

Pakistan always supports peace in Afghanistan: NSA



By:
Staff Report

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ISLAMABAD: Lt. Gen (Retd) Nasir Khan Janjua, National Security Adviser said, war can never be a road to peace and Pakistan was the only country which had always stood next to Afghanistan and its people for peace and stability.

He expressed these views at the closing ceremony of the Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI) and German organisation Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF's) joint two-day international conference on 'Evolving Situation in Afghanistan: Role of Major powers and Regional Countries.

He said that Pakistan always stood with the right. Even now, when the world is saying that Pakistan is not doing enough, even now when our efforts are undermined, this country, its people, its government remain strongly and unequivocally committed to peace and stability in Afghanistan.

Addressing in the presence of delegates from Kabul, Washington, Tehran, Beijing, Ankara and Moscow, Janjua said that the notions of victory are not visible from any side especially not to the Afghan people, and certainly not to its children.

Initially aimed at driving out Al-Qaida and Taliban from Afghanistan based purely on the desire for vengeance, the post 9/11 US intervention has had the most far-reaching consequences for Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Earlier, Aizaz Ahmed Chaudhry, Foreign Secretary, while chairing the session on 'Role of States Assisting Peace in Afghanistan, emphasised that for effective counter-terrorism, strengthening border controls to regulate the movements across the border was vital.

He stressed the need for a positive response from the Afghan government regarding effective border management. He further pointed out that vested interests had often tried to create a perception that Pakistan controls Taliban. Such an impression breeds unrealistic expectations from Pakistan.

While, discussing the reasons behind the US launching a war in Afghanistan, Dr. Vanda Felbab-Brown from the Foreign Policy Programme at Brookings Institution, Washington, DC, stated that countering terrorism and disempowering terrorist groups in the country and making Afghanistan stable and peaceful had been the core objectives behind the US war on terror.

Peter Topychkanov from the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Moscow Center said that Russia's primary concern in Afghanistan was maintaining security in the Afghan-Central Asian region. Moscow seeks to prevent instability in Central Asian countries, some of which — Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Kazakhstan — are its allies in the Collective Security Treaty Organisation (CSTO).

Dr. Wang Xu, Executive Deputy Director, Center for South Asian Studies, Peking University said that China and Pakistan should strengthen their cooperation, play constructive roles and support the principle of Afghan-led and Afghan-owned to ensure the comprehensiveness, legitimacy and continuity of Afghan peace and reconciliation to achieve substantive stability and prosperity of the whole region at the earliest.

In the session on 'Transnational Security Problems & Neighbouring Regions', Dr. Zubair Iqbal, Adjunct Scholar, Middle East Institute, Washington, DC, discussed the stakes and role of Saudi Arabia in Afghanistan.

Mir Mahmood Mousavi, former Ambassador of Iran to Pakistan analysed Niches of Iranian Engagement in Afghanistan and shared the situation with a 900km border with Afghanistan. Iran had strong stakes in seeing a stable neighbour and hence wanted to play a constructive role like it did during the Bonn conference in late 2001, when the country broke a stalemate over the composition of Afghanistan's first post-Taliban government.

Orkhan Gafarov from Ankara Policy Center evaluated the multi-faceted linkages between Afghanistan and Central Asian States. He gave an in-depth overview of bilateral relations between Afghanistan and Central Asian Countries.

