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Over 2,100 people confirmed dead in Badakhshan landslide

May 3, 2014

Local authorities in northeastern Badakhshan province of Afghanistan have confirmed that more than 2,100 people have been killed following a landslide in this province.

The provincial governor spokesman, Navid Frotan said more than 2,100 people from 300 families are all dead.

More than 4,000 others were displaced by the disaster after the side of a mountain collapsed into a village in Argo district on Friday morning.

Frotan further added that the rescue teams have launched rescue and search operation however there was no hope of finding survivors as they are buried in up to 100 metres of mud.

Local officials have also expressed concerns that thousands of homeless and hundreds of rescue workers are threatened by unstable hillside above the site of the disaster which could cave in again.

In the meantime, a delegation of high level government officials led by second vice president arrived to Badakhshan province to coordinate aid for the victims of the disaster.

The Northern Region of Afghanistan continues to be susceptible to recurring natural disasters, where seasonal rains and spring snow melt regularly result in life-threatening flash floods and landslides.

More than 100 people were killed due to heavy rains which triggered flash floods in northern Afghanistan late last month.