

Pressure Tactics: Taliban Cut Power Supply to Faryab



MAIMANA - Taliban militants have cut electricity supply to the capital and four districts of northwestern Faryab province, depriving 57,000 families of the facility.

Qari Wakil, Taliban chief for Khwaja Sabzposh district, told Pajhwok Afghan News they had cut power supply to Maimana, the provincial capital, and Pashtunkot, Khwaja Sabzposh, Sherin Tagab and

Dawlatabad districts. He said the electricity would remain off until 'three residents' of the area were released by the National Directorate of Security (NDS). ...*(More on P4)...(15)*

Passports Being Distributed to Afghans in Saudi Arabia

KABUL - Afghan citizens previously traveled on Pakistani passports to Saudi Arabia are being distributed Afghan passports, the Afghan embassy in Riyadh said on Wednesday.

In a statement, the Afghan diplomatic mission thanked Saudi King Khadim-ul-Harain Sharifain Salman Al Saud for cooperation in this regard.

The statement said the distribution of passports to Afghans was made possible as result of efforts by President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani and officials of the Foreign Ministry.

Afghans who in the past used Pakistani documents will now have Afghan identity papers with the distribution of passports to them.

The process would start from November 22, the statement said. According to the Work and Social Affairs Ministry, currently 300,000 Afghans are working in Saudi Arabia.

Most of Afghans went to Saudi from Pakistan on Pakistani passports. At that time, Saudi Arabia denied visas to Afghan citizens. (Pajhwok)

Wardak PC Election Raises Hope Among Women



KABUL - Insecurity and negative traditions have a negative impact on women's lives in central Maidan Wardak province, but the election of three women to lead the Provincial Council has raised hope for a positive change.

For the first time in Afghanistan, three women were elected to top administrative posts by the Provincial Council of Maidan Wardak province on Saturday. The elected provincial public representatives voted on Saturday to elect the council's new administrative board. The 15-member council elected all three female members in the body as head, deputy head and secretary.

According to Maidan Wardak media office, Halima Askari and Dr. Asmatullah Asim vied for the slot of the council's head while Nasifa Selai Wardak and Sharifullah Hotak eyed the deputy head position.

Halima Askari collected nine votes from the present 13 members, winning the contest while Selai Wardak obtained eight votes and was elected as deputy head.

Hajira Mirzai was elected unopposed as secretary of the provincial council. All members of the council voted for Mirzai.

According to the Independent Directorate of Local Governance (IDLG), 37 percent of candidates making it to the provincial council leadership board were women in this year's elections.

Maidan Wardak Women's Affairs Director Wahida Khkuli says women face many problems in the province, but their situation is improving with the passage of time. ...*(More on P4)...(19)*

Border Policeman Among 5 Killed in Nangarhar Clashes

JALALABAD - Border policeman was killed and three others wounded during a clash, while four Daesh or Islamic State militants have been killed in eastern Nangarhar province, an official said on Wednesday.

Police spokesman Hazrat Hussain Mashriqiwal told Pajhwok Afghan News the clash erupted when militants ambushed security forces in Batikot district on Tuesday night.

He said both sides have suffered no casualties, as reinforcement arrived and repulsed militants attack. But, a credible source on the condition of anonymity, said one border policeman was killed, another one along with two ANA soldiers wounded and pick-up vehicle belonging security forces destroyed. Batikot district chief ...*(More on P4)...(16)*

3 Injured in Clash Over Ghazni PC Head Election

GHAZNI CITY - An armed clash over the election of the provincial council head in southern Ghazni province left three people injured on Wednesday, an official said.

A source in the provincial council office, wishing anonymity, told Pajhwok Afghan News the clash occurred inside the council building at about 2pm today.

He said three individuals suffered bullet injuries in the conflict before police reached the area and brought the situation under control.

The clash occurred when election between PC members Nasir Ahmad Faqiri and Latifi Akbari was ongoing for the slot of the provincial council chairmanship. He said one of the injured was a bodyguard of Faqiri. ...*(More on P4)...(17)*

Commanders Among 16 Militants Killed in Maidan Wardak



KABUL - Sixteen Taliban fighters including several commanders have been killed in a clearing operation in central Maidan Wardak province, police said on Wednesday.

Afghan police, army, special forces and commandos took part in Tuesday's offensive, a statement from the provincial police headquarters said.

Taliban commanders Qari Yousof, Qari Mustafa and Qari Farid, all trained in neighbouring Pakistan, were among the dead, the police statement said. At least three militants were seriously wounded. During the operation, Alikel, Zamni, Zeyolat, Ismailkhel, Mohammad Noorkhel and Dar-i-Kuhna Khomar villages were purged of insurgents. (Pajhwok)

4 More Drug Factories Bombed in Helmand

LASHKARGAH - US forces for a second time bombed another four narcotics making factories of Taliban militants in southern Helmand province, the provincial government said on Wednesday, but the rebels said they owned no such facilities.