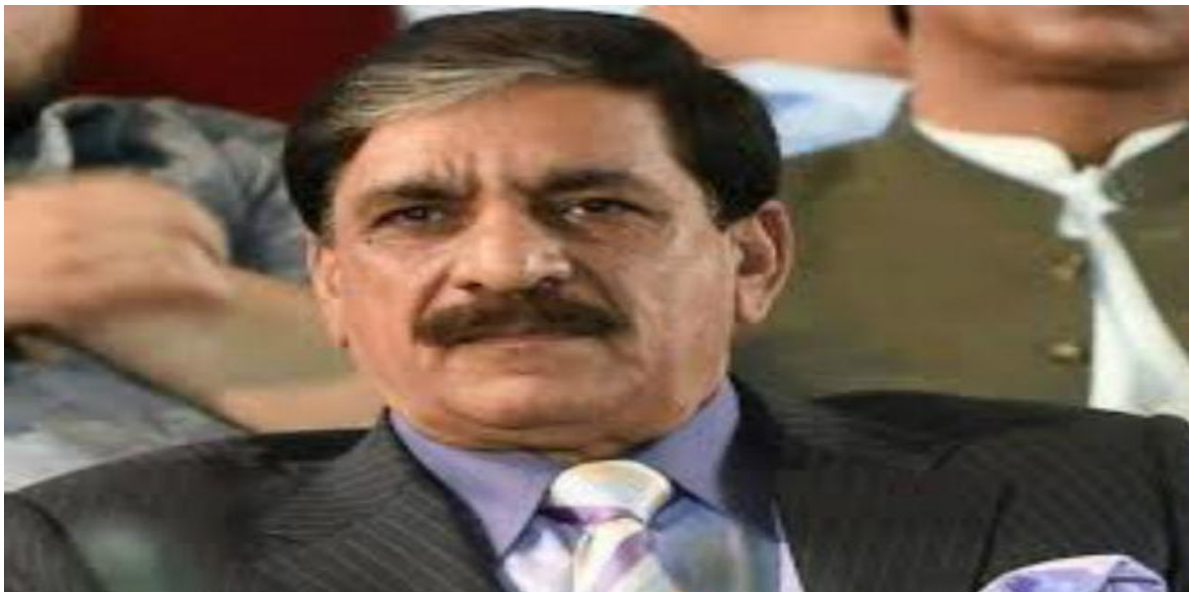
He warned that since more and more young people from Afghanistan and Central Asian countries were going to Daesh camps in Syria, NATO's withdrawal plan from Afghanistan should be examined more closely. The session was chaired by the former Secretary Defence and Lt General (R) Asif Yasin Malik.

Daily Pakistan

Global

Peace in Afghanistan responsibility of intl community: Nasir Janjua

- PakistanWorld
- Khawaja Daud
- May 19, 2016 6:37 pm



ISLAMABAD (Staff Report) – While rejecting allegations that Pakistan is not serious about Afghanistan's peace process, National Security Adviser Lt Gen (r) Nasir Janjua said that establishing peace in the war-torn country was the international community's collective responsibility.

“Pakistan wants peace and stability to prevail in Afghanistan. And we stand with the world for Afghanistan’s stability,” the NSA said while addressing a conference in Islamabad on Thursday.

Related: COAS orders opening of Torkham after meeting Afghan Ambassador

On the issue of proliferation of terrorists from across the border, Janjua said that Taliban militants often found shelter with displaced Afghan refugees. He also stressed the importance of managing the border with Afghanistan.

Janjua said that Pakistanis have shared their homes and hospitality with migrants coming from Afghanistan.

“Our hearts beat for Afghanistan. We are a peace loving nation and wish for prevalence of peace and stability in Afghanistan,” he added.

He also said that refugees are at times used for purposes such as smuggling and terrorism.



“Pakistan did not get anything in return for taking in the three million displaced Afghan people,” Janjua said while referring to the influx of Afghan refugees to Pakistan following the Soviet–Afghan War in 1980s.

Last week, the Pak-Afghan border at Torkham was closed after Afghan authorities protested the installation of a border fence and barbed wire by Pakistan, in a bid to stop illegal border crossing.

Afghanistan authorities later announced that they had no objection to the fencing in Pakistani territory.

Evolving Situation in Afghanistan

Friday, 20 May, 2016 15:31 PST



Nasir A.mughal

'War can never be a road to peace. Pakistan is the only country which has always stood next to Afghanistan and its people and for world peace. We have always stood with the right. Even now, when the world is saying we are not doing enough, even now when our efforts are undermined, this country, its people, its government remain strongly and unequivocally committed to peace and stability in Afghanistan. These were some of the passionate and heartfelt thoughts shared by Lt. Gen (Retd) Nasir Khan Janjua, National Security Adviser, at the closing ceremony of IPRI-HSF's joint two-day international conference on 'Evolving Situation in Afghanistan: Role of Major powers and Regional Countries.'

