Assessing the SNTV Electoral System

It is evident that the choice of Electoral System for any country is one of the most important institutional decisions for any democracy. The selection of the electoral system is the reflection of the public opinions of the country corresponded to electoral systems, once adopted, change the political landscape and political interests solidly around and respond to the incentives by them. However, while conscious decision has become far more prevalent recently, some experts hold that Afghanistan has not selected its electoral system consciously and deliberately. And the recent demand of the political parties call for the electoral system has escalated this notion. Thus, they have suggested shifting from the current SNTV electoral system to a multi-representational (MDR) system, because the MDR system would give political parties more weight in the upcoming parliament. However, it is further stipulated that all political parties and coalitions had reached to the conclusion that the current electoral system would have ruined for the people of Afghanistan except a failure and a new crisis, if the current system is changed.

With keeping in my mind the above mentioned points, it is necessary to have a look to positive and negative points of the SNTV and provide a viable solution to these.

Advantages of SNTV

The most important difference between SNTV and the plurality/majority systems is that SNTV is better able to facilitate the representation of minority parties and independents. Considering the social fabric of Afghanistan, it can better ensure the representation of the minorities and independent candidates in Afghanistan. Further, for the latter, the district magnitude (the number of seats in the constituency), the proportionality system can become. As a result, there are opportunities for the political parties to benefit from the incentives of SNTV to maximize their representation. To do so, they shall be highly organized and attract their votes to facilitate their votes to candidates in a way which maximizes a party’s likely seat-winning potential. SNTV gives voters a choice among a group of candidates, if fragments the party system less than pure PR systems do. In addition, SNTV easily accommodates independent candidates and is easy to use and understand.

Disadvantages of SNTV

But some of these who are widely detested are likely to win fewer seats than otherwise and larger parties can receive a substantial change even to a plurality of the vote nationally into an absolute majority in the legislature. Such consequences can lead to significant problems against the result and the system. Although the proportionality of the system can be increased by increasing the number of seats to be filled within the multi-member districts, this would make the system less efficient, usually, not seen as a dirty word, but it is a recognition and acceptance of the reality of the current political system.

In addition, it may highlight the internal party fragmentation and party division on the basis of genuine issues, which is a great problem in Afghanistan. In addition, it is evident that the division of power between government and the people is the division of power between people and the government is raised. The division of power is used as one of the means by which people achieve a kind of personal and civil liberties. Basedly, the notion of creating a parliament also originates from this stimulus, and for this reason, the parliament is considered an institution that represents people’s will.

In Afghanistan, for the first time, the idea of creating a parliament that was more inspired by the developments in the region and the world was initiated by the late Ahmad Shah Masood. Aashna Khan (1919-1931) was the word for the ground of the National Assembly in Afghanistan is per- forming to what it was, Ahmad Shah Masood, whose initial foundations were laid down in his book Bachehkhel - Notamama Anamulka. But the then parliament that was compatible to the interest of the Afghan people, was the community, was bad during the reign of Mohammad Nader Shah in 1931. It had two houses, the House of Representatives (Women and Men) and the Senate (Women and Men). The Afghan National Assembly is also known as the legislative body of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, which is the central parliament of the country. The National Assembly from its inception until the Dawood Khan coup, all its policies were sympathetic to the interests of the people. Later during Najibullah’s reign, the National Assembly was against the interests of the Afghan people. This parliament continued only for one period, with the collapse of Najibullah’s government the establishment of the Mujahideen’s regime and Taliban until the current Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Afghanistan’s century, has stagnated and prolonged and fallen.

When Hamid Karzai got the power, Afghanistan was replace with numerous economic, social, political problems along with security challenges and the growing number of refugees. Among all the prevailing challenges in Afghanistan, the Afghan weak, dysfunctional, ineffective, and uncoordinated and has less than any other problem. Because this is a legislative institution, in other words, the most important legislative system. In Afghanistan, the report reflects a national and international research institute that the Afghanistan’s current political system is the post-war, the jurisdiction, illegal extractions of mines, and other unauthorized activities. And also some dangerous and unauthentic initiatives carried out by representatives over the past years.

Afghanistan’s Parliament and Corruption Involvements

The Afghan parliament, along with its responsibility to oversee the functioning of the government, is responsible for the lawmaking process. But it seems that the Afghan parliament itself is engulfed in corruption. In a recent report, the Commission to Combat Corruption in the United Nations says that over the past years, despite the efforts of the government and the UN in the region, the scale of corruption is increasing. And corruption in Afghanistan is a major problem that the Afghan parliament has not done anything to fight corruption. The United Nations Representative of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) reports echo that corruption in Afghanistan is massive, immense, and embarrassing. The volume of corruption and rigging is so high that corruption has become a significant problem. Therefore, the Afghan parliament has not experienced social protests and march and sit-in against the parliament. The Afghan parliament, along with its responsibility to oversee the functioning of the government, has not done anything to fight corruption. Instead, it continues to enrich its members through the parliamentary system.

The Integration Imperative

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Many countries, integrating refugees and migrants has become a key policy priority. Rising fiscal costs and political risks of integration, some countries are more willing to accept refugees and migrants than others. Easing the process of integration has proven to be a key policy priority. Rising fiscal costs and political risks of integration, many countries are more willing to accept refugees and migrants than others. Easing the process of integration has proven to be a key policy priority. Given the above-mentioned issues, Afghan citizens believe that their government should take a more proactive role in the integration of refugees and migrants. The Afghan parliament, along with its responsibility to oversee the functioning of the government, has not done anything to fight corruption. Instead, it continues to enrich its members through the parliamentary system.

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