

Closure of Kunduz-Baghlan Highway Enters Fifth Day

KABUL - The closure of Kunduz-Baghlan highway has entered fifth consecutive day, angry protesters are stepping up barricades on the road and do not allow traffic flow. Eyewitnesses say, the highway which connects nine provinces with capital Kabul is closed from morning to evening and open only during nights. Protesters warn the highway would remain closed as it is until government fulfills their demands. They want government to move



the provincial administration and university to Baghlan-i-Markazi and rename the district as the provincial capital of Baghlan. Meanwhile, Abdul Qayoum Niazi the deputy governor of Baghlan province says that a delegation sent by the Presidential Palace is trying to settle down the chaos. He said the closure has created serious problems for passengers. The provincial administration of Baghlan was moved to Pul-i-Khumri, the current provincial capital, when Dr. Najibullah was the President of Afghanistan. (KP)

56 Killed as Rival Taliban Factions Clash: Official



QALAT - A total of 56 militants have been killed in a clash between supporters and opponents of Taliban new leader Mullah Akhtar Mohammad Mansoor in parts of the southern Zabol province over the past three days, spokesman for provincial government, Gul Islam Sayal said Monday. "The clash erupted between supporters of Mullah Akhtar Mansoor and his opponents led by Mullah MansoorDadullah in Khak-e-Afghan and Arghandab districts on Saturday, leaving 56 insurgents from both sides dead and 53 others injured," Sayal told Xinhua. According to the official, 47 of those killed in the clash were loyal to MansoorDadullah ...*(More on P4)...(19)*

Lithuania to Increase Troops in Afghanistan

KABUL - Lithuania is dropping the plan to deploy up to 20 troops in Afghanistan by 2017, bringing the total number to 50. The proposal is yet to be approved by the Lithuanian parliament. Defense Minister Juozas Olekas told BNS that the plan was related to the decisions of the United States and other NATO Allies, in order to keep larger forces in Afghanistan where the NATO is conducting its Resolute Support mission. "There has been a request for Lithuanian troops to remain," Olekas said. After special operators returned to Lithuania after wrapping up their mission in Summer 2014, 21 Lithuanian troops remained in Afghanistan. They mainly include staff officers, logistics and communications specialists. The new shift of troops to be sent to Afghanistan probably won't be from the Special Operations Forces, said Olekas. He added that the specific decision would be made after the parliament approved the increase. Should the plan go ahead, the troops will serve in Afghanistan's capital, Kabul. The United States said in mid-October 2015, that nearly 10,000 troops would remain in Afghanistan in 2016, with plans to gradually decrease the contingent to 5,500. (Agencies)

District Chief Survives Bomb Blast

JALALABAD - A senior government official survived life attempt in eastern Nangarhar province on Monday. Abdul Wahab, governor of Kama District, was driving towards his office when a bomb exploded on his vehicle in Banda area of Behsood District around 09:00 am this morning. Wahab and his people survived but his vehicle partially damaged. Governor of Behsood District confirming the blast said the explosive materi-



als were placed in a Zarang motorcycle. Meanwhile, a bomb exploded in Rokhan Mina area of Jalalabad city this morning but did not have casualties or damages. No group has immediately claimed responsibility for ...*(More on P4)...(16)*

UK Helps to Establish the Baidara Hospital

JALALABAD - Due to a lack of medical facilities, people from Eastern Nangarhar often travel to Pakistan in search of medical treatment; However, this was not ideal due to the extra costs and time involved to travel across the border. To address this issue, the UK, through its support to the World Bank's Afghanistan New Market Development Project (ANMDP) has helped to establish the Baidara Hospital in Jalalabad. Through this project and the new hospital, much needed medical assistance is now being offered to the local population. Kalamuddin is 24 years old. He suffers from a stomach illness and has been going to Pakistan for medical check-ups regularly over the last few years. Thanks to the new hospital he is now able to get treatment in his home city of Jalalabad. ...*(More on P4)...(18)*