Addressing a packed hall of delegates from Kabul, Washington, Tehran, Beijing, Ankara and Moscow, Mr. Janjua remarked that the notions of victory are not visible from any side especially not to the Afghan people, and certainly not to its children. Initially aimed at driving out Al-Qaida and Taliban from Afghanistan based purely on the desire for vengeance, post 9/11 U.S. intervention has had the most far-reaching consequences for Afghanistan and Pakistan. The presence of foreign troops in the region has added further complexity to the existing volatile mix of ethnic and religious tensions, he said. Talking about the objections of

Afghan authorities when Pak-Afghan border at Torkham was closed, he posed a simple question, 'can a house be protected without having any boundary wall or fence?' He confessed that focusing on military options alone has not allowed the political processes to take root in Afghanistan and this strategy has greatly injured the Afghan people. While Pakistan's role is that of a facilitator, real reconciliation needs to take place between the New Unity Government and the Afghan Taliban, he stressed.

Similar views were echoed by Aizaz Ahmed Chaudhry, Foreign Secretary of Pakistan, when he emphasized that for effective counterterrorism, strengthening border controls to regulate the movements across the border is vital. He stressed the need for positive response from the Afghan government regarding effective border management. While chairing the session on 'Role of States Assisting Peace in Afghanistan', he further pointed out that vested interests have often tried to create a perception that Pakistan controls Taliban. Such an impression breeds unrealistic expectations from Pakistan. The mistrust between the two countries has also taken its toll on the efforts for peace and stability in Afghanistan. The blame game only serves those who do not want intra-Afghan reconciliation. 'It is important that inter-state parleys should not be conducted through media', he said.

Discussing the reasons behind the U.S. launching a war in Afghanistan, Dr. Vanda Felbab-Brown from the Foreign Policy Program at Brookings Institution, Washington, DC, stated that countering terrorism and disempowering terrorist groups in the country and making Afghanistan stable and peaceful have been the core objectives behind the U.S. War on Terror. Given the precariousness of the security situation, the U.S. has also reversed its previous decision to reduce U.S. military troops in Afghanistan. Instead, at least in 2017, U.S. troops would be reduced to 5,600 from 10,000. However, reduction of forces will be a great challenge for ISAF, she predicted. Nonetheless, the U.S. is keenly supportive of the dialogue process, she said. Contrary to many perceptions, 'war is not in United States' interest, it is not a U.S. objective. The U.S. does not want perpetual conflict in Afghanistan; it wants South Asian countries to be stable', she emphasized.

'Russia's primary concern in Afghanistan is maintaining security in the Afghan-Central Asian region. Moscow seeks to prevent instability in Central Asian countries, some of which—Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Kazakhstan—are its allies in the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO),' said Petr Topychkanov from the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Moscow Center. He deliberated that while a peaceful, stable, and developing Afghanistan would be in Russia's interest, Moscow does not have vital stakes in any of the possible Afghan regimes. Thus, it would be dangerous and pointless for Russia to get involved in Afghanistan's internal power struggle, he pointed out. Moscow can work with any potential leaders in Kabul and maintain ties with any regional or ethnic groups as long as they do not engage in activities directed against Russia. An unstable Afghanistan does, however, pose indirect risks to Russia's security, primarily in the form of the drug traffic that originates on Afghan territory and reaches the Russian market through Central Asian countries, he said. Moscow can engage in focused diplomacy inside Afghanistan and in relations with regional powers, under CSTO and use the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), as a platform for diplomacy. However, in order to use these tools effectively, Moscow will need to develop a cohesive strategy, he admitted.

'China and Pakistan should strengthen their cooperation, play constructive roles and support the principle of *Afghan-led and Afghan-owned* to ensure the comprehensiveness, legitimacy and continuity of Afghan peace and reconciliation to achieve substantive stability and prosperity of the whole region at the earliest,' shared Dr. Wang Xu, Executive Deputy Director, Center for South Asian Studies, Peking University. He was discussing China's Afghan Diplomacy and Objectives. The news of Mullah Omar's death was a watershed moment in the Afghan security situation, but Islamic State (IS) from Middle East has been trying to influence the region, implication of which should not be neglected, he said. Instability in Afghanistan will also pose a serious threat to successful completion of China Pakistan Economic Corridor, he warned.

