In the Name of God, the Most Merciful, the Most Kind

Insecurity Rises and Civilians Suffer

The insecurity is on its peak in Afghanistan and the future seems bleak as the lives, livelihood and security of the people are not guaranteed. The government has not been able to control the situation and with each passing day the situation is getting worse. With the withdrawal of international security forces, there were hopes that Afghan security forces would shoulder the security responsibilities throughout the country without much difficulty but that does not seem to be the situation. Afghan security forces are facing the toughest challenges of their lives as Taliban and Daesh have made certain incursions throughout the country. The government has been controlling the situation around the capital Kabul to a large extent. The statistics show the rising wave of terrorism in the country since the international forces ended their combat mission. According to Talonove’s monthly security monitoring, the month of October was the deadliest month in Afghanistan as the incidents of insecurity were a sharp increase as compared to the first nine months of 2015. A total of 1,762 people were killed during October, showing a 28 percent rise against September. The incidents also include a 9 percent rise against October and the month saw 529 security forces fatalities. Among those who were killed, there were 380 security force members. 10 foreign nationals were among the killed security force members. According to the statistics, the month of October saw 897 events of insecurity and insurgency which illustrates three percent increase against September. Also, the insurgents increased their attacks by seven percent in October and Afghan forces assisted their anti-insurgent operations by 10 percent. Holmwood’s recording 95 insecurity incidents was the unsafe province followed by Nangarhar, Ghazni, Kunduz and Farah – the first five insecure provinces. In addition, 54 insurgents were detained during the month. Also, 40 security force members and 36 civilians were killed by the Taliban.

As the security situation is getting worse, the international community is getting nervous about the situation. US has already announced that it will retain its remaining forces in the country for at least one more year. The US has also announced that all its support and assistance to Afghanistan would continue. EU Ambassador to Afghanistan Franz Michael Skjold Møhlien has said, “In think actually the international community should stand united, they have made certain incursions and the situation has not improved to a large extent.” They are losing their lives cheaply and in the most horrific ways. Currently, seven civilians including three women were mercilessly beheaded by the Taliban militants in Ashqaband district of Herat province. The civilians were beheaded last week from Gharni while they were travelling from Jaghori to Ghazni city and belonged to Hazara community. Though deploring security incidents everywhere, the minorities have to see the worst. Hazara community has been facing such killings for long. And, while they were travelling from Herat to Kabul, most of whom were later released. This trend of targeting innocent civilians and tangible properties to control the security situation in the country before it is too late. There was the US Air Force helicopter that was shot down last week in the northern part of the country. The events have been repeated in the past and may erupt in the country. Condemning the incidents after they happen is not a sufficient policy. There should be measures that can prevent such events in the future. The events should not happen in other parts of the country as well if the security apparatus remains silent.

President Ashraf Ghani has condemned the beheading of the civilians and has called it a heinous crime. In a statement, he said that it is profoundly saddening upon finding about the tragic incident. He has also mentioned that the existence of killing of innocent individuals especially women and children, has no justification in any religion or creed and the only justification for such killing is nothing but shame in this world and whet in the hereafter. The recent attack clearly Warner’s that it cannot further survive with the help of the international forces. Afghan government along with the security forces need to devise a comprehensive strategy and at the same time to provide support to the security forces to seek ways for negotiation for the long term peace but to reach to the peace treaty, the two countries must increase their support and assistance to Afghanistan. The government has not been able to divert their support to the areas that are the most urgent and the most necessary. Otherwise, their support will end up in smoke.

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