



Gold, Ghee Prices Down, Sugar up in Kabul

KABUL - The prices of Arabian gold and ghee have edged down while that of sugar increased during the outgoing week in the capital Kabul, market sources said Saturday.

Food Traders Union head in Kabul, Fazal Rahman, told Pajhwok Afghan News that the price of a tin of 16 liters of Khurshid ghee fallen from 1,020 Afghanis to 1,000 Afghanis.

However, he said that 49 kilograms of Pakistani sugar cost 1,740afis, 50 kilograms of Kazakhstani flour 1,340afis and 24-kg of Pakistani rice 2,020afis, the same prices of last week's.

Noor Ahmad Khairkhwā, a tea seller in Kabul Mandavi, said a kilogram of Indonesian green tea cost 280afis and the same amount of African black tea 300afis -- same prices as last week's.

Ahmad Wali Panjsheri, who owns a grocery store in Dahn-i-Bagh area of Kabul, sold a 50-kg sack of Kazakhstani flour for 1,400afis, a 49-kg bag of sugar for 1,850afis, 24-kg of Pakistani rice 2,400afis a 16-litre tin of ghee for 1,140afis, one-kg of Indonesian green tea for 300afis and the same amount of black African tea for 350afis -- higher than wholesale rates.

The prices of fuel and gas remain stable.

Abdul Hadi, a worker in Wazirabad Fuel Station, told Pajhwok Afghan News that the price of one liter of petrol cost 57afis and the same amount of diesel 55afis, the same rates of last week's.

Ahmad Javid, a liquefied gas seller in Taimani area of Kabul, said the price of one kilogram of the commodity stood at 65afis.

Khan Mohammad, a firewood seller in Charahi Shaheed area of Kabul said 560 kilograms of peeled oak ...*(More on P4)...(13)*

Taliban's Red Unit Commander Among 30 Killed in Nangarhar Raid

JALALABAD - A top Taliban commander among 30 insurgents have been killed in a clearing operation in Khogayni district of eastern Nangarhar province, an official said on Saturday.

Attaullah Khogyani, the governor's spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News that the National Directorate of security (NDS)'s 02 Unit has targeted the Taliban's Red Unit fighters in Zawi locality of the district late on Friday night. He said during the overnight raid, 30 Taliban militants were killed and five Red Unit hideouts of the insurgents destroyed.

Khogyani added a number of other key commanders of the Taliban were also among those killed in the operation.

Rockets, machineguns, hand grenades, Kalashnikovs, motorbikes and some other ammunition were also seized by security forces.

On the other hand, Zabihullah



Mujahid, a Taliban spokesman, told Pajhwok that the security forces targeted those fighters of them who were operating against Daesh rebels in the area. He claimed 16 Afghan Special Force members were killed while confirmed the death of only three insurgents and injury of three others in the operation. (Pajhwok)

Taliban Target Police Checkpoint, Killing 5

KABUL - An Afghan official says that at least five police officers have been killed when their checkpoint came under attack by insurgents in the northwestern Badghis province.

Abdul Aziz Beg, head of the provincial council, says three other police were wounded and another detained by the Taliban early Saturday morning in the Qadis district.

Beg said the gun battle lasted about an hour with casualties among Taliban too, but did not provide an exact figure.

Taliban insurgents claimed the attack in Qadis, saying they seized ammunition from the checkpoint.

The Taliban in recent years has



taken over almost half of the country and have stepped up their attacks on security forces. (AP)

Belgium to Boost Troops Number in Afghanistan by Over 2.5 Times

RUSSELS - The Belgian government approved a proposal by the country's Defense Ministry to increase the number of troops in Afghanistan more than 2.5-fold in 2019, local media reported on Friday.

According to the RTBF broadcaster, the number of servicemen will be gradually increased to 220 from 80 as of now.

The country will send not only military instructors, but also special forces to the city of Mazar-i-Sharif, it added.

Belgium participates in NATO training mission in Afghanistan.