In the session on 'Transnational Security Problems & Neighbouring Regions', Dr. Zubair Iqbal, Adjunct Scholar, Middle East Institute, Washington, D.C., discussed the stakes and role of Saudi Arabia in Afghanistan. He shared that while younger leadership that seems to be taking over decision making in the new Saudi government is clearly more interested in addressing domestic economic challenges than those far afield, it is critical that they should consider increased economic linkage with Afghanistan as a foundation for developing a more strategic relationship with the country. 'Increased trade and employment of Afghan expatriate workers could not only help develop an alternative and a more durable source of income than foreign aid for Afghanistan, it could also develop a constituency in Afghanistan that could support Saudi initiatives for peace. Saudi private sector investment in the mining and agricultural sectors could be mutually beneficial, providing employment opportunities in Afghanistan, helping develop skills, and—perhaps, in conjunction with the Chinese OBOR initiative—diversifying the Afghan economy and strengthening economic links with Central Asia.

Mir Mahmood Mousavi, former Ambassador of Iran to Pakistan analysed *niches of Iranian engagement in Afghanistan* shared that with a 900km border with Afghanistan, Iran has strong stakes in seeing a stable neighbor and hence wants to play a constructive role like it did during the Bonn conference in late 2001, when the country broke a stalemate over the composition of Afghanistan's first post-Taliban government. He said that Iran is actively engaged in the country, spurred in part by shared cultural ties, as well as through economic and financial investments worth US\$ 500 million. However, like other regional delegates at the Conference, Ambassador Mousavi raised concerns that the Taliban insurgency is funded in large part by narcotics trafficking, and Iran is a chief destination. This illicit trade fuels Iran's acute drug crisis.

Mr. Orkhan Gafarov from Ankara Policy Center evaluated the multi-faceted linkages between Afghanistan and Central Asian States. He gave an in-depth overview of Bilateral Relations between Afghanistan and Central Asian Countries. He shared that the Shanghai Cooperation Organization is seen as an important player by Central Asian Region through which they are more eager to develop their security policies. He opined that Russia's Afghanistan policy considerably affect the foreign policies of Central Asian countries because these countries have not sufficiently developed militarily, and politically. He warned that since more and more young people from Afghanistan and Central Asian countries are

going to Daesh camps in Syria, NATO's withdrawal plan from Afghanistan should be examined more closely.

The session was chaired by the former Secretary Defense and Lt General (R) Asif Yasin Malik.

The two-day moot ended with all the delegates in unanimous agreement that the dream of an inter-connected and economically integrated region cannot be realized without a peaceful Afghanistan. Long-term peace and stability in Afghanistan requires synchronization of efforts by Afghanistan, neighbouring and regional countries as well as broader international community including the United States, Russia, China, EU and other major players.



Pakistan wants peace, stability in Afghanistan: NSA Nasir Janjua

May 17, 2016 | By [Web Desk](#) | [Pakistan](#)

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ISLAMABAD: National Security Adviser (NSA) of Pakistan Lieutenant General (R) Nasir Janjua on Tuesday said that Pakistan wants peace and stability to prevail in Afghanistan.

NSA Janjua was addressing an event at Islamabad where he said that Pakistanis have shared their homes and hospitality with migrants coming from Afghanistan.

"Our hearts beat for Afghanistan. We are a peace loving nation and wish for prevalence of peace and stability in Afghanistan," he said.

On the issue of proliferation of terrorists from across the border, NSA Janjua said that Taliban militants often find refuge through displaced Afghans and those making their way to Pakistan.

Border management with Afghanistan is a crucial issue, NSA Janjua said.

He also said that refugees are at times used for purposes such as smuggling and terrorism.

"Pakistan did not get anything in return for taking in the three million displaced Afghan people," Janjua said while referring to the influx of Afghan refugees to Pakistan following the Soviet–Afghan War in 1980s.

Last week, the Pak-Afghan border at Torkham was closed after Afghan authorities protested when Pakistan started installing fence and barbed wire to stop illegal border crossing.

