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Airstrike target top Taliban leader's convoy, leaving at least 30 dead

October 16, 2016

An airstrike targeted the convoy of a top Taliban leader in southern Uruzgan province of Afghanistan, leaving at least 30 militants dead.

The Ministry of Defense (MoD) said the airstrike took place in Chinartu district and targeted the convoy of Haji Lala, the military commission chief of the group.

It is yet not clear if the airstrike was carried out by the Afghan Air Force or the coalition forces based in the country.

Uruzgan is among the relatively volatile provinces in southern Afghanistan where the Taliban insurgents are actively operating in a number of its districts and often carry out insurgency activities.

In another statement, MoD said at least 41 militants were killed in separate airstrikes conducted in Mosa Qala and Greshk districts of Helmand province.

The Taliban insurgents group has not commented regarding the report so far.

The Taliban led insurgency has been rampant across the country during the recent months and following the launch of group's spring offensive in mid-April this year.

The Afghan National Defense and Security Forces (ANDSF) also launched an annual operation "Shafaq" in response to Taliban's annual spring offensive after efforts by the government failed to ensure a ceasefire and resolve the issues through reconciliation process.