

Deputy PM for Economic Affairs Office
Directorate of Media



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

2nd Report

(June 21, 2024 -September 21, 2024)





د ریاست الوزراء اقتصادي معاونیت
Deputy PM for Economic Affairs Office

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(June 21, 2024 -September 21, 2024)

Publisher: Deputy PM for Economic Affairs Office

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The Temporary Gold Export Procedure Has Been Approved



Introduction

Gold and electricity are crucial assets: one provides strong backing for the national currency, and the other is essential for a country's industrial growth and development. If gold is exported from the country on a large scale, it can negatively impact the national currency, lowering its value. Therefore, the Economic Commission, considering the value of gold, has approved a procedure to prevent gold smuggling. Similarly, any country that aims for industrial progress must accelerate its efforts in electricity production to mitigate this issue significantly. The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan has constructed dams to produce electricity from the country's abundant water resources. A recent example is the Pashdan Dam in Herat, whose remaining works were inaugurated by the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs. However, the Islamic Emirate is not stopping there and continues to take successive steps in this regard. For this purpose, in two separate regular meetings of the Economic Commission, chaired by Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund, several issues were discussed. These included the temporary gold export procedure, the issuance of national licenses for fiber optic to new applicants, the replacement of current lights with LED lights in government institutions, the construction of the second Surobi Dam in Kabul province, the production of 300

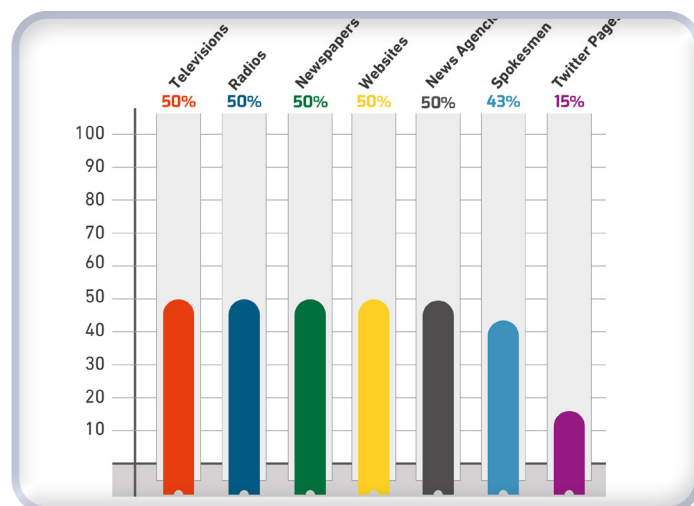
megawatts of gas-fired electricity in Jawzjan province, the draft of construction materials by the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum, and several other economic topics. In the first meeting of the Economic Commission, the temporary ban on gold export procedure was approved. Following a comprehensive discussion on the issuance of national licenses for fiber optic to new applicants, it was decided that the ATRA agency of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology should issue national licenses for fiber optic to new applicants through international bidding, considering national interests. This will extend the fiber optic network to all parts of the country, providing affordable and high-quality internet services to citizens. According to the guidance of the Economic Commission, all government institutions were mandated to replace existing lights with LED lights upon their expiration and to increase public awareness in their institutions about this matter to save electricity, resulting in millions of Afghans being saved annually. After discussing the construction of the second Sarubi Dam and the production of 300 megawatts of gas-fired electricity in Jawzjan province, it was decided that the relevant ministries and institutions should hold technical meetings with companies and share the report with the Economic Commission.

The Objective of Approving the Temporary Gold Export Procedure:

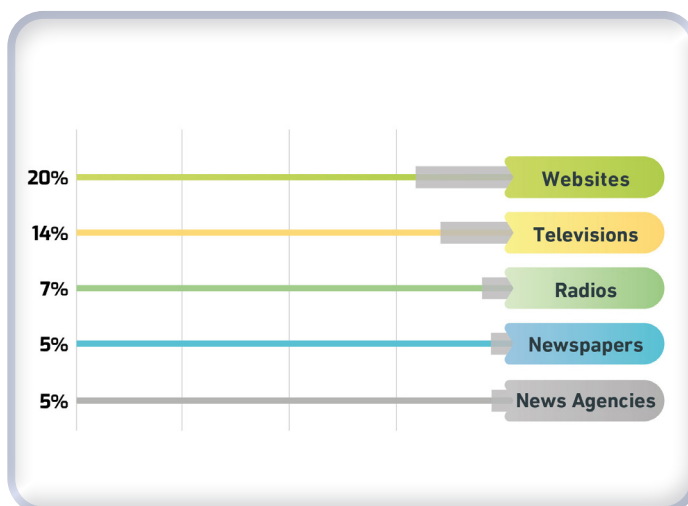
The objective is to prevent gold smuggling.

Evaluation of Public Opinions in the Media Regarding the News of the «Approval of the Temporary Gold Export Procedure»:

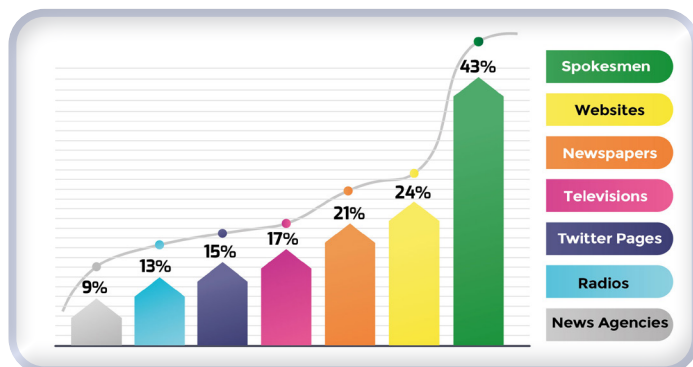
State Media:



Private Media:



The collective percentage of people's comments on private and state media:



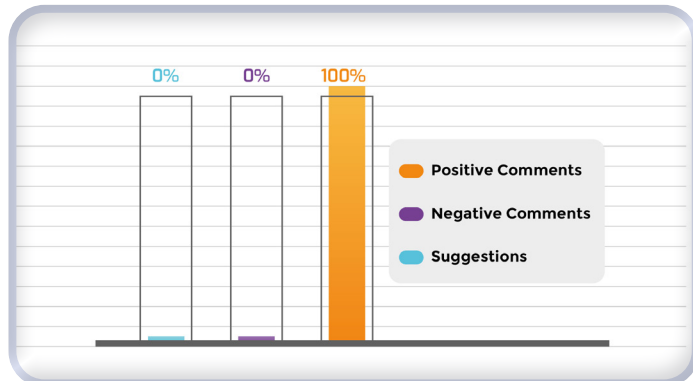
Note:

The graph shows the percentage of public opinions in governmental and private media regarding the news of the «Approval of the Temporary Gold Export Procedure,» as reported in video, audio, and print formats.

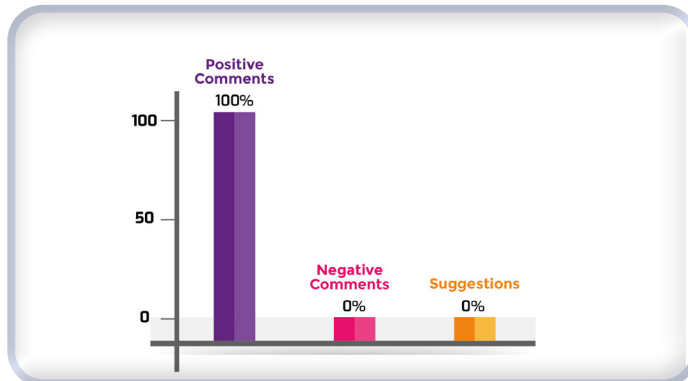
Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental and Private Media Regarding the News:

A: Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental Media

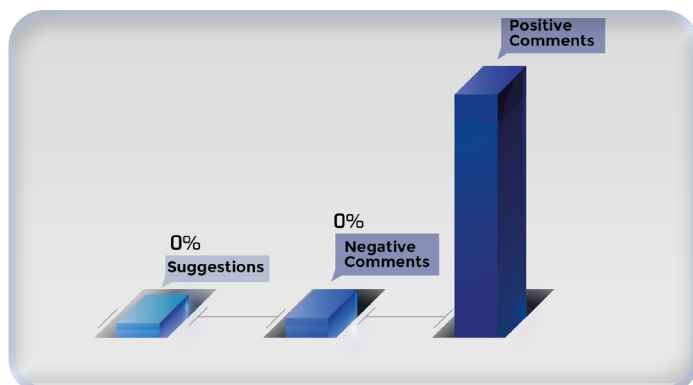
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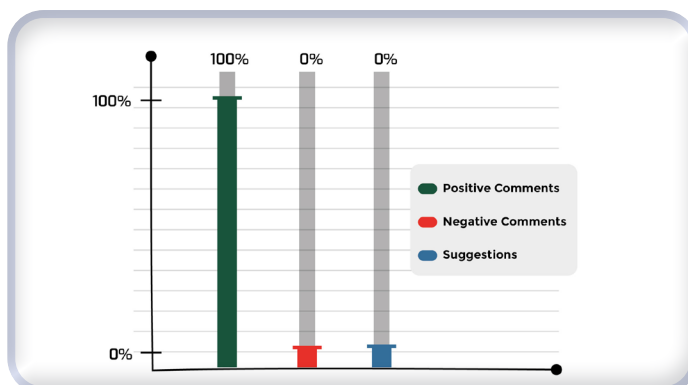
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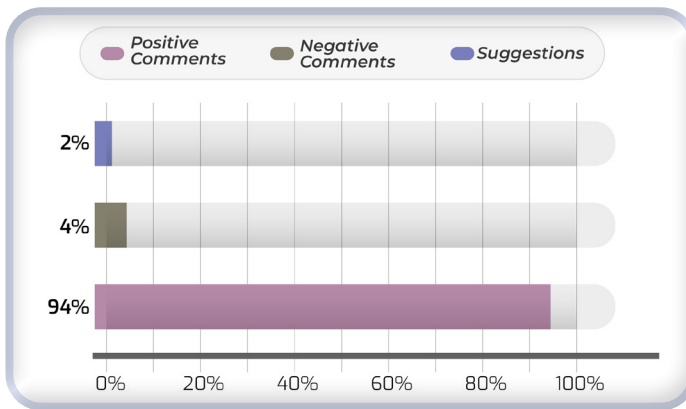
Websites



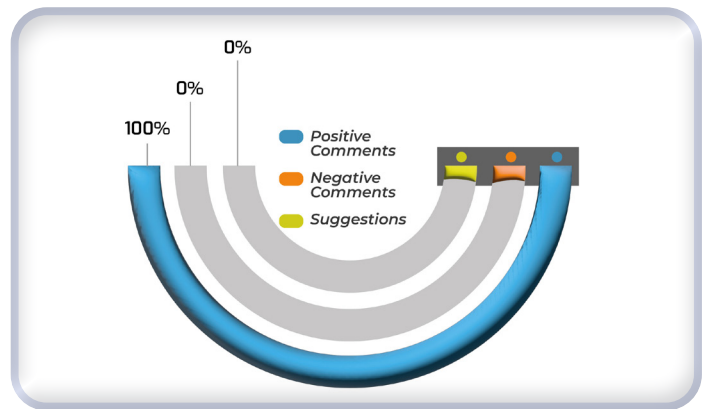
Newspaper



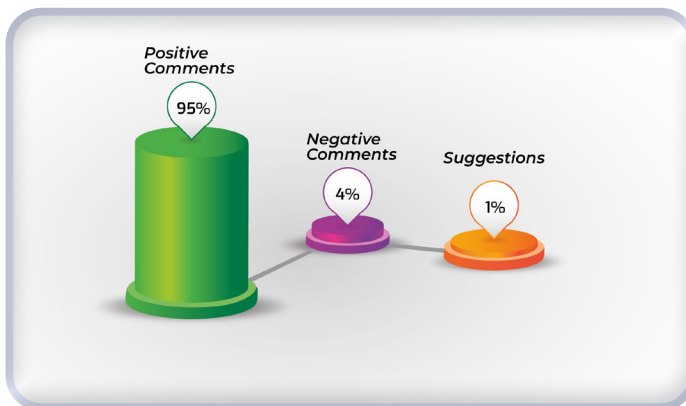
Spokesmen



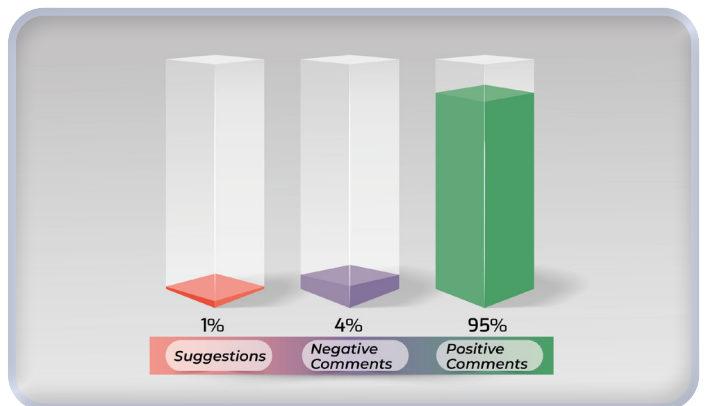
News Agencies



Twitter Pages

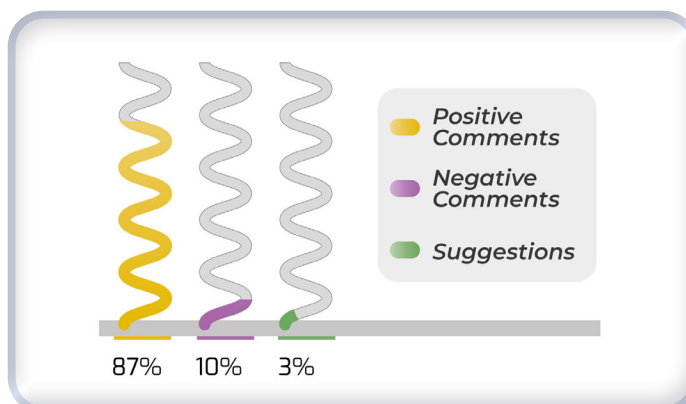


Evaluation of people's comments on state media

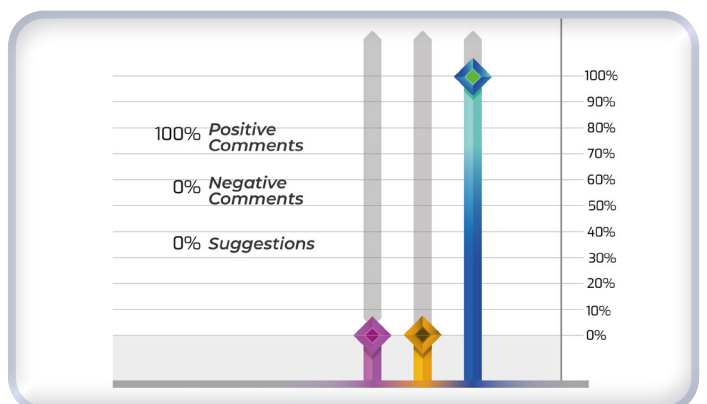


B: People's Comments on Private Media

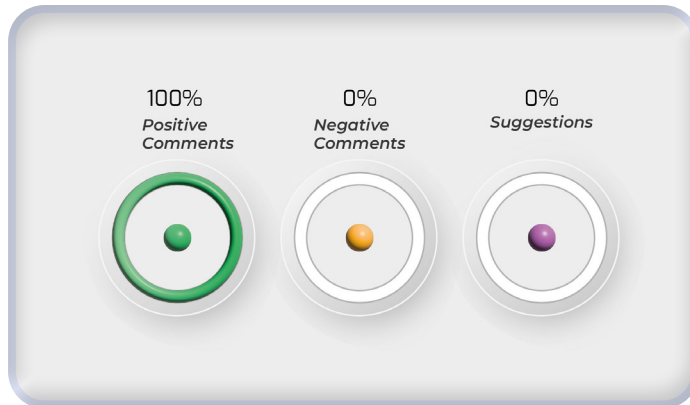
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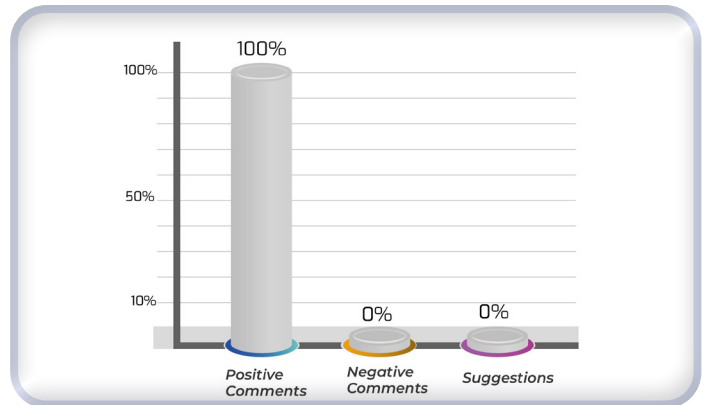
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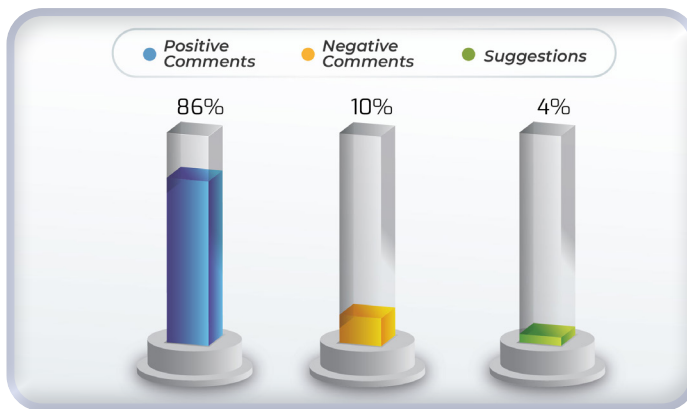
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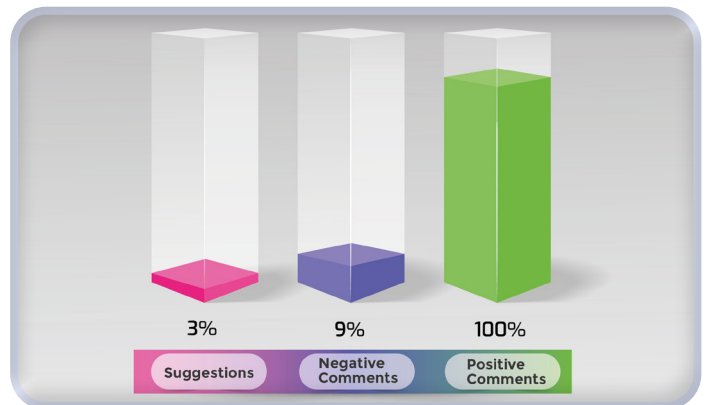
Newspapers



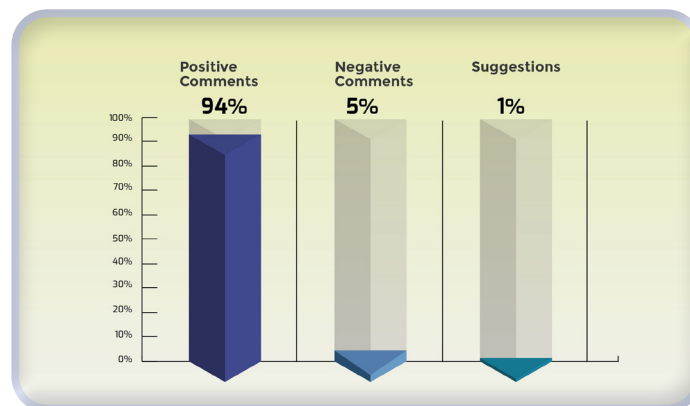
News Agencies



Evaluation of people's comments on Private media



Evaluation of people's comments on private and state media



Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in the Media Regarding the News:

We can divide the media into two categories: governmental media and private media.

1. Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental Media:

The opinions of the public in governmental media, including television, radio, newspapers, websites, spokespersons, news agencies, and Twitter pages, regarding the approval of the Temporary Gold Export Procedure are as follows:

- Total Opinions: 1653
- Positive Opinions: 1564 (95%)
- Negative Opinions: 66 (4%)
- Constructive Suggestions: 23 (1%)

The majority of public opinions in governmental media are positive, showing strong support for the procedure, with a small percentage of negative opinions and constructive suggestions.

2. Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Private Media:

The opinions of the public in private media, including television, radio, newspapers, websites, and news agencies, regarding the approval of the Temporary Gold Export Procedure are as follows:

- Total Opinions: 297
- Positive Opinions: 261 (88%)
- Negative Opinions: 27 (9%)
- Constructive Suggestions: 9 (3%)

While the positive opinions in private media are also high, the percentage of negative opinions is higher compared to governmental media, and there are more constructive suggestions.

Summary:

Governmental Media:

- Positive Opinions: 95%
- Negative Opinions: 4%
- Constructive Suggestions: 1%
- Private Media:
- Positive Opinions: 88%
- Negative Opinions: 9%
- Constructive Suggestions: 3%

Considering the above numbers, the percentage of positive opinions is higher in governmental media compared to private media. Governmental media have 95% positive opinions, whereas private media have 88%. Conversely, the percentage of negative opinions is higher in private media at 9%, compared to 4% in governmental media. When combining positive, negative opinions, and constructive suggestions from both media types, we get a total of 1825 positive opinions, 93 negative opinions, and 32 constructive suggestions, resulting in:

Overall:

- Positive Opinions: 94%
- Negative Opinions: 5%
- Constructive Suggestions: 1%

Summary of Public Opinions in Media and Social Networks:

It is worth noting that we are presenting only a handful of opinions here, which include positive and negative opinions, as well as suggestions. Mentioning all opinions is beyond the scope of this writing, as the number of opinions reaches dozens or even hundreds.

- ⦿ The electricity dam project in Chak district of Wardak province remains unfinished and neglected for quite some time.
- ⦿ Afghanistan urgently requires electricity, necessitating prioritization of dam and electricity infrastructure construction.
- ⦿ In addition to water resources, Afghanistan possesses other reserves suitable for electricity generation, which should be utilized accordingly.
- ⦿ Constructing a dam on the Kunar River would address both the electricity needs of the populace and provide effective water management.
- ⦿ The Economic Commission's approval of temporary ban of gold export procedures represents a significant stride by the Islamic Emirate, aimed at curbing gold smuggling out of the country.

Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Media and Social Networks:

- By analyzing and reading public opinions in media and social networks, several important issues are generally noted:
- **First**, some citizens have mentioned in their opinions that the construction work on the Chak electricity dam in Wardak province should be completed. Their opinion is valid; the contract for the reconstruction of this dam was signed on August 1, 2016, between the Ministry of Water and Energy of the previous Kabul administration, Tajik Omid Jalalian, and Afghan Al-Hashem companies. However, despite several years passing, the work on this dam remained

incomplete due to corruption and bureaucracy in the previous Kabul administration. With the advent of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, efforts to build and resume the work on incomplete dams accelerated. During this period, we have witnessed the reconstruction of several dams across Afghanistan. Among these are the Kajaki Dam, Kamal Khan Dam, Bakhshabad Dam in Farah, Tori Dam in Zabul, and recently the reopening of the remaining works of the Pashdan Dam in Herat province. On April 28, 2024, the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund, stated at the opening ceremony for the resumption of the remaining works on the Pashdan Dam that the Islamic Emirate had evaluated all dams with incomplete work nationwide. Comprehensive work plans have been developed for completing the remaining works on these dams, many of which have now begun. This indicates that the Islamic Emirate prioritizes building and reconstructing dams to manage its abundant water resources and use them for agriculture and electricity. The Chak electricity dam in Wardak province, which is quite old and produced about three thousand kilowatts of electricity, saw a decline in production due to wars and foreign invasions. However, with the return of the Islamic Emirate, the reconstruction work on this dam is currently underway, and upon completion, the residents of Chak will benefit from electricity, and the country's industry will also progress.

- **Second**, some people have expressed in their opinions the hope that the Islamic Emirate will manage water resources and construct dams. Since the Islamic Emirate came to power, significant steps have been taken in water management. Many water dams have been either reconstructed or newly built, including both large and small dams. The Islamic Emirate is also striving to build dams for rain and snow water to manage these resources and turn barren lands into agricultural areas. Additionally, the Islamic Emirate aims to attract foreign investment in electricity production alongside using domestic resources. By utilizing existing dams for electricity production and providing water to agricultural lands, barren lands can be transformed into fertile fields. This will promote agriculture and ensure proper water management.
- **Third**, some citizens have suggested building a dam on the Kunar River, saying that this would significantly solve the country's electricity problems and manage water resources. The Kunar River has abundant water, and building a dam on it would not only provide electricity but also produce a significant amount of power. With the return of the Islamic Emirate, the construction and reconstruction of water dams in various parts of the country are underway. The Islamic Emirate aims to build and reconstruct water dams nationwide using domestic revenues. The primary goal of these dams is to manage and control the country's flowing water. The Islamic Emirate seeks to maximize the use of its abundant water resources for agriculture and electricity production. This shows that the Islamic Emirate intends to utilize its water resources to produce electricity and convert barren lands into agricultural fields, thus strengthening Afghanistan's agricultural sector and

increasing national revenues.

- **Fourth:** Some citizens have expressed happiness in their opinions regarding the approval of the temporary gold export procedure, considering it a significant step in preventing gold smuggling. In addition to preventing gold smuggling, the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan has also curbed the smuggling of foreign currencies and precious stones. Since gold has immense value in commerce, industry, and culture, its control will positively impact the country's economic growth. The Islamic Emirate has not only worked to prevent gold smuggling, as evidenced by the approval of this important temporary export procedure, but has also prevented the smuggling of foreign currencies, thereby maintaining the value of the national currency, Afghani.

Conclusion

The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan is dedicated to fostering economic growth and stability. In addition to various economic development initiatives, the Economic Commission has endorsed a temporary ban on the export of gold from the country. This measure is anticipated to bolster the nation's economic progress. Furthermore, discussions during two separate sessions of the Economic Commission have focused on advancing the second Sarubi dam project and facilitating the production of 300 megawatts of natural gas-based electricity in Jawzjan. Addressing Afghanistan's longstanding electricity shortages remains a priority for the Islamic Emirate, crucial for powering both households and industries essential for economic development. Upon the completion of these projects, Afghanistan is poised to achieve rapid economic self-sufficiency, paving the way for our nation to thrive as a developed and prosperous country.

National Procurement Commission Approves Projects Worth Approximately Five Billion Afghanis



Introduction

Infrastructure projects play a crucial role in the development of a country and in providing employment opportunities for its people. Countries aiming for progress must first focus on rebuilding sectors that can significantly contribute to economic growth and development. Without such efforts, a nation cannot progress nor create jobs for its citizens. Afghanistan is one such country where decades of war and turmoil have destroyed infrastructure projects and facilities. Bridges, culverts, roads, water, and power dams have been devastated. Rebuilding these projects and facilities is the government's responsibility. The Islamic Emirate has acknowledged this responsibility and has taken swift steps towards the reconstruction and development of Afghanistan. Under the leadership of the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund, the National Procurement Commission has approved contracts for 12 projects worth approximately five billion Afghanis and amended three others. In the scheduled meeting of the National Procurement Commission, held on the 17th of Saratan 1403 at Marmarin Palace, 22 projects were presented for discussion. Of these, contracts for 12 projects were approved, three were amended, and committees were tasked with thoroughly reviewing the contracts of seven projects and sharing their reports with the leadership of the National

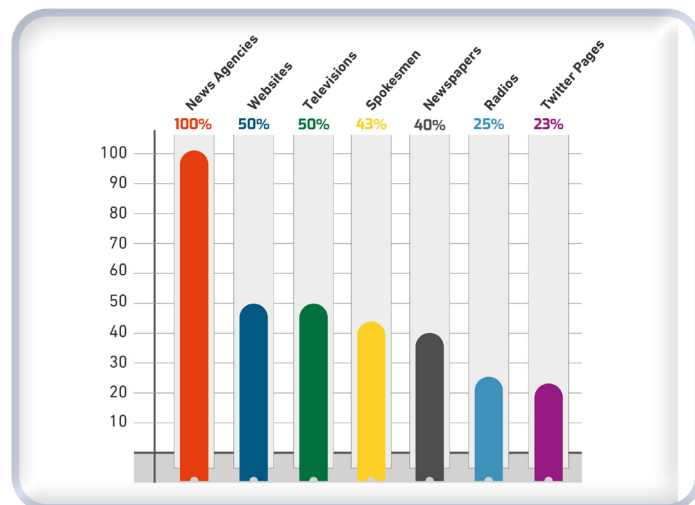
Procurement Commission. The approved and amended projects include the construction of health centers in remote areas of several provinces, asphaltting the second section of the Badghis-Faryab highway and constructing retaining walls along the same route, installing insulators at the Noor-ul-Jihad substation in Herat, and several other projects funded by the Islamic Emirate.

Purpose of the Five Billion Afghanis Project Approvals by the National Procurement Commission:

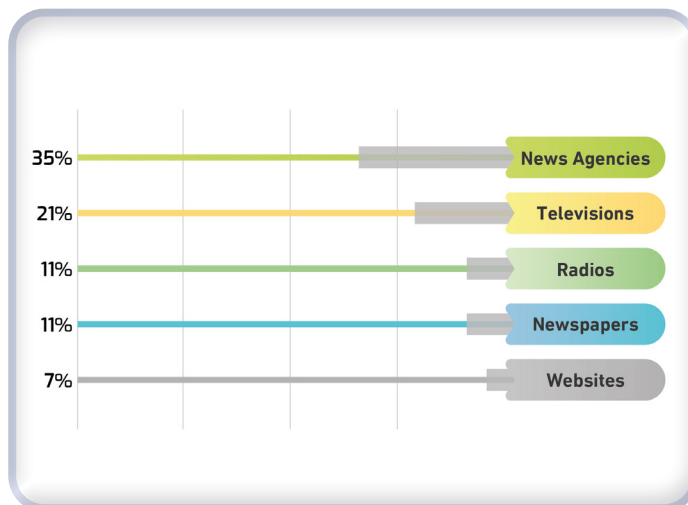
The aim is to reconstruct Afghanistan, eradicate unemployment, and build the country's infrastructure.

Public Feedback on Media Outlets Reporting «National Procurement Commission Approves Projects Worth Approximately Five Billion Afghanis»:

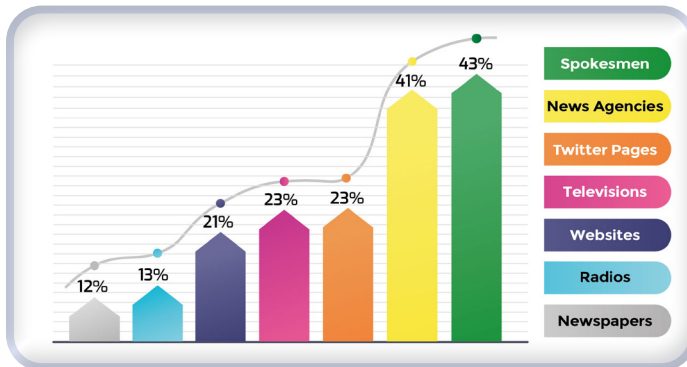
State Media:



Private Media:



The collective percentage of people's comments on private and state media:



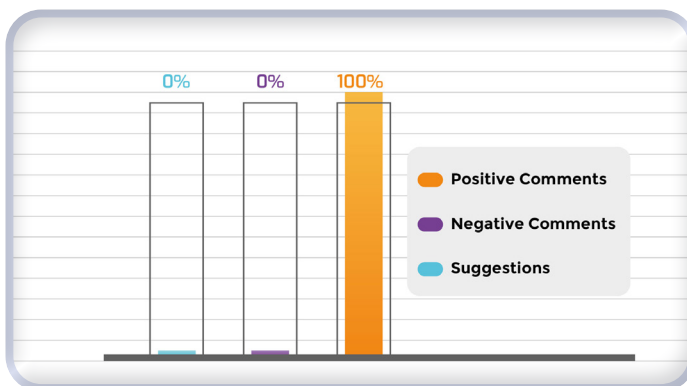
Note:

The graph illustrates the percentage of public opinions featured in both government and private media outlets regarding the approval of various projects worth approximately five billion Afghanis by the National Procurement Commission. These opinions were collected from video, audio, and print reports.

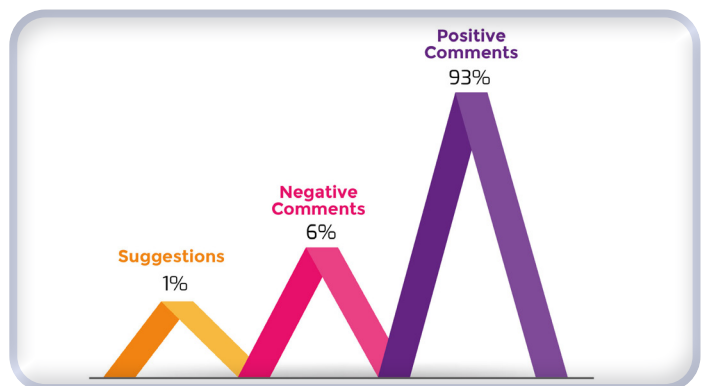
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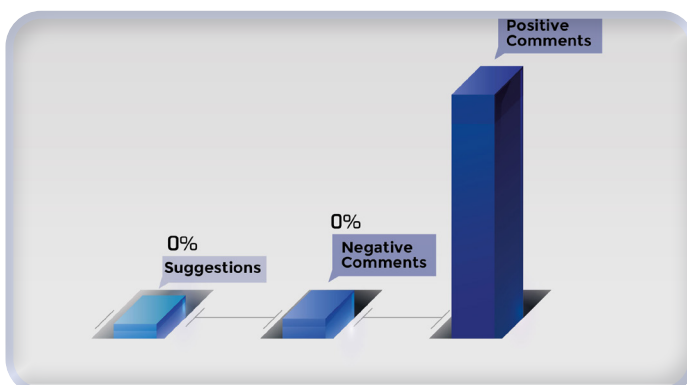
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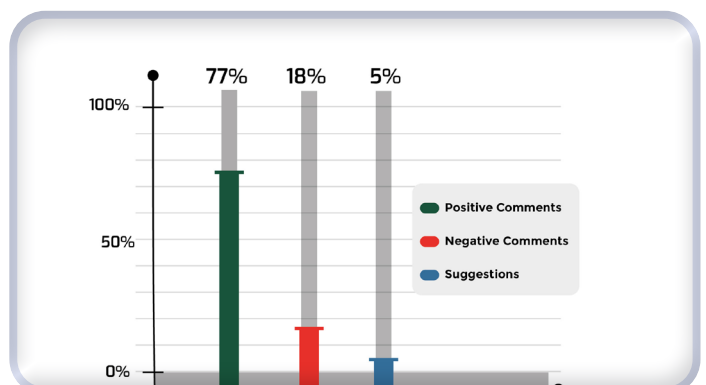
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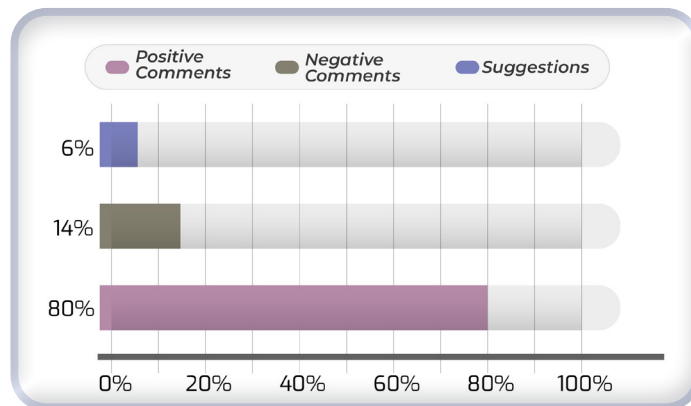
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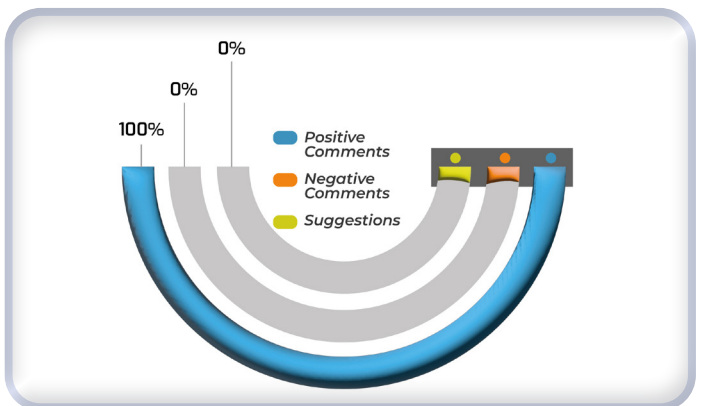
Newspaper



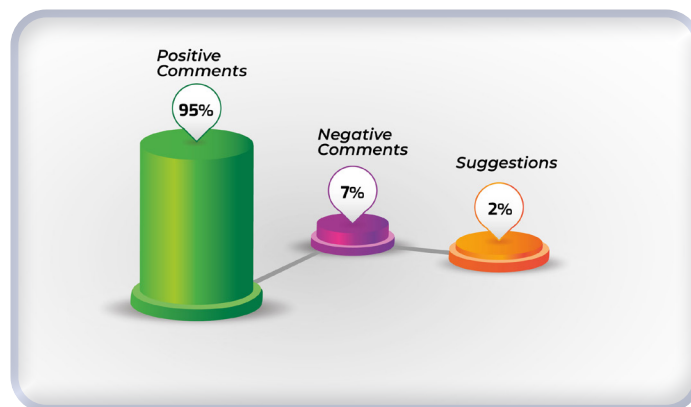
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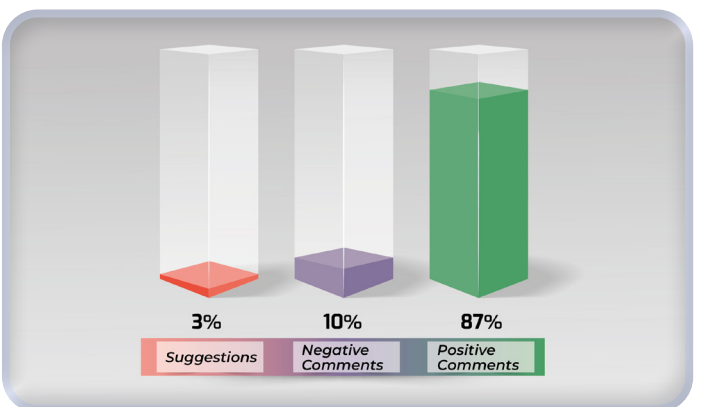
News Agencies



Twitter Pages

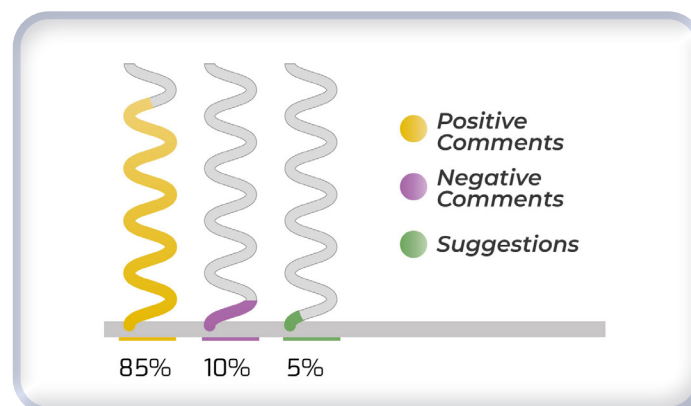


Evaluation of people's comments on state media



B: People's Comments on Private Media

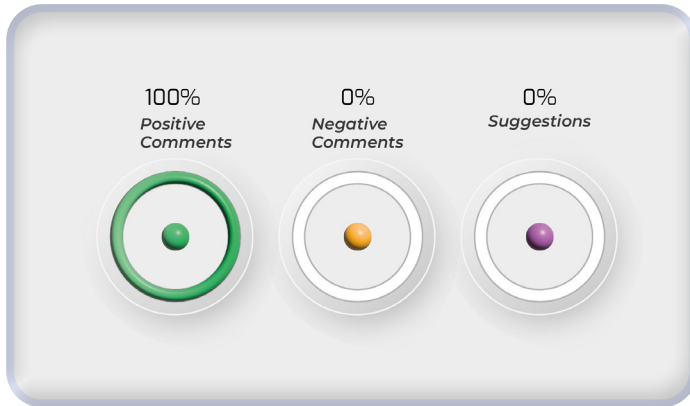
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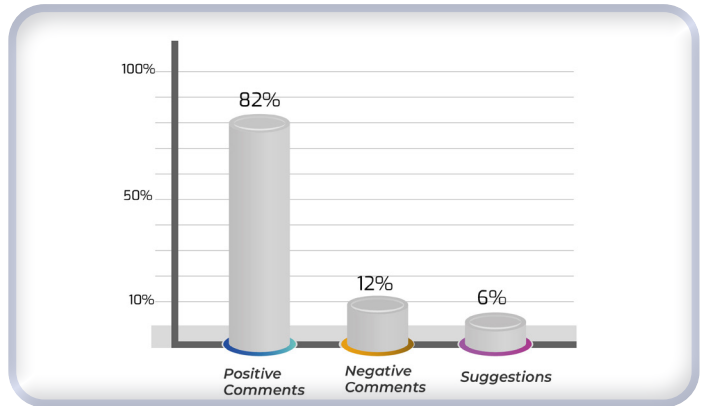
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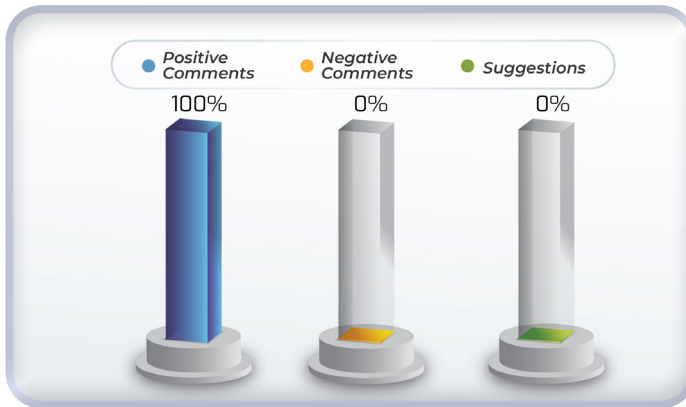
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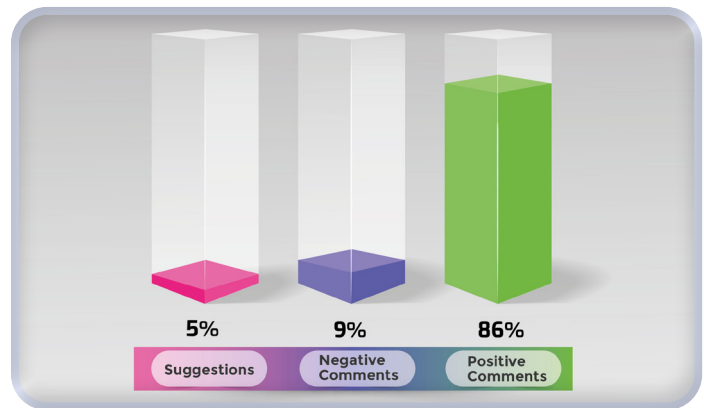
Newspapers



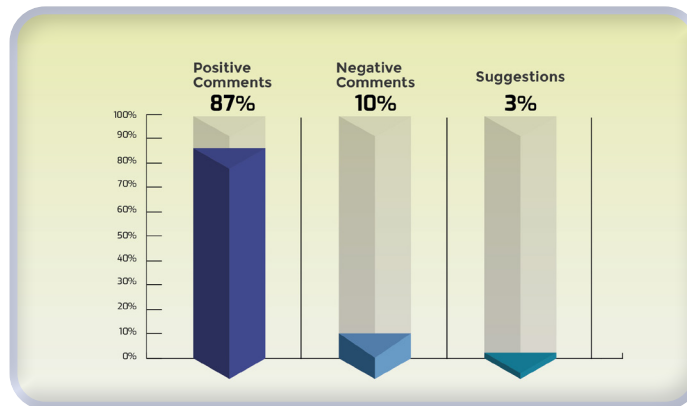
News Agencies



Evaluation of people's comments on Private media



Evaluation of people's comments on private and state media



Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in the Media Regarding the News:

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1. Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental Media:

The opinions of the public in governmental media, including television, radio, newspapers, websites, spokespersons, news agencies, and Twitter pages, regarding the approval of the projects by the National Procurement Commission are as follows:

- Total Opinions: 965
- Positive Opinions: 836 (87%)
- Negative Opinions: 101 (10%)
- Constructive Suggestions: 28 (3%)

The majority of public opinions in governmental media are positive, showing strong support for the procedure, with a small percentage of negative opinions and constructive suggestions.

2. Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Private Media:

The opinions of the public in private media, including television, radio, newspapers, websites, and news agencies, regarding the approval of the projects by the National Procurement Commission are as follows:

- Total Opinions: 248
- Positive Opinions: 214 (86%)
- Negative Opinions: 23 (9%)
- Constructive Suggestions: 11 (5%)

While the positive opinions in private media are also high, the percentage of negative opinions is higher compared to governmental media, and there are more constructive suggestions.

Considering the above numbers, the percentage of positive opinions is higher in governmental media compared to private media. Governmental media have 87% positive opinions, whereas private media have 86%. Similarly, the percentage of negative opinions is higher in state media at 10%, compared to 9% in private media. When combining positive, negative opinions, and constructive suggestions from both media types, we get a total of 1050 positive opinions, 124 negative opinions, and 39 constructive suggestions, resulting in:

Overall:

- Positive Opinions: 87%
- Negative Opinions: 10%
- Constructive Suggestions: 3%

Summary of Public Opinions in Media and Social Networks:

Here, we provide a brief summary of a few notable opinions, including both positive and negative comments and suggestions, as the total number of opinions runs into tens, if not hundreds.

- The Gardez-Patan Highway and the Gardez-Ghazni Highway are not fit for travel.
- May God give you the strength to build the Badghis-Faryab Highway quickly. There are serious issues, and traveling on this road poses a mortal danger.
- There is no need for the Islamic Emirate to present a budget. Their work, honesty, and actions are as clear as daylight. Previous governments would deceive people by presenting budgets.
- Pay attention to Salang Highway; winter is coming. Focus on the nine northern provinces.

Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Media and Social Networks:

Analysis of Public Opinions on Media and Social Networks

- **First**, several citizens have voiced concerns about the deteriorating conditions of the Gardez-Patan and Gardez-Ghazni highways, which have become significant obstacles for travelers. Considering that over 80% of Afghans live in rural areas, the development and reconstruction of rural infrastructure are crucial for their economic growth, prosperity, and quality of life. Connecting villages with each other and with major towns and cities not only improves the lives and economic conditions of rural residents but also contributes to economic stability and prosperity in these areas. When a village is connected to others, it creates job opportunities, improves access to essential services such as education and healthcare, and stimulates business in local markets. Thus, the reconstruction of the Gardez-Patan and Gardez-Ghazni roads will not only facilitate travel but also boost trade and improve the economic situation for the residents of these areas. The Islamic Emirate prioritizes the construction of major and transit highways, but it has also focused on building roads connecting provinces and districts within provinces. Many inter-provincial roads have been repaired, and work is ongoing on others. A recent example is the Herat-Ghor road, which was inaugurated by the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs.
- **Second**, some individuals responded to criticisms regarding the Islamic Emirate's transparency with the budget, stating that there is no need for the Emirate to present a budget to the public because their work, honesty, and actions are evident. Unlike previous governments that would announce budgets but fail to implement them due to widespread corruption, the Islamic Emirate has been transparent and effective. Past administrations, particularly the previous Kabul administration, would announce budgets but did not provide clarity on their utilization, as most of the funds ended up in private pockets.

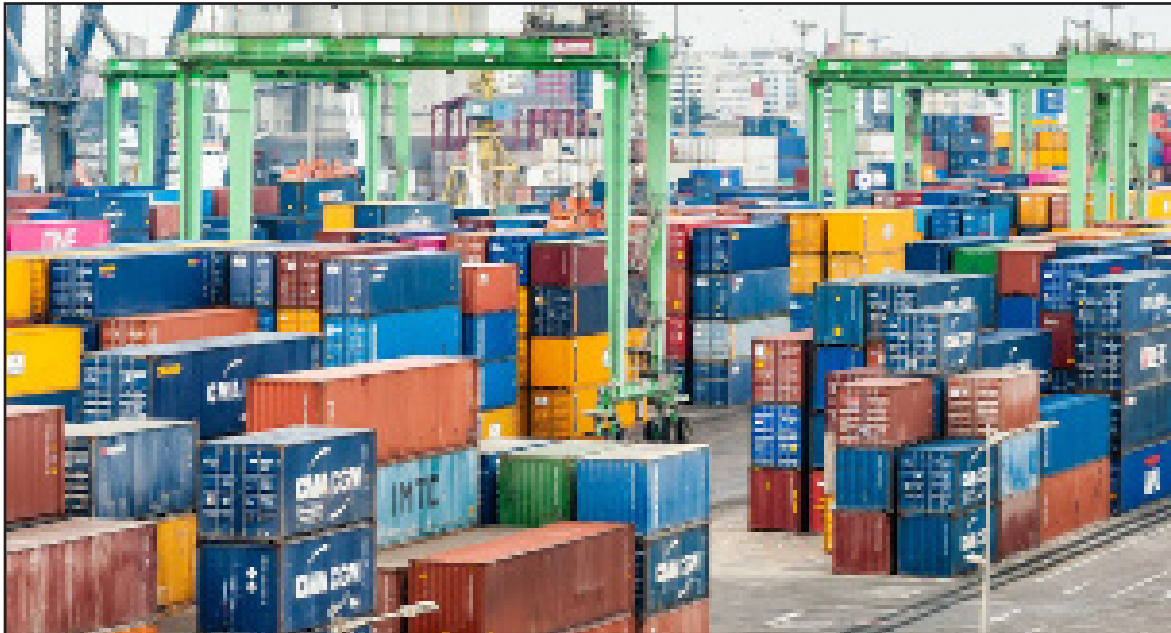
Budget allocations for projects were often squandered due to extensive administrative corruption. Unlike past administrations, the Islamic Emirate has, in the last three to three and a half years, initiated significant infrastructure projects funded by internal resources. These projects, including canals, power generation, major roads, and railways, are designed to make Afghanistan economically self-sufficient. Once completed, these projects will connect Afghanistan to the world, transform it into a hub in Asia, boost trade, and foster economic independence. Thus, whether a budget is announced or not, the public should focus on the tangible results delivered by the Islamic Emirate.

- **Third**, some citizens have suggested prioritizing the completion of the Salang Highway project before the onset of winter. The Salang Highway is a vital transit route that connects 16 northern provinces. High-quality roads are crucial for the country's trade and economic growth, allowing goods to reach domestic and international markets swiftly. The reconstruction of the Salang Highway will enhance both transit and trade, facilitating connections between northern and southern Afghanistan and linking Central and South Asia. The Islamic Emirate has recognized the importance of the Salang Highway and has initiated its reconstruction, completing the tunnel and the 16th rockfall barrier in Qaws 1402. At the inauguration ceremony, the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs emphasized the necessity of economic infrastructure for national development and highlighted that the reconstruction was achieved without foreign technical or financial aid, relying solely on domestic revenues. This underscores the Islamic Emirate's commitment to completing this significant route to boost trade and provide convenience to the public.

Conclusion

The most crucial task for any country is to develop its infrastructure. The Islamic Emirate has prioritized this need and has undertaken extensive efforts to rebuild the nation's infrastructure. To date, numerous infrastructure projects in the sectors of health, transportation, industry, agriculture, electricity, and other areas have been completed, with ongoing work on additional projects. The goal is to strengthen these sectors through these projects, enabling the country to move towards economic stability. In the latest meeting of the National Procurement Commission, approved projects focused on health, transportation, and electricity sectors. These projects include the construction of health centers in remote areas of several provinces, asphaltting the second section of the Badghis-Faryab highway, constructing retaining walls along this route, and installing insulators at the Noor-ul-Jihad substation in Herat. All these projects are funded by the Islamic Emirate. This demonstrates the Islamic Emirate's commitment to implementing infrastructure projects that accelerate the country's economic growth and development.

Establishment of Export Processing Zones in Six Provinces, Including Kabul



Introduction

Facilitating sectors related to a country's economy and providing strong support in these areas lead to an increase in exports. Exports boost domestic industry and increase business activities. Additionally, with the expansion of exports, domestic producers reduce their production costs by increasing their production volumes, thereby gaining more profit in the global market. Moreover, an increase in exports helps maintain a country's trade balance. Given the importance of exports, a country must increase its exports for economic development. The Islamic Emirate, recognizing the significance of exports, has taken rapid steps in this area and has succeeded in increasing the level of exports compared to previous years. Additionally, the Islamic Emirate has facilitated and supported exporters, appreciating their efforts. On July 12, 2024, the National Export Day was celebrated, with the participation of the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund. During the ceremony, the Deputy Prime Minister highlighted that all countries need to establish trade relations with each other based on exports and imports to meet their relative needs. Countries with higher export volumes experience growth in domestic production and a rapid economic development process. Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar emphasized that according to the export-oriented economic policy of the Islamic

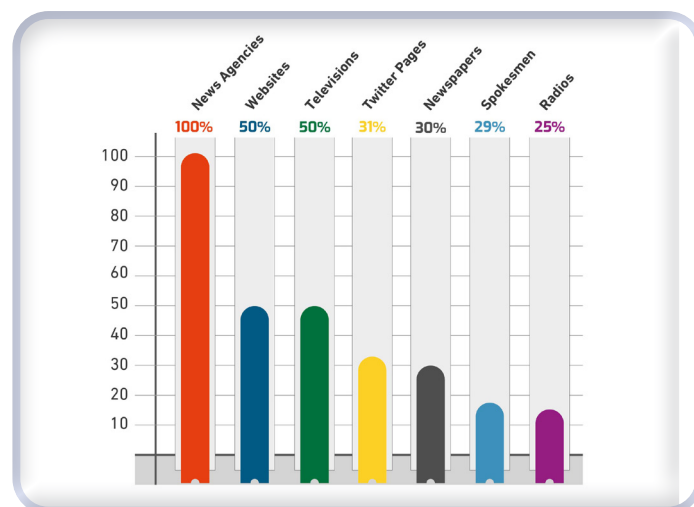
Emirate, all export companies in the country are assured that Afghanistan's export levels will increase, and all surplus production will be exported to other countries. He further mentioned that, based on the order of the esteemed leader, Sheikh Hibatullah Akhundzadah, six provinces, including Kabul, will establish export processing zones according to international standards. The land transfer and ownership processes for these zones have been completed, and they will soon be operational to standardize exports. The Deputy Prime Minister, referring to the export process, mentioned that currently, exports are conducted from 13 provinces to countries around the world. The Islamic Emirate has established offices in these provinces to facilitate and expedite the export process. Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund noted that the Islamic Emirate has initiated efforts to find potential and alternative markets for Afghan export goods in regional and global countries and has requested preferential tariffs, achieving progress in this regard. Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund added that national traders, considering the economic policy of the Islamic Emirate, should export finished goods instead of raw materials. Processing raw materials domestically paves the way for new factories to operate.

Purpose of Establishing Export Processing Zones in Six Provinces, Including Kabul:

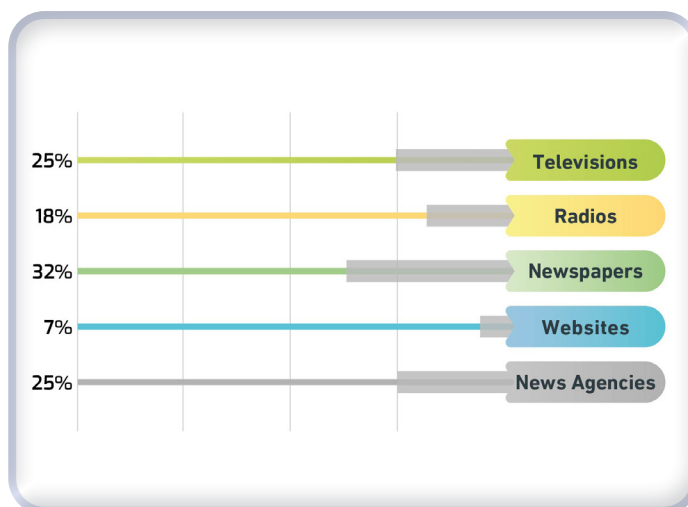
The purpose is to increase and standardize exports, expand trade, and promote overall economic growth.

Public Feedback on Media Outlets Reporting «Establishing Export Processing Zones in Six Provinces, Including Kabul»:

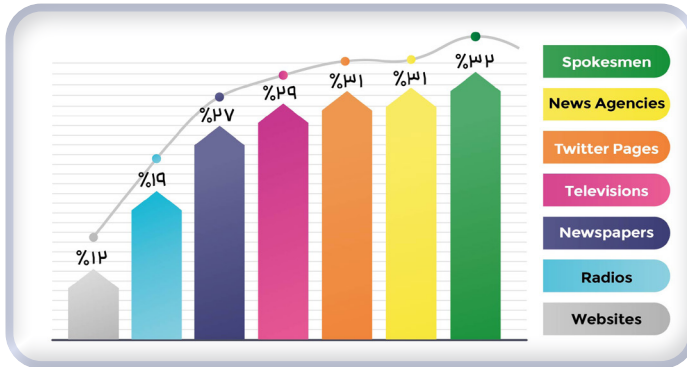
State Media:



Private Media:



The collective percentage of people's comments on private and state media:



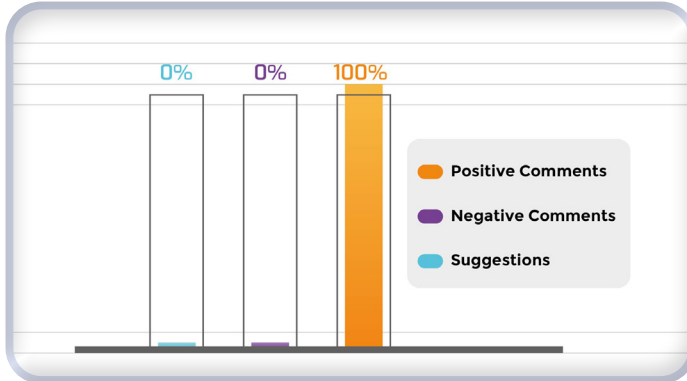
Note:

The graph illustrates the percentage of public opinions featured in both government and private media outlets regarding the establishment of export zones. These opinions were collected from video, audio, and print reports.

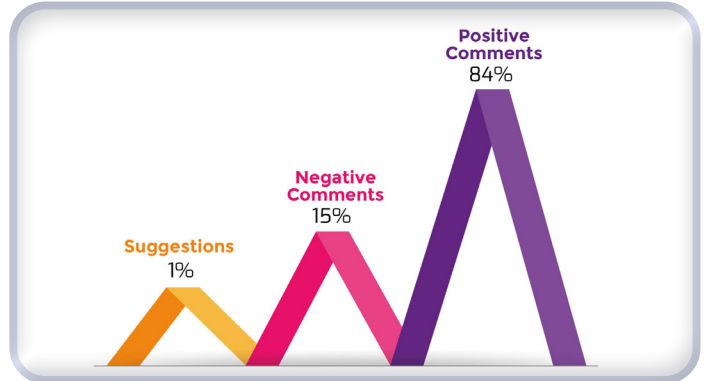
Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental and Private Media Regarding the News:

A: Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental Media

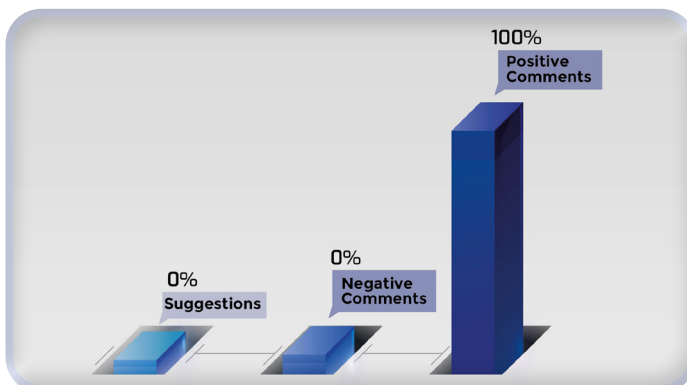
Radios



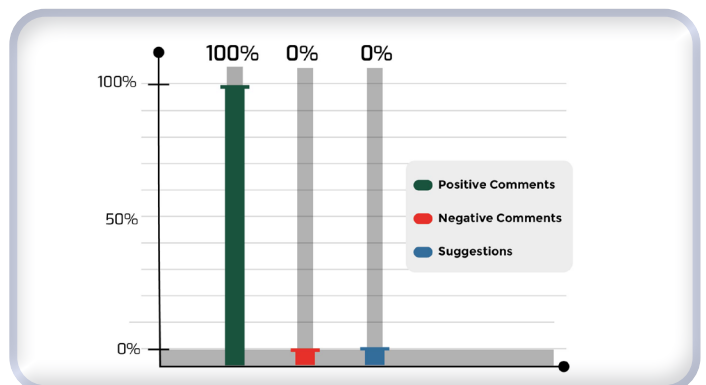
Televisions



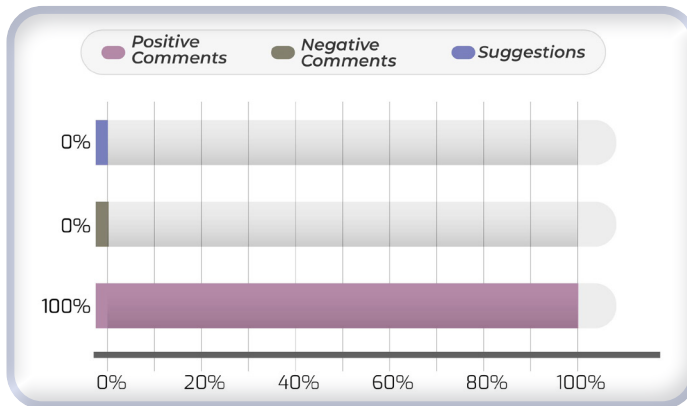
Websites



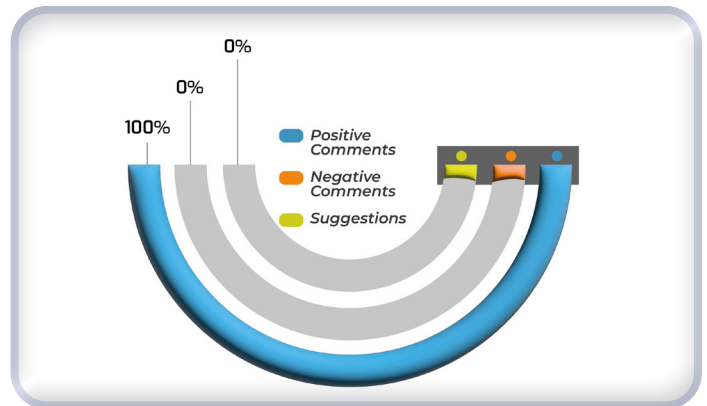
Newspaper



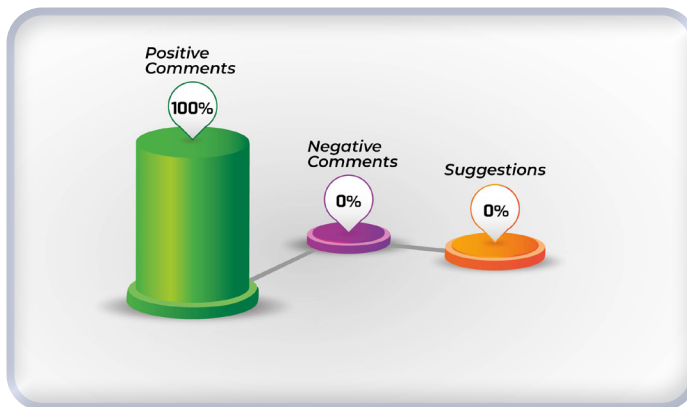
Spokesmen



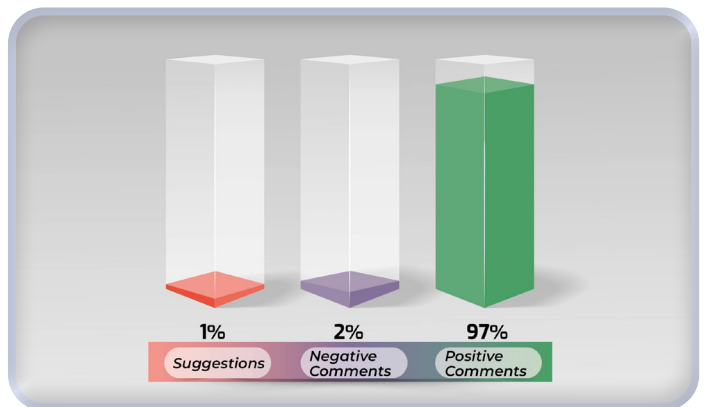
News Agencies



Twitter Pages

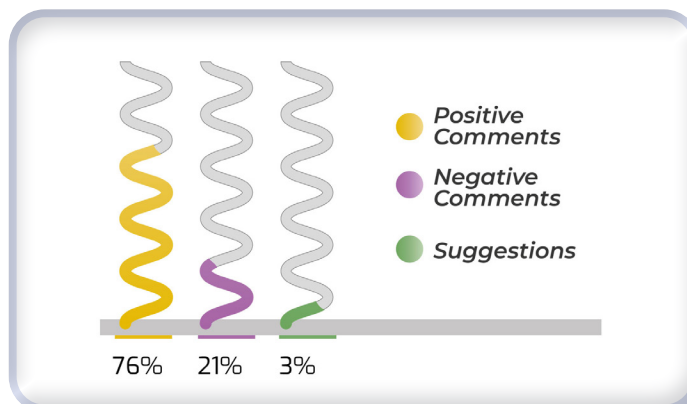


Evaluation of people's comments on state media

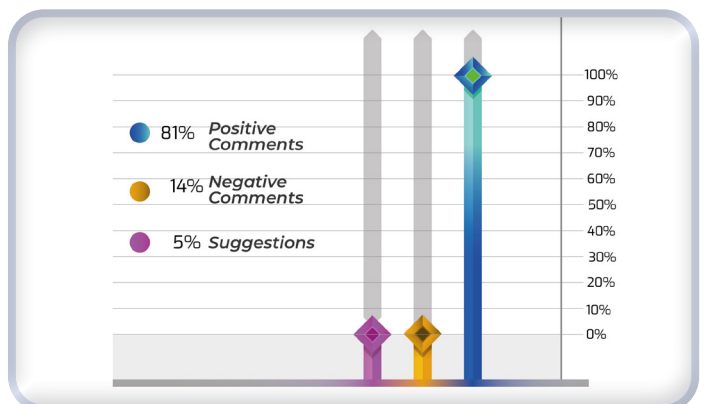


B: People's Comments on Private Media

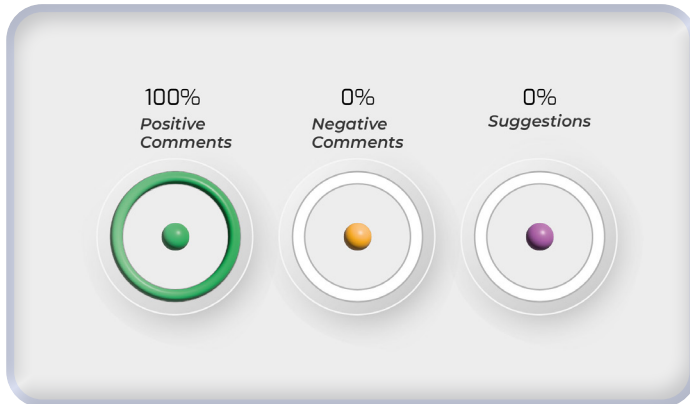
Televisions



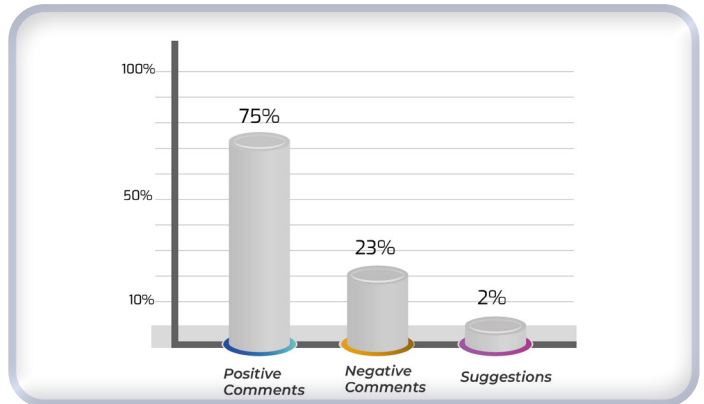
Radios



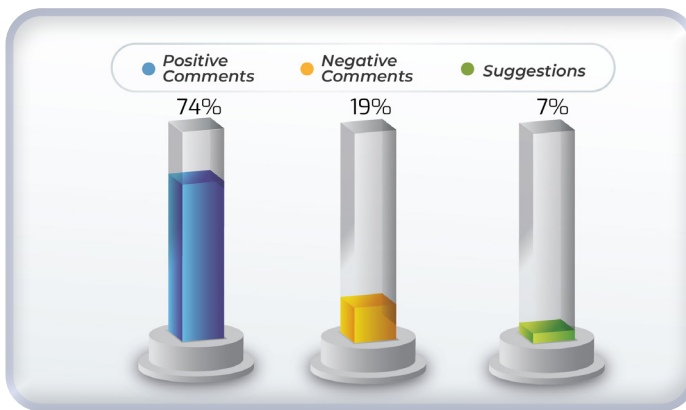
Websites



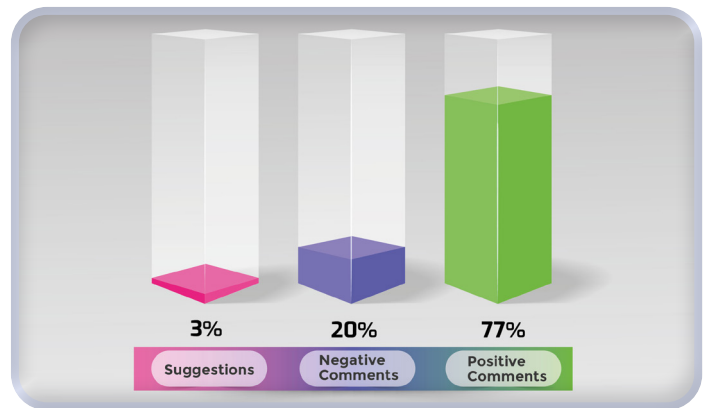
Newspapers



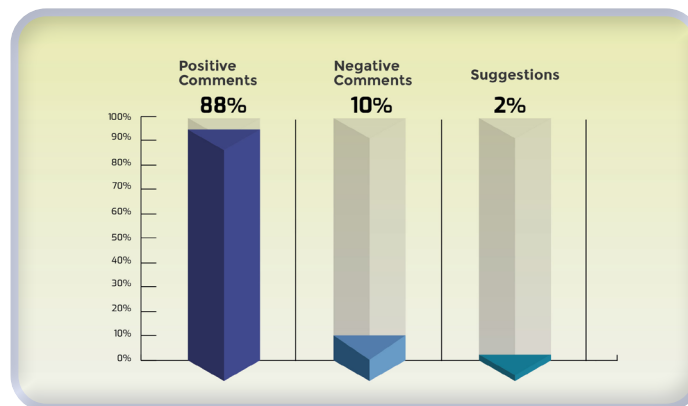
News Agencies



Evaluation of people's comments on Private media



Evaluation of people's comments on private and state media



Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in the Media Regarding the News:

We can divide the media into two categories: governmental media and private media.

1. Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental Media:

The opinions of the public in governmental media, including television, radio, newspapers, websites, spokespersons, news agencies, and Twitter pages, regarding the approval of the projects by the National Procurement Commission are as follows:

- Total Opinions: 868
- Positive Opinions: 847 (97%)
- Negative Opinions: 18 (2%)
- Constructive Suggestions: 3 (1%)

The majority of public opinions in governmental media are positive, showing strong support for the procedure, with a small percentage of negative opinions and constructive suggestions.

2. Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Private Media:

The opinions of the public in private media, including television, radio, newspapers, websites, and news agencies, regarding the approval of the projects by the National Procurement Commission are as follows:

- Total Opinions: 707
- Positive Opinions: 77 (86%)
- Negative Opinions: 20 (9%)
- Constructive Suggestions: 3 (5%)

While the positive opinions in private media are also high, the percentage of negative opinions is higher compared to governmental media, and there are more constructive suggestions.

Considering the above numbers, the percentage of positive opinions is higher in governmental media compared to private media. Governmental media have 97% positive opinions, whereas private media have 86%. Similarly, the percentage of negative opinions is higher in private media at 9%, compared to 2% in private media. When combining positive, negative opinions, and constructive suggestions from both media types, we get a total of 1388 positive opinions, 161 negative opinions, and 26 constructive suggestions, resulting in:

Overall:

- Positive Opinions: 88%
- Negative Opinions: 10%
- Constructive Suggestions: 2%

Summary of Public Opinions in Media and Social Networks:

Here, we provide a brief summary of a few notable opinions, including both positive and negative comments and suggestions, as the total number of opinions runs into tens, if not hundreds.

- Air corridors are beneficial but not as advantageous as land routes. If land routes are established and markets are found for domestic products, the production levels will increase.
- Haji Mullah Sahib's remarks focused on encouraging and supporting domestic production. His point that we should not rely on one or two countries was particularly interesting.
- Greater attention should be given to domestic products, and the country's traders should be supported.

Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Media and Social Networks:

- **First**, some citizens have stated in their opinions that land routes are more beneficial than air corridors for exports. They have mentioned that while air corridors are useful, they are not as advantageous as land routes. They believe that if land routes are established and markets are found for domestic products, the production levels will increase. It is true that exporting via air is more costly compared to land routes, but each has its value. Air corridors are very important for the expansion of exports and trade. The establishment of these corridors will save Afghanistan's economy from being hostage to a few countries. With the creation of air corridors, export goods will be transferred on time, and it will also prevent the spoilage of certain products like fresh fruits and medicinal plants. Additionally, as Afghanistan's land routes are not yet fully developed, air corridors can play a crucial role in the transportation of export goods. Land routes are also essential, and without their development, the expansion of trade is impossible. Historically, many significant and ancient routes passed through Afghanistan, transforming it into the heart of Asia and a crossroads of civilization. The Islamic Emirate, recognizing the importance of air corridors and land routes, has worked in this area. For example, we can mention the Kabul-Shanghai air corridor. As for land routes, efforts have been made to construct major roads such as Kabul-Kandahar, Salang, Kandahar-Uruzgan, Herat-Ghor, and the Wakhan Corridor, as well as railway projects like the Khaf-Herat railway, the Sarhadabad-Torghundi railway, the Termez-Mazar-i-Sharif railway reconstruction, and the Afghan-Trans railway construction. These efforts demonstrate that the Islamic Emirate, by adopting an economy-focused policy, strives to develop the country's infrastructure and thereby accelerate economic growth.
- **Second**, some citizens have welcomed Mullah Baradar Akhund remarks about encouraging and supporting domestic production during the celebration of National Export Day.

They found his statement that we should not rely on one or two countries particularly interesting. They noted that for any country to progress, it must create facilities for traders and commerce, as trade expansion is essential for increasing export levels. With the increase in exports, domestic production levels, whether industrial or agricultural, will rise because healthy competition is fostered in the industrial sector. The Islamic Emirate has paid considerable attention to this area. Looking at the export levels in previous years, it is evident that our exports have reached unprecedented levels. This was due to the complete support and facilitation provided to industrialists and traders by the Islamic Emirate. To promote domestic products, exhibitions have been held domestically and internationally, resulting in contracts worth millions of dollars between Afghan and foreign traders and investors. Additionally, major roads have been reconstructed, and railways built to facilitate trade expansion. These efforts are aimed at promoting domestic production and transforming the country from an import-dependent state to an export-oriented one.

- **Third,** some citizens have suggested that more attention should be given to domestic production and support for the country's traders. This suggestion is quite valid. Without increasing the level of domestic production, the economic cycle cannot be set in motion. It is essential to eliminate the obstacles facing domestic production and fully support industrialists to promote growth. Only by developing domestic production can we achieve self-sufficiency in essential needs and free ourselves from dependence on others. This is a reality—any nation that desires independence, prosperity, and progress must free itself from reliance on others and produce the necessary tools for life and survival, such as food, clothing, medicine, and so on. Relying on other countries for these essential goods means accepting their conditions, which not only limits independence but also compels subservience. Every Afghan must understand this truth: without self-sufficiency in domestic production, the claim of independence is undoubtedly incomplete. The Islamic Emirate has recognized the importance of industry and domestic production, and to promote industry and expand trade, it has supported industrialists and traders by providing many facilities. The celebration of National Export Day is a good example of supporting these sectors. During the event, the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund, stated that all countries need to establish trade relations based on exports and imports to meet their relative needs. Countries with higher export levels experience growth in domestic production and rapid economic development. Deputy PM Mullah Baradar Akhund added that according to the export-oriented economic policy of the Islamic Emirate, all export companies in the country are assured that Afghanistan's export levels will increase, and all surplus production will be exported to other countries. Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund mentioned that based on the order Amir-ul-Momineen Sheikh-ul-Qur'an and Hadith Mawlawi Hibatullah Akhundzada (may Allah protect him),

export processing zones are being established in six provinces, including Kabul, according to international standards. The land transfer and ownership processes for these zones have been completed, and they will soon be operational to standardize exports. The Deputy Prime Minister's statements indicate that the Islamic Emirate has plans and strategies to increase and standardize domestic production, with the establishment of export processing zones being one example.

