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Taliban mulling peace talks as Afghan govt opts military option

May 2, 2016

The Taliban militants group is mulling to participate in peace talks days after the Afghan government announced strict military actions against the group as efforts to revive peace process did not yield any positive result.

The announcement by the Afghan government followed a deadly coordinated car bomb attack in Kabul that left at least 64 dead and 347 others wounded.

However, a delegation of the Taliban group representing their political office in Qatar have said the group is willing to resume the stalled peace talks.

The delegation reportedly met with the Pakistani authorities in Islamabad during visit which was originally announced by the group to focus on border issues and condition of the refugees in the country.

According to the Pakistani officials familiar with Taliban delegation's visit to Islamabad, the trip's objective was to explore the possibility of direct talks with Kabul, local media reports stated.

The Chinese representatives also reportedly participated in the talks between the Islamabad and the Taliban delegation.

“For this purpose, we told the Taliban delegation that they have to agree on cessation of violence inside Afghanistan,” an official privy of the developemnt told The Express Tribune.

This comes as President Ghani asked Pakistan to take actions against the Taliban group leaderships based in Peshawar and Quetta cities of Pakistan.

President Ghani made the call during a gathering in capital Kabul following the deadly attack, specifying the government’s stance towards the peace process and fight against the militant groups.

He warned to take the issue to the international organizations including the UN Security Council if Pakistan failed to take any action against the group in its soil.