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## Taliban bombed strategic bridge in Zabul

October 15, 2014

Drivers and passengers say the Taliban have blown up a big bridge on the Kabul-Kandahar highway.

A resident of Qalat city, the capital of Zabul province, Nasim Gul, said he observed the bridge had been comprehensively destroyed.

He added passengers and drivers faced numerous problems crossing the destroyed bridge, and insisted that the act by militants was against Islam and a great betrayal to the nation destroying national assets.

According to reports the bridge on the road had been blown up when a heavy remote controlled bomb targeted a Police patrol near the bridge. The incident took place in Kakarno Chena area of Qalat city.

According to the local residents, there is no bridge on the route that has not been blown up with an aim to target convoys of foreign troops, but instead they create problems for passengers and drivers.

Deputy provincial governor, Mahmud Jan Rasoliar, said the Taliban had launched a massive campaign to destroy bridges on roads.

After the explosion, Afghan security forces launched search operation in the area to arrest those people who were behind this attack, he said.

He accused Pakistan for being involved in destruction of bridges, saying the neighboring country could not see Afghan roads being paved and constructed.

He urged security organs to protect bridges from being destroyed and warned against any negligence in this regard; otherwise all paved roads would be devastated.

A Taliban spokesman, Zabihullah Mujahid, said their aim was not to destroy bridges, but to inflict casualties on the enemy.

The fighters planted mines under bridges to target Afghan and foreign troops, he explained, saying almost every blast had resulted in heavy casualties.