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5 Afghan soldiers killed in separate bomb attacks with day

5/11/2014

Five Afghan army soldiers had been killed in separate roadside bomb attacks since early Saturday, said the country's Defense Ministry Sunday.

"Five Afghan National Army personnel had been martyred in improvised explosive device (IED) attacks across the country over the past 24 hours," the ministry said in a statement.

The Taliban insurgent group has largely been using home-made IEDs to launch suicide attacks and roadside bombings against security forces.

The security forces' casualties have risen recently as the U.S. and NATO troops in Afghanistan switched from combat to support role, namely training, advising and assisting Afghan forces since June last year.

The war-torn country is due to take over the responsibility for its own security from foreign troops by the end of 2014.

More than 51,000-strong NATO-led foreign troops, down from the peak of 130,000 in 2010, are currently being deployed in Afghanistan.