**2nd Crop of Poppy Cultivation Underway in Helmand**

**TALIqAN**- Afghan officials on Tuesday confirmed that the poppy cultivation season is underway in the southern province of Helmand.

According to a press release issued by the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock, the second crop of poppy cultivation has begun in the province, which is the major poppy-growing area in Afghanistan.

"The cultivation season has started in Helmand province," said a ministry official, adding that the second poppy crop is expected to be harvested in mid-July.

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**Mother Son Killed for Refusing to Feed Taliban**

**KABIL**- A Taliban insur- render was killed a woman and four other people when the insurgents attacked a village in this district of Baghlan province.

According to the local police, the Taliban fighters attacked a village in Kabil district early Tuesday morning, killing a woman and four other people.

The attack was repulsed by Afghan security forces, and one of the attackers was killed.

The attack comes amid an ongoing military operation by Afghan forces against the Taliban in the province.

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**Construction Work on Kundahar City By-pass Road Launched**

**KANDAHAR CITY** - The construction work on the Kundahar city by-pass road has been launched.

The project, which is expected to be completed in six months, aims to reduce traffic congestion in the city center.

The main road connecting Kundahar with the Spin Boldak border crossing will be bypassed, reducing travel time and improving connectivity.

The by-pass road will also help in the development of the city by providing better access to important areas.

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