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227 words

Taliban warn people to stay away from elections

Shahpur Arab

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PUL-I-ALAM (PAN): The insurgent Taliban distributed threatening letters in capital Pul-i-Alam and Muhammad Agha district of central Logar province asking people not to participate in the upcoming elections.

These threatening letters were found pasted on the walls of about 30 villages' mosques, houses and shops.

The letters issued from the department of Amer bil Marof (Taliban religious police of Afghanistan Islamic Emirate), warned that who ever participated in the elections will be attacked.

The night letter asked people to quit police and Afghan National Army (ANA) jobs.

Abdullah, 22, resident of Daudkhil village in provincial capital told Pajhwok Afghan News the night letters were disseminated at 10:00 pm by motorcyclists and they warned through loudspeakers that who ever take off the letters will be punished.

Fazli, head of election commission in Logar province said the threats decreased the participation of people about 30 per cent.

He said the commission received copy of night letter from police headquarters.

He said police headquarters in another letter told the commission not to send staff to remote areas.

He said some of elections staff quit jobs after night letters.

He said there were 12 registration centers in the province, except Kharwar district.

Registration for elections began a week back in 14 provinces including Logar.

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