

News

Pakistan: Experts on militancy to meet in Peshawar

Staff Reporter

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PESHAWAR: Experts on militancy, terrorism and deradicalisation will meet in Peshawar this week to develop policy recommendations for the government, aimed at rehabilitating and reintegrating the Taliban and deradicalising their supportive population centres as well as “at risk” groups, the media has learnt.

“Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and FATA urgently require a policy that prescribes a process to transform individuals who are currently under detention so that they can be released with the relative assurance that they will not continue to be a threat to the security and stability of the nation,” the workshop organisers told the media. Additionally, this policy “needs to prescribe programmes that effectively counter backtracking and prevent recruitment of individuals or groups most susceptible to extremist causes”, they added.

The workshop, according to senior officials, suggests a shift in Islamabad’s policy on fighting terrorism, as the last eight years of operations against militants have yielded little results in containing the Taliban-linked movements. The USAID-funded FATA Capacity Building Programme is conducting the two-day workshop from May 18-19 in Peshawar and is being assisted by the International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research (ICPVTR) in Singapore, the organisers said.◌