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In this issue:

Mining Problems and Possible Solutions

Preface1
Afghanistan's mines and underground resources.....2
Mining Extraction Problems.....3
Corrections and Implemented Recommendations.....3
Why the amount of corruptions is high in mines?.....4
Recommendation to prevent corruption.....5

Current wars and the lost peace of the contemporary world

Preface.....6
The Lost Peace of the Contemporary World.....7
Current wars in the contemporary world.....8
Casualties and damages of war after September eleventh.....9
The world needs peace.....10

Mining Problems and Possible Solutions



Preface

Mines are a part of the natural resources that are hidden underground and of great economic value. Afghanistan has 24 different types of mines and is considered one of the richest countries in the world due to untapped natural resources. Mining economy is one of the few options in Afghanistan for rebuilding the boom economy. Accordingly, political instability, insecurity, lack of a clear legal framework, governance and policy management, lack of infrastructure and transfer agreements with neighboring countries have hampered the development of the mining sector in the country. But the natural resources of the Afghan mining sector are still regarded as an alternative and a privilege for the country's economy. In October 2017, the Joint Anti-Corruption Monitoring and Joint Independent Committee published an evaluation report on the existence of widespread corruption in the mining sector. So, in this week's analysis: A quick overview of the mines, Mac recommendations, evaluation of recommendations, why corruption in this sector is rampant and what the solutions are.

Afghanistan's mines and underground resources

The value of Afghanistan's natural resources is estimated at US \$ 3 trillion but in the 20th and 21st centuries the resources were not successfully developed. As Afghanistan's natural

resources are classified as out-of-date and stabilized, some research has been conducted in this regard. These studies show that Afghanistan has vast resources of metals, industrial minerals and construction materials, including iron, copper, and aluminum. Mines, forts, straw and zinc, gold, silver, molybdenum, sulfur, honeycomb, glue, chromite and others. According to estimated numbers, Afghanistan's many other minerals include an estimated 2.2 billion tons of coal, 1.3 billion metric tons of marble, 30 million metric tons of copper, 1.4 metric tons of rare minerals and 2700 kg of gold. In the preliminary mineral research, 24 significant areas have been identified. The first step is to submit the bid.

Mining Extraction Problems

In October 2019, the Independent Joint Anti-Corruption Monitoring and Evaluation Committee (MEC) released its Ministry-Wide Vulnerability to Corruption Assessment (MVCA) of the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum (MoMP). The original Assessment began with desk-based research in October 2017 and data collection activities took place from then until the end of July 2018, the original MVCA assessed the vulnerabilities in both MoMP's internal operations and regulation of the extractives industry in Afghanistan. It included examining corruption vulnerabilities across each step in the mining value chain for which MoMP is responsible and developing practical measures to mitigate such corruption risks, including within entities beyond MoMP and across the whole of the sector. Based on findings from this assessment, MEC identified key areas of substantial vulnerability to corruption: 1) Rent-seeking behavior; 2) Weak Ministry governance and capacity; 3) Lack of Government accountability. For rent-seeking behavior, the MVCA report focused on issues affecting information about the country's mineral reserves, Illegal mining, collection of payments of different Government agencies without authority, and political or other inappropriate interference in MoMP recruitment processes, leading to patronage, cronyism and nepotism influencing recruitment decisions. For weak Ministry governance and capacity, the MVCA team focused on poor coordination within MoMP and with other relevant agencies, lack of human, technical and financial capacity in Head Office and Provincial Directorates of MoMP, unclear or non-existence of necessary policies and regulations, weak legal frameworks to collect royalties, low salaries at MoMP, an unclear, lengthy and weak contract awards process and problems collecting production data. For the lack of Government accountability, the MCVA report focused on the failure to implement effective anti-corruption measures within MoMP, lack of due diligence in Government processes, lack of quality of internal audits, opaque and compromised contract negotiations, the limited opportunity for communities to contribute to effective monitoring of the industry and insufficient protections from and sanctions for inappropriate inspector behavior. The MVCA identified significant concerns in all three areas and issued 16 high-level recommendations for the MoMP and additional stakeholders. These general recommendations were further developed into 191 more detailed recommendations, based

on SMART-testing by MEC. SMART-testing is MEC's standard method of evaluating recommendations (or project objectives) based on assurance the actions and reforms would be Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Resultsoriented, and Time-bound.

