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90 Afghan soldiers martyred in past 2 days, Helmand deputy governor says

December 20, 2015

The deputy provincial governor for southern Helmand province of Afghanistan Mohammad Jan Rasoulyar has said around 90 Afghan soldiers have lost their lives during the past 2 days as violence soars in the restive province.

In an online post via Facebook social media website, addressed to President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani, Rasoulyar warned that Helmand will soon fall to Taliban militants.

According to Rasoulyar, the Afghan forces suffered casualties during clashes in Greshk and Sangin districts.

Appealing directly to President Ghani for his intervention to prevent the collapse of Helmand province, Rasoulyar said it would be impossible to retake Helmand province by launching an operation from airport and it would be dream to compare it with northern Kunduz province which was retaken by the security forces.

He said he is not ready to pay a huge price, urging President Ghani to be quick and save Helmand from life and death situation.

The security institutions have not confirmed the death toll as a result of the ongoing violence in southern Helmand province of Afghanistan.

Helmand is among the volatile provinces in southern Afghanistan where anti-government armed militant groups are actively operating in its various districts and frequently carry out insurgency activities.

The Ministry of Interior (MoI) officials announced earlier on Friday that the Afghan forces seized control of Khanshin district from Taliban militants.

According to the local government officials, the control of the district was retaken following heavy clashes between the Afghan security forces and Taliban militants.

The officials further added that the Afghan National Army (ANA) soldiers, Afghan National Police (ANP) forces together with the Afghan Public Order and Border Protection forces managed to enter into Khanshin district late on Thursday amid heavy clash.