

Q-7) India finds itself on the margins of international diplomacy on Afghanistan despite having stood by the country economically and historically. Critically analyse the need for changed Afghan policy and corrective diplomatic action for better neighbourhood. (250)

India and Afghanistan have been on good terms but after the US-Taliban deal India is being sidelined on global platforms related to Afghan issues.

Recently India was not included in United Nations Security Council meeting which was held to discuss issues of Afghanistan and Taliban.

India's ties with Afghanistan:-

Economic ties:-

- 1) Building of Salma Dam as a symbol of friendship.
- 2) Building of Parliament Complex by India which was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- 3) Construction of 240 km long highway for connecting Afghanistan with Chabahar Port.

India's Stand of Taliban:-

India has always been supporter of "afghan led, afghan owned" government and has not been involved in any talks with Taliban.

Changing Scenarios:-

- 1) With US-Taliban deal and withdrawal of US security forces from Taliban it's now time for Indian diplomacy to rethink on its strategies.
- 2) The Afghan President Mr. Ashraf Ghani has been supporter of India but this time he also didn't lobbied for India's interference.
- 3) Indian government should consider about talks with all political groups of Taliban as now Mr. Ghani and his rival Abdullah Abdullah has joined have come together.

Afghanistan's Importance:-

- 1) Shelter for terrorists groups of Pakistan, the reason why Pakistan is always against Indian interference in Afghanistan.
- 2) Link to Central Asia and Europe trade routes especially after cargo air space deal has been signed in 2017.

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Despite all ~~the~~ ^{that} previously India
has done for afghanistan, it always
finds itself on margins of
international diplomacy. India needs
to take corrective diplomatic
action even at this stage and
must consider talking with all
possible stakeholders in afghanistan
and must bring change in current
afghan policy.