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Afghan Youth Awaits Proper Attention

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Afghanistan is a large country with a large population. It is estimated that Afghanistan's present population is about 36 million. Those between the ages of 15 to 35 form more than 50 percent of the total population. We count them all as the youth. These comprise students, employees, workers, farmers and persons from various professions including large number of unemployed, uneducated or otherwise. These young people constitute a large force. They are energetic, enthusiastic and full of zeal. Unfortunately a large number of them is without any direction. In addition to the bad governance and meager services delivered by the incumbent government would increase their frustration –increasing the chances of their manipulation by anti-state elements.

It is a great national wastage if these energetic hands and brains are not provided with some sort of work to meet the needs of the nation. What is needed is that they should be taken into confidence and given a direction—some constructive work. This massive manpower can do wonders provided its enthusiasm is harnessed for development work. Afghanistan youth have never lagged behind when called upon to meet a challenge. It is for the national leaders to play their part by mobilizing their abilities and providing them with a direction instead of letting them at the reach of extremist elements.

There can be a large number of schemes, projects and programs wherein their total involvement will bring quicker and better results. They can play a pivotal role in the socio-economic regeneration of the society. There are many evil practices in our society. If the youth is associated in a drive against these practices, the results may be much more satisfactory. There may be schemes connected with the raising of the level of production in agriculture. The youth may be assigned the job of dissemination of knowledge for better farming, new techniques and

proper use of fertilizers and pesticides. What is required is that they may be given adequate training in these tasks. In a drive against economic offences, their energy may be used in molding public opinion in favor of eradication and prevention of such offences. The youth may work successfully as an arm of the administration in the implementation of governmental programs aimed at fighting against these and other maladies.

Another field wherein their energy may be gainfully employed is the task of adult education and universalization of education. Being given a little dose of incentive, encouragement and support, they may take over the great responsibility of fulfilling the targets fixed by the government. Their services may similarly be utilized for preventing and fighting offences like smuggling, black-marketing and hoarding. They can at least create public opinion against those who indulge in such unfair practices. However, in order for continuous success to take place; it is the Government's responsibility to provide the youth with proper facilities for getting equipped with the knowledge of the modern era.