



The Office of the Deputy PM for Economic Affairs
Directorate of Media and Protocol
Department of Media

The Activities of the Office of the Deputy PM for Economic Affairs and People's Comments

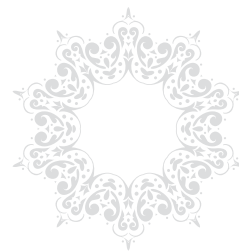
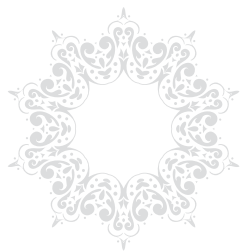
2022

23 July - 22 October



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The Opening of the Second Phase of Kajaki Dam



Introduction:

The Kajaki dam is located in the Kajaki district of Helmand province. This is one of the oldest dams in Afghanistan. Kajaki dam, with a history of more than half a century, is considered one of the biggest dams in Afghanistan. The mentioned dam was first constructed during the kingdom of Mohammed Zahir Shah. The water storage capacity of the Kajaki dam ranges from 1.7 to 2.8 billion cubic meters. In total, the first phase of the Kajaki dam has the capacity to produce 51 megawatts of electricity, but with the construction and opening of the second phase, the power generation capacity of this dam has increased to 151 megawatts.

The second phase of the Kajaki dam was opened on July 27, 2022 by Hajji Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund, the Deputy PM for Economic Affairs. In addition to the Deputy PM for Economic Affairs, the Deputy PM for Administrative Affairs, Maulvi Abdul Salam Hanafi, Maulvi Abdul Latif Mansour, acting minister of water and energy, Qari Din Mohammad Hanif, acting minister of economy, and Sher Mohammad Abbas Stanekzai, Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs, also participated in the opening ceremony. At this ceremony, Hajji Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund said: "The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan has full commitment and good plans for the country's prosperity and development. We assure all our compatriots that in the near future, we will see great positive economic development in Afghanistan. "

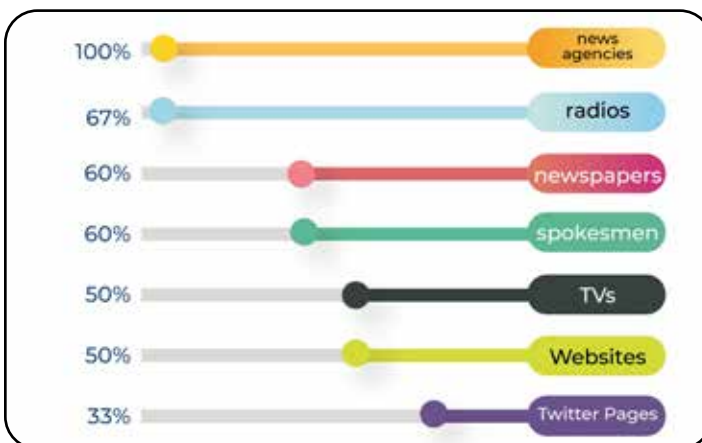
The construction of the second phase of Kajaki dam was completed by the Turkish company, 77 Insaat, with an investment of 174 million dollars, which has the capacity to produce 100 megawatts of electricity. With the completion of the second phase of the Kajaki dam, the power generation capacity of this dam increased from 51 MW to 151 MW. In addition to generating electricity, the Kajaki dam irrigates about 100 thousand hectares of agricultural land and provides employment to thousands of people, directly and indirectly.

The goal of the project:

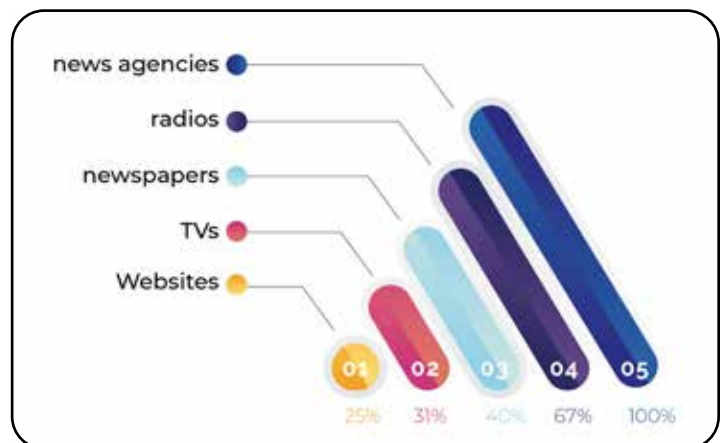
The main goal of the construction of the second phase of the Kajaki dam is to provide sufficient electricity to the southern provinces of the country, especially Helmand and Kandahar provinces because the industrialists and ordinary people of these areas have been struggling with the lack of electricity for years. Furthermore, with the construction of the second phase of the Kajaki dam, agricultural land in Helmand province will be irrigated resulting in higher harvest. Due to the recent droughts and the importance of water for countries, it is considered one of the top priorities.

Evaluation of people's comments on social media networks and other media that published the report "Opening of the Second Phase of Kajaki dam"

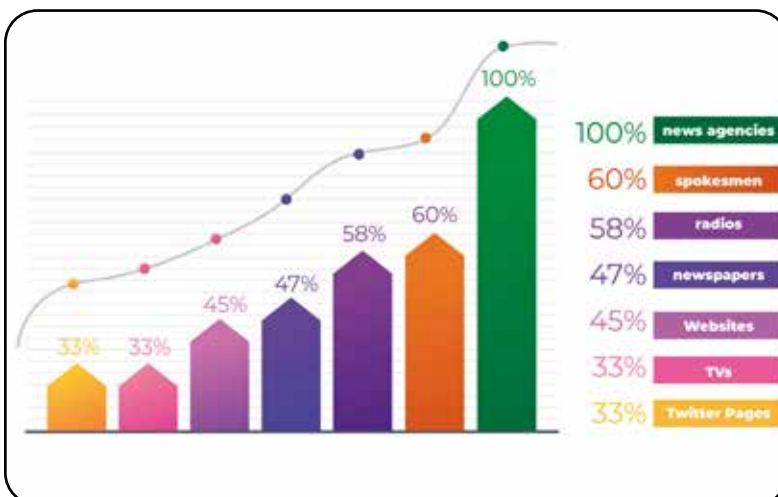
State media:



Private media:



The total percentage of evaluation of private and state media:

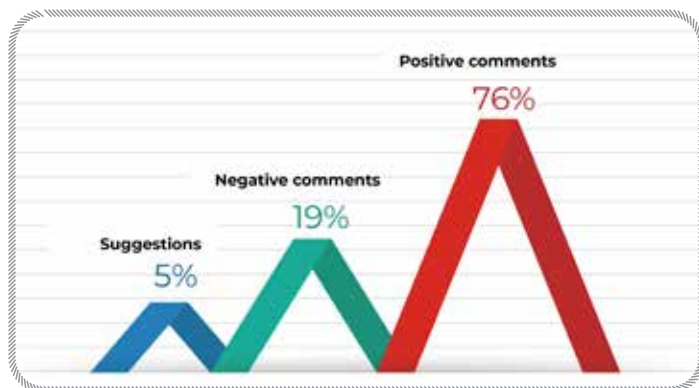


Note: The percentage of comments from both private and public media outlets that reported the news about the second phase of the Kajaki dam's opening in video, audio, and publications can be seen in the graph above.

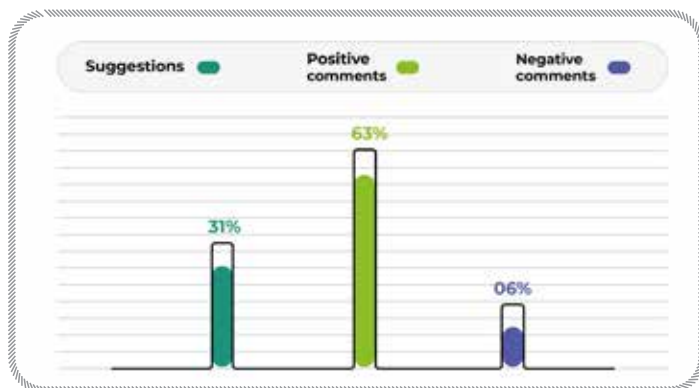
Evaluation of people's comments on social media related to private and state media

Evaluation of people's comments in private media:

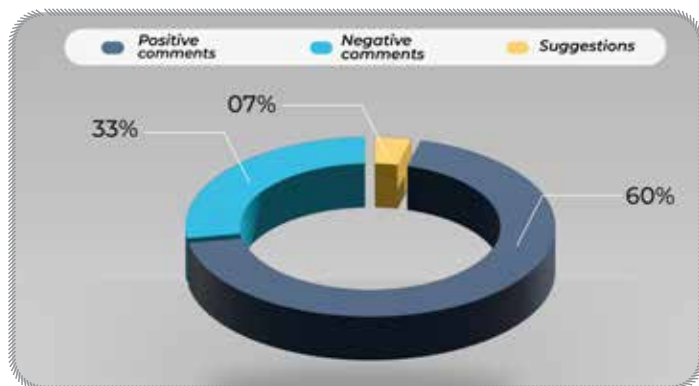
Televisions



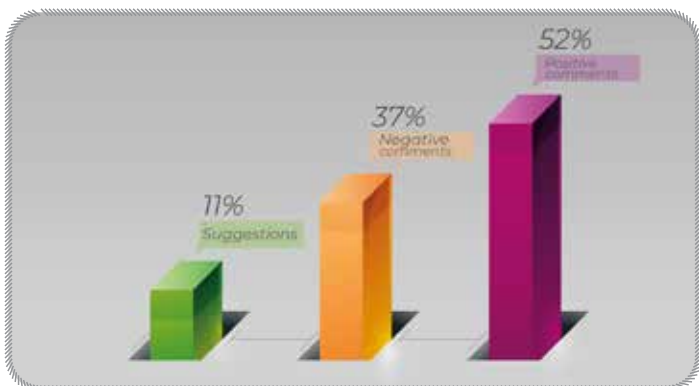
Radios



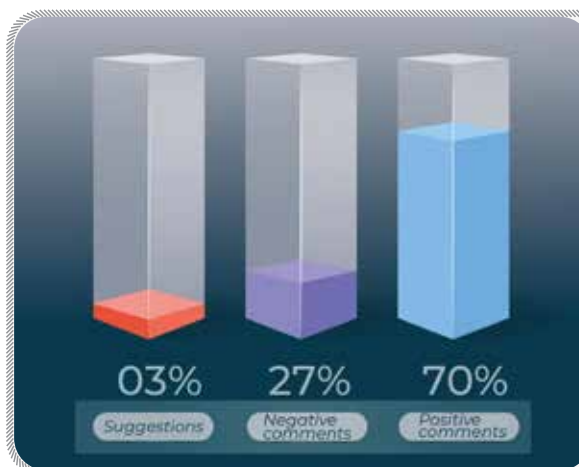
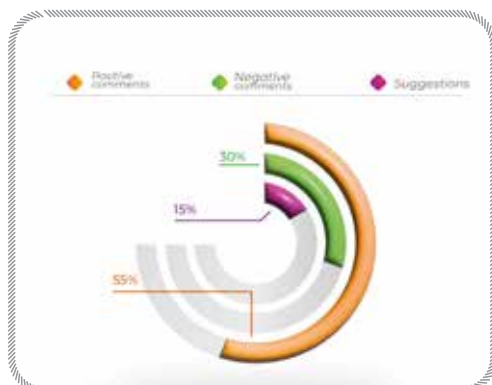
newspapers



News agencies



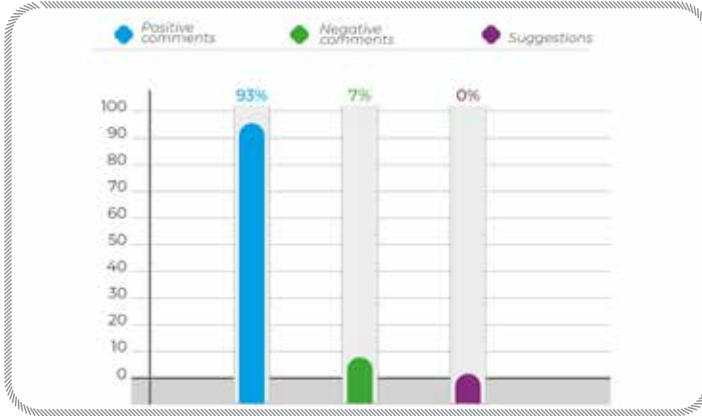
Websites



**Total evaluation
of people's com-
ments on private
media**

Evaluation of people's comments on state media:

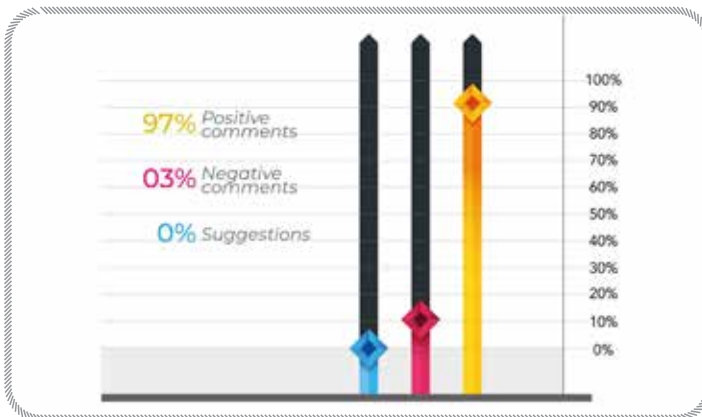
Televisions



Radios



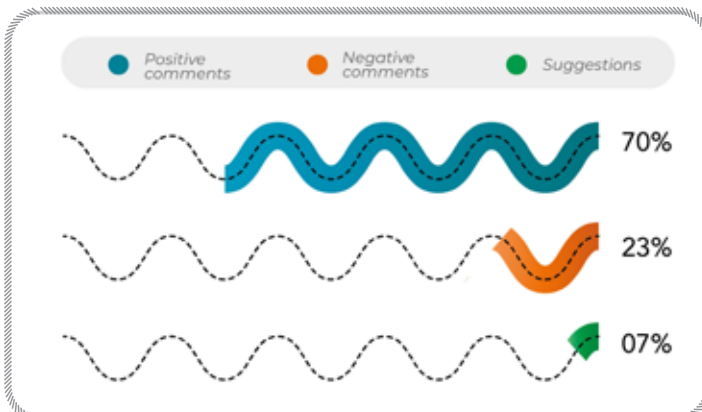
newspapers



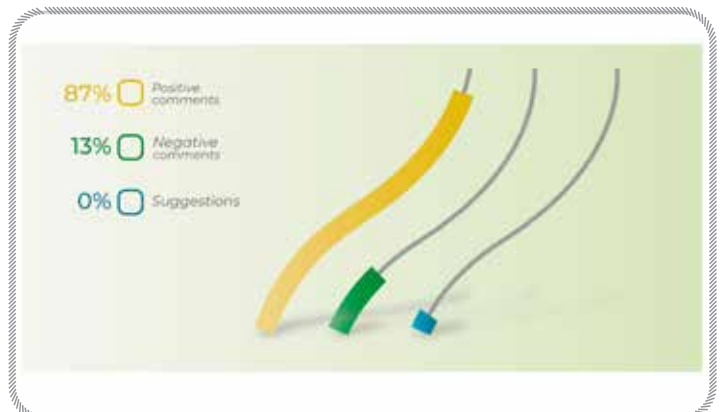
News agencies



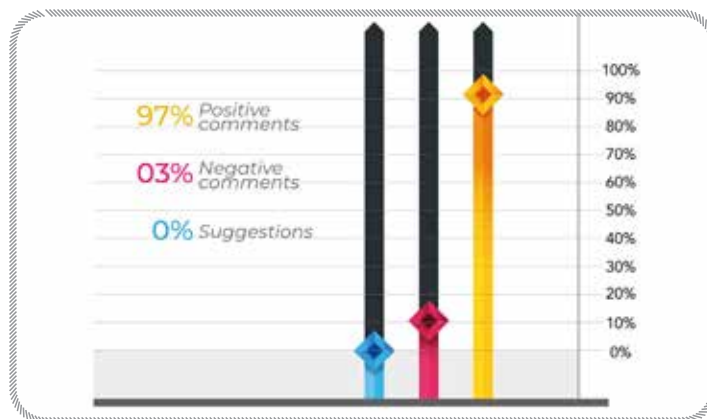
Websites



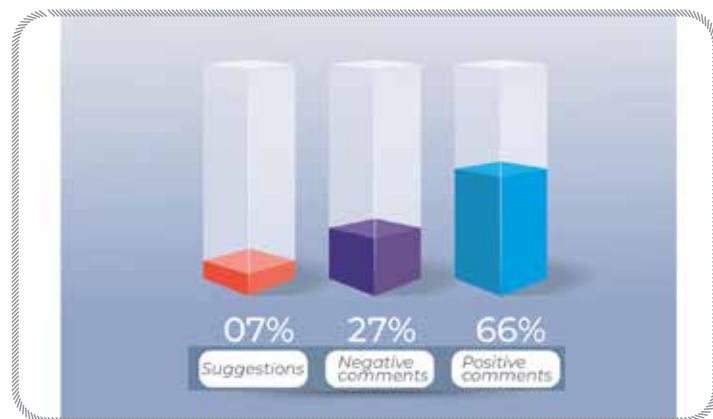
Twitter pages



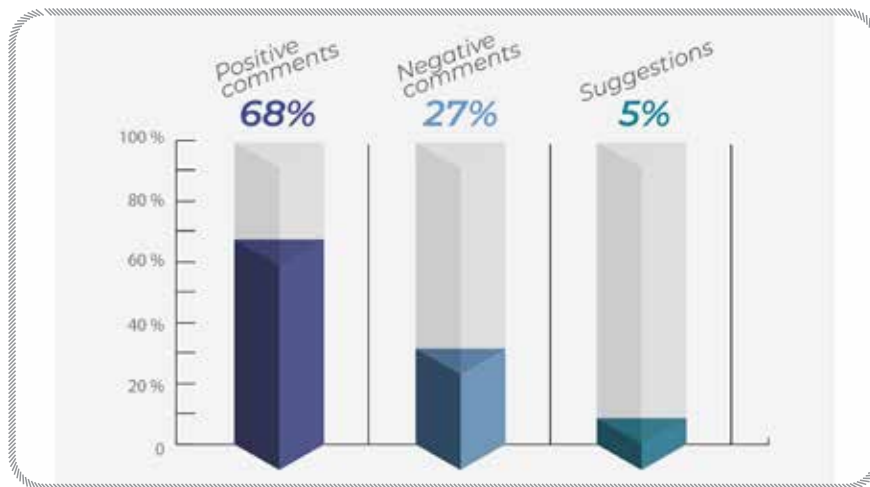
Government spokesmen



Total evaluation of people's comments on state media



Total evaluation of people's comments on private and state media



Analyzing people's comments on social media networks about the "Opening of the Second Phase of Kajaki Dam"

The purpose of analyzing people's comments:

Analyzing positive and negative comments and people's suggestions on social media means clarifying and paying attention to people's comments. The evaluation and publication of this issue gives the people and society the opportunity to share their views, requests, criticisms, and suggestions about the government's decisions, activities, and projects.

The reality of using social media in Afghanistan

If we examine the presence and activity of people on social media, we find that the majority of people in Afghanistan are active on Facebook and most of those who are actively present on Twitter are government officials, institutions, and activists in the political, economic, social, and cultural fields. The presence of the official and unofficial members of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan is more on Twitter than on Facebook. On the other hand, in Afghanistan, the presence of ordinary people on Twitter is less compared to Facebook.

However, governmental and non-governmental institutions and political, economic, social and cultural activists are actively present on Facebook and Twitter in order to cover the public as well as official individuals and institutions besides publishing official and non-official news and reports on a daily basis.

Analyzing the statistics of people's comments on social media regarding the news:

Media can be divided into two categories: private media and state media.

1. The analysis of the statistics of people's comments about the opening of the second phase of Kajaki dam on social media and private media, including news agencies, televisions, radios, websites, and newspapers, the number of positive comments, negative comments, and suggestions made by people on social media is 1617 in total. Among these comments arranged by chart number, there are 1129 positive comments, 437 negative comments, and 51 suggestions, of which 70% are positive, 27% are negative, and 3% are suggestions.