...*(More on P4)...(12)*



Local Film Actor Shot Dead in Balkh

MAZAR-I-SHARIF - Unidentified gunmen have shot dead a local film actor and producer, Qudos Farahmand in the Khulm district of northern Balkh province, an official said on Saturday.

Police spokesman Mohammad Ikram Samee told Pajhwok Afghan News that the incident took place in Tashqurghan Tangi area of the district on Friday.

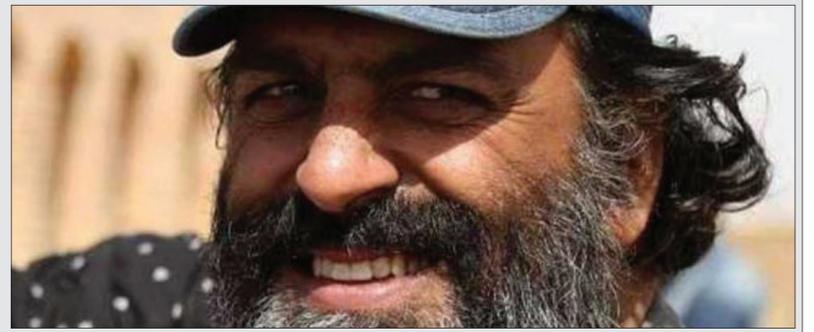
He said two motorcyclists shot dead Farahmand in the area where he had gone for picnic. Samee said the motive behind Far-

ahmand's assassination was not yet known.

Meanwhile, provincial culture and information head, Zabiullah Ari-ayee, termed the killing of Farahmand as huge lose. He said that the slain actor had always spread peace and brotherhood messages through theatre.

He urged security officials of the province to arrested the killers of Farahmand and bring to justice in the earliest possible.

Qudos Farahmand, hailed from ...*(More on P4)...(14)*



Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



- Things have probably been going well lately in the love and romance department, Aries. You find that communication has improved, and the witty banter is invigorating and educational. Today there may be a blip on the radar. You may have been so caught up in the good parts that you failed to take care of the details and do the actual work needed to make things run smoothly.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



- You may be feeling emotionally good, Taurus, but unfortunately the people around you don't seem to share this feeling. Your first instinct may be to sacrifice yourself in order to make the path easier for the next guy. Remember that other people need to learn how to do things on their own. If someone is in a bad mood, let them be in a bad mood. You may be better

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



- You may be feeling emotionally good, Taurus, but unfortunately the people around you don't seem to share this feeling. Your first instinct may be to sacrifice yourself in order to make the path easier for the next guy. Remember that other people need to learn how to do things on their own. If someone is in a bad mood, let them be in a bad mood. You may be better off spending the day alone.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



Calm down and get organized before you spread your ideas to others, Cancer. This is especially true when it comes to love and romance. As soon as this topic comes up, you tense up and erupt inappropriately. Ground yourself and find your center of balance - literally and figuratively - before you proceed. Don't worry about getting the upper hand. What you need to do is join hands.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



- You've reached a climactic time of year regarding love and romance, Leo. This is the time when your dream finally materializes or you realize that all your efforts are failures. It all depends on how you played your cards over the past few months. This is one of those moments of reckoning when you face reality.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)



- Your emotions are solid and you feel good, Virgo. At the same time, you may be tongue-tied. You're having a hard time expressing your true feelings in the way you'd like to, especially when it comes to love and romance. Perhaps you have so many thoughts that you don't know how to sort them out, or which to disclose and which to keep hidden.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



You might find it rather tough to take criticism today, Libra. This is something that's hard for many to hear, but it truly depends on your perspective. Rather than view it as a personal attack, try to see the value in the criticism. If you're honest with yourself and recognize that you could learn and grow from critique, seize it as an opportunity.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



This is one of those days when the road forks in several directions and you must decide which way to go, Scorpio. This usually isn't hard. You just go with the flow. But now things are flowing in multiple directions and you need to figure out which way to go. Stick with the way that seems most natural. Remember that whatever choice you make will be the right one.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



