



Organized Crime Watch Pakistan-27

Weekly Review of Organised Crime in Pakistan

Compiled by National Initiative against Organised Crime (NIOC)

05 October to 11 October 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.

Nationwide confirmed COVID-19 cases in Pakistan stood at 319,317 as of October 12, 2020, while 304,185 of them have recovered so far in the country. The death toll reached 6,580. The detail on regional distribution of the total detected cases across Pakistan as well as consequent deaths is given in the table below:

Area	Number of Confirmed Cases	Number of Deaths	Deaths as % of Cases
AJK	3118	78	2.50
Balochistan	15525	146	0.94

Gilgit Baltistan	3937	90	2.29
Islamabad	17331	189	1.09
KP	38348	1264	3.30
Punjab	100764	2258	2.24
Sindh	140294	2555	1.82

1. General Trends

1.1. Street Crime

Islamabad Police have decided to introduce ‘street watcher system’ initially in City Zone area of Islamabad, which would help enhance cooperation between police and public and curb crime. According to the media reports, the street watchers would be deputed at streets and sub-sectors, which would assist police in its efforts to curb crime. They would inform police in case of any suspicious activity in their respective area and keep a vigilant eye on security guards and domestic servants. Police and street watchers would remain in contact with each other round the clock through a mobile app.¹

Meanwhile, street crime in Karachi is again on the rise and only in month of September 61,600 reports of such crimes were reported from the city. The police estimates that in all street crime related activities, the citizens of the city have lost valuables of worth more than one billion rupees including cars, motorcycles and mobile phones.²

1.2. Terrorism Watch

Two terrorist attacks happened in the country during the week under review. In Karachi, Maulana Dr Adil Khan, head of a prominent seminary, Jamia Farooqia in Shah Faisal Colony and the son of the late founder of the seminary, Maulana Saleemullah Khan, was shot dead along with his driver in a suspected targeted attack.³ The second attack happened in North Waziristan, where militants fired rockets in the pre-dawn attack on a security post in Shawal valley, which left two soldiers martyred and three others wounded.⁴

¹ Dawn, October 10, 2020, <https://www.dawn.com/news/1584169/police-introduce-street-watcher-system-to-check-crime-in-islamabad>

² Daily Jang, October 11, 2020, https://jang.com.pk/news/830502?_ga=2.132840590.1855004357.1602356934-1279310720.1600370579

³ Dawn, October 11, 2020, <https://www.dawn.com/news/1584334/seminary-head-driver-shot-dead-in-shah-faisal-colony>

⁴ Daily Jang (Urdu), October 11, 2020, <https://e.jang.com.pk/10-11-2020/pindi/pic.asp?picname=532.png>

Separately, Peshawar police said that a professor belonging to Ahmadi community, Dr. Naeemuddin Khattak, was assassinated on Kohat road Peshawar. According to one account, he was apparently killed by his colleagues after an argument over religion a day earlier.⁵

2. Terror Financing

Financial Action Task Force (FATF) plenary meeting scheduled for Oct 21-23 will decide if Pakistan should be excluded from its 'grey list', based on a review of Islamabad's performance to meet global commitments and standards on fight against money laundering and terror financing (ML&TF).⁶ Concerned institutions in Pakistan are taking serious steps to insure the implementation on the FATF related regulations in the country. After the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR), the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) has also directed securities brokers, futures brokers, insurance companies, Takaful Operators, non-banking finance companies (NBFCs) and Modarabas to ensure implementation of Targeted Financial Sanctions (TFS) of freezing and prohibition obligations in relation to the money, assets or property of the designated or proscribed persons (customers) under the guidelines issued by the commission.⁷ After issuing the directives the Chairman SECP declared that all the requirements of Financial Action Task Force (FATF) have been met and suspicious transactions related to money laundering and terror financing are being monitored efficiently. In a statement he said that all the conditions of FATF have largely been met, there is no regulatory requirement pending in this regard and there is a strong focus on money laundering and supervision process is very vigilant.⁸

While, police's counter terrorism department (CTD) arrested two alleged activists of a banned outfit, recovering money from them that was "meant for terrorism financing". According to the media reports, CTD was informed that two activists of banned Jamatud Dawa (JuD)/Falah-i-Insaniat Foundation (FIF) were present in the limits of Karam Dad Qureshi police station, some 35 kilometers away from city area and collecting funds for financing terrorism. On receiving the information, a CTD team raided a place and arrested the two activists -- Wajid Ullah and Muhammad Ali, recovering from them money, pamphlets of banned outfit and receipt books.⁹

3. Drug Trafficking

The Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) has seized a huge haul of drugs with a street value of more than Rs1 billion from a fishing boat during a raid on an island off Karachi's coast. According to APP, a raid was conducted by the agency's intelligence wing. On seeing the ANF personnel, suspected

⁵ BBC Urdu, October 5, 2020, <https://www.bbc.com/urdu/pakistan-54422424>

⁶ Dawn, October 5, 2020, <https://www.dawn.com/news/1583295>

⁷ Propakistani, October 7, 2020 <https://propakistani.pk/2020/10/07/secp-directs-financial-institutions-to-ensure-implementation-of-financial-sanctions-on-suspected-customers-under-aml-act/>

⁸ Dawn, October 7, 2020, <https://www.dawn.com/news/1583624>

⁹ Dawn, October 9, 2020, <https://www.dawn.com/news/1583965/two-jud-men-held-for-terror-financing>

smugglers opened fire. However, no casualties were reported.¹⁰ ANF also arrested five drug dealers from different parts of Karachi city.¹¹

The Customs department in two different operations in Balochistan province recovered hashish worth of 7 billion rupees and arrested two smugglers.¹² The excise police in Gambat area of Karachi arrested two drug smugglers and recovered 200 kg hashish.¹³

Islamabad police arrested seven drug dealers including a women and recovered 21kg heroin from their possession.¹⁴ Airport security force recovered 272 gram hashish from a passenger bon to Sharja, hiding in a laptop.¹⁵

While, in KP and Punjab provinces:

- Rawalpindi Police in their ongoing operation against drug peddlers, bootleggers, lawbreakers and proclaimed offenders managed