2. The number of people's comments on social media, televisions, news agencies, newspapers, media, websites, Twitter pages, radios, and government spokesmen including the comments of people on government-related social media channels is 1609 overall. Among these comments there are 1058 positive comments, 438 negative comments and 113 suggestions, of which 66% are positive comments, 27% are negative comments and 7% are suggestions.

In this evaluation, what seems interesting is the higher percentage of people's positive comments found social media channels of the private media compared to government media. The number of positive comments on social media related to private media is 1617 and the number of positive comments on state media is 1609. Therefore, the total percentage of people's positive comments on private media is 70% and on state media it is 66%. But suggestions on social media related to state media show 7% and private media 3%. In fact, the number of positive suggestions on state media is double compared to private media. The percentage of negative comments in both private and state media is 27%.

If we sum up the total number of positive and negative comments, and suggestions made by people on private and government media, there are a total of 2187 positive comments, 875 negative

comments, and 164 suggestions. The percentage of these comments is 68% positive, 27% negative, and 5% suggestions.

Here, it is noticeable that there are more positive comments on social media channels of the private media than government media. The percentage of people's positive comments is 70% on private media and 66% on state media.

What are the possible causes and factors?

- One of the main reasons is that the people or the collective psyche in society follows private media more than state/official media considering it neutral and nonpartisan. This is why people's comments are more on social media channels of the private media than on state media. Also, the more comments people have, the more positive comments there are. This is in fact an indication that people are monitoring the activities, decisions, and plans of the government and sharing their comments about them, even though it was through private media.
- The opening of the second phase of the Kajaki Dam is deemed as one the important infrastructural projects. In retrospect, the previous government was able to generate this amount of energy despite the influx of hundreds of millions of dollars. With the arrival of the Islamic Emirate, the second phase of Kajaki dam was opened adding the capacity of 100 more megawatts of electricity to the dam.
- The question may raise whether the second phase project of Kajaki dam, as well as some other big projects, started during the previous administration. In response, it should be said that dozens of projects were started during the previous administration and even in the last twenty years, but due to corruption their work was delayed for years. One of these projects is the second phase of the Kajaki dam, which the previous administration could not complete. However, the officials of the IEA were able to complete its implementation within the first 11 months.

A summary of people's comments on social media can be expressed as follows:

✍ If the leaders of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan are concerned about the prosperity and development of the country, they should focus on big infrastructural projects. In addition, the government should pay attention to strengthening the agriculture sector beside electricity.

✍ All Afghans are happy about the completion of the second phase of the Kajaki Dam, which is an important project. It is hoped that the electricity systems in other provinces will receive attention, too as energy is a country's most important element for the industry.

✍ Despite the opening of the second phase of the Kajaki Dam, people in the southern provinces and other parts of Afghanistan are still facing problems with electricity and it is hoped that a solution will be found for it, too.

✍ It is a great pleasure for the government to say that it is independent, does not betray nor does it have corruption. The opening of the second phase of Kajaki Dam indicates that the current authorities are truly committed to the development of Afghanistan because they are making efforts for the development of the country despite not receiving any foreign aids.

✍ The government should have other things as its priorities such as providing the youth with employment opportunities beside paying attention to electricity.

With a study of people's comments on social media in general, several important issues are noteworthy:

✍ **First**, the comments of most of the people are about the attention of the government to the big infrastructural projects in Afghanistan. This issue demonstrates people's focus and understanding of economic infrastructure and employment opportunities in the country. On the other hand, the opening of such projects has increased hope among the people for the beginning of a new chapter of prosperity and development.

✍ **Second**, people's suggestions regarding economic programs are noteworthy. In the evaluation above, the suggestion to the government to pay attention to the agriculture sector, along with electricity, is noteworthy as one of the interesting and important suggestions. This actually shows the understanding and maturity of a society.

✍ **Third**, people's criticism of the lack of electricity, and economic problems, especially employment opportunities for the youth and for the people in general, is one of the most prominent and significant. The highlighting of these issues by the people obliges the government to pay attention to them in addition to launching large economic programs.

Even countries with great economies are facing economic problems such as the increase in the prices of food, oil and gas due to the war in Ukraine. Similarly, due to the recent political changes, the cutoff of foreign aid, the continuation of the drought, and the effects of the war in Ukraine, the country's economic problems have increased. However, it should be noted that with the rule of the Islamic Emirate, corruption was eliminated resulting in higher custom and mine revenues and greater domestic income which has contributed in paying the salaries of government officials and the implementation of developmental projects.

Therefore, the DPM&EA, Hajji Mullah Abdul Ghani Beradar Akhund, always emphasizes the importance of paying attention to big projects for the economic prosperity of the country and employ-

ment opportunities for the people. As he said at the opening ceremony of the second phase of the Kajaki dam: "The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan has full commitment and good plans for the country's prosperity and development. We assure all our compatriots that in the near future, we will see great positive economic development in Afghanistan. "

Conclusion

✍ The significance of people's actual thoughts about government policies, initiatives, and important economic decisions should be the main point of attention when evaluating people's social media comments. People are aware of every government move, as evidenced by the analysis of comments made regarding the opening of the second phase of the Kajaki Dam.

✍ Additionally, one of the outcomes of the people's comments is that they are aware of their suggestions to the government, that in addition to paying attention to electricity projects, the government should focus on the agriculture sector and the employment opportunities for the people, particularly for the youth. Such suggestions of the people are already in the top priorities of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan.

Collecting the beggars from Kabul City



Introduction

The proliferation of beggars is one of Afghanistan's major issues, particularly in its major towns, including Kabul, the country's capital. The beggar collecting committee claims that many beggars are professionals who utilize begging as a business to make money rather than relying on it as a means of subsistence.

In order to address this issue, Hajji Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund, the Deputy PM for Economic Affairs, has begun working as the chairman of the beggar collecting committee under the directive of Amir al-Mu'minin Sheikh Hibatullah Akhundzada. Tens of beggars are picked up each day from the streets and various locations in Kabul, Afghanistan, in accordance with a plan put forward by the beggar collecting committee, and they are then sent to the appropriate departments for assessment.

After the committee has registered and taken the biometrics of the gathered beggars, those who know a profession will be given employment in that field. The government also provides schooling to kid beggars and pays those beggars who are really poor and unable to work.

According to the official statistics, the beggar collecting committee collected 8909 beggars from different areas of Kabul city until September 29, 2022.

Female beggars made up 6116 of the collected beggars; following the evaluation, 1913 of them were judged to be deserving, while 4203 others were discovered to be professional beggars. In addition, 494 of the 754 males were professional beggars, making 260 of them deserving. Of the 2039 chil-

dren, 1143 are deserving, but 852 are professional panhandlers.

There are 44 unaccompanied children among the deserving destitute children. Unaccompanied child beggars are taken to the care and training centers by the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs following biometric screening, where they receive education and work opportunities. The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan provides ongoing financial aid to the needy beggars.

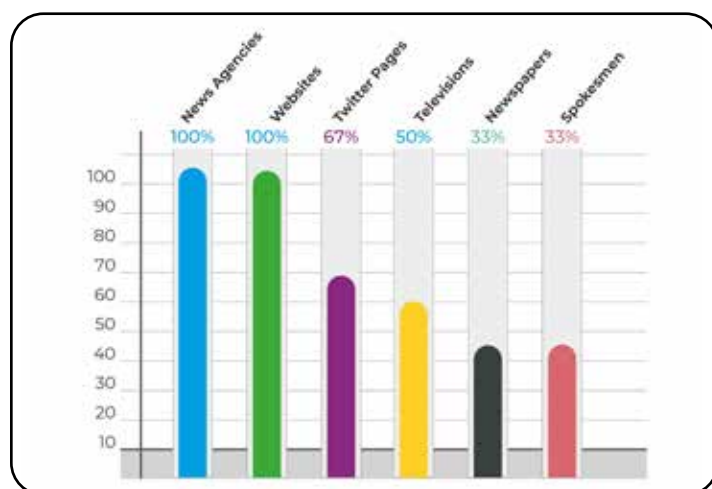
The people of Kabul City as well as the gathered beggars express their satisfaction with this initiative and claim that many of the issues faced by the people and beggars have been resolved. They also say that it is admirable that the government is preventing this inappropriate act in society.

The purpose of the beggar collecting committee

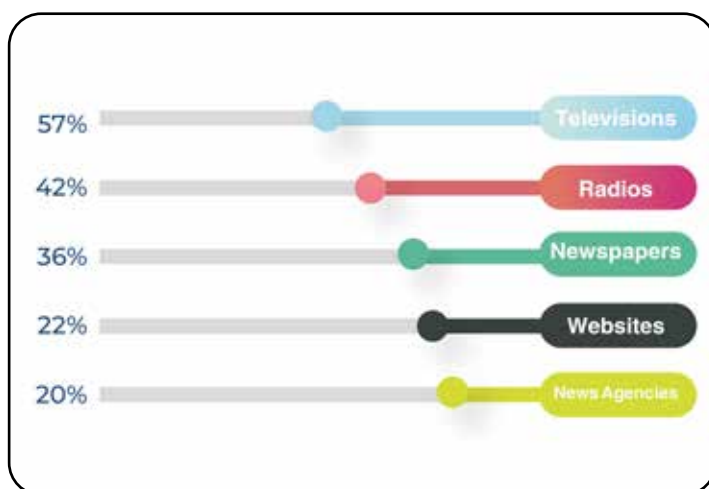
The main purpose of the beggar collecting committee is to implement the order of Amir al-Mu'minin Sheikh Hibatullah Akhundzada to deal with the problem of beggars in Kabul city, which on the one hand has pleased the people and, on the other hand, has satisfied the beggars who are really deserving.

Evaluation of people's comments on social media about "collecting beggars from Kabul City"

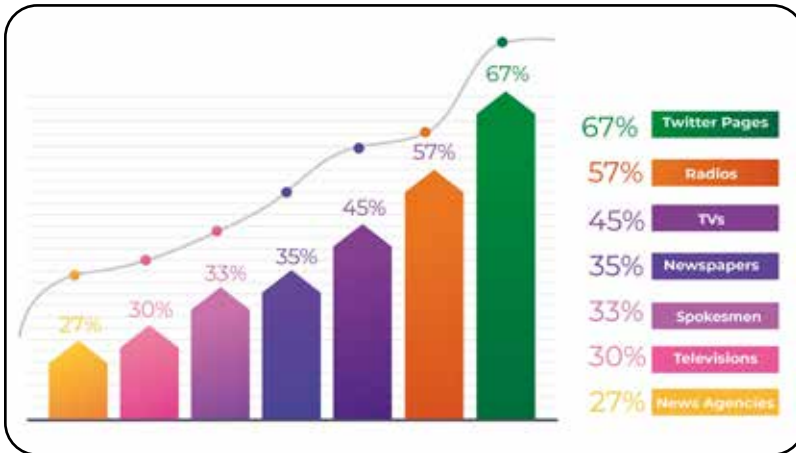
State Media



private media



The total percentage of evaluation of private and state media:

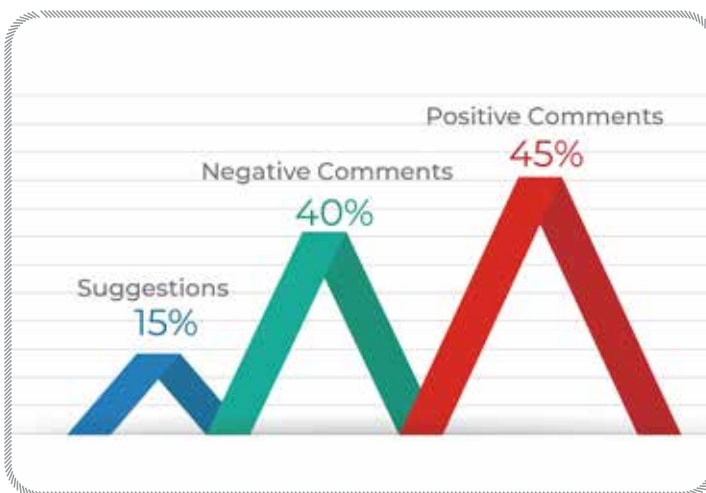


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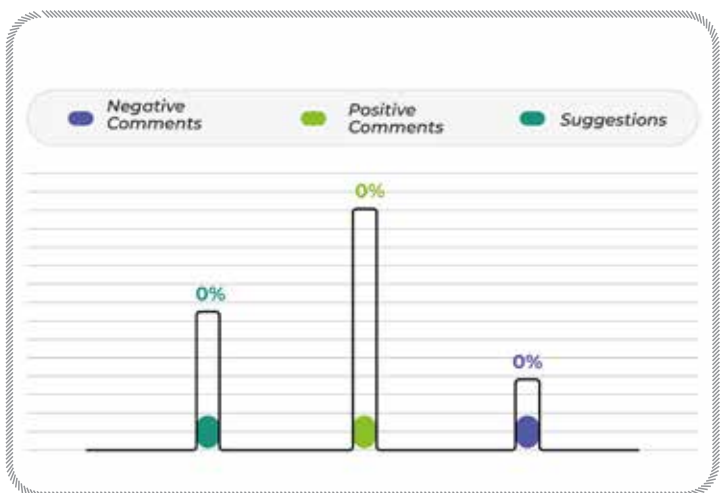
Evaluation of people's comments on social media related to private and state media

Evaluation of People's Comments on State Media:

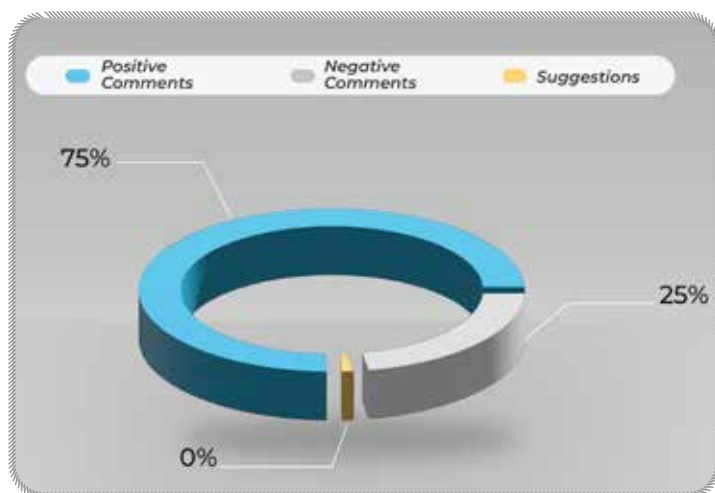
Televisions



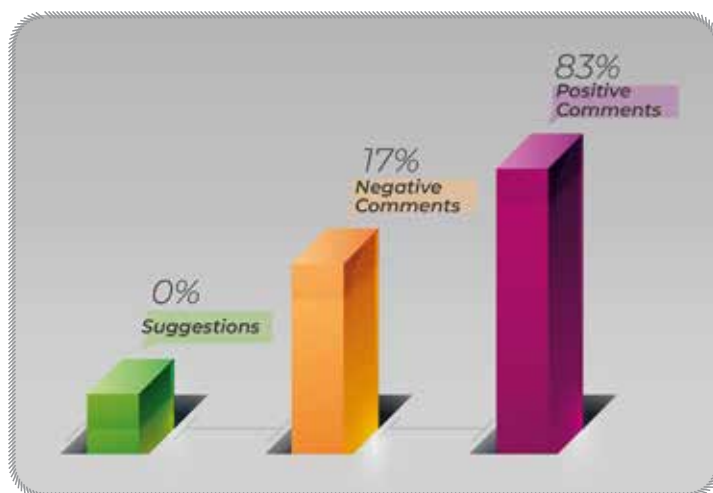
Radios



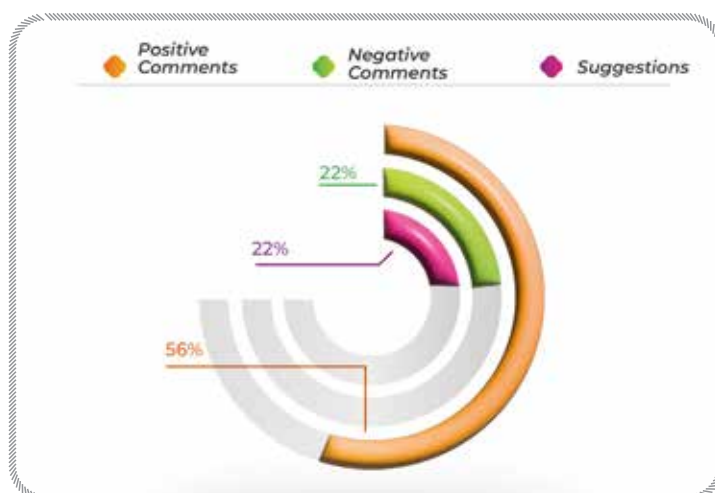
Newspapers



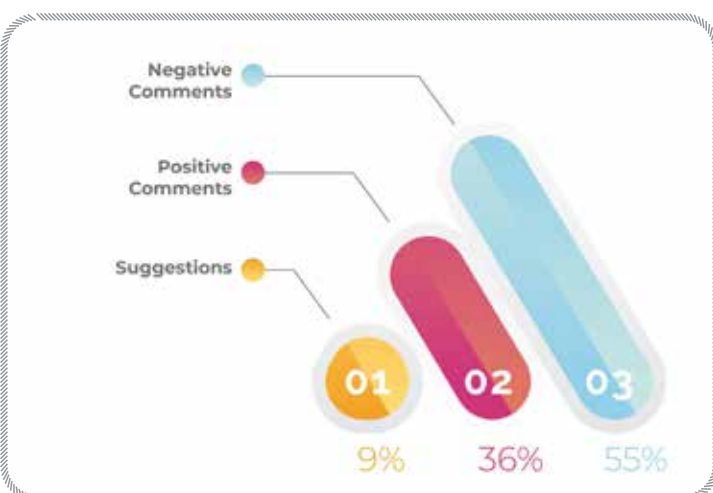
News Agencies



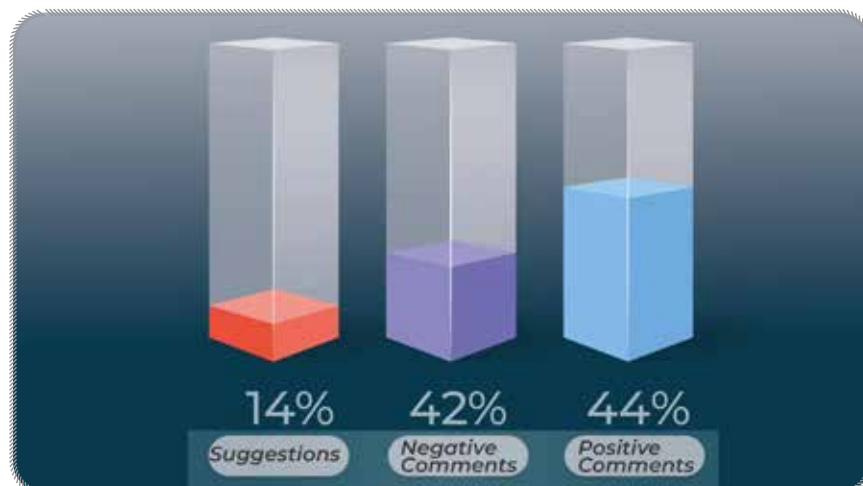
Websites



Spokesmen

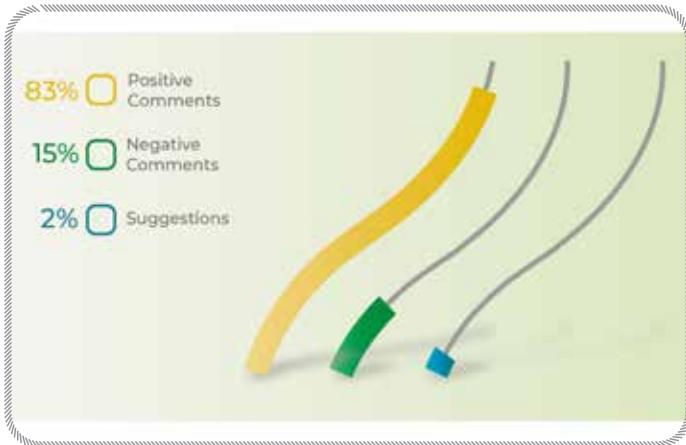


Total Evaluation of People's Comments on Private Media

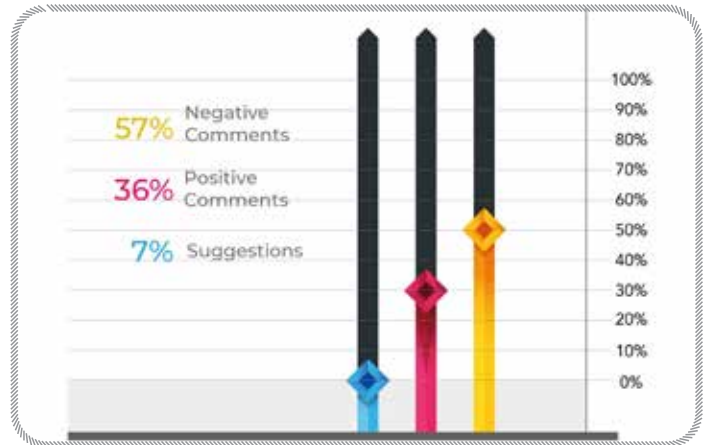


Evaluation of people's comments in private media:

