



Center for Strategic & Regional Studies

Kabul

Weekly Analysis-Issue Number 307(June 22, 29 2019)

Weekly Analysis is one of CSRS’ publications, which significantly analysis weekly economic and political events in Afghanistan and the region. The prime motive behind this is to provide strategic insights and policy solutions to decision-making institutions and individuals in order to help them to design best policies. Weekly Analysis is published in local languages (Pashto and Dari) and international languages (English and Arabic).

In this issue:

Afghanistan; Drug cultivation and trafficking

The history of drugs in Afghanistan.....2

A strategy that increased the cultivation, production and trafficking of narcotics..3

Why the fight against drugs is not successful?4

A good source for funding the war in Afghanistan6

Counter Narcotics in the Regional Level.....8

New Relations of Afghanistan and Pakistan and effects on Afghan peace

A brief overview of Afghanistan and Pakistan relations.....10

National unity government ties with Pakistan during the period.....11

Pakistan's economic problems and the need to build relations with Kabul..... 13

Bourbon Summit.....14

President Ghani's visit to Pakistan and its effects on peace.....15

Results and Achievements.....16

Afghanistan; Drug cultivation and trafficking



26th of June is tagged as the world Drug day, where in Afghanistan (26th June- 2nd July) has been named under the title of the Counter Narcotics Week, and this year the Afghan government has been named this week, under the name of the National Counter Narcotics Week Has launched. The goal of this program is to find a solution to the effective struggle in this sector.

The issue of drug is a global challenge and no country in the world is safe from the negative consequences of this ghastly phenomenon. Drug trafficking along the nuclear crisis, population crisis and the environmental crisis is the fourth major global crisis, and according to some statistics, the number of addicts is reached to more than 250 million people around the globe. Since most of the addicts are consisted of young people, which are the active force of the countries, the negative economic impacts of this phenomenon are also disastrous for humanity.

In Afghanistan, however, the exact number of addicted people with this lethal material is yet to be existed, but some statistics show that there are more than one million addicts including women in our country.

Afghanistan is considered as the world's largest producer of drugs and the relationship between Afghanistan and opium date back to centuries; however, in the past three decades, the country has been producing a large proportion of the world's opium.

The situation of poppy cultivation and drug production in Afghanistan, the failure factors of the Afghan government's struggle with this phenomenon and the impact of a common regional strategy for a coordinated struggle against narcotics are issues that have been discussed in this analysis.

The history of drugs in Afghanistan

The cultivation of narcotics in Afghanistan has a long history. People in this country cultivated poppy both before and during the Cold War; however, the exact statistics of the drug productions at that time is not in hand. Nevertheless, in the post-cold war era, Afghanistan was one of the countries in the world that produced the most amount of drugs. In 1997, Afghanistan produced 2804 tons of poppy while in 1999 this amount increased to 4565 tons. Nonetheless, in 2001, after the Taliban Leader, Mullah Mohammad Omar banned the cultivation of narcotics issuing a decree, the poppy production of the country reduced from 3276 tons to 185 tons only.

Based on the statistics of United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes (UNODC), in 2001, the last year of the Taliban's reign in Afghanistan, 8000 hectares of land was under poppy cultivation in Afghanistan. However, after the collapse of the Taliban regime, the graph of the poppy cultivation and production in Afghanistan has been ascending.

In 2007, 193000 hectares of land was under poppy cultivation which produced 8200 tons of yields. However, in 2008 and 2010, the cultivation of poppy decreased. In 2012, the poppy productions decreased to 3700 tons, but in 2013 and 2014, the

production of poppy rose to 5500 tons and 6400 tons. In 2014, 224000 hectares of land was under poppy in Afghanistan.