Your plane is fueled, your bags packed, and you have clearance from the control tower, but for some reason, Sagittarius, you just can't seem to get off the ground. Perhaps there are details of the trip that you haven't taken into account. People are firing questions at you, and you don't have all the answers. This is especially true when it comes to matters of love and romance.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



- The person who is most organized and stable will win the race, so let it be you, Capricorn. Be careful, though. Other people may try to distract you from your work. You may be in the middle of an important project and decide to take a break. Before you know it, the phone rings and suddenly you're trapped with no escape.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

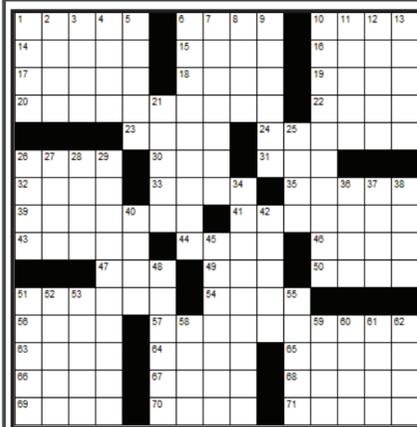


Your brain is buzzing in high gear, Aquarius. Anyone else would get dizzy trying to process even a fraction of the things that filter through your head in one day. The key for you is to not speak every single thought aloud but to keep your processing internal. People want to hear your final decision, not the process you went through to reach it. You will save everyone a lot of time if you do.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



You may have a hard time relating to people in social situations, Pisces. Perhaps you're frustrated at hearing the same shallow conversations over and over. While you mingle with dozens of different people, all you can think about is how nice it would be if you could be home in front of the TV. Your best plan is to avoid situations that you know you won't enjoy. There's no sense in torturing yourself.



Across

1. Name of a book, 6. Portent, 10. Mad, 14. Woodcutting tools, 15. Use a beeper, 16. Hairdo, 17. Inclined, 18. Colored part of an eye, 19. Natural satellite, 20. Charles Schulz (Peanuts) was one, 22. Exude, 23. Dainty, 24. Hang around, 26. Cain's brother, 30. Mouth (British slang), 31. N N N N, 32. Speechless, 33. Rectal, 35. A stringed instrument, 39. Envisage, 41. Artist's workroom, 43. Active, 44. Wet, as morning grass, 46. Solitary 47. 2,000 pounds, 49. European peak, 50. Terminates, 51. A person without pigment, 54. Abound, 56. Emollient, 57. Not arrogant, 63. Dwarf buffalo, 64. Lots, 65. Small drum 66. Religious offshoot, 67. Small mountain, 68. Leave out, 69. Being, 70. 3, 71. Pantywaist

Down

1. After-bath powder, 2. Notion, 3. Russian emperor, 4. Gave temporarily, 5. Prevent legally 6. Stated your beliefs, 7. Xylophone, 8. Auspices, 9. Get cozy, 10. Miss, 11. Underway, 12. Immobilized 13. Laser printer powder, 21. Keyboard instrument, 25. A single time 26. Dogfish, 27. Backsides, 28. French for "State", 29. Authorized, 34. In an illegal manner, 36. King of the jungle, 37. Extend credit, 38. Mining finds, 40. Press 42. Varieties, 45. Palatable, 48. Zero, 51. Degrade, 52. Paths, 53. Voting groups, 55. Deadens the sound, 58. French for "Black", 59. Timbuktu country, 60. Nile bird, 61. Gestures of assent, 62. Midway between white and black,

Yesterday's Solution

MADAM GOBLI GUSSES
AGILE APED ONTO
COMPLETELY MIEN
EGESTIA NIT MOAN
GITTLE BANDY
MESH WYVERIN
APPEASE ERUDITE
SEARCH SPINAL
HERETIC SINCILL
TOMATO GALS
PRIOR USHER RESCUE
HOPE ATE RELOCUE
AUTO LITERATURE
STAR TOSS MOREL
ESSIE ONES SILLIAY

proceed rapture, regret
ripen, spin, state
status, subjugation truth
, victory, weave
welt, guest harm-
less, hoist
humiliate, latex, leather
paste, peace, peach

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