

# Power Pylons Yet to be Fixed

KABUL/PUL-I-KHUMRI - The Ministry of Interior (MoI) on Wednesday said the Dand-i-Shahabuddin area of northern Baghlan province, where power pylons were blown up, had been cleared of the insurgents. MoI spokesman Seddiq Seddiqi wrote on his Facebook account special police units and Afghan National Army (ANA) commandos had purged the area on the outskirts of Pul-i-Khumri, paving the ground for repairing the power pylons. Taliban have already promised allowing the repair of the power transmission line if an ongoing operation in Dand-i-Ghori is stopped. Some reports say a second pylon was also recently destroyed in the area. Residents of Kabul, heavily reliant on



electricity imported from Turkmenistan, have suffered a lot due to the resultant blackout. The pylon were blown up the pylon on the outskirts of Pul-i-Khumri nearly two weeks back. Baghlan police spokesman, Zabihullah Shuja, told Pajhwok Afghan News the area was under security forces' control, but the militants were still firing at them from remote 'bases. He said sporadic clashes were still underway in Dand-i-Shahabuddin, but police and commandos were closing in on the rebels. Efforts were underway to facilitate the early repair of the pylons, Shuja added. A day earlier, ABS spokesman Wahidullah Tahwidi told... (More on P4)... (10)

# Maimana Explosion Claims 2 Lives, Leaves a Dozen Injured

MAIMANA - Two civilians were killed and 12 others injured in a bomb blast in Maimana, the capital of northwestern Faryab province, on Wednesday, an official said. The bomb attached to a bicycle went off in front of the Azizi Bank branch in the provincial capital at around 10:15am. A security official, who wished not to be named, told Pajhwok Afghan News that two people were killed and 12 others wounded in the blast.

This scribe saw three seriously injured civilians shifted by police to hospital. Faryab Public Health Director Dr. Maroof Samar said a seven years old child was also among the wounded. The health condition of one of an elderly man was also critical, he added. Mohammad Alam, one of the wounded evacuated to the Afghan-Turk hospital, said: "I was passing through the area when the explosion occurred. I fell to the... (More on P4)... (11)

# Afghan Sentenced to a Year in Prison by Armenian Court

KABUL - Afghan citizen has been sentenced to one year in jail for entering Armenia illegally, a news sited reported on Wednesday. Abdul Salam Mohammad Rahimi was sentenced by an Armenian court after he confessed to crossing unlawfully into the country. The case was tried in a speedy manner as the defendant said in his petition he was repentant for the crime he had committed, NEWS.am reported. According to the report, indictment



papers show Rahimien- country from Turkey on Au- tered the eastern European gust 4, 2015. (Pajhwok)

# Notorious Taliban Commander Held in Paktika

KABUL - Security officials have arrested the Taliban notorious commander in woman dress in the Barmal district of southeastern Paktika province, the spy-service of the country said on Wednesday. A statement from the National Directorate of Security (NDS) said the detained Commander Hazrat Ali was the Taliban insurgency chief operator in the locality. One Kalashnikov and two hand grenades were recovered from Ali, the statement said. NDS released a video clip also in this regard. Taliban Spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid, however, rejected the claim saying no Taliban commander has been arrested in Barmal district of Paktika. (Pajhwok)

# 51 Suspected Falconers Land in Herat

KABUL - Sources on Tuesday told TOLONews that a group of 51 foreign nationals flew in to Herat airport and immediately left for Farah province, under heavy protection. The foreigners are believed to be falconers. Among the group were Arab, Pakistani, Nepalese and Iranians. According to sources the foreigners, suspected of being bird hunters, along with about 100 trained birds of prey, were escorted under tight security from Herat airport to Fa-



rah province. The falconers, along with their staff, landed at Herat airport on Tuesday amid a heavy security presence of Afghan security forces. According to Mohammad Azim Azimi, a Herat air-

