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'Taliban changing strategy in Kandahar'

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Kandahar's governor Tooryalai Wesa says the Taliban have changed their strategy in southern Afghanistan since fewer locals are supporting the militants.

The militants “are changing their strategy. They are coming to the city, they are just doing sporadic assassinations,” AFP quoted Wesa as saying on Tuesday.

Speaking on the sidelines of the International Economic Forum of the Americas in Canada's Montreal, Wesa said that the Taliban have lost their resources in the south because their ties with the local farmers are not as strong as before.

“People are not helping them, before the governance was not present in most of the remote areas. Now, we are there... Now the people see the governance and they are not supporting” the militants, Wesa added.

The Afghan official added that security situation has improved in the south of the country which has been a Taliban stronghold.

Canada is scheduled to pull its troops out of Kandahar by the end of next month but some will stay in Afghanistan to train security forces.

Wesa said Canadian troops will be replaced by international forces, mostly US soldiers.

At least two Afghan students were killed and three others were injured in two successive bomb explosions in Kandahar University on Saturday, officials said.