Insurgents Killed in Pul-e-Khumri

PUL-E-KHUMRI - At least three Taliban insurgents were killed in an ongoing operation of Afghan security force members in northern Baghlan province, local official said on Monday. In addition, eight other insurgents were injured. The operation was conducted in Pul-e-Khumri, the provincial capital, aimed at clearing insurgents from the northern city, said Abdul Rashid, the acting police chief of Baghlan. "Three policemen were also injured during the operation," Rashid said. Afghan National Army (ANA) members are backing the police forces in the operation, he continued. (Tolonews)

Joint Clean up Operations Kill Insurgents in Afghanistan

KABUL - Several insurgents have been killed and injured amid Afghan security forces' cleanup operations since early Sunday, the country's Defense Ministry said on Monday morning. "Over the past 24 hours, several terrorists were killed and injured as a result of joint cleanup operations conducted by army and Afghan security forces across the country," the ministry said in a statement, without disclosing the precise number of casualties. Four armed insurgents were captured by the joint forces, according to the statement. The raids were



lunched in nine of the country's 34 provinces and the security forces also found and seized weapons, in addition to defusing dozens of roadside bombs and landmines, the statement added. "Up to 11 army personnel were martyred as a result of separate attacks across the country over the same period," said the statement. Afghan security forces have pressed on clearing the militants in restive provinces as ...*(More on P4)...(17)*

IWPG Hosts 2015 IWPG Network Peace Forum

1,000 Women Representatives join the Peace Agreement Ceremony SEOUL- the International Women's Peace Group (IWPG) hosted the '2015 IWPG Network Peace Forum' to urge the 'Implementation of the International Convention on the Cessation of War and Achievement of World Peace.' The forum mainly discussed the role of women in the Imple-

NDS Detains Two Would-be Suicide

KABUL - The National Directorate of Security Afghanistan's intelligence agency has detained two suicide bombers in eastern Kunar province of Afghanistan. A press release issued by NDS on Monday states that Abdul Khaliq, 15, and Samiullah, 14, were sent to Afghanistan from across the border. According to the statement, Abdul Khaliq is a student of grade 7 in Tirah and Samiullah is studying at grade six in Dandoi area of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province of Pakistan and recruited by Taliban for suicide attacks. Kunar which shares a long border with Pakistan is comparatively one of the restive provinces of Afghanistan. Reports suggest that across the border there are several terrorist centers training terrorists for Afghanistan. Security forces have come across numerous attacks by Pakistan-trained Taliban and other militant groups in this province. (KP)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

You're quite thankful for coworkers who support you even when you're acting like a pain in the neck. Nevertheless, others still demand a lot from you today and they will give you their opinions, whether you ask for them or not. You are confident that you are doing the right thing now and don't want anyone to question your motives.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

Although there's a lot of work in front of you today, you still might find it difficult to shift into gear. Part of your problem stems from your lackadaisical attitude now; you assume you can accomplish all your chores because you tend to underestimate the time tasks will take and overestimate your capacity for speed. Ask someone you trust to help you correctly gauge the size of a job before saying yes.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Your laissez-faire management style works wonders today as long as your coworkers agree with your latest strategy. However, they might not tell you if they have issues with your plans, and their reluctance to communicate can be problematic. You may go along believing that everyone is on board with your ideas, only to later discover that your ship has been abandoned.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

You might not realize there are conflicts brewing on the home today, until a difference of opinion erupts into a minor crisis. Paying close attention to the minute details enables you to see past your dreams of perfection. But instead of avoiding unpleasant feelings by going in denial, keep in mind that you're not the only participant in this unsettling situation.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

The weekend is over, yet you might be feeling extremely resistant to the workload on your desk. Instead of following the rules today, you're searching for ways to extend your playtime. Maybe you are burning the candle at both ends and realize you deserve a well-earned break from the grind now. Luckily, an unplanned activity could be the source of great fun.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

You can be overly generous in your encouragement of your associates today, making you a lousy negotiator for your own agenda. You might even be tempted to offer assistance that's beyond your capability. It's all too easy now to forget that some decisions about money should not be made with your heart. Just because you admire a particular person doesn't mean you should pay more than a service or product is worth.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