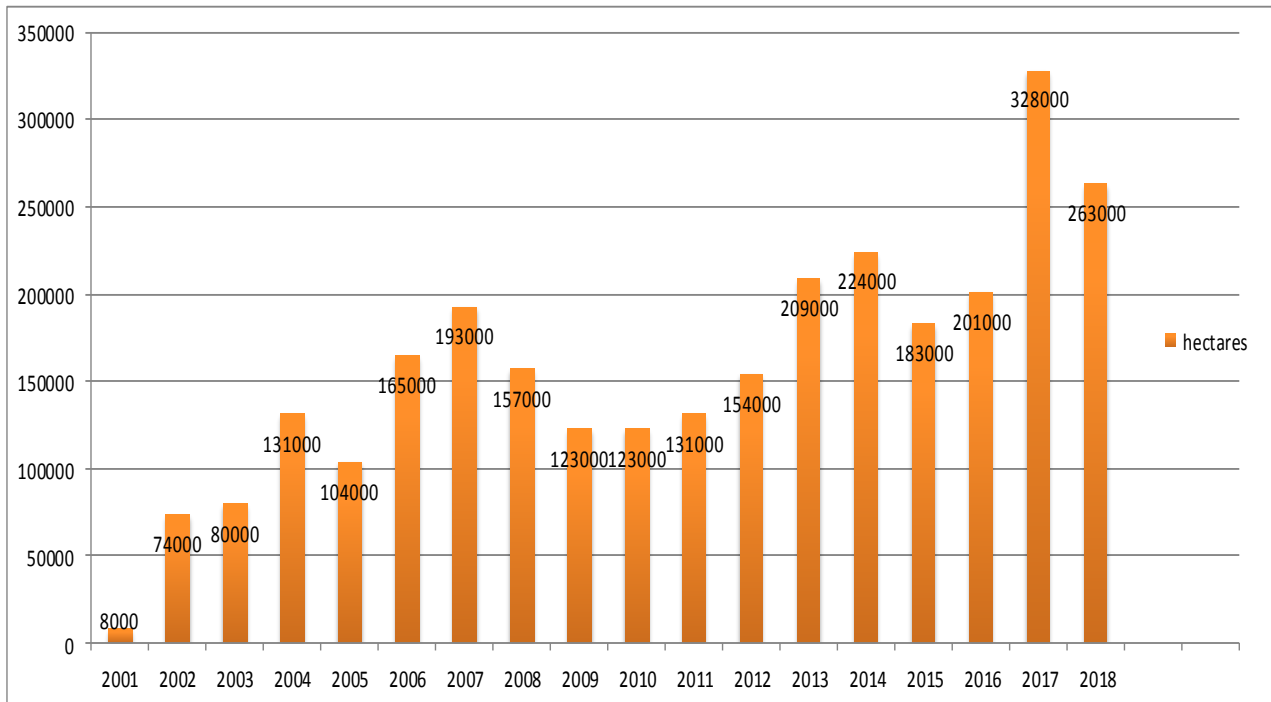
In 2016, 201000 hectares of land was under poppy cultivation in the country which marked an increase compared to 2015. The production of poppy in 2016 was 4800 tons. It should also be noted that the 19% decrease in poppy production in 2015 was due to the unsuitable condition of weather and plant pests. In 2015, 183000 hectares of land was under poppy cultivation which produced 3300 tons of poppy.

In 2007, poppy cultivation in Afghanistan reached 193,000 hectares and opium production reached 8200 tons. Although in the solar year 2008 to 2010 poppy cultivation declined, in the year 2012 productions dropped to 3700 tons, but in 2013 and 2014 the productions again increased to 5500 and 6400 tons. In the year 2014 cultivation of poppies reached 224,000 hectares.

The joint report of the Afghan government and the UN shows that in 2016 the cultivation of poppy in Afghanistan has increased by 10% and its production has augmented by 43%. The cultivation of narcotics has also increased in 2017 compared to 2016. Authorities in the Afghan Ministry of Counter Narcotics believe the ongoing insecurities to be behind the increase.

Drug smuggling is the fourth global crisis. Based on some statistics there are 250 million drug addicts around the world. Nevertheless, Afghanistan is one of the countries that suffer great losses due to the cultivation of narcotics. This phenomenon, on the one hand, has affected the

Chart-1: opium cultivation in Afghanistan (2001-2018) (hectares)



Source: UNODC/MCN

prestige of Afghanistan and, on the other hand, 3.5 million Afghans, somehow, use drugs, the

