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Xinhua

Afghan civilian killed in blast in S. province

2/20/2012

An Afghan civilian was killed and one was wounded Wednesday in a blast in the country 's southern province of Uruzgan, police said.

"A civilian car touched off a pressure-plate bomb or Improvised Explosive Device (IED) along a road in Garmab Manda area in provincial capital in mid-day and the explosion killed a civilian injured another," police spokesman Farid Ayel told Xinhua, blaming Taliban insurgents for placing the IED in the province 370 km south of capital Kabul.

Conflict and Taliban-led violence claimed the lives of 2,754 civilians in 2012, a 12 percent drop compared with 2011, according to a UN report released in Kabul on Tuesday.

Out of total deaths, up to 868 were killed in IED blasts across the country last year, according to the report.

The UN report attributed 81 percent of the casualties to the attacks of Taliban and other armed groups opposing the government, another 8 percent of the deaths were attributed to Afghan and NATO- led forces and 11 percent were unattributed.