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**Pakistan only country which always stood next to Afghanistan:
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20 May, 2016

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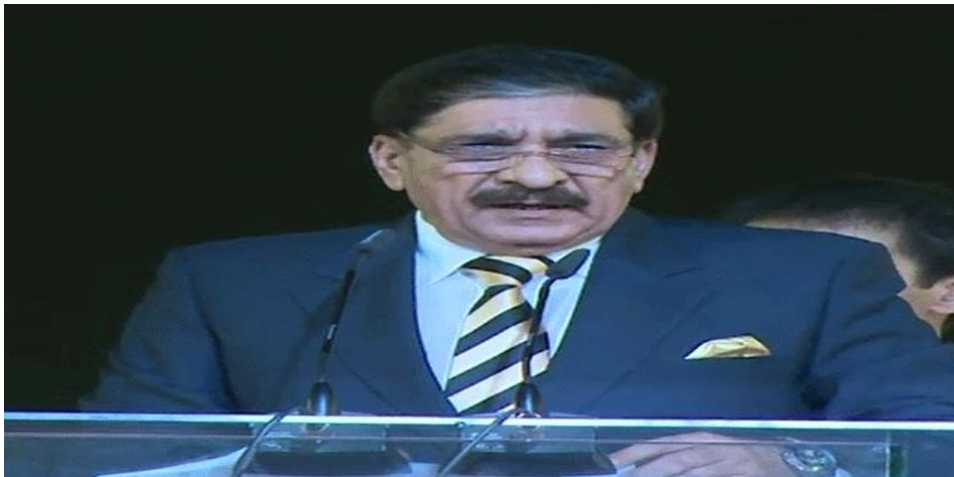
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--Pakistan Telegraph--

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Pakistan Telegraph (ANI) *Thursday 19th May, 2016*



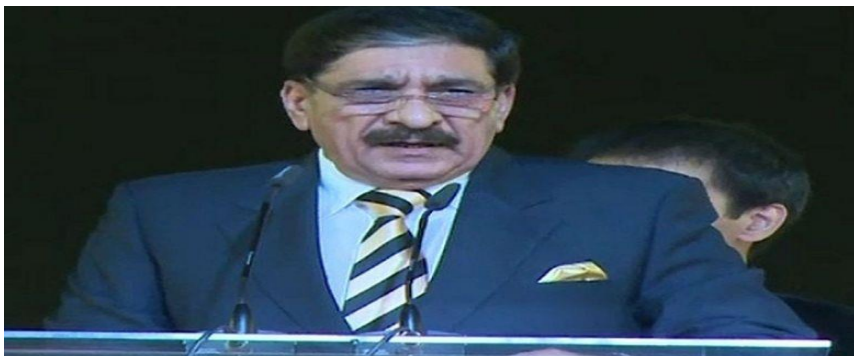
Islamabad, May 19(ANI): The National Security Adviser of Pakistan, Lt. Gen. Nasir Janjua (Retired) on Thursday said that Islamabad wants peace and stability in Afghanistan.

He also asserted that establishment of peace in Afghanistan is collective responsibility of the international community, while addressing conference in here, reports Radio Pakistan.

Lt. Gen. Janjua said that Pakistan stands with world for stability of the Afghanistan and asserted that border management with Kabul was a crucial issue. (ANI)



PAKISTAN STANDS WITH AFGHANISTAN FOR REGIONAL PEACE: NASIR JANJUA



May 19, 2016 Published in **General**

Adviser to National Security Lt. General (R) Nasir Janjua said that Pakistan stand with Afghanistan for regional peace, while he urged international community to fulfill collective responsibility for peace in Afghanistan.

Addressing the conference held in Islamabad for Afghan conflict resolve, Nasir Janjua said that Pakistan had not invited Soviet Union to attack on Afghanistan, even though Pakistan stood with Afghanistan to help Afghani people, hence our intentions were deemed wrong.

Janjua demanded to stop allegation.

He further said that today efforts were being made to establish peace in Afghanistan, hence instead of leveling allegations, the international community should research to find out the reason, why 48 countries jointly, could not establish peace in Afghanistan.

He said that Pakistan carried out indiscriminate operations against Taliban, in which Pakistan secured several successes.

