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Xinhua

India steps up training of Afghan military personnel

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India is stepping up training of Afghan military and security personnel before the pullout of U.S. and Nato-led troops from Afghanistan, according to local media Saturday.

The Times of India daily quoted unnamed sources of the Defense Ministry here as saying that "a major Indian bid has been launched for capability enhancement of the Afghan National Army (ANA)" to ensure that it can handle internal security after the withdrawal of the 100,000 foreign soldiers by the end of 2014.

India has been so far focusing its aid to Afghanistan on reconstruction and development, but it is now boosting the capacity building for the ANA by increasing the number of Afghan military and security personnel being trained by Indian military from 574 in 2012 to over 1,000 now, said the report.

India has also sent some military officers and doctors to Afghanistan for training, medical missions, while considering arms supplies to Kabul, said the report.