Grid Coordinates (MGRS): 41RQR45000480

City: Nagahan

District: Arghandab

Province: Kandahar

Report Basis: ASC ATS6-608

Unit: ATS-6

Tasker: N/A

*This report contains raw, unevaluated atmospheric information, which may reflect the bias/motivation of the ASC that provided it. Atmospherics represent the perceptions, opinions and sentiments of the local populace, which may differ from factual accounts and/or historic reality. It is not intended to be used as a standalone document.*

**1. BLUF:** Locals criticize that the leaders of GIRoA and power brokers of Afghanistan consume alcohol and use drugs and will not curb such activity as a result. They are also frustrated that GIRoA did not keep its promise to distribute seeds to the farmers for cultivation.

**2. ATMOSPHERIC VALUE:** Non-Supportive-GIRoA.

**3. DETAILS:** On 19 Feb 13, while in Nagahan, ASC ATS6-619 overheard two Pashtun males discussing an increase in the use of alcohol and narcotics among the men in Arghandab District.

The 25-year-old man stated, “It seems if you are rich you can buy alcohol anywhere in Arghandab District. Alcohol consumption is the new trend among the rich. The poor man smokes Hashish or opium; young men are addicted to drugs. The farmers are growing it because the government did not keep its promise to provide the farmers seeds and fertilizer.”

The 22-year-old man stated, “There are many drug addicts in Arghandab. The government should punish those who smuggle alcohol in our country. Unfortunately all the power brokers and government officials in our country drink alcohol. The government should eradicate all the poppy fields in Nagahan and Lowy Menarah villages and keep its promises to the farmers.”

**4. COMMENTS:** Two men voice their displeasure with substance abuse among GIRoA leadership at all levels and say it is the reason such illicit economy flourishes. They say they want GIRoA to keep their promises to farmers with seeds and fertilizer so they do not grow poppy. Past reporting shows that farm aid is frequently not given to struggling farmers by GIRoA.