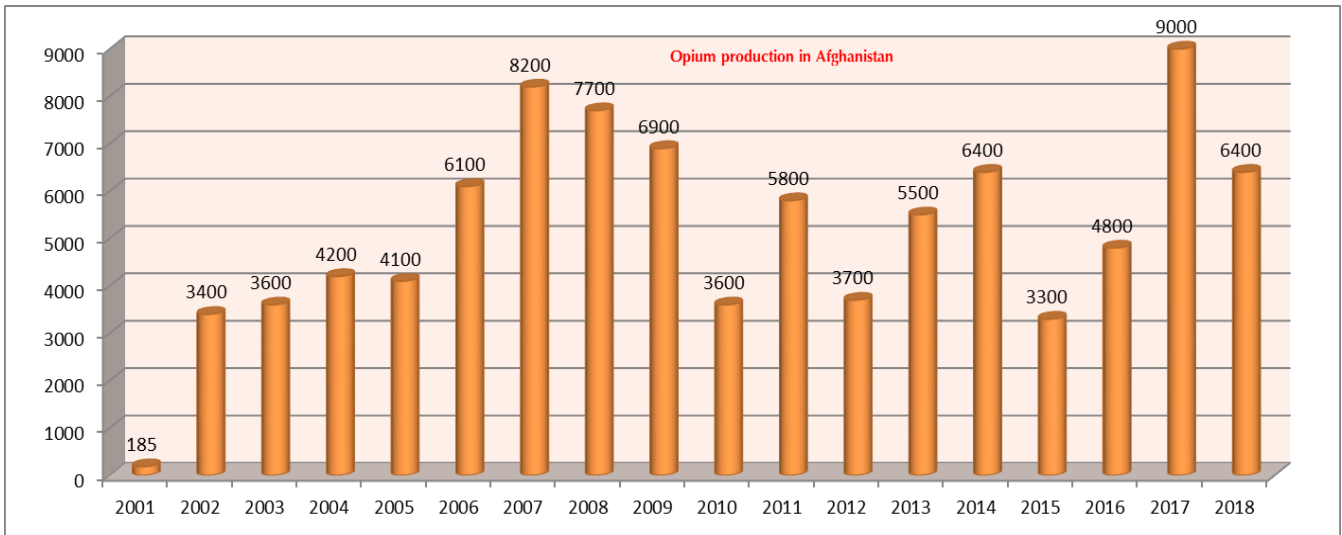
condition of 1.5 million of which is presumed concerning. Some statistics suggest that 30% of these addicts are children and 7% are women.

After the collapse of the Taliban regime, the Afghan Ministry of Counter Narcotics was established in the Bonn Conference. In 1393, the then-Afghan President Hamid Karzai announced the fight against drugs to be one of the priorities of the state and banned the cultivation and production of narcotics.

In the past one and half decades, there were many institutions that worked in areas of fighting poppy cultivation and production in Afghanistan, and after all these efforts still, Afghanistan produces 90% of drugs in the world. UNODC, the Afghan deputy

Ministry of Counter Narcotics in the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Public Health and Ministry of Agriculture are institutions that are involved in the fight against drugs. However, the Afghan Ministry of Counter Narcotics is responsible for leading and coordinating the relevant activities.

Chart-2: Opium production in Afghanistan (2001-2018) (tons)



Source: UNODC/MCN

A strategy that increased the cultivation, production and trafficking of narcotics

Based on the report of the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan’s Reconstruction (SIGAR), until 2014, the US has spent \$600m in the fight against narcotics in Afghanistan. Despite all these expenses, the Afghan government has failed in all aspects of the fight against drugs including preventing the cultivation, production, and smuggling of drugs as well as addiction to drugs and curing drug addicts, something that the Afghan authorities accept too. In June this year, the Second Afghan Vice President Sarwar Danish said the Afghan government’s efforts to fight narcotics had not produced desirable outcomes.

Moreover, the failure of the counter-narcotics efforts and the presence of drug mafia in the country have resulted in the increase in crime incidents, particularly the organized crimes.

Why the fight against drugs is not successful?

While entering Afghanistan, the US and its allies claimed that “terrorism” and narcotics were in interrelation with each other and that in order to eliminate “terrorism” it was necessary to prevent the cultivation of poppy in this country. The question that remains unanswered is why the cultivation of poppy in Afghanistan is ascending since 2001?

One cannot mention one single factor to be behind the increase in the cultivation and smuggling of poppy in the past one and half decade, but there are a bunch of internal and external factors behind it, the most important of them being lack of firm international and internal will in the fight against drugs.

Influence, power and the role of the elements with links to the internal, regional and international gangs and mafias as well as the high level of corruption in the administrations of the country are the main factors behind the failure of counter-narcotics efforts.

