

November 6th, 2018 Sample Current Affairs

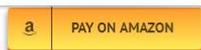
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1. Afghanistan election results matter to India: In polls under Taliban shadow, test for two countries.

- What is the significance of this election for Afghans?**
- Why the afghan election results matter the most for India?**
- What is the way forward?**

GS paper 2 (India and its neighbourhood relations)

In this video, you can find detailed answers for all the above questions.

The above article has been retrieved from:

Frank F Islam . (2018, November , 04).
US-India trade relations: India should keep cool, keep calm, and carry on. Hindustan Times. Retrieved from
<https://www.hindustantimes.com/analysis/us-india-trade-relations-india-should-keep-cool-keep-calm-and-carry-on/story-qnd8dZe54NOgNqTBXqqc2H.html>

What is the context about?

- In Afghanistan, the path to democracy has often been challenged by violence perpetrated by Taliban. This was the third time Afghans have voted in the post-Taliban period.**
- The poll is long overdue. Bitter wrangling over electoral reform since the stalemate of the 2014 presidential poll has delayed it by three-and-a-half years.**

- ❑ According to latest UN data, seven Afghan adults and two children on an average were killed every day in the first six months of this year, with another 19 civilians injured each day. About 90% of the attacks are believed to be by the Taliban.

What is the significance of this election for Afghans?

- ❑ Most Afghans are desperate for a better life, jobs, education and an end to the war with the Taliban.
- ❑ For the country's foreign partners, seeing a flourishing democracy would be the return they're seeking after many years of investment, billions of dollars spent and thousands of lives lost in more than a decade of fighting.
- ❑ This will be the third parliamentary election since the Taliban were removed in 2001.

Why the afghan election results matter the most for India?

- ❑ India, which has provided assistance of \$2 billion towards reconstruction and development projects, committed \$1 billion last year. This was announced after US President Donald Trump unveiled a South Asia strategy.
- ❑ India, which has differences with the US, Russia and other international partners in dealing with Taliban, has backed Afghanistan's democratically elected government, led by Ghani, on dealing with Taliban.

- ❑ But, if the poll outcome favours forces ready to align with Taliban, New Delhi's plans may suffer a setback. So, despite US pressure, it has been careful in not putting its boots on the ground.

What is the way forward?

- ❑ As it waits for the poll outcome, India has its task cut out in staying the course in helping the strife-torn country, in the face of security challenges and threats to Indian nationals and interests.
- ❑ And New Delhi may have to experience all four types of emotions — optimism, pessimism, frustration and inspiration, as described by the top diplomat.