Conclusion

Continuous effort, prioritizing goals, sacrificing whims, and leading a simple life can guide us toward self-sufficiency and true independence. To achieve this goal, it is the duty of the system and the rulers to educate their citizens on the importance, value, benefits, and superior outcomes of self-sufficiency. The second step is to encourage industrialists, traders, and producers and support them to the best of their ability to invest in the production of essential domestic needs. The government can significantly help these businesses initially by not burdening them with licensing processes and discouraging bureaucracy. Secondly, by not imposing heavy taxes and duties, thirdly, by facilitating the provision of land, electricity, and other necessities, and fourthly, by increasing customs duties on the import of similar goods from foreign countries. These measures can allow our trade, industry, and other sectors to achieve substantial growth. The Islamic Emirate has focused on these points while working on the development of the country's infrastructural sectors. To increase our exports, many facilities have been created in the trade sector, and efforts continue to eliminate existing obstacles. The celebration of National Export Day aimed to encourage traders and industrialists and highlight the importance and value of these sectors. The government has made complete facilitation in the provision of land to industrialists, increased tariffs on imported goods, and streamlined the licensing process, eliminating bureaucracy, and establishing special offices that perform tasks within hours instead of days. During a speech at the National Export Day celebration, the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs stated that exports are currently being carried out from 13 provinces to countries around the world. The Islamic Emirate has established offices in these provinces to facilitate and expedite the export process, significantly reducing the time required for these activities. The growth of trade and industry will initially increase our export levels, followed by achieving economic self-sufficiency in a short period.

Discussion on the 100 MW Gas Power Generation Plan



Introduction

Electricity is the most crucial element in the contemporary world compared to any other consumable good. This is because everything, from the production in industrial factories to information, commercial activities, security duties, and other economic and administrative operations, relies on electrical energy. Therefore, the economic growth of any country is dependent on its electricity production. When electricity is abundant and affordable, investment in building factories increases. Afghanistan has many energy production resources. On one hand, the country has the capacity to build dams due to its abundant water reserves, and on the other hand, hidden resources such as coal and gas in its mountains and plains are considered rich sources of energy production. However, these energy production resources have not been utilized as they should be, which is why Afghanistan is still dependent on imported electricity. With the re-establishment of the Islamic Emirate, efforts have increased to use domestic resources for electricity production. In continuation of these efforts, a meeting was held under the leadership of Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund, to discuss a proposal from the private company Gulbahar Power for the production of 100 MW of gas-based electricity. This meeting, held on 13th of July 2024 at Marmarin Palace, tasked a

committee composed of representatives from the Ministry of Water and Energy, the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum, Da Afghanistan Breshna Sherkat, the Independent Administration for the Coordination of State-Owned Corporations, and representatives from Gulbahar Power. This committee was assigned to conduct technical discussions on the proposed 100 MW gas-based electricity production plan by Gulbahar Power and report back to the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs within the stipulated time. It is noteworthy that according to this proposal, Gulbahar Power will initially produce 100 MW of gas-based electricity and gradually increase it to 700 MW.

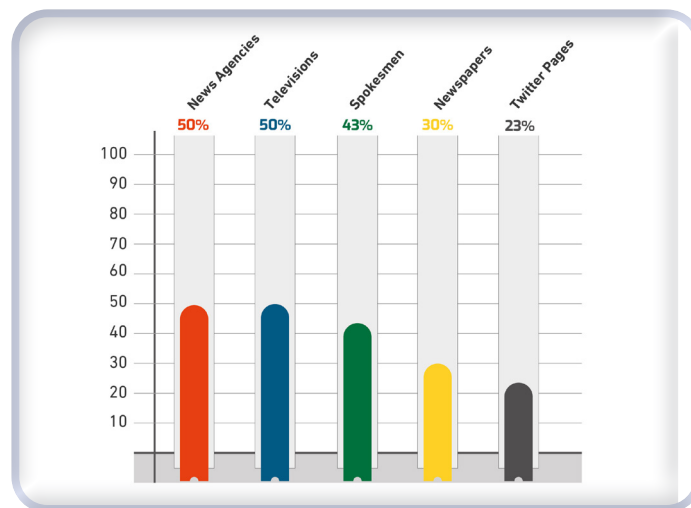
Purpose of Discussing the Gas-Based Electricity :

The aim is to attract investment in the electricity sector, utilize existing resources for electricity production, and resolve the current issues in this area.

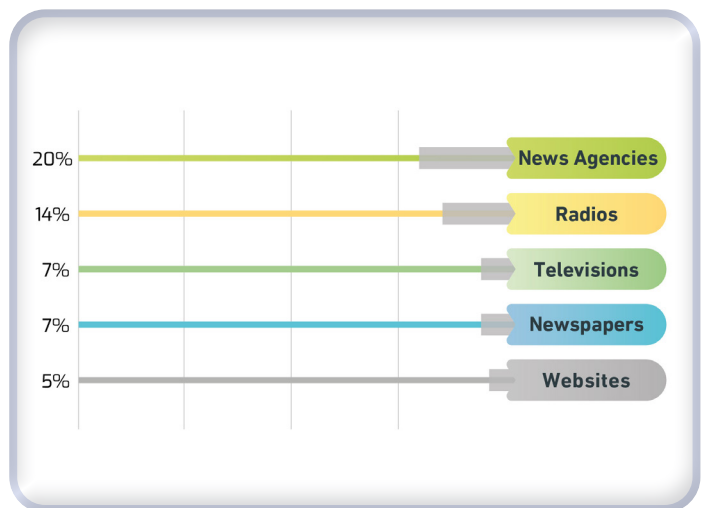
Public Feedback on Media Outlets Reporting «Gas-Based Electricity Production»:

The production of gas-based electricity, has garnered various reactions from the public, as reported by different media outlets. Here are some common sentiments:

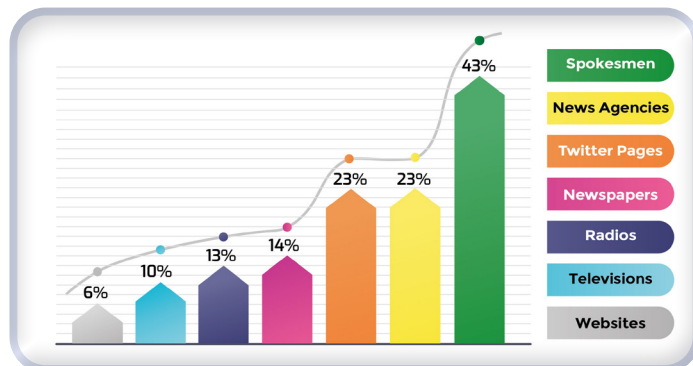
State Media:



Private Media:



The collective percentage of people's comments on private and state media:



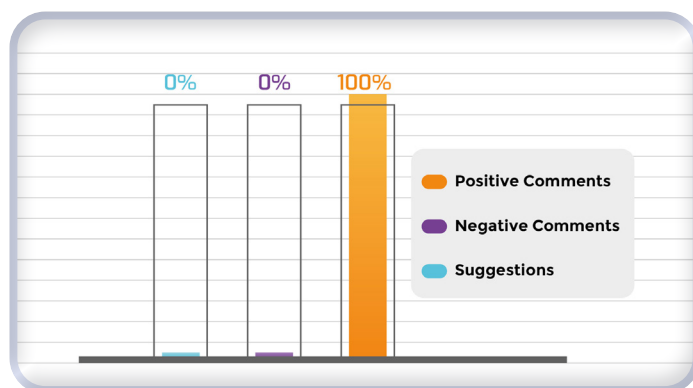
Note:

The graph illustrates the percentage of public opinions featured in both government and private media outlets regarding the establishment of export zones. These opinions were collected from video, audio, and print reports.

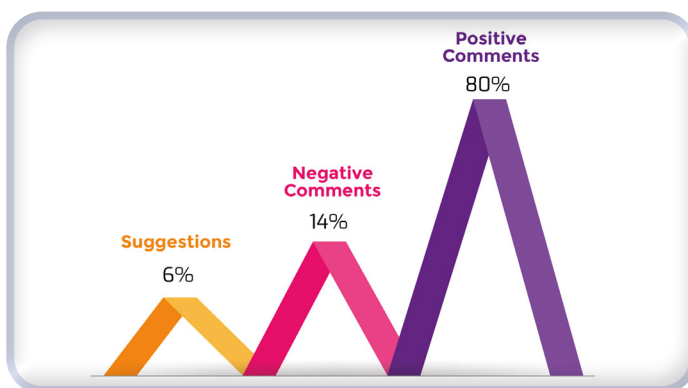
Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental and Private Media Regarding the News:

A: Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental Media

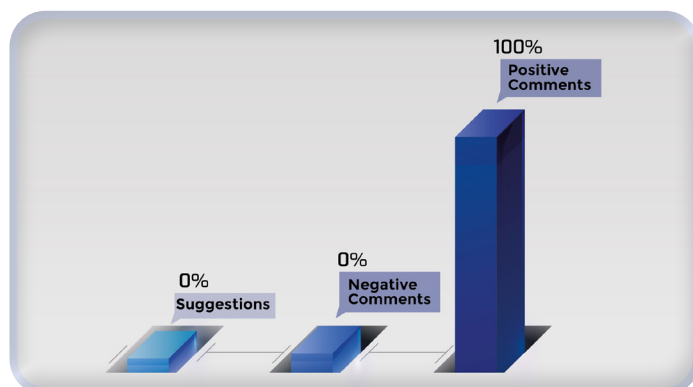
Radios



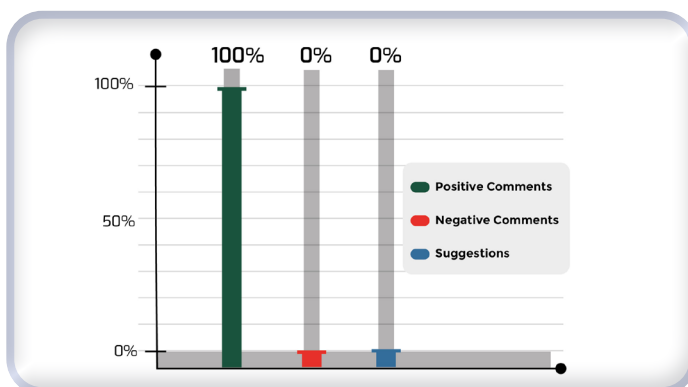
Televisions



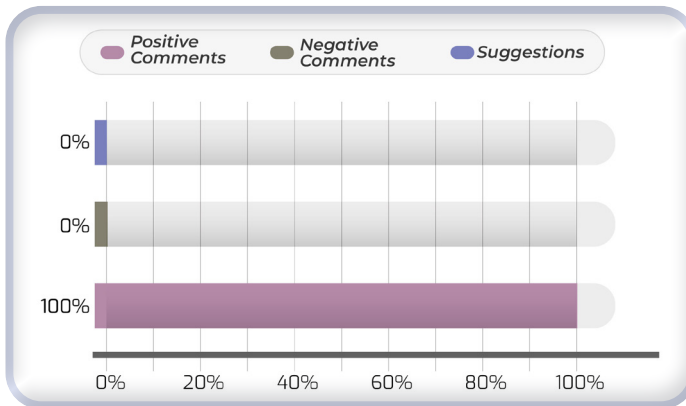
Websites



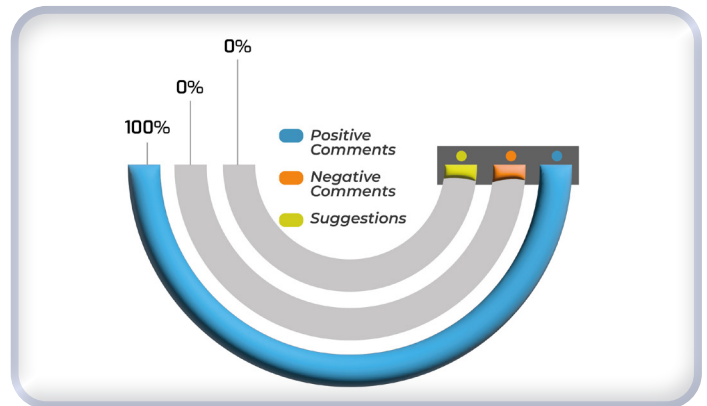
Newspaper



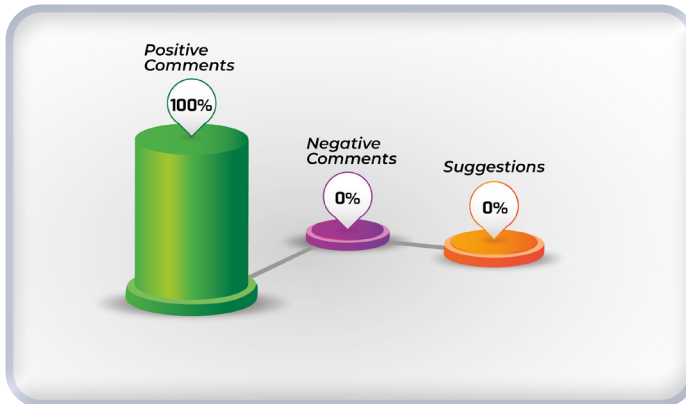
Spokesmen



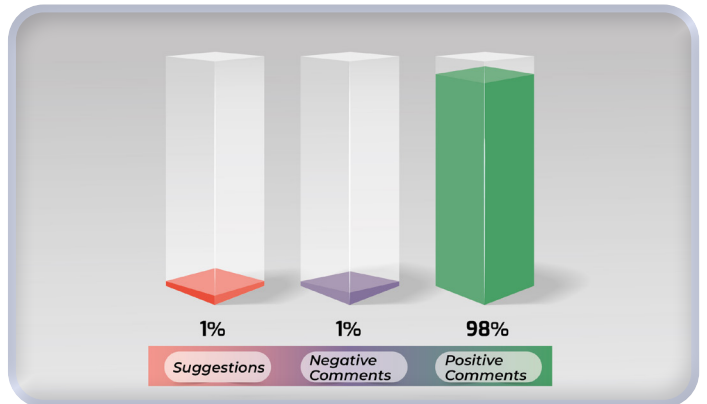
News Agencies



Twitter Pages

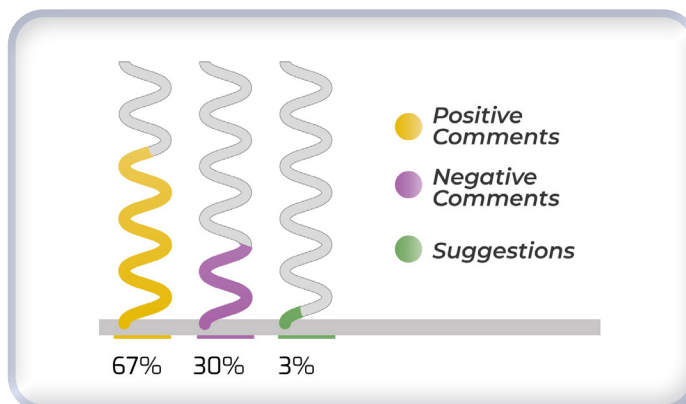


Evaluation of people's comments on state media

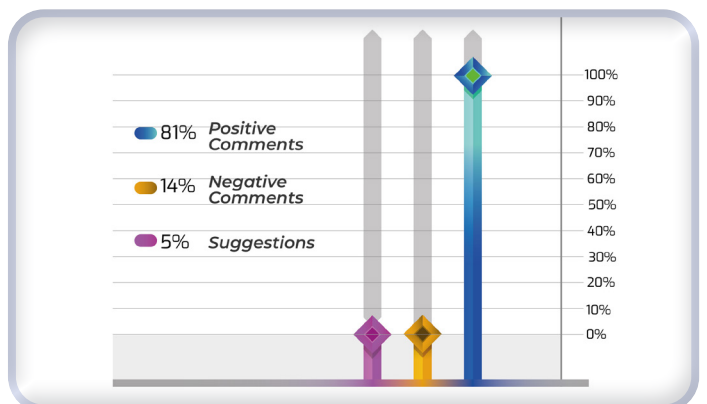


B: People's Comments on Private Media

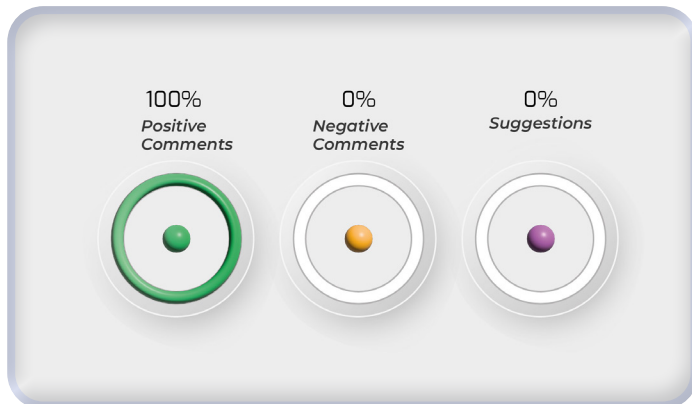
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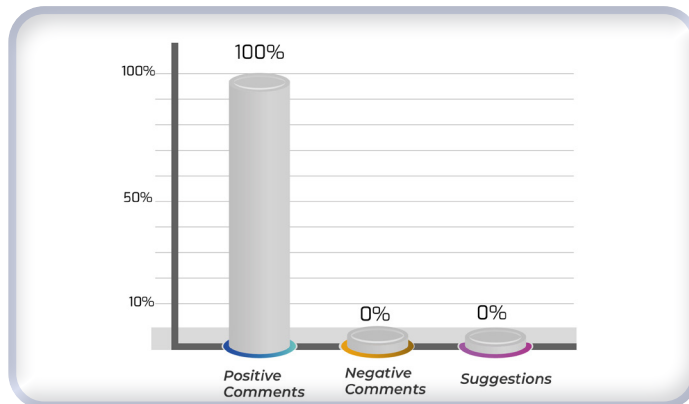
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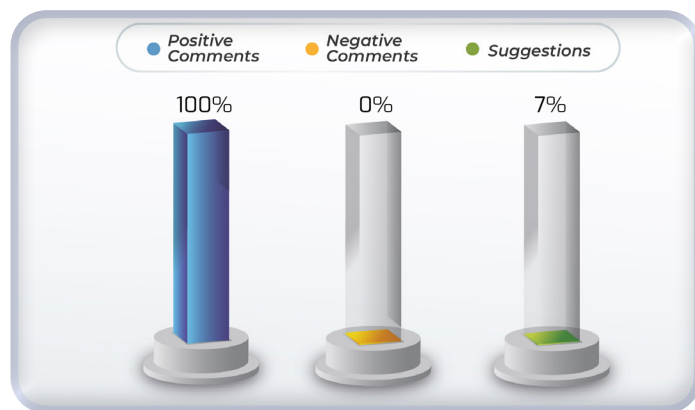
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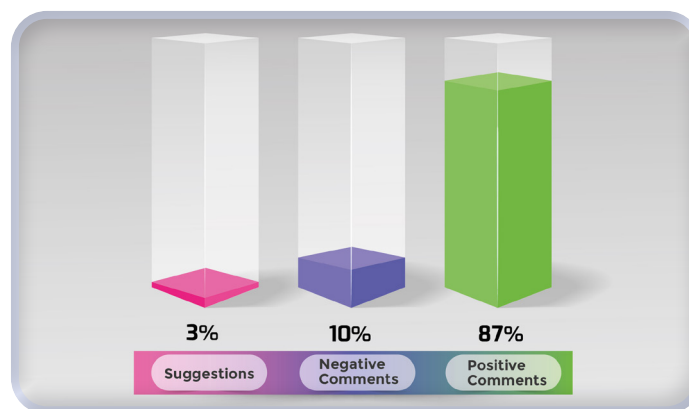
Newspapers



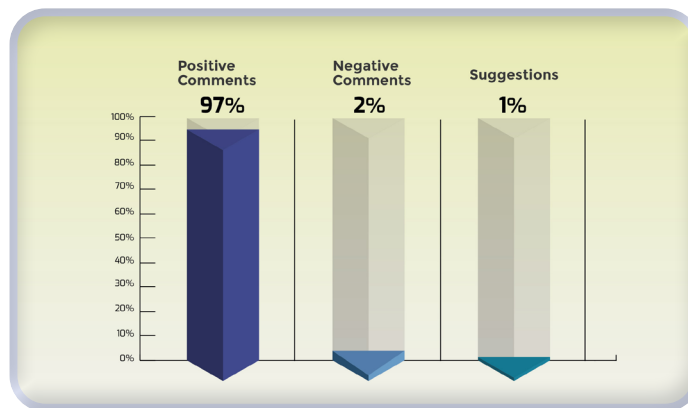
News Agencies



Evaluation of people's comments on Private media



Evaluation of people's comments on private and state media



Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in the Media Regarding the News:

We can divide the media into two categories: governmental media and private media.

1. Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental Media:

The opinions of the public in governmental media, including television, radio, newspapers, websites, spokespersons, news agencies, and Twitter pages, regarding the production of gas-based electricity are as follows:

- Total Opinions: 548
- Positive Opinions: 539 (98%)
- Negative Opinions: 6 (1%)
- Constructive Suggestions: 3 (1%)

The majority of public opinions in governmental media are positive, showing strong support for the procedure, with a small percentage of negative opinions and constructive suggestions.

2. Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Private Media:

The opinions of the public in private media, including television, radio, newspapers, websites, and news agencies, regarding the production of gas-based electricity are as follows:

- Total Opinions: 78
- Positive Opinions: 68 (87%)
- Negative Opinions: 8 (10%)
- Constructive Suggestions: 2 (3%)

While the positive opinions in private media are also high, the percentage of negative opinions is higher compared to governmental media, and there are more constructive suggestions.

Considering the above numbers, the percentage of positive opinions is higher in governmental media compared to private media. Governmental media have 98% positive opinions, whereas private media have 87%. Similarly, the percentage of negative opinions is higher in private media at 10%, compared to 1% in private media. When combining positive, negative opinions, and constructive suggestions from both media types, we get a total of 706 positive opinions, 14 negative opinions, and 5 constructive suggestions, resulting in:

Overall:

- oPositive Opinions: 97%
- oNegative Opinions: 2%
- oConstructive Suggestions: 1%

Summary of Public Opinions in Media and Social Networks:

Here, we provide a brief summary of a few notable opinions, including both positive and negative comments and suggestions, as the total number of opinions runs into tens, if not hundreds.

- This is a very appropriate measure; producing 100 megawatts of electricity will alleviate some of the existing issues in the industrial sector.
- When will our river water benefit us? It is all flowing to other countries.
- How is this a plan if it can't be completed in three years?
- Why is a hydroelectric dam not being built on the Kunar River?

Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Media and Social Networks:

- **First**, some citizens have warmly welcomed the plan to produce 100 megawatts of electricity from the country's natural gas, stating that this will significantly address the existing problems in the industrial sector. Indeed, the energy sector needs special attention today because no work can be done without electricity. Afghanistan has abundant water, oil, gas, coal, and other natural resources like solar and wind that can generate electrical energy. Electricity plays a crucial role in strengthening a country's economy. Since the mid-20th century, electricity has been the most significant factor in daily life and industrial activities. Everything, from lighting homes to industrial production, information, commercial activities, security duties, and other economic and administrative operations, relies on electrical energy. Therefore, it is clear that a country's economic structure and development depend on electricity production. When electricity is abundant and cheap, people are more inclined to build industrial factories. An increase in the number of factories leads to higher production levels, resolving many problems in the sector. The Islamic Emirate has recognized the importance of electricity and accelerated efforts to produce it. Projects like the solar power project in Surobi district of Kabul, reconstruction of dams capable of generating electricity, and now the plan to produce electricity from natural gas indicate the Islamic Emirate's efforts in this regard. These steps will lead to self-sufficiency in the electricity sector and put the country on the path to industrialization.
- **Second**, some individuals have pointed out the need to manage the country's water resources, stating that we should harness our rivers' water. Afghanistan has abundant water, but much of it flows out of the country without benefiting Afghanistan. If we harness and use our water resources, we can meet our electricity needs and even have surplus for export. With the re-establishment of the Islamic Emirate, significant, medium, and small projects have been implemented or are being implemented nationwide for water management and harnessing. In many parts of the country, work has resumed on unfinished dams and canals, and damaged structures have been rebuilt. Major canals like

Qosh Tepa and Namak Ab in Takhar have started, with the first phase of the Qosh Tepa canal completed and work on the second phase ongoing. Major dams like Kamal Khan, Bakhshabad, and recently Pashdan Dam have been built and repaired as part of water management and using our abundant water resources. The Islamic Emirate has also taken steps to prevent the heavy financial and human losses caused by annual floods. Medium and small dams are being constructed in every district, and many such dams have been completed and are now operational. This shows that the Islamic Emirate is determined not to let water go to waste and is making full use of its water resources for electricity production and the agricultural sector, resolving the country's electricity problems.

- **Third,** some people have criticized the delay in such projects, questioning how a plan that cannot be completed in three years is considered feasible. Any government that wants to attract investment from the private sector must first review each investment plan from legal and technical perspectives to ensure it is in the country's best interest and aligns with national laws. Only then are investment plans approved and investors given the green light. The Islamic Emirate has created numerous facilities to attract investment and many domestic and foreign investors have shown interest in investing in Afghanistan, to which the Islamic Emirate has responded positively. The Islamic Emirate understands that a country cannot progress without domestic and foreign investment, which is why it has facilitated investors. However, this does not mean that every investment plan should be implemented without thorough examination. Naturally, reviewing all aspects of a plan takes time and may cause delays. Nonetheless, the Islamic Emirate is serious about this issue and strongly supports investment in various sectors.

Conclusion

Afghanistan possesses numerous resources for electricity production. We can generate substantial amounts of electricity from these resources. However, previous governments have not effectively utilized these sources, leaving the country dependent on imported electricity. Currently, Afghanistan imports 80% of its required electricity from other countries and produces only 20% domestically. With the re-establishment of the Islamic Emirate, comprehensive steps have been taken to utilize natural resources for electricity production. Efforts range from the reconstruction of large dams to harnessing gas, coal, solar, and wind energy for electricity generation. The discussion on the 100-megawatt gas power generation plan is part of these initiatives. The Islamic Emirate aims to maximize the use of all resources capable of producing electricity, ultimately resolving the country's electricity issues permanently. Ensuring a stable electricity supply will not only relieve citizens from darkness but also promote the development of Afghanistan's industry, agriculture, and other sectors.

Life Pearl Pharmaceutical Factory Inaugurated



Introduction

In today's industrial world, national production serves as a tool of competition, and production sectors must fully address competition, product diversity, changes in social demand, and increasing consumer expectations. The importance of national production in the economy is well recognized, and it is essential for national independence, preventing financial outflows, and, most importantly, eliminating unemployment. Employment is a key benefit of supporting domestic production, as it helps reduce unemployment rates and is prioritized by the government for the country's benefit. The practice and culture of utilizing domestic products are vital for economic development and are considered significant social responsibilities. Additionally, to promote exports, it is necessary to develop and upgrade the country's infrastructure, including land routes, railways, and airports, to meet international standards. The Islamic Emirate has given due attention to the development of domestic production, the industrial sector, and the construction of major roads, railways, and airports. In this regard, significant steps have been taken. On July 25, 2024, the Deputy PM for Economic Affairs, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund, inaugurated the Life Pearl Pharmaceutical Factory in Kabul's 9th District and laid the foundation stone for a standard waiting lounge at Kabul Airport.

At the inauguration of the Life Pearl Pharmaceutical Factory, the Deputy PM for Economic Affairs stated that high-quality medicines ensure the health of a healthy human society, whereas substandard medicines pose a threat to life. Quality must be given utmost priority over quantity. Mullah Baradar Akhund added that this pharmaceutical factory would not only benefit the

health of the country's people but would also significantly contribute to the country's economic development.

Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund mentioned that with the commencement of this factory's operations, citizens will have easier access to necessary medicines, and the existing needs in the pharmaceutical sector will be somewhat met by domestic production. The Deputy Economic Advisor assured the factory's managers of government support and urged them to produce high-quality medicines in line with international standards, considering the country's needs.

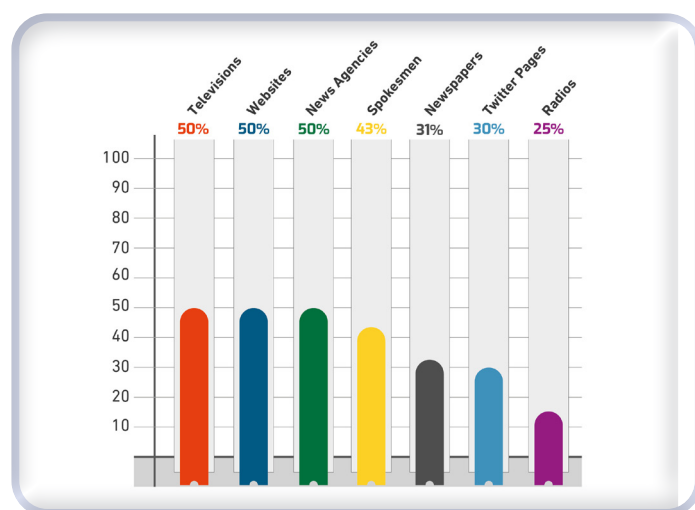
It is noteworthy that a \$20 million investment has been made in the Life Pearl Pharmaceutical Factory, which will not only facilitate the production of various medicines but has also created jobs for 300 people. Additionally, the waiting lounge being constructed at Kabul Airport is financed by the private sector with an investment of 290 million Afghanis. The construction is expected to be completed and operational within 18 months. The waiting lounge will have a capacity of 1,500 people and will include all essential facilities for passengers.

Purpose of Inaugurating the Life Pearl Pharmaceutical Factory:

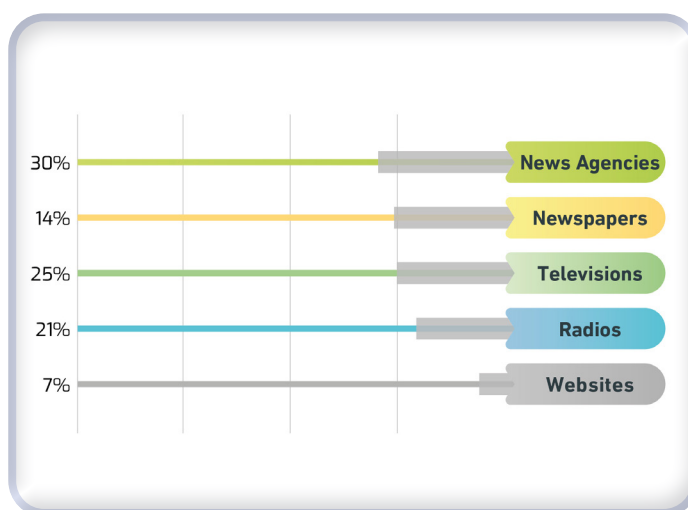
The aim is to produce medicine and solve problems in this area.

Public Feedback on Media Outlets Reporting «The Inauguration of Life Pearl Pharmaceutical Factory»:

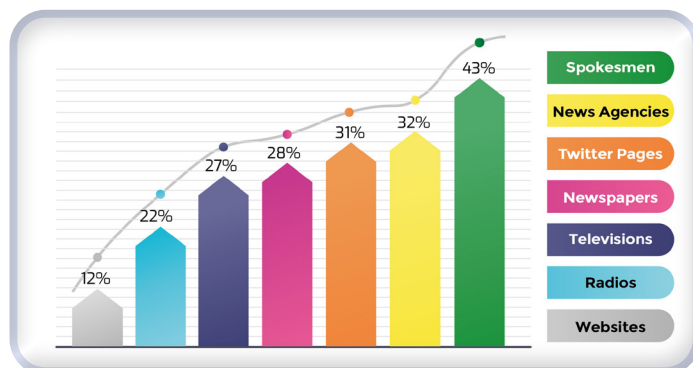
State Media:



Private Media:



The collective percentage of people's comments on private and state media:



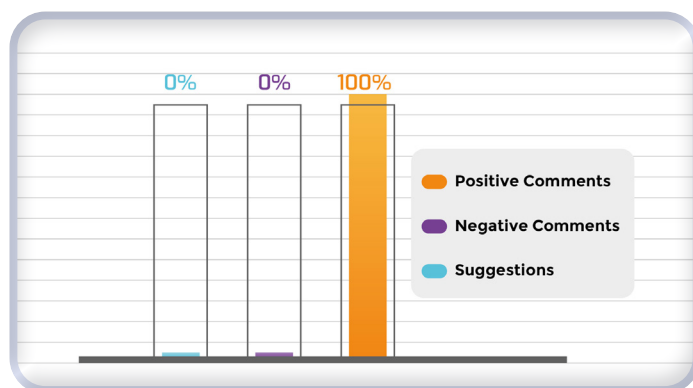
Note:

The graph illustrates the percentage of public opinions featured in both government and private media outlets regarding the establishment of export zones. These opinions were collected from video, audio, and print reports.

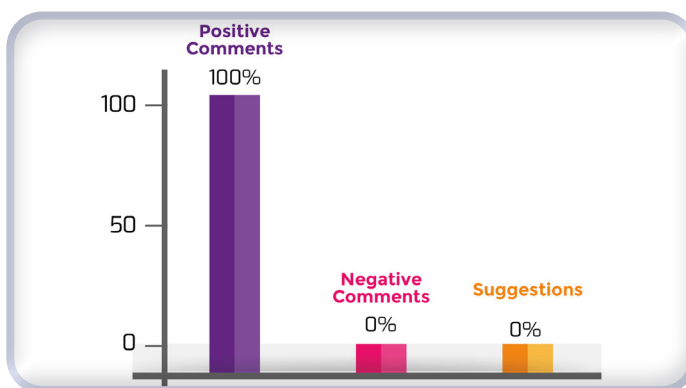
Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental and Private Media Regarding the News:

A: Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental Media

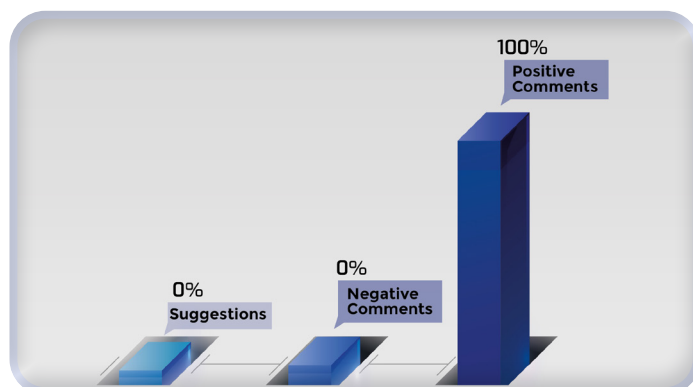
Radios



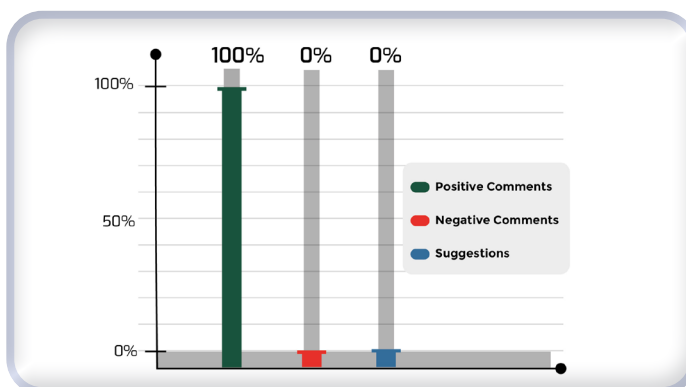
Televisions



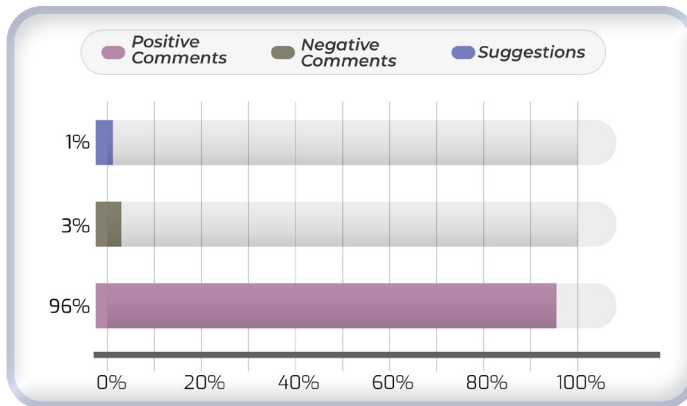
Websites



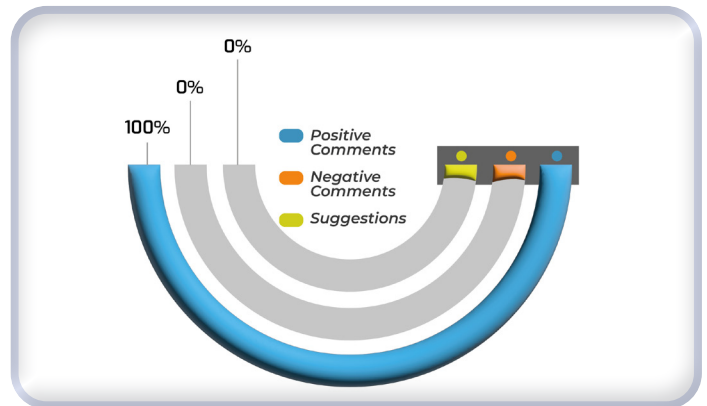
Newspaper



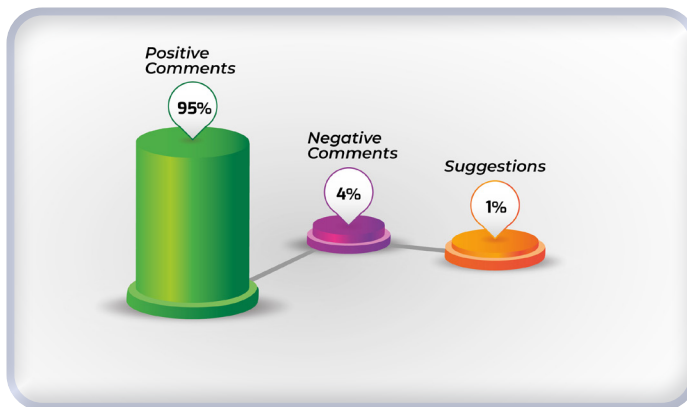
Spokesmen



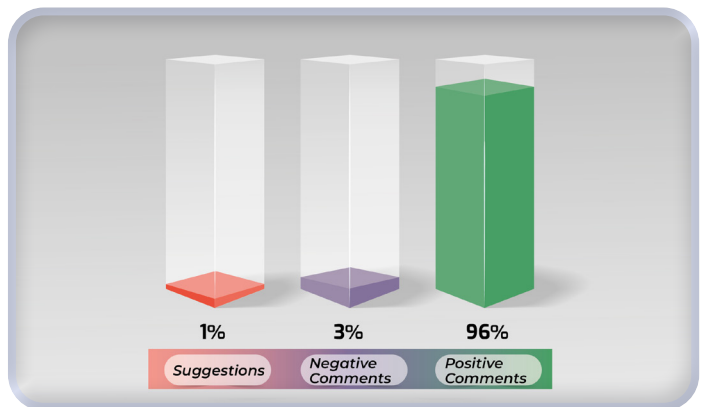
News Agencies



Twitter Pages

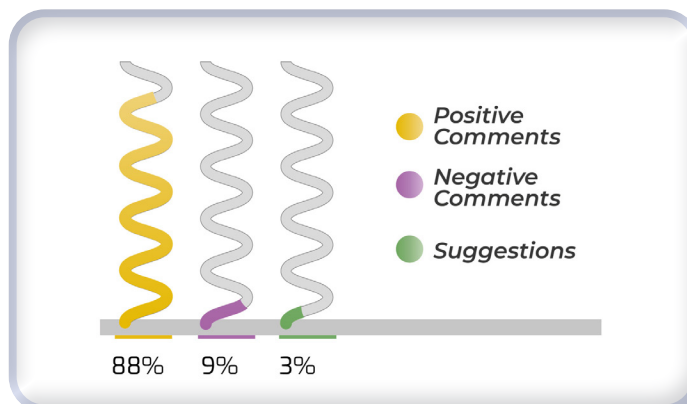


Evaluation of people's comments on state media

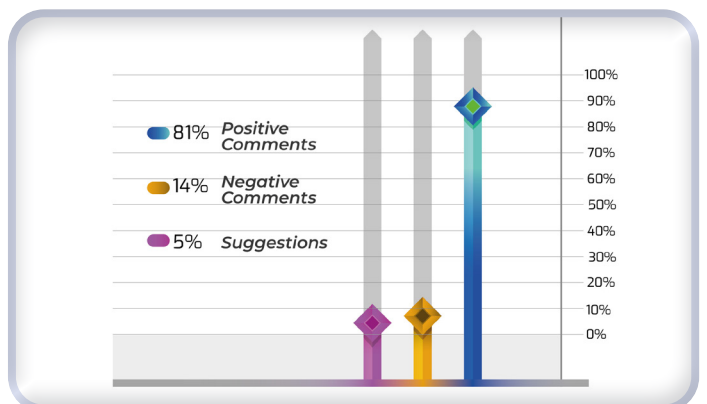


B: People's Comments on Private Media

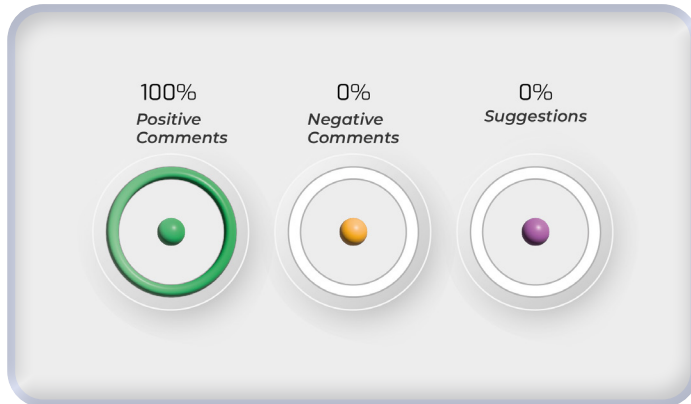
Televisions



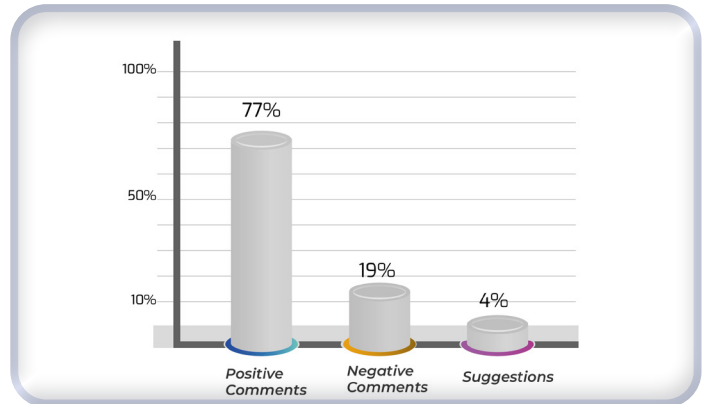
Radios



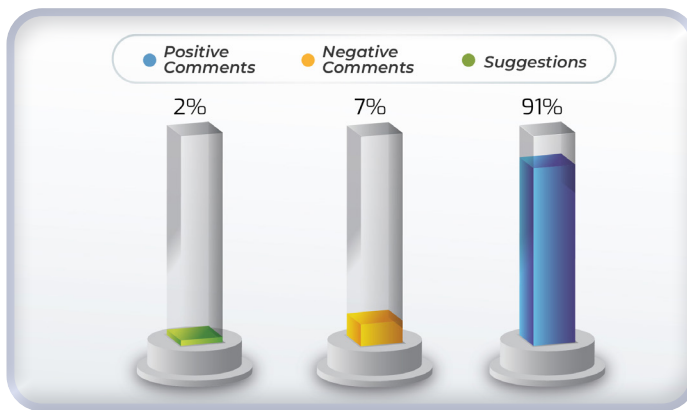
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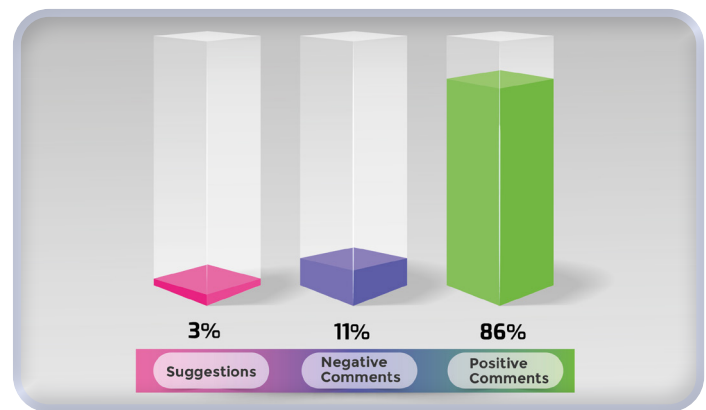
Newspapers



