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Editorial

Time for security forces to grab all chances from militants

Fighting insurgency in some eastern and northern provinces of Afghanistan is still going on, when the militants seasonal offensives arrive. The Taliban fighters, in the past several weeks, resumed attacks on the cities and

restated fierce battle against security forces in the northern Kunduz province, where thousands of people suffered hardships to either lose houses or flee the intensification of conflicts, last year.

Though, the province was successfully retaken by the security forces, but by leaving high life losses, property damages and migration of thousands. Residents, as quoted by media blamed the authorities for not stepping up firmly in war on the armed opposition and highway ambushes of the terrorist network that left dozens of people mostly civilians dead along the road between Baghlan and Kunduz provinces in 2016.

The brave security and defense forces of the country could pummel all attackers and pushed them back from the provincial center, but they didn't continue a mop-up operation until the rebels full elimination.

Insurgents managed to hide themselves inside residential houses at the outskirts of the city and when finding time, attacked security forces convoys on the highways or checking passenger buses and beheading people on charge of working for the government.

This year, also the past insurgency is seen to have started. Roads in some northern provinces are blocked due to abrupt attacks of the insurgents as sometimes insurgency get closer to the cities.

On the other hand, Badakhshan, as the northeastern province is still suffering intense insurgency. In some districts like Zhetai, Ungan and Wardoj, people need immediate support and cooperation from security forces, as clashes took several years to continue and frustrate the villagers.

Like Kunduz province, Badakhshan is also suffering growing insurgency, once time for seasonal war of the Taliban arrives. So, the security authorities should remain on alert, war should be brought under control and insurgents plan for resuming offensives during their set summer schedule should be foiled, security check posts should be erected in every corner of the war zones and the enemy shouldn't be given minor, least chance to resurge or retake any areas.

Security and defense leadership should focus on security of the country, alongside other sectors concentration on beefing up economy, rebuilding and bolstering infrastructures. Foreign troops, who are declaring strong presence alongside domestic forces, shouldn't remain incompetent about the unpleasant happening and rush for cooperation with their Afghan counterparts when needed.

Press Review

The main daily: Considering e-ID cards distribution as one of the prime needs of the people of Afghanistan, the state-run paper in its editorial said that former president Ghani recently has ordered distribution of e-ID cards. The government huge plans needs proper statistic and scheduling where by distribution of e-ID cards this issue would be solved, the paper added.

The main daily: The state-run paper in an article considered unemployment as the biggest crisis in the country, adding that beside insecurity, economic problems and suicide attacks, unemployment is the biggest problem for young generation and another reason behind this is influx of IDPs in the country. Therefore, the government must provide job opportunities for youth, the paper added.

The main daily: Praising Afghan security forces capabilities in the battlefield, the state-run paper in an article said that based on recent reports in a special operation which was conducted by ANSF could't exert heavy casualties to enemies, this shows that they have ability to defend the country and the people of Afghanistan, the paper added.

The main daily: Hearing on women's role and activities in recent years, the private paper in an article said that although during last 14 years women had eye-catching achievements. The biggest barrier before development of the women is war and insecurity, the paper added. Desk of Reporters

Necessary measures taken to fight corruption, MoD

Officials of the ministry for defense said they were committed to fight corruption and have already taken practical steps in this regard. According to them, practical steps have been taken to register identity of all security forces personnel in information bank and investigate 1418 criminal cases of officials.

Deputy minister and highest official for ministry for defense, Ghulam Sabki said media should not be misled that the ministry is committed to fight corruption and serious steps have already been taken in this respect. "We are determined to register corruption in Afghan National Army ranks, as well as a military school," he further said.

He added the Ministry officials have realized if corruption is not seriously fought, the ministry would lose financial and equipment assistance of the donor countries, because, this cannot be face Afghanistan's development with serious challenges. In fact, while enormous challenges remain, Afghanistan's authorities have made headway in their fight against corruption, according to a United Nations report released last month, which also finds that the country is making progress in other areas, such as restoring institutional control over the delivery of public services.

A military expert, Hader Hattar said The Kabul Times that fighting corruption would be a difficult process if the risk of it is not cleared. Fighting corruption would reduce the country's influence in the country otherwise, it would be only a word, he added. A former and military expert, Setafah Amakhi believes that corruption challenge before the Afghan government and world

ICT unprecedentedly developed in Afghanistan in recent years

World Telecommunication and Information Society Day is marked on May 17th every year not only in Afghanistan but also in all countries having membership of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). ITU Secretary-General, Vito Tanzi, in a statement that the theme for the 2017 World Telecommunication and Information Society Day would be "The Data for the People".

The insight brought on by advanced analysis can strongly empower the evidence-based nature of decision-making that can be brought to national, regional and international levels to drive success towards meeting sustainable development goals for 2030.

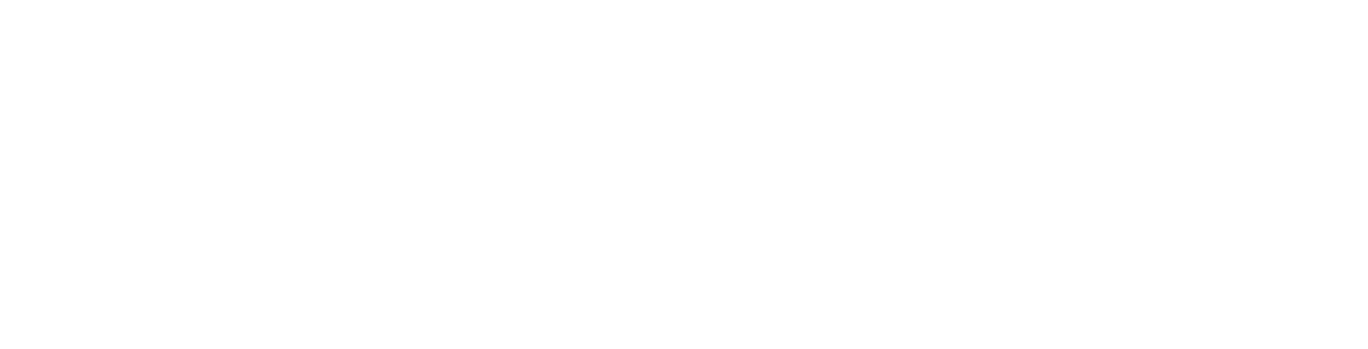
Fortunately, Afghanistan has obtained membership of ITU since May 17th has been marked as World Telecommunication and Information Society Day in Afghanistan since 2003. According to officials for Ministry of Telecommunication and Information Technology, wide communication technology has unprecedentedly developed in Afghanistan in the past few years and currently 90% of the

country's areas are covered by telecommunication services provided by an government and private telecommunication companies. Proper policies and laws in

communication development in Afghanistan. These companies by their world experiences have joined Afghanistan telecommunication market and changed it to competitive arena.

For example, Balkan, Afghan Telecom, Salam and Afghan Wireless which are considered as top telecommunication companies have international telecommunication companies' investors who have brought international experiences, work procedures and standards to Afghanistan telecommunication sector. To continue their presence and get much success, these companies regularly assess their final companies' activities and make policy based on the assessment.

Despite of all achievements attained by the domestic and international telecommunication companies, they are facing with a series of challenges in reducing insecurity in the country particularly in those areas where telecommunication companies are obliged to supply goods to protect and maintain security for their customers. Lathana Noori



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