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AFP

Roadside bomb kills 6 Afghan civilians

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KANDAHAR: Six Afghan civilians were killed and another was injured when their vehicle hit a roadside bomb planted by Taliban insurgents in southern Afghanistan's Helmand province Friday, authorities said.

"Women and children were among the victims," Helmand police spokesman Farid Ahmad Farhang said, adding that they had been travelling in the Musa Qala district of the restive province.

Roadside bombs are a favourite weapon of Taliban fighting government forces and their NATO backers, but often miss their targets and kill civilians.

The latest deaths come two days after a report by the United Nations said 1,145 civilians had been killed and 1,954 wounded in the war in the first six months of this year.

The UN blamed 80 percent of the deaths on insurgents, saying more than half were caused by roadside bombs. (AFP)