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Coordinated rebel attacks claim 7 lives

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Three security personnel and four attackers were killed and seven others wounded as a result of a series of well-coordinated Taliban attacks in Kabul, Logar and Nangarhar provinces on Sunday.

A suicide bomber detonated his explosives-packed van near a Public Order Police checkpoint in the Qala-i-Juma area on the Kabul-Logar highway, killing a policeman and injuring three others, the National Directorate of Security (NDS) said.

A statement from the spy service said a second car bombing happened 30 minutes later near the NDS office in the Joi Haft area of Jalalabad, the capital of eastern Nangarhar province, 90 kilometres east of Kabul.

As the attacker was shot dead by intelligence agents before he could reach his target, the statement added. As a result, the explosives-laden car went off, killing two people and injuring three others.

The statement said nothing about the identity of the victims, but an official of the directorate in eastern Nangarhar said they were NDS employees.

Near the diplomatic enclave in Kabul, a bomber in an explosives-packed car was shot dead by intelligence operatives in the Sherpur locality at 9:15am. The parked Prado-type jeep was defused by the bomb disposal experts.

The bomber intended to attack the police headquarters in the high-security area near a construction site that was stormed by the Taliban in April 2012. The would-be bomber was carrying a gun and wearing an explosive-laden vest.