

Can't expect help from Pakistan, they are liars, says Afghan NSA

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Kabul: There was no hope of help from Pakistan in peace talks with the Taliban group, a media report today quoted Afghanistan's National Security Adviser Mohammad Hanif Atmar as saying.

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In an interview with Gandhara/RFERL, Atmar said: "We have received messages from Pakistan as we have diplomatic relations. Our President has told them we have no hope that they will help us with peace talks."

"He (Afghan President) told Pakistan that they promised they would go against those who do not want peace talks, but they did not do this. They lied to us," he added.

Questioning Pakistan's honesty in the fight against terrorism, Atmar said: "Islamabad said the Taliban leader was not in Pakistan, but then we saw Mullah Mansur had a Pakistani ID card when he was killed while travelling inside Pakistan."

"We asked them very clearly: Why are you lying? This (peace process) would not be in your favour. Terrorism will backfire against you, and it already has. My hope is that Pakistan thinks logically and pays attention to this issue," Atmar added.

The Afghan government was expecting to participate in direct peace talks with the Taliban group soon after the Quadilateral Coordination Group comprising of Afghanistan, Pakistan, the US and China started work.

Several rounds of QCG talks were held and the participating members agreed to take actions against the groups pursuing violence but the Taliban group rejected the calls by the group and the Afghan government to participate in direct talks.

The Afghan officials have long been criticising Pakistan for allowing the Taliban group and Haqqani terrorist network leaderships for allowing its soil for planning and coordinating attacks in Afghanistan.

(With IANS inputs)