The Increasing Trend of Targeting Civilians

By Abdul Ahad Bahrami

With the sharp rise in Taliban activities in recent months, the militant group and other militias have been increasingly targeting civilians. The Taliban’s strategy is to expand their support base and gain legitimacy in the eyes of the Afghan people by demonstrating their ability to provide security and justice in local areas where government has limited presence. The insurgents have targeted civilians, especially women and children, in attacks on public places, homes, and workplaces. The targeting of civilians is a violation of international law and human rights standards.

The government’s response to the increasing violence against civilians has been largely ineffective. The Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) are understaffed and poorly equipped, and the government has struggled to provide adequate support to the ANSF. The Taliban have exploited this weakness to continue their attacks on civilians.

The government needs to take urgent action to protect civilians. This includes strengthening the ANSF, improving intelligence and the security apparatus, and ensuring accountability for human rights violations. The government must also engage in direct or non-direct talks with the Taliban to secure a permanent ceasefire and a lasting peace in Afghanistan.

Adoption of Dual Strategy; Negotiation and Operation Works

By Asmattyari

Militants, especially the Taliban, have continued to target civilians in recent months. The government has struggled to protect civilians from these attacks, and the situation is becoming increasingly precarious. The Taliban have targeted civilians in a variety of locations, including residential areas, markets, and places of worship.

The government has recently announced a new strategy of combining negotiations with military operations. This is a promising approach, as it recognizes the need for a comprehensive strategy to address the root causes of violence. However, the government must ensure that the negotiations are genuine and that the Taliban are held accountable for their violations of international law.

The government must also take steps to address the root causes of violence, including poverty, inequality, and political instability. This includes improving governance, providing economic opportunities, and addressing the grievances of the Afghan people. The government must also work to build trust with the Taliban, and engage in direct or non-direct talks to secure a lasting peace in Afghanistan.

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