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Senior police officer killed in Taliban assault

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The deputy police chief of southern Ghazni province, Mohammad Hussain, was killed on Sunday in a bomb attack claimed by Taliban insurgents.

Two guards of the senior police officer were also killed and as many wounded in the roadside bombing that took place at 8am, the governor's spokesman said.

Nabi Jan told Pajhwok Afghan News Hussain was on his way to Zankhan district, which came under rebel attack earlier in the morning. Security personnel have been sent to the scene.

Zabihullah Mujahid, a Taliban spokesman, claimed Hussain was killed along with four senior government officials. The bomb attack marked the Taliban's spring offensive codenamed "Khalid bin Waleed", he said.

At least 11 policemen were killed as the militants stormed the Zankhan district headquarters, Mujahid said, but local authorities rejected his assertion as baseless.