

Afghanistan to Prove Mettle in World Cup: Stanikzai

KABUL - Afghanistan will prove their mettle in next year's International Cricket Council World Cup in England, hopes a senior board official.

"Afghanistan was the second best team in the recent Asia Cup. We dominated all the other sides and yet we did not reach the final," the Afghanistan Cricket Board's chief executive said.

In interview published in Gulf News on Monday, Shafiq Stanikzai predicted Afghanistan could be among the favourites for the World Cup to be played in England next year.

Cricket in all forms was headed in the right direction in his country, the ACB chief claimed, insisting that his side had already showcased its strength in T20 cricket and ODIs.

"Now, we need to invest some time and energy in Test cricket and raise our level there as well ...We need more investment in the longer version of the game.

"We played a Test match against India and that was a good learning curve for us. No doubt, we were defeated heavily, but we are taking a lot of positives out of that result."

Afghanistan played their maiden Test match in Bengaluru in mid-June when the hosts pulled off a massive win by an innings and 262 runs in less than two days.

In an attempt to help the national team get exposure and experience, the ACB plans matches against Zimbabwe, West Indies, Australia and possibly England.

"We have been charting our course in the world of international cricket. You can be sure that Afghanistan will be a force to reckon with in the next three to four years in ...*(More on P4)...(8)*



Death Toll Rises to 8 in Lashkargah Explosion

LASHKARGAH - The blast happened at Saleh Mohammad Achakzai's campaign office in the city. Officials confirmed he was killed in the incident.

Helmand officials have confirmed the death toll has risen to eight in the Lashkargah explosion inside an election campaign office in the city.

Helmand governor's media office said among those killed was the parliamentary election candidate, Saleh Mohammad Achakzai.

The explosion took place in PD1 in the city. Eleven people were also wounded.

According to the media office the casualty toll could rise. Officials also said it was not yet clear whether it was a suicide bomber or an IED.

So far no group, including the Taliban, has claimed responsibility. *(Tolo news)*

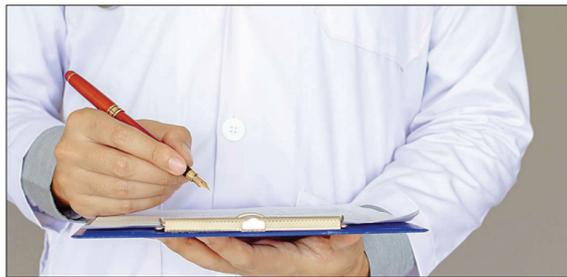


3000-Years-Old Sushruta Technique Helped Reconstruct Afghan Woman's Nose

MUMBAI - Shot at the age of 24, Shamsa (name changed) suffered a gunshot on her nose that took away the ability to breathe and smell. A gunshot victim from Afghanistan though survived the attack but lost her self-confidence to interact with the people.

With shattered dreams, Shamsa in agreement with her family decided to get a plastic surgery of the nose. After much thought, the family travelled all the way to India and after successful nose reconstruction surgery, her life is eventually back on the track.

Doctors in India successfully reconstructed her nose using a 3,000 years old technique which



was described by Sushruta- an ancient Indian physician.

Commenting on his unique surgical approach Dr Ajaya Kashyap, Medical Director, KAS Medical Centre and MedSpa said, "In this particular case, I took skin from Shamsa's cheeks for the surgery and nose reconstruction, following the techniques described by Sushruta."

The technique used by Dr Kashyap in her ...*(More on P4)...(9)*

New Afghan Diplomat Takes Charge in Peshawar

PESHAWAR - Muhammad Hashim Niazi has taken up his assignment as new Afghan consul-general (CG) in Peshawar, the capital of Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.

His appointment in Peshawar was an important decision on helping the Afghan refugees living in Pakistan, the diplomat was quoted as saying by the Business Recorder.

He promised fully supporting Afghans and Pakistanis living both side of the border and helping resolve their visa-related problems.

He assumed charge of office on Monday. *(Pajhwok)*



NPC Approves 21 Contracts Worth Nearly 4.9b Afs

KABUL - The National Procurement Commission (NPC) has approved 21 contracts worth around 4.9 billion afghanis, a statement from the Presidential Palace said on Tuesday.

The contracts were signed during a NPC meeting chaired by President Ashraf Ghani at his office on Monday evening, the statement said.

The meeting approved a contract for construction of a seven-kilometer portion of the Kabul-Logar highway from the Logar fuel sta-

tion to Chah Tokharan area. Another contract was about construction a 17.4-kilometer road in Mazar-i-Sharif, the capital of northern Balkh province.

The meeting also approved a contract for construction of a road from Khoshi district till Mohammad Agha district of Logar province.

