Kabul Gathering Demands Halts to Civilian Casualties

Despite Domestic Needs, Medicinal Plants are Exported

KABUL - Owners of pharmaceutical companies are concerned at the government’s inattention to the sector, saying medicinal low-price herbs are exported due to lack of facilities at home. Fazal Ahmad, head of the Afghan Atmaan Company told Pajhwok Afghan News yesterday that in Afghanistan, medicinal herbs were concerned about the government’s negligence.

More than 1,400 types of medicinal plants grow in Afghanistan but due to lack of facilities, they were exported to India, Pakistan, Iran and United Arab Emirates. Per day, the farmers explained Ahmad said war had negatively affected the growth of medicinal plants, as they could be hardly identified in many areas of the country. “Plants growing in mountains are of higher quality than those cultivated on farms, because mountainous herbs are completely natural,” he continued.

Popular medicinal plants in Afghanistan, include shirst baya (byssus), kashqay (black), algeri-kefal (yellow sweet clover) dandelion (kalon) and kasrut (harmolin pickle). But people in rural areas with low income brought those plants at cheap price and sold them to traders in big cities, he cited. According to Ahmad, poor people would get job opportunities if medicinal plants are properly grown in mountainous areas of Afghanistan.

“Seven years, we have been working but no one has so far been asked about problems we have been facing, or what our needs are,” he complained.

“Rabbits, vegetables, quality beverages and juices without gas and sugar is a highly bizarre way,” he added, saying the company produced more than 50 types of products to protect public health (Pajhwok)

KABUL - Spokesmen at a gathering in Kabul on Monday said airstrikes and night raids often targeted civilian casualties, which had violated existing laws between the government and the masses.

A civil society activist and tribal elders attended the gathering titled “Peace, ongoing brutality, civilian casualties, targeted killings and impossible gouvernemt”. Most of the participants believed civilian casualties had significantly increased over the last few years. Dr. Zainudin Kamal, a tribal elder from Maidan Wardak province said people often raised their voices to ask local and foreign forces to take care of civilians while conducting operations. However, people’s voices were ignored and the people of Maidan Wardak often fell victim to airstrikes and night raids.

“The enemy will believe like enemies but we want to ask the government about its behavior. Most of the people of Maidan Wardak often fell victim to airstrikes and night raids, he added. (Pajhwok)

3 Women, As Many Children Injured in Nangarhar Bombing

HERAT - At least two children were killed in a clash between government forces and Taliban militants, the police said Monday. The officials said on Monday that an IED explo-sives placed in front of Dr. Faridi’s Laboratory in Kamran market. There has been no claim of responsibility from the Taliban. (Pajhwok)

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Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 21-Apr. 20)

A relationship may have recently formed which might have you in a diffi-cult time today. Aries, you could be removed from a situation you’re not comfortable in. You might not be sure about which way to proceed. It’s not right. This isn’t the day to believe everything you hear. Consider the options. (Pajhwok)

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

You might be feeling somewhat out of sorts today. Your health is probably stressed and in need of rest. Work concerns could also be causing con-cern. You might have a lot of tasks to do that could be stressful. Maybe you shouldn’t start today at all. Perhaps you need to take the day off to rest and then tackle it tomorrow.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Recent successes have you feeling es-timated positively on your past work. You may have to make some choices regarding your activities, especially your money and family. You may have a lot of interests that all mean a lot to you, which makes it difficult to make choices. Don’t try to com-promise today. Your mind is a bit bewildered. Wait a few days and then consider your options.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

A letter may arrive from somewhere in the past, resulting in the prospect of an unexpected surprise. Cancer, you might be a secondary as to what to do about it. Consider your options and then think seriously about what you want to do.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)

Travel plans you might have considered, Leo, you may have a number of possi-bilities in mind, and all seem equally attractive. It probably isn’t time to make the decision for you. You may have to face decisions regarding education. You are probably going to have to make a choice, but today isn’t the day to do it. Consideration is likely to be tricky.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

New earning or investment possibilities could have you in a quandary over which is the best for you, Virgo. There are a number of solutions – technology may be one of them – but this isn’t the time to make any impor-tant decisions. Everything seems equally attractive to you. Professional advice might help, but even so, don’t feel you have to make a decision right away. Wait a few days.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

Your life may take you down a cross roads, Libra. A number of different possibilities could be opening up to you. The only thing that seems certain is that changes are on the horizon. You will be facing some choices today, but today isn’t the day to consider them. Consideration regis supersme. Be like Scarle OF Madal and think about it tomorrow.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

An intellectual problem may prove confus-ing, Sagittarius, and unexpected professional and personal possibilities might have you in a quandary about which way you want to go. Sagittarius, you may face a choice of some kind, but right now you aren’t really sure about the direction you want to take. Don’t rush it. It isn’t necessary to do it all today. Wait a few days, consider your options and then make your decision.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan.20)

Things are improving today, Capricorn. You might be thinking in terms of realizing what’s going to be the big picture, but you could become concerned regarding tomorrow. You might be grasping with several options. Input from family members might help at this time. Wait a few days and then think seriously about what you want to do.

Aquarius (Jan.20-Feb.19)

An intellellectual problem may prove confus-ing, Aquarius, and unexpected professional and personal possibilities might have you in a quandary about which way you want to go. Sagittarius, you may face a choice of some kind, but right now you aren’t really sure about the direction you want to take. Don’t rush it. It isn’t necessary to do it all today. Wait a few days, consider your options and then make your decision.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

Confusion about money might be an issue today, Pisces. This doesn’t necessarily mean that your finances are in chaos. Chances are that you face particular options concerning your financial future and you may be in no position to make any kind of decision now. Don’t feel that you have to do it today. It would be best if you waited a few days until you’re in a bit more focused to consider your options.

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Main News Page

14 Border Police Personnel Killed in Helmand Attack

LASHKARGAH - At least 14 border police personnel have been killed and as many wounded in a Taliban attack on the Nakhil area of southwestern Helmand province.

A credible security source, told Pajhwok Afghan News on condition of anonymity, the militants stormed a security check-post in the Torbakh Navaz area of the district late on Sunday night. He said 14 border policemen were killed and a number of others wounded in the overnight assault.

Officially, at least two border policemen and receiving 15 injured security personnel. The Taliban also verified the attack.

The group’s spokesman Qayum Qaiyemi Ahmadzai claimed 25 security forces were killed and eight others injured. Two pick-up, three tanks and a car were destroyed, he said.

The Taliban spokesman added the fighters captured several weapons and ammunition from the security forces. (Pajhwok)