Televisions



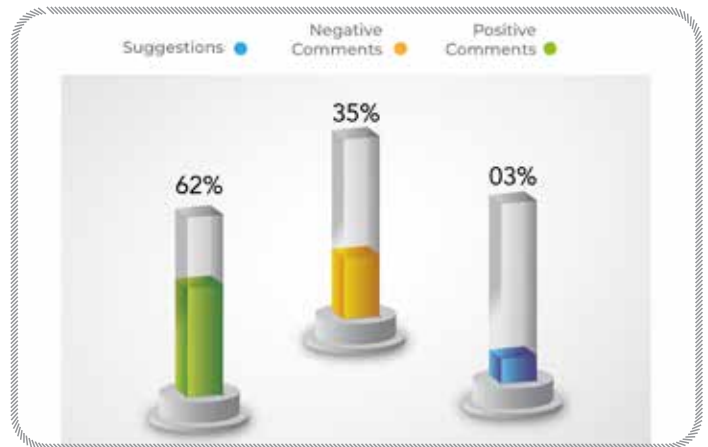
Radios



Newspapers

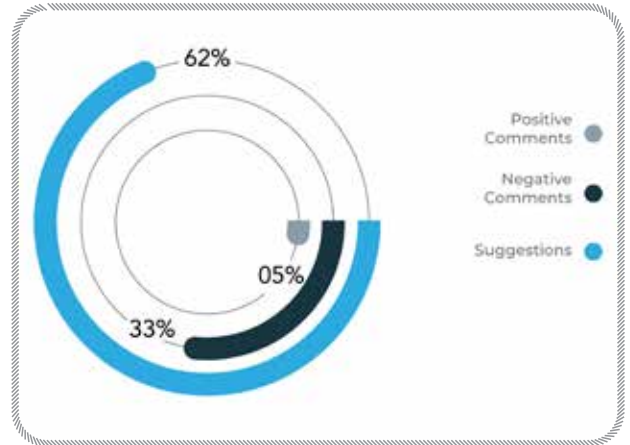
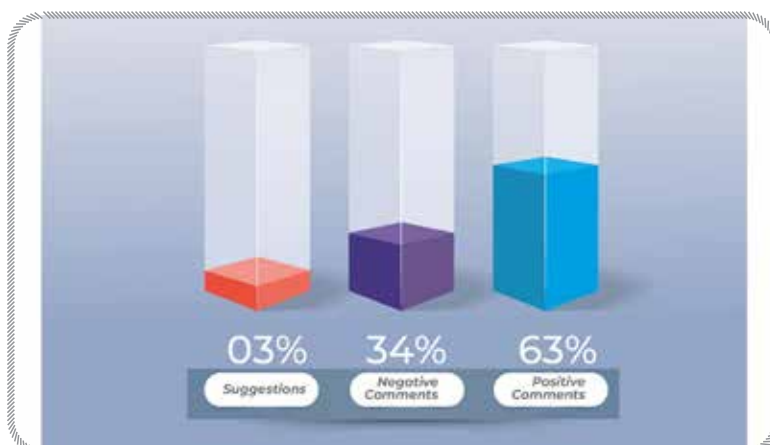


Websites

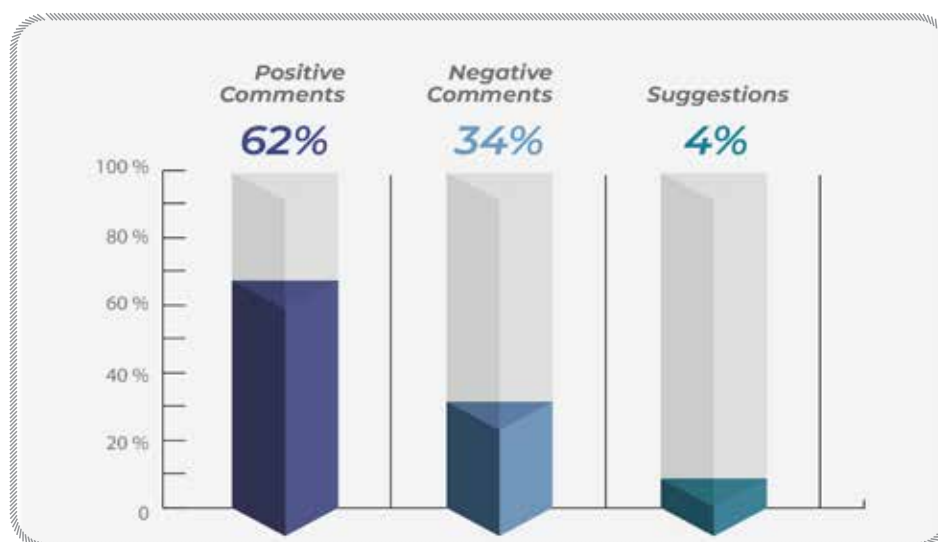


Total Evaluation of People's Comments on Private Media

News Agencies



Total Evaluation of People's Comments on Private and State Media



Analysis of people's comments on social media about "collecting beggars from Kabul city"

The purpose of analyzing people's comments

Analyzing positive and negative comments and people's suggestions on social media means clarifying and paying attention to people's comments. The evaluation and publication of this issue gives the people and society the opportunity to share their views, requests, criticisms, and suggestions about the government's decisions, activities, and projects.

The Reality of Using Social Media in Afghanistan

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However, governmental and non-governmental institutions and political, economic, social and cultural activists are actively present on Facebook and Twitter in order to cover the public as well as official individuals and institutions besides publishing official and non-official news and reports on a daily basis.

Analyzing the statistics of people's comments on social media:

Social media can be divided into two categories: private media and state media.

1. In the analysis of the statistics of people's comments about "collecting beggars from Kabul city" on social media related to private media, including newspapers, radios, news agencies and websites, the number of positive comments, negative comments, and suggestions made by people on social media related to is such that, positive comments are 63%, negative comments are 34%, and suggestions are 1%.

2. Statistics detailing similar comments made by the people on social media in response to the report of collecting beggars from Kabul City including radios, newspapers, news agencies, websites, and government spokespersons are shown in statistics as follows. A positive 42%, a negative 44%, and 14% of the comments are suggestions.

According to the aforementioned assessment, there are 62% positive remarks, 34% negative comments, and 4% suggestions when we add together all of the positive comments, negative comments, and suggestions made by individuals on private and state media.

The evaluation's most intriguing finding is that private media receives a higher proportion of favorable social media comments than state media. The percentage of people who leave positive comments on social media related to private media is 63%, whereas the percentage of people who leave nice suggestions on state media is 42%.

Here, it is noticeable that there are more positive comments on social media related to private media than state media. What are the possible causes and factors?

The report is more widely reported on private media, which is the reason why people's pleasant remarks on social media about private media are more prevalent than those related to state media over the publishing of the report on the collecting of beggars. This problem was a major one throughout society, particularly in Kabul. This is another reason for people's nice responses.

One of the biggest challenges in Afghanistan is thought to be the problem of collecting beggars. The people of Afghanistan were unable to resume their normal lives for a few months following the previous administration's fall, despite the billions of dollars that have been sent there in the last twenty years in the name of aid. Additionally, in the past 20 years, not only has the issue of poverty not been resolved, but beggars have become more prevalent every day as a result of the lack of infrastructure projects and people's lack of involvement in them. The lack of such projects led the people to beginning.

A summary of people's comments on social media can be expressed as follows:

- ✍ It is a good action to biometrically identify the gathered beggars.
- ✍ It is hoped that this order will be implemented, and this is a good thing. There should be an exact survey of who is deserving and who is a professional beggar.
- ✍ Finding a suitable place or settlement for the poor, orphans, and widows is one of the things that should be done.
- ✍ One of the important things that should be done in addition to dealing with the problem of beggars is that the government should build large factories with the revenue received from the mines. This will be effective in solving the fundamental problems of the people.
- ✍ When we get rid of the problem of beggars, there should be no more causes of poverty. The solution is to convert Afghanistan into an exporting country.
- ✍ Excellent. This has not been done in the last twenty years because everyone was too busy with corruption and looting. Now is the best time to serve. May Allah grant success to the new government.

Upon studying comments on social media in general, a few things stand out.:

- ✍ **First**, it's crucial to state that many people have welcomed and expressed happiness with the collecting of beggars from Kabul. One of the unique initiatives the government has taken is getting the biometrics/registration and identity of the collected beggars. In addition, the beggars who actually need it will get help, and those who are knowledgeable about a vocation will get jobs.
- ✍ **Second**, there has been much discussion regarding the fundamental answer to the problem of beggars in Afghanistan especially Kabul. In this regard, suggestions have been given, which are reflected in the comments, that a suitable place or a specific town should be established for these beggars, impoverished, orphans, and widows, as well as to provide them work and money.
- ✍ **Third**, another intriguing suggestion from the people is that in order to address the issue of begging, the government should use the money earned from Afghanistan's mining and natural resource industries to build infrastructure, including sizable factories. This would help to address the issue of begging on a more fundamental level. These remarks also call for the eradication of poverty's origins and causes.
- ✍ **Fourth**, the issue of collecting beggars has not been addressed in the past twenty years, according to one of the people's comments, and the reason for this is because the authorities of the previous administration were preoccupied with stealing and corruption. If infrastructure devel-

opment and major projects had received more attention during the past 20 years, there would be fewer people out of work and eventually fewer beggars.

Not only were there no major infrastructure developments over the past 20 years, but the issue of collecting beggars and other vulnerable people received no attention. If anything had been done, society would not be dealing with this problem now. Implementing this policy, the leadership of the Islamic Emirate has actually taken a step that wasn't taken in the preceding 20 years. The government shows a determination to develop crucial infrastructure and handle significant issues when it acts and pays attention in the most basic ways. Such activities might offer a chance to improve societal comfort and overall wellbeing.

Conclusion

In every society, there is a problem with beggars and vulnerable people in general. When looking at the societies of big countries in the world, this problem still exists in them. Of course, its level is different from poor and war-torn countries. What can be concluded from addressing the problem of beggars in Afghanistan, especially in Kabul city, in the light of people's comments, is that this action by the government is unprecedented and deserves attention.

The government's initiative to address the problem of beggars is currently a straightforward solution to this problem. Men, women, orphans, and unaccompanied minors who beg are all registered and biometrically identifiable when they are collected. Those beggars who are capable of working and have knowledge in a certain area will then be given jobs in that field. Additionally, the government provides a defined amount of assistance to beggars who are legitimately destitute and unable to work. Additionally, child beggars will receive an education.

The Kabul model can be applied throughout Afghanistan in the future to solve one of the challenges facing Afghan society as a whole if this process continues as it has so far.

Progress of the Qosh Tepa Canal



Introduction

Water is a crucial resource for energy production as well as for fertilizing hundreds of hectares of agricultural land through irrigation. Since the re-establishment of the Islamic Emirate, one of the important things that has received focus is the infrastructure projects. The Qosh Tepa canal project is one of the most important projects the Economic Commission is working on.

On March 30, 2022, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund, the Deputy PM for Economic Affairs, inaugurated the Qosh Tepa Canal. At the opening ceremony of this channel, the Deputy PM for Economic Affairs said: "It is a wonderful day because the suffering people of Afghanistan will see their dream come true today. I put a lot of work on hold to exclusively concentrate on the beginning of the Qosh Tepa Canal. Besides, I have spoke with the National Development Corporation (NDC) officials about this project. For the prosperity and progress of the country, the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan is fully committed."

One of the most significant and expansive projects in Afghanistan, particularly in the north, is the Qosh Tepa Canal. The canal measures 285 km in length, 100m in width, and 8.5m in depth. The water in the canal has a height of 6.5m. Balkh, Jowzjan, and Faryaab provinces' plains receive 650 cubic meters of water per second via the Qosh Tepa canal from the Amo River, transforming them into productive agricultural and industrial regions.

The canal will irrigate 580,000 hectares of agricultural land. In addition, Afghanistan will not only be self-sufficient in terms of wheat production but will also be able to export these important items to other countries. An agricultural complex and an industrial complex are also being built along the

Qosh Tapa canal. At present, the Qosh Tapa Canal project has provided work for more than 2,200 people directly and for thousands more indirectly.

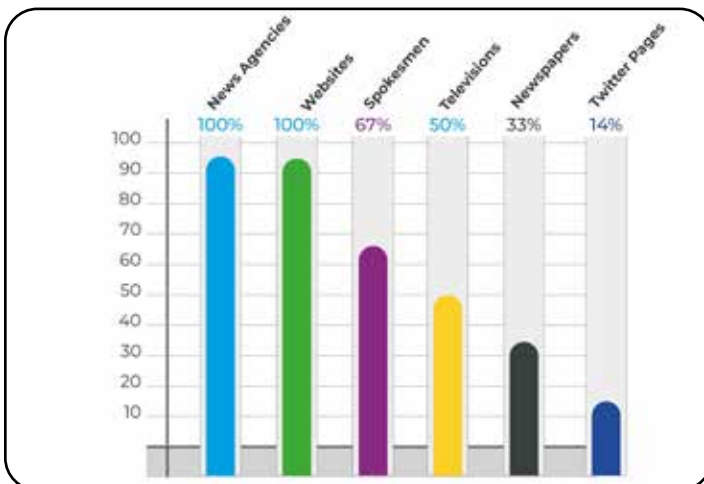
The goal of the project

The construction of the Qosh Tapa water canal aims to irrigate tens of thousands of hectares of farmland in the provinces of Balkh, Jowzjan, and Faryaab as well as Hairatan's industrial and agricultural complexes will be developed. Additionally, the management of Afghanistan's plentiful natural water will be accomplished in a useful manner with the development of the Qosh Tapa canal.

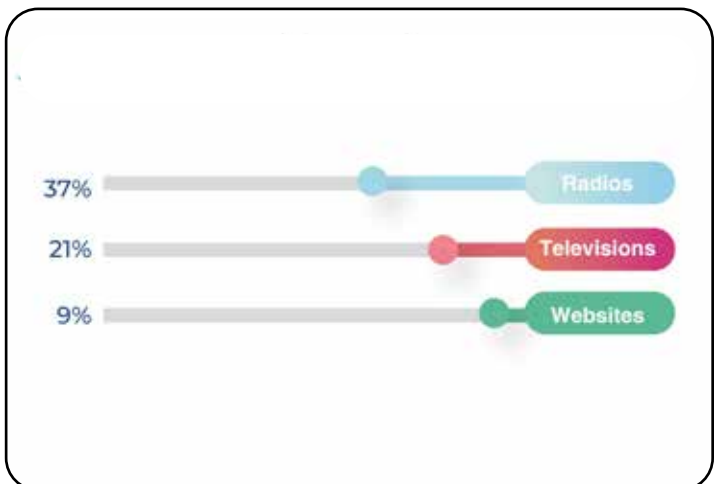


Evaluation of people's comments on social media about the "Progress of the Qosh Tapa Canal"

State Media

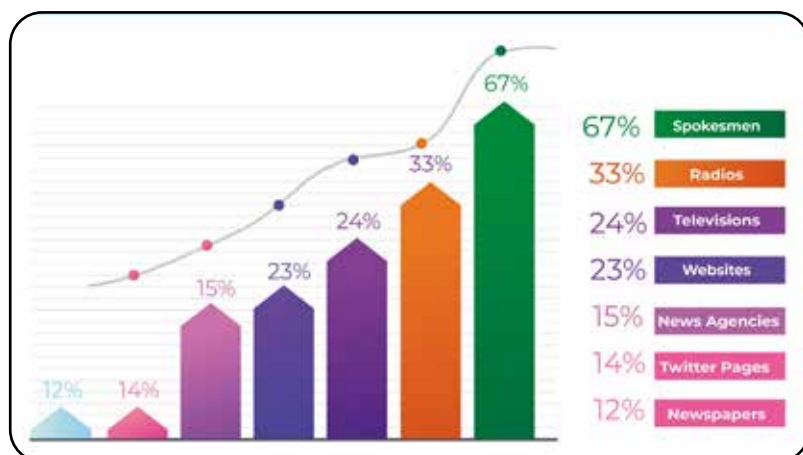


private media



The total percentage of evaluation of private and state media

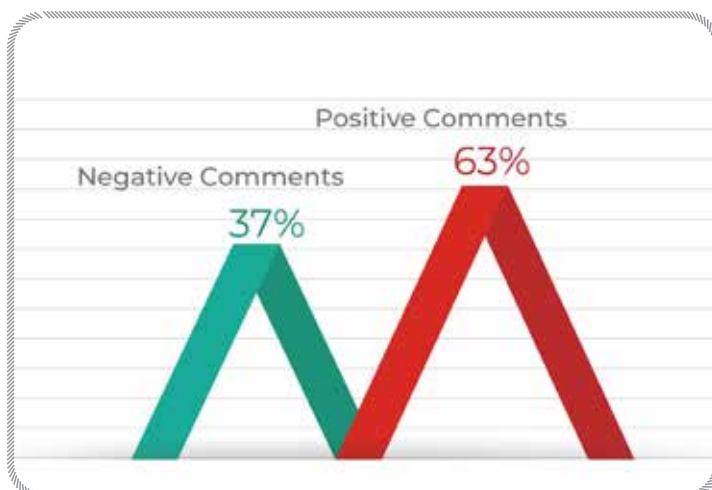
Note: The percentage of comments from both private and public media outlets that report news about progress of the Qosh tepa Canal in video, audio, and publications can be seen in the graph above.