Business Standard

Pakistan wants peace, stability in Afghanistan: NSA Janjua

ANI | Islamabad May 19, 2016 Last Updated at 18:15 IST

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All the Parties of Afghan Dispute will Have to Accept Its Responsibilities: IPRI Conference

Views: 64 05/21/2016 [National](#) [No comments](#)



Arif Qureshi

Islamabad: The Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI) with the support of German organization Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF's) organized the two-day international conference on 'Evolving Situation in Afghanistan': Role of Major powers and Regional Countries here at Islamabad on Wednesday, Thursday. There was somehow consensus among the speaker that allegations from any side will harm Afghanistan's peace process. Irrespective of allegation all the parties of dispute Pakistan and Afghanistan will have to accept its responsibilities which lead to the ultimate goal of peak and stability in the region.

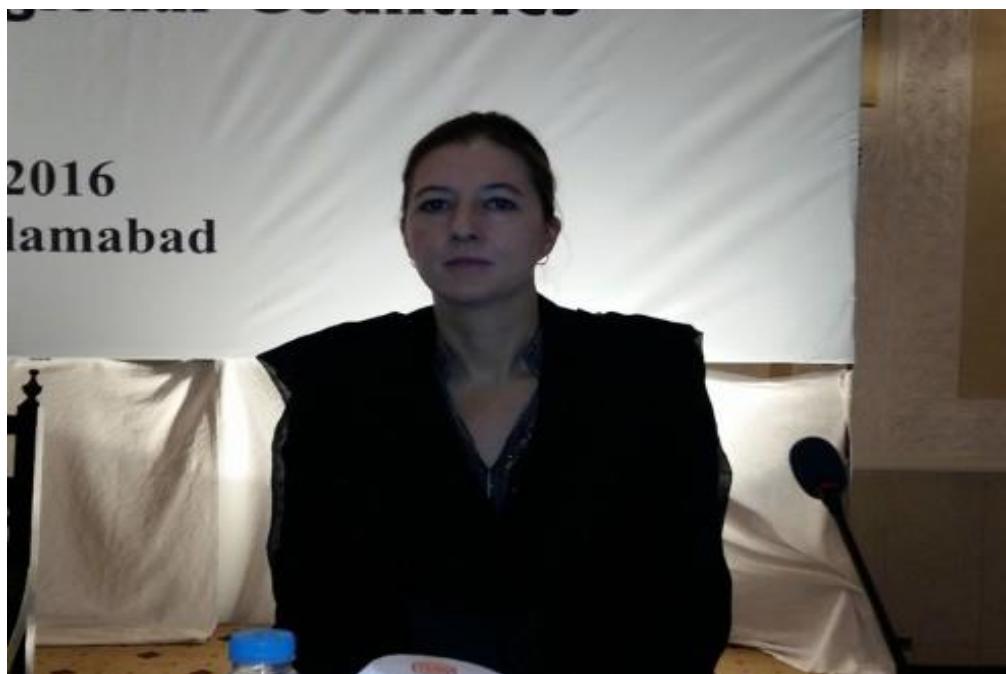
Dr. Vanda Felbab-Brown from Brookings Institution, Washington, Peter Topychkanov from International Peace, Moscow Center, Dr. Wang Xu, from, Center for South Asian Studies, China, Mir Mahmood Mousavi, from Iran, Orkhan Gafarov from Ankara Policy Center, Ambassador (r) Aziz Ahmad Khan, senior journalist Rahimullah Yousafzai, Centre for Strategic and Regional Studies (CSRS) Kabul Director Dr Adul Baqi Amin, national and internationally renowned speakers also presented their views in the two days international conference.



Addressing the conference Federal Minister for States and Frontier Regions Lieutenant General (r) Abdul Qadir Baloch has said that Pakistan is seriously facilitating Afghan-led peace process for lasting harmony in Afghanistan.

Pakistan's role in Heart of Asia and Quadrilateral Coordination Group (QCG) has been vibrant in actively pursuing peace process. Speaking at a conference on 'Evolving Situation in Afghanistan – role of major powers and regional countries', Abdul Qadir Baloch said that Pakistan has been facing multidimensional challenges due to instability in Afghanistan and in the country as well.

Dr. Vanda Felbab-Brown from the Foreign Policy Programme at Brookings Institution, Washington, DC, stated that countering terrorism and disempowering terrorist groups in the country and making Afghanistan stable and peaceful had been the core objectives behind the US war on terror.



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[With the Inputs of Media]