The meeting approve provision of two types of fuel for maintenance of the Salang highways, shifting of 100,000 metric wheat belonging to the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and ...*(More on P4)...(10)*



Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



There's a deep longing to be comforted and reassured, Aries. You may want nothing more than for someone fix you some warm, homemade soup. If this is the case, feel free to call and ask a good friend to come over. Don't continue to play the part of the strong, independent one if this isn't the way you feel. If you aren't honest about your needs.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



You may feel like you desperately need something, Taurus, yet you're unsure as to what it is exactly. Someone close to you may be trying to fit the missing puzzle piece into place, but this may be next to impossible if it's unclear which piece is actually missing. This difficult situation may lead to frustration if you aren't careful. Feel free to admit that you feel powerless.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



You may want to remedy every situation by talking things out or taking some sort of action, Gemini. Be careful of making any sudden moves before you really understand what you're feeling. One minute you may be full of exuberance and ready to launch into a new project, but once you start moving forward, you're suddenly feeling insecure.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



Compliments are apt to feel like gold to you, Cancer. There's nothing you need more than love and affection on a day like this. Beware that you may end up as putty in the hands of whoever showers you with flattery. You may also resent this need for attention and not be willing to receive it graciously. This isn't the right attitude.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



If you find that there's tension in a close relationship, you may get the feeling that this isn't the right partner for you, Leo. Don't automatically assume that the problem lies in your partner. Difficult situations involving the need for love and affection are likely to emerge regardless of the situation or the company.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)



When tension builds, your sense of security is likely to falter, Virgo. You may have a hard time dealing with other people. You could be tempted to turn to food or alcohol for inner nourishment. Curing emotional needs by indulging this way may temper your ailment for a while, but it isn't the solution to the overall problem. Work out the bugs with the people involved, and don't try to do it on an empty stomach.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



You might have difficulty expressing your needs, Libra. The bottom line is that there's no right or wrong way, although it may be difficult to see this on a day like today. Deep-seated insecurity may make expressing yourself difficult. At a time when you feel like you should politely take things in, you really may be feeling like you want to run from the people around you.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



Although you may find it hard to express yourself in some ways, Scorpio, the one avenue that's completely wide open today is art. Difficult tension is laced with emotional insecurity, making it hard for you to express your feelings. If you feel that this is the case, find some other means of expressing these emotions. A large canvas and some paints will work quite nicely.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



You might be feeling rather insecure when it comes to your peace of mind, Sagittarius. Because of the insecurity, it may seem like your relationships are on the rocks. At the same time, having problems in your relationships is making you less likely to trust these close partners with your insecure feelings. Talking about your emotions in an honest manner will help you break out of this difficult situation.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



You may feel more reserved than usual, Capricorn, especially when it comes to romantic relationships. You may be feeling apprehensive about expressing yourself fully, even in the most intimate situations. Be careful about sending messages that suggest that you don't want to be around others. People are apt to think they're to blame for your reluctance.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

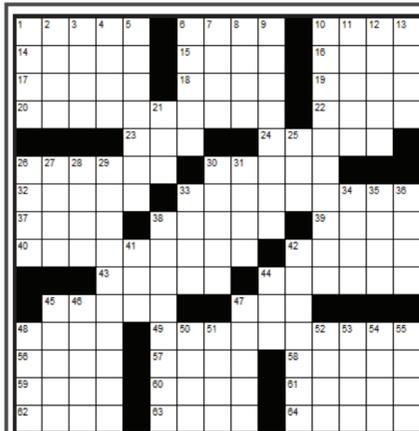


Be careful about being too boisterous and chipper around people who don't exactly feel the same way, Aquarius. Be sensitive to other people's feelings, and don't make jokes that are too harsh for the occasion. No one appreciates a wise guy. There's a somber mood to the day that's likely to form a dark cloud by late afternoon.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



Your mood should be quite good for the most part, Pisces, but there's apt to be some tension in your relationships. Romantic endeavors aren't exactly in your favor now, so don't force an issue that seems too difficult to resolve. Find comfort in your internal warmth. By taking the time to nurture yourself, you will inevitably have more love to give to the people around you.



Across

- Chinese "bear", 6. What we sleep on, 10. Widespread, 14. Heavenly hunter, 15. Unusual, 16. Pitcher, 17. Backward-looking, 18. End ___, 19. Back of the neck, 20. Supervisor
- Found in a cafeteria, 23. Request, 24. Disney mermaid, 26. Unfurl, 30. Floral leaf
- Thick, 33. A type of perfume, 37. Modify, 38. Injure, 39. It ebbs and flows, 40. Bemis, 42. Melodies, 43. Female domestics, 44. Girdle, 45. Self-reproach, 47. Vagrant
- Stars, 49. Secondary, 56. Pause, 57. Cozy corner, 58. Home, 59. Against
- Way in, 61. Pig sounds, 62. Pear variety, 63. Outbuilding, 64. Seize,

Down

- Harbor, 2. Region, 3. Pesky insects, 4. Misfit, 5. Oddity, 6. Snippy, 7. Where the sun rises, 8. To endure (archaic), 9. Saw-toothed, 10. Breathing apparatus, 11. Cognizant, 12. Flower part, 13. 3
- American Sign Language, 25. Uncooked, 26. Previously owned, 27. Connecting point, 28. Wreckage, 29. Expecting the best, 30. Sulks, 31. Feudal worker, 33. Street
- Cans, 35. Border, 36. A musical pause, 38. Products of an author
- Woman, 42. In some way, 44. Rechewed food, 45. Bird poop, 46. Pieces, 47. Bicycled, 48. Q-Tip, 50. Ark builder, 51. Pigeon's home, 52. French for "Black", 53. Melody, 54. Demands, 55. "___ we forget",,

Yesterday's Solution



fasten grill, horseplay, lasso, lectern, leer lets, metes, motes nasty, ounce, purpose, rotor, round seal seat, seep, sell, space star, studio, taint,