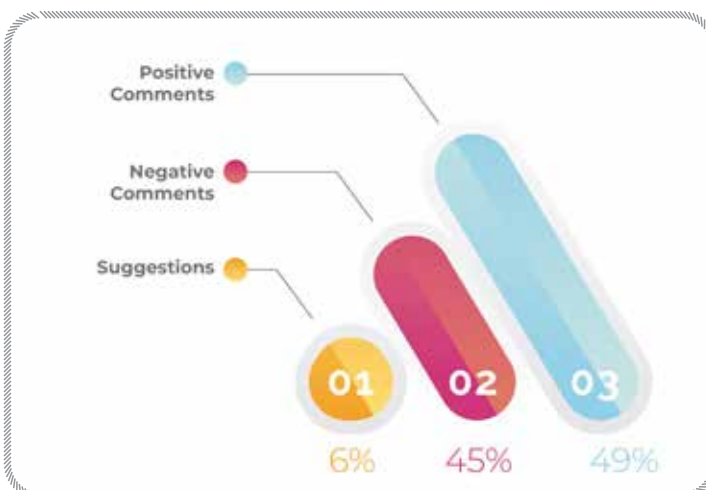
Evaluation of people's comments on social media related to private and state media

Evaluation of people's comments in private media:

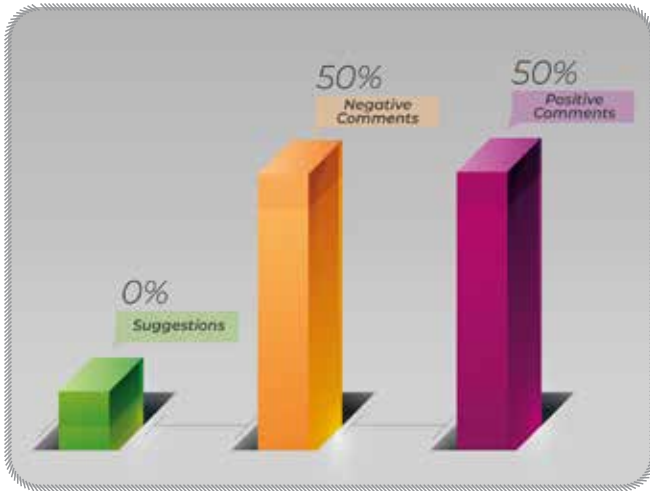
Televisions



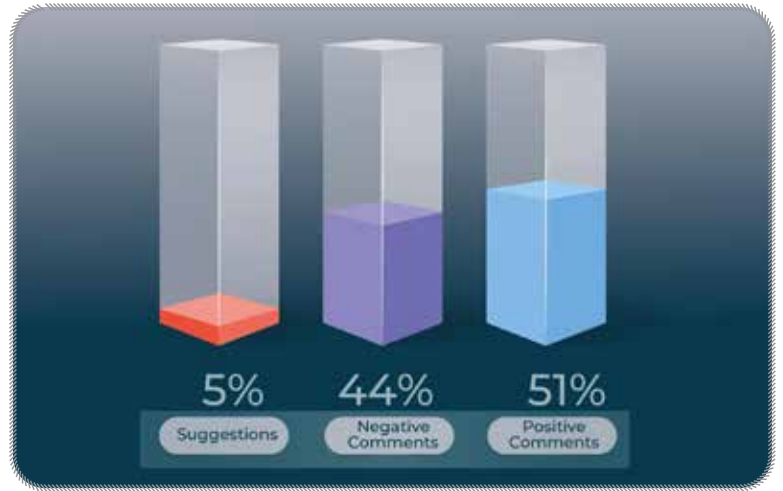
spokesmen



Twitter pages

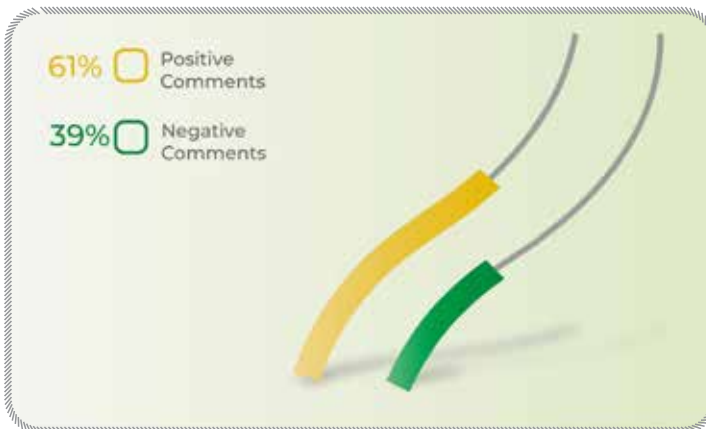


Total evaluation of people's comments on state media

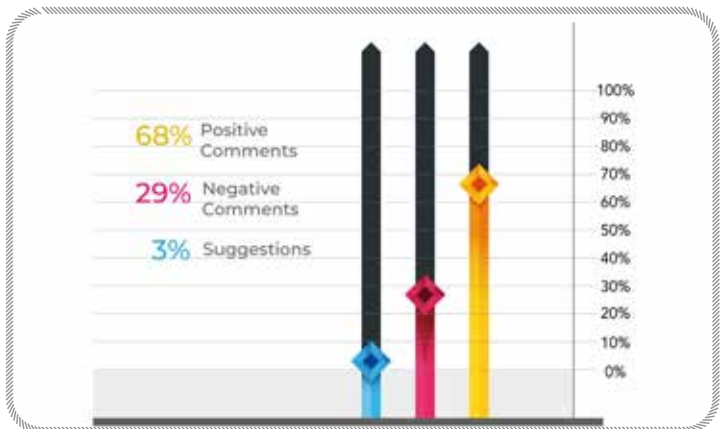


Evaluation of people's comments in state media:

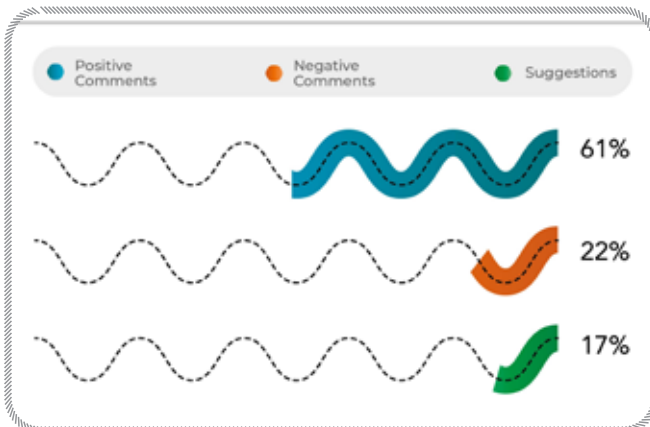
Televisions



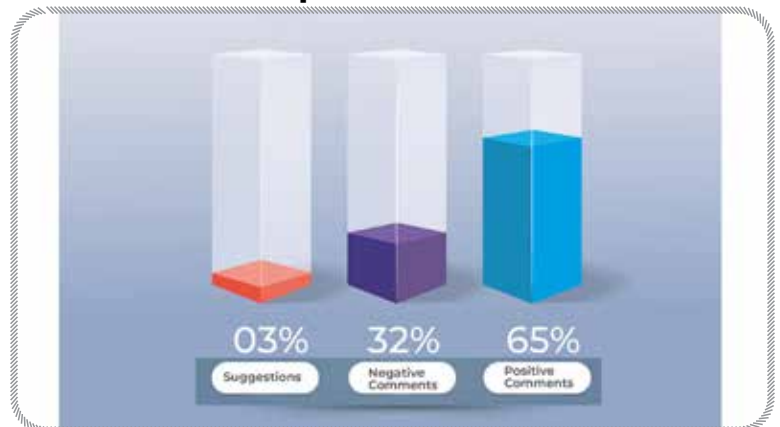
Radios



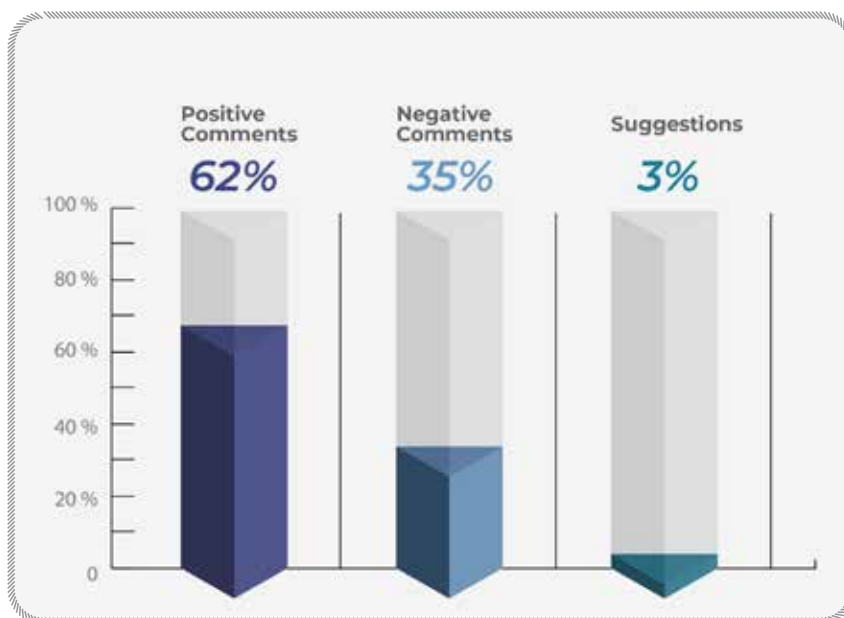
newspapers



Total evaluation of people's comments on private media



Total evaluation of people's comments on private and state media



Analyzing people's comments on social media about the "Progress of the Qosh Tepa Canal"

The purpose of analyzing people's comments:

Analyzing positive and negative comments and people's suggestions on social media means clarifying and paying attention to people's comments. The evaluation and publication of this issue gives the people and society the opportunity to share their views, requests, criticisms, and suggestions about the government's decisions, activities, and projects.

The reality of using social media in Afghanistan

If we examine the presence and activity of people on social media, we find that the majority of people in Afghanistan are active on Facebook and most of those who are actively present on Twitter are government officials, institutions, and activists in the political, economic, social, and cultural fields. The official and unofficial members of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan use Twitter more than Facebook. In fact, in Afghanistan, the presence of ordinary people on Twitter is less compared to Facebook.

However, governmental and non-governmental institutions and political, economic, social and cultural activists are actively present on Facebook and Twitter in order to cover the public as well as official individuals and institutions besides publishing official and non-official news and reports on a daily basis.

Analyzing the statistics of people's comments on social media:

Social media can be divided into two categories: private media and state media.

1. In the analysis of the statistics of people's comments about the "progress of the Qosh Tepa Canal" on social media related to the private media, including news agencies, televisions, radios, websites, and newspapers, the number of positive comments, negative comments, and suggestions made by people on social media related to private media is such that positive comments are 65%, negative comments are 32%, and useful suggestions are 3%.

2. People's comments on social media related to state media regarding the "progress of the Qosh Tepa Canal" include televisions, spokespersons, and Twitter pages, of which 51% are positive comments, 44% are negative comments, and 5% are suggestions.

If we sum up the total of positive comments, negative comments, and suggestions of people on private and state media, in total, 62% are positive comments, 35% are negative comments, and 3% are suggestions.

In this evaluation, people's positive comments on social media related to private media are more than the state media. As the statistics of people's positive comments on social media related to private media are 65%, but the positive comments of people on social media related to the state media are 51%.

Here, it is noticeable that there are more positive comments on social media related to private media than the state media. What are the possible causes and factors?

The fact that people's positive comments on social media related to the private media are more than those related to state media in connection with the publication of the report on the progress of the Qosh Tepa canal. The reason for this can be seen in the more extensive coverage of this report by the private media. In other words, the more the report is covered by the media, the more positive comments it will receive.

The Qosh Tepa canal project is one of the biggest and most important projects in the field of irrigation which will irrigate thousands of hectares of large and waterless plains in the north of the country. The Qosh Tepa canal transfers about 650 cubic meters of water per second from the Amo River to the plains of Balkh, Jowzjan, and Faryaab provinces. With the completion of this canal, the large plains in the north of the country will become fertile agricultural lands and industrial areas.

Currently, the Qosh Tapa canal project has provided work for more than 2,200 people directly and for thousands more indirectly, and practically 48 work teams with 1500 machineries in plant are working at a high speed.

In the vicinity of the Qosh Tapa Canal, the Agricultural Complex of Hairatan has been being surveyed and designed, the mentioned complex covers 860,000 acres of land. Besides, an industrial complex covering 25,000 acres of land is being planned. The implementation of these projects will help the country become self-reliant particularly with regard to the production of wheat.

A summary of people's comments on social media can be expressed as follows:

- ✍ The Qosh Tapa Canal project is an important step in the field of agriculture in Afghanistan. With this great development, Afghanistan will be able to export wheat to other countries.
- ✍ This is something for the betterment of Afghanistan, especially for the people of the north of the country, which the previous administration failed to do in 20 years. Perhaps one of the reasons was the discriminatory behavior of that administration. It is better to welcome such projects instead of negativity, because this is for the benefit of all people.
- ✍ The Qosh Tapa canal is a project that passes through several provinces and irrigates thousands of acres of land and prevents the water of the country from going outside. It creates greenery and vegetation and provides thousands of people with jobs, which means a bright future for the country. We hope that the water of the other seas of the country will be controlled and used for greenery and the development of the country.
- ✍ In any case, this canal must be completed, otherwise Afghanistan will always be at the mercy of the countries of the world. The government should also manage the waters of the southern provinces so that the water of the country does not go to Pakistan or Iran. We ask Allah to protect our people.

A study of people's comments on social media in general, several issues are noteworthy:

✧ **First**, there is no doubt that the Qosh Tepa canal project is one of the major infrastructure projects because it irrigates thousands of hectares of the plains of Balkh, Jowzjan, and Faryaab provinces in the north of the country with the fresh water of the Amo River that flows uselessly. In fact, this will mark the biggest change in the field of wheat production in the country. Therefore, attracting people's attention and realizing the importance of this project by the people can be effective in encouraging the government to launch such projects.

✧ **Second**, the fact that the previous administration could not launch such big projects in the last 20 years could not be ignored, despite the influx of billions of dollars in aid. Although the Islamic Emirate is struggling with many problems left over from the previous administration, cutting off aid and addressing the problems of unemployment, poverty, beggars, the construction and launch of such projects is considered one of its priorities. An example of that is the financing of the construction of the Qosh Tepa canal by domestic sources and revenues. This is actually reflected in the comments of the people, which can show the insight of the people in line with the government's actions.

✧ **Third**, the Qosh Tepa canal is very important for irrigation of the land of several provinces as well as water management in the country. This canal transfers about 650 cubic meters of water per second from the Amo River to the plains of Balkh, Jowzjan, and Faryaab provinces, which on the one hand creates greenery and freshness for different areas of these provinces, and on the other hand provides thousands of the people with employment opportunities.

✧ **Fourth**, the important thing that is reflected in people's comments is that, in addition to recognizing and realizing the importance of launching such projects by the government, they are focused on water management in the country. For this reason, in many comments of the people, in addition to welcoming the construction of the Qosh Tepa canal project in the north of the country, they want the water to be managed and controlled, especially in the southern provinces of the country, which flows into Iran and Pakistan. And it is the responsibility of the government to control it.



Conclusion

In the past two decades, despite billions of dollars flowing into Afghanistan, the Afghan people could not live the way they deserved due to poverty, unemployment, and a lack of projects that would provide employment for the people. This actually shows the depth of corruption and indifference of the previous administration towards the affairs of the people and the needs of the country.

After the establishment of the IEA, one of the important issues that has been practically focused on-despite the economic problems and aid cuts-is the launching of infrastructure projects. Among these, one of the big projects that the Economic Commission has undertaken is the Qosh Tepa canal project. On March 30, 2022, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund, the Deputy PM for Economic Affairs, inaugurated the Qosh Tepa canal.

This canal will be able to irrigate 580,000 hectares of agricultural land. In addition, in the vicinity of this canal, the agricultural complex of Hairatan and the industrial complex will be built. With the completion of this project, Afghanistan will not only be self-sufficient in terms of wheat production but will also be able to export these important items to other countries. The construction of the Qosh Tepa canal will mark a major change in the field of wheat production.

Signing the airport contract with GAAC Company



Introduction:

The role and significance of countries in the modern world are such that, depending on their needs, each country is dependent on the others in a variety of ways. All of these factors—diplomacy, airports, trade, political, economic, cultural, and interpersonal ties—play a part in the necessity of international interdependence of nations. The geographic location and spatial significance as the linking points of nations and continents are of utmost significance among all of these. Afghanistan's location as a crossroad linking Central Asia, South Asia, and the Middle East is crucial for this reason.

In Afghanistan, which is geographically surrounded by land, borders and airports in order to establish relations with countries as well as provide political and cultural relations and transfer important commercial property are considered one of the basic needs for the benefit of all parties. In this regard, on May 24, 2022, the "Ground handling services at Kabul, Kandahar, and Herat Airports" was signed between the Ministry of Transport and Aviation of Afghanistan and the "GAAC" company of the United Arab Emirates in the presence of Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund, the Deputy PM for Economic Affairs of the IEA.

At the signing ceremony of this agreement, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund said: "The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan will put all its efforts into action to strengthen the country's economy, so that with this agreement, all international airlines will start their flights to/from Afghanistan in a safe environment. Furthermore, this will increase the level of business."

Also, on September 8, 2022, in the presence of the Deputy PM for Economic Affairs, the “Airline Guidance Service Contract” was signed between the Ministry of Transport and Aviation and GAAC Company of the United Arab Emirates. Before this, the “Aviation Security Agreement for Kabul, Kandahar, Herat, and Balkh Airports” was signed between the Ministry of Transportation and Aviation and GAAC Company.

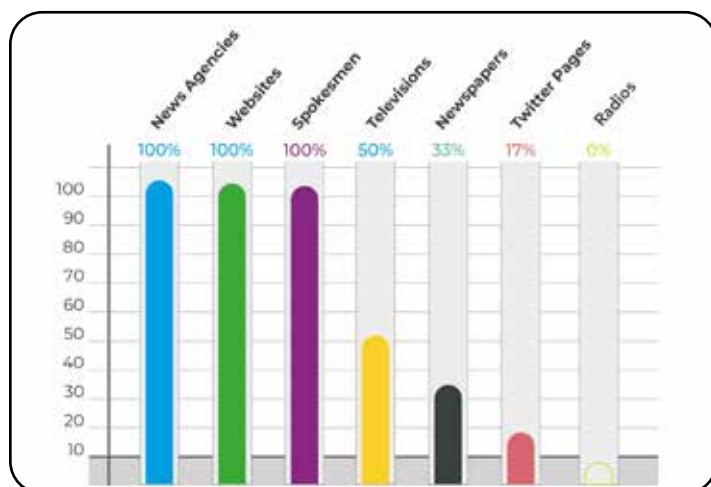
The signing of these contracts will especially help in the resumption of international flights, which will benefit the economy of the country. International flight guidance services will also be offered to planes that fly across Afghan airspace or touch down in foreign airports. The source of revenue for transit flights will be restored, and airplane safety will be guaranteed. The contracted company will also train Afghan airport personnel.

The purpose of signing the airport contract:

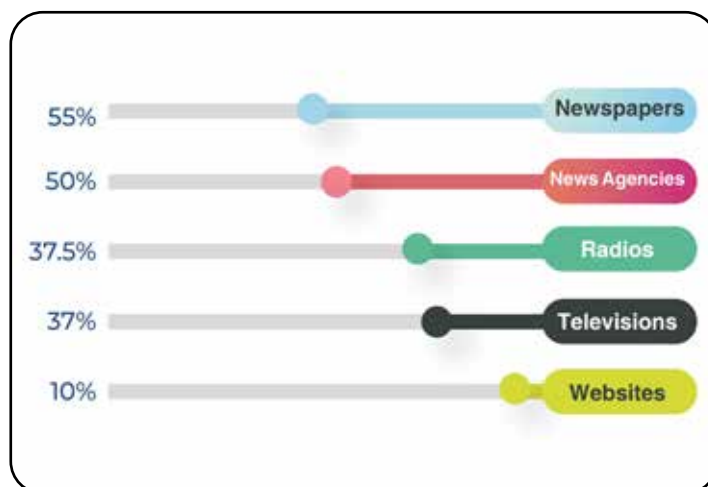
The signing of agreements on the airports in Afghanistan is done mainly to restart international flights, boost trade, and train domestic workers. The IEA is working hard to boost the nation's economy and make travel easier by signing such contracts with international investors.

Evaluation of people's comments on social media about “Signing the Airport Contract with GAAC Company”

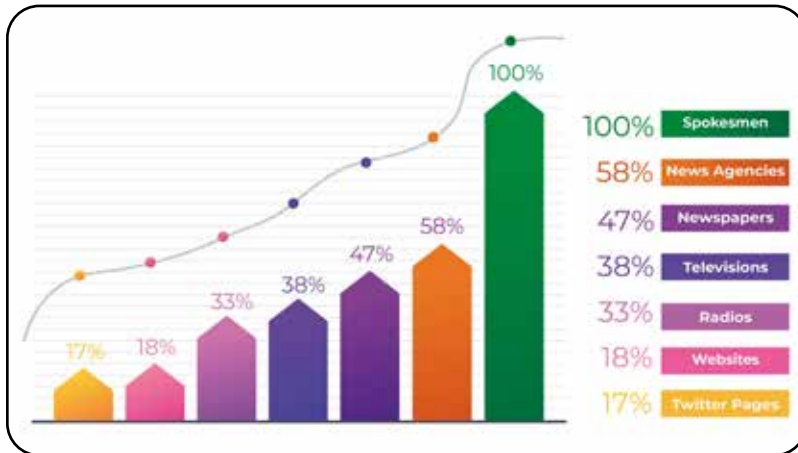
State media:



Private media:



The total percentage of evaluation of private and state media:

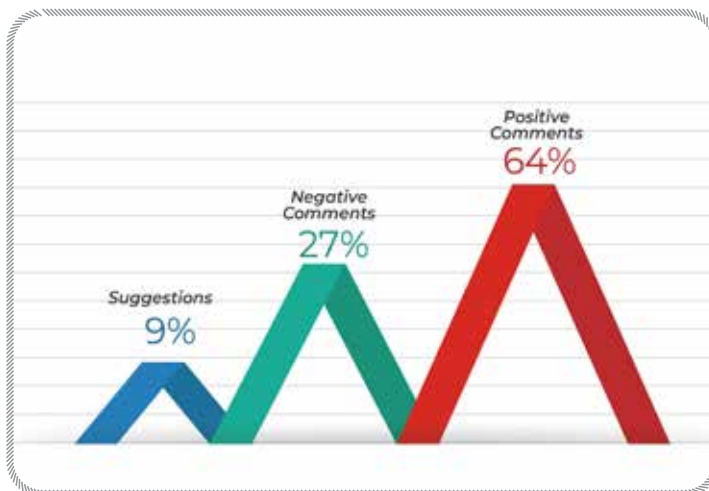


Note: The percentage of comments from both private and public media outlets that report news about the Signing the airport contract with GAAC Company in video, audio, and publications can be seen in the graph above.