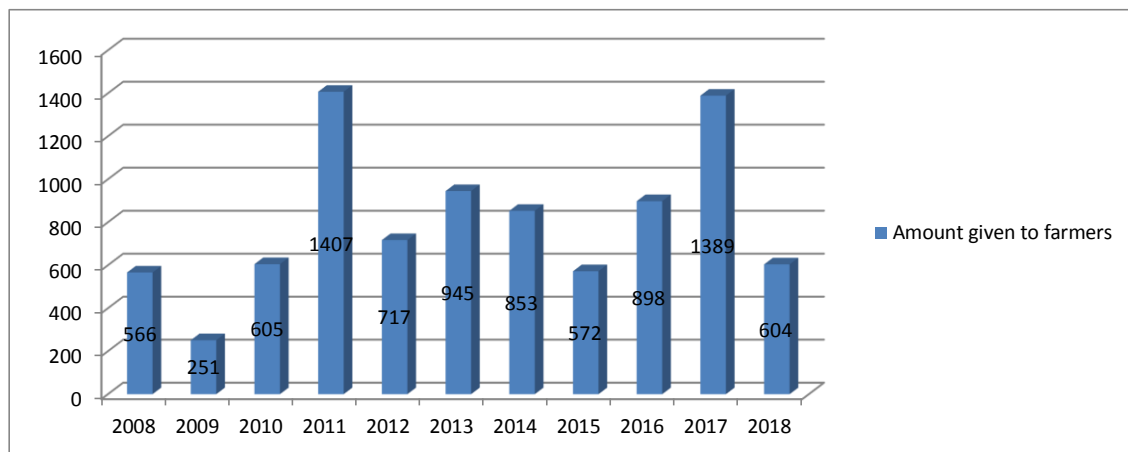
Insecurity and war in the country, with 40% of the Afghan territory under the control of the armed opposition of the government, lack of a strong government that has the support of its people, encouragement of poppy cultivation by the armed opposition of the government in insecure provinces, high demands for these substances in foreign countries particularly in Western countries are factors that have challenged the fight against drugs in Afghanistan.

A good source for funding the war in Afghanistan

According to UNODC, from 2001 to 2010, \$70 billion worth drugs had been produced in Afghanistan, but the question is that how much of this enormous amount obtained by Afghanistan, especially by Afghan peasants?

According to this report of UNODC, only \$2 billion out of the entire \$70 billion went to Afghan farmers' pockets and \$66 billion went to the drug smugglers and Mafia outside Afghanistan. This organization believes that \$200 million of this amount (\$20 million per year) also goes to the armed opposition of the Afghan government.

Figure. 3: The amount of money from poppy cultivation reaches the farmers (2008- 2018)



Counter Narcotics in the Regional Level

Drug trade comes third after oil and weapons' trade in the world in importance and profit. Based on the statistics of UNODC, Afghan farmers gain only \$2bn out of \$70bn income produced by their poppy productions, and the remaining \$66bn goes into the pockets of drug-smugglers and international mafia out of Afghanistan.

The poppy cultivated in Afghanistan makes its way to Europe and other countries in the region through Afghanistan's neighboring countries. That is why the neighboring countries always criticize Afghanistan for its failure in the counter-narcotics fight. However, it should also be noted that these substances would not make their way to European and other countries if the leaders of the neighboring countries did not assist drug smugglers and mafia in their respective countries. Therefore, the presences of drug mafia and the open transit way have, somehow, provided the way for the cultivation of narcotics in Afghanistan. Moreover, the decrease in the demands for drugs in regional and international markets can play a decisive role in the success of counter-narcotics efforts in Afghanistan.

If the neighboring and regional countries froze the bank accounts of drug smugglers and prevented the sales of substances that are needed to process heroin, the fight against narcotics would to some extent succeed.

Although there are many challenges on the way of the fight against drugs, in this regard, the recent initiative to prepare a joint strategy is one of the solutions, and if there exist strong will and determination to fight against this phenomenon, these efforts will succeed.

New Relations of Afghanistan and Pakistan and effects on Afghan peace



On June 27th, after the visit of the Afghan political parties' leaders, President of Afghanistan, Dr. Mohammad Ashraf Ghani, was invited by a senior official of the Pakistani Prime Minister, including the National Security Advisor, the Interior Minister, and the Finance Minister. Senior government officials had joined traveled to Pakistan.

