KABUL - Residents of Hotkhel area stopped protesting today. A large number of Hotkhels demonstrated yesterday against the local district administration and it was decided not to allow the elections to be held in the Hotkhel area. But Hotkhel residents said they were not allowed by the people of Hotkhel to do so.

A verbal clash occurred between the Hotkhels and supporters of the candidates but with the arrival of security forces the situation was calmed.

Sheruddin, a supporter of one candidate, told Pajhwok Afghan News that they had decided to close the IECC office but the Hotkhel did not allow us to do so as we wanted to vote.

He warned if the election panels did not address their demands, they would close the entrance to the Presidential Palace.

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Locking Down IEC Office

KABUL - Chief Executive Abdullah Abdullah, chief of the Ministry of the Interior, said today that the Taliban continued to fight, and no basic step has been taken by the government to stabilize the peace process.

He noted that the Taliban had continued its fighting and as far as we are concerned, no basic step has been taken by the government to stabilize the peace process.

Abdullah said the Taliban continues to fight and as far as we are concerned, no basic step has been taken by the government to stabilize the peace process.

The people's representative delegation from Hotkhel is in the Hotkhel area.

They warned the demonstration was worsened after the Taliban attacked the district headquarters and the government forces were not able to do anything.

Abdullah, a resident of Maruf district, told Pajhwok Afghan News that the district was under Taliban control while government forces were stationed in a few security posts in Salim area of the district on the Durand Line.

The district headquarters, previously located in Yusouf Nika area, were attacked by Taliban militants after a long lasting fight, forcing the district administration to move to another office.

Abdullah said the already limited security forces were totally stopped after the district headquarters were moved elsewhere.

Lack of schools and education programs was one of the main problems of the people here, he said.

He said schools had a symbolic presence in the district from the past and salaries of teachers were almost non-existent.

However, he said the teachers no longer received salaries over the last two years.

Local people now want schools in their area and Taliban insurgents have probably no problem but that, he said, was sustained during the battles with the Afghan forces.

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