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Considering recent circumstances, there is a window of opportunity for the international community and India to reset their approach to peace and development process in Afghanistan. Analysis.

Historically, Afghanistan has been a rough and tough terrain to deal with. Once a prosperous country, is reeling under the cold war powerplay, that has started to drain the resources, energy off the involved players. Successive peace talks have failed with Taliban which wants whole of Afghanistan under its sphere.

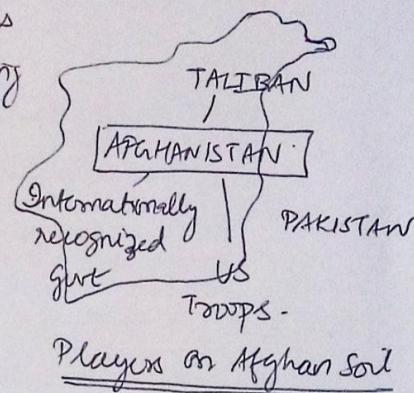
Derailed: Wagon of hope for resetting ties]

The urge for United States to remove its troops is wedged between a stalemate battle and face saving exit.

I India - Afghanistan

Concerns for India about Afghan peace.

- Civil war destabilizes South Asia
- Pakistan directed terrorism can threaten external security of India
- Development ties gets affected.
- foothold of terrorism.



What India can do in this process?

- 1) India has been a mere spectator as it had not been involved in direct peace talks with Taliban.
- 2) India adheres to Bonn Agreement of 2001 which calls for Afghan led-Afghan owned constitutionally mandated government.
 - India can support the conduct of peaceful, fair elections.
 - It has been helping its neighbours to install democracy by conducting Election Commission conference, when Afghanistan was also a major part of it.
- 3) Taliban continues to threaten by disrupting the process of elections. Hence, ramping up security is important.

→ India already has strategic defense partnership

→ can aid us for strengthening military infrastructure

→ Afghanistan's military, training by India and Russia together

4) Crucial to Afghanistan's future is its ability to stand on its own feet.
Developmental and economic aids.

→ formalisation of Chahbahar port, TAPI

→ Boosting cultural ties through education, infrastructure.

→ Boost Afghanistan's mineral sector.

5) Support Af-Pak Policy of US, Istanbul process. To strengthen Afghanistan
Being a full time SCO member, subregional consensus on terrorism
can be pushed forward by pressuring Pakistan.

II Afghanistan - International Community

West Asian countries have chosen not to get involved in another war front.
On other side, Pakistan is using its Taliban leverage to favour its role on world order causing terrorism concerns. Thus, International community

- 1) Help forging a national consensus to engage Taliban in government.
- 2) Mediate peace talks on international forum to avoid dictation by any single country.
- 3) Pressure Taliban by cutting its funding. Help them to demonstrate their peaceful nationalism.
- 4) Dehypenise Pakistan-Taliban relationship through sanctions pressure
- 5) Finalize on 'Convention on Terrorism'.
- 6) Post war economic aids must be planned with government.

India fears the collateral damage of any security situation in Afghanistan. At a time, when Pakistan is trying to play foul with India's internal matter of Article 370 and Kashmir, India must join with world communities to try reset the age old battle for prosperity in South Asia.