The governor's house of Helmand province in a statement said the American forces targeted four more Taliban drugs factories in Bahramcha area of Desho district last night and a key centre of the insurgents.

The statement said the four factories and drugs inside were ...*(More on P4)...(18)*



Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



Aries Every hill you see is another potential mountain to climb, just like every social engagement is an opportunity to create and share new experiences. You perceive the world as a series of challenges and adventures today, each waiting for your participation to bring it to life.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



Taurus Your expectations for the day are likely based on practical considerations. However, there are not-so-normal circumstances developing behind the scenes that could alter the storyline in a moment. Sometimes you make things worse by resisting change, especially when you're not in control of it.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



Gemini Hanging out with friends and family isn't necessarily the most relaxing thing in the world today, but it will be fun and exciting nonetheless. Although discussions about people, world events and politics can stir conflict, you have the sense to know when not to push other people's buttons now. Nevertheless, it's fascinating what you learn about someone you thought you knew well.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



Cancer Taking care of all your chores in the morning frees you to participate in a spontaneous event later on. Although unforeseen obstacles may slow your progress today, your perseverance enables you to power through on schedule. However, the cosmos is working on an agenda of its own and might present you with an out-of-the-blue proposition before the day is out.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



Leo You're looking forward to a day of fun and frivolity, but you also have a list of obligations to fulfill. Unfortunately, you may struggle with finding an easy balance between your social inclinations and your mundane responsibilities. Keep in mind it's not an either/or proposition; work and play can go hand in hand.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)



Virgo You are buzzing along in your comfort zone where everything goes just as you imagined. Although you rely heavily on your agendas and schedules, there are times when it's wiser to set them aside. A change in the flow of events can be upsetting at first today, but you quickly see that the potential for positive experiences is higher than ever. Don't let your love of logistics stand in the way of a wonderful day. Flexibility is your friend.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



Libra Naturally, you want everyone to feel special today, but sometimes playing the role of universal host just adds stress to your life. Fortunately, your inner strategist understands the complexities of different people's needs. However, you're insistent that they can be brought together to share a common experience in the name of camaraderie.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



Scorpio You can't help but spend time tripping through your personal history today. Nostalgic walks down Memory Lane can be nourishing to your soul, but they also take their toll when you stumble on a recollection that you wish never happened. Retelling stories about old events among friends and family could be healing as long as they don't become a substitute for what's occurring in the present moment.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



Sagittarius Your philosophical nature comes across strongly today as you share your dreams. But those who know you well are very familiar with your hopeful stories about your plans for the future. Nevertheless, they support you as you imagine the best possible scenarios out loud. Instead of watching your dreams rise and fall, pick one that's a recurring fantasy and seriously consider what you need to do to make it come true.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



Capricorn You're not a fan of uncertainty, yet you're often the first to respond in a positive manner when something unexpected happens. If circumstances beyond your control disrupt your schedule, you have an opportunity to step in and save the day. Your organizational skills are well-known, and people tend to trust your judgment when it comes to coordinating lots of variables.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)



Aquarius Although you might be restless as you anticipate a day that already has too much structure, things can transform in a flash. Hidden emotional tension bursts a bubble of containment like lightning striking the ground. You may feel the thrill of freedom when you realize the truth has been exposed and you are liberated from a monotonous fate.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



Pisces There is a specific place for you in the cosmic scheme of things today. It's as if your role is already defined and all you need to do is show up and play the part. However, it may seem as if someone has tinkered with the script and the scene you're now in isn't the one you rehearsed over and over. Throw away your lines; you don't need them anymore. Your new assignment is all about spontaneity as you make it up as you go along.

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-63 indicating starting points for clues.

Horoscope section containing 'Across' and 'Down' clues for a crossword puzzle, along with 'Yesterday's Solution' and a grid of letters.

Grid of letters for a word search puzzle, with the words 'CORPORATE', 'UREIUQH', 'ORESTAU', 'ANTCV', 'METHOD', 'ROWAMB', 'PWAWEI', 'VEREAIK', 'AOIUPS', 'ETRNEXD', 'NPNHAN', 'NUALGTI', 'IZCHECK', 'GLUDUF', 'OMIDD', 'LERLSERF', 'NYEYTP', 'MEIFLEE', 'SYONNA', 'XGVWTR', 'HREQUI', 'SITIONE', 'ICEVE', 'RYTHINGN', 'PANIAL', 'PXEHTT'.