



CoronaCrimeWatch Pakistan

Weekly Review of Organised Crime and Pandemic

Compiled by National Initiative against Organised Crime (NIOC)

06 June to 12 June 2020

The COVID-19 pandemic is not only affecting the economies and societies across the world but also changing the trends of the organized crime and illicit markets. Pakistan is already facing critical economic challenges as well as issues related to governance and internal security. While the coronavirus pandemic has complicated these challenges, it can also bring to fore new challenges related to organized crime and non-state actors in the country. There is a need for institutional vigilance to monitor the changing trends for better understanding and preparedness to cope with future challenges. The National Initiative against Organized Crime (NIOC) is initiating a weekly monitor on Organized Crime as a civil society initiative to support the institutional and community responses. The weekly brief is a result of information collected from open sources, mainly the mainstream media reports, both Urdu and English as well as information collected from various experts associated with the Project.

Corona cases in Pakistan:

According to the National Command and Operation Centre statistics, a total of 132,405 cases COVID-19 have been detected in Pakistan, out of which 50,056 people have recovered so far across the country. There are 420 ventilators occupied across Pakistan, out of 1400 vents allocated for COVID-19.

Total active cases

Total Active COVID-19 cases in Pakistan were 79,798 on 13 June at 11:00am.

The province-wise breakup of the total number of cases as of 10:00am, June 6, is as follows:

Total confirmed cases: 132,405

- Sindh: 49,256
- Punjab: 50,087
- Khyber Pakhtunkhwa: 16,415
- Balochistan: 7,866
- Islamabad Capital Territory: 7,163
- Gilgit-Baltistan: 1,044
- AJK: 574

LEAs against Corona Pandemic:

• During the week under review, media reported that three more DSP-ranked police officers tested positive of Covid-19 in Rawalpindi district of Punjab.¹

1. General Trends

1.1. General/street crime

Federal Interior Minister Ejaz Shah has claimed that during the last one year, Islamabad, the capital city, has witnessed a 15.37% decrease in heinous crimes. During a briefing to Prime Minister he stated that Islamabad has been declared the safest city of Pakistan. The capital has been ranked 58 out of 374 cities according to the World Crime Index with safety situation better than Toronto, Amsterdam and Beijing. The United Nation has restored the status of Islamabad as a family station after 12 years.²

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Inspector General of Police Dr. Sanaullah Abbasi also claimed that the crime ratio in the province is on downward trend for the last three months. A report released to media claimed that terrorism incidents in 2020 have decreased by 50% and the terror financing has decreased by 75%. Extortion, target killing and kidnapping for ransom have decreased by 75%, 80% and 100%, respectively, as compared to 2019, which has no parallel in the past. Likewise, the attacks on police and other LEAs have decreased by 70% and 50% respectively as compared to the corresponding period of the year 2019.³

1.2. Terrorism watch

During the week under review, law enforcement agencies captured some important terrorists belonging to Teherik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), its breakaway faction Jamaatul Ahrar, and

¹ Daily Jang, June 8, 2020, https://e.jang.com.pk/06-08-2020/pindi/pic.asp?picname=610.png

² The Express Tribune, June 11, 2020, https://tribune.com.pk/story/2240041/1-pakistan-meets-major-fatf-conditions-shah/

³ The Nation, June 8, 2020, https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2020-06-08/page-4/detail-4

Islamic State or Daesh. The Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) and the Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) Punjab in a joint raid in Rawalpindi arrested two TTP terrorists who had allegedly beheaded a Polish engineer in 2009 in South Waziristan. Engineer Piotr Stanczak had been abducted from Attock, near Rawalpindi, in September 2008 and a case was registered with Basal police station against the unidentified kidnappers. The CTD Punjab and the premier agency arrested Kaleemullah and Farid Khan on June 1 when they obtained intelligence reports about their arrival in Rawalpindi to commit a terrorist act.⁴ Separately, Peshawar Police arrested eight terrorists, three of which the member of Daesh and remaining were the members of Jumaat-Al-Ahrar and Lashkar-e-Islam.⁵

Security forces also killed two reported terrorists in two separate raids conducted in Bannu and Tank districts of KP. First, on June 9, the counter-terrorism department killed Amin Shah, the kidnapper and killer of a woman Canadian journalist, in a raid on his house in Bannu district. The terrorist was also wanted for the murder of Havaid police station SHO Imam Hussain.⁶ Later, on June 12, Sameed Mahsud, a militant belonging to the proscribed Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) Sajna group, was killed in an operation launched by the Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) near Barakhel bridge some eight kilometres from Tank.⁷

