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Hundreds of Taliban storm security posts in Jalrez district

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Hundreds of Taliban attacked security posts in the Jalrez district of central Maidan Wardak province, blocking the Kabul-Bamyan highway on Thursday, an official said.

Attaullah Khogyani, the governors' spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News the clashes broke out when a group of insurgents attacked police posts on the Kabul-Bamyan Highway in Jalrez district early morning.

Two Afghan Local Police (ALP) were killed and as many wounded during the clashes, he said, adding that rebels also suffered heavy casualties during the fight. But he had no exact details into

militants' casualties. He said more security personnel dispatched to the area to fight the rebels and restore security of the highway.

A security official in the province wishing anonymity said the attacks on security posts were started early morning at around 3:00am and six security posts so far fell to Taliban.

Three ALP personal were also taken hostage by rebels, the source said.

“The governor and security officials repeatedly asked the central government for reinforcement but relevant officials in Kabul did not cooperate despite the fight that lasted for seven hours,” the official said.

Khogyani also confirmed the governor had contacted the central government to send fresh reinforcement to security forces in Jalriz.

The fight also blocked Maidan Wardak-Bamyan Highway.

Sayed Sultan, a driver, said the Taliban had torched a security post and were fighting for the control of other posts. Ten civilians also suffered injuries. He added around 400 cars were stranded on both sides of the road.