



## CoronaCrimeWatch Pakistan

### Weekly Review of Organised Crime and Pandemic

*(Compiled by National Initiative against Organised Crime (NIOC))*

**23 May to 29 May 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:***

The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Pakistan surged to 64,028 on May 29th after over 2,000 new infections were confirmed in the country. The province-wise break up of the total number of cases as of 11:00 pm, May 29, is as follows:

#### **Total confirmed cases: 64,028**

- Sindh: 25,309
- Punjab: 22,964
- Khyber Pakhtunkhwa: 8,842
- Balochistan: 3,928
- Islamabad Capital Territory: 2,100

- Gilgit-Baltistan: 658

- AJK: 227

**Deaths: 1,334**

- Khyber Pakhtunkhwa: 432

- Punjab: 410

- Sindh: 396

- Balochistan: 60

Gilgit-Baltistan: 9

- Islamabad Capital Territory: 22

- AJK: 5

***LEA's and coronavirus pandemic:***

- During the week under review, 60 more personnel of Sindh Police tested positive for Covid-19. The total tally of infected LEAs personnel has now reached at 326, including 241 police officers.<sup>1</sup>
- According to a media report, five more policemen tested positive of COVID-19 but report did not indicated total number of infections.<sup>2</sup>

## **1. General Trends**

### ***1.1 Terrorism Watch:***

A single terrorist attack took place during the week, from North Waziristan tribal district. Three people, including a senior civil servant, Zubaidullah Khan, were shot dead in an act of targeted killing in Mir Ali, North Waziristan in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) district. All the three victims belonged to the Dawar tribe. According to North Waziristan police, initial investigations revealed the incident was a terror attack.<sup>3</sup> Separately, the police in collaboration with the Bomb Disposal Squad foiled a sabotage bid by defusing a bomb in Nawagai tehsil of Bajaur in KP. The officials said the bomb could have caused huge destruction in the area if the action was not taken immediately.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Geo TV report, May 29, 2020, <https://urdu.geo.tv/latest/222569->

<sup>2</sup> *The Express Tribune*, May 27,

2020, [https://epaper.tribune.com.pk/DisplayDetails.aspx?ENI\\_ID=11202005240430&EN\\_ID=11202005240145&EMID=11202005240030](https://epaper.tribune.com.pk/DisplayDetails.aspx?ENI_ID=11202005240430&EN_ID=11202005240145&EMID=11202005240030)

<sup>3</sup> *Dawn*, May 25, 2020, <https://www.dawn.com/news/1559426/csp-officer-among-three-shot-dead-in-north-waziristan>

<sup>4</sup> *Dawn*, May 28, 2020, <https://www.dawn.com/news/1559785/bomb-defused-in-nawagai-subdivision>

## 2. Drug Trafficking

Peshawar police arrested 4 drug peddlers and recovered 6 KG hashish, 4 KG Ice drug and 18 KG heroin in different operations conducted in the city.<sup>5</sup>

Punjab police also continued its campaign against the drugs trafficking and dealers. Some operations conducted during the week are listed below:

- District Rawalpindi police recovered 4 KG hashish and arrested three drug peddlers.<sup>6</sup>
- Sargodha and Hafizabad police claimed that they have recovered 63 KG heroin and 52 KG hashish during the third week of the month and arrested dozens drug traffickers.<sup>7</sup>
- Multan police in Makdhom Pur area arrested a drug peddler and recovered huge quantity of drugs from him.<sup>8</sup> In another raid, Makoana police recovered 2.5 KG hashish from a drug peddler.<sup>9</sup>

## 3. Cybercrime

During the week under review, the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) arrested three persons on the charge of involvement in cybercrimes in Lahore. The accused were involved in money extortion under the garb of a fake NGO. FIA seized 8,000 active mobile phone SIMs, thumb impressions made with silicon, biometric devices, and other items from their possession.<sup>10</sup>

Meanwhile, an international wire AFP reported on May 28<sup>th</sup> that the intelligence services in Pakistan are deploying secretive surveillance technology normally used to locate militants to instead track coronavirus patients and the people they come into contact.<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Daily 92, May 23, 2020,

[https://www.roznama92news.com/efrontend/web/index.php/?station\\_id=4&page\\_id=5&is\\_common=&xdate=2020-05-23&n=n13](https://www.roznama92news.com/efrontend/web/index.php/?station_id=4&page_id=5&is_common=&xdate=2020-05-23&n=n13)

<sup>6</sup> Daily 92, May 22, 2020,

[https://www.roznama92news.com/efrontend/web/index.php/?station\\_id=3&page\\_id=1&is\\_common=&xdate=2020-05-22&n=n18](https://www.roznama92news.com/efrontend/web/index.php/?station_id=3&page_id=1&is_common=&xdate=2020-05-22&n=n18)

<sup>7</sup> *The Express Tribune*, May 24, 2020,

[https://epaper.tribune.com.pk/DisplayDetails.aspx?ENI\\_ID=11202005240251&EN\\_ID=11202005240077&EMID=11202005240035](https://epaper.tribune.com.pk/DisplayDetails.aspx?ENI_ID=11202005240251&EN_ID=11202005240077&EMID=11202005240035)

<sup>8</sup> Daily *Dunya*, May 29, 2020, [https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2020-05-29&edition=MUL&id=5198929\\_18757633](https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2020-05-29&edition=MUL&id=5198929_18757633)

<sup>9</sup> Daily 92, May 27, 2020,

[https://www.roznama92news.com/efrontend/web/index.php/?station\\_id=5&page\\_id=1&is\\_common=&xdate=2020-05-27&n=n10](https://www.roznama92news.com/efrontend/web/index.php/?station_id=5&page_id=1&is_common=&xdate=2020-05-27&n=n10)

<sup>10</sup> *The Express Tribune*, May 23, 2020, <https://tribune.com.pk/story/2227333/1-fia-arrests-three-cybercriminals/>

<sup>11</sup> Dawn, May 28, 2020

## 5. Human Trafficking

Rawalpindi police arrested a high profile suspect involved in human trafficking. The *Express Tribune* reported that the culprit was also involved in kidnapping and murder cases.<sup>12</sup>

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### **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.

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<sup>12</sup> *The Express Tribune*, May 24, 2020, [https://epaper.tribune.com.pk/DisplayDetails.aspx?ENI\\_ID=11202005240430&EN\\_ID=11202005240145&EMID=11202005240030](https://epaper.tribune.com.pk/DisplayDetails.aspx?ENI_ID=11202005240430&EN_ID=11202005240145&EMID=11202005240030)