Corrections and Implemented Recommendations

The Independent Joint Anti-Corruption Monitoring and Evaluation Committee (MEC) released its First Quarterly Monitoring Report on the implementation of its anti-corruption recommendations for the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum (MoMP), issued in MEC's Ministry-wide Vulnerability to Corruption Assessment (MVCA) of the MoMP. The original MVCA was released in October 2018 and focused on anti-corruption efforts and proposed reforms in the MoMP and relevant stakeholders. Observations of MEC's Active Follow-Up team showed improvements and MoMP's intention for implementation of the recommendations, as a specific committee had been established in MoMP to follow the implementation process of MEC's recommendations. MEC's follow up on the implementation of MoMP MVCA report's recommendations showed that 27 recommendations currently considered as fully implemented out of the total of 191 recommendations issued in the MVCA. 48 MEC recommendations have been either partially implemented or are classified as "work has started," while 116 recommendations are pending future action. Taken together, MEC's findings show that while there has been notable progress during this initial period since the launch of the MVCA Report, further progress is still required in the implementation of the MEC recommendations.

Mauritius Madinasali, Anti-Corruption Monitoring and Evaluation Committee (MEC), says: "The law on mining is a matter of special importance at the local level, which will be based on the laws of mining contracts. Establish sufficient transparency in payments and enforcement, and everyone will be able to participate in the process of obtaining contracts and, under this law, the government, the international community and civil society can pay the contract. And monitor the exclusion of such miners that such a law is unique at the Asian level.

Why the amount of corruptions is high in mines?

Mafia and powerful people: according to the executive officer of IWA, currently, 50 members of the National Assembly misuses the mines; meanwhile irresponsible armed people illegally extract mines.

Poor Monitoring: according to the report of the IWA about the mines in Afghanistan, the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum makes contracts only by the name and then does not supervise it, and as a result causes billions of Afghanis loss to Afghanistan.

Improper Management: according to the SIGAR's reports, the US applied 11 projects in the Ministry of Mines most of which have not achieved their objectives that were mentioned above. If the Ministry of Mines had properly managed these projects, corruption would have decreased spontaneously. Meanwhile, the Afghan government has not conducted proper management that is why 1400 mines are currently being extracted illegally in the country, 710 of which are in Kabul!

Recommendation to prevent corruption

The corruption in the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum can be prevented by taking these steps:

- The Ministry of Mines and Petroleum should amend the law of Mines; because there is nothing to prevent corruption in it. However, the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum has showed green light in this regard; but it must seriously pay attention to it.
- In order to avoid Mafia and powerful people in the area, the government's decision about giving the authority of mine's permissions to provincial administrations should be undone.
- The contract process of the mines should be competitive and open, so that everybody know what were the reasons behind getting the contract and losing them.
- All the contracts made by the Ministry of Mine should be published. The Ministry of Mines has published 300 of contracts but still some contracts are not among them, some important parts of some other contracts are deleted and the contracts in which the Department of Defense of the US (TFBSO) is involved are yet to be published.
- Lastly, the last 18 years of war have had devastating effects on various parts of the country which have had its effects on mining as well; We will continue to face these problems until there is permanent peace in Afghanistan.

Current wars and the lost peace of the contemporary world



Preface

September 21st, coincides with World Peace Day. Peace is one of the oldest needs and aspirations of human society that is tied to the concept of security. Whenever we define security in its contemporary sense (especially the Copenhagen school), it is the absence of any threat that ranges from military threat to cyber threat. According to this definition of peace and security, in relation to other issues, in the twenty-first century and thereafter in the 21st century, there is a great danger and threat. This week's analysis of the vulnerability of peace, the ongoing wars in the contemporary world, the aftermath of 9/11, and the need for peace in the world.