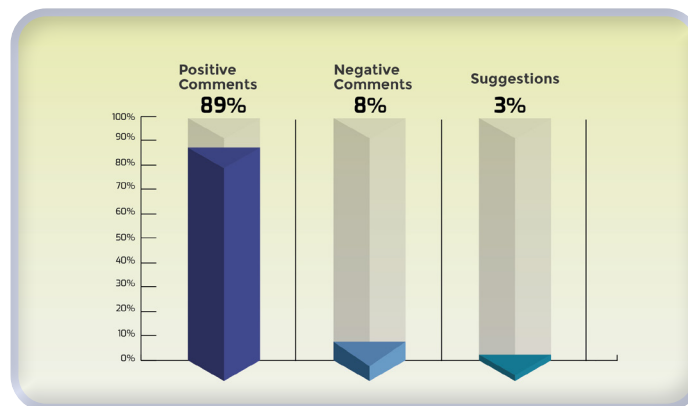
News Agencies



Evaluation of people's comments on state media



Evaluation of people's comments on private and state media



Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in the Media Regarding the News:

We can divide the media into two categories: governmental media and private media.

1. Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental Media:

The opinions of the public in governmental media, including television, radio, newspapers, websites, spokespersons, news agencies, and Twitter pages, regarding the inauguration of the Life Pearl Pharmaceutical Factory are as follows:

- Total Opinions: 1261
- Positive Opinions: 1211 (96%)
- Negative Opinions: 38 (3%)
- Constructive Suggestions: 12 (1%)

Most public opinions in governmental media are positive, showing strong support for the procedure, with a small percentage of negative opinions and constructive suggestions.

2. Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Private Media:

The opinions of the public in private media, including television, radio, newspapers, websites, and news agencies, regarding the production of gas-based electricity are as follows:

- Total Opinions: 2458
- Positive Opinions: 2105 (86%)
- Negative Opinions: 257 (11%)
- Constructive Suggestions: 78 (3%)

While the positive opinions in private media are also high, the percentage of negative opinions is higher compared to governmental media, and there are more constructive suggestions.

Considering the above numbers, the percentage of positive opinions is higher in governmental media compared to private media. Governmental media have 96% positive opinions, whereas private media have 86%. Similarly, the percentage of negative opinions is higher in private media at 11%, compared to 1% in private media. When combining positive, negative opinions, and constructive suggestions from both media types, we get a total of 3316 positive opinions, 313 negative opinions, and 90 constructive suggestions, resulting in:

Overall:

- Positive Opinions: 89%
- Negative Opinions: 8%
- Constructive Suggestions: 3%

Summary of Public Opinions in Media and Social Networks:

Here, we provide a summary of a few notable opinions, including both positive and negative comments and suggestions, as the total number of opinions runs into tens, if not hundreds.

- Deputy PM for Economic Affairs, Afghanistan must consider the increase in Pakistan's customs duties on Afghan exports, as this action by Pakistan will have a significant adverse impact on our economy and the agricultural sector.
- Our people have a habit: if a medicine packet states it is produced in Afghanistan, they refuse to buy it, insisting instead on medicine from Pakistan or Turkey, believing that locally produced medicines are less effective.
- This is a very appropriate measure. As a citizen, I urge the Ministry of Public Health to act against the influx of low-quality medicines into the country, as many pharmacies sell substandard drugs.
- The government should make greater efforts in the tourism sector to attract international visitors to Afghanistan. This would improve the economic condition of the country and create job opportunities for the people.
- Trust in Afghan products cannot be established without serious attention to quality. Quality is especially crucial in food and medicine. In addition to ensuring quality, there should be a reduction in medicine prices, which would help us reduce dependency on neighboring countries.
- The initiative to build standard waiting lounges at airports is commendable. The terminal at Kabul International Airport is extremely small and should be expanded to meet international standards.

Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Media and Social Networks:

- **First**, some citizens have suggested to the Deputy PM for Economic Affairs that he should address the issue of increased Pakistani customs duties on Afghan exports, as this action will adversely affect trade. Afghanistan and Pakistan are neighboring countries. However, due to Afghanistan's landlocked status and lack of direct access to the sea, it has relied heavily on Pakistan for its exports and imports. This was the reason for signing the ATTA agreement in 1965 and subsequently the APFTA agreement. The APFTA agreement includes 58 articles, two annexes, and four protocols. Compared to the previous agreement, this one is more detailed regarding transit and trade, reflecting the priorities of both countries. The agreement addresses various issues related to transit and trade between the two nations. According to the new APFTA agreement, Afghanistan has identified three entry points: the ports of Karachi, Qasim, and Gwadar. Additionally, agreements were made to use the ports

of Torkham, Chaman, and Ghulam Khan as border ports. However, Pakistan has repeatedly violated this agreement, creating barriers to Afghan exports. Since the establishment of the Islamic Emirate, Pakistan has increased customs duties on Afghan fresh fruits and vegetables at times and has blocked routes, causing financial harm to Afghan traders. Efforts have been made by the Ministry of Commerce to resolve these issues, but Pakistan has consistently reneged on its commitments. However, it is noteworthy that with the re-establishment of the Islamic Emirate, Afghanistan is less dependent on Pakistan. The Islamic Emirate has found markets in various other countries for its trade and exports, significantly reducing reliance on Pakistan. This year, Pakistan has once again repeated its actions by closing routes for Afghan exports in the month of August 2024, but the impact on our exports is not as severe as before because Afghanistan has found alternative markets in several other countries.

- **Second**, some people have emphasized the importance of utilizing domestic products, stating that our citizens have a habit of refusing products labeled as Afghan-produced, preferring foreign products instead. To improve production quality, we should initially rely on domestic resources and gradually introduce these products to international markets. Currently, our market offers a range of Afghan products, including fresh fruits, with good quality. High quality will attract more consumers and contribute to sustainable economic growth. Consumers should provide feedback to producers about the quality of their products. Supporting domestic products and creating a culture of utilizing them are crucial for enhancing quality and fostering competition in the production sector. Positive developments have been observed since the re-establishment of the Islamic Emirate, with increased efforts in the industrial and domestic production sectors. New factories have been established, and industrialists have been provided with more facilities. Afghanistan now exports to 168 countries in 80 sectors, mostly domestic products. The leadership of the Islamic Emirate has instructed that all government agencies prioritize domestic products in their procurement processes, even if their quality is somewhat lower than foreign products. This indicates that the Islamic Emirate is committed to promoting domestic products and improving their quality and will continue its efforts in this regard.
- **Third**, some citizens have proposed that investment in the tourism sector would not only strengthen Afghanistan's economy but also create job opportunities. The tourism industry is one of the most lucrative industries globally, following the oil and automotive industries. It is a fundamental component of global economic development, and its importance continues to grow. Afghanistan, with its extensive natural resources and historical sites, is well-suited for tourism. Unfortunately, due to past conflicts and instability, this sector has not developed as it should have. Afghanistan has 154 tourist attractions, categorized into natural landscapes and historical sites that reflect the country's history. Developing the tourism sector could significantly reduce unemployment and increase national revenue

while exposing people to various cultures. Previously, foreign invasions and insecurity were major barriers to the sector's growth, but with the Islamic Emirate's arrival, security has been restored, and this issue has been resolved. The tourism industry has seen considerable growth since the Islamic Emirate's establishment. Many tourists from various countries have visited Afghanistan recently, and this trend is expanding. Domestic tourists are also traveling to different regions of the country without fear, enjoying the natural landscapes and historical sites.

- **Fourth**, some commenters have praised the initiative to build standard waiting lounges at airports but have suggested that the terminal at Kabul International Airport is too small and should be expanded. The Ministry of Transport and Aviation of the Islamic Emirate has been working on upgrading international airports and providing better services to passengers. Currently, four airports—Kabul, Herat, Kandahar, and Mazar—are equipped to international standards for both domestic and international travel. In addition to these airports, 24 other domestic airports are operational. These airports are mainly used for humanitarian aid delivery and ambulance flights. Radar systems have been installed to prevent air accidents. In the past three years, Afghanistan's airports have been upgraded to international standards, providing all necessary facilities for passengers. It is evident that with time, airports will continue to expand and meet global standards.

Conclusion

For the Islamic Emirate, both industry and infrastructure development are priorities. Now that complete security and a strong central government have been established in the country, all focus is on sectors that contribute to economic growth. Pharmaceuticals are part of the industry. If we produce high-quality medicines domestically and make them available in the market, people will be freed from the use of substandard drugs, and this sector of our industry will be strengthened. Our competitive edge in the international market will improve, and our exports will expand. With the expansion of exports, economic growth will accelerate, and national revenue will increase. For effective export operations, standard land and air transport are essential. Therefore, it is necessary to upgrade land routes to international standards and to standardize air transport. The Islamic Emirate has taken significant steps in both areas. It has fully supported the private sector in industry development, exemplified by the opening of the Life Pearl Pharmaceutical Factory. Additionally, efforts have been directed towards airport development, as demonstrated by the establishment of standard waiting lounges.

The Islamic Emirate Initiates Infrastructure Projects to Create Job Opportunities



Introduction

Unemployment is a social issue that has affected humans from the past to the present. Today, financial problems in both developed and developing countries have led to higher levels of unemployment and poverty in societies. Afghanistan is also among the countries struggling with unemployment due to various factors. Major causes of unemployment in Afghanistan include foreign occupation, failed plans of previous governments, harsh international sanctions, delayed aid from international organizations, unfair exports, and others. These factors have increased the unemployment rate in Afghanistan and exposed people to numerous economic problems. To address this issue, the Islamic Emirate has taken significant steps, one of which was organizing the National Labor Conference in Kabul. On July 25, 2024, the Deputy PM for Economic Affairs, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund, participated in and spoke at the National Labor Conference held at the Salam Khana Palace of the Presidential Palace.

During his speech, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund stated that the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan is ready for positive engagement with all countries of the world, keeping in mind the national interests and mutual respect of the country. He called on countries to lift the unjust banking sanctions that have caused numerous economic problems and increased unemployment rates, and to engage positively with the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan. He further emphasized that the Islamic Emirate, as a responsible governing body, considers it its duty to provide timely and quality services to the people.

The Deputy PM also mentioned that the Islamic Emirate has not ignored the problems and concerns of the people. Rather, all officials are working to provide additional facilities to the people while also creating job opportunities. Referring to the infrastructure projects started in the country, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund highlighted that the Islamic Emirate has initiated fundamental and reconstruction projects such as the Qosh Tepa Canal, the Amu Oil Basin, the Bakhshabad Dam, and others, which have engaged tens of thousands of citizens in work.

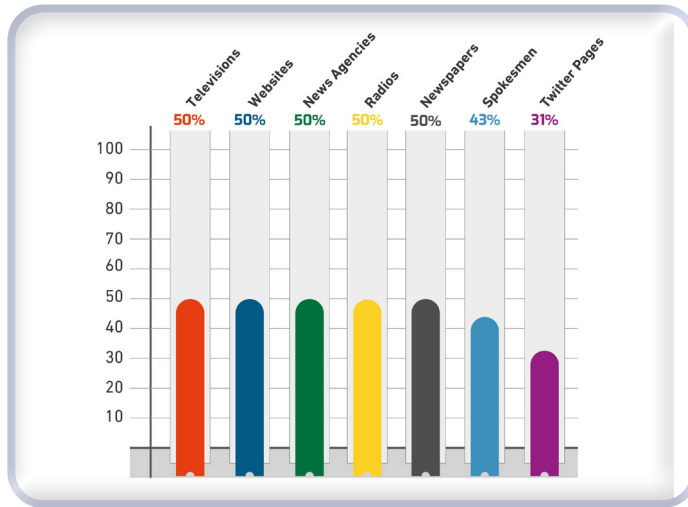
He also mentioned that positive steps have been taken in the mining sector, with increased interest from domestic and foreign companies in investment. Additionally, the National Procurement Commission has approved significant projects that have created thousands of new job opportunities. The Deputy PM told the attendees of the National Labor Conference that the Islamic Emirate is striving to strengthen the country's economic growth and reduce unemployment by transforming Afghanistan into a key point connecting South and Central Asia. Efforts are being made to increase trade, facilitate exports of domestic products, work on energy transmission and distribution, expand the railway network, and encourage foreign investment in Afghanistan. According to Mullah Baradar Akhund, all these efforts are aimed at creating job opportunities both directly and indirectly. On the second day of the National Labor Conference, several agreements were signed in the presence of Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund between the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development, and the State-owned Corporations Coordination Authority to create new job opportunities.

Purpose of Initiating Infrastructure Projects for Employment:

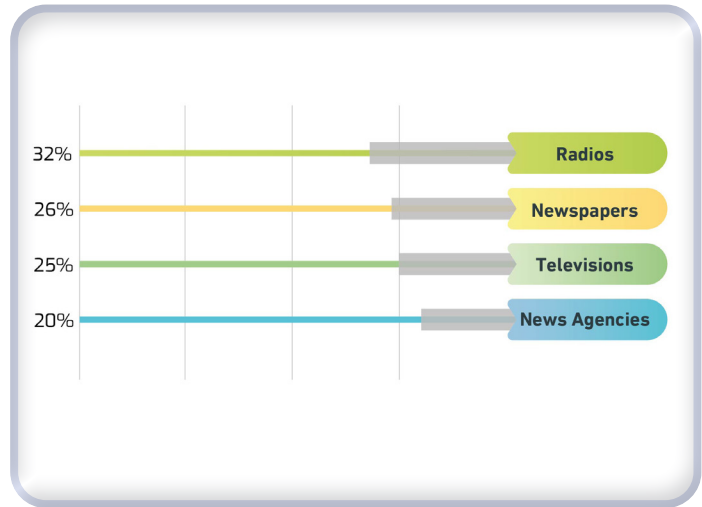
The aim is to eliminate unemployment and create job opportunities for citizens.

Public Feedback on Media Outlets Reporting « Initiating Infrastructure Projects for Employment»:

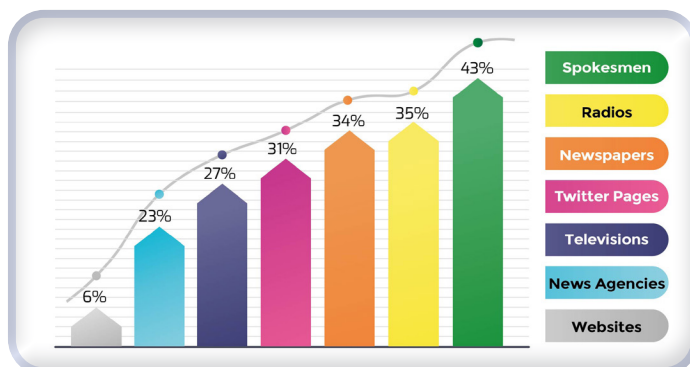
State Media:



Private Media:



The collective percentage of people's comments on private and state media:



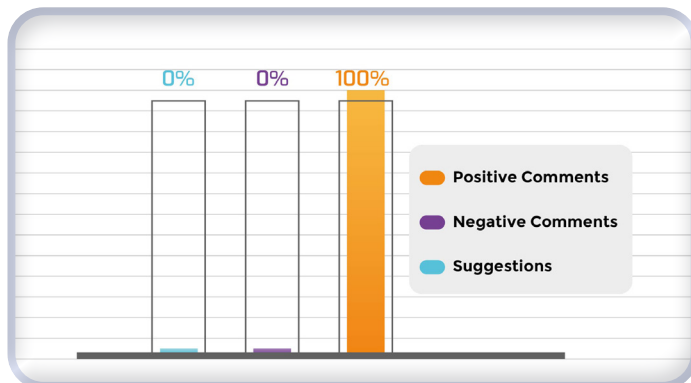
Note:

The graph illustrates the percentage of public opinions featured in both government and private media outlets regarding the establishment of export zones. These opinions were collected from video, audio, and print reports.

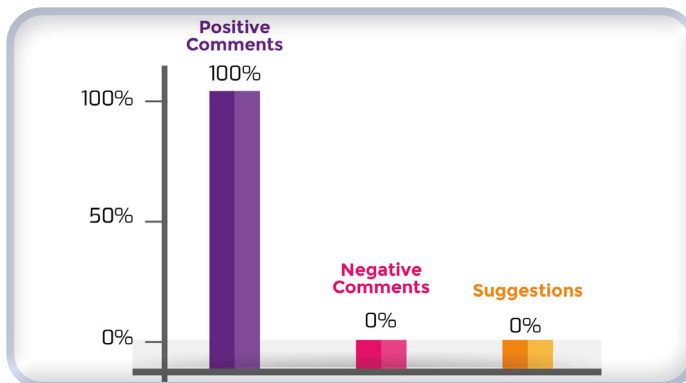
Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental and Private Media Regarding the News:

A: Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental Media

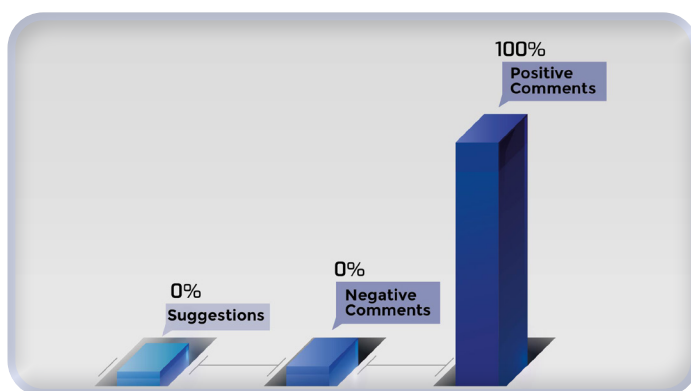
Radios



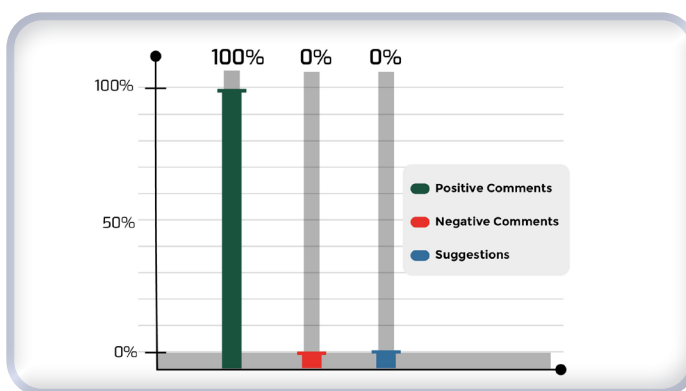
Televisions



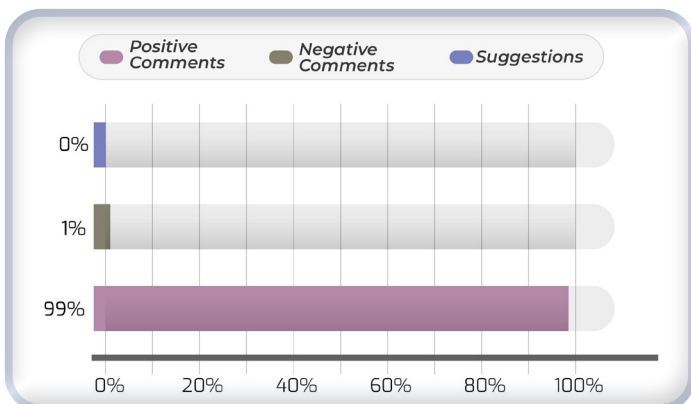
Websites



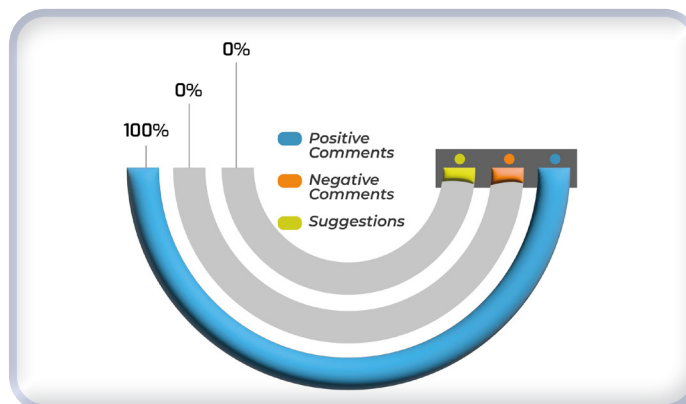
Newspaper



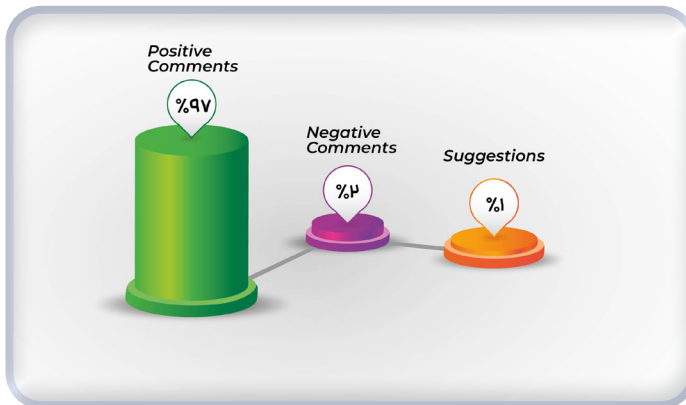
Spokesmen



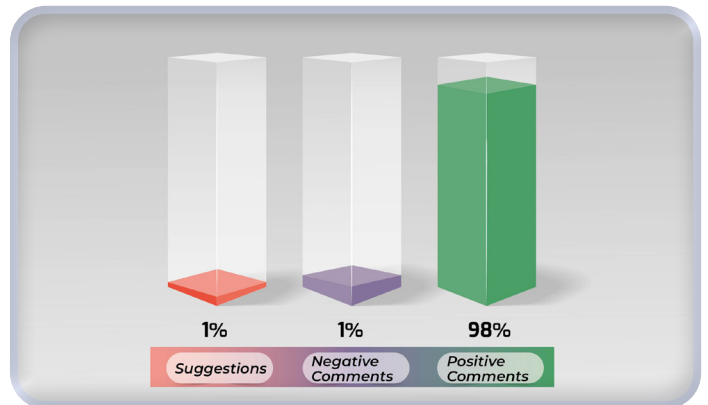
News Agencies



Twitter Pages

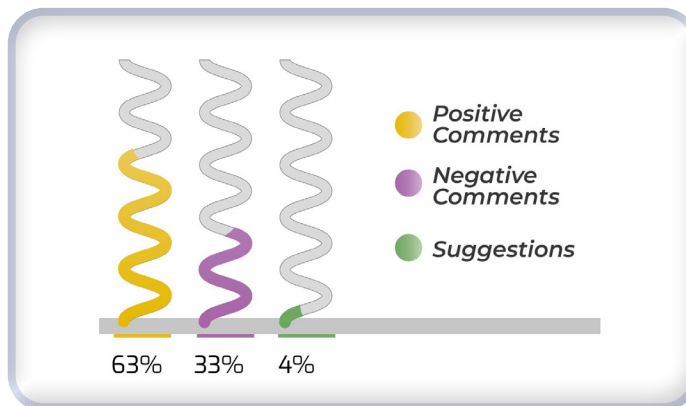


Evaluation of people's comments on Private media

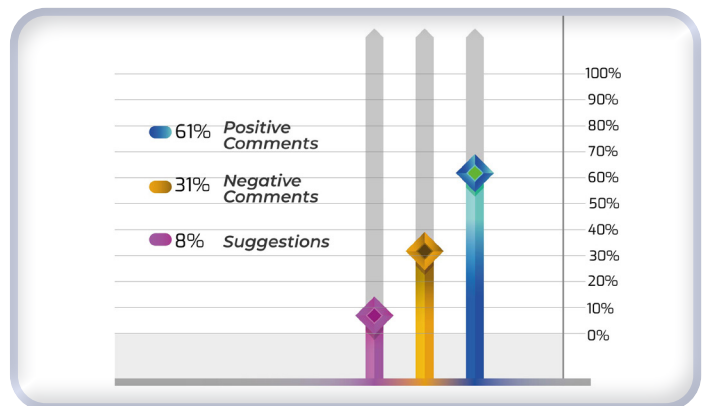


B: People's Comments on Private Media

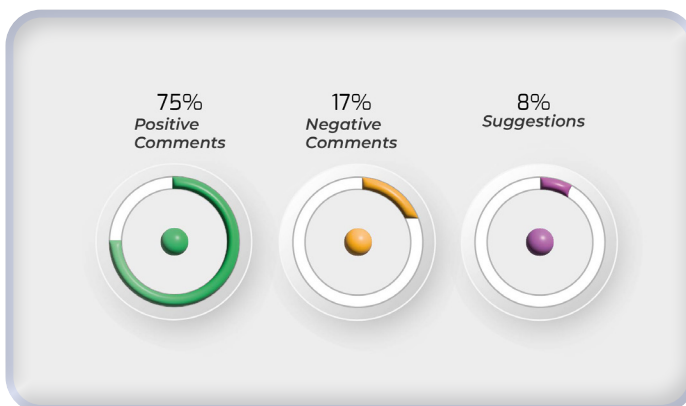
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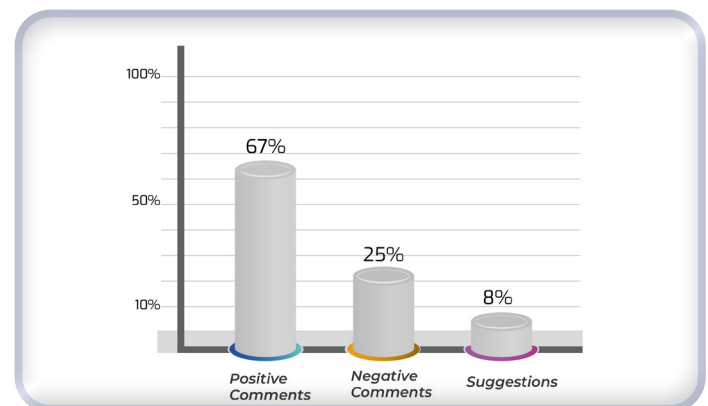
Radios



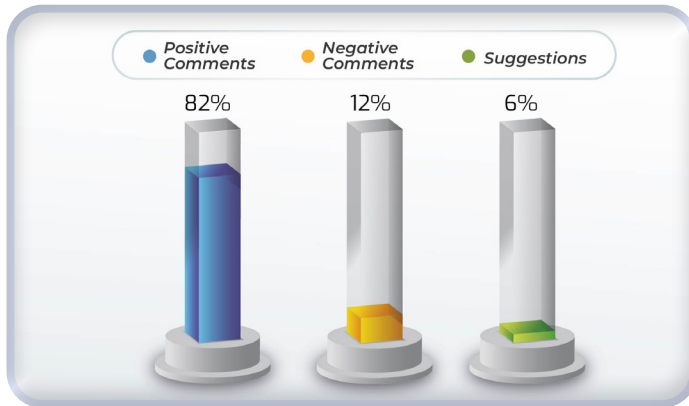
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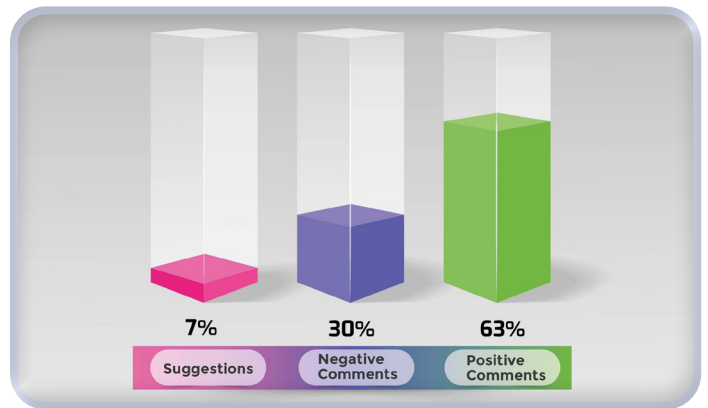
Newspapers



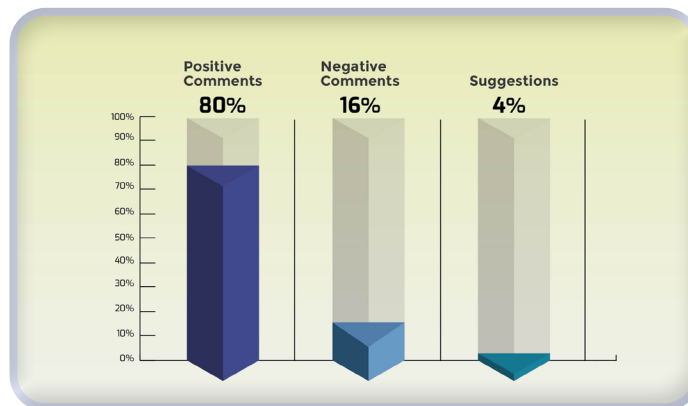
News Agencies



Evaluation of people's comments on Private media



Evaluation of people's comments on private and state media



Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in the Media Regarding the News:

We can divide the media into two categories: governmental media and private media.

1. Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental Media:

The opinions of the public in governmental media, including television, radio, newspapers, websites, spokespersons, news agencies, and Twitter pages, regarding the news are as follows:

- Total Opinions: 969
- Positive Opinions: 954 (98%)
- Negative Opinions: 12 (1%)
- Constructive Suggestions: 3 (1%)

Most public opinions in governmental media are positive, showing strong support for the procedure, with a small percentage of negative opinions and constructive suggestions.

2. Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Private Media:

The opinions of the public in private media, including television, radio, newspapers, websites, and news agencies, regarding the news are as follows:

- Total Opinions: 1070
- Positive Opinions: 679 (63%)
- Negative Opinions: 321 (30%)
- Constructive Suggestions: 70 (7%)

While the positive opinions in private media are also high, the percentage of negative opinions is higher compared to governmental media, and there are more constructive suggestions.

Considering the above numbers, the percentage of positive opinions is higher in governmental media compared to private media. Governmental media have 98% positive opinions, whereas private media have 63%. Similarly, the percentage of negative opinions is higher in private media at 30%, compared to 1% in private media. When combining positive, negative opinions, and constructive suggestions from both media types, we get a total of 1633 positive opinions, 333 negative opinions, and 73 constructive suggestions, resulting in:

Overall:

- Positive Opinions: 80%
- Negative Opinions: 16%
- Constructive Suggestions: 4%

Summary of Public Opinions in Media and Social Networks:

Here, we provide a summary of a few notable opinions, including both positive and negative comments and suggestions, as the total number of opinions runs into tens, if not hundreds.

- To facilitate employment opportunities, the government should support investors, grant tax exemptions to investors and those who create job opportunities for the public and support small businesses.
- Unemployment has increased in Afghanistan, and many graduates are jobless.
- We hope that all unemployed youth will find employment, be prevented from leaving the country, and that promises made will be implemented and not remain just on paper as before.
- We respect our leaders, but leaders should also make appointments in both military and civilian sectors based on merit.

Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Media and Social Networks:

- **First**, some citizens have suggested that the government should support investors and encourage small businesses to create more job opportunities. Since the re-establishment of the Islamic Emirate, many foundational projects have been initiated across the country, providing employment to thousands. Investors have received full support, and facilities have been created for both domestic and foreign investors to invest in various sectors of the country. To date, many investors have shown interest in investing, and some have already done so. In the field of investment attraction, the Islamic Emirate, under the Deputy PM for Economic Affairs, has established an inter-ministerial investment committee that has reviewed numerous investment proposals, some of which have now been implemented. The leadership of the Islamic Emirate has granted tax exemptions to support and encourage the private sector. These are measures taken by the Islamic Emirate to address the unemployment issue in the country and have created job opportunities for thousands.
- **Second**, some individuals have expressed hope that creating job opportunities for youth will prevent them from leaving the country. Youth are a nation's human resource. If job opportunities are provided to them, the country can indeed progress in every sector. Youth have the energy for work, and if this energy is utilized properly, it can lead to advancements in every field. Afghanistan also has a young, capable workforce, so it is crucial to fully leverage this potential. The Islamic Emirate has initiated foundational projects in mining, industry, agriculture, transportation, transit, and other related sectors to create job opportunities for the country's youth. Organizing a national conference on labor and discussing ways to create job opportunities is part of these efforts. During this conference, the relevant ministries of the Islamic Emirate committed to creating approximately 1.5 million new job opportunities

in the country over the next five years, and the Islamic Emirate's commitments have never remained on paper; they have all been implemented, and we are witnesses to this.

- **Third**, some have suggested that work should be entrusted to those qualified for it. This proposal is valid because without assigning work to qualified individuals, it is unlikely that the country will develop. The Islamic Emirate has paid significant attention to this matter. Currently, all professionals and experts are appointed to positions within the government. This is why government functions are progressing professionally. Whether it is the development of infrastructure and major projects or the progress in industry and other sectors, all are due to the efforts of skilled and qualified individuals. This shows that the Islamic Emirate has not neglected this aspect and has entrusted work to those who are capable.

Conclusion

Unemployment is a significant issue not only in developing and underdeveloped countries but also in the most advanced nations around the world. Every country strives to increase the demand for labor to reduce unemployment rates, yet many have not fully succeeded in eradicating this problem. In Afghanistan, the unemployment rate has risen due to nearly four decades of instability, leading to numerous economic challenges for the population. However, the Islamic Emirate has focused its efforts on addressing this issue fundamentally. The government is working on the underlying causes of unemployment, such as economic dependency, lack of investment, underdevelopment in trade and transit, neglect of the agriculture and livestock sectors, weak private sector growth, lack of resource extraction, and inadequate infrastructure development. Significant progress has been made in many of these areas. The primary goal of organizing the National Labor Conference was to identify effective solutions to reduce unemployment. During this conference, the Islamic Emirate pledged to create 1.5 million new job opportunities over the next five years. Previously, the government had already provided employment to hundreds of thousands of people across various sectors. With the creation of new job opportunities, the unemployment rate in the country is expected to decrease significantly, alleviating the existing challenges faced by the people in this regard.