Your easygoing attitude begins to fade today as someone's annoying behavior motivates you to respond. You're more opinionated now and may overreact to what you hear. Nevertheless, it's better to say what's on your mind if certain boundaries are crossed. Your perceptions are keen and you're smart to trust your impulses as long as you remember to be kind in the delivery of your message.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

You may feel external pressure to tie up loose ends early in the day, and this cosmic message makes good sense. But you won't likely want to work very hard while the moody Moon is camped out in your 12th House of Escapism. You would be better off spending a bit of quiet time alone, taking a nature walk during lunch or cultivating a spiritual connection with someone special.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

Your social inclinations lure you to reach out beyond your personal network today, but you might have trouble deciding on where to direct your energy. You want to be available for a spontaneous invitation, making it difficult to commit to any one event. Thankfully, you possess the uncanny ability to turn a casual interaction with an acquaintance into an exciting encounter. There's no need to be overly concerned about making choices now.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

You are chosen to play the role of a highly skilled diplomat today because everyone knows you can see both sides of a complex issue. Additionally, you have an arsenal of analytical tools at your disposal, empowering you to take what you learn and swiftly shape it into a convincing argument. Don't fall into the trap of picking sides now; instead.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

Keeping your attention on the here and now could be tricky business when your thoughts are being pulled to a distant horizon. Your futuristic thinking enhances your visionary skills, but it may not have anything to do with the chores you need to accomplish today. Nevertheless, if you have been dreaming about taking a short vacation, get out your calendar and mark the dates.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

A lighthearted interaction can feel quite intense while the evocative Moon is stirring up trouble in your 8th House of Intimacy. You can't help but wonder about the changing dynamics because everyone seems more formidable now. But there's no reason to let anyone else's demands overwhelm you. Ultimately, delivering the goods is not as critical as you think today. Let your integrity and intention act as the windows to your heart.



Across
1. Seating sections, 5. Hard close-grained wood, 10. Story, 14. Affirm, 15. France's longest river, 16. Death notice, 17. Roman emperor, 18. Undergrowth, 20. Not outdoors, 22. Grapple, 23. Neither, 24. Unsuccessful person, 25. Alleviating fever, 32. Restricts, 33. Historical period, 34. Belief, 37. A tart spicy quality, 38. Duplicate, 39. Soft drink, 40. Secret agent, 41. Direct the course, 42. Deadly, 43. Require, 45. A kind of macaw, 49. Church bench, 50. Photo devices, 53. Forage plant, 57. Intangible, 59. Diving bird, 60. Pickle flavoring, 61. Gladden, 62. Clove hitch or figure eight, 63. Appear, 64. Odorless inert gas, 65. Collections.

Down
1. Hindu princess, 2. Baking appliance, 3. Unit of language, 4. Fainting, 5. Indistinct, 6. Charged particles, 7. Disencumber, 8. Team, 9. German for "Mister", 10. Body, 11. Borders on, 12. Fine thread, 13. Aromatic solvent, 19. Burp, 21. Klutz's cry, 25. Anagram of "Star", 26. Half-moon tide, 27. Small, 28. Museum piece, 29. Lyric poem, 30. Notes, 31. Frozen water, 34. Greek letter, 35. Thin strip, 36. Man, 38. Prompt, 39. Narrow pathways, 41. Knot, 42. Feudal estate, 44. A large dark-red oval organ, 45. Corrosives, 46. Bog hemp, 47. Enough, 48. Kingdom, 51. Pinnacle, 52. An exchange involving money, 53. Countertenor, 54. Solitary, 55. 12 inches, 56. Picnic insects, 58. Prohibit.

Yesterday's Solution
behind, blunt, chocolate, class, coach, collapse, destroy, extend, field, figurative, fixture, gallop, heel, junction, match, modification, penalty, poise, present, quart, schedule, situation, slack, slot, stand, submerge, toes, toss, white.