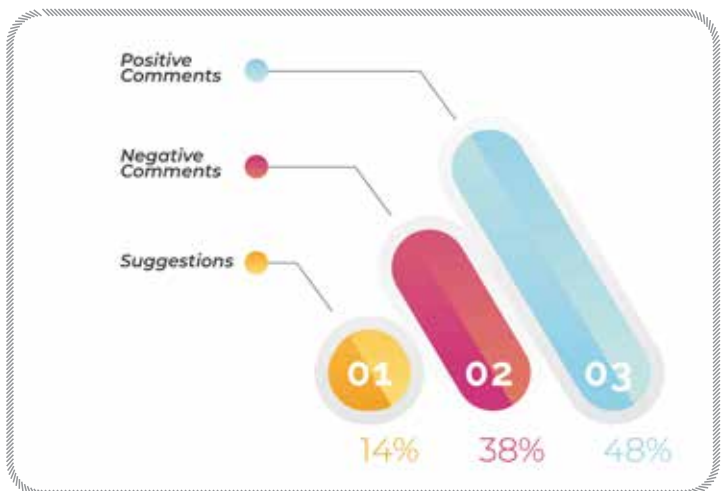
Evaluation of people's comments on social media related to private and state media

Evaluation of people's comments in state media:

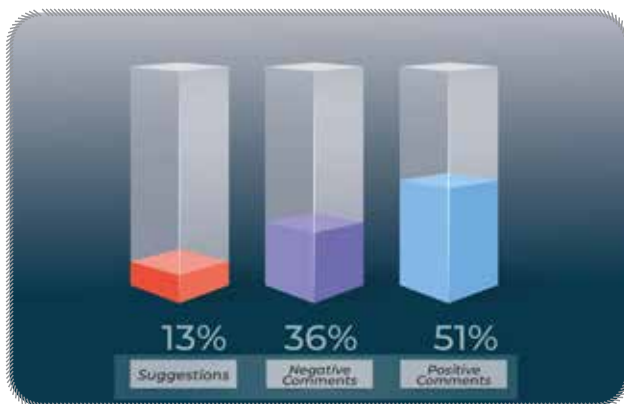
Televisions



spokesmen

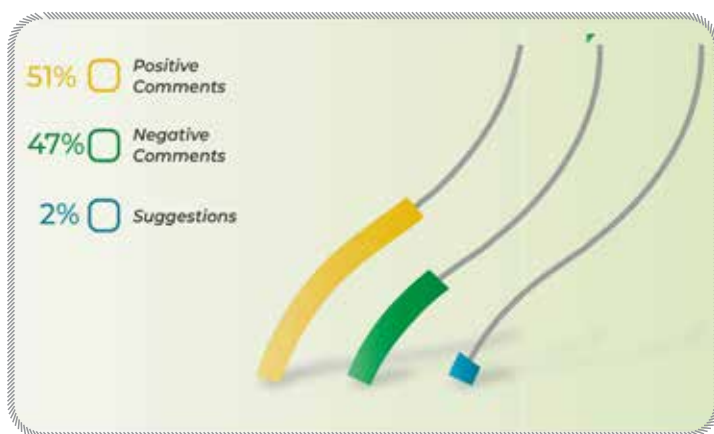


Total evaluation of people's comments on state media

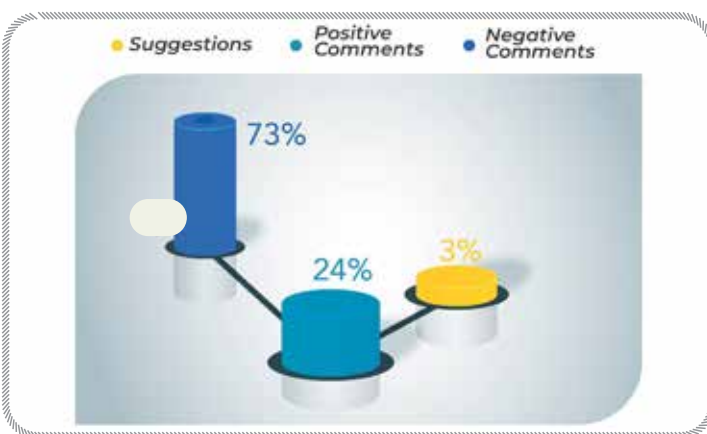


Evaluation of people's comments in private media:

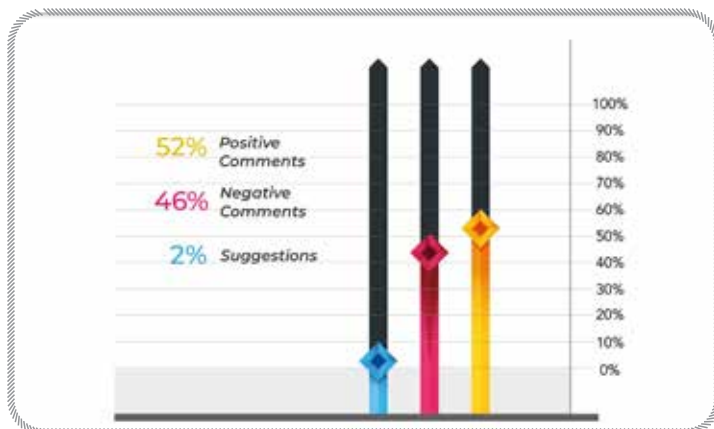
Televisions



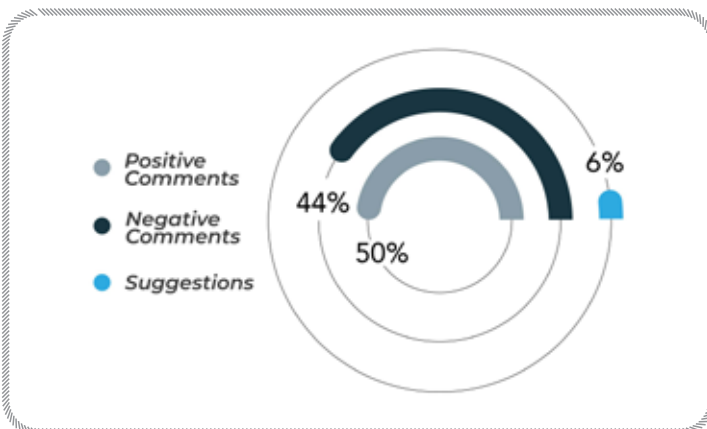
newspapers



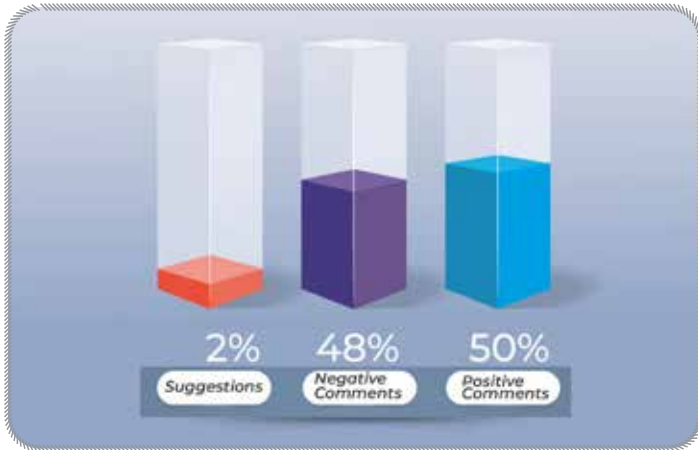
Radios



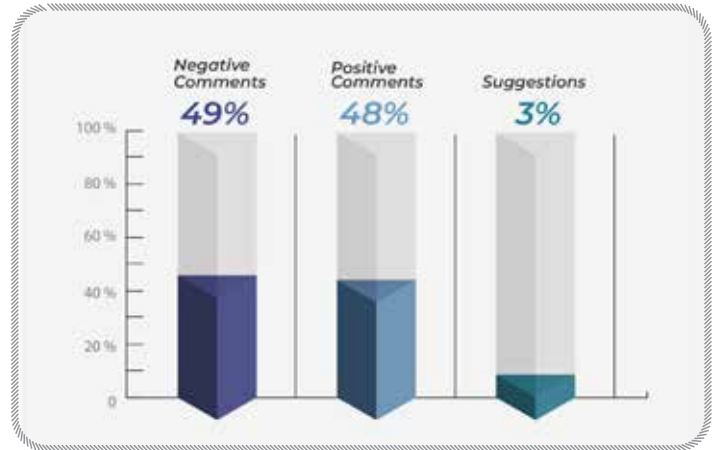
News agencies



Total evaluation of people's comments on state media



Total evaluation of people's comments on private and state media



Analysis of people's comments on social media about "Signing the Contract Of Airports With GAAC Company"

The purpose of analyzing people's comments:

Analyzing positive and negative comments and people's suggestions on social media means clarifying and paying attention to people's comments. The evaluation and publication of this issue gives the people and society the opportunity to share their views, requests, criticisms, and suggestions about the government's decisions, activities, and projects.

The reality of using social media in Afghanistan

If we examine the presence and activity of people on social media, we find that the majority of people in Afghanistan are active on Facebook and most of those who are actively present on Twitter are government officials, institutions, and activists in the political, economic, social, and cultural fields. The official and unofficial members of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan use Twitter more than Facebook. In fact, in Afghanistan, the presence of ordinary people on Twitter is less compared to Facebook.

However, governmental and non-governmental institutions and political, economic, social and cultural activists are actively present on Facebook and Twitter in order to cover the public as well as official individuals and institutions besides publishing official and non-official news and reports on a daily basis.

Analyzing the statistics of people's comments on social media

Media-related social media can be divided into two categories: private media and state media.

1. In the analysis of the statistics of people's comments about the "Signing of the Airport Contract with the GAAC Company" on the social media related to private media, including televisions, newspapers, radios, and agencies. The positive comments, negative comments, and suggestions of people on social media related to private media are such that 51% of comments are positive, 36% are negative comments, and 13% are useful suggestions.

2. The same comments of people on social media related to state media about "Signing of the Airport Contract with the GAAC Company" include televisions and government spokespersons, with 50% positive comments, 48% negative comments, and 2% suggestions.

If we total the positive comments, negative comments, and suggestions made by people on private and state media, we find that 48% are positive, 49% are negative, and 3% are suggestions. In this evaluation, people's positive comments on social media related to state media are more than those on private media.

Here, it is noticeable that there are more positive comments on social media related to private media than the state media. What are the possible causes and factors?

The factors that people's positive comments on social media related to state media are more than the private media regarding the publication of the report of signing the airport contracts can be that people pay more attention to the investment of international companies in Afghanistan.

The signing of such contracts, especially the resumption of international flights, is effective in increasing the number of passengers, and this will have a positive effect on the country's economy. In addition, it facilitates more international flights to Afghanistan.

So far, as a result of the efforts of the Islamic Emirate, several contracts, including the "Ground Handling Services Contract for Flights at Kabul, Kandahar and Herat Airports", the "Aviation Security Contract for the Four Airports of Kabul, Kandahar, Herat and Balkh" and the "Air Guidance Services Contract", have been signed between the Ministry of Transport and Aviation and GAAC Company of the United Arab Emirates. These contracts are important for the purpose of starting the flights of international airlines to/from Afghanistan, facilitating and increasing flights, as well as for the economic growth of the country.

A summary of people's comments on social media can be expressed as follows:

- ✍ Starting flights of international companies to Afghanistan is a good move as it helps increase the scope of trade, commercial flights and increase the national revenue.
- ✍ The government should also pay attention to land transportation, particularly the transportation of fruits to foreign markets, which strengthens and supports farmers while increasing government revenue at the same time.
- ✍ In addition to signing air contracts with international companies, the government should activate air radars to protect Afghanistan's airspace, and if we do not have such resources, it should be taken into consideration.
- ✍ When the contract is signed with the company related to the United Arab Emirates, the UAE must also keep the tourist and business visas open for Afghans.
- ✍ Technical and professional people are needed for each field. For this reason, the company should train our workers, too.

With a study of people's comments on social media in general, several issues are noteworthy:

First, the signing of air contracts is one of the issues that has been welcomed by the people for the beginning of the flights and air trade. The start of international flights to/from Afghanistan to other countries can affect many processes, like the return of domestic and foreign passengers to trade and the passage for flights from/to Afghanistan.

Second, one of the important issues that have been reflected in people's comments, besides the government's attention to air transportation, which is considered important in the current situation of the country, is that ground transportation is also important. Because many times during the previous administration, some of the neighboring countries kept their land borders closed to Afghan traders during the harvest season of fruits and vegetables in Afghanistan and opened the borders to Afghan traders during the harvest season of their own countries. This caused the fruits and vegetables of Afghanistan to be sold at a low price on the roads inside Afghanistan. For this reason, besides air transportation, it is important for the government to pay attention to ground transportation, which has been well mentioned by the people.

Third, people's comments regarding the news of the signing the contract with GAAC is important as their comments included suggestions for restoring the radar system in order to ensure the air security of Afghanistan and it is an important issue when it comes to the security of a country.

Fourth, among the important demands mentioned in people's comments, this one is important. In some people's comments, it is requested that beside signing the contract with the GAAC Company related to the United Arab Emirates, the UAE should also keep the tourist and business visas open for Afghans. In addition to this issue, Afghans should be trained in this field.

One of the conditions of signing the "air guidance services contract" between the Ministry of Transport and Aviation and the "GAAC" company of the United Arab Emirates, in addition to the resumption of international flights, the increase in passengers and the impact on the business, is the training of Afghans in this field. It is so important that in the next few years, the trained young force will be able to carry out many of the issues related to providing air guidance services.

The signing of the air service contract with the GAAC Company has increased the hope for the investment of other companies in Afghanistan, and this is actually the beginning. Considering the importance of space when it comes to the airplanes passing through Afghanistan's airspace, this issue can help in the growth of revenues.

In Afghanistan's landlocked geography, the airspace offers a lucrative trade opportunity in addition to the country's land borders. The Islamic Emirate's efforts and focus in this area have produced significant results. The signing of three contracts for various air and ground services related to Afghanistan's airports since the re-establishment of the IEA is a commendable accomplishment.

Conclusion

The signing of air service contracts will pave the way for the beginning of international flights and trade, which is significant given that Afghanistan is the connecting point for countries between Central Asia, South Asia, and the Middle East. More importantly, it will provide training for Afghans beside providing training opportunity for Afghan airport personnel.

Flights have been resumed which will help the economy of the country grow. Besides, relationships might grow as a result in many different fields. In the meantime, flights for Afghans going to and returning from neighboring countries and the region, including Pakistan, Iran, Central Asia, India, Turkey, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Russia, and China, have a direct impact on the economy and will improve ties between these nations and Afghanistan.

In addition, with the start of international flights to Afghanistan, attention will be paid to the investment of large projects, especially in the field of natural resources. Furthermore, Afghanistan's exports to the world markets will increase. In this critical situation, attention to investment in this field can create many other economic opportunities.

Conference on Attracting and Promoting Domestic and Foreign Investments in the Water and Energy Sectors



Introduction:

There was speculation that after the re-establishment of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, the investment would come to zero. However, enforcing peace and security throughout the country which is important for a country, the country has turned out to be a safe place for domestic and international investment. The previous administration was too far to reach this level.

With the re-establishment of the Islamic Emirate, it has provided good environment for investment, especially in the field of extracting Afghanistan's natural resources. The start of large energy transfer projects from Central Asia to South Asia, the readiness of countries and large companies to invest in Afghanistan's untouched resources, as well as the efforts of the Islamic Emirate to attract and encourage national and international investment, have made this issue even more important than before.

On August 11, 2022, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund, the Deputy PM for Economic Affairs, said at the Conference on Attracting and Promoting Domestic and Foreign Investments in the Water and Energy Sectors: "We ask businessmen and investors to cooperate in the reconstruction and self-sufficiency of Afghanistan. The Islamic Emirate is ready to provide any facilities for the businessmen who want to invest in Afghanistan". He added: "We assure people that investment in mining, dam construction, and other sectors is increasing day by day. The Islamic Emirate is trying to

solve the country's problems because we have to build this country by ourselves. Therefore, we ask businessmen and investors to cooperate and invest here for the reconstruction and self-sufficiency of Afghanistan. It will benefit them and the country.

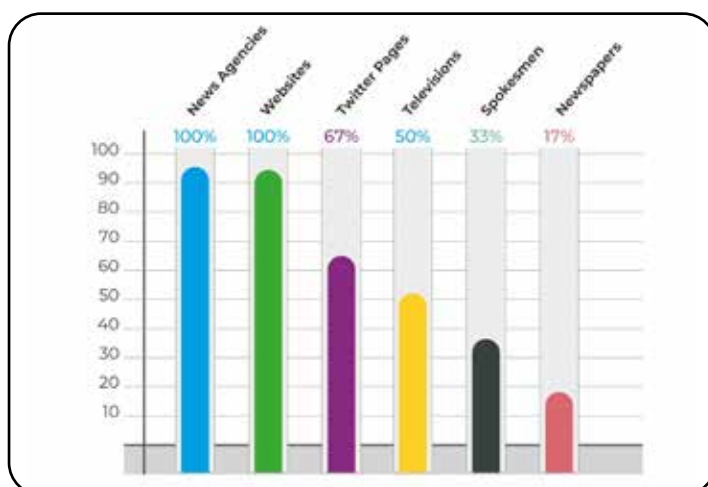
Due to Afghanistan's untapped resources, there are many investment opportunities. According to the US Geological Survey, Afghanistan's mineral reserves are estimated to be more than one trillion dollars. Considering Afghanistan's abundant natural resources, including water, the Conference on Attracting and Promoting Domestic and Foreign Investments in the Water and Energy Sectors is one of the important needs in Afghanistan's natural water management.

The goal of Attracting and Promoting Domestic and Foreign Investments in the Water and Energy Sectors

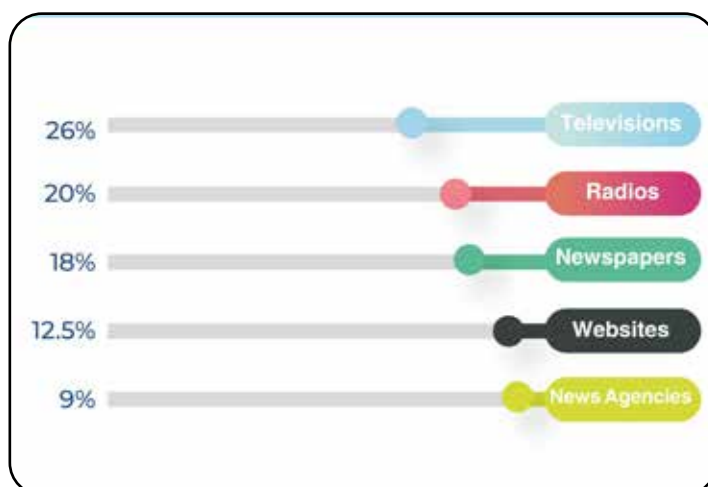
Since Afghanistan is rich in natural water resources, attracting investment in the energy sector for the purpose of electricity production is one of the urgent needs of the people and the government as it is one of the most important clean energies that contribute to a country's economic growth.

