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Afghanistan coal mine collapse leaves 27 dead, 20 injured

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At least 27 people were killed and dozens others were injured following an incident in a coal mine in northern Samangan province of Afghanistan on Saturday.

According to local government officials, a coal mine collapsed in Du-Aab district on Saturday afternoon, and over 40 mine workers were trapped inside the coal mine.

An official speaking on the condition of anonymity said at least 27 mine workers were killed, and the rescue team managed to evacuate at least 20 mine workers.

Provincial governor spokesman, Aziz Sediqi said, initial reports suggest that the incident took place due to short circuit which led to fire inside the coal mine.

Mr. Sediqi did not disclose further information regarding the exact number of casualties as a result of the incident. In the meantime, a local official said, there are fears that 50 mine workers were trapped inside the coal mine.

Du-Aab district chief, Abdullah Mujahid also said that there are no reports regarding the trapped mine workers, and their health condition.