

Nine Badakhshan Districts without Telecom Services



FAIZABAD - At least nine districts in Badakhshan province - in the far northeast of Afghanistan - have no access to local telecommunication services, local officials said, adding that residents are using SIM

cards from Tajikistan communication companies. According to them this has been an ongoing for a number of years. "We are also from Afghanistan and local telecom-

munication services must be provided to us. We should benefit from the services of Afghan telecommunication companies," said Nawroz, a resident of Darwaz district. " ...*(More on P4)...(15)*

NDS Seizes Haqqani's Cache of Explosives in Kabul

KABUL - The National Directorate of Security (NDS) has confiscated a cache of explosives and IEDs belonging to Haqqani network's militants, the security agency said in a statement on Saturday. The explosives were seized from Waseel Abad area in PD7 of Kabul City, the statement said. The cache included 10 magnetic bombs, 10 mobile phones, one suicide vest, one gun, and three kilograms of explosives. The statement said the suicide vest and IEDs were ready to be used but were defused at the time of the NDS operation. The NDS said the Haqqani network militants wanted to use the hideout for carrying out terrorist attacks in Kabul. *(Tolnews)*

Snow, Avalanches Kill 13 People



KABUL - At least 13 people have been killed in avalanches caused by snowfall in the mountainous eastern parts of Afghanistan, officials said on Saturday. Abdul Ghani Musmim, spokesman for the provincial administration in eastern Kunar province, told Anadolu Agency the remote Chapa Dara district of this province is affected the most. Musmim said ten people -- mostly women and children -- got killed last night due to heavy snow and avalanches. " ...*(More on P4)...(16)*

Security Forces Claim Gains in Helmand Operation



LASHKARGAH - Several areas have been claimed cleared of Taliban militants in Marja district of southern Helmand province as a result of an ongoing military operation, officials say. There has been no resistance from insurgents during the clearing operation codenamed "08," said Maj. Abdul Qader Bahadorzai, spokesman for 215th Maiwand Military Corps. He told Pajhwok Afghan News a number of areas had been purged of militants' presence in the ongoing operation. Ammunition and food would be supplied to the soldiers in Marja district where no resistance from militants had been reported so far. Meanwhile, a statement " ...*(More on P4)...(19)*

2 Men Killed Inside Zabol Justice Department

QALAT - A man shot and killed two persons inside the Justice Department of southern Zabol province and made his escape good on Saturday, police said. The alleged killer and the deceased men arrived at the Justice Department to file a legal case against each other, said deputy provincial police chief Col. Ghulam Jilani Farahi. He said the two parties had visited the Justice Department to address a legal issue between them when one of the opponents opened fire, killing two and injuring a third. He said the killer had escaped but police were searching for him. Justice Department official Shafiqullah told Pajhwok Afghan News the two parties were recording their statements, when one person took out his pistol and opened fire at the opponents. *(Pajhwok)*

Kunar Appellant Court Official Shot Dead

ASADABAD - Daesh (Islamic State) militants gunned down the appellant court's executive head in eastern Kunar province on Saturday, an official said. Police spokesman Fareed Dehqan told Pajhwok Afghan News the shooting took place in the Dewa Gul area of Sawakai district in the morning. He said the court official named Khan Sherin was taken hostage by IS fighters before being killed. One of the people who tried to rescue the hostage was also gunned down. Abdull Ahad Haidari, the provincial attorney, confirmed the assassination of Gul Sherin. Daesh has so far said nothing regarding the incident. *(Pajhwok)*

Diesel, Sugar Prices Up, Gas, Petrol Stable in Kabul



KABUL - The prices of diesel and sugar increased but that other items remained unchanged during the outgoing week in Kabul, market sources said on Saturday. Abdul Hadi, a worker at Wazirabad filling station, told Pajhwok Afghan News the price of one liter of diesel increased from 47afis to 48afis but the rate of petrol was unchanged. Gas price also stayed stable. Sharif Ahmad, a gas dealer in Kolola Poshta area, confirmed the rate of gas remained steady at 60afis a kilogram. The rate of firewood was stable as well. A firewood seller in Kampany area, Sayyed Ahmad, sold 560kg of each unpeeled oak and cedar for 6,800afis, the same rate as last week's. " ...*(More on P4)...(18)*

Saudi Arabia, Pakistan & NATO Slam Kabul Attack



KABUL - Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, NATO and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) have condemned Thursday's deadly suicide attack in Kabul. At 14 people were killed and as many others wounded when a suicide bomber detonated his explosives near a wedding hall in Lab-i-Jar area in the 4th police district. The Saudi Ministry of Foreign Affairs condemned the suicide attack that resulted in the killing and injuring of a number of people, and offered " ...*(More on P4)...(17)*

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

 Aries You may be alarmed when you find yourself pulled into deep water today. Complex emotions swirl over your head as relationship dynamics intensify. The magnetic Scorpio New Moon charges your 8th House of Intimacy and Transformation, urging you to sink into your feelings rather than run away from them. Your fears arise when you realize you're not in control.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

 Taurus You might not understand the complicated needs of a friend or lover today, but you're drawn to the energy like a moth to a flame. The mysteries of the unknown are thoroughly enchanting and you're a more-than-willing participant in the magic. Although left to your own devices you may choose a simpler path.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

