Kabul: Three people were killed and four others were wounded in a clash between members of the Taliban and security forces in Kunduz province.

UNAMA Welcomes IEC Launch of National Electoral Forum

KABUL - The UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) welcomed the Independent Election Commission (IEC)’s Wednesday’s launch of the National Electoral Forum (NEF) as an important step in consolidating credible, transparent, and inclusive elections in the eyes of the Afghan people.

The forum is meant as a series of regular and meaningful consultations to build consensus on way forward for elections. Today’s event in Kabul brought together electoral commission stakeholders with political actors, civil society and others.

“A credible election is not simply a technically well-organised election but one in which citizens have confidence that the results represent their will,” Perrie Karlak, the Secretary-General’s Deputy Special Representative for Afghanistan, said in opening remarks at the event. “Broad consultation with a wide range of stakeholders and electoral authorities was...” (More on P4)...

Kabul Gets 12 Cold Storage Units for Onions

KABUL - Over 100 cold storage units have been established in five districts of Kabul for onions, from the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL) said at a Wednesday. According to Awaluddin Zahir, minister of agriculture, irrigation and livestock, 125 units have... (More on P4)...

Customs Issues Plague Importers as Held Months

KABUL - Kabul businesswoman claim customs officers are arbitrarily demanding clear thousands of containers of imported goods through Spin Boldak from Pakistan, and Herat port from Iran, has had a serious impact on their businesses.

The importing “suggested” procedures within the customs officers have resulted in a loss of up to 50 percent in trade turnover for them as almost 5,000 containers have not been cleared through Herat and Spin Boldak customs offices in the past three months.

“We call on the Afghan government to resolve the problem of the containers which have been stopped for the past three months. They carry goods belonging to local importers to the international market. The impasse is a big problem in this respect," said Afghanistan Artex Logistics Ancillary Colonel Dr. Paul Lessen, a researcher at Walid Rebar National... (More on P4)...

9 Militants Killed in Laghman-Nangarhar Offensives

JALALABAD - At least nine Islamic State militants and four others insurgents were killed in air-strike operations in eastern Laghman and Nangarhar provinces, officials said.

Sarhadi Zwik, the Laghman governor’s spokesman’s said Afghan Air Force carried out air operations against militants in Panje Payee area of Panje Payee area of... (More on P4)...

Outlook Horoscope

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 19) - You want everything to be in easy reach, but your goal might not be realistic. While your friends may be good at their jobs, so are your coworkers and boss are pleased, but their success of different from yours. An argument of discussion will kick off the conflict ripening now.

TAURUS (Apr. 20-May 20) - You can’t do all your long-term goals for the sake of convenience today. Nevertheless, you might need to make some adjustments to your calendar to fit into your current work situation. You aren’t happy about the current situation, but you’re willing to go ahead as long as you can keep your original destination in mind.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21) - Your friends might make unexpected demands of you, so you feel uncomfortable. So, you have plans and aren’t thrilled about canceling them just to accommodate other people. Nevertheless, you are dedicated to keeping the peace now, and will find a way to handle the situation without grudging away your peace.

CANCER (Jun. 22-Jul 22) - The unexpected is likely to occur, so you are better prepared with creating a realistic plan that you lose sight of your original intentions. Someone or something appears to be impeding your opportunity now, requiring you to work harder to maintain your position. If you do not know what is happening, logging into your online accounts may give you an idea of what is happening and help you demand your true feelings of finding the key to the puzzle.

LEO (Jul. 23-Aug. 22) - You feel the need to distance the emotional bonds with your closest friends and associates, but you might quickly cool things off if they don’t show up authentically.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) - You wish to deepen the emotional bonds with your closest friends and you might quickly cool things off if they don’t show up authentically.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - The good news is your restless mind may settle down and you can get the vision out of your mind. Although packing your suitcase and heading to the airport sounds like a perfect idea today, previous obligations may make a trip not be so easy.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Aquarius is you know the value of deep emotional connections and are willing to take a trip in that direction if you have reason enough to make the journey. Unfortunately, you might mistake unexpected requests for an opportunity, an ally or even yourself. Although you cannot and will not dodge the cutter side of people now, you can choose how these respond to you.

Pisces (Feb. 19-Mar. 20) - You might feel so uninterested that you don’t want to be part of entertaining intriguing people today. Unfortunately, everyone seems to have a case to make and you can’t help but feel that you’re rather than in your heart. You enjoy expanding your minds and you need them to make you feel comfortable. You might feel that...