Indian Embassy bombing kills 17 in Afghan capital

TALIBAN CLAIMS RESPONSABILITY FOR BLAST WHICH ALSO WOUNDED 76 PEOPLe

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KABUL - A bomb leaked outside the Indian Embassy in Kabul on Thursday, killing 17 people and wounding 76, in the country's latest in a series of attacks on diplomats and government officials. At least 63 Indian and foreign nationals were inside the embassy when the blast struck.

IN PAKISTAN, Prime Minister Pervez Musharraf, who is also the army chief, has ordered an investigation into the incident. Musharraf has ordered an assessment of how effective Pakistan's national security strategy has been in recent years.

An Indian government official said that the blast appeared to have been aimed at the Indian Embassy, which is located near the US embassy in Kabul. The blast came a day after a similar attack on the US embassy in Kabul.

The blast was the latest in a series of attacks on diplomatic missions in Afghanistan and Pakistan, including the Indian embassy in Kabul and the US embassy in Islamabad.

The blast has reignited concerns about the safety of foreign embassies in Afghanistan and Pakistan, where the Taliban has been known to target foreigners.

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