 Gemini Your physical wellbeing is intricately connected to your emotional and spiritual health. Although it's challenging to stick with a program, the benefits make it a worthwhile investment. The intense Scorpio New Moon lands in your 6th House of Logistics, motivating you to adopt a new routine and adhere to it. Don't be overly concerned if you choose a difficult path.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

 Cancer Allowing others in can be challenging now, especially if you feel emotionally self-sufficient. The evocative Scorpio New Moon falls in your 5th House of Creativity, encouraging you to express your passion through an artistic endeavor. Although you are quite serious about your goals today, you don't want to minimize the role.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

 Leo You are at the threshold of change and you know you can't go back to the way things were. But others can't see the transformation yet because it's taking place within your brain rather than in the world. In fact, the Scorpio New Moon plants a seed of intention in your 4th House of Roots, ensuring that the magic initially occurs hidden beneath the ground.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sept 22)

 Virgo Everything and everyone might seem too intense today. Passionate conversations about issues basic to your very existence are prompted by the Scorpio New Moon as it energizes your 3rd House of Communication. Even trivial interactions can become critical when you believe you're in the middle of a life or death situation. Although your survival is not in question now, you may be required to let certain patterns die so new ones can grow in their place.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

 Libra You are deeply committed to living in harmony with your values now. In fact, the Scorpio New Moon intensifies your 2nd House of Self-Esteem, motivating you to reevaluate the direction of your life and make corrections to your trajectory as needed. But your current career fixation does not involve making any changes today.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

 Scorpio Creating a bucket list for each month of the year is a valuable exercise that teaches you about the efficacy of your decisions, both the good and the bad. Meanwhile, the passionate Scorpio New Moon validates your 1st House of Self, making it doubly important to check in with your heart to reassess your personal aspirations.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

 Sagittarius Your life is on the launch pad again but this time the rocket ship could actually reach escape velocity. The Scorpio New Moon reinforces your 12th House of Destiny, sending off a ripple of synchronicities while preparing you for an intervention by the "Flying Fickle Finger of Fate." But it's dangerous to jump to outrageous conclusions, especially once the Moon flies into optimistic Sagittarius.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

 Capricorn Your social network -- both online and offline -- is an anchor that prevents you from drifting aimlessly into space now. The passionate Scorpio New Moon enhances your 11th House of Community, inspiring you to raise the stakes in your interactions with others. You might even grow possessive of a particular friend, only to find that he or she isn't interested in analyzing.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

 Aquarius You are strangely quiet today, but your presence seems larger than life to others. The unrelenting Scorpio New Moon concentrates the cosmic energy in your 10th House of Status, but the most profound transformations are occurring out of everyone else's sight. Nevertheless, everything will become obvious once you put your action plan into motion.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

 Pisces You might be feeling dissatisfied with your current lot in life today, and you're eager to seize every intriguing opportunity that passes your way. The powerful Scorpio New Moon triggers your 9th House of Big Ideas, connecting your emotions with far-reaching plans. You won't be happy until you have exceeded your wildest dreams. However, anything seems possible now, especially because you know that reality is molded.

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-60 indicating starting positions for clues.

Across
1. Corridors, 6. Lots, 10. Where the sun rises, 14. Expect, 15. Murres, 16. Back of the neck, 17. Appalling, 19. Tall woody plant, 20. Acid neutralizer, 21. A state of SW India, 22. Low, flat land, 23. Set of principles, 25. Parental sisters, 26. Throat-clearing sound, 30. If not, 32. Ten Commandments, 35. Spiny ant eater, 39. Remove the claws, 40. Listener, 41. Roomette, 43. Have, 44. Felt hat, 46. Distribute, 47. Award, 50. Confederate States, 53. Relating to urine, 54. Nourished, 55. Tough going, 60. Lampblack, 61. Incontrovertibly, 63. Cocoyam, 64. Flower stalk, 65. Sing softly, 66. Clairvoyant, 67. Feudal worker, 68. Building addition,
Down
1. Laugh, 2. Absent Without Leave, 3. Frolic, 4. Former Italian currency, 5. Attendance counter, 6. Chap, 7. Beginning, 8. An opera glass, 9. Epic, 10. Zeal, 11. Moses' brother, 12. Hardy wheat, 13. Abounds, 18. Hale, 24. Embrace, 25. Fire residues, 26. Contributes, 27. Part of a foot, 28. Behold, in old Rome, 29. Criminal, 31. Reflected sound, 33. Continuation of the coat collar, 34. Was indebted, 36. To endure (archaic), 37. Where a bird lives, 38. Backside, 42. Rats, 43. Latin for "Peace", 45. Past participle of "Ride", 47. Contemplates, 48. Wear away, 49. Thermionic tube, 51. Charged particle, 52. Genus of heath, 54. Circuit breaker, 56. "Phoey!", 57. Black, in poetry 58. vera, 59. Wildcat, 62. An uncle,

Yesterday's Solution
EDDY ABAFIT AFRO
RARE GUMIN COED
HONOCLEISIT FRIE
CEO AUGHT RIFFS
ASPERSE URINE
BEE SLANGTLY
SHOD THING TOE
EARN SHOUT VEGA
LIT SHEWS DODOS
FLECTION PEW
NEAPS MAIN SAIRD
ATTAR OVALS NEE
IRIS APOPLECTIC
DINE CHILT PINK
EGGS TYPED TICES
adore, alone, beach, be-long, blame, blue, catch crook, dream, easel, rase feed, field, guess, guide intentional, jargon, known, made, model neap, pans, patent, person, place, quake r e -peat, replay, return

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