Afghan Shiias Targeted in Deadly Attacks in Recent Years:

KABUL - Government has responded by sending in its forces, especially those at risk. In its annual 2017 Report on International Religious Freedom, the US Department of State said that in recent years, a series of deadly attacks were conducted on the Shia community in Afghanistan. The report says that the majority of attacks were carried out by Daesh. Meanwhile, Afghan government officials have said that they have outnumbered a number of security forces to protect the lives of Shia people in Afghanistan.

The Afghan government is working to protect all its citizens. The main focus is on those groups which are facing serious threats, said Jawed Faisal, deputy spokesman to CEO Abdullah Abdullah. “We are doing our best to secure them, naturally we have undertaken some extra measures in areas which we believe are more at risk,” said interior ministry spokesman Najib Danish.

“During the last year, Shia Muslims, especially ethnic Hazaras, fell victims to multiple violent and deadly attacks, as well as abductions that often ended in death. The attacks were overwhelming claimed by or attributed to Islamic-designated terrorist groups, including the Taliban and ISIS (Daesh). Reportedly, more than 200 people, including the Taliban from the area, have been killed between July and November 2016. There continue to be allegations that the government is unable or unwilling to provide adequate security in majority-Shia areas, an excerpt from the report says.

KABUL - A car bomb was detonated at the entrance of the ministry to launch the attack and then several gunmen managed to get inside the compound, said a senior police official. Najib Danish, the ministry spokesman, confirmed the attack was carried out by a group of 10 militants and at least one policeman was killed and five were wounded.

A senior ministry official said one attacker blew himself up inside the compound and another was resisting from a watchtower as a flame of dust and smoke rose over the sprawling site. Officials inside the ministry said the attackers could not breach key buildings as they are located far from the entrance and there is a wide flat space inside the compound, helping Afghan forces to subdue the attack quickly. No group claimed responsibility for the latest in a series of deadly attacks in Kabul this year that has killed and wounded hundreds of people.

The renewal of the political dialogue came at the mostly friendly meeting of the Afghan National Army (ANA) Trust Fund Board of Directors, as the NATO headquarters on Tuesday.

In a statement, the alliance said they reviewed—together with representatives of the donor community—the trust fund management and implementation of the donor community—especially those at risk.

NATO Allies Vow to Keep Supporting Afghan Forces

NATO’s Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defence Hakimi, Deputy Director for Security Policy at Ministry of Defence, met with officials in Afghanistan.

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In a statement, the alliance said: “We were pleased to review together with representatives of the donor community—the trust fund management and implementation of the donor community—especially those at risk.”

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