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## Talks ‘ongoing’ to finalize the Afghan-US security deal

December 15, 2013

A senior government official has said that Afghan and US officials are holding secret talks to finalize the controversial bilateral security agreement between the two nations.

The official further added that the two sides have made developments on a number of issues, which will hopefully pave the way for the signing of the agreement.

The deadlock over bilateral security agreement between Kabul and Washington has sparked tensions among the Afghan people, who fear that the security situation could turn worse if the pact is not signed.

Afghan senators also voiced concerns regarding the Afghan-US security deal deadlock which has created tensions among the Afghan people.

The senators said Sunday that the delay by the Afghan government to sign the security deal with Washington had negative impact on the economy and investment in Afghanistan.

An Afghan senator, Gul Ahmad Azimi said that delaying the security deal is also having a negative impact on the moral of the Afghan national security forces.

Chairman of the Afghan senate house, Fazal Hadi Muslimyar also urged President Hamid Karzai to respect the resolution of the consultative Loya Jirga on bilateral security agreement between Kabul and Washington.

The consultative Loya Jirga which was organized last month approved the deal between Kabul and Washington by majority and urged president Karzai to sign the deal without any further delay.

However, President Hamid Karzai set new demands for Washington to sign the deal, and called for an immediate halt to US raids on Afghan homes.