The Lost Peace of the Contemporary World

In a general sense, peace is a state of peace and security within one country and normal relations with other countries. But in today's world these are not the only concepts that remain within the definitions. Because of their uncertainty and suspicion among their governments and leaders, they have consolidated their military power, which continues to lead to war and threats to peace. Of course, the world is not only threatened by war, but also by other things such as global warming and Arctic ice melting, fires in the Amazon jungle (known for its environmental significance, six earths), military intervention in countries to "Humanitarian Intervention", Unequal Distribution of Facilities among

Residents on Earth, Flood of Developing Countries to Developed Countries, Invasion on the Pretext of Violating Human Rights or Defending Human Rights, One State's Supremacy over Other Countries, Terrorist Acts, Hunger, Poverty Unemployment, international peace and security are the two missing links in the contemporary world. To address these threats, humanitarian efforts represent a corner of their efforts to achieve peace and security, including the creation of the United Nations and the United Nations that put international peace and security at the forefront of their goals. As stated in Article 1, paragraph 1, of the Charter of the Organization, for the maintenance of the United Nations, "the maintenance of international peace and security." The United Nations also adopted resolutions on peacekeeping and non-use of force to maintain its neutrality. But since the Cold War atmosphere ruled the world, many resolutions and declarations were not taken seriously. With the end of the Cold War and the start of a new world order aimed at suppressing terrorism after 9/11, international peace and security has become a victim of world countries' policies, just as every community and country today, in terms of their beliefs, interests and goals, Define and act accordingly.

Current wars in the contemporary world

War is a term used to refer to the kinds of coercion and coercion that one state exerts over another state to force it to comply with its will. According to Clausewitz, the famous theorist "war is the continuation of politics by other means". In today's societies, war is caused by more complex theoretical and practical factors. How the war depends largely on the level of the industry. In the present era, war has posed a huge threat to humanity and civilization on earth. Because weapons, on the other hand, have become terrifying destructive powers and it is possible that limited wars can lead to the involvement of many governments. Since 9/11, there have been armed clashes between groups and governments around the globe, with increasing numbers of people preying on them every day. According to the Institute for Economic and Peace Research's 2019 Middle East and North Africa (Iraq, Syria, Yemen, Libya, Egypt, Sudan, South Sudan, Palestine, Iran, Turkey, Somalia, Niger) areas where insecurity is relative to others The areas are overcrowded and have the least amount of peaceful space. The war in the Middle East and North Africa is not a new phenomenon but has been dragging its feet since the oil was discovered there. On the other hand, the dictatorial and puppet governments of the West have led people to revolt against their own governments, and they have sought to overthrow them in 2011 when unrest and riots intensified. The unrest, dubbed the "Arab Spring", was essentially a popular uprising against the corruption and despotism of their governments. On the other hand, the instability that has arisen in different countries of the world, including the civil war insurgency in Afghanistan, the crisis in Venezuela, Ukraine, Pakistan, Myanmar, the Congo ... etc., most often lies in the hidden hands of the great powers. . In fact, the unity of

allies and the emergence of new allies through forced or voluntary means or changes in their foreign policy to succeed in competing with each other are causing unrest in these countries. While the big countries are seemingly international peace and security advocates and human rights editors, there are some implications that the barriers to their interests have not been met and justify their rape. The question is, who benefits from the ongoing wars, while humanity is averse to war as a whole? If there is no war, countries will not have to buy weapons from the great powers. Security companies and factories for chemicals and chemicals need to create an excuse to sell their products to sell their products, so they plan wars around the world that will give the government more tax and budget. Governments are growing and they are also making billions of dollars. Such companies exist in most countries around the world, and the only 6 arms companies that sell the most weapons are the Americans who make the most of the wars in the world.