It will have a real impact on the creation of new relationships with Pakistan after a long run, and what will this journey have to do with the achievements of the past? And does Pakistan now have the capability to achieve key role in Afghan peace? This is analyzed and similar issues have been analyzed in this weekly report.

A brief overview of Afghanistan and Pakistan relations

After the fall of Taliban in most parts of the country including Kabul, and instead appears of the US and NATO bedding, Afghanistan and Pakistan relations have come up with a high level of depth, both in the President of the former President Hamid Karzai In the stages, he tried to improve relations with Pakistan, and prevented the country from interfering in Afghanistan, in the same way that he had traveled more than 20 times to Pakistan, but the main political figures of the President Hamid Karzai, Rangin Dadfar Spanta, who has done major government duties as the Foreign Minister and the National Security Advisor, So he claim that 13 years of the negotiation is a waste of time and this won't give any results.

National unity government ties with Pakistan during the period

After the formation of the National Unity Government, President Dr. Ashraf Ghani extended long-term friendship to Pakistan, believed that the construction of good relations with Pakistan would prove to be effective for Afghan peace and economic development, He traveled to Pakistan in 2014, and after taking over the political authorities, he also appeared on the center of HQ, and said that according to political and military experts, he signed agreement also with them, but Rahmatullah Nabil, the former National Security Director, related to this, some Afghan officials, Mr. Ghani's work, Look against benefits of Afghan government.

The national unity government in the past has failed that the Pakistani side did not have the promises and those promised during the visit of Mr. Ghani, because of the war in the country, and with the military component Civilians were killed more than a previous, so the unbelievable air strike again took place in the country, and in the fort, Mr. Ghani rejected the Pakistan's help that announced for the economic development of Afghanistan. He also mentioned that to stop supporting Taliban, and the Pakistani side met with the armed insurgents. Accused of connection.

There was a miss trust between the four years relations of the Afghan and Pakistani sides, and the place was still going to spend only allegations, but after the last year's elections in Pakistan, the justice party got the country's highest level of success. And in the end, Imran Khan reached to be on the Prime Minister's seat, after his success stressed the importance of establishing relations with Afghanistan, and in particular, and in coordination with the military force in Afghan policy. Changes have made, some work-wise economic problems in Pakistan, especially in the country, the IMF issue, and pressure by the international community that helps to support terrorism, and that si why Pakistan is reached to be in the black list.

Mr. Ghani called to Imran Khan to congratulate Imran Khan after the telephonic telecommunication, and invited him to visit Afghanistan, which was accepted by him, but on the 14th session of the Islamic Cooperation Organization in Saudi Arabia President Hamid Karzai and Prime Minister Imran Khan talked briefly about issues related to bilateral relations, terrorism, business, peace and India's prohibitions of Pakistan's airline flights, and besides this, the National Security Advisor Hamadullah Muhib and Immigration Minister visits Pakistan, and once again they reopened to the formation of trust between the two countries.

Pakistan's economic problems and the need to build relations with Kabul

After the victory in the election of the Pakistan Justice Party in Pakistan, the economy of the country has gone downward in compare to the past, and the reasons, the demand for other loans from the World Bank, and there were a number of recommendations and conditions to be presented, that the result was that the Pakistani monetary unit have lost its value by the passage of time, against the dollar. And there are increased in prices of goods and especially oil and gas.

On the other side by the opinion of economists, the US expressed doubts with the help of the International Monetary Fund through Pakistan, which may give a China the dollar to repay the loan DC Pack projects, so it is the International Monetary Fund in difficult conditions Remembering after giving a loan to the country.

Besides, the lack of foreign investors in Pakistan also missed the country with economic slowdown, the main reasons why the Pakistani army, which has contributed a large portion of the budget for every year, has made it a huge economic slowdown this year, Its budget has reduced some part, and on the other hand, it is said that wide area of Pashtuns and Balochs in the country remembering their own rights, and behind the slogans of the military, Afghanistan Ensure that the public support of the people, as well as announcing the reduction of their budget, is also the way to which the wind is going to the west.

In Pakistan, economic deficit has decreased in comparison to the past, the current government of Pakistan considered to be an opposition government, and is accused of being created by the army, wants to comply with its commitment to Afghanistan. Live upgrade, in order to protect their economic interests in this way.