Evaluation of people's comments on social media about the " Attracting and Promoting Domestic and Foreign Investments in the Water and Energy Sectors."

State media:

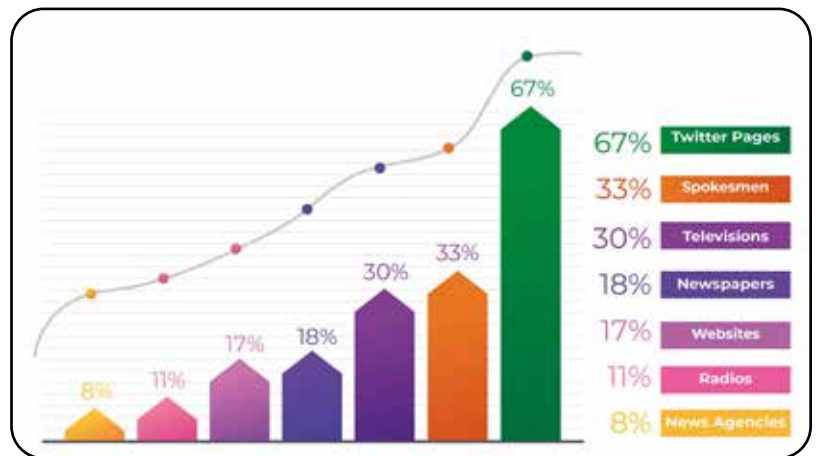


Private media:



The total percentage of evaluation of private and state media:

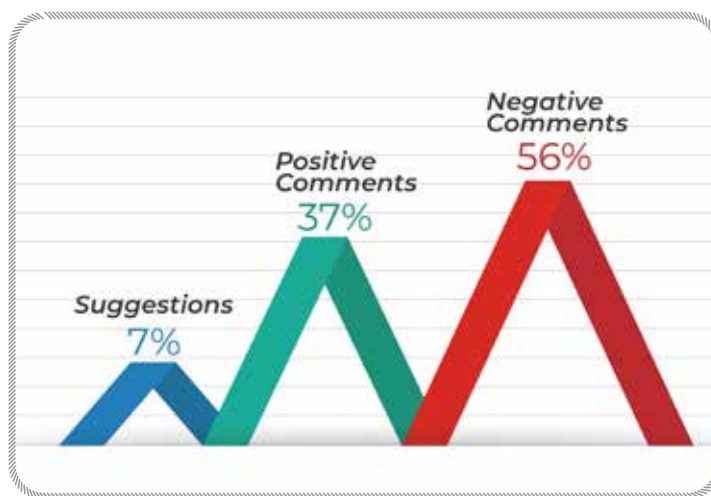
Note: The percentage of comments from both private and public media outlets that report news about Conference on Attracting and Promoting Domestic and Foreign Investments in the Water and Energy Sectors in video, audio, and publications can be seen in the graph above.



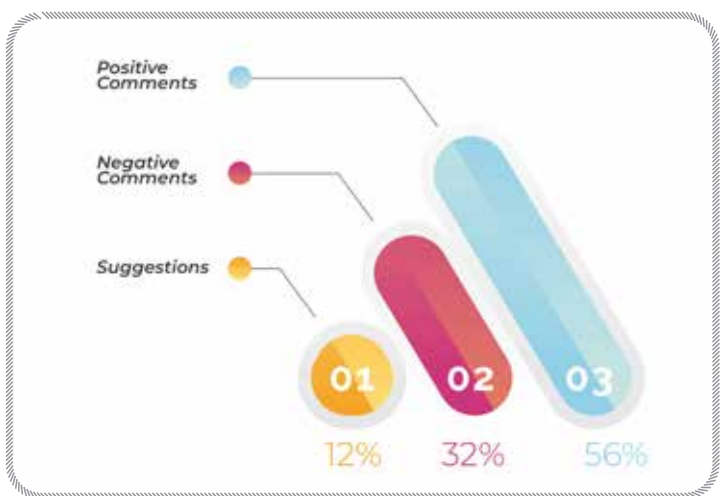
Evaluation of people's comments on social media related to private and state media

Evaluation of people's comments in state media:

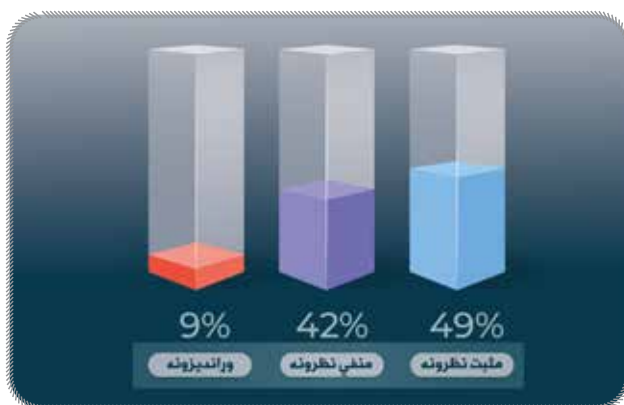
Televisions



spokesmen

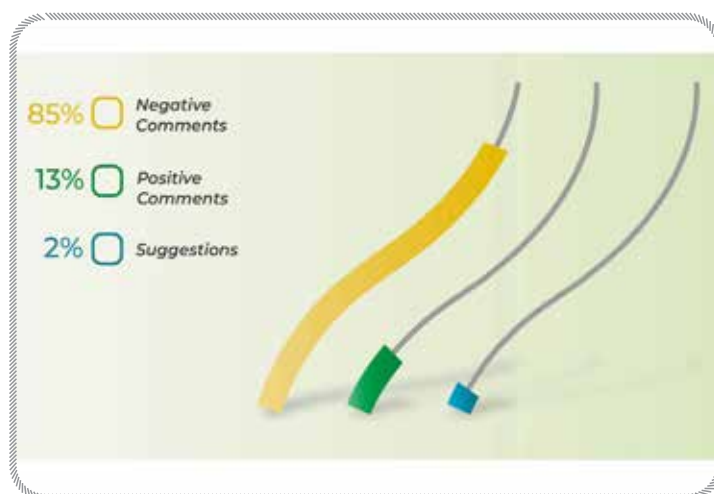


Total evaluation of people's comments on state media

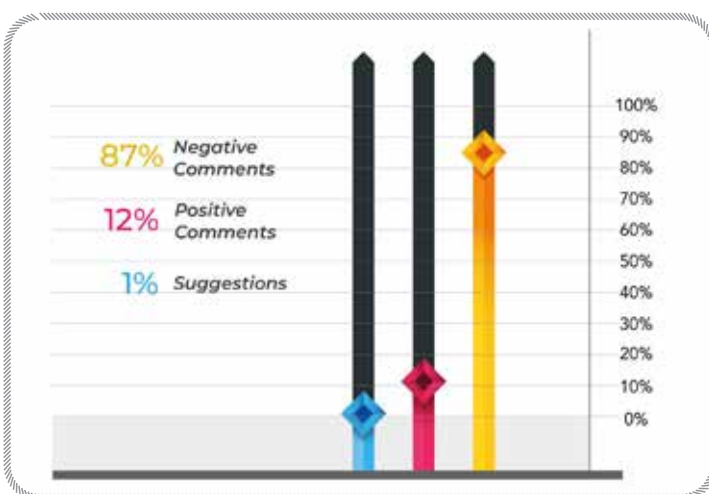


Evaluation of people's comments in state media:

Televisions



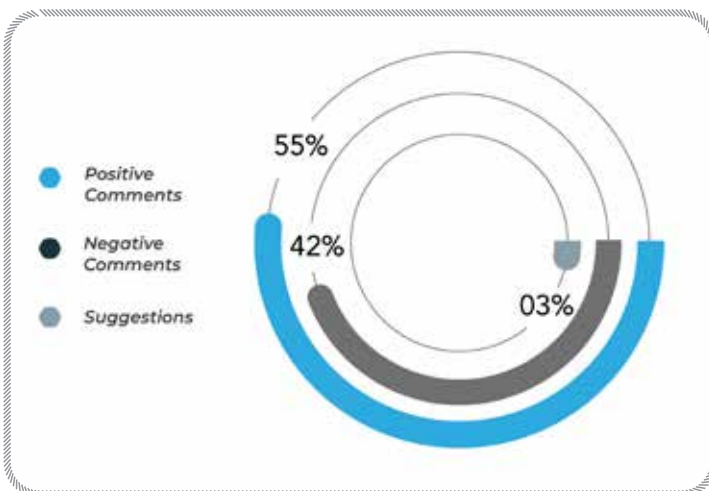
Radios



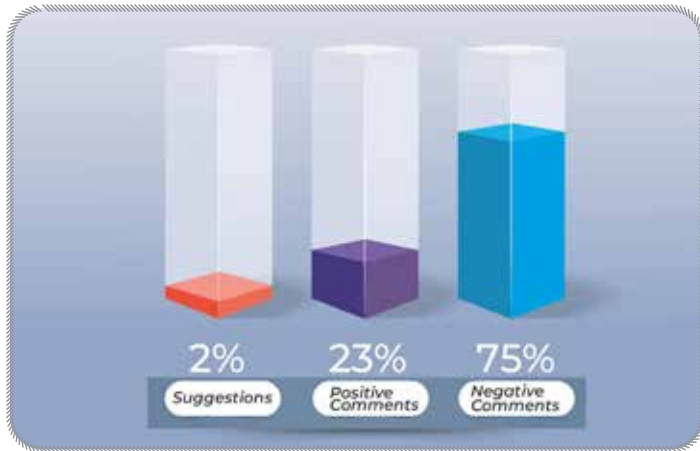
newspapers



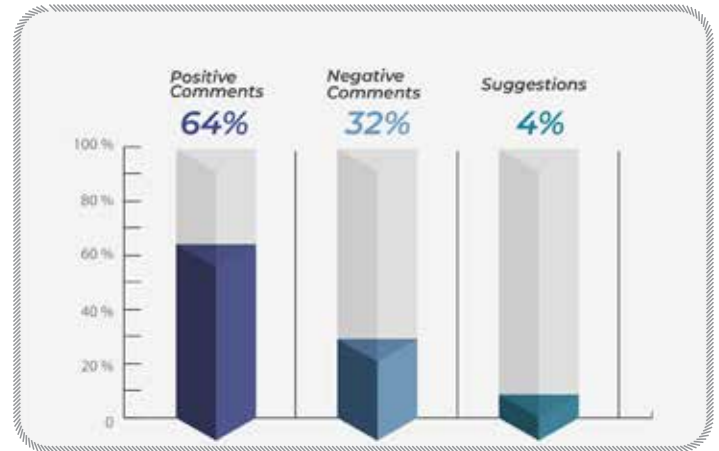
News agencies



Evaluation of people's comments on state media:



Total evaluation of people's comments on private media



Analysis of people's comments about the "Attracting and Promoting Domestic and Foreign Investments in the Water and Energy Sectors"

The purpose of analyzing people's comments:

Analyzing positive and negative comments and people's suggestions on social media means clarifying and paying attention to people's comments. The evaluation and publication of this issue gives the people and society the opportunity to share their views, requests, criticisms, and suggestions about the government's decisions, activities, and projects.

The reality of using social media in Afghanistan

If we examine the presence and activity of people on social media, we find that the majority of people in Afghanistan are active on Facebook and most of those who are actively present on Twitter are government officials, institutions, and activists in the political, economic, social, and cultural fields. The official and unofficial members of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan use Twitter more than Facebook. In fact, in Afghanistan, the presence of ordinary people on Twitter is less compared to Facebook.

However, governmental and non-governmental institutions and political, economic, social and cultural activists are actively present on Facebook and Twitter in order to cover the public as well as

official individuals and institutions besides publishing official and non-official news and reports on a daily basis.

Analyzing the statistics of people's comments on social media:

Media-related social media can be divided into two categories: private media and state media.

1. In the analysis of the statistics of people's comments about the Attracting and Promoting Domestic and Foreign Investments in the Water and Energy Sectors on social media related to private media, including televisions, radios, newspapers and news agencies, which include statistics of people's positive comments, negative comments and suggestions on social media related to private media, it is such that 75% are positive comments, 23% are negative comments and 2% are suggestions.

2. People's comments on social media related to the state media regarding the Attracting and Promoting Domestic and Foreign Investments in the Water and Energy Sectors include televisions and government spokesmen, which are 49% positive comments, 42% negative comments, and 9% suggestions.

If we sum up the total of positive comments, negative comments and suggestions of people on private and state media, in total 64% are positive, 32% are negative and 4% are useful suggestions.

In the current evaluation, what is worth considering is that the percentage of positive comments on social media related to private media is higher than that of state media. The statistics of positive comments on social media related to private media are 75% and the statistics of people's comments on social media related to state media are 49%.

If we sum up the total number of positive and negative comments and suggestions of people on private and state media, the total percentage of positive comments is 64%, negative comments are 32%, and 4% are suggestions. It is debatable that there are more positive comments from people on social media related to private media than state media. What are the possible causes and factors?

The fact that people's positive comments on social media related to private media are more than those related to state media regarding the publication of this report is reflected by private media. This has caused more people's comments about this important issue that has a direct impact on the employment opportunities.

People talked about the report on Attracting and Promoting Domestic and Foreign Investments in the Water and Energy Sectors as one of the most important and fundamental projects.

A summary of people's comments on social media can be expressed as follows:

- ✍ Businessmen should come to the country and invest here.
- ✍ It is better to register all the assets of officials for the purpose of establishing a just government.
- ✍ As long as the problem of recognition is not solved, the problem of businessmen's and investment cannot be solved.
- ✍ For investment, the most important issue is electricity in the industrial areas. It is hoped that the government will take serious action in this regard.
- ✍ One of the important sectors where investment should be made is the water sector. Afghanistan's water goes abroad; it should be managed and controlled.
- ✍ One of the fields of investment is the openness of trade, that is, the transfer of money from inside to outside and vice versa, so the Islamic Emirate should try to solve this problem, which is an obstacle to investment.

With a study of people's comments on social media in general, several issues are noteworthy:

- ✍ **First**, one of the important comments of people on social media about the report of Attracting and Promoting Domestic and Foreign Investments in the Water and Energy Sectors is paving way for the return of businessmen and investment to Afghanistan. In fact, this is one of the important requests of the people that the conference to attract and encourage national and international investment was held for this purpose. It encourages national and international investors as well as showing the will of the government to support investment.
- ✍ **Second**, people's suggestions about the justice of the system and the government, especially regarding the registration of the assets of high-ranking officials, are important and significant. Although during the previous administration, such a process took place sometimes. It was a deception that they apparently displayed and implemented this process, but in reality, it had never happened. If that had been the case, there would not be millions of dollars in the bank accounts of former government officials. This approach is a good one according to the views and wishes of the people and the government and its officials to be just and honest, the decisions and plans of the government should be seen in practice that what measures are taken for economic growth and providing jobs for the people and addressing their problems.
- ✍ **Third**, one of the important issues that have been mentioned regarding the investment of national and international businessmen in people's comments is the issue of recognition. Undoubt-

edly, the issue of recognition is one of the major challenges facing the government. In addition, blocking nearly 9 billion USD of Afghans and cutting off aid has a direct impact on the economic situation. Therefore, the government is trying to deal with this problem fundamentally and has always stated that the door of positive dialogue and interaction with the world is open.

✧ **Fourth**, electricity is one of the basic needs for every country, especially for investment and economic growth. In this regard, in order to support the private sector and traders, unlike the previous administration, the government has made more electricity available for traders in industrial parks and is serious and decisive in this matter. In addition to investment and attention in the field of electricity generation from domestic sources, two major measures have been taken so far. First, the second phase of the Kajaki dam has been put into operation; and another important measure is the practical steps to generate electricity from domestic sources, especially coal; its results will become clear in the near future.

Suitable conditions for attracting investment in Afghanistan

In the past, one of the most important factors in not attracting investment in Afghanistan was the lack of overall security. But after the re-establishment of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, this problem has been solved. For this reason, the Islamic Emirate has made many facilities to attract domestic and foreign investment to Afghanistan in a short period of time.

From the ease of investment laws and policies to the ease of visa implementation, the provision of opportunities and guidance for domestic and foreign investment, land distribution services, and attention to the supply of more electricity services for industrial parks and industrialists are some of the signs that the Islamic Emirate aims to attract investment.

The most important issue is enforcing peace, which was not done in the past twenty years. In addition, corruption and duplicate institutions were among the problems that had a negative impact on investment in the past twenty years. These problems have been solved since the re-establishment of the Islamic Emirate. Undoubtedly, there are currently some challenges, including the renewal of laws due to their lack of responsiveness in the current era, but efforts are underway to find a fundamental solution to such challenges.

The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, by prioritizing attracting investment, especially in large infrastructure projects, has made the field favorable for large investments; for example, the start of the Qosh Tepa canal project, which transfers about 650 cubic meters of water within one second from the Amu River to the wide plains of Balkh, Jowzjan, and Faryaab provinces in northern Afghanistan. The opening of the second phase of the Kajaki dam as the largest power dam in the country, the

opening of the Afghan Invest company, the opening of the industrial park in Perozi town, and the extraction of the Qashqara oil block are some of the projects that were undertaken after the re-establishment of the Islamic Emirate.

Conclusion

According to the evaluation of people's comments on social media, what has been more reflected in people's comments is the attention and focus on the economic foundation, which is investment, especially attracting domestic and foreign investors to Afghanistan. It will help the country grow economically and create jobs for the people.

It should be noted that one of the priorities of the Islamic Emirate is to attract foreign investment, especially focusing on encouraging domestic investors. Fortunately, on June 20, 2022, Afghan Invest Company was founded by 13 famous Afghan investors and opened by the Deputy PM for Economic Affairs. Initially, \$250 million will be invested by this company, which will increase over time. The main goal of this company, in cooperation with the Islamic Emirate, is to create job opportunities for people and make positive changes in the economic situation of Afghanistan.

It should be noted that this company operates in the following four sectors: mining, energy/electricity, construction, and agriculture. In the mining sector, it tries to extract the country's mines using standard and advanced technology in order to avoid waste. It generates the electricity required by the country from domestic coal sources, reducing the amount of imported electricity in the country and reinvesting hundreds of millions of dollars paid annually to neighboring countries for the sake of electricity for the economic growth and job creation in the country. In addition, encouraging domestic investment can be effective in economic growth and prosperity.

Hajji Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund attended the grand conference of Herat



Introduction

Since recent political changes, the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan has been working tirelessly in the area of paving way for investment, economic growth, and self-reliance by choosing an economic-oriented policy. With the elimination of corruption and the multiplicity of customs revenues, for the first time, more than 800,000 government employees were paid their salaries from the domestic revenue and some more amount of money was allocated for development projects, which can be considered a great achievement. For this purpose, the Deputy Prime Minister of Economic Affairs, Hajji Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund, accompanied by a number of senior government officials attended a large economic conference organized by Islamic scholars, tribal leaders, businessmen, and investors in Herat province on November 02, 2022.

“Security is an important element of a country’s economic stability and development. Al-Hamdulillah, after years of war and misfortune, Afghanistan is now fully secure and we need to thank Allah almighty for such a great blessing because during the previous administration, there were different security threats faced by investors and businessmen, but under the Islamic Emirate, the security of all people, especially businesspeople, industrialists, and money exchangers, has been ensured. Corrupt officials of the previous administration not only threatened the security of the people and businessmen but also took \$750 million of the public and businesspeople from the banks,” the DP-M&EA said in his speech at the conference.

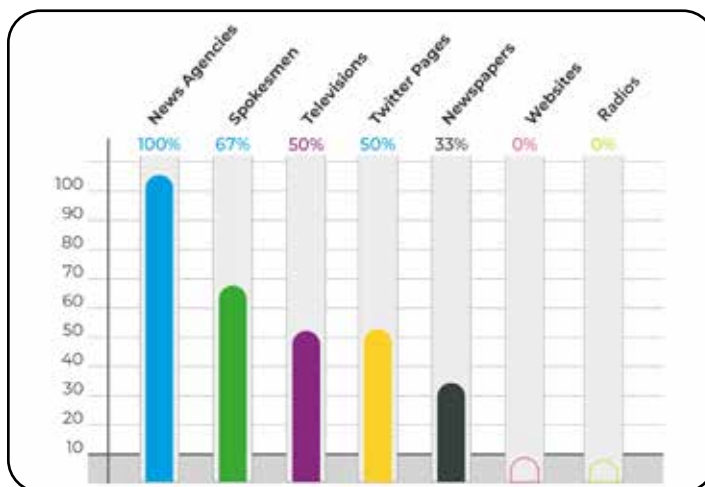
The meeting also pointed out that after the rule of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, it has been able to maintain the value of Afghani against foreign currencies. This comes at a time when even stable countries in the region have not been able to do so. In another part of his speech, the DPM&A said, "As a representative of the government, I assure all the traders and investors that the economic plan for traders and investors will be at the top of the implementation after evaluation and will be implemented as soon as possible."

