surgency, and sapped resources

U.S.-Afghan military commanders on Thursday were pointing to a growing concern that the insurgency in Afghanistan is in a "perilous state," according to a U.S. military paper that suggested the Afghan security forces are losing their capacity to fight the Taliban.

The paper, titled "Prospective Trends and Challenges in Afghanistan," was released by the U.S. Defense Department and distributed to military commanders in the country.

The report, which is based on an analysis of the current security situation in Afghanistan, said the Taliban is gaining ground in many areas of the country, particularly in the east and south.

The report said that the Taliban is exploiting the lack of a coordinated national strategy to defeat the insurgency and is using guerrilla warfare tactics to seize control of territory.

It added that the Afghan security forces are struggling to keep pace with the Taliban's advances and that the situation is becoming "tense and perilous."