# Dozens of Afghan Soldiers and Police Killed in Helmand

LASHKARGAH - Dozens of Afghan soldiers and policemen have been killed in the southern province of Helmand since Sunday as the Taliban presses an offensive in one of its heartlands, officials said. Three local officials, who all spoke on condition of anonymity because they have been ordered not to talk about casualty figures, said 25 soldiers and 27 policemen had been killed in separate incidents in the province. Afghan security forces, fighting largely alone since the withdrawal of international forces in 2014, have been



struggling for months to hold back the insurgency in Helmand, where the Taliban inflicted hundreds of casualties on NATO troops during years of fighting. At least 11,000 civilians were killed or wounded in Af-

# 2 Injured, as Many Shops Gutted as Gas Cylinder Catches Fire

KABUL - Two people were injured and as many shops gutted in a fire that erupted in the Taimani area of the capital Kabul on Wednesday, an eyewitness said. The fire that took place 7:50am was linked to the carelessness of a gas-selling shopkeeper, said Nazir Ahmad, whose hands were burnt in the incident. He told Pajhwok Afghan News: "I came here to refill my gas cylinder. The shopkeeper was checking a gas bal-



loon with a cigarette lighter. Suddenly one gas cylinder caught fire." Ahmad said his car, parked beside the shop, was also partially damaged as result of the ex-

# Afghan Designer Hopes to Introduce Afghanistan's Culture to the World

KABUL - Afghan cloth designer Ajmal Haqiqi has high hopes for his label and is already sending his designs abroad. He said he sends his products with their Afghan label to Europe and America in a bid to introduce his country's culture to the world. Haqiqi, who is both a designer and model, has a small shop in Kabul where he has included different styles of clothing and other products that represent Afghan culture. "I started my work six years ago with the aim of reviving the Afghan culture and introduce it to the world," he said. He said many Afghans who live in Europe and America order from him - especially for outfits for weddings and other events. (Tolonews)

## Outlook Horoscope

### Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



Although you wake up ready to take on the world, it may be smarter to retreat for a while today so you can map out your strategy for success. Reevaluating your goals and considering the consequences of your actions in advance saves you from having to apologize later. But don't just withdraw to make an entirely new battle plan. If you throw in the towel without trying.

### Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



You might prefer to remain quiet today, but feel pressured to respond to a situation you would rather avoid. You know that engaging in a conflict won't lead to a solution and you're reticent to waste your time on a course of action that only makes matters worse. Find a way to stand your ground while still staying on the sidelines of the unfolding drama.

### Gemini (May 21-June 20)



You could get so swept up in the emotional dynamics of the present moment that you temporarily forget your own goals for the day. Unfortunately, your current sense of insecurity might provoke you to argue with someone just to prove that you are right. Thankfully, you have a choice to engage or not to engage today, whether you realize it or not. Take several deep breaths to reconnect with your center of gravity before you find yourself.

### Cancer (June 21-July 20)



Your heightened sensitivity is attuned to the possibility of rejection, prompting you to go on the attack to fend off an unpleasant interaction before it happens. The Moon's return to your nurturing sign brings your tenderness right up to the surface. However, your sharp words and unnecessary criticism can precipitate the very situation you are trying to avoid.

### Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



Your time for strategizing is swiftly coming to an end and you feel like you must do something right away. Unfortunately, acting too quickly now reveals weakness instead of demonstrating strength. It's more prudent to methodically work toward your goals than to panic and blame someone else for your current lack of progress.

### Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)



You may have all the details worked out to perfection on a strategy that involves others today. Nevertheless, managing all the interpersonal dynamics might become too much to handle. You're not happy because everyone seems to be operating with different interests and your time is running out. Address everyone's concerns the best you can to prevent angry words being spoken for the wrong reasons.

### Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



Maintaining harmony in a relationship can be a struggle today, especially if you have the urge to fight or take flight. You want to stand up for your truth, but can't help but wonder if a confrontation will solve anything at all. Avoiding a potential conflict seems to be a wise solution, but nothing will change if you take the easy way out. Instead of attempting to fix the problem, just open your heart and listen to what others are saying.

### Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



You're riding a powerful surge of cosmic energy while your key planet Mars receives a creative boost from clever Mercury. Although you may believe that your passion is worth defending today, your current subjectivity warps your perspective so you can't see what's really happening in a close relationship. Instead of raising the ante in a battle of words, just shake hands and agree to disagree.

### Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



You're not feeling like your optimistic self while pleasure-seeking Venus runs into sobering Saturn. It seems like someone chose to take advantage of your sense of loyalty, but now you can see the truth. But having a clear grasp of the situation doesn't make life easier today, because if you tell others what you discovered they might not like what you have to say. Your intentions are honorable, but you could stir up a hornet's nest anyhow.

### Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



A personal relationship may grow more stressful today, especially if you believe you were forced into an untenable position. You aren't interested in a quick fix now; you desperately want to get to the source of the problem and initiate change that will lead to permanent results. Unfortunately, resolution is more complicated if you automatically assume your way is the right way.

### Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)



You might take your argument so far today that you upset someone who isn't on the same page as you. Hopefully, you're wise enough to accept the fact that two people can react very differently to the same situation without it turning into a major drama. There's nothing to be gained by engaging in a fight to the finish. If you adopt an all-or-nothing position, everyone will end up a loser.

### Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



You can't understand why everyone must be so vocal about their feelings today. Even if a close friend or family member is shouting, you may prefer to keep your anger to yourself or share your emotions quietly with someone you trust. Nevertheless, your judgment might be a little off now, so be smart and don't reveal too many secrets. You can always say more later on, but there's no way to hit the delete key to take back what you already said.



### Across

1. Dogs of a dwarf breed, 5. Ancient Greek marketplace, 10. Small island, 14. Rectum, 15. Acted presumptuously, 16. Principal, 17. Temporarily incapable of speaking, 19. Implored, 20. "the season to be jolly", 21. Serf, 22. Accomplishments, 23. Responses, 25. Crucifixes, 27. Utilize, 28. Wizard, 31. Explosion, 34. Breasts (slang), 35. Lyric poem, 36. Klut's cry, 37. Inner surface of hands, 38. Fizzy drink, 39. Since, 40. Plateaux, 41. The quality of being funny, 42. Refinisher, 44. Prohibit, 45. A monotonous hum, 46. Biggest, 50. Prickle, 52. Makes changes to, 54. "Eureka!", 55. Fit, 56. Painkiller, 58. Murres, 59. Inscribed pillar, 60. Lady's escort, 61. Religious offshoot, 62. Type of poplar tree, 63. 1 1 1 1.

### Down

1. Noodles, 2. Remove the pins from, 3. Estimate, 4. South southeast, 5. Hold, 6. Vexes, 7. Chocolate cookie, 8. Lavatories, 9. Commercials, 10. Hinder, 11. Showroom, 12. Mised, 13. Terminates, 18. Thorax, 22. Physicians, 24. Wimp, 26. Spheres, 28. Pertaining to the Sun, 29. Cocoyam, 30. Back, 31. Wild hog, 32. Balcony section, 33. Pontifical, 34. Cellars, 37. South American country, 38. Vocalized musically, 40. Eve's opposite, 41. Abrasive, 43. Menace, 44. Stuffing, 46. Fine thread, 47. Consumed, 48. Gleam, 49. Sensitivities, 50. As a result, 51. Rabbit, 53. Very intense, 56. An Old Testament king, 57. Conceit.

### Yesterday's Solution

antler, badger, bound, brick, collapse, confuse, crease, decade, deer, devoid, esteem, flask, flit, freeze, guide, lads, logs, mere, nomad, octagon, perfect, provision, rarity, regret, replace, rules, sees, semester, stark, title, trance, trial, understand, value.