Bourbon Summit

On 22nd of June by the name of series of Lahore near to Islamabad conducted summit or gathered for the peace of Afghanistan, The two research agencies have been organized the gathering and also the Afghan political leaders and important political figures such as former prime minister Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, presidential candidate Mohammad Hanif Atmar, the head of the High Peace Council Karim Khalili, and many others are involved, some of which the Agenda And the demands of permanent nations on both sides of the Durand Line statement against.

There was also, and Mr. Atmar and Hekmatyar again highlighted the importance of Pakistan's role in Afghan peace, although the Taliban did not attend the same session, but said Pakistan's Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi in a memorandum of speech. , the country has been more effective because of internal security, and peace in Afghanistan depends on aid to secure a fixed interest of Pakistan, and the meeting was important about the views change about Pakistan called the Remembering the meeting and President Ghani's visit, like three meetings of Doha, Moscow and China, and to integrate all of this. He missed Afghanistan's support message on behalf of his country.

The meeting agenda issues which included expanding the Afghan peace, refugees and bilateral relations were, perhaps the issues are, who is from Kabul, much higher than the threats of leaders, and only at the level of people it can be useful to expand relationships.

President Ghani's visit to Pakistan and its effects on peace

On 27th of June President Ashraf Ghani, who had joined a senior government delegation, went on a two-day trip to Islamabad And this travel agenda included discussions on regional trade, trade, transit, security and peace.

President Ghani accompanied by Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi , Prime Minister Imran Khan, along with representatives of political parties and leaders alongside President Arif Alavi. and besides Islamabad Strategic Studies Institute in relations, economic development of both countries were identified economic development proposals to Pakistan, beginning of a new relationship between the Prime Minister of the two countries, Mr. Ghani, cooperation and Important shoots to create trusted space . And in support of the peace process, under the leadership of the Afghan government, in the upcoming presidential election, the country has also

called its own uninterrupted hit. Meanwhile, Pakistan authorities have pledged to open the Afghan route to Afghan trucks, and the Torkham gate pass was opened for 24 hours before the two trade-related trucks, which could be done by both sides. Countries are good and decent edge in gaining export, but that traders and truck drivers also face problems of visas, and can deliver their goods on time Pakistani market, so there may not be a good impact on the exports of Afghanistan. But it is expected to consult the trade and industry in the Prime Minister Imran Khan to Abdul Razzaq Dawood will travel to Kabul in a short time, if the direction the problem with resolve, could be good result for traders have to Mr. Ghani Lewin trip against the first deputy chief Saleh Pakistani politics and locally fail and B visitors to the upcoming presidential elections, and He added that Pakistan's support to their interests like the Taliban armed groups the taste, and the current visit of Dr. Ghani in Kabul and the international community Last wait to see how much practical steps Pakistan takes.

On the one hand, a visit to Dr. Ghani's to the agenda was considered an important milestone, and according to Pakistani officials and experts who traveled for a visit to Dr. Ghani's visit, and his country's role in peace was important, But the recent statement of Amrullah Saleh , the Taliban, was illiterate, and before the visit of Mr. Ghani, the Lebanese summit was built on peace, Called an unsuccessful meeting , and the Afghan leaders accused him that he did not defend the interests of the national community, where such statements in the peace process questioned Mr. Ghani's visit agenda.

Results and Achievements

Dr. Ghani trip with the some special silicone is having nothing special, because the Taliban have always claiming Pakistan for Taliban support. and such statements not

only condemned, but the Kabul administration Though they have also emphasized the discussion, The former ambassador to Taliban Mullah Abdul Salam showed past experiences, regional countries could not play a good role in Afghan peace, because they try their interests for their own interests, and only face the Taliban and the US Talk to Afghan Peace Proved to be useful, so far the US and Taliban talks conducted six stages, and the seventh may be started again after Qatar.

This is the way to establish a Taliban by fighting a war, and coming peace in Afghanistan is connected to them , and now Pakistan is not in the position that the Taliban can face a dialogue with the Afghan government, so Pakistan believes that it can be, play a crucial role in Afghan peace, recounts is a waste of time, and Dr. Ghani trip cannot be like previous ones, in the Afghan peace have the greatest impact, but On the other hand, it can be seen to be effective for the economic benefits of Pakistan.

Contact Us:

Email: info@csrskabul.com - csrskabul@gmail.com

Website: www.csrskabul.com - www.csrskabul.af

Office: (+93) 202564049 -+93 (0) 784089590

Note: Please let us know your feedback and suggestions for the improvement of Weekly analysis.