Purpose of the Trip

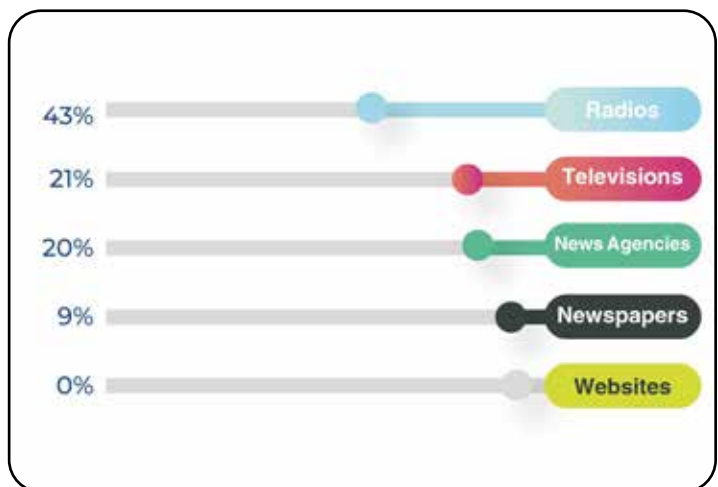
The purpose of the trip of the DPM&A to Herat province was to attend a large economic conference convened by scholars, tribal leaders, businesspeople and investors. With the security of businesspeople, industrialists, and money exchangers, investment opportunities have been provided. Therefore, holding major economic meetings is one of the priorities of the Islamic Emirate.

The assessment of people's comments on social media regarding the trip of the DPM&A to Herat province

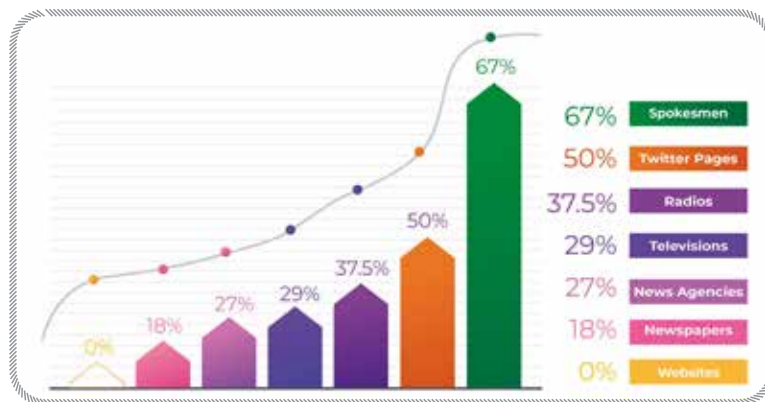
State Media Networks



Private Media Networks



Collection of Assessments of Public and Private Media Networks

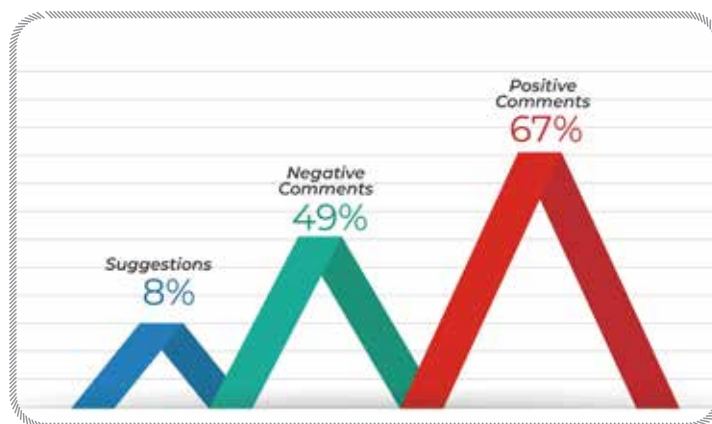


Note: The graph above illustrates the comments of the people regarding the news of the DPM&EA trip to Herat on State and Private Media Networks published in video, audio, and text forms.

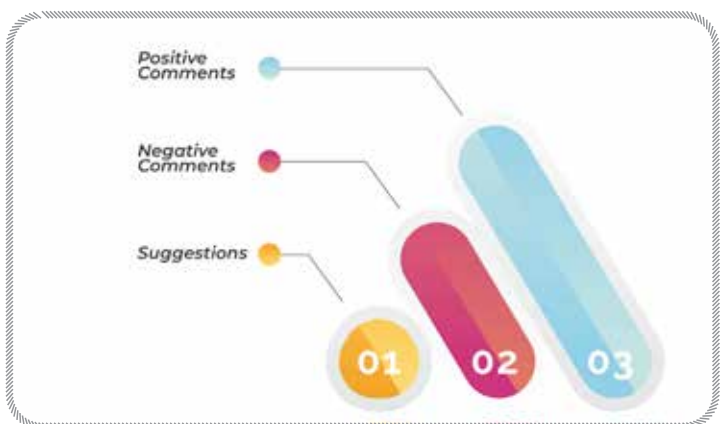
Assessment of People's Comments on Social Networks Related to Public and Private Media Networks

1: The Assessment of People's Comments on State Media Networks:

Televisions



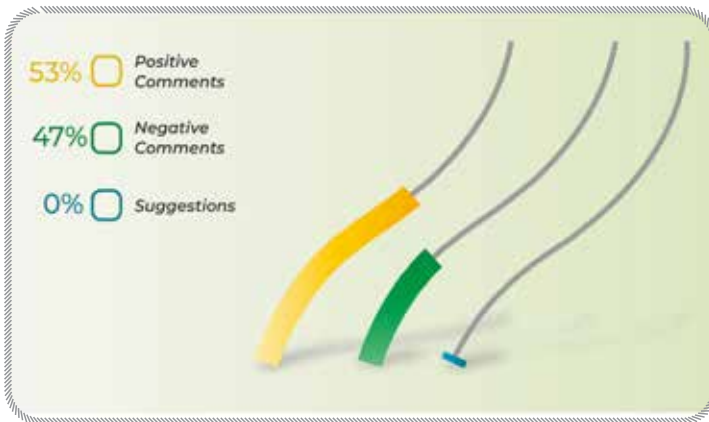
spokesmen



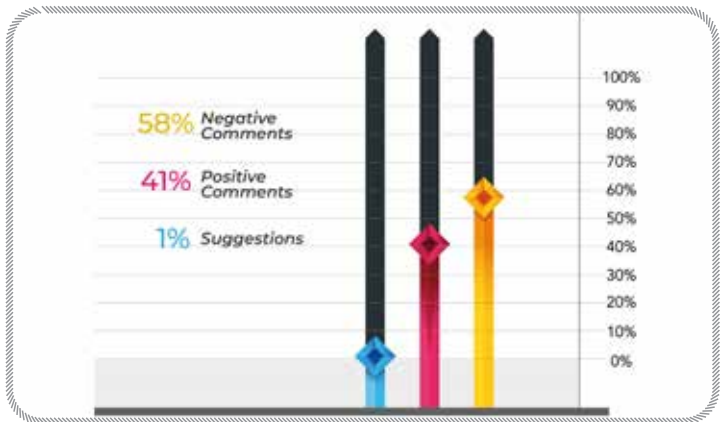
Collection of People's Comments on State Media Networks

2. The Assessment of People's Comments on Private Media Networks:

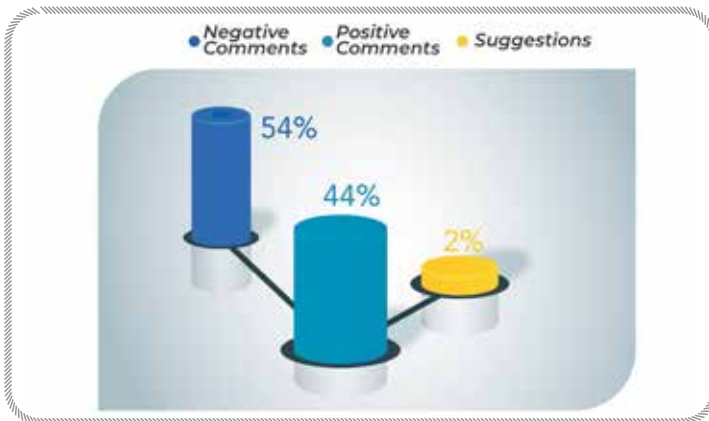
Televisions



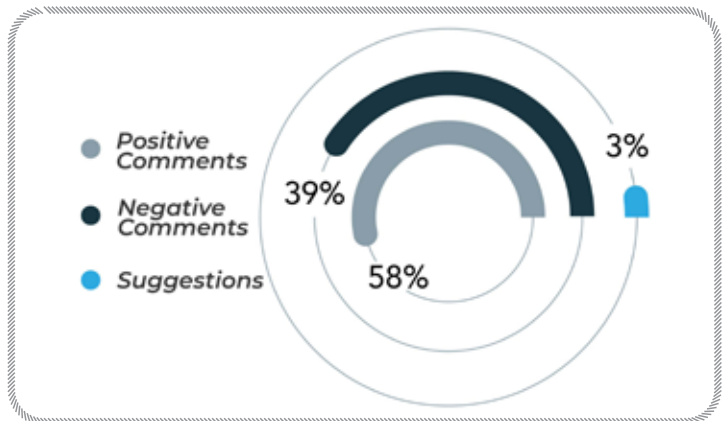
Radios



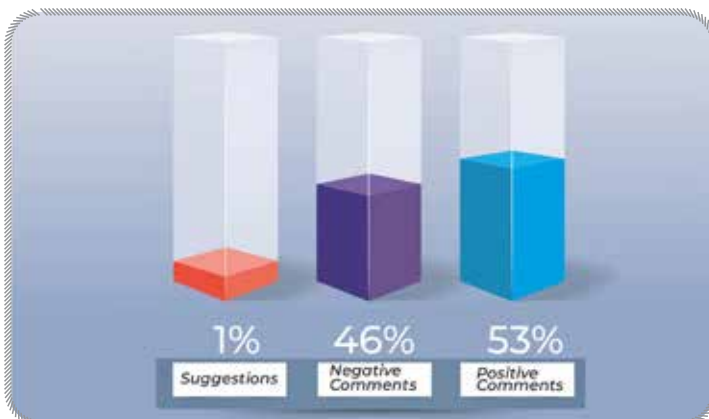
newspapers



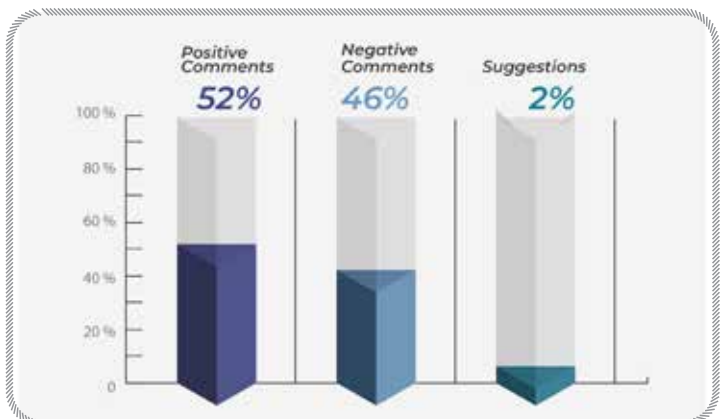
News agencies



Collection of People's Comments on Private Media Networks



Collection of People's Comments on State Media and Private Media Networks



People's Comments on the DPM&A's Participation in the Herat Economic Conference

The Purpose of Assessing People's Comments

Researching people's positive comments, negative comments, and suggestions on social media means clarifying and paying attention to people's comments. It presents the government and, more importantly, the important economic decisions made by the government to the people in light of the comments, demands, criticisms, and suggestions of these people.

The reality of social media uses in Afghanistan

Most of the people in Afghanistan use Facebook. But government officials, institutions; political, economic, social and cultural activists are all involved on Twitter.

However, governmental and non-governmental institutions and political, economic, social and cultural activists are actively present on Facebook and Twitter in order to cover the public as well as official individuals and institutions besides publishing official and non-official news and reports on a daily basis.

The Assessment of the number of people's comments on the media

Media-related social media networks are divided into two groups: private and governmental media networks.

1. Private media, including televisions, radios, newspapers and news agencies, are assessing people's views on the participation of Hajji Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund at the Herat Economic Conference. People's positive comments, negative comments and suggestions on private media-related social networks are 53% positive, 46% negative and 1% sound suggestions.
2. The public's views on the participation of Hajji Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund at the Economic Conference in Herat, including television and spokespersons, are 42% positive, 50% negative and 8% sound suggestions.

Similarly, the percentage of people's positive comments on private media is 53% and 42% on the state media. If we categorize people's positive comments, negative comments and sound suggestions on private and public media collectively, a total of 52% are positive comments, 46% negative comments and 2% sound suggestions.

The assessment found that people's positive comments on private media-related social networks were higher than in the state media. Considering this, what is the reason for the increase in people's positive comments on private media-related social networks compared to the state media?

What needs to be revealed here is the increase in people's positive comments on private social networks compared to the state-owned media. The level of positive public comments on state media-related social networks is 46% and the level of public comments on private media-related social networks is 53%.

Here, two questions may arise for the audience, first of all, Why are there more positive comments of people on private media-related social networks than on the state-owned media? Second, Why is the total percentage of people's positive comments high on private and state-owned media networks regarding the participation of Hajji Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund at the Herat Economic Conference?

In response, it should be said that the increase in people's positive comments on private-media networks compared to the state-owned media actually reveals the true nature of people's comments. However, since the percentage of people's positive comments about the participation of Hajji Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund at Herat 's largest economic conference is high, it should be said that issues such as investment, domestic investment and national businessmen can be interesting for the people.

The discussion of investment, particularly convincing the national traders to invest in Afghanistan, is an important issue that can be effective in providing infrastructure and job opportunities within the country.

Over the past 20 years, a fundamental obstacle has been domestic investment, as well as lack of attention to infrastructure in Afghanistan. This is in fact the result of the initiatives of the government and national businesspeople, which on the one hand is in the interest of the investors and on the other hand, it is aimed at providing job opportunities for the people.

People's comments on social media can be concluded as follows:

- ✍ The hope of the people turns to the government, so the government should not refrain from any kind of efforts to help and the people;
- ✍ If The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan enforces Sharia law, it will undoubtedly solve the problems of the people to a greater extent because the people of Afghanistan first fought against the Soviet Union and then the 20-year occupation of the United States to fully implement Islam;
- ✍ When the work is handed over to the right people, everything will be fine. The Islamic Emirate has also taken actions to build the Herat road, which runs through Ghor , Bamyan and finally reaches Kabul and it is comparatively shorter distance than the Herat-Kandahar-Kabul. It will shorten the traffic route for passengers;
- ✍ The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan should pay attention to the eastern provinces beside the de-

velopment of other provinces. Among them are constructing the Second Kabul-Jalalabad Road, building the Gambiri Airport and building a dam on the Kunar River.

By studying people's comments on social networks, a number of issues are worth discussing:

- ✧ **First**, the people's hope for the government actually shows that the government, as a major political umbrella, must help organize the daily affairs of the people and find solutions to their problems. This is essentially the main demand of the people and the important goal of the government. But the government, as it has repeatedly said, has it as a priority to end people's economic problems.
- ✧ **Second**, the discussion of the implementation of Sharia law is the main hope and purpose of Afghans, the people of Mujahidin nature. Because one of the main reasons for the defeat of the insurgent powers was the ideological issue of the Mujahidin nature people of Afghanistan, which had a direct impact on the success of the people. Therefore, the leaders of the Islamic Emirate are committed to these demands of the people of Afghanistan. The implementation of Sharia law and the rule of the Islamic system are the main priorities and the government has intended to take actions accordingly.
- ✧ **Third**, handing over responsibilities to right people is one of the reasons for the development of a system. In this regard, two things should be separated; some people believe that expertise can solve the problem of governance, particularly the development of a government's major programs and affairs, while the biggest problem of governing over the past 20 years was corruption, which involved many experts who had been brought from abroad. Therefore, in addition to expertise, full attention should be paid to the commitment of the experts. Those who, according to Islam, are not committed to the people of Afghanistan and the values of this geography, cannot be expected to do their jobs properly. Undoubtedly, in addition to commitment and loyalty to serve the people, expertise and professionalism are a necessity, but it must end up with corruption, the destruction of a government, and treason.
- ✧ **Fourth**: The construction of a ring road from Herat to Kabul, which runs through Ghor and Bamian provinces, the dam on Kunar River, the second road between Kabul and Jalalabad, and the construction of a Gambiri Airport in the eastern provinces are the issues that the government is trying to do in the long-run.

Solving people's problems is not done in systems that only chant slogans and in practice do nothing for the welfare of the people. For this purpose, the Islamic Emirate is making efforts to meet the demands of the people and implementing major economic projects without chanting. As the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs said at an important economic conference: "People's welfare and economic stability are among the priorities of the Islamic Emirate in the short term in order to improve the economic situation and increase national revenues."

Conclusion

Choosing an economic-oriented policy is in fact an effort to attract and encourage investment, as well as to take care of people's welfare. One sign of attention to this issue, particularly after the success of the Islamic Emirate, the maintenance of full security, which has provided conditions for investment. Moreover, eradicating corruption is another important issue that the former administration was not able to solve in the past 20 years. Maintaining security and eradicating corruption is essentially a path to economic growth, self-sufficiency, employment opportunities for the people and it is one of the top priorities of the Islamic Emirate.

One of the trips of the DPM&EA to the provinces was attending the Great Conference of Herat convened by the Islamic scholars, businesspeople and investors of Herat province. The DPM&EA was accompanied by a number of high-ranking government officials during the conference the main purpose of which was to attract investment and encourage domestic investors to invest in Afghanistan.

Afghan Invest is the largest and most reliable company in Afghanistan



Introduction

One of the most crucial tasks in laying the groundwork for economic stability is to concentrate on, encourage, and strengthen domestic investment. When considering two decades of reliance on investment dependent on foreign aid, it is clear how important this issue is. Despite receiving billions of dollars over this time, Afghanistan continues to struggle with a lack of economic infrastructure and job-creating possibilities.

In this regard, on June 20, 2022, Afghan Invest Limited Company was founded by 13 famous and well-known Afghan investors and opened by Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund, the Deputy PM for Economic Affairs. Initially \$250 million will be invested in this company, which will increase over time.

This company operates in the following four sectors: mining, energy/electricity, construction, and agriculture. This large investment is established in order to create a reliable and standard center for domestic and foreign investment. In the mining sector, it tries to extract the country's mines using standard and advanced technology in order to avoid waste. It generates the electricity required by the country from domestic coal sources, reducing the amount of imported electricity in the country and reinvesting hundreds of millions of dollars paid annually to neighboring countries for the sake of electricity. It will help the country grow economically and provide people with employment opportunities.

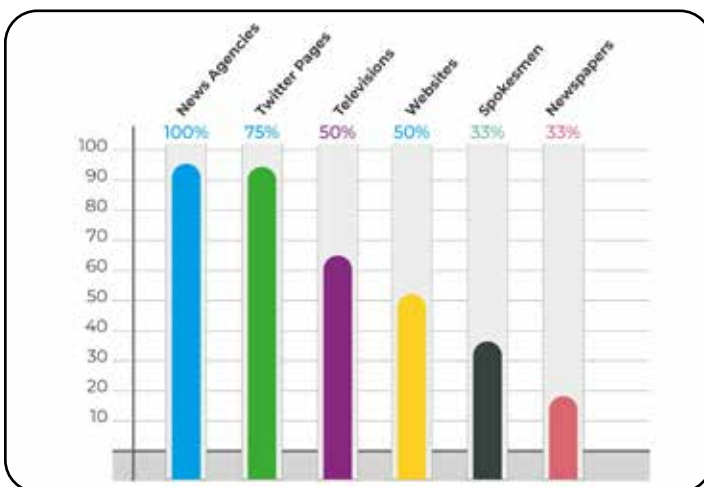
This company has an investment plan in the agriculture sector to provide job opportunities for the people. It also plans to invest in the construction of dams, bridges, culverts, etc. from domestic sources. In fact, the Afghan Invest company works to strengthen the economy and basic infrastructure of Afghanistan by using its internal capacities. In the future, in addition to domestic investors, this company also has a plan to attract foreign investors.

