

Four Pakistani soldiers killed in Taliban rocket attack

Four Pakistani soldiers were killed in a Taliban rocket attack on their camp in the troubled northwestern borderlands, while the forces killed six militants in retaliatory fire, officials said Saturday.

The militants targeted the army with artillery fire in Mir Ali town of the volatile North Waziristan tribal district that borders Afghanistan and is a known hotbed of Taliban and al-Qaeda militants.

'Four soldiers perished in the artillery attack, which our forces repelled and killed six militants,' an intelligence official said on condition of not being named as he was not authorised to talk to the media.

Mir Ali lies on border of the neighbouring South Waziristan, a mountainous region where the army launched an operation against the militants last month. It was suspected that most of them had fled to North Waziristan to regroup and start guerrilla warfare.

Islamic militants have stepped up attacks on town and cities to avenge their losses in South Waziristan.

The capital of North West Frontier Province, Peshawar, has borne the brunt of many attacks.

On early Saturday, a bomb struck at the office of a Germany based humanitarian organisation, Comprehensive Health and Education Foundation, on the outskirts of the city, wounding a security guard.

It was a timebomb and exploded at 7 a.m. near the perimeter wall of the main building, said Liaquat Ali Khan, a senior city police officer.

The bombing came a day after a roadside bomb ripped through a police patrol vehicle, killing three officers and injuring six.

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