Accused Afghan Officials Reject HRW Report

KARUL - Afghan officials accused of human rights violations in a recent report by Human Rights Watch (HRW) on Thursday denied all the allegations made in the report as baseless and a plot to delegitimize Afghan forces fighting against the Taliban.

The HRW report released on Tuesday accuses 33 officials of widespread human rights abuses and calls for an international investigation into possible war crimes.

"We have nothing to do with this report," said an Afghan official who wished to remain anonymous. "We are fighting against the Taliban and we will continue to fight until we win." 

The report is based on more than 123 interviews conducted from August 2012 to 2013 and claims that 50 cases of abuses were confirmed.

"We have evidence of human rights abuses and war crimes being committed by Afghan forces," said a spokesperson for HRW.

Afghan officials said they will continue to cooperate with international organisations in investigating allegations of human rights abuses.

The United Nations has called for an independent investigation into allegations of human rights abuses by Afghan security forces.

I. Pul-I-Alam Green Belt Grabbed by Foreigners

Pul-I-Alam - The agriculture and livestock development on Pul-I-Alam, a strategic hilltop, continues to attract foreign investors. They have acquired large tracts of land and are building nursing homes, villas, and hotels.

"We are committed to promoting Pul-I-Alam as a destination for tourism and investment," said Haji Mubarak, the mayor of Pul-I-Alam.

However, the Afghan government has taken steps to regulate foreign investment in the area.

II. Turkmen Afghan Threatens Hunger Strike to Overthrow US 

KARUL - A group of ethnic Turkmen Afghans, who have been living in Pul-I-Alam against the US-led forces, threatened a hunger strike if their demands aren't met.

The group, which numbers around 200, has been protesting against US-led forces for several months. They claim that the US forces have destroyed their homes and that they are being discriminated against.

"We will continue to protest until our demands are met," said Mullah Abdul Latif, a leader of the Turkmen group.

The Afghan government has denied the claims and said that US forces are there to protect the area.

III. An Islamic State Linked Gang in Afghanistan

KARUL - An Islamic State-linked gang in Afghanistan has been active in the Pul-I-Alam region, according to local residents.

The gang, which is active in several districts, is said to be responsible for several bombings and attacks.

"We call on the Afghan government to take action against this group," said Mullah Nabi, a local resident.

The Afghan government has denied the link to the Islamic State and said that the group is a local criminal gang.

IV. Afghan Military to Receive Its First A-29s in December

KARUL - The Afghan military will receive its first A-29s in December, according to a statement by the Ministry of Defence.

The A-29s are a joint venture between the United States and South Africa.

"This is a significant step in our efforts to build a strong and capable Afghan air force," said General Hamid Gul, the Chief of the Afghan National Army.

V. Afghans in Pakistan Fear Arrests

KARUL - Many Afghans who have fled to Pakistan for safety fear that they may be arrested by Pakistani authorities.

"We have heard that the Pakistanis are targeting Afghans," said Muhammad Haji, a refugee in Peshawar.

The Pakistani government has denied the allegations and said that it is cooperating with the Afghan government to address the issue.

VI. Kabul Police, Poisoned, Shot Dead

KARUL - Two policemen were shot dead by unknown attackers in Kabul on Tuesday.

"We are investigating the incident," said General Zulfiqar Ali, the Chief of the Afghan National Police.

The incident has sparked outrage among the Afghan people.

VII. Civilian Deaths

KARUL - Civilian deaths have risen sharply in recent months, according to the Afghan government.

"We are working to reduce civilian casualties," said General Zulfiqar Ali, the Chief of the Afghan National Police.

The government has launched several initiatives to protect civilians.

VIII. The Vote of Confidence

KARUL - Afghan President Ashraf Ghani has called for a vote of confidence in his government.

"I call on my colleagues to support me," said President Ashraf Ghani.

The vote of confidence will take place on Friday.

IX. Assured Afghan Army

KARUL - The Afghan army has been assured of continued support from the US and NATO.

"We are committed to training and equipping the Afghan army," said General John Nicholson, the commander of US and NATO forces in Afghanistan.

The Afghan army has been struggling to fight against the Taliban.

X. The Future of Afghanistan

KARUL - Afghanistan's future remains uncertain, according to many analysts.

"It is too early to predict the outcome," said Professor Haji Muhammed, a political science professor.

The country is facing several challenges, including poverty, corruption, and security threats.