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Two Afghan officials killed in separate attacks

12/10/2011



Two Afghan officials have been killed in violent attacks in the provinces of Nimroz and Laghman, police officials say.

In the first incident, Nimroz police chief Musa Rasouli lost his life after his car hit a roadside bomb in the western province on Monday.

Rasouli died while being taken to hospital, the Nimroz police spokesman Moyedin Noori said, adding, "It was a Taliban bomb."

Unknown gunmen also killed Nadia Sidiqi, the acting director of the women's affairs department in the eastern province of Laghman, on the same day.

Laghman police chief Ahmad Sherzad said that security forces had launched an investigation into the assassination act.

"We have sealed off the area where the attack took place and we will very soon capture the attackers," Sherzad added.

There have been no immediate claims of responsibility for the attacks.

In July, Sidiqi's predecessor, Hanifa Safi, was also killed in a bomb explosion.

On Thursday, a bomber exploded himself and wounded Afghanistan's intelligence chief, Asadullah Khalid, after entering a tightly-guarded guesthouse by posing as a Taliban peace envoy.

The United States and its allies invaded Afghanistan in 2001 as part of Washington's so-called war on terror. The offensive removed the Taliban from power, but the country is still plagued by insecurity.