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Evaluation Of India's Foreign Policy Towards Afghanistan After Withdrawal Of Us Troops

JUGNU ARA

Research Scholar

Department of Gandhian and Peace Studies
Mahatma Gandhi Central University, Motihari

Summary

After the death of Osama-bin-Laden, the purpose of America was fulfilled. As soon as history repeated itself and the Taliban's power was re-established in Afghanistan, it became clear that America left the citizens of Afghanistan on their condition and other countries refused to recognize the Taliban government. So the same India is standing in a state of concern about its project. In the presented paper, what will be India's position in the Taliban government and how far it can clarify its views towards the Taliban government, it has been studied.

Key words – America, India, Taliban, Foreign Policy

Objective

In the presented paper, India's relations with the Taliban government have been studied.

Material

Secondary sources like books, magazines, research papers etc. have been used.

Introduction

After nearly 20 years, the Taliban has again become the political head of Afghanistan. Being successful while countries around the world have not been in a hurry to recognize this militant organization as the legitimate government of Afghanistan, the Taliban has succeeded in establishing an interim government. It is worth noting that the US attacked Afghanistan in October 2001 to oust the Taliban from power. During the war, the number of American soldiers had reached one million ten thousand. While by December 2020, the number of American soldiers in Afghanistan The number was reduced to only 4,000. According to the US Defense Ministry, \$ 778 billion was spent between October 2001 and September 2012 during the US-Afghan war, while according to official figures of the US, between 2001 and 2019, the US spent a total of

822 in Afghanistan. Billions of dollars spent. In addition, more than 2,300 American soldiers have lost their lives in Afghanistan since the war against the Taliban began in 2001. As a US presidential candidate in 2016, Trump had said that the war in Afghanistan and Iraq would be America, trapped in the swamp, is tired of these endless wars. Former President Donald Trump had set a deadline of May 1, 2021. Finally, President Joe Biden withdrew all American troops from Afghanistan, extending the deadline.ⁱⁱ

Doha Agreement and establishment of Taliban government

On 20 February 2020, the US and the Taliban signed a peace agreement in Doha, Qatar. This peace agreement was mainly divided into four parts, which said that the use of Afghanistan's land would stop, the withdrawal of US forces under the guarantee, foreign Full withdrawal of Baloch and will start intra-Afghan talks with Taliban-Afghan and declaration of ceasefire were key.ⁱⁱⁱThe agreement was signed between Taliban negotiator Mullah Bardar and American negotiator Zalmay Khalilzad at a luxurious hotel in Doha under the supervision of US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo. After this both shook hands and people in the conference room chanted 'Allah Hu Akbar.

NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg called the agreement the first step towards "permanent power".^{iv}After prolonged speculation in Afghanistan, the form of the new government is visible, according to Taliban sources, Mullah Bardar will lead the new government in Afghanistan. At the same time, Mullah Omar's son Mulla Yakub and Sher Mohammad Stanekzai will also be given important posts in the Government. With this, the Taliban has confirmed that they are going to make their biggest religious leader, Mullah Hebtullah Akhundzada, the supreme leader of Afghanistan.^v

India's strategy in Afghanistan

The relation between India and Afghanistan is not only on economic basis but also on cultural basis. India has long claimed its historical, cultural and traditional relationship with Afghanistan. Even many Afghans including President Hamid Karzai in India were partially educated. But after the withdrawal of US forces, China and Pakistan have not lagged behind in establishing and recognizing the Taliban government, so the same India also wants to clarify its foreign policy on Afghan policy. The talks between them have not been officially confirmed. But there is a strong possibility that talks have started between the Indian government and the Taliban leaders because last month the Taliban clarified that there is no harm to India because of the Taliban.^{vi}India also wants to pursue its policy peacefully. This is because the Indian government has invested about \$ 3 billion in Afghanistan. This amount is more than the development works being run by China, Russia and Iran in Afghanistan. However, Indian government sources have said that the Indian government will not hold any talks with Haqqani Network and Quetta Sura. Both these networks are organizations created by Pakistan, which have been ruining the peace of Afghanistan for a long time.^{vii}The biggest objective of India's investment in Afghanistan was that the Taliban should not be captured there and the country should not become a puppet in the hands of Pakistan. After the establishment of the Taliban

government, India's biggest challenge is to maintain peace and order in Kashmir. It is constantly keeping an eye on the Taliban.

It is feared that Pakistan is trying to spread unrest in Jammu and Kashmir through Taliban fighters, but even after investing billions of rupees, India is not in a position to do diplomacy in the politics of Afghanistan. Be involved in taking decisions. After the Taliban rule, now Afghanistan has become a bigger threat to South and Central Asia than before. But India has no option to stop it because China and Pakistan are supporting the Taliban. In this regard, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said that India has invested only in friendship with Afghanistan. Therefore, India's attitude towards Afghanistan will be wait and watch. But if India does not clarify its position soon, then in Afghanistan \$11 billion Hajigak Mine Project and Iran's Chahbar It can also have an impact on the port project, as well as China's strategy talks with the Taliban is also becoming a challenge for India.^{viii}

Conclusion

The problem before the Indian government is whether it should recognize the Taliban or not. It is also a question of more strategic importance than human rights for India, which seems to be standing in favor of China and Pakistan. On one hand, Pakistan is considering it as its big victory. So on the other hand, China, under its imperialist policy, wants to use the land of Afghanistan to fulfill its political aspirations. It is also very difficult to find the way to peace. Russia and America have been big players in Afghanistan, while India has been associated with Afghanistan only at the level of cultural and education. It is very difficult to believe his claim. It is clear that the power of Afghanistan gives a lot of strength to Pakistan strategically by coming to the hands of Taliban. Therefore India has a way to decide its foreign policy by being impartial. Do it keeping the interest of the country in mind.

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