Casualties and damages of war after September eleventh

According to the Institute for Economics and Peace's assessment in 2019, of the 163 countries in the world, 76 were unstable, with Afghanistan ranked first in the rest of the world, followed by Syria, South Sudan, Yemen and Iraq. In 2014 alone, more than 330,000 people were killed. That represents a 287 percent increase since 2006. The highest death toll in the Syrian civil war was in 2014, with an estimated 18,000,000. To illustrate what disaster has brought to humanity in the absence of peace, let's take a look at some of the world's current wars:

1- Afghanistan

Although the history of the current war in Afghanistan goes back more than 40 years, the ongoing war between the government and the Taliban since 2001 has caused considerable damage to the Afghan people. Victims from both sides were killed in the war, but civilians were the most victims. According to the Watson Institute estimates, from 2001 to 2015, 111,000 were killed in the Afghan war. According to Mr. Ashraf Ghani, 28592 military and police personnel were killed between 2015 and 2018. The economic cost of the war with the Afghan government has not been calculated, so we have to cite research from Oxford University scientists. The overall estimate of the economic cost of the Afghan war is \$ 5.1 billion annually, while the country's development budget reaches \$ 4.5 billion. The Taliban use a variety of tactics in their warfare, including roadside bombs, car bombs, rockets, night-vision and laser equipment that provide military equipment to the Taliban in Iran and Russia, and in some cases provide weapons to Afghan forces through clashes. Most of them are US weapons and later used on the battlefield against Afghan troops themselves. Afghan forces also use advanced weapons that few of them are equipped with and are used in special operations. But in order to suppress the Taliban in their areas of

control, they use air bombardments and military wings, which are also targeted by the inaccuracy of some civilians.

2- Yemen

Yemen War From 2015 to present Yemen war There are different versions of the story; The first story: The war is with the Housie; The second story: The war is north and south; Hunger-stricken; from 2015 until now, a series of reports by French military intelligence revealed that Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates are using US and French weapons in the Yemen war. That includes tanks, laser weapons, missile systems that Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates purchased exclusively for self-defense from France and the US, targeting civilians. In addition to purchasing guns from the US, France and the United Kingdom, they have purchased tracking systems from Sweden, marine rockets from South Korea, Italian warships, and rocket-propelled grenades from Brazil. Of course, the role of the Housie was also evident in the killing under various titles and in different ways, killing thousands of Yemenis. So far, more than 70,000,000 people have been killed in the Yemeni war and the cost of the war in Yemen has reached \$ 14 billion.

3-Syria

Syria's civil war has been ongoing since 2011. This conflict between the opposition and supporters of Bashar al-Assad's government was fought, but later external interference made it more sophisticated. At least 480,000 people were killed in the war, a Syrian human rights watchdog reports more than 100,000 casualties, with another 400,000 dead or missing. There are 5.6 million displaced people outside Syria and 6 million internally displaced. In addition to religious militias, the government of Bashar al-Assad used deadly weapons from Russia, Iran and other countries. According to some statistics, \$ 685 billion has been spent on the Syrian war.

4-Iraq

Overall, the war raged from 2003 to 2018, from 2003 to 2011 when an international coalition led by the United States and the United Kingdom invaded Iraq. And with the withdrawal of troops from Iraq, the civil war followed by the rise of ISIL in Iraq caused a continuation of the war. In this war, 182,000 people were killed in direct war, but the total number of casualties is directly and indirectly hundreds of thousands, but the number the casualties of the war are unknown, with more than one death toll. Most of the victims of the war have been killed by airstrikes, mortar shells, shootings, suicide attacks and improvised explosive devices. It needs \$ 100 billion to rebuild Iraq. As can be seen, most of the wars after September 11 are unfortunately located in the geography of the Islamic world and its victims are the Muslim people and the Islamic countries.

The world needs peace

In today's world, especially the Islamic world, more peace is needed than ever. These wars are fueled mostly by those who are renowned in the modern world. But unfortunately modern humans live in only one part of this globe, which is largely peaceful, while another part of the globe burns in the fire of war. By examining the current state of the world, we need peace more than ever, and to change that, human beings must adapt their interests and goals to all the needs and conditions of the world, and eliminate conflicts and reduce the gap between them. It must promote human values and values, peace and friendship, tolerance and tolerance for future generations. The Western world must strive to provide a peaceful life not only for them but for all humanity.

Contact Us: _____

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

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

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

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