Inauguration of the Road Construction Project for the Mes Aynak Project



Introduction

Mines are natural resources with significant economic value, and their extraction can substantially increase revenue. As revenues grow, it naturally follows that the economy will develop, alleviating existing economic challenges in the country. Unfortunately, in the past, this immense wealth, buried beneath the soil and capable of positioning Afghanistan among the ranks of developed and wealthy nations, received little attention. However, the Islamic Emirate, by adopting an economy-focused policy, has, with limited resources, managed to begin extracting these underground riches and revitalizing the economy. One of these significant natural resources is the Mes Aynak copper mine, for which a contract has been signed with a Chinese company. Currently, some aspects of this project have commenced, including the construction of an extended road leading to the mine.

On July 24, 2023, the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund, inaugurated the construction work on the road leading to the Mes Aynak project. During the ceremony, the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs highlighted the importance of the Mes Aynak project, describing it as one of the vital and essential projects. He emphasized that a

significant amount of time has been lost on this project, and it is now imperative to expedite its practical work.

Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund reassured the officials of the contracting company that there are sufficient materials within Afghanistan to neutralize any toxic substances during the processing phase, and that this issue has been completely resolved, removing any obstacles to the project's progress. He also mentioned that he had instructed the Central Bank of Afghanistan to facilitate the necessary financial transactions for the project in cooperation with the contracting company.

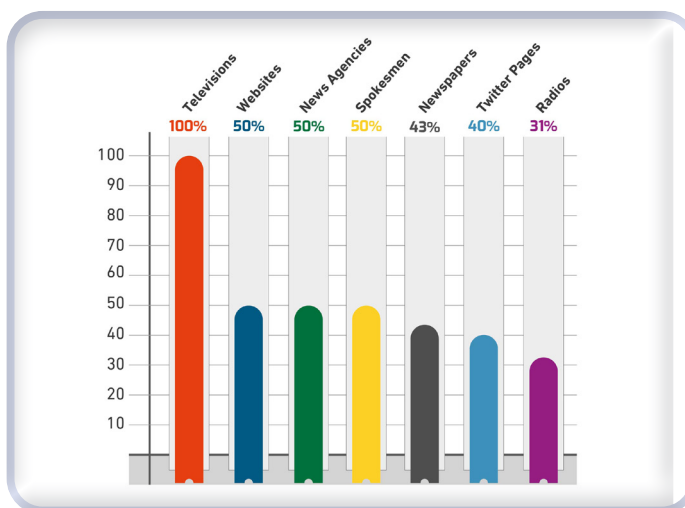
In conclusion, the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs assured the contracting company of full security for the project and congratulated the entire nation on the commencement of the practical work on this major project.

Purpose of Inaugurating the Road to Mes Aynak:

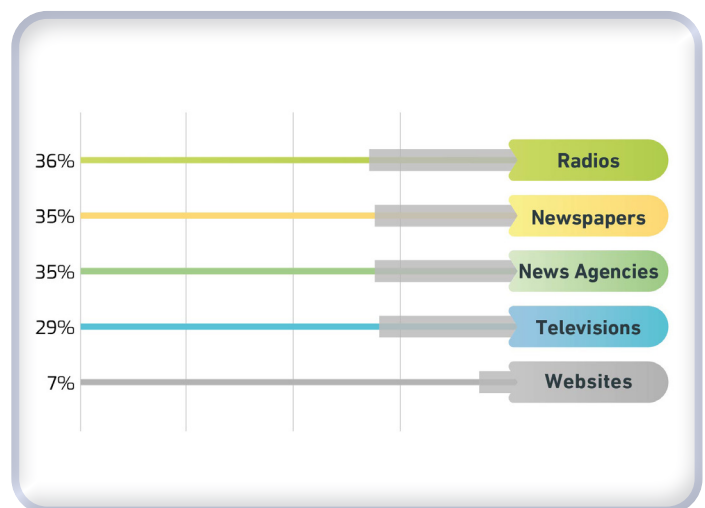
The aim is to pave the way for the initial work of the mine.

Public Feedback on Media Outlets Reporting the News:

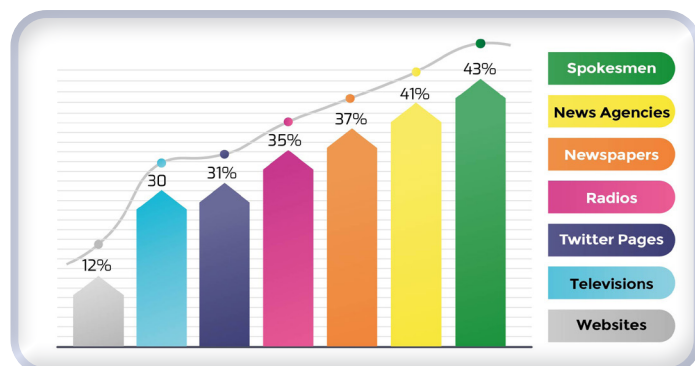
State Media:



Private Media:



The collective percentage of people's comments on private and state media:



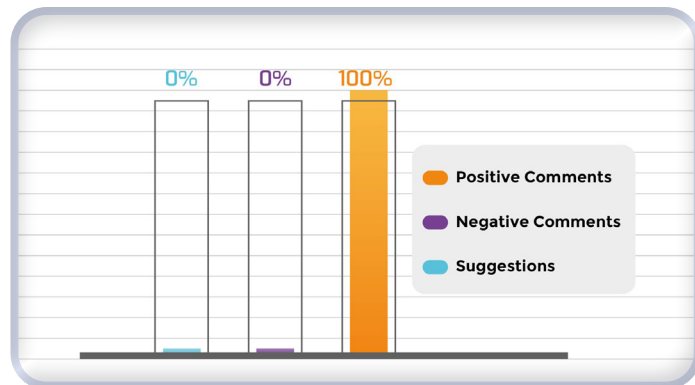
Note:

The graph illustrates the percentage of public opinions featured in both government and private media outlets regarding the establishment of export zones. These opinions were collected from video, audio, and print reports.

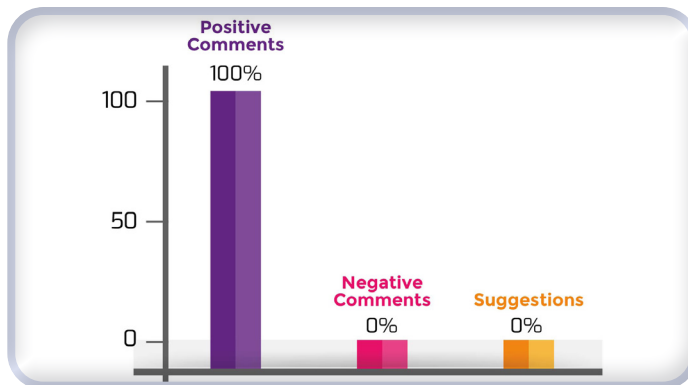
Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental and Private Media Regarding the News:

A: Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental Media

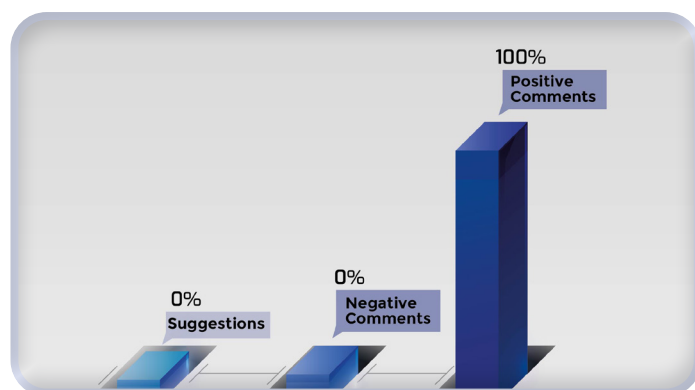
Radios



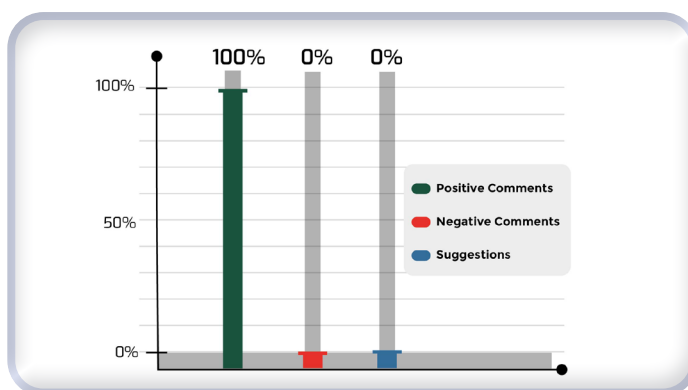
Televisions



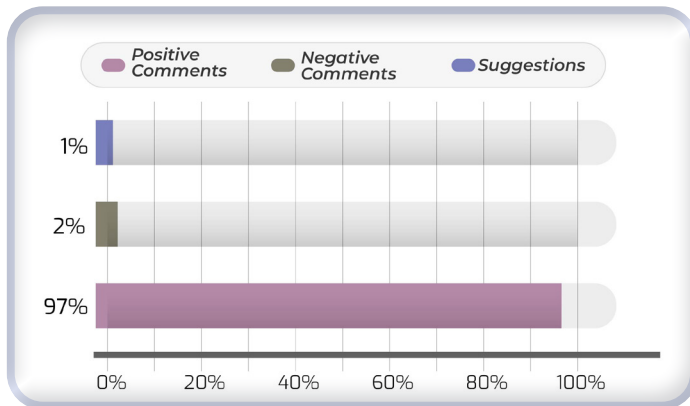
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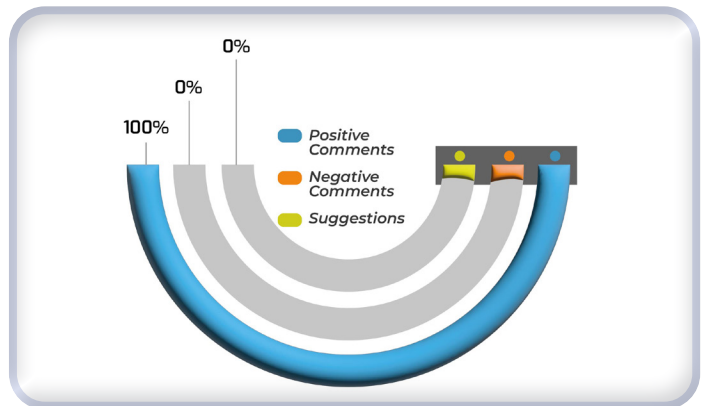
Newspaper



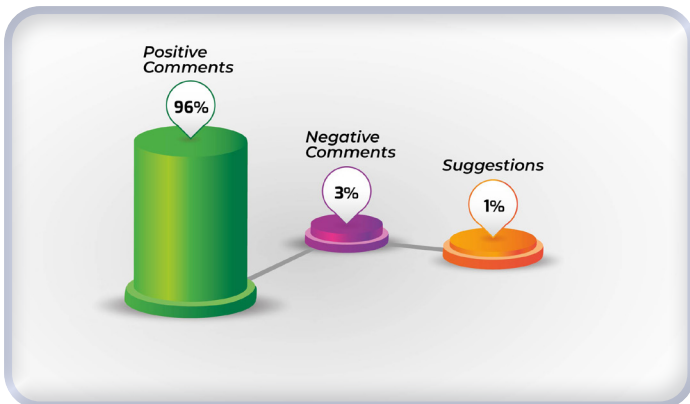
Spokesmen



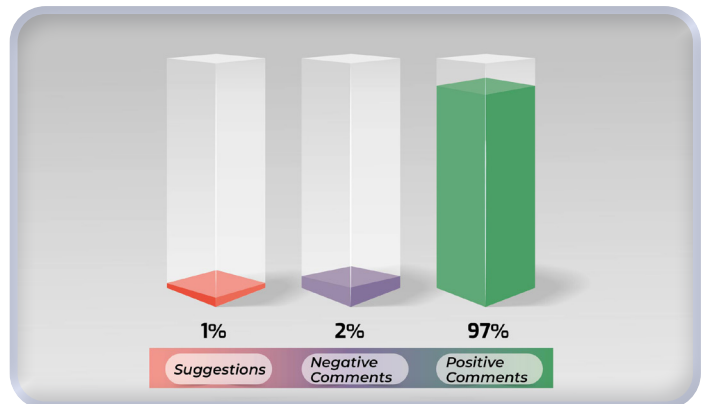
News Agencies



Twitter Pages

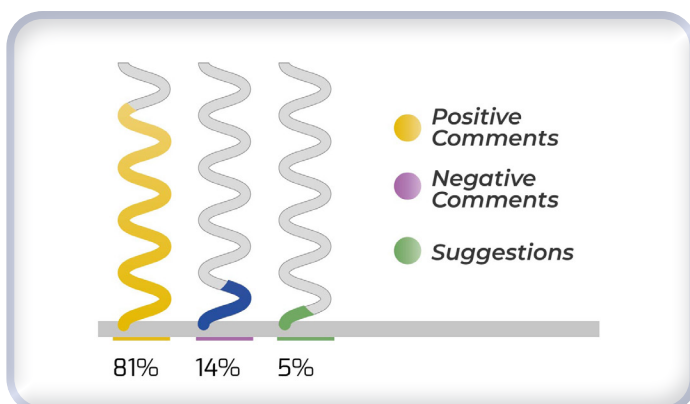


Evaluation of people's comments on state media

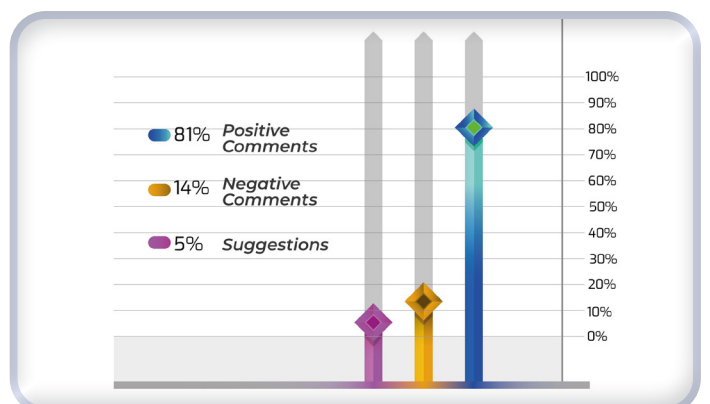


B: People's Comments on Private Media

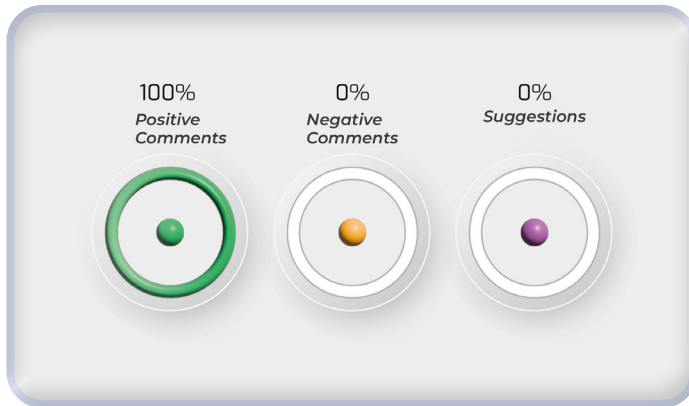
Televisions



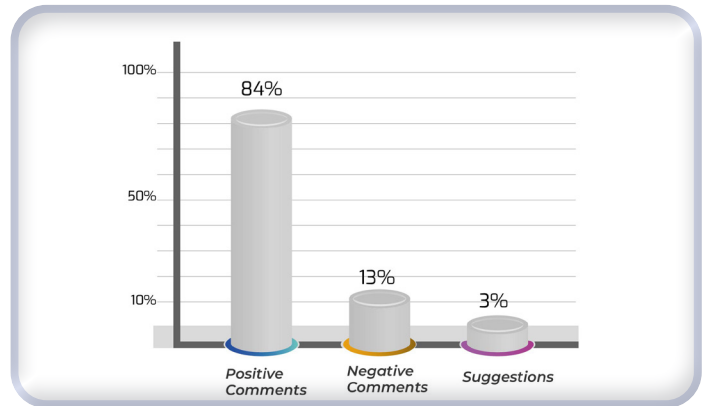
Radios



Websites



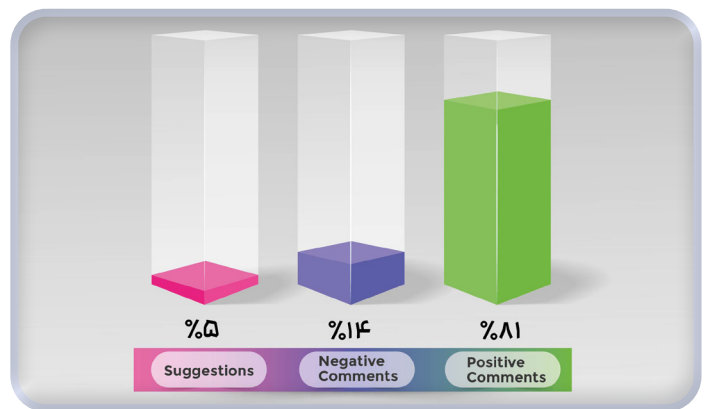
Newspapers



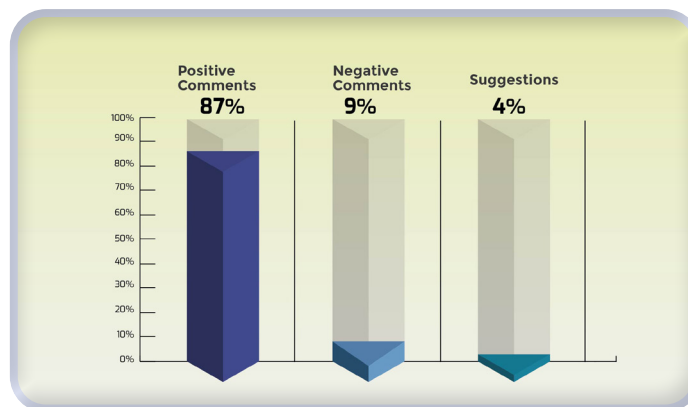
News Agencies



Evaluation of people's comments on Private media



Evaluation of people's comments on private and state media



Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in the Media Regarding the News:

We can divide the media into two categories: governmental media and private media.

1. Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental Media:

The opinions of the public in governmental media, including television, radio, newspapers, websites, spokespersons, news agencies, and Twitter pages, regarding the news are as follows:

- Total Opinions: 1350
- Positive Opinions: 1315 (97%)
- Negative Opinions: 26 (2%)
- Constructive Suggestions: 9 (1%)

Most public opinions in governmental media are positive, showing strong support for the procedure, with a small percentage of negative opinions and constructive suggestions.

2. Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Private Media:

The opinions of the public in private media, including television, radio, newspapers, websites, and news agencies, regarding the news are as follows:

- Total Opinions: 2156
- Positive Opinions: 1745 (81%)
- Negative Opinions: 300 (14%)
- Constructive Suggestions: 111 (5%)

While the positive opinions in private media are also high, the percentage of negative opinions is higher compared to governmental media, and there are more constructive suggestions.

Considering the above numbers, the percentage of positive opinions is higher in governmental media compared to private media. Governmental media have 97% positive opinions, whereas private media have 81%. Similarly, the percentage of negative opinions is higher in private media at 14%, compared to 2% in private media. When combining positive, negative opinions, and constructive suggestions from both media types, we get a total of 3060 positive opinions, 326 negative opinions, and 120 constructive suggestions, resulting in:

Overall:

- Positive Opinions: 87%
- Negative Opinions: 9%
- Constructive Suggestions: 4%

Summary of Public Opinions in Media and Social Networks:

Here, we provide a summary of a few notable opinions, including both positive and negative comments and suggestions, as the total number of opinions runs into tens, if not hundreds.

- If these mines are extracted properly, believe me, Afghans will be wealthier than the Arabs, and we will be counted among the strongest nations in the world.
- Congratulations to the entire Afghan nation. This is a significant, important, and vital project. However, government officials, particularly the esteemed Ministry of Information and Culture and the honorable intelligence authorities, should be highly vigilant about the security of this mine. With the commencement of extraction, many employment opportunities will be created for the youth.
- The initiation of some works on the Mes Aynak project is a positive step towards the progress of the people of Afghanistan.
- The current regime has always taken firm steps for the development of the country, whether in any sector. In a short period, they have established security and initiated many fundamental projects. It is essential that we support the Islamic Emirate.
- The Mes Aynak in Logar is not just a treasury of copper; it is also the site of a 5,000-year-old Buddhist city, housing hundreds of Buddha statues and other historical artifacts. The value of these artifacts is immense, and they must be preserved.

Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Media and Social Networks:

- **First**, some individuals have expressed that if the mines are professionally extracted, Afghans will become wealthy, and the country will be counted among the world's developed nations. The estimated value of Afghanistan's mineral resources, which amounts to three trillion dollars, has the potential to elevate Afghanistan from a poor nation to a wealthy one, placing it among the ranks of developed countries. However, the question remains: why have these resources not been tapped? This question has lingered unanswered for years. Available information suggests that previous governments either failed to recognize this responsibility or worked in favor of others' interests rather than the nation's. Over the past two decades, Afghanistan was governed by an administration riddled with corruption, where officials prioritized personal gains over national interests. However, with the return of the Islamic Emirate to power, officials have focused on an economy based on mineral resources, making every effort to legally, technically, and professionally extract these natural resources to strengthen and rebuild Afghanistan's economy through their revenues.

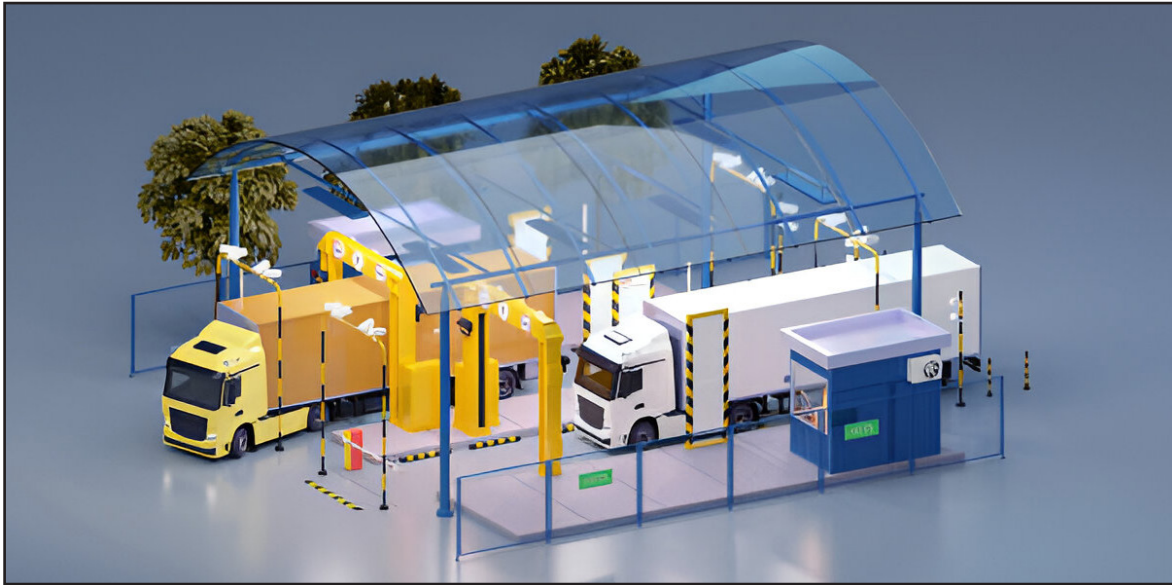
- **Second,** some citizens have described the Mes Aynak project as an important and vital initiative, urging the Islamic Emirate's security agencies to pay close attention to the security of this mine. They also pointed out that the commencement of extraction will create employment opportunities for many young people. Their perspective is commendable. Until complete security is established in the country, development cannot be achieved. Fortunately, with the Islamic Emirate's rise to power, security has been restored nationwide, putting an end to long-standing issues. Since security is now ensured across Afghanistan, the Islamic Emirate is also focused on the security of the Mes Aynak mine. The Islamic Emirate has secured not only the Mes Aynak mine but also all other infrastructure projects and mines being extracted across the country. To date, we have not witnessed any security incidents. As for providing employment opportunities for the youth, the Islamic Emirate has fully utilized all available resources to eliminate unemployment. Large, medium, and small-scale projects have been initiated across various regions of the country. In addition, the extraction of mines has begun, creating job opportunities for hundreds of thousands of people. Recently, we witnessed the National Labour Conference held in Kabul, which was organized with the goal of eradicating unemployment in the country. The Islamic Emirate has similar plans to address the unemployment issue comprehensively.
- **Third,** some commentators have highlighted the importance of preserving the ancient artifacts in the Mes Aynak area, noting that this region is home not only to copper but also to numerous valuable archaeological relics that must be protected. This is a fact—alongside the copper, this area houses thousands of ancient, valuable artifacts with an estimated value reaching millions of dollars. These ancient relics are not only materially valuable but also reveal the ancient civilizations and the artistry of the people of that era in Afghanistan. The Islamic Emirate fully understands the significance and value of these artifacts. Currently, under the Islamic Emirate, the Ministry of Information and Culture is carefully and professionally excavating these ancient relics from the Mes Aynak site and relocating them to safe locations. The delay in the Mes Aynak extraction process has been partly attributed to the careful excavation and preservation of these ancient artifacts. The Islamic Emirate is fully committed to safeguarding the ancient relics of Mes Aynak and other historical artifacts across the country, which represent Afghanistan's rich history and identity.

Conclusion

Afghanistan boasts a beautiful climate, abundant water resources, forests, vast plains, and rich underground natural reserves. The quantity of Afghanistan's natural resources is so substantial that it has the potential to transform this impoverished nation into a wealthy and prosperous country, placing it among the ranks of the world's developed nations. With the Islamic Emirate's return to power, there has been a shift towards an economy based on mineral resources. The

government aims to legally, technically, and professionally extract these natural resources, using the revenue to strengthen and rebuild Afghanistan's economy. Across the country, 186 mining contracts have been awarded, and millions of Afghanis have already been deposited into the government treasury from the mines where extraction has begun. However, contracts for several other mines have been signed, but practical work has yet to commence. Among these is the Mes Aynak copper mine, where preliminary work has progressed, but extraction has not yet officially started. The commencement of road construction leading to the mine indicates that the extraction process will likely begin soon, potentially generating \$400 million annually for Afghanistan. In addition, this project is expected to create both direct and indirect employment opportunities for thousands of people.

The Contract for Installing Electronic Scanners at 12 Customs Ports Signed



Introduction

Customs play a crucial role in the economic structure of a country, enforcing government regulations in areas such as transit, imports, and exports, among other significant sectors. Revenue collection, which is one of the fundamental functions of customs, is recognized as a vital source for the economic, political, and social development of nations. Before the re-establishment of the Islamic Emirate, widespread corruption was prevalent in customs under the previous Kabul administration. However, there is now no administrative corruption in customs, and all necessary facilities have been provided for traders. The Islamic Emirate has not stopped at this achievement and is now striving to equip customs with modern technology and bring them up to international standards to further facilitate trade and promote economic growth.

In line with these efforts, a contract was recently signed for the installation of electronic scanners at customs. This contract was signed on July 27, 2024, in the presence of the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund, between the Ministry of Finance and the private sector. The contract involves an investment of 8 billion Afghanis for the installation of 33 large and small electronic scanners across 12 customs ports in the country.

According to this agreement, the contracting company will install 24 advanced large scanners at ports including Torkham, Hairatan, Spin Boldak, Islam Qala, Torghundi, Nimroz, Abu Nasr Farahi, Khost, Paktia, Aqina, and Sher Khan, which will scan all types of goods and help prevent smuggling. The remaining smaller scanners will be installed at airports and other customs points.

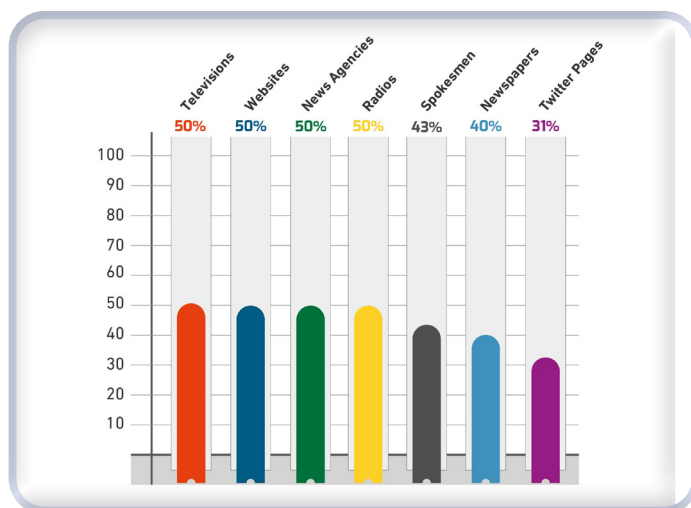
It is noteworthy that this investment plan was approved by the Inter-Ministerial Investment Committee and sanctioned by the Economic Commission, leading to the signing of the contract between the Ministry of Finance and the private sector. The private sector will invest approximately 8 billion Afghanis in these scanners, with construction expected to be completed within two years, providing job opportunities for around 2,000 people.

Purpose of the Initiative:

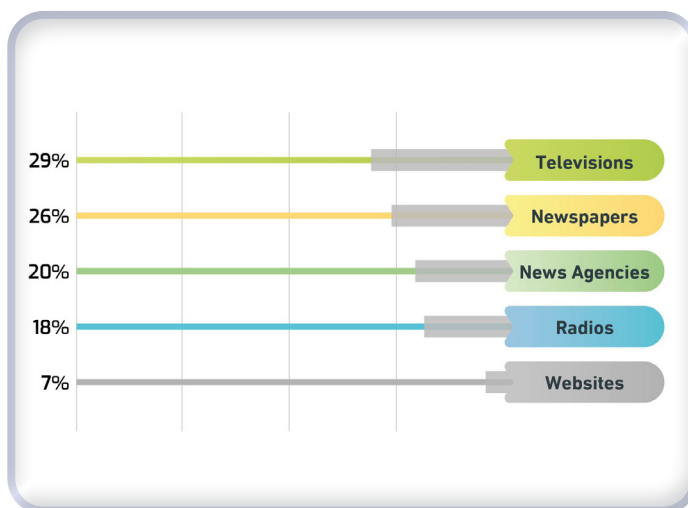
The aim is to equip the custom ports with modern technology and prevent smuggling.

Public Feedback on Media Outlets Reporting the News:

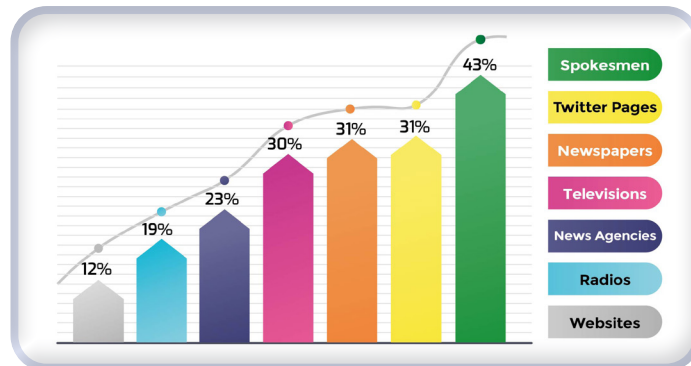
State Media:



Private Media:



The collective percentage of people's comments on private and state media:



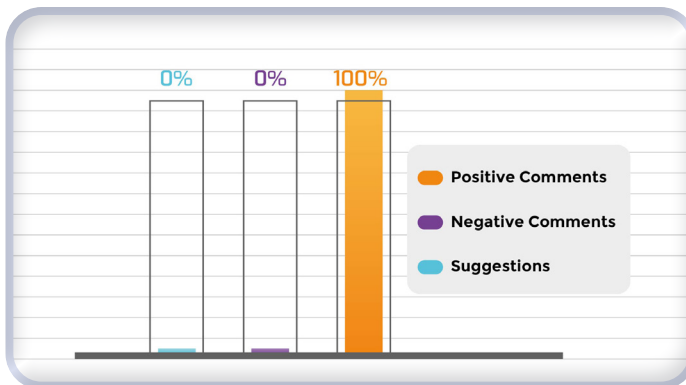
Note:

The graph illustrates the percentage of public opinions featured in both government and private media outlets regarding the establishment of export zones. These opinions were collected from video, audio, and print reports.

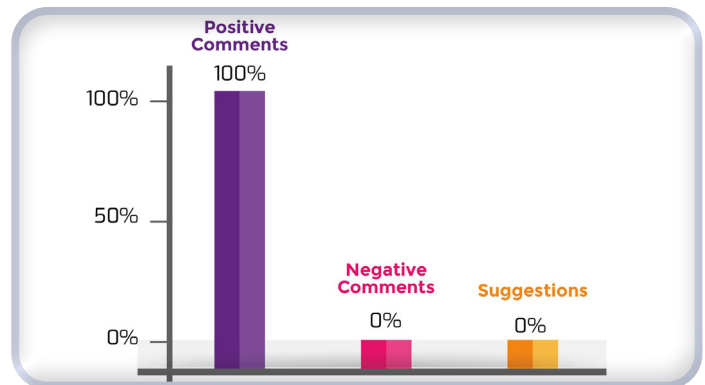
Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental and Private Media Regarding the News:

