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Peace Talks with Taliban

Concerned over the security situation across the country, the Afghan government said this year’s spring fighting would be more intense and the security agencies are prepared to take pre-emptive actions against the insurgent groups before the start of the spring fighting season. The Afghan government is lacking a comprehensive anti-insurgency plan while the opposition is back to old ways. The Afghan Senate and the acting head of the National Directorate of Security have assured the nation that the Afghan government is determined to defend the country against Taliban. However, the parliament did not seem to be convinced of the explanations given by the three top security officials over preparations and commitment of the security agencies curbs the insurgency.

There are widespread concerns over how the anti-insurgency campaign of the Afghan government would go on and how it would manage to deal with a threat that has hard-headed. As explained by the security officials, the insurgent groups would continue to test the resolve of security forces. The government next year aimed at securing more grounds from government forces. The fact that the war would continue unabatedly is daunting the Afghan public who desperately hope to see the end of the bloodshed. The Taliban have been sowing fear and suspicion among the population by committing various atrocities, including the Taliban and the Islamic State group may try to exploit the situation to their advantage. It is well known that the Afghan security forces will be engaged in a much more difficult campaign against the insurgent groups and there would be a more enormous challenge ahead.

Last year, some provinces turned into hotbed of insurgency. Some provinces were able to achieve peace and stability whereas the eastern and southern parts of the country namely Helmand, Nangarhar and Chorokh provinces were scenes of intense fighting between government forces and the insurgent groups. The insurgent groups continued to gain winners in terms of publicity and taking grounds, though mostly temporary, from the government forces. And this year, the Taliban continued to achieve their last year achievements. According to some MPs, the militants aim to expand in the war in some provinces of the northern part of the country; this year the Taliban will target mainly traffic routes, highways, a strategy that seem to be more ambitious andwould pursue their goals using a range of tactics.

The security agencies suffered major shortcomings and deficiencies in the current year. The commander of the government forces and army police forced suffered high casualties in the fight, and is a great concern for the security officials in the delivery of their duties. The high rate of desertion and casualties against the Taliban would remove one of the biggest vulnerabilities of the Afghan security forces. The Afghan army lacks an operational air force to provide support to the army units engaged in the fight against the Taliban. The government, therefore, is planning to increase the provision of weaponry and weaponry to the Afghan air force.

By Abdul Ahad Bramani

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