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## Taliban attack prison in Pakistan, free 243 prisoners

July 30, 2013

According to reports around 243 prisoners have escaped from a prison in Pakitan following an attack by Taliban militants wearing police uniform.

The incident took place late Monday night after the militants carried out attack on thejail in the north-western town of Dera Ismail Khan.

"A total of 243 prisoners have escaped, six of them were later arrested by police," senior government official Mushtaq Jadoon told private TV channel ARY News.

He added that 30 of the escaped prisoners were "hardcore militants".

A series of explosions rocked the complex before the attackers fired rocket propelled grenades and machine gun rounds at guards, according to district police chief Sohail Khalid.

Malik Qasim Khan, an adviser to the chief minister on prisons said that the gunmen cut off the prison's power supply, then launched the attack from all sides.

Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) claimed responsibility for the attack.

Spokesman Shahidaullah Shahid said that the group freed around 300 prisoners, a claim Pakistani army officials denied.