A: Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental Media

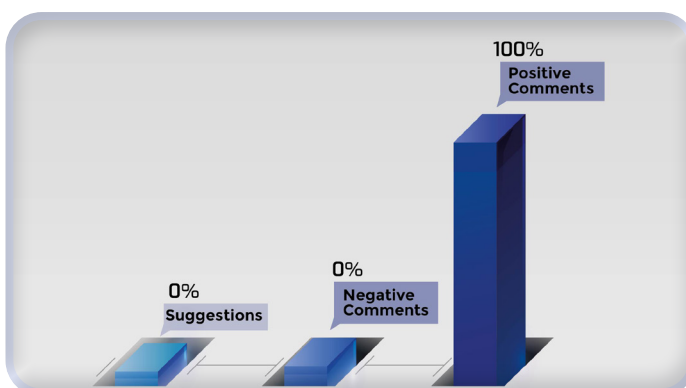
Radios



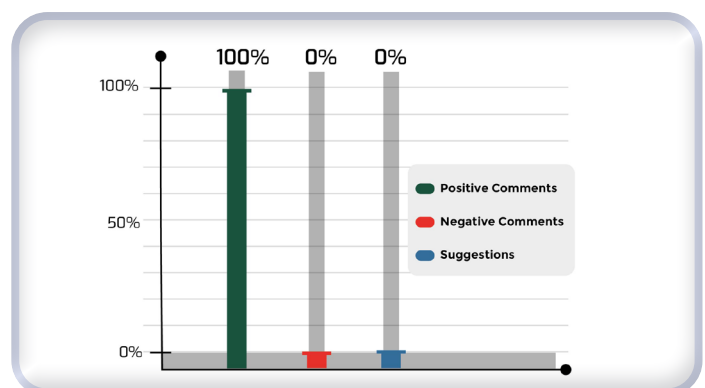
Televisions



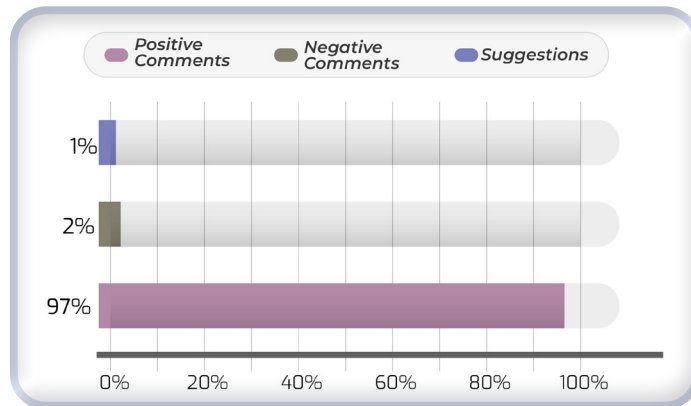
Websites



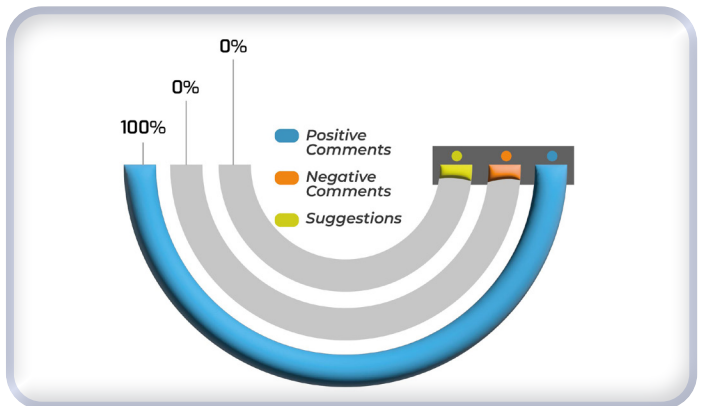
Newspaper



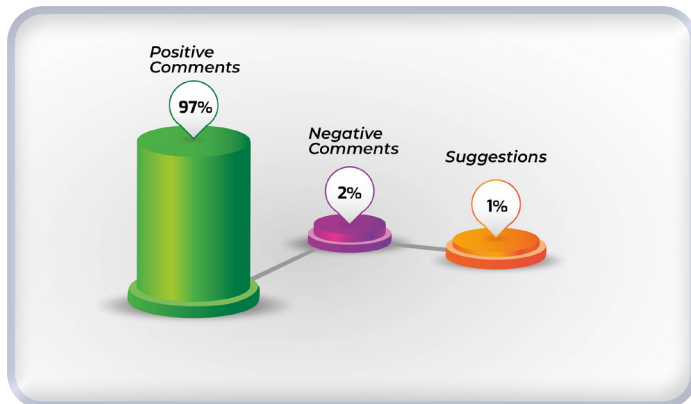
Spokesmen



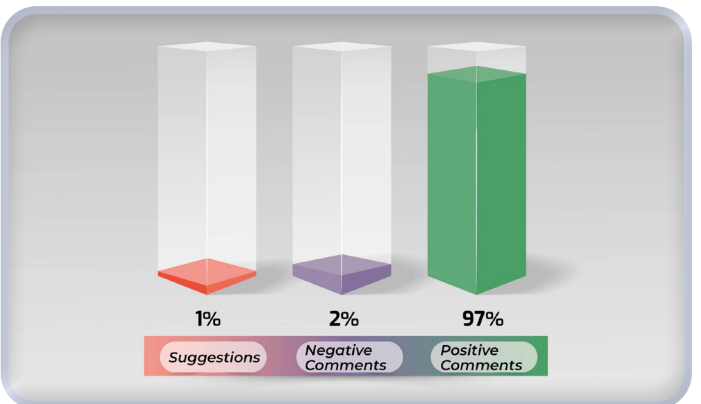
News Agencies



Twitter Pages

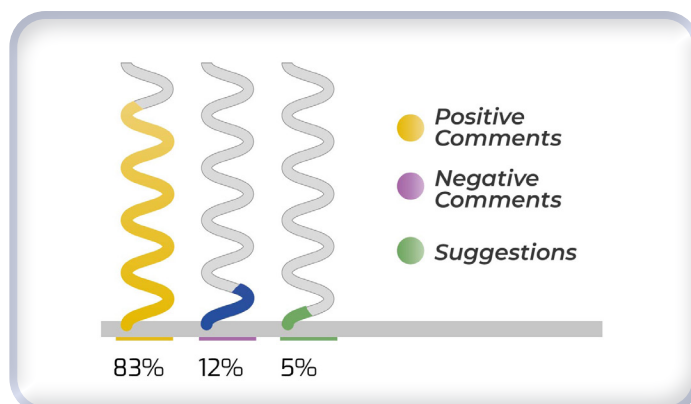


Evaluation of people's comments on state media

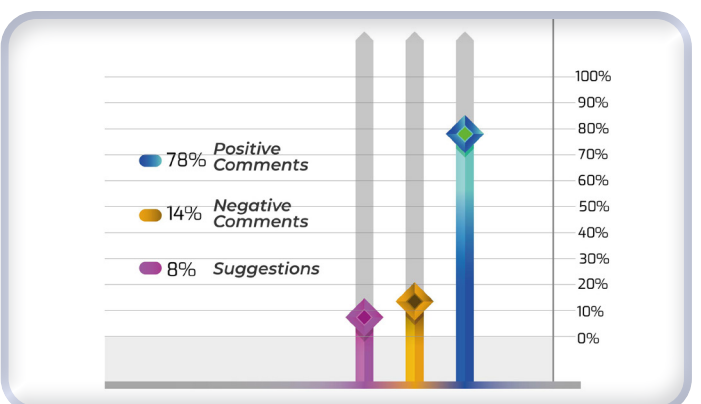


B: People's Comments on Private Media

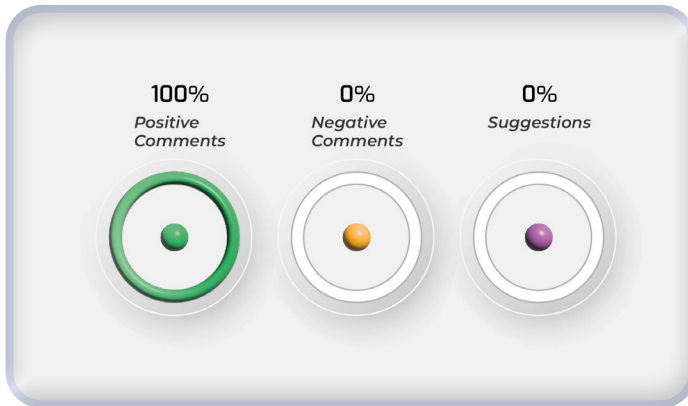
Televisions



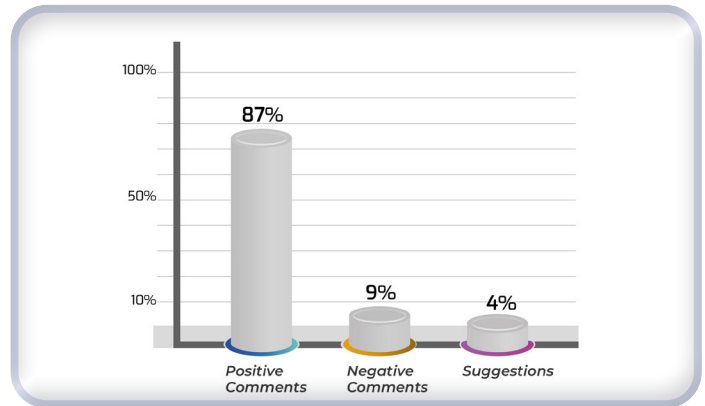
Radios



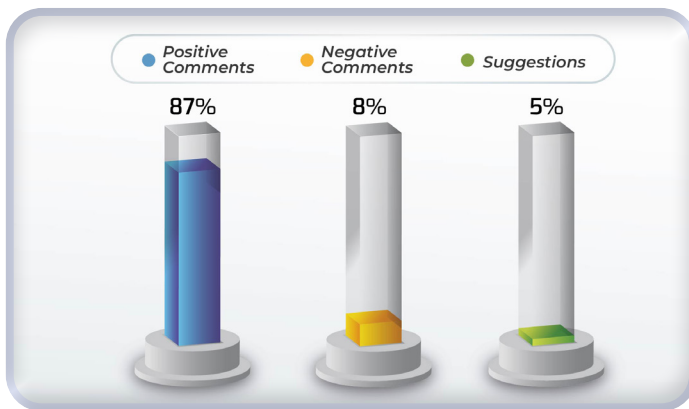
Websites



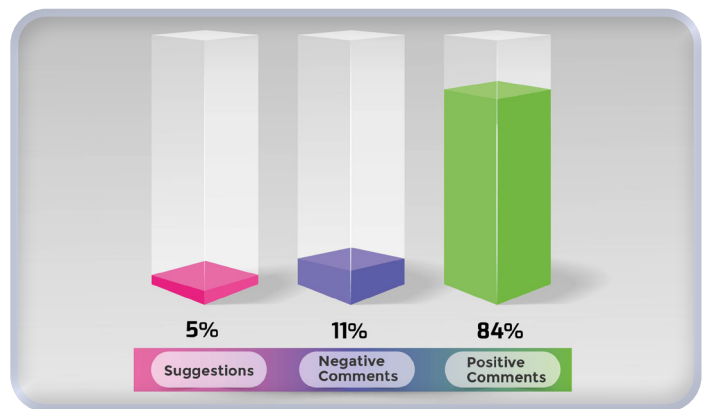
Newspapers



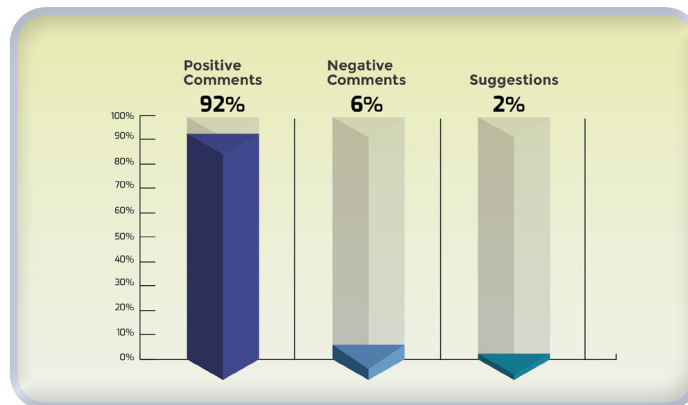
News Agencies



Evaluation of people's comments on Private media



Evaluation of people's comments on private and state media



Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in the Media Regarding the News:

We can divide the media into two categories: governmental media and private media.

1. Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental Media:

The opinions of the public in governmental media, including television, radio, newspapers, websites, spokespersons, news agencies, and Twitter pages, regarding the news are as follows:

- Total Opinions: 868
- Positive Opinions: 847 (97%)
- Negative Opinions: 18 (2%)
- Constructive Suggestions: 3 (1%)

Most public opinions in governmental media are positive, showing strong support for the procedure, with a small percentage of negative opinions and constructive suggestions.

2. Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Private Media:

The opinions of the public in private media, including television, radio, newspapers, websites, and news agencies, regarding the news are as follows:

- Total Opinions: 612
- Positive Opinions: 514 (84%)
- Negative Opinions: 67 (11%)
- Constructive Suggestions: 31 (5%)

While the positive opinions in private media are also high, the percentage of negative opinions is higher compared to governmental media, and there are more constructive suggestions.

Considering the above numbers, the percentage of positive opinions is higher in governmental media compared to private media. Governmental media have 97% positive opinions, whereas private media have 84%. Similarly, the percentage of negative opinions is higher in private media at 11%, compared to 2% in private media. When combining positive, negative opinions, and constructive suggestions from both media types, we get a total of 1361 positive opinions, 85 negative opinions, and 34 constructive suggestions, resulting in:

Overall:

- Positive Opinions: 92%
- Negative Opinions: 6%
- Constructive Suggestions: 2%

Summary of Public Opinions in Media and Social Networks:

Here, we provide a summary of a few notable opinions, including both positive and negative comments and suggestions, as the total number of opinions runs into tens, if not hundreds.

- This is a commendable initiative that will be highly effective in preventing smuggling and corruption. The Islamic Emirate has consistently taken steps to curb corruption.
- It is a good step and should be implemented. It will be highly beneficial from a security perspective.
- The installation of electronic scanners will prevent the smuggling of money and precious metals that are currently being taken out of Afghanistan by some individuals in transport vehicles.
- This is a positive move, but initially, it is essential to focus on improving internal roads at customs, organized gates, standard parking facilities, and warehouses. After addressing these needs, scanners and advanced technology should be utilized.

Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Media and Social Networks:

- **First**, several individuals have praised the initiative to install electronic scanners at the country's customs points, noting that this will be highly effective in preventing smuggling and corruption. Since the rise of the Islamic Emirate, not only has security been established nationwide, but corruption has also been eradicated from Afghanistan. In contrast, during the previous Kabul administration, administrative corruption was rampant across various government sectors, including customs. This widespread corruption resulted in customs revenues not being collected as they should have been, which negatively impacted our trade. The Islamic Emirate has not only eliminated corruption in customs but is also striving to bring Afghanistan's customs to international standards. The installation of electronic scanners is part of this effort, which will help to prevent smuggling attempts. Moreover, these scanners will contribute to the expansion of our trade and earn the trust of international traders.
- **Second**, some citizens have highlighted the importance of installing electronic scanners in customs for enhancing security. This is a valid point, as there are always foreign elements attempting to disrupt a country's security for their own gains. Many such individuals smuggle security-threatening items into the country under the guise of commercial goods. However, under the Islamic Emirate's leadership, Afghanistan has a government that controls the entire country and has established comprehensive security, preventing anyone from disrupting it. Those who have attempted to compromise security have been swiftly dealt with by the Islamic Emirate's police, national army, and intelligence forces.

The installation of electronic scanners at customs will play a crucial role in preventing the smuggling of weapons and other explosive materials, in addition to other contraband.

- **Third**, some citizens have suggested that, alongside the installation of scanners, internal roads, standard parking facilities, and warehouses at customs should also be improved. This is a sound suggestion. If a country aims to have customs facilities that meet international standards, it should not only focus on technology but also on building parking facilities for the transport vehicles involved in exports and imports. Since the rise of the Islamic Emirate, several new facilities have been constructed at many of the country's customs points, including the improvement of internal roads. The Islamic Emirate has signed contracts with various companies in this regard and has attracted investment for modernizing customs. Over time, our customs facilities will become fully standardized, ready not just for domestic trade but for international commerce as well. Many parts of our country have suffered due to invasions and occupations, so rebuilding and modernizing these areas will take time. However, the Islamic Emirate has taken significant steps in this direction, and these efforts are expanding with each passing day.

Conclusion

If we delve into the pages of Afghanistan's history, it becomes evident that this ancient country has long been a crossroads for trade routes and a key segment of the Silk Road. Consequently, Indian, Chinese, Iranian, and Arab traders were compelled to offer a portion of their goods, by weight, number, or volume, to the authorities according to the customs of the time when passing through these routes. The fees collected, whether in cash or in kind, for customs duties were known by various names throughout different periods, such as «Rahdari,» «Darwazah Dari,» «Shahri Dari,» «Tanga Poli,» «Shpeeta Yaw,» «Lasa Yaw,» and others. From that time until now, every country has maintained its customs system, with customs duties being a crucial source of internal revenue. However, due to invasions and occupations, Afghanistan's customs have not progressed as needed. Before the Islamic Emirate's establishment, the Kabul administration was rife with corruption, particularly in customs revenue collection. A significant portion of the revenue was embezzled into private accounts, and no efforts were made to modernize the customs system. With the rise of the Islamic Emirate, just as significant attention has been given to other sectors, efforts are now also being made to modernize customs operations. The Islamic Emirate is striving to bring customs procedures in line with international standards and to expand trade. The installation of electronic scanners at customs checkpoints is a part of these efforts. With these scanners in place, trade will not only expand but traders will also benefit from greater convenience.

Discussions Held Between Afghanistan and Turkmenistan Regarding the TAPI Project



Introduction

Through trade and economic cooperation with other countries, a nation can present its products and services to international markets. An increase in exports and imports accelerates economic growth and raises income levels. Additionally, establishing relations with other countries is crucial for attracting foreign investment. Moreover, maintaining relationships with other nations enables a country to receive humanitarian assistance during natural disasters, famines, and similar events. International relations are also valuable for securing development aid. By cooperating with international organizations and developed countries, a nation can obtain financial and technical support for reconstruction and development, which is particularly beneficial for building infrastructure.

The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan has expanded its relations with countries worldwide, especially those in the region, and has made progress in this area. To this end, on August 8, 2024, the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund, held a comprehensive video conference with the Foreign Minister of Turkmenistan. The discussions

focused on bilateral political, economic, and commercial cooperation, as well as the practical implementation of the TAPI project on Afghan soil, the expansion of the railway station at the Torgundi port, and the facilitation of transit and transport.

During the talks, the Deputy Prime Minister emphasized that the Islamic Emirate and Turkmenistan have strong political and economic relations, and both sides should work to further strengthen these ties. He also highlighted that Afghanistan and Turkmenistan share common interests in various sectors, and the current environment is favorable for achieving these interests. He noted that the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan is pursuing an economy-focused foreign policy, with a primary emphasis on regional connectivity, and to achieve this goal, the cooperation of regional countries, particularly Turkmenistan, is essential.

The Foreign Minister of Turkmenistan, referring to the friendly relations between Afghanistan and Turkmenistan, stated that his country is ready to commence work on the TAPI project on Afghan soil soon to further expand political and economic ties with Afghanistan. He also mentioned that Turkmenistan plans to invest in Afghanistan's electricity and railway network sectors.

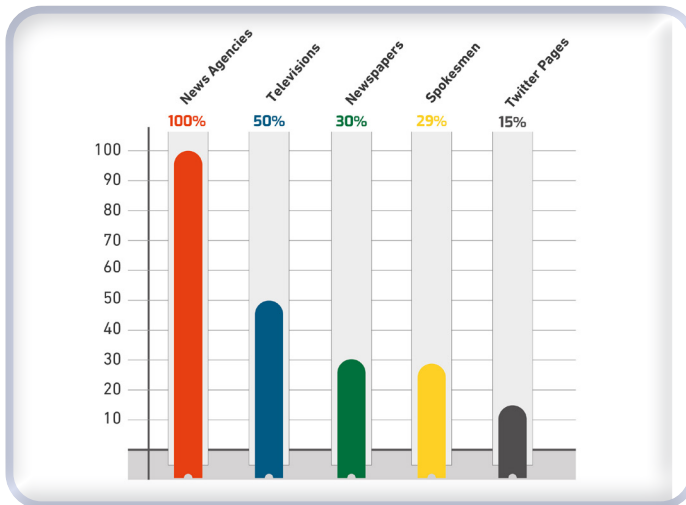
Deputy PM Mullah Baradar Akhund stated that both countries would continue to work jointly on various shared issues to maximize the opportunities created for the benefit of both nations. In conclusion, the Foreign Minister of Turkmenistan extended an invitation to Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund to visit Turkmenistan at a convenient time.

Purpose of the Initiative:

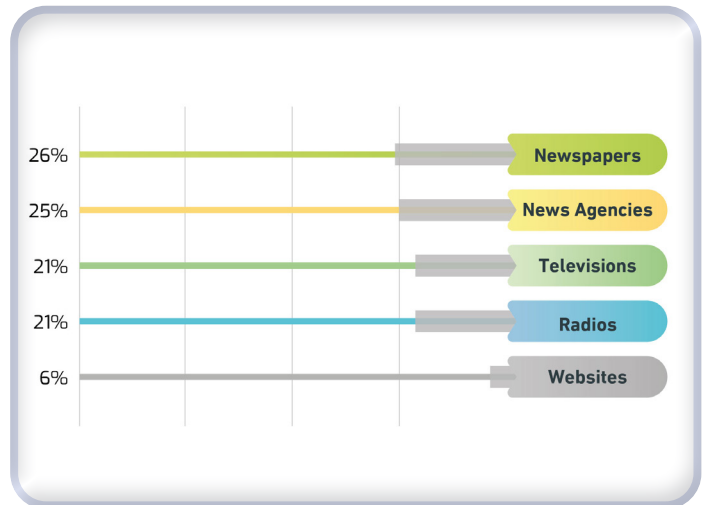
The aim is to implement large-scale projects in the country and pave the way for economic growth through this way.

Public Feedback on Media Outlets Reporting the News:

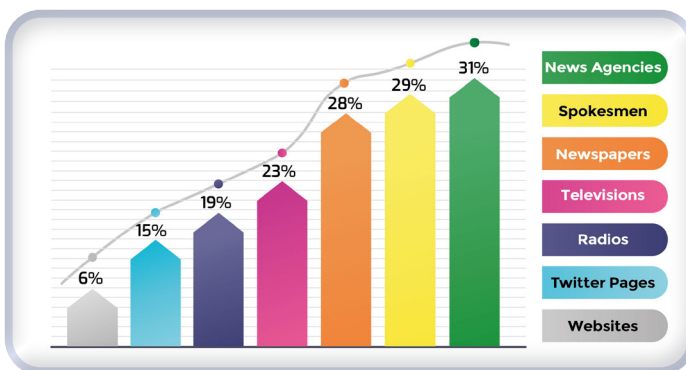
State Media:



Private Media:



The collective percentage of people's comments on private and state media:



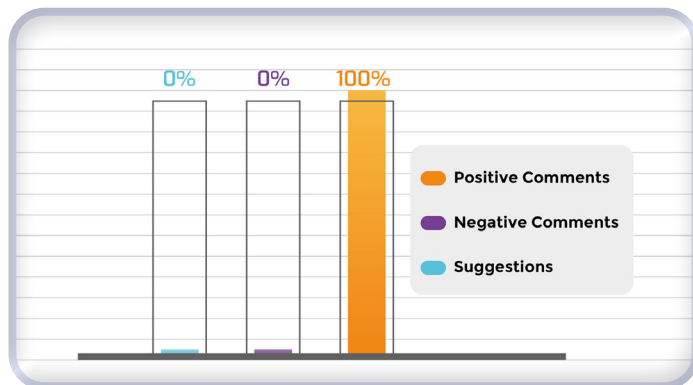
Note:

The graph illustrates the percentage of public opinions featured in both government and private media outlets regarding the establishment of export zones. These opinions were collected from video, audio, and print reports.

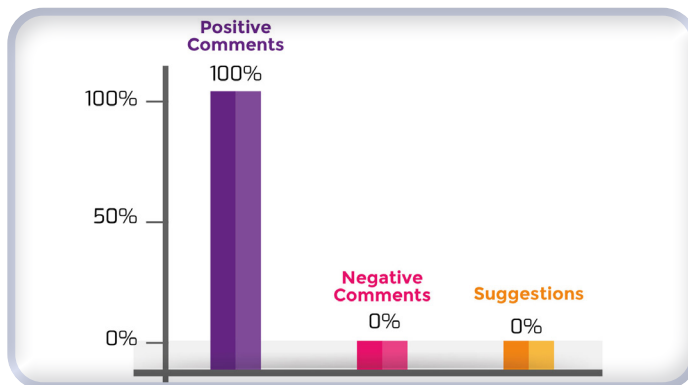
Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental and Private Media Regarding the News:

A: Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental Media

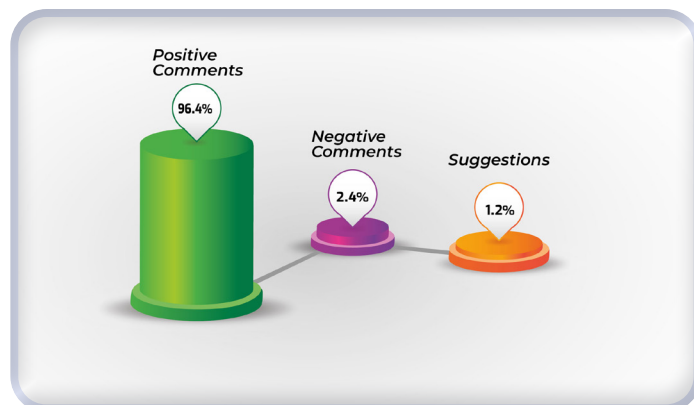
Radios



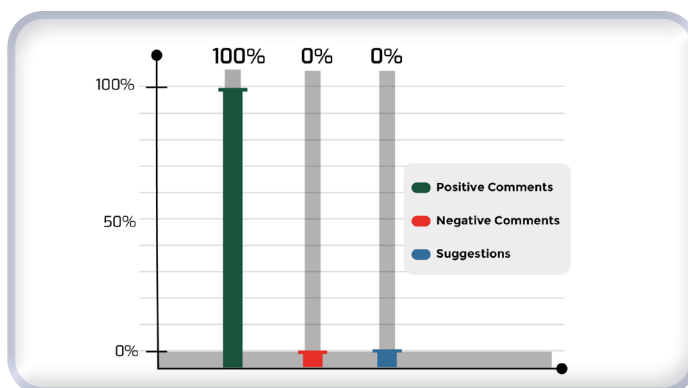
Televisions



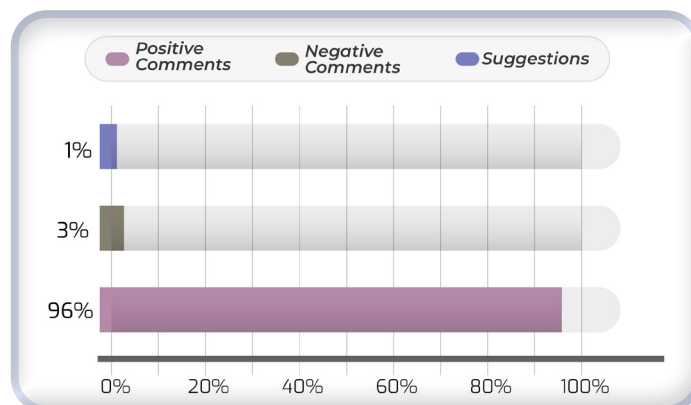
Twitter Pages



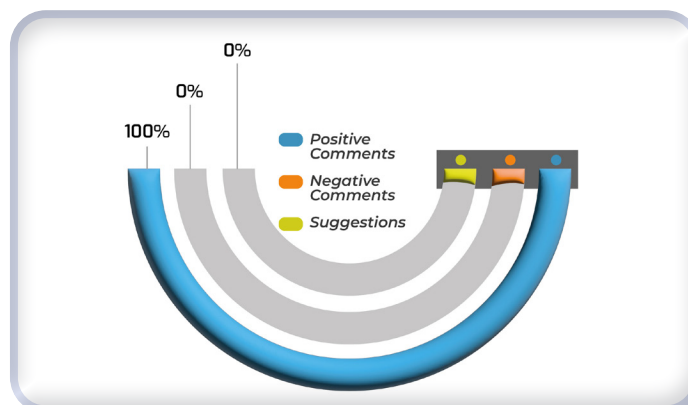
Newspaper



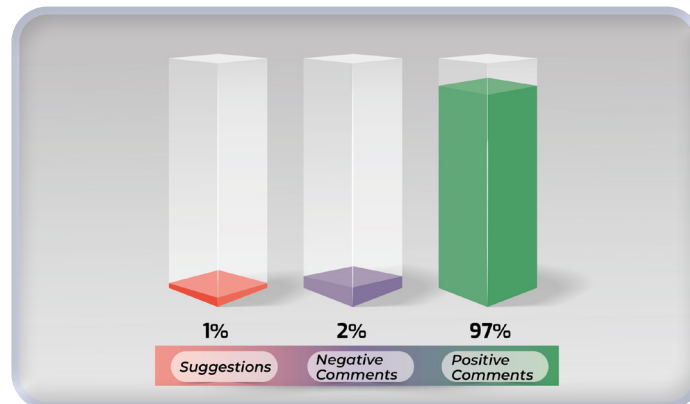
Spokesmen



News Agencies

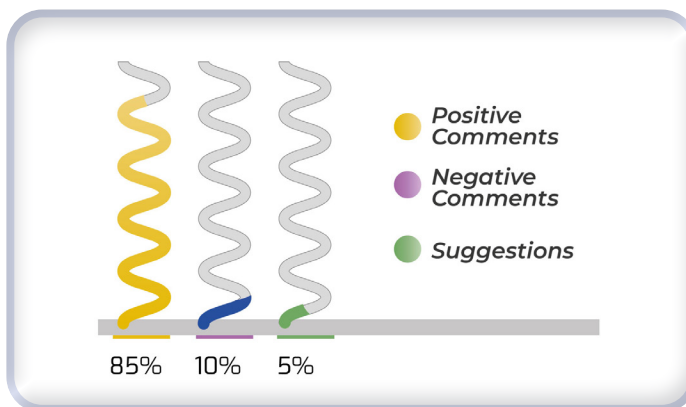


Evaluation of people's comments on state media

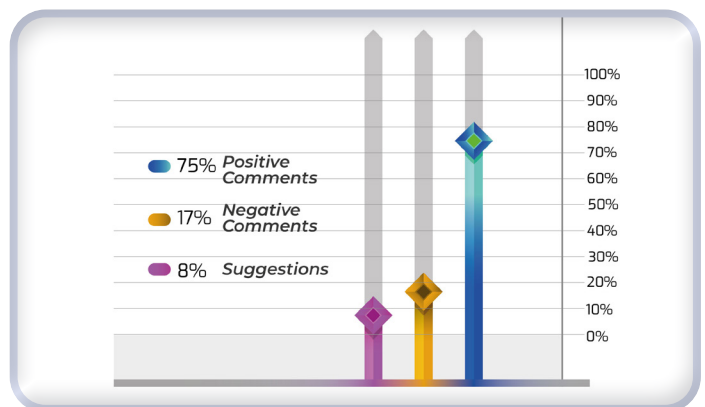


B: People's Comments on Private Media

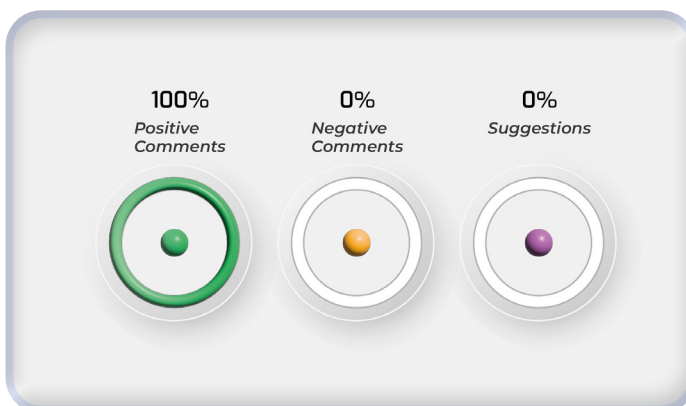
Televisions



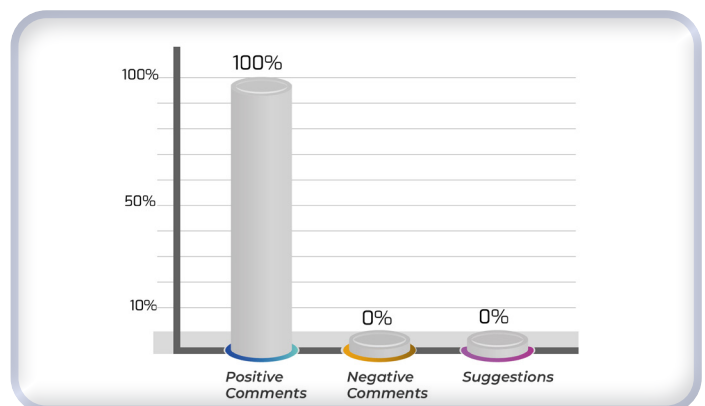
Radios



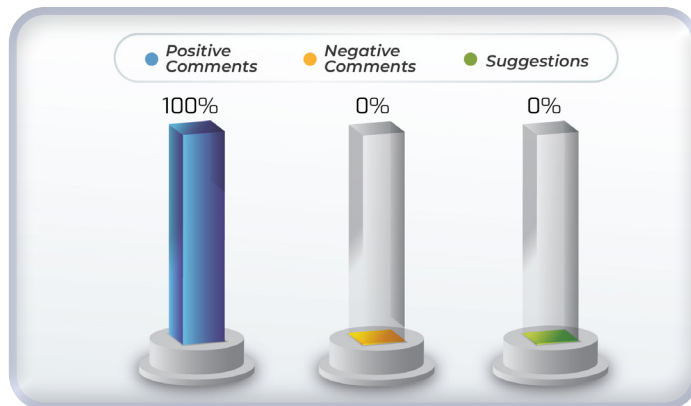
Websites



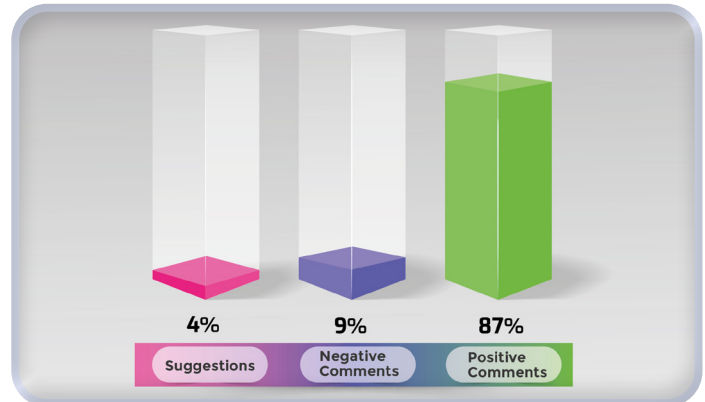
Newspapers



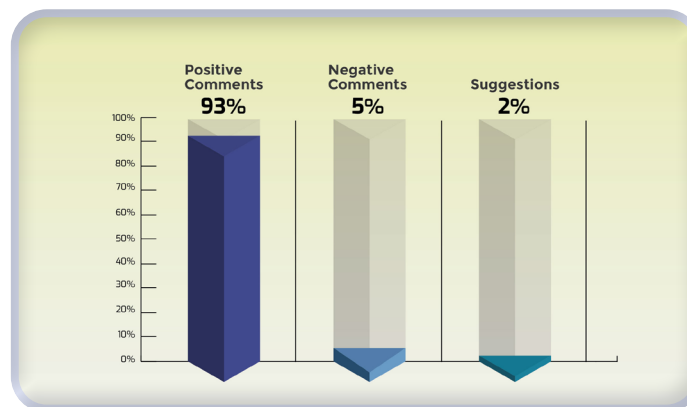
News Agencies



Evaluation of people's comments on Private media



Evaluation of people's comments on private and state media



Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in the Media Regarding the News:

We can divide the media into two categories: governmental media and private media.

1. Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental Media:

The opinions of the public in governmental media, including television, radio, newspapers, websites, spokespersons, news agencies, and Twitter pages, regarding the news are as follows:

- Total Opinions: 440
- Positive Opinions: 425 (97%)
- Negative Opinions: 10 (2%)
- Constructive Suggestions: 5 (1%)

Most public opinions in governmental media are positive, showing strong support for the procedure, with a small percentage of negative opinions and constructive suggestions.

2. Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Private Media:

The opinions of the public in private media, including television, radio, newspapers, websites, and news agencies, regarding the news are as follows:

- Total Opinions: 251
- Positive Opinions: 218 (87%)
- Negative Opinions: 22 (9%)
- Constructive Suggestions: 11 (4%)

While the positive opinions in private media are also high, the percentage of negative opinions is higher compared to governmental media, and there are more constructive suggestions.

Considering the above numbers, the percentage of positive opinions is higher in governmental media compared to private media. Governmental media have 97% positive opinions, whereas private media have 87%. Similarly, the percentage of negative opinions is higher in private media at 9%, compared to 2% in private media. When combining positive, negative opinions, and constructive suggestions from both media types, we get a total of 643 positive opinions, 32 negative opinions, and 16 constructive suggestions, resulting in:

Overall:

- Positive Opinions: 93%
- Negative Opinions: 5%
- Constructive Suggestions: 2%

Summary of Public Opinions in Media and Social Networks:

Here, we provide a summary of a few notable opinions, including both positive and negative comments and suggestions, as the total number of opinions runs into tens, if not hundreds.

- Discussions were held between the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs and the Foreign Minister of Turkmenistan on bilateral relations and several projects. The commitments made by the Foreign Minister of Turkmenistan regarding investment in the TAPI project, electricity, and railway sectors are promising. We are hopeful that these projects will contribute to improving the country's economic situation and developing infrastructure.

- The TAPI project is a major initiative and a significant achievement for Afghanistan; it is crucial to fully capitalize on this opportunity.
- We hope that our country will be rebuilt, and our young people will no longer have to risk their lives on perilous journeys to foreign countries in search of a livelihood.

Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Media and Social Networks:

- **First**, some citizens have expressed optimism regarding the discussions between the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs and the Foreign Minister of Turkmenistan, particularly concerning bilateral relations and investments in the TAPI project, electricity, and railway sectors. They believe that these projects and investments will significantly contribute to improving the country's economic condition and developing its infrastructure. Indeed, fundamental projects and foreign investments across various sectors play a crucial role in economic growth and infrastructure development. The TAPI gas pipeline is a significant economic achievement for the region, especially for Afghanistan. Through transit fees, Afghanistan stands to earn between \$400 and \$500 million annually from this pipeline. Moreover, the project will indirectly boost the economy by increasing people's incomes, reducing unemployment, expanding industry, lowering gas prices within the country, and enhancing Afghanistan's economic and strategic position in Central and South Asia. Furthermore, the economy of any society or country relies heavily on investment. It is through investment that production is generated, which, in turn, unites people's efforts and activities towards economic dynamism. Some are directly involved in the production process, others provide raw materials, some are responsible for marketing, and many are engaged in various other sectors. All these activities stem from investment. Therefore, investment must be encouraged, supported, and promoted to stimulate the economic system. Foreign investment is particularly vital for developing countries where domestic investors may lack sufficient capital to invest across all sectors. Recognizing the importance of fundamental projects and foreign investment, the Islamic Emirate is striving to initiate such projects within the country and attract foreign investment. The core focus of the discussions between the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund, and the Foreign Minister of Turkmenistan was centered on these two points. The initiation of the TAPI project will not only increase the country's revenue but also create employment opportunities for thousands of individuals. Additionally, investments from Turkmenistan in electricity and railway sectors will resolve our electricity issues, and the construction of railways will facilitate international trade.
- **Second**, some individuals have described the TAPI project as a significant initiative and an important achievement for Afghanistan. Indeed, the implementation of the TAPI project is crucial and holds great importance. This project is significant for Afghanistan in several

ways: First, Afghanistan will earn \$200 million in transit fees over ten years from this project. Second, the project will create direct and indirect employment opportunities for thousands of Afghans. Third, Afghanistan's revenue will increase due to this project. Additionally, according to the contract, Afghanistan will export its surplus gas from this pipeline to Pakistan and India. Furthermore, Afghanistan will meet its gas energy demand at a lower cost for thirty years. This project not only benefits Afghanistan but also holds economic value for Turkmenistan. Currently, Turkmenistan ranks fourth globally in terms of natural gas reserves and can export its natural gas to Afghanistan, Pakistan, and India through this project, thereby earning substantial revenue. Additionally, Turkmenistan can expand its economic and trade relations with Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, and other countries, securing a unique position in global trade markets. This highlights the importance of the TAPI project, which should be expedited towards completion. The Islamic Emirate is also striving to pave the way for other significant projects, such as CASA-1000, TUTAP, and TAP, alongside the TAPI project in the electricity sector.

- **Third,** some people have highlighted the issue of unemployment in the country, expressing hope that our nation will be rebuilt so that young people do not have to risk their lives on perilous journeys to foreign countries in search of a livelihood. Unemployment is a social issue that has persisted throughout history. Today, financial difficulties in both developed and developing countries have led to an increase in unemployment and poverty levels. Afghanistan is among the countries grappling with unemployment due to various reasons, including occupation, the failure of previous governments' plans, international sanctions, the suspension of aid from international organizations, imbalanced exports, and other factors. These are all reasons that have exacerbated unemployment in Afghanistan, leading to numerous economic challenges for the people. The Islamic Emirate is aware of the negative impacts and consequences of this problem. Therefore, it has focused all its efforts on addressing this issue. The Islamic Emirate has already initiated several fundamental projects to reduce unemployment, including mining extraction, expanding transit and trade, and supporting the industrial and agricultural sectors. Recently, the National Labour Conference was held in Kabul, aimed at finding viable solutions to the unemployment issue. These are some of the measures the Islamic Emirate has taken to eliminate unemployment. The goal is to create more job opportunities, ensure employment for the people, and engage the young workforce within the country.

Conclusion

The Islamic Emirate has consistently emphasized its stance towards neighboring countries, asserting its desire for good relations with all nations, especially those in the region. Currently, Afghanistan maintains its political and economic relations with neighboring countries. However, the foreign policy of the Islamic Emirate is largely economically driven. Given Afghanistan's economic challenges, the Islamic Emirate is striving to strengthen its economy by expanding economic ties with neighboring, regional, and global countries. To achieve this, it is necessary to move forward with the implementation of regional projects that can play a positive role in the country's economic growth. One such project is the TAPI pipeline, which holds significant economic value. Moreover, the Islamic Emirate has accelerated its efforts to attract foreign investment. So far, several major companies have expressed interest in investing in various sectors in Afghanistan. Once these large-scale regional projects are implemented and foreign investment is attracted to the country, Afghanistan's economic growth will accelerate, and the country will soon become economically self-reliant.

The Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs Met with Several Iranian Investors



Introduction

Developing countries often encourage and attract foreign investment to spur economic growth. Significant investment leads to economic development and prosperity. Since domestic capital in developing countries is often limited and may not suffice for rapid economic growth, foreign investment becomes crucial to achieving this goal. Foreign investment plays a vital role in the economic development of a country by creating numerous job opportunities and reducing unemployment. It also brings new technology and skilled human resources to the host country, increases labor productivity, and fosters the growth of trade. When these elements come together, living standards rise, economic expansion occurs, and ultimately, economic stability is achieved.

Recognizing the importance of investment, particularly foreign investment, the Islamic Emirate has accelerated its efforts in this area. On August 12, 2023, the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund, met with several Iranian investors at his office. During this meeting, the Iranian investors expressed their interest in investing in Afghanistan,

specifically in the extraction and processing of iron ore, the production of solar energy, the expansion of road and rail networks, the establishment of standard industrial factories, and the creation of a special industrial zone between the two countries. The Iranian investors further stated that Afghanistan has become a favorable country for investment, and they are ready to invest in these areas, share their experiences, and provide training opportunities for Afghans in their country to enhance capacity building.