The purpose of the company

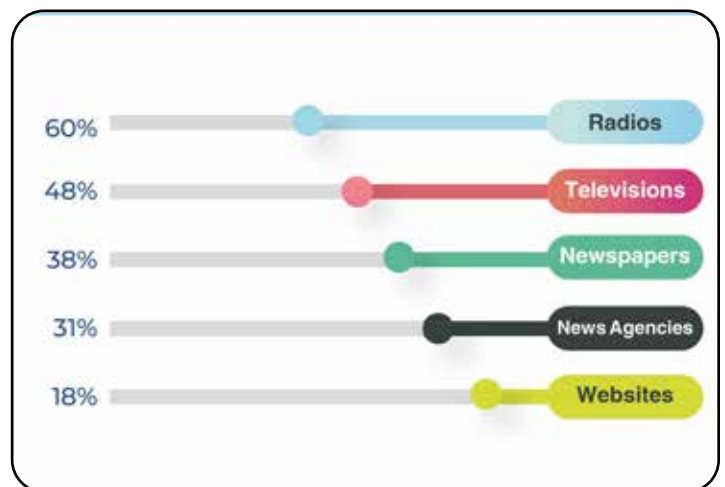
Afghan Invest Limited Liability Company invests in the following four sectors: mining, energy/electricity, construction, and agriculture in close cooperation with the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan with the aim of creating job opportunities for people and making positive changes in the country's economic situation by using standardized and quality equipment.

Evaluation of people's comments on social media related to the media that published the report "Launching of Afghan Invest Company"

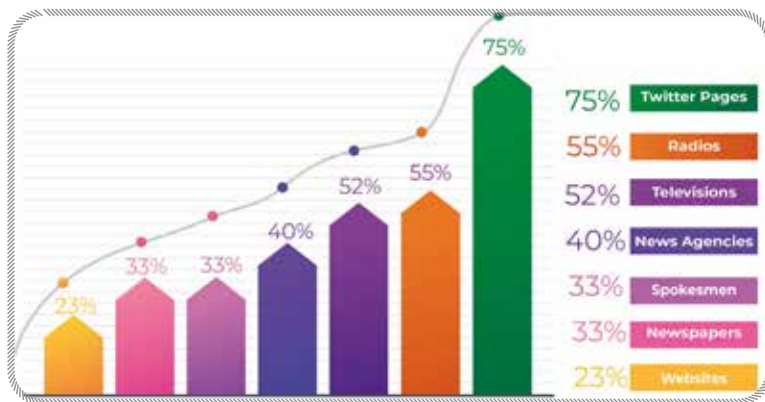
Private media:



State media:



The total percentage of evaluation of private and state media:

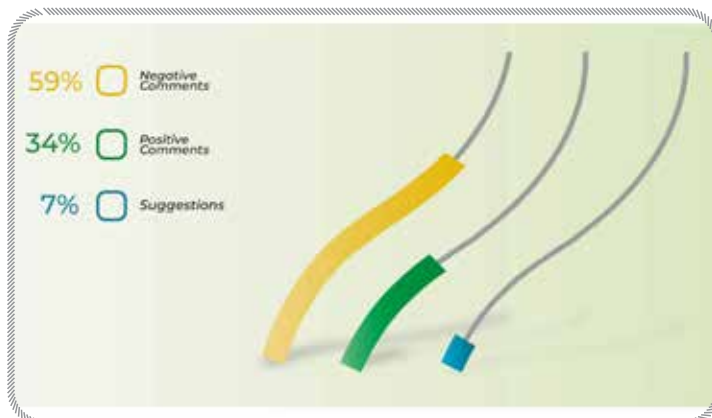


Note: The graph above illustrates the comments of the people regarding the news of the Launching of Afghan Invest Company on State and Private Media Networks published in video, audio, and text forms.

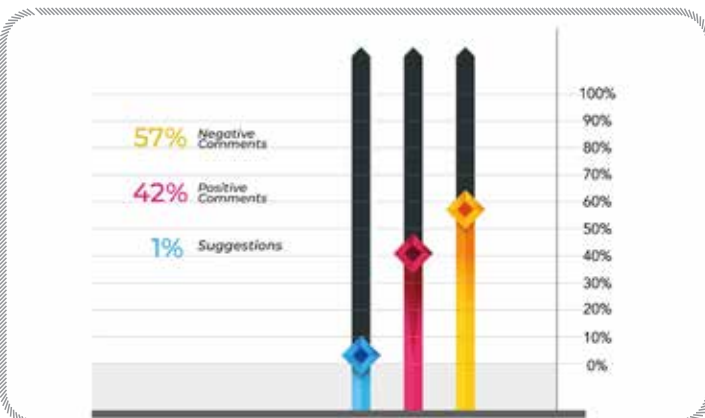
Evaluation of people's comments on social media related to private and state media

1: The Assessment of People's Comments on private Media Networks:

private media:



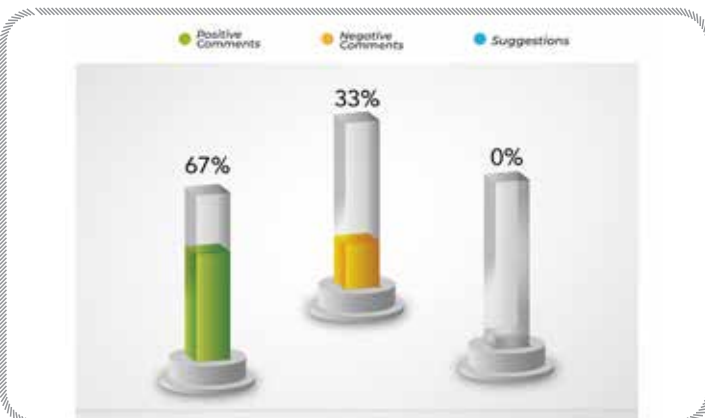
State media:

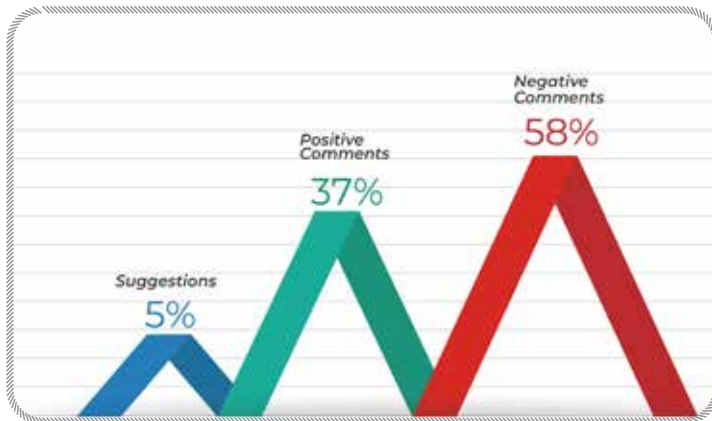


Televisions



Radios



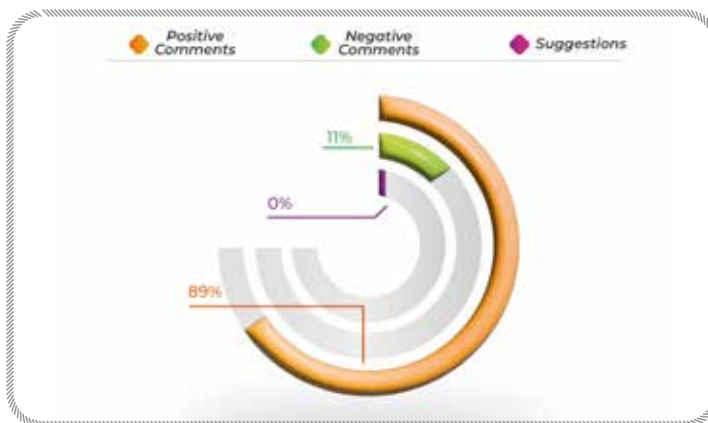


Total evaluation of people's comments
on private media

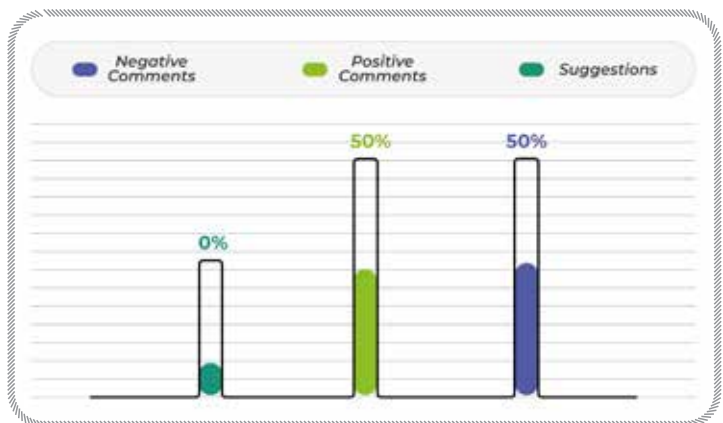


2: The Assessment of People's Comments on State Media Networks:

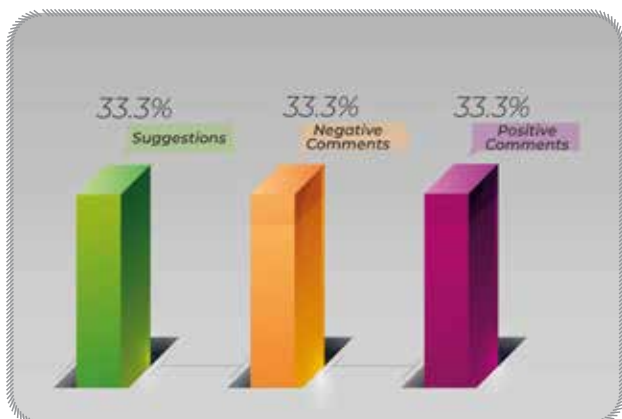
Websites



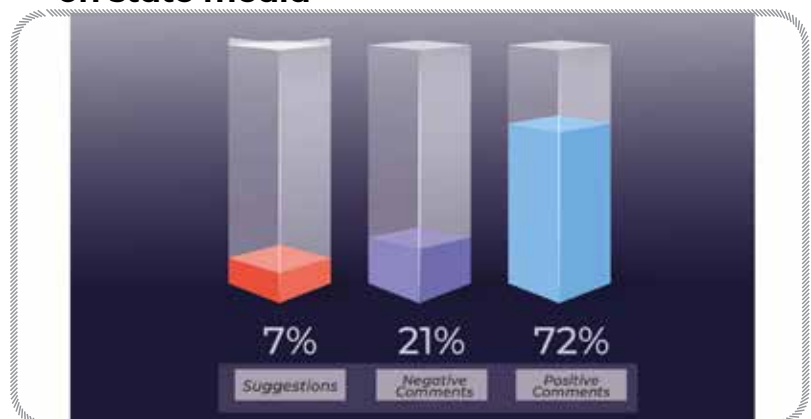
spokesmen

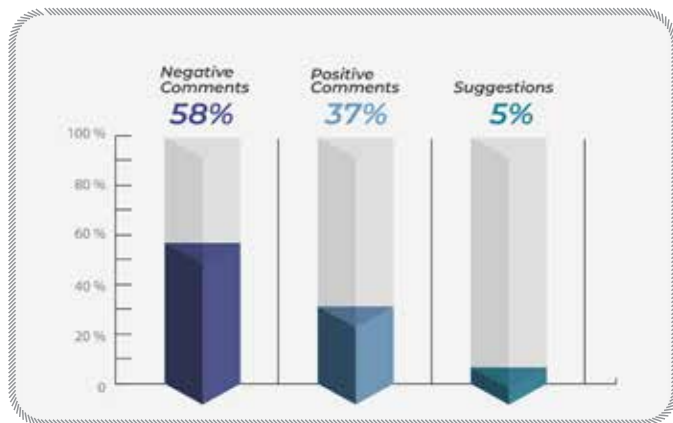


News agencies



Total evaluation of people's comments on state media





**Total evaluation of people's comments
on private and state media**

Analyzing people's comments on social media about the "Launching of Afghan Invest Company"

The purpose of analyzing people's comments:

Analyzing positive and negative comments and people's suggestions on social media means clarifying and paying attention to people's comments. The evaluation and publication of this issue gives the people and society the opportunity to share their views, requests, criticisms, and suggestions about the government's decisions, activities, and projects.

The reality of using social media in Afghanistan

If we examine the presence and activity of people on social media, we find that the majority of people in Afghanistan are active on Facebook and most of those who are actively present on Twitter are government officials, institutions, and activists in the political, economic, social, and cultural fields. The official and unofficial members of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan use Twitter more than Facebook. In fact, in Afghanistan, the presence of ordinary people on Twitter is less compared to Facebook.

However, governmental and non-governmental institutions and political, economic, social and cultural activists are actively present on Facebook and Twitter in order to cover the public as well as official individuals and institutions besides publishing official and non-official news and reports on a daily basis.

Analyzing the statistics of people's comments on social media.

Media-related social media can be divided into two categories: private media and state media.

1. In the analysis of the statistics of people's comments about the report "Launching Afghan Invest Company" on social media related to private media, including news agencies, televisions, radios, and newspapers, the statistics of people's comments on social media related to private media are 37% positive comments, 58% negative comments, and 5% suggestions.

2. People's comments on social media related to state media about the report "Launching Afghan Invest Company" include spokespersons, news agencies, and websites. The statistics are such that 72% positive comments, 21% negative comments, and 7% are suggestions.

In the above evaluation, what stands out is the higher percentage of people's positive comments on social media related to state media than private media. The percentage of people's positive comments on social media related to state media is 72%, but on social media related to private media, it is 58%.

If we add up all of the positive comments, negative comments, and suggestions made by people on private and public media, we get 37% positive comments, 58% negative comments, and 5% suggestions. In the meantime, it is debatable that there are more positive comments on social media related to state media than private media. What are the possible causes and factors?

If we consider the total of positive and negative comments of people on social media related to government and private media regarding the report of the launching of Afghan Invest Company, the percentage of negative comments is higher than positive comments. This issue shows the highlighting of the real comments of the people, which are addressed here one by one to reveal the reality of the people's views.

People's positive comments on state-media networks are more than those of the private media. As the comments show, people hope that the government pay more attention to such great infrastructural projects such as Afghan Invest. Although the collective psychology in society is such that they follow the private media more than the state media as they think it is neutral, there are many private media that instead of expressing the facts, deal with issues that serve the interests of foreigners.

A summary of people's comments on social media can be expressed as follows:

- ✍ Our country took another step towards development with the opening of this company. This will reduce the level of unemployment. With the establishment of such companies, a detailed evaluation of all projects in the country should be done. If such a big investment leads to the unity of Afghans, it is a positive step. Wishing for a peaceful, prosperous, and self-sufficient Afghanistan.
- ✍ This company should be expanded further so that all businessmen are allowed to invest in it, thus facilitating the return of all businessmen to Afghanistan.
- ✍ With improved investment conditions in comparison to the past, some basic construction projects have begun, and people are hoping that they will be completed. In 20 years, not a single production company was built, but all companies were built to increase personal capital. Therefore, more should be done in the field of economic growth because our economy is very weak.
- ✍ People are facing problems with the fall of the previous system. Investors are fleeing abroad, so how can a businessman be willing to invest in Afghanistan? In addition, the tax on people is too high, so the tax on people should be reduced.
- ✍ Our request to the Islamic Emirate is to clarify the issue of investing in this company (Afghan Invest) so that people know how and what kind of people can invest in this company and under what conditions.
- ✍ In the field of energy/electricity production, we should use water, coal, oil, and other resources because electricity is very important in all industrial work.

With a study of people's comments on social media in general, several important issues are noteworthy:

- ✍ **First**, one of the important issues that have been reflected in people's comments about the launching of the Afghan Invest Company report is the discussion of ending the war and creating an investment environment. The creation of a large company with the investment of Afghans has increased the hope of reducing the level of unemployment and paying more attention to large projects. In addition, the further expansion of such companies and the participation of more domestic businessmen are the wishes of the people. This issue, on the one hand, provides job opportunities for the people, and on the other hand, attracts all domestic businessmen from foreign countries.
- ✍ **Second**, although the political and economic situation is not as it should be because Afghanistan is struggling with many problems after years of war and occupation, and the recent political developments, the freezing of Afghan assets by the US and the cut off of aid. In such a situation, paying attention to investing in and creating large companies for the purpose of strengthening

the economic foundation and using internal resources shows the existence of a strong will in this direction. Because it has been stated in people's comments about the favorable investment conditions now compared to the past that the basic works have only just begun considering internal capacity. While in the last 20 years, such investment was not undertaken to create a manufacturing company; all companies were built with the goal of increasing personal capital.

✎ **Third**, people's comments should not be ignored here, even though they are negative and against the government. In some people's comments, it is stated that with the fall of the previous system, people are facing problems. It is a fact that when more than 9 billion dollars of people's capital is blocked, aid is cut off, and economic restrictions are multiplied, it has a lot of impact. Despite all these problems and challenges, the government has been able to provide the salaries of more than 800,000 government employees from internal sources in one year of its rule.

In addition, large projects such as the start of work on the Qosh Tepa canal, the largest water project in the north of the country, the opening of Perozi town, the opening of the second phase of the Kajaki dam with the production of more than 150 megawatts of electricity, the establishment of Afghan Invest Company with an investment of 250 million dollars, and the continuation of dozens of other projects, are among the achievements of the last year of the Islamic Emirate. Despite all this, people complain about investors fleeing abroad and high taxes. However, the government is making continuous efforts to solve such problems.

Fourth, in this part, what has been discussed in people's comments is the discussion of investment in the field of electricity production and the use of water resources, coal, oil, etc. For this purpose, the Afghan Invest company was opened on the initiative of the government and the private sector, which operates strongly in four sectors: mining, energy/electricity, construction, and agriculture.

If we look at what is now available to the government and also see the limitations and problems that the government and the people are facing, without a doubt, dealing with the infrastructure projects shows the will and good intentions of the officials in order to improve the economic situation of the country and the living conditions of the people. One of the objectives of the 250 million dollar investment within the framework of the Afghan Invest company is this issue.

In the mining sector, which has an economic value of billions of dollars, the Afghan Invest company is trying to extract the country's mines with standard and advanced technology and avoid waste and non-technical extraction. It also produces the electricity needed by the country from domestic sources, including coal, in order to reduce the amount of imported electricity in the country and to use the hundreds of millions of dollars paid annually to countries for electricity. In addition, in the agriculture sector, it is trying to strengthen this sector in line with the self-sufficiency of agricultural products. In the field of construction, it is trying to launch large projects such as the construction of dams, bridges, culverts and roads throughout Afghanistan in order to connect remote areas to cities.

In fact, the establishment of the Afghan Invest Company, which will increase investment over time,

is to support and strengthen economic stability and extract Afghanistan's untapped resources, which are worth billions of dollars. Resources that have not been used due to war and insecurity in the past years, and now with the improvement of overall security, the field of domestic and foreign investment has become favorable. The sooner we achieve this economic goal; the sooner we witness a great economic change.

Conclusion

Investment, especially in the use of Afghanistan's natural resources for the purpose of supporting and strengthening the economic infrastructure in the past year, has increased the hope of building basic infrastructure and creating more jobs. Investing in the extraction of Afghanistan's natural resources, which are worth billions of dollars, as well as the production of electricity from these sources, as well as the focus on the growth of the agriculture sector, have made the future more hopeful.

Looking back, especially to the past two decades, during this period, despite the influx of billions of aid dollars, no attention was given to infrastructure. However, with the establishment of the Islamic Emirate in the past year, despite facing many economic problems, effective investment and practical measures have been taken in the field of supporting and strengthening the basic infrastructure. If these measures are undertaken, it can be promised that in the near future, we will witness a great economic transformation which the suffering people of Afghanistan are always waiting for.





The Office of the Deputy PM for Economic Affairs
Directorate of Media and Protocol
Department of Media



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22 October 2022