Four terrorist attacks were also recorded during the week; two were perpetrated by the TTP, one by Hizbul Ahrar and another by Sindhudesh Revolutionary Army. Details are provided below:

- June 10: The army's bomb disposal squad was on routine patrolling when a remote-controlled device exploded near their vehicle in the Tapai area, some 15km east of Miranshah, in North Waziristan. Two personnel embraced martyrdom, while their four colleagues sustained injuries.⁸
- June 10: A Pakistan Rangers, Sindh, official was injured and their mobile van was slightly damaged in a 'cracker' attack on the vehicle of the paramilitary force in Gulistan-i-Jauhar, Karachi.⁹ Sindhudesh Revolutionary Army claimed the attack.
- June 12: One person was killed and 15 others were injured, including three children, when an explosive device believed to be planted close to an electric pole went off in the busy Kola Centre of Kabari Bazaar, Saddar in Rawalpindi. The deceased was identified by police as Arfeen Akram, a resident of Allama Iqbal Colony.¹⁰

⁴ Dawn, June, 11, 2020, https://www.dawn.com/news/1562716/ttp-men-who-beheaded-polish-engineer-held

⁵ The News, June 10, 2020, https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/670615-eight-terrorists-involved-in-peshawarattacks-arrested

⁶ Dawn, June 10, 2020, https://www.dawn.com/news/1562560/terrorist-killed-in-bannu-police-encounter

⁷ The News, June 13, 2020, https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/672089-alleged-terrorist-killed-in-tank

⁸ Dawn, June 11, 2020, https://www.dawn.com/news/1562762/two-security-men-martyred-in-blast-near-miramshah

⁹ Dawn, June 11, 2020, https://www.dawn.com/news/1562673/rangers-officer-injured-in-explosive-device-attack

¹⁰ Daily *Dunya* (Urdu), June 13, 2020, http://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2020-06-13&edition=ISL&id=5218606_92548282

June 12: The militants attacked security forces in the Khaisor Katera area near Mirali in North Waziristan. A soldier, identified as Kafeel, embraced martyrdom in the attack. Militants also destroyed an abandoned security post with explosives.¹¹

2. Terror Financing

In his briefing to Prime Minister, as cited earlier, Federal Interior Minister Ijaz Shah also claimed that Pakistan has met most of the conditions set by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).¹² According to the media reports, Interior Minister in his presentation stated that the ministry froze 976 movable and immovable properties of proscribed outfits, while took over several schools, colleges, hospitals, dispensaries, ambulances etc, of the proscribed organizations into government's control. The minister also informed PM that amendments have also been introduced in Anti-Terrorism Act 1997 (ATA) were made in line with the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Act.

During the week under review, an anti-terrorism court indicted Hafiz Abdul Rehman Makki and three other leaders of Jamaat ud Dawa (JuD) in one of the cases against them carrying charges of terror financing in Lahore on June 9, 2020.¹³ The Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) Punjab had registered some 23 FIRs against the JuD chief Hafiz Muhammad Saeed and its other leaders during 2019 in police stations of Lahore, Gujranwala, Multan, Faisalabad, Sahiwal and Sargodha. The CTD accused them of using properties of religious seminaries and mosques for terror financing.

3. Drug Trafficking

The Coat Guards in Gwadar recovered 10kg ice drug from a double cabin vehicle during the patrolling and arrested three smugglers.¹⁴ They also seized 1,200kg of hashish from another place during a search operation. The hashish was found dumped by smugglers for its shipment abroad through Makran coast.¹⁵

District Sargodha police in a major bid arrested four drug dealers and recovered 85kg of hashish and 10kg opium from them.¹⁶ District Rawalpindi police arrested a lady drug smuggler and

¹¹ Dawn, June 13, 2020, https://www.dawn.com/news/1563159/soldier-martyred-in-n-waziristan

¹² *The Express Tribune*, June 11, 2020, https://tribune.com.pk/story/2240041/1-pakistan-meets-major-fatf-conditions-shah/

¹³ Dawn, June 10, 2020, https://www.dawn.com/news/1562473/four-jud-leaders-indicted-in-terror-financing-case