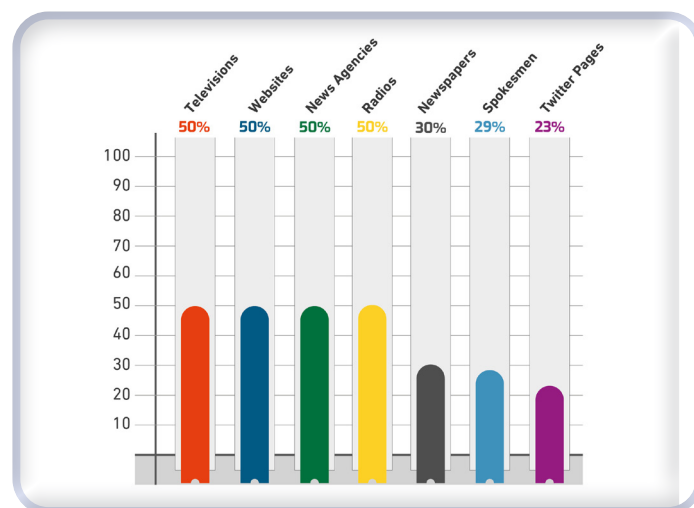
Following this, the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs welcomed the interest of Iranian investors in various sectors in Afghanistan and assured them of the Islamic Emirate's full cooperation in these areas. He added that the relevant ministries and agencies would closely cooperate and work with the investors in their respective sectors.

Purpose of the Initiative:

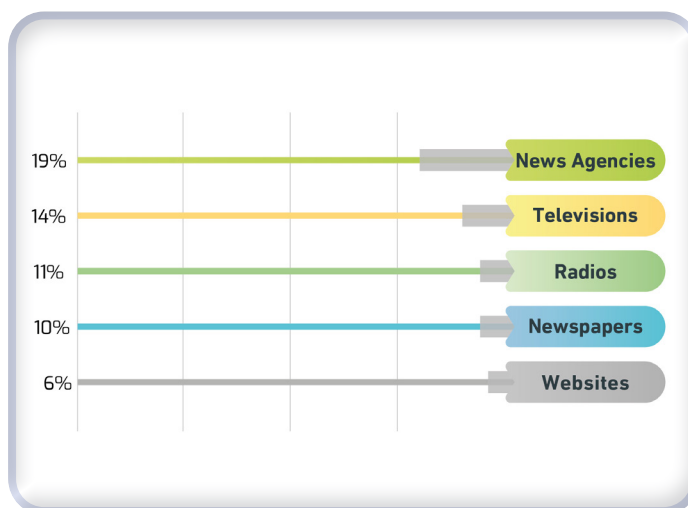
The aim is to attract foreign investment to the country and help the economic sectors grow and overall pave the way for economic growth.

Public Feedback on Media Outlets Reporting the News:

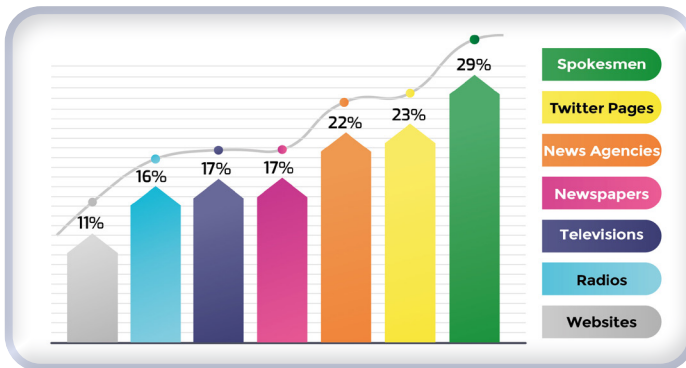
State Media:



Private Media:



The collective percentage of people's comments on private and state media:



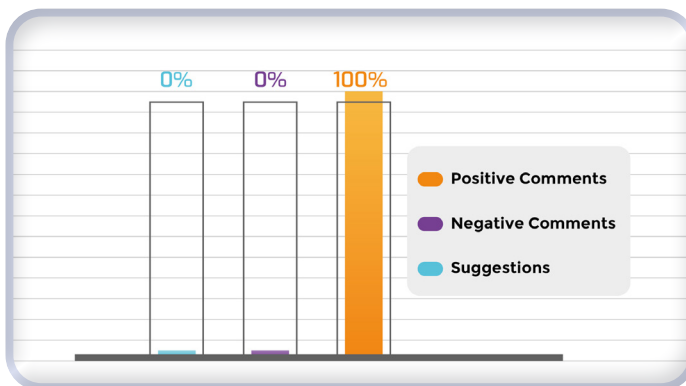
Note:

The graph illustrates the percentage of public opinions featured in both government and private media outlets regarding the establishment of export zones. These opinions were collected from video, audio, and print reports.

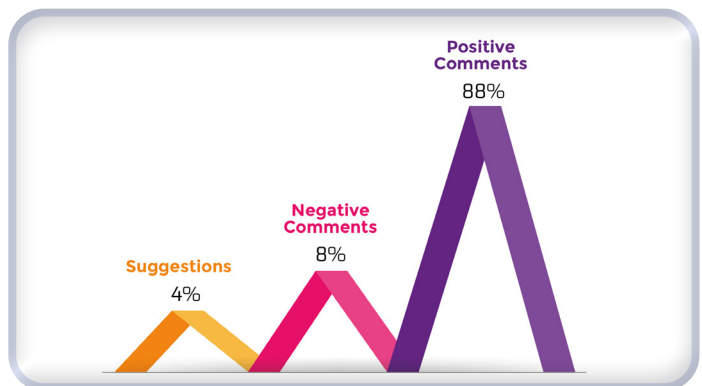
Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental and Private Media Regarding the News:

A: Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental Media

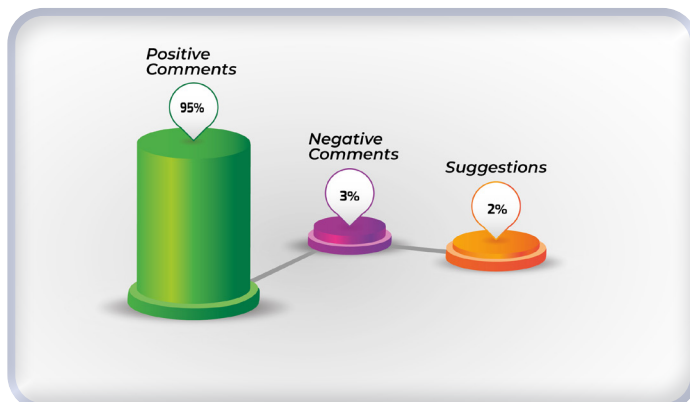
Radios



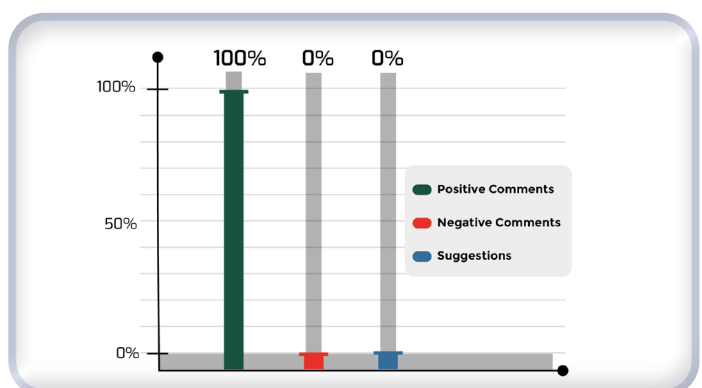
Televisions



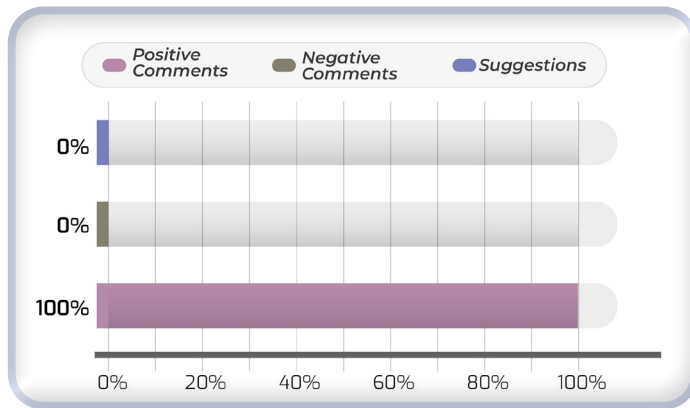
Twitter Pages



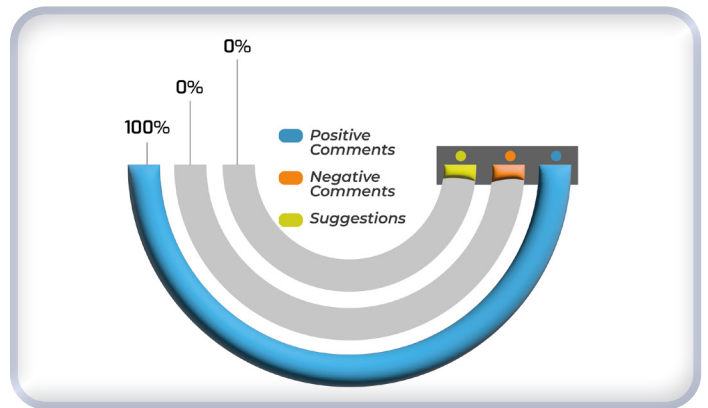
Newspaper



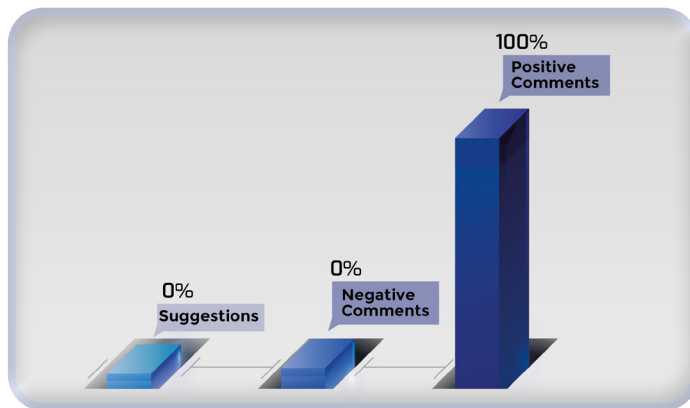
Spokesmen



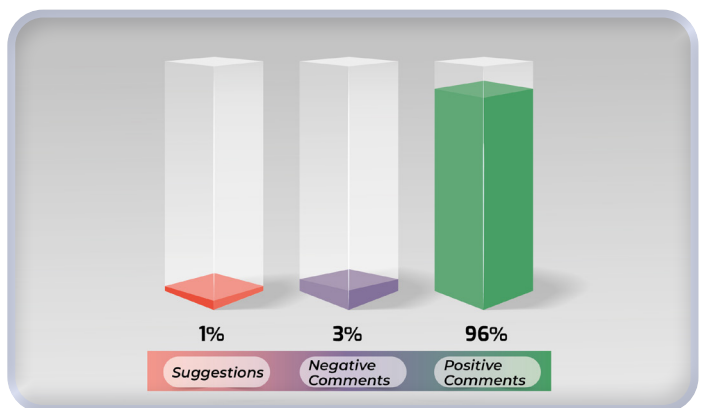
News Agencies



Websites

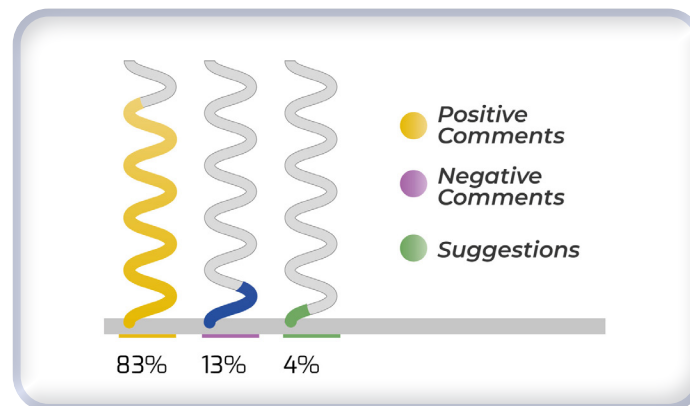


Evaluation of people's comments on state media

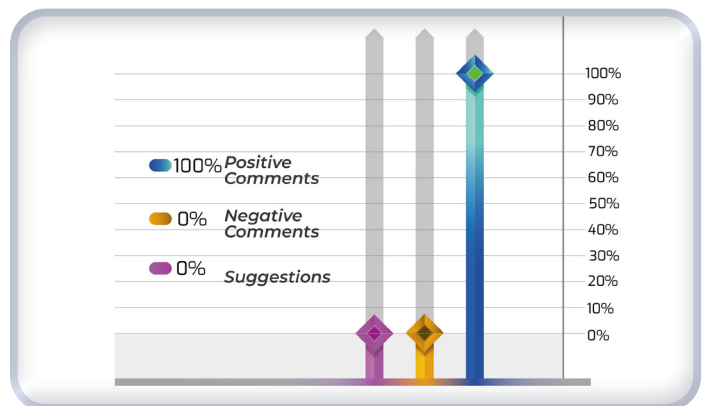


B: People's Comments on Private Media

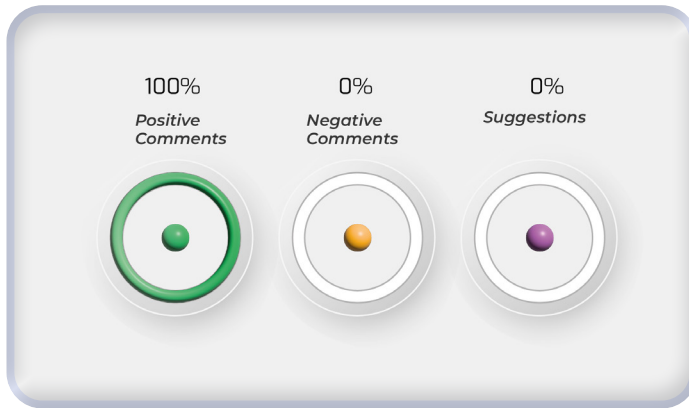
Televisions



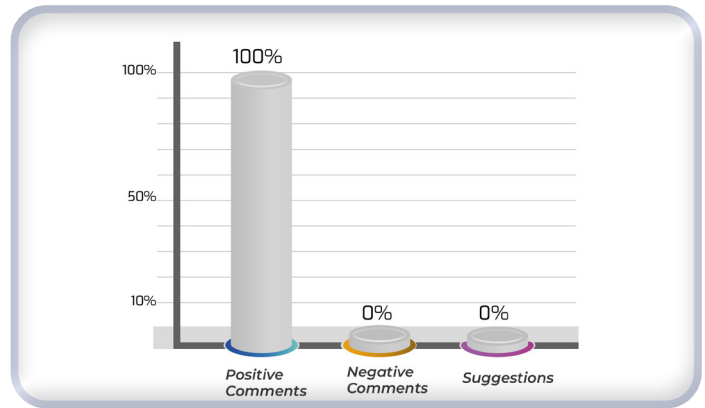
Radios



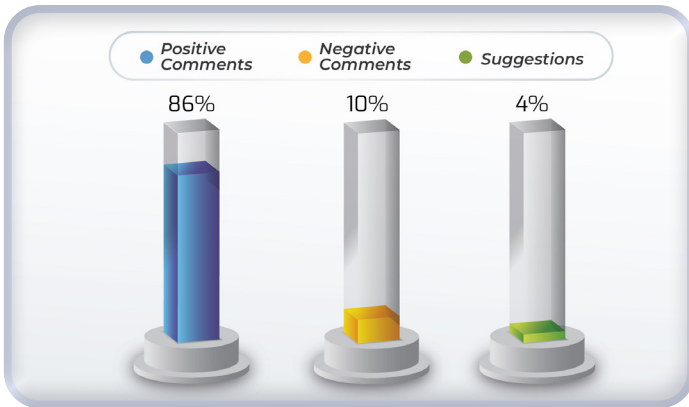
Websites



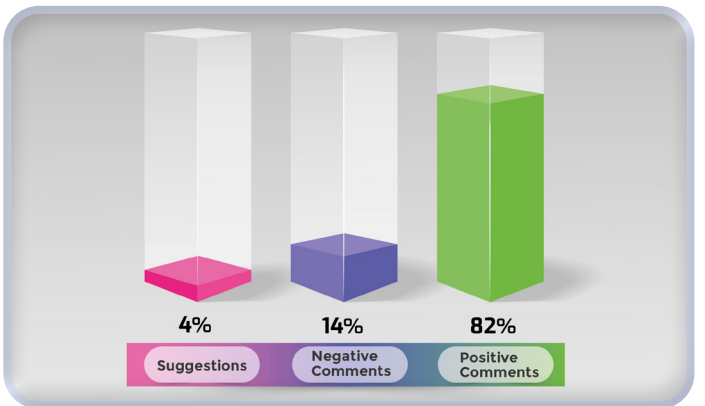
Newspapers



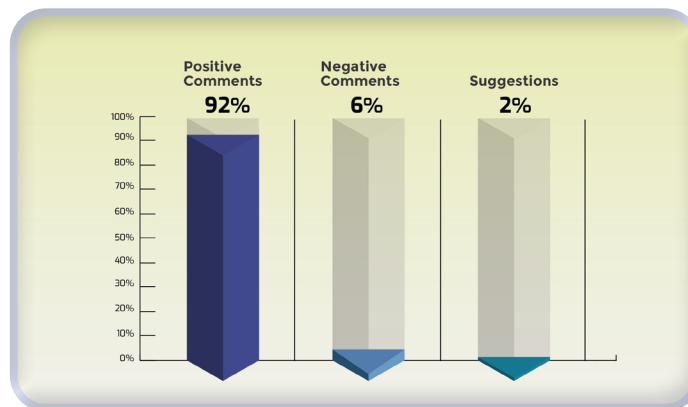
News Agencies



Evaluation of people's comments on Private media



Evaluation of people's comments on private and state media



Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in the Media Regarding the News:

We can divide the media into two categories: governmental media and private media.

1. Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental Media:

The opinions of the public in governmental media, including television, radio, newspapers, websites, spokespersons, news agencies, and Twitter pages, regarding the news are as follows:

- Total Opinions: 742
- Positive Opinions: 710 (96%)
- Negative Opinions: 21 (3%)
- Constructive Suggestions: 11 (1%)

Most public opinions in governmental media are positive, showing strong support for the procedure, with a small percentage of negative opinions and constructive suggestions.

2. Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Private Media:

The opinions of the public in private media, including television, radio, newspapers, websites, and news agencies, regarding the news are as follows:

- Total Opinions: 282
- Positive Opinions: 230 (82%)
- Negative Opinions: 40 (14%)
- Constructive Suggestions: 12 (4%)

While the positive opinions in private media are also high, the percentage of negative opinions is higher compared to governmental media, and there are more constructive suggestions.

Considering the above numbers, the percentage of positive opinions is higher in governmental media compared to private media. Governmental media have 96% positive opinions, whereas private media have 82%. Similarly, the percentage of negative opinions is higher in private media at 14%, compared to 3% in private media. When combining positive, negative opinions, and constructive suggestions from both media types, we get a total of 940 positive opinions, 61 negative opinions, and 23 constructive suggestions, resulting in:

Overall:

- Positive Opinions: 92%
- Negative Opinions: 6%
- Constructive Suggestions: 2%

Summary of Public Opinions in Media and Social Networks:

Here, we provide a summary of a few notable opinions, including both positive and negative comments and suggestions, as the total number of opinions runs into tens, if not hundreds.

- Afghan investors who have invested abroad should return and invest in their own country. This will bring two benefits: firstly, we will reduce our reliance on foreign investments, and secondly, we will rebuild our country with the investments of Afghans.
- My suggestion is that we should utilize our own experts in the reconstruction of Afghanistan.
- The interest shown by foreign investors in investing in Afghanistan is an indication of the complete security in the country.

Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Media and Social Networks:

- **First**, some citizens have expressed in their opinions that Afghan investors residing abroad should return to Afghanistan and invest in the country. It is a fact that Afghanistan will be rebuilt by Afghans; foreigners will neither rebuild Afghanistan, nor do they have the intention to do so. Looking back, Afghanistan's economy has suffered greatly over the past four decades due to occupation and wars, political and security instability, as well as the drought that plagued the country. During this period, the country faced significant upheavals, crises, invasions, and chaos. Another major problem was the lack of a conducive environment for investment, which negatively impacted the economy. Had the environment for investment been favorable, our economy would not have been so weak. Despite the various challenges, including international sanctions, the Islamic Emirate has managed to achieve significant progress in economic development, particularly in attracting investments, and has taken decisive steps in this regard. So far, there has been interest shown in investing in various infrastructure, services, and public sectors, with some projects already underway. Moreover, during the visits of the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs to Turkey and Iran, he held meetings with Afghan investors residing in these countries, urging them to return to Afghanistan and invest there. The Islamic Emirate has created a favorable environment for investment and fully supported investors, providing them with necessary facilities. These efforts have demonstrated that the Islamic Emirate has made considerable efforts to attract Afghan investors. As a result of these efforts, in the past three years, several Afghan investors residing abroad have returned to the country and invested in various sectors.
- **Second**, some people have suggested that Afghanistan's reconstruction should involve utilizing the expertise of its professionals and skilled individuals. Your suggestion is valid. Every country in the world that has progressed and developed has done so with the help of its citizens, particularly its skilled workforce. Without utilizing the expertise

of the country's skilled professionals, it is impossible to achieve progress or development. Afghanistan, which has been severely affected by wars and has lost much, must now be rebuilt and restored by its own people. There is no country in the world that has been rebuilt by foreigners or has progressed with the help of outsiders. Afghanistan, too, has a skilled workforce and professional individuals. With the re-establishment of the Islamic Emirate, the path for rebuilding and developing Afghanistan has been paved. It is essential to utilize these skilled and capable Afghans to move the country forward. In the infrastructure projects initiated by the Islamic Emirate across Afghanistan, as well as in the ongoing work in agriculture and industry, Afghan professionals are being employed, and skilled individuals are being appointed to positions.

- **Third**, some citizens have noted that the interest of foreign investors in investing in Afghanistan indicates the establishment of full security in the country. Development is impossible without security. Security must first be ensured, and then steps can be taken towards the country's development and reconstruction. With the re-establishment of the Islamic Emirate, full security has been established in Afghanistan. This is why the Islamic Emirate is taking continuous steps towards the reconstruction and economic growth of Afghanistan. In this context, a conducive environment for investment has been created, and currently, both domestic and foreign investors are investing in Afghanistan with confidence, without any fear or hesitation. So far, interest in investments worth billions of dollars has been shown, and in some sectors, investments have already been made. All of this is a result of the establishment of a genuine and true system in Afghanistan and the blessing of full security.

Conclusion

The Islamic Emirate, recognizing the value and importance of foreign investment, has made efforts to create a conducive environment for foreign investors. The factors contributing to this include nationwide security, a country rich in natural resources, a government supportive of investment, a young and affordable workforce, low costs for trade and business, easy access to international markets through regional connectivity, bilateral and multilateral trade agreements, a broad environment for business, an untapped market with few competitors, membership in the World Trade Organization, a center for resolving commercial disputes, the establishment of a one-stop-shop for facilitating foreign investors, investment-friendly laws, and attractive tax packages. Considering these points, dozens of major foreign companies have so far expressed interest in investing in sectors such as mining, agriculture, electricity and energy, transport, small and medium enterprises, customs, airport services, transit, industrial parks, railways, and more. During a meeting with Iranian investors, the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic

Affairs welcomed their interest in investing in various sectors in Afghanistan and assured them of full cooperation from the Islamic Emirate. He further stated that the relevant ministries and agencies would work closely with them to provide complete support. With these investments, Afghanistan will soon stand on its own economically, and the country's infrastructure will be rebuilt.

Agreements Worth \$5.2 Billion Signed Between Uzbekistan and Afghanistan



Introduction

Following the defeat of the United States and the collapse of the Kabul administration, the Islamic Emirate solidified its stance of seeking positive relations with all countries, grounded in a policy of neutrality and healthy economic relations. This assurance, which extended to the Central Asian countries including Uzbekistan, alleviated concerns in the region. As a result, the Central Asian nations, one after another, began to advance their political and economic ties with the Islamic Emirate. In the spirit of expanding these relations, high-ranking delegations from Afghanistan and Uzbekistan have exchanged visits. The visit of Uzbekistan's Prime Minister to Afghanistan is part of this series. During this visit, agreements worth \$5.2 billion were signed, marking a new chapter in the economic relations between the two countries.

The Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs of the Islamic Emirate, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund, and the Prime Minister of Uzbekistan, Mr. Abdulla Aripov, along with high-ranking delegations from both nations, discussed the expansion of relations in various fields, including the initiation of economic and commercial projects. Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund expressed hope that the visit of Uzbekistan's high-ranking delegation would be

beneficial in expanding economic ties between the two countries. In response, the honorable Prime Minister of Uzbekistan stated that Afghanistan and Uzbekistan share religious, cultural, and historical ties, and President Mirziyoyev has consistently emphasized strengthening friendly relations between the two countries.

Subsequently, the Ministries of Water and Power, Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock, Transport and Civil Aviation, and Mines and Petroleum engaged in discussions with their Uzbek counterparts regarding the further enhancement of economic and transit relations between Afghanistan and Uzbekistan, focusing on creating additional facilitation measures.

Following this, the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs and the Prime Minister of Uzbekistan attended the signing ceremony of Memoranda of Understanding between the two countries. At the ceremony, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund extended a warm welcome to the Prime Minister of Uzbekistan and his delegation and stated, "We are pleased to see you in a free and independent Afghanistan and to discuss various issues related to commercial and transit relations and cooperation between the two countries." He thanked the President of Uzbekistan for his positive and realistic stance on Afghanistan, stating that trade and economic relations between the two countries are expanding, with hundreds of wagons of commercial goods being exported and imported daily via rail. Additionally, he emphasized the significant role of the Afghan-Trans project, which should begin its implementation.

Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund expressed his welcome for the extension of the 500 kV electricity transmission line from Surkhan to Pul-e-Khumri and stressed the need to strengthen substations and improve the quality of electricity lines, particularly by increasing the capacity of the Arghandi substation. He emphasized that the Islamic Emirate prioritizes neighboring countries for investment compared to other countries, stating, "We must engage in comprehensive discussions to expand commercial and transit relations and eliminate obstacles in this regard." He concluded by highlighting the importance of facilitating the issuance of commercial visas to Afghan traders to further develop trade and economic relations.

In his remarks, the Prime Minister of Uzbekistan, Mr. Abdulla Aripov, stated, "I am pleased to visit the historic country of Afghanistan for the first time, and I sincerely thank you for your warm welcome and hospitality." He added that Uzbekistan views Afghanistan as an important part of Asia, and President Shavkat Mirziyoyev emphasizes that without engaging with the current government of Afghanistan, it is impossible to achieve positive results. The Prime Minister of Uzbekistan stated that Uzbekistan's close and cordial relations with Afghanistan can serve as a good example for other countries. He further mentioned that Uzbekistan's trade relations with Afghanistan are developing, and they seek to expand these relations further.

Mr. Abdulla Aripov also mentioned the positive decision regarding the commencement of official duties of the new Afghan ambassador in Uzbekistan, which will be announced soon.

He assured that all agreements with Afghanistan will be implemented, including investments in the extraction of copper and coal mines in Afghanistan. Additionally, Uzbekistan is ready to train Afghan specialists in water conservation. The Prime Minister of Uzbekistan also mentioned ongoing cooperation in the improvement of agricultural seeds and horticulture and expressed readiness to share experiences with Afghan farmers and annually train around a hundred specialists in aviation and railway sectors.

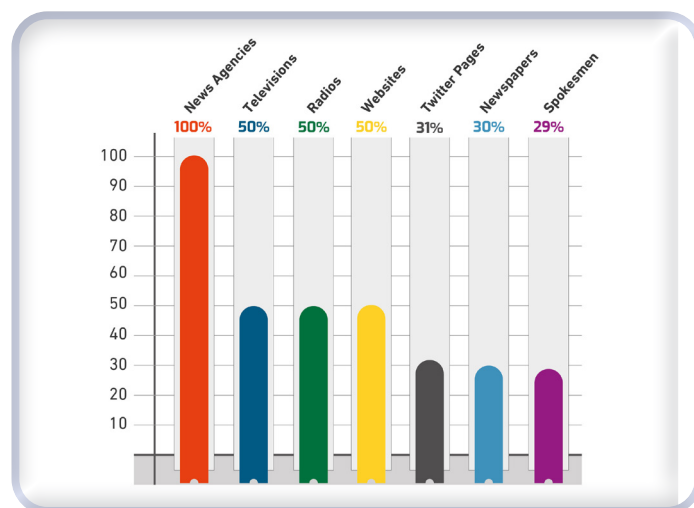
Later, in the presence of Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund, Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs of the Islamic Emirate, and Mr. Abdulla Aripov, Prime Minister of Uzbekistan, five cooperation documents in various fields between Afghanistan and Uzbekistan were signed by the Acting Minister of Industry and Commerce of Afghanistan, Mr. Nooruddin Azizi, and the Minister of Industry and Commerce of Uzbekistan. Similarly, agreements on cooperation were signed between the Ministries of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock, Mines and Petroleum, Da Afghanistan Breshna Sherkat, and the Customs Department with their Uzbek counterparts.

Purpose of the Initiative:

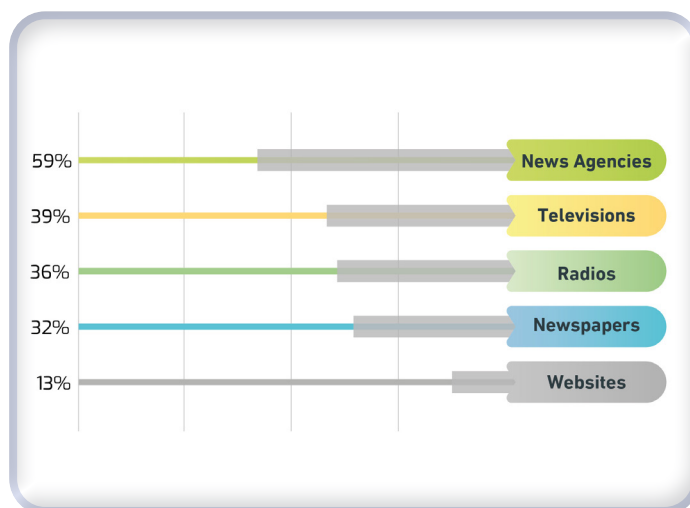
The aim is to expand relations between the two countries, develop infrastructure, and help Afghanistan grow economically.

Public Feedback on Media Outlets Reporting the News:

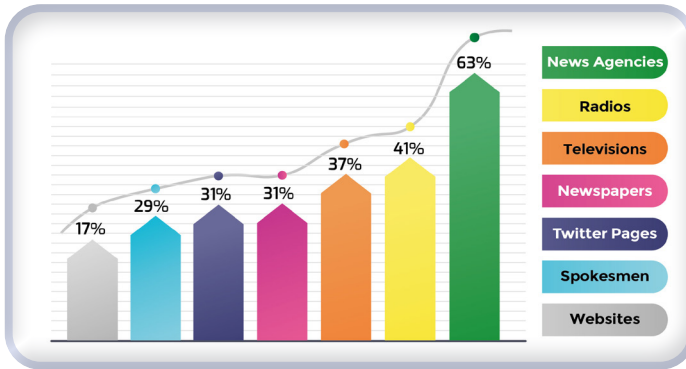
State Media:



Private Media:



The collective percentage of people's comments on private and state media:



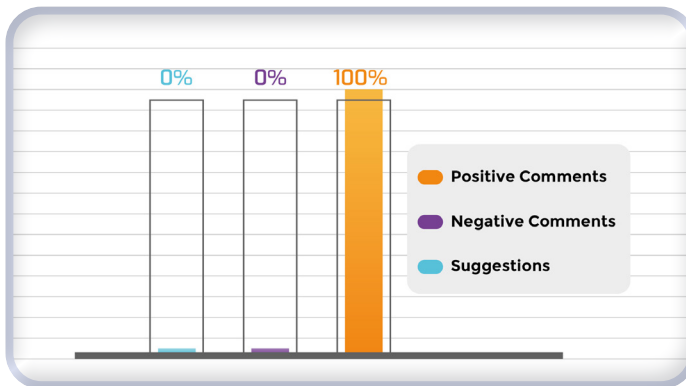
Note:

The graph illustrates the percentage of public opinions featured in both government and private media outlets regarding the establishment of export zones. These opinions were collected from video, audio, and print reports.

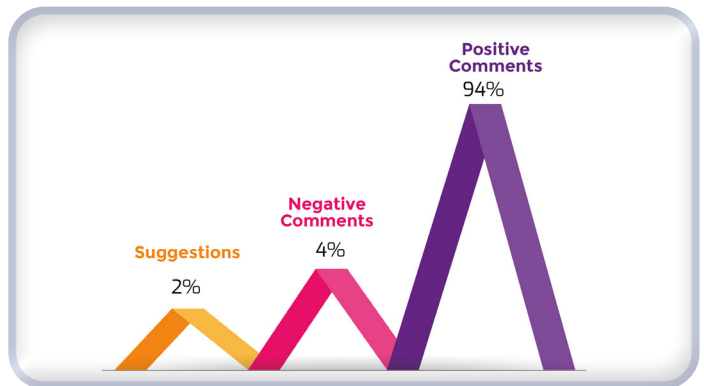
Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental and Private Media Regarding the News:

