Test, as ore, 48. Feudal lord, 49. S S S S, 50. Jail (British), 51. Graphic symbol, 53. A feat, 56. Historic period, 57. South southeast.

**Yesterday's Solution**  
 abuse, addle, adversity, archaic, arrow, ballistic, bide, bride, bullet, coin, color, combine, deer, embroil, errand, error, escape, glove, hens, infuse, intention, lair, lance, launch, lessen, merge, muzzle, nebula, qualm, seen, snafu, soften, spear, suspicion, teach.