¹⁴ Daily Jang, June 8, 2020, https://e.jang.com.pk/06-08-2020/pindi/pic.asp?picname=03_05.png

¹⁵ Dawn, June 8, 2020, https://www.dawn.com/news/1561998

¹⁶ Daily Dunya, June, 11, 2020, https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2020-06-

^{11&}amp;edition=GUJ&id=5216659_70512257

recovered 2kg of heroin from her possession.¹⁷ Mian Chanu police also arrested three drug peddlers and recovered 4kg and 700 gram hashish from them.¹⁸

The Anti-Narcotics Force in Karachi has thwarted an attempt to smuggle the 180 gram hashish through a private courier company to Malaysia¹⁹. While in another operation foiled an attempt to smuggle 14kg ice drug and 840 grams of methamphetamine drug to Dubai from international airport and arrested a drug smuggler²⁰

ANF in Islamabad raided in several vicinities of the federal capital and apprehended 18 drug dealers, while recovered 9kg opium, 4.8kg hashish, 1.9kg heroin from their possessions.²¹ In another bid, Islamabad police foiled an attempt of smuggling the 9kg hashish to Kashmir and arrested a smuggler.²² ANF with the collaboration of Rawalpindi and Islamabad police also conducted operation and arrested 6 drug dealers and recovered millions of dollars' worth drugs from their possession.²³

Peshawar police arrested 3 drug smugglers and recovered 3kg ice drug and 10kg hashish from them.²⁴ In another bid, police have seized 18kg opium registered cases against two drug dealers.²⁵

Orakzai police arrested a smuggler and recovered 5kg hashish from his custody.²⁶

¹⁷ Daily 92, June 10, 2020,

https://www.roznama92news.com/efrontend/web/index.php/?station_id=3&page_id=1&is_common=&xdate=2020-06-10&n=n28

¹⁸ Daily 92, June 7, 2020,

https://www.roznama92news.com/backend/web/uploads/epaper/8/2020/06/07062020/p2mul008%20copy.jpg ¹⁹ *The Express Tribune*, June 12, 2020,

https://epaper.tribune.com.pk/DisplayDetails.aspx?ENI_ID=11202006120158&EN_ID=11202006120049&EMID=11202006120027

²⁰ *The Express Tribune*, June 8, 2020,

https://epaper.tribune.com.pk/DisplayDetails.aspx?ENI_ID=11202006080114&EN_ID=11202006080035&EMID=11202006080011

²¹ *The Express Tribune*, June 9, 2020,

https://epaper.tribune.com.pk/DisplayDetails.aspx?ENI_ID=11202006090175&EN_ID=11202006090050&EMID=11202006090022

²² Daily Dunya, June 8, 2020, https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2020-06-

^{08&}amp;edition=ISL&id=5211388_80642468

²³ The Express Tribune, June 6, 2020,

https://epaper.tribune.com.pk/DisplayDetails.aspx?ENI_ID=11202006070200&EN_ID=11202006070061&EMID=11202006070029

²⁴ Daily 92, June 9, 2020,

https://www.roznama92news.com/efrontend/web/index.php/?station_id=4&page_id=5&is_common=&xdate=2020-06-09&n=n37

²⁵ The Nation, June 8, 2020, https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/-06-08/page-10/detail-3

²⁶ Daily 92, June 6, 2020, https://www.roznama92news.com/backend/web/uploads/epaper/4/2020/06/07062020/P06-PEW-005.jpg

4. Cyber Crime

During the week under review, Federal Investigative Agency's (FIA) Cyber Crime Wing has claimed that a cyber-criminal gang has been busted, which was operating from different cities of Punjab and was involved in hacking the cellular companies money transfer apps data.²⁷ Total 18 arrests have been make in this connection and the worth of the money they collected is in million rupees.

.....

About NIOC:

National Initiative against Organized Crime (NIOC), in collaboration with the Global Initiative Resilience Fund is the first-ever initiative in Pakistan launched by a group of committed professionals and experts with law enforcement, media and other public service backgrounds. NIOC aims to build community resilience and influence public policy to combat organized crime.

Website: https://nioc.pk

Email: info@nioc.pk

²⁷ Daily Jang, June 6, 2020, https://e.jang.com.pk/06-12-2020/pindi/pic.asp?picname=628.png