A: Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental Media

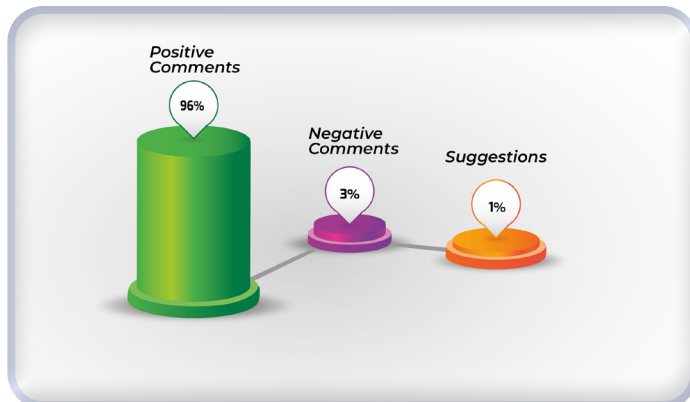
Radios



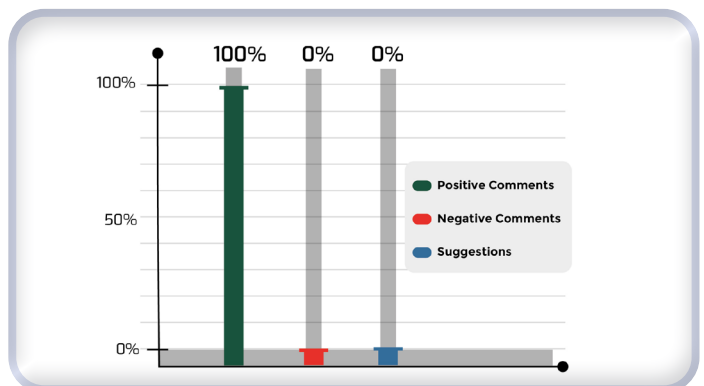
Televisions



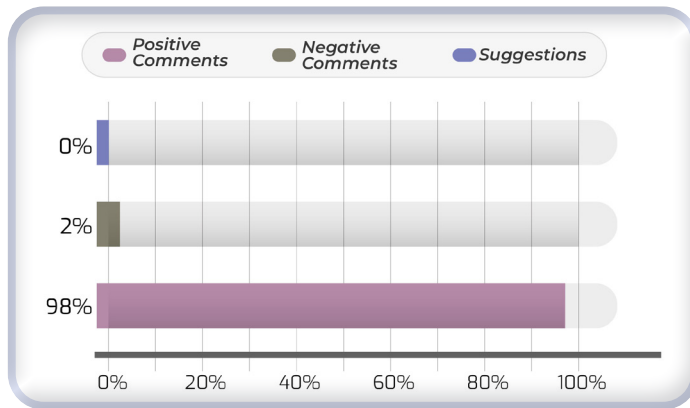
Twitter Pages



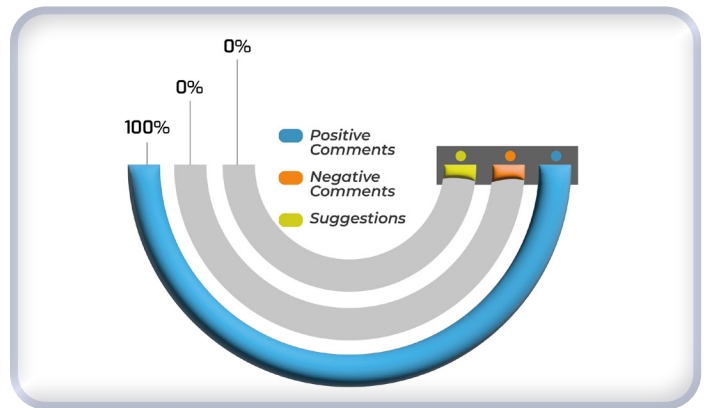
Newspaper



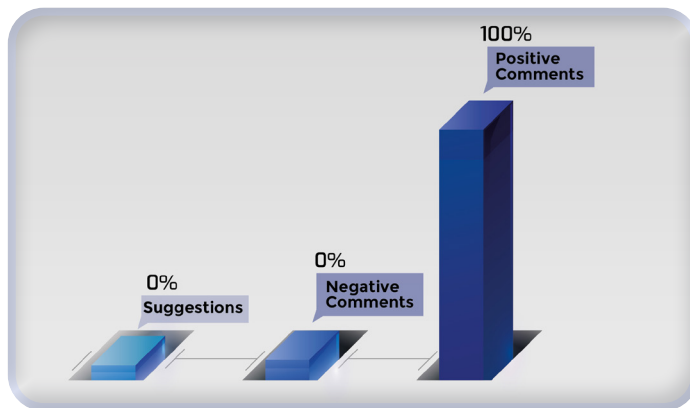
Spokesmen



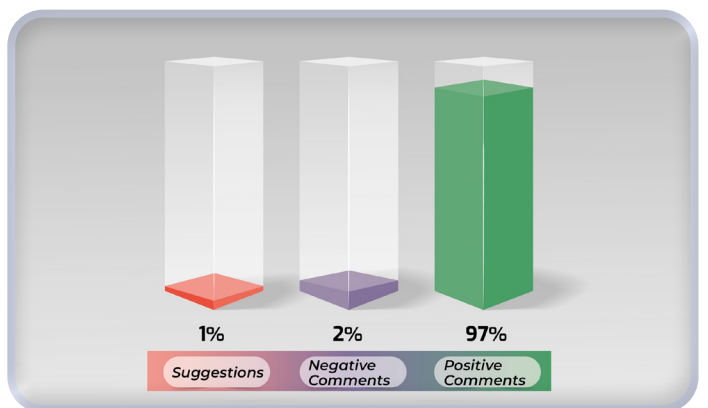
News Agencies



Websites

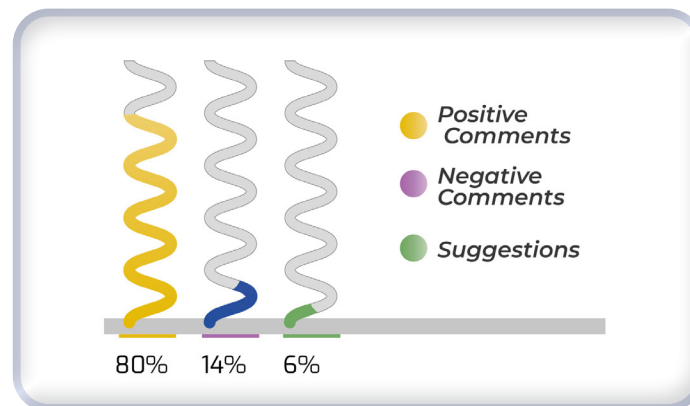


Evaluation of people's comments on state media

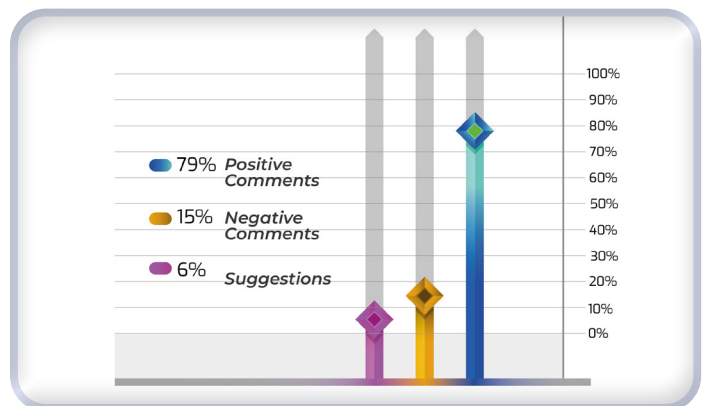


B: People's Comments on Private Media

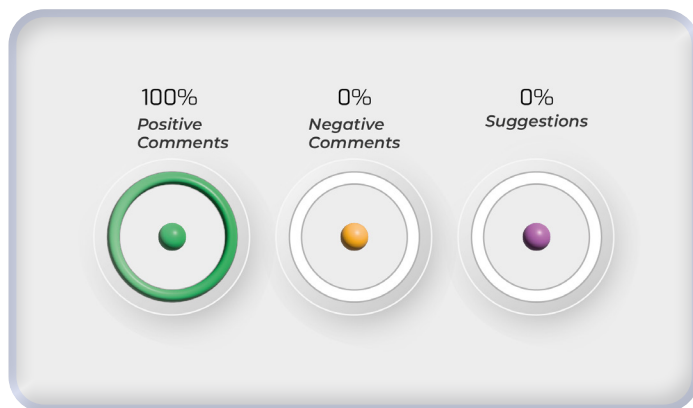
Televisions



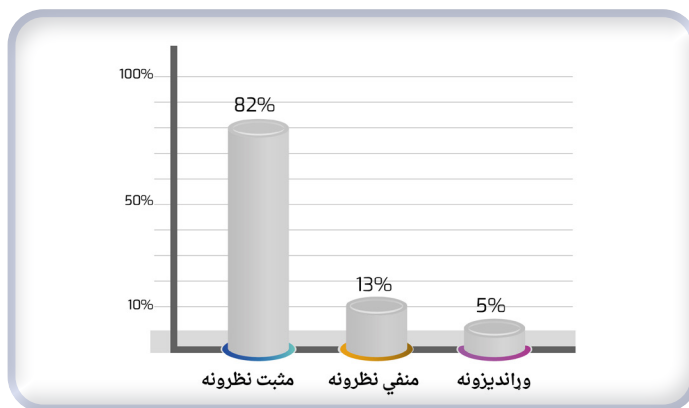
Radios



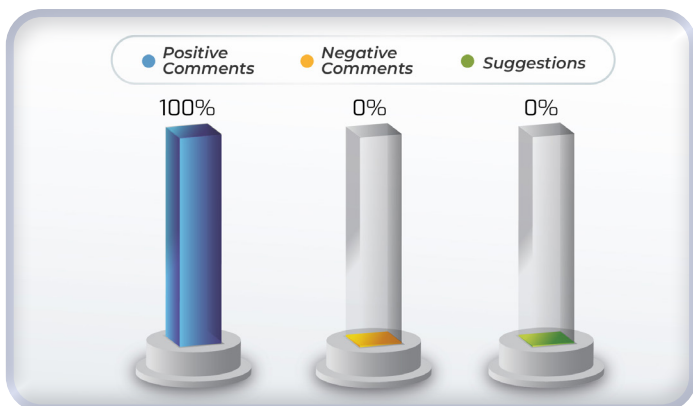
Websites



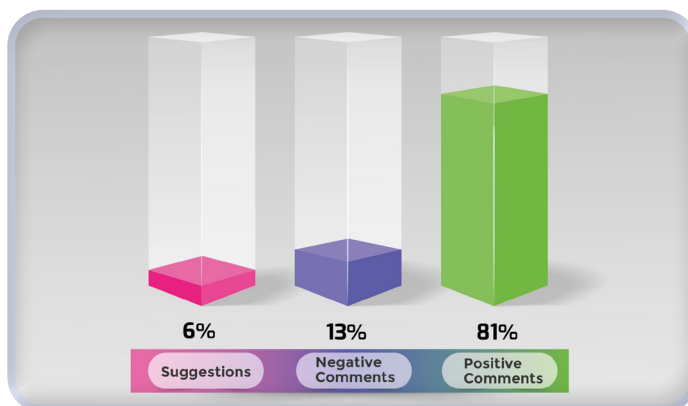
Newspapers



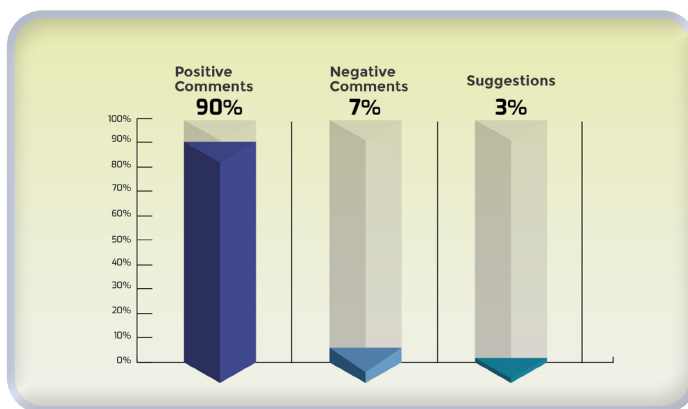
News Agencies



Evaluation of people's comments on Private media



Evaluation of people's comments on private and state media



Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in the Media Regarding the News:

We can divide the media into two categories: governmental media and private media.

1. Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental Media:

The opinions of the public in governmental media, including television, radio, newspapers, websites, spokespersons, news agencies, and Twitter pages, regarding the news are as follows:

- Total Opinions: 1960
- Positive Opinions: 1899 (97%)
- Negative Opinions: 48 (2%)
- Constructive Suggestions: 13 (1%)

Most public opinions in governmental media are positive, showing strong support for the procedure, with a small percentage of negative opinions and constructive suggestions.

2. Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Private Media:

The opinions of the public in private media, including television, radio, newspapers, websites, and news agencies, regarding the news are as follows:

- Total Opinions: 1379
- Positive Opinions: 1128 (81%)
- Negative Opinions: 187 (13%)
- Constructive Suggestions: 74 (6%)

While the positive opinions in private media are also high, the percentage of negative opinions is higher compared to governmental media, and there are more constructive suggestions.

Considering the above numbers, the percentage of positive opinions is higher in governmental media compared to private media. Governmental media have 97% positive opinions, whereas private media have 81%. Similarly, the percentage of negative opinions is higher in private media at 13%, compared to 2% in private media. When combining positive, negative opinions, and constructive suggestions from both media types, we get a total of 3047 positive opinions, 235 negative opinions, and 87 constructive suggestions, resulting in:

Overall:

- Positive Opinions: 90%
- Negative Opinions: 7%
- Constructive Suggestions: 3%

Summary of Public Opinions in Media and Social Networks:

Here, we provide a summary of a few notable opinions, including both positive and negative comments and suggestions, as the total number of opinions runs into tens, if not hundreds.

- The construction of the Qosh Tepa Canal may be delayed; we hope that the Islamic Emirate will complete the Qosh Tepa Canal project as soon as possible.
- Jobs must be created for the people so that our youth do not have to go abroad due to unemployment.
- Uzbekistan is the only country that has maintained good relations with Afghanistan throughout history and has not interfered in Afghanistan's internal affairs. It has sought to expand its trade relations with Afghanistan.
- Afghanistan is the best trade route for Uzbekistan, and Uzbekistan wants to fully utilize this opportunity to expand its trade.
- The government should also establish broad economic and political relations with the rest of the world to pave the way for the progress of Afghanistan and its people.
- Afghanistan is currently a safe country; there are some economic challenges, but if solutions are developed, these issues can also be resolved.

Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Media and Social Networks:

- **First**, some citizens have speculated that the construction of the Qosh Tepa Canal might be delayed. They have urged the Islamic Emirate to complete this canal project as soon as possible. This is merely their speculation; in reality, the Qosh Tepa Canal is a priority for the Islamic Emirate. This is evidenced by the fact that when the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund, inaugurated the Qosh Tepa Canal in the year 1401, he stated that implementing this project is a priority for the Islamic Emirate. The Deputy Prime Minister also mentioned that upon completion of this project, Afghanistan's reliance on other countries for grain would decrease, and the agricultural sector would expand. The first phase of the canal was completed on the 19th of Mizan in the year 1402, and the second phase has begun. Recently, officials from the National Development Corporation stated that the second phase of the Qosh Tepa Canal is 58% complete. The project manager for the Qosh Tepa Canal mentioned that the excavation work for the second phase has reached 130 kilometers in the Andkhoy district of Faryab province. He also indicated that more than 3,500 workers and 3,000 machines are involved in the second phase. The officials from the National Development Corporation plan to complete the second phase of the Qosh Tepa Canal by the end of this year in the Andkhoy district of Faryab province, with a budget of 20 billion Afghanis, which is the final part of

the canal. This shows that the work on the Qosh Tepa Canal will be completed and put to use. It is a priority for the Islamic Emirate and will be completed at all costs. Therefore, we should not have any concerns in this regard.

- **Second**, some individuals have pointed out that Uzbekistan has maintained good relations with Afghanistan historically and has never interfered in Afghanistan's internal affairs. Uzbekistan has always sought to expand its trade relations with Afghanistan. Relations between Afghanistan and Uzbekistan began when Uzbekistan gained independence from the former Soviet Union in 1995. Since then, Uzbekistan has maintained its political and economic relations with Afghanistan without interfering in its affairs, upholding complete neutrality, and these relations have remained intact to this day. The Islamic Emirate has maintained relations with this country during both of its periods in power, and these relations are currently expanding day by day. The recent visit of a high-level delegation led by the Prime Minister of Uzbekistan to Afghanistan made it clear that Uzbekistan seeks to strengthen its economic relations further and leverage Afghanistan's strategic position to enhance its economy. Afghanistan, on the other hand, is also striving to expand its trade through Uzbekistan, achieve economic growth, and develop its infrastructure. During this visit, 35 agreements worth 5.2 billion dollars were signed in various sectors. This will enable Afghanistan to achieve its economic goals and open new avenues for the well-being of its people.
- **Third**, some citizens have suggested that the Islamic Emirate should expand its relations with the world to pave the way for Afghanistan's progress. The Islamic Emirate, recognizing the importance of international relations, is expanding its global ties day by day. The efforts of the Islamic Emirate to build international relations are not limited to the political and economic sectors but also extend to cultural, scientific, educational, and other fields, showing their readiness to cooperate with the international community. The goal of all these efforts is to present Afghanistan as an independent and developed country on the global stage and to demonstrate that the Islamic Emirate is ready for positive engagement and diplomacy with the entire world. However, it is difficult for an independent country to comply with every demand from other countries, and doing so could call into question its claim to independence.
- **Fourth**, some commentators have stated that Afghanistan is currently a safe country, though there are some economic challenges that could be resolved with proper solutions. Their observation is accurate. After the re-establishment of the Islamic Emirate, instead of being helped by the international community and some global powers, Afghanistan was subjected to harsh sanctions, the flow of aid was halted, and ongoing projects in the country were delayed. As a result, economic difficulties in Afghanistan increased. However, the Islamic Emirate, with complete prudence, managed to stabilize the country's economy and pull it out of economic crisis in a short period. Currently, Afghanistan's economy is

advancing with each passing day. The factors that contribute to a country's economic growth are continuously improving. The Islamic Emirate has prepared timely plans for all these activities, and they are now in the process of being implemented. With the implementation of these plans, not only will the current economic challenges be resolved, but Afghanistan will also make significant progress economically.

Conclusion

Through trade and economic cooperation with other countries, a nation can present its products and services to international markets. Increased exports and imports accelerate economic growth and raise income levels. Establishing relationships with other countries is also crucial for attracting foreign investment. Moreover, if a country has relations with others around the world, it can receive humanitarian aid during natural disasters, famines, and similar events. International relations are also valuable for development aid. Through cooperation with international organizations and developed countries, a nation can obtain financial and technical assistance for reconstruction and development. These aids are beneficial for building infrastructure. Recognizing the importance of international relations, the Islamic Emirate has expanded its political, particularly economic and trade relations, with neighboring countries, regional powers, and several countries around the world. One of these countries is Uzbekistan, which has constructive relations with the Islamic Emirate. The recent visit of a high-level delegation led by Uzbekistan's Prime Minister to Afghanistan signifies the strengthening of these relations. During this visit, various agreements worth \$5.2 billion were signed. The implementation of these agreements will double the country's economic growth and rebuild our infrastructure.

Paktika Province: Inauguration of Construction Work on the Palatuni Dam



Introduction

Due to the uneven distribution of water resources around the world, humans realized long ago that this vital resource must be properly managed, and dams should be constructed for its storage. As a result, both large and small dams have been built for the purposes of agricultural development, electricity generation, and flood prevention, many of which are still in existence today. This underscores the importance of water in the development and economic growth of a country. Without water, life is not just difficult; it is impossible. Considering this significance, on August 19, 2024, the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund, inaugurated the commencement of construction work on the Palatuni Dam in Paktika province. The ceremony was attended by the esteemed Minister of Water and Energy, Mullah Abdul Latif Mansoor, local scholars, businessmen, and several Emirate officials.

In his speech at the ceremony, the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs stated that the Islamic Emirate has realized that agriculture is essential for a strong economy, and water is the most crucial element for agricultural development. To achieve this goal, the Islamic Emirate has prioritized water management and has called on investors to invest in this sector. He further

emphasized that the Islamic Emirate is strongly committed to managing natural resources, alongside other areas, to achieve national self-sufficiency and social and economic development. He mentioned that they have provided opportunities for both domestic and international investors to invest in this field.

He added that the Islamic Emirate has assessed large and medium-sized dams across the country whose construction was incomplete or had not yet begun. Comprehensive plans have been developed to complete these dams, and the practical work on many of them has already started. One such dam is the Palatuni Dam, the construction work of which has officially commenced today.

During his speech, he also stated that the people of Paktika made significant sacrifices for the establishment of an Islamic system. It is now their responsibility to address the issues of the local people and to complete projects in this province that could alleviate their economic problems to some extent. He emphasized that they would utilize all available resources to complete the construction work of the Palatuni Dam and urged the contracting company to carry out the assigned tasks with dedication and integrity.

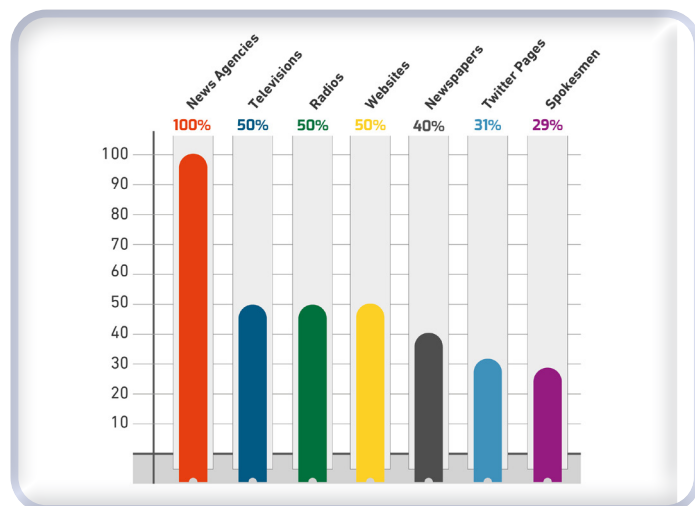
He mentioned that this project, funded by the Islamic Emirate and carried out by the National Development Corporation, is expected to be completed in two and a half years. Upon completion, it will strengthen the groundwater reserves of the provincial capital Sharana and nearby areas, irrigate agricultural lands, control floods, and play a significant role in protecting the environment. The construction of the Palatuni Dam will provide direct and indirect employment opportunities for hundreds of citizens, store approximately 25 million cubic meters of water, irrigate 2,500 hectares of land, and generate 935 kilowatts of electricity.

Purpose of the Initiative:

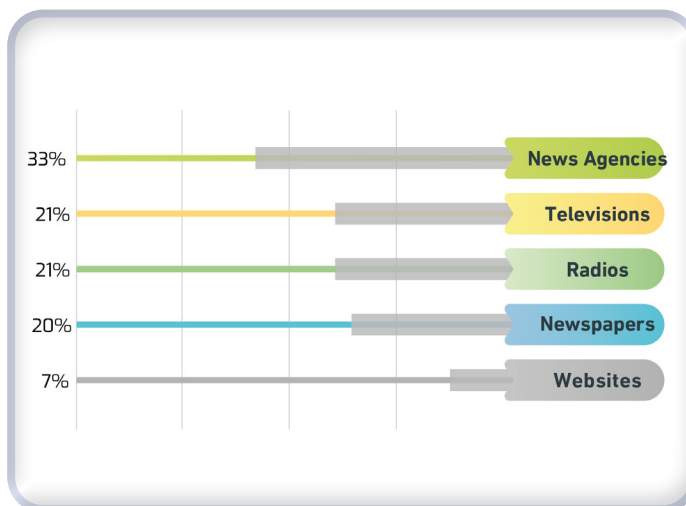
The aim is to manage water and help the economy grow with the development of agriculture.

Public Feedback on Media Outlets Reporting the News:

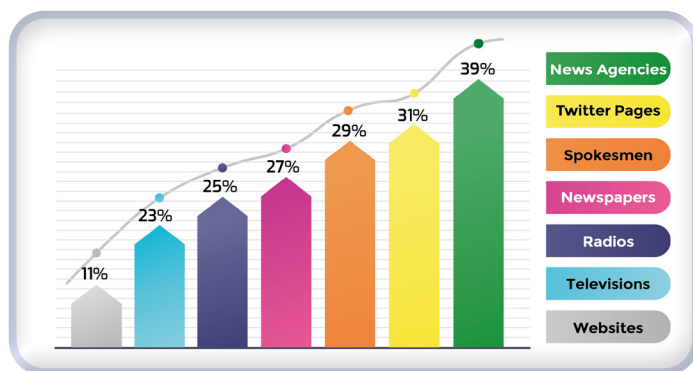
State Media:



Private Media:



The collective percentage of people's comments on private and state media:



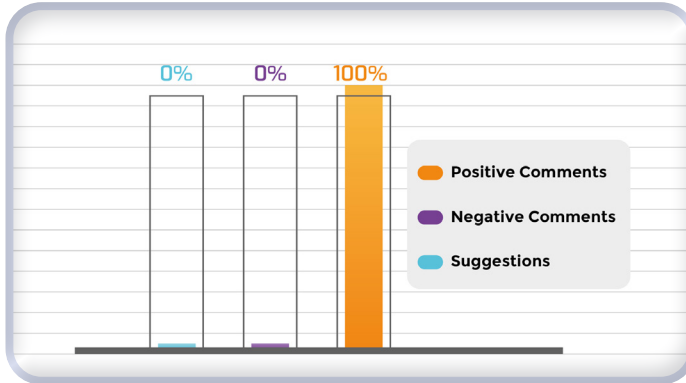
Note:

The graph illustrates the percentage of public opinions featured in both government and private media outlets regarding the establishment of export zones. These opinions were collected from video, audio, and print reports.

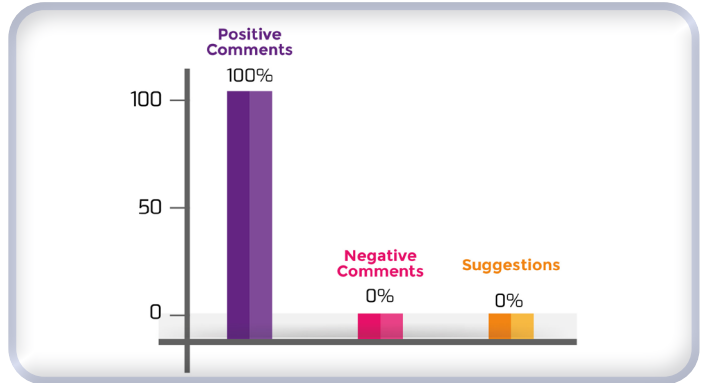
Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental and Private Media Regarding the News:

A: Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental Media

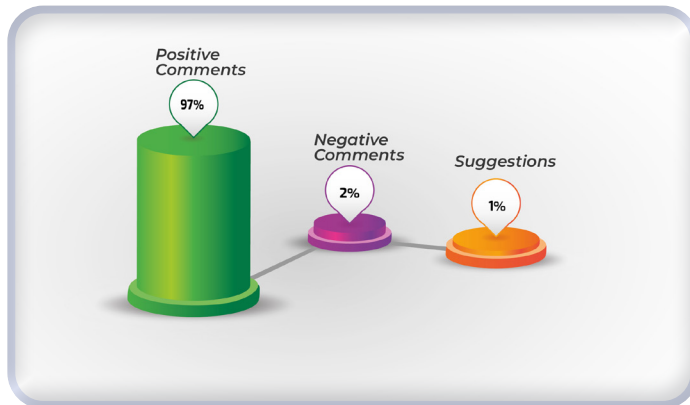
Radios



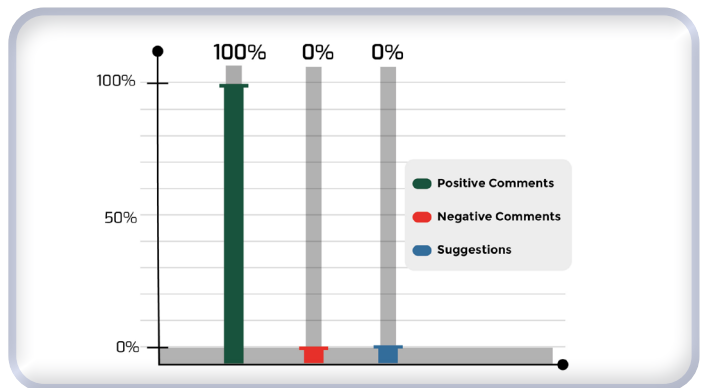
Televisions



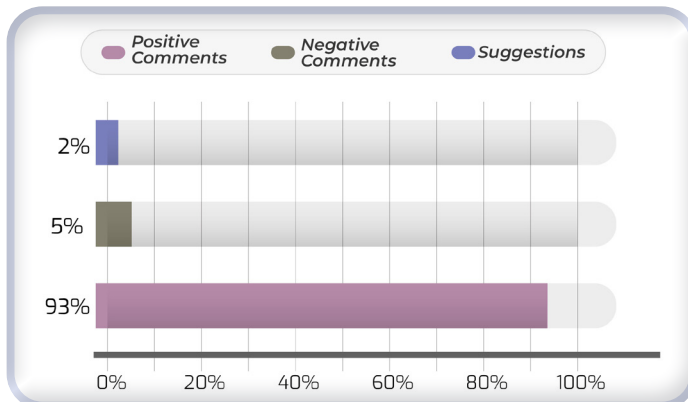
Twitter Pages



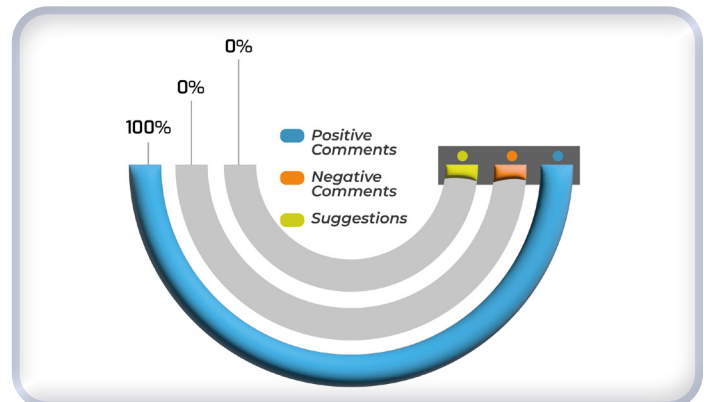
Newspaper



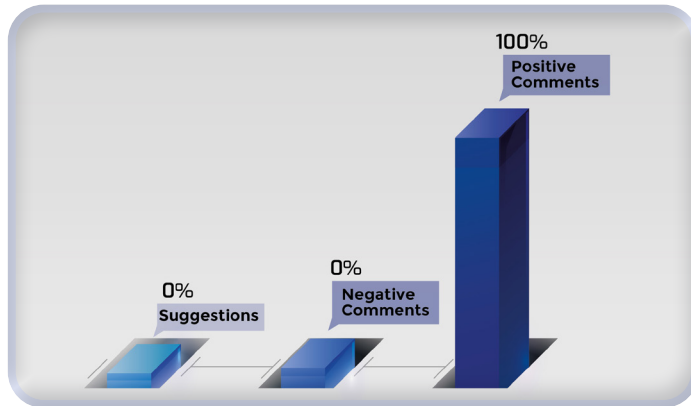
Spokesmen



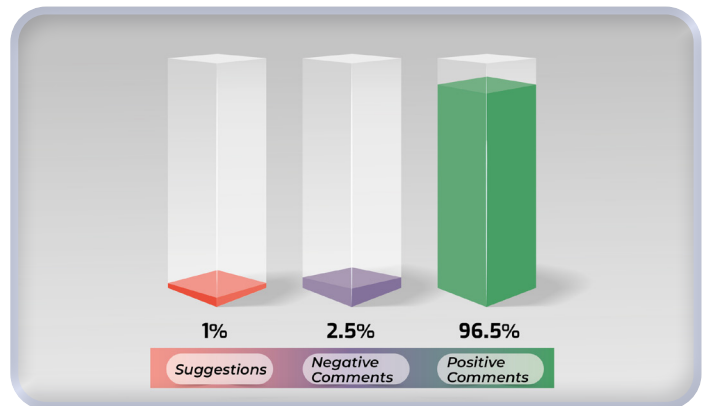
News Agencies



Websites

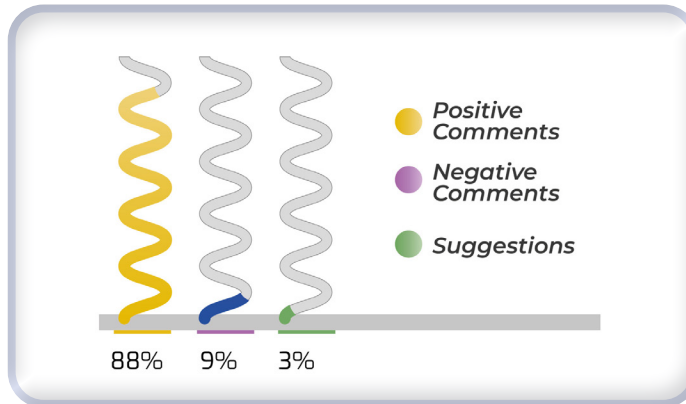


Evaluation of people's comments on state media

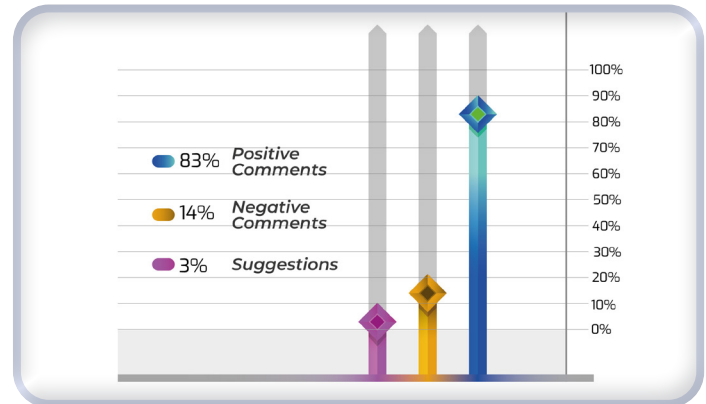


B: People's Comments on Private Media

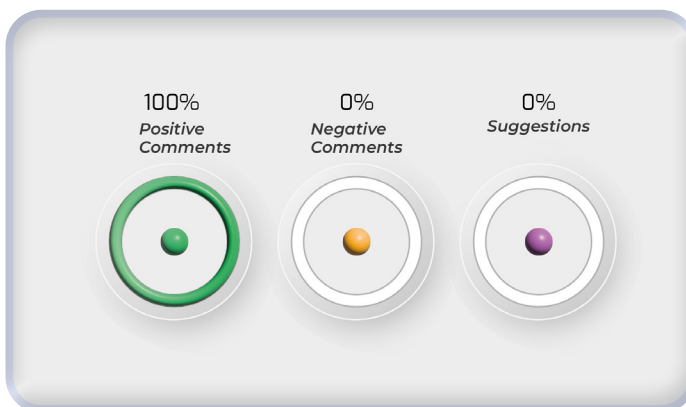
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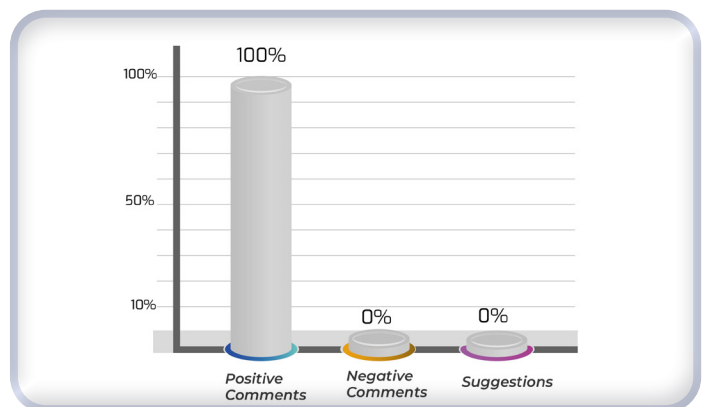
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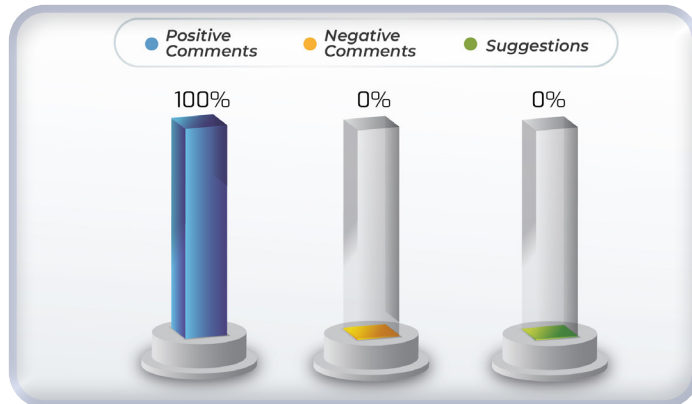
Websites



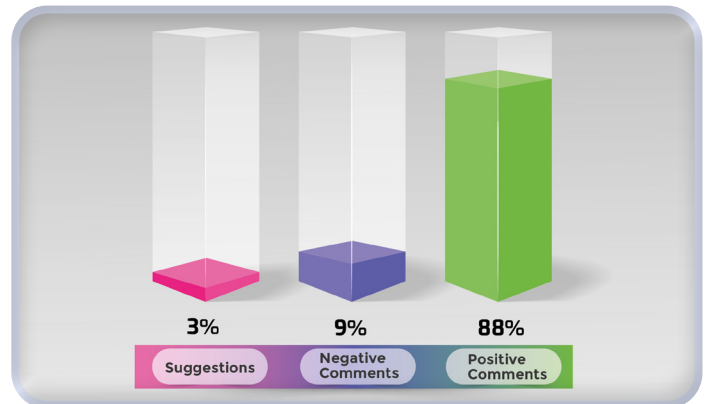
Newspapers



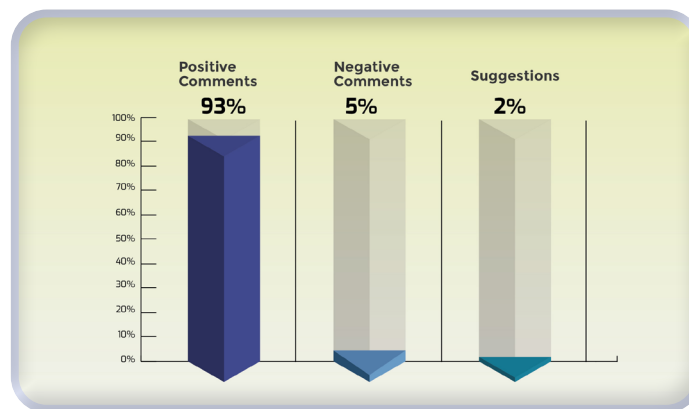
News Agencies



Evaluation of people's comments on Private media



Evaluation of people's comments on private and state media



Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in the Media Regarding the News:

We can divide the media into two categories: governmental media and private media.

1. Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Governmental Media:

The opinions of the public in governmental media, including television, radio, newspapers, websites, spokespersons, news agencies, and Twitter pages, regarding the news are as follows:

- Total Opinions: 791
- Positive Opinions: 764 (96.5%)
- Negative Opinions: 20 (2,5%)
- Constructive Suggestions: 7 (1%)

Most public opinions in governmental media are positive, showing strong support for the procedure, with a small percentage of negative opinions and constructive suggestions.

2. Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Private Media:

The opinions of the public in private media, including television, radio, newspapers, websites, and news agencies, regarding the news are as follows:

- Total Opinions: 488
- Positive Opinions: 429 (88%)
- Negative Opinions: 43 (9%)
- Constructive Suggestions: 16 (3%)

While the positive opinions in private media are also high, the percentage of negative opinions is higher compared to governmental media, and there are more constructive suggestions.

Considering the above numbers, the percentage of positive opinions is higher in governmental media compared to private media. Governmental media have 96.5% positive opinions, whereas private media have 88%. Similarly, the percentage of negative opinions is higher in private media at 9%, compared to 2.5% in private media. When combining positive, negative opinions, and constructive suggestions from both media types, we get a total of 1193 positive opinions, 63 negative opinions, and 23 constructive suggestions, resulting in:

Overall:

- Positive Opinions: 93%
- Negative Opinions: 5%
- oConstructive Suggestions: 2%

Summary of Public Opinions in Media and Social Networks:

Here, we provide a summary of a few notable opinions, including both positive and negative comments and suggestions, as the total number of opinions runs into tens, if not hundreds.

- ⦿ Efforts should be made, and projects should be implemented in Zurmat District, as its people have made great sacrifices for the establishment of the Islamic system.
- ⦿ Now is a good time for development, as there are no warlords or obstructions. We must take advantage of this opportunity and work.
- ⦿ Work on the Machalgho Dam in Paktia should also commence as soon as possible.
- ⦿ Wherever a single brick is laid for the development of the country, it is a matter of pride.
- ⦿ Paktika is an underdeveloped province; no government has ever done any work there. It is a matter of great happiness for the people of Paktika that such a significant project is being implemented in this province.

Analysis and Evaluation of Public Opinions in Media and Social Networks:

- **First,** some citizens have expressed their views calling for the implementation of projects in Zurmat District, stating that the people of this district have made great sacrifices for the establishment of the Islamic system. Since the establishment of the Islamic Emirate, reconstruction efforts have been progressing in a balanced manner throughout Afghanistan. The Islamic Emirate strives to implement infrastructural and public welfare projects in every province and region of the country based on their specific needs. The recent inauguration of the Palatuni Dam in Paktika was important for the province, as it will raise groundwater levels and promote agricultural development in the area. Zurmat District is also a part of Afghanistan, and the Islamic Emirate will implement projects there based on the needs of the district. During the inauguration ceremony of the Palatuni Dam, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund stated that the people of Paktika have made significant sacrifices for the establishment of the Islamic system. It is now their responsibility to address their problems and complete projects that can alleviate their economic difficulties to some extent. This shows that the Islamic Emirate has never forgotten the sacrifices of the people who contributed to establishing the Islamic system.
- **Second,** some citizens have welcomed the construction of the Palatuni Dam and mentioned that the current situation offers a favorable opportunity for development, with the end of the era of warlords. Their opinion is valid, as the establishment of the Islamic Emirate has brought complete security to the country, dismantling power islands and establishing a centralized system. Security is indeed a fundamental prerequisite for development and progress. Without security, it is impossible to take steps towards development. Now that there is security, the path for progress is open, and the Islamic Emirate has fully utilized this opportunity. In the past three years, we have witnessed a significant expansion of Afghanistan's diplomatic relations and the initiation of fundamental and large-scale projects unprecedented in the country's history. Our trade has advanced, the industry has flourished, agriculture has grown, and the professional extraction of mines is underway, creating employment opportunities for hundreds of thousands of people and contributing to the country's reconstruction. Therefore, there is strong hope that if similar steps are continued for Afghanistan's development, our economy will improve, and our people will enjoy a prosperous and advanced life like other nations.
- **Third,** some citizens have requested the resumption of work on the Machalgho Dam in Paktia. According to available information, Machalgho is considered one of the important dams in the southeastern zone of the country, which will irrigate around 2,300 hectares of land and provide drinking water to hundreds of households in addition to generating electricity. The Islamic Emirate has initiated an assessment of all dams whose construction work was incomplete or never started. During the inauguration of the remaining works on

the Pashdan Dam in Herat, the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund, stated that the Islamic Emirate has conducted an assessment of all dams across the country where work remained unfinished. He further mentioned that comprehensive plans have been developed to complete the remaining works of these dams, and practical work is currently underway on most of them. This implies that the Machalgho Dam in Paktia is also included and that its work will be resumed in due course.

- **Fourth,** some residents of Paktika have expressed happiness over the commencement of the Palatuni Dam project in their province, stating that Paktika is an underdeveloped province where no government has ever undertaken any work. However, the Islamic Emirate has turned its attention to this backward province and laid the foundation stone for a major and vital project here. Since the establishment of the Islamic Emirate, foundational projects have been initiated in various provinces of the country. The Islamic Emirate is committed to balanced development and aims to implement projects in all provinces based on their needs. Previous governments treated provinces unequally, but this issue has been eliminated. The Islamic Emirate has paid attention to every province in Afghanistan and has not ignored the people's problems. Afghans should be thankful to the Almighty for bringing a system that has united the entire nation under one banner and promptly addresses their problems, implementing projects for progress and prosperity.

Conclusion

Water is of vital importance to countries. It is, therefore, advisable to construct large and small dams across the country for water management. It is essential to build dams or complete the unfinished work of previously constructed dams to manage surface and groundwater reserves and prevent the misuse of water resources. This will promote the growth of the agricultural and commercial sectors in the country and help reduce dependency on imported electricity to some extent. Resolving the existing issues in the electricity sector will allow Afghanistan's industry to develop, leading to economic stability and enabling the country to take swift steps toward progress. Considering the above points, the Islamic Emirate has taken constructive steps in water management, as exemplified by the recent commencement of work on the Palatuni Dam in Paktika, which will increase groundwater levels and promote agriculture in the province.



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