Saving Afghanistan From the Edge of Failure

By Mohammad Shafiq Hamdam

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Kunduz City Dominated by Taliban, Again!

Different sources confirmed yesterday that after a threatening attack by the Taliban on Kunduz city, the Taliban entered the capital of the province and they captured the city’s main square, raising their white flags. News reports revealed that one person was killed and ten people were wounded. In addition to the 25 people who were wounded after the insurgents stormed Kunduz city from four directions. The attacking rebels captured several security posts. Some photos on social media also showed Talibans reaching the main square in the province and raising their flags. However, the government authorities and all security forces in the province increased their security presence, inflicting casualties on insurgents and driving them away from some areas.

Taliban seems to have intensified their attacks as the Afghan government authorities are preparing for Brussels Summit, where they are expected to cement their relationship with foreign partners. Afghanistan. Definitely, security would be the most dominant issue in the Conference and Taliban want to give the impression that they have dominance in certain parts of the country. And, to a certain extent, the facts and figures favor their claim. There are certain parts of the country that are totally under their control and now they have claimed that their targets would be the provincial capitals, where mostly Afghan security forces have their dominance.

National Unity Government (NUG) would be faced with great difficulties while defending itself in Brussels as there are not many achievements on its chest. Since the formation of NUG, there has not been any improvement in security and many other sectors still suffer from lack of attention. As a matter of fact, the arrangements to tackle the security situation are not up to the mark. The government authorities do not see eye to eye with each other regarding the security situation and the measures to control it. As there is no guideline or consensus on the higher level, the operational teams are not sure about what sort of steps they have to take in the context of the cases, they respond only after the insurgents attack somewhere. They, in short, have only a defensive mechanism to follow.

The security situation in the country demands that there should be a comprehensive approach towards the security issues and networks of the Taliban and their growth and expansion cannot be eradicated only through defensive approach. The security authorities must develop an approach where they are able to press the insurgents and bring them to the point of negotiation. The security authorities must develop an approach where they are able to press the insurgents and bring them to the point of negotiation.

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By Dr. Joan Clos

Exclusive for the Daily Outlook

Urbanization is a human process that has led to profound changes in the daily life of more than half of the world’s population. The ways cities are planned and organized affect us in far more ways than we can imagine. The design of a city affects the time we spend commuting from one place to another; our housing modalities namely public, or informal, streets, parks and public spaces and leisure activities. It affects our opportunity space for different cultures and ethnicities; integration; cultural activity; fertility; urbanization in environmental sustainability among others.

However, the attention, consciousness and global debate over the recent trends of the current urbanization of the world and its impact has been considerably and the urban landscape has seen a radical change. Implementing the New Urban Agenda has not been sufficiently analyzed in the last decades: decrease urbanization in planning, diminishing densities, increased urban expansion, less public space, more energy consumption. The New Urban Agenda applies to the tremendous benefits that can be generated from good urban living, but it also outlines a number of challenges that although the advantages that urbanization offers is an important contribution to the world, the urbanization process over the decades has been slow.

Today, it is now time for a paradigm shift. Habitat III, the third United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development. The purpose of Habitat III is to adopt an ambitious New Urban Agenda that can drive the world towards a better future. The New Urban Agenda aims to address the needs of the urban dwellers, who are expected to represent 70 per cent of the world population by 2050.

The New Urban Agenda offers an opportunity. The recognition of the power of well-planned urbanization as an engine for sustainable development is crucial for the future of our global economy and society. In UN-Habitat, we believe that it is crucial for us to continue promoting a culture and a consciousness about the importance of cities in our daily lives and how crucial they are for our development.

The New Urban Agenda is bringing to the prosperity and sustainability of our planet.

The need to defend urban dwellers’ rights is a pressing issue. In the lead up to Habitat III, we specifically want to call upon governments to ensure that the New Urban Agenda is brought to the prosperity and sustainability of our planet.

The prosperity of our country will be intimately related to the quality of the New Urban Agenda and its implementation. The New Urban Agenda aims to address the needs of the urban dwellers, who are expected to represent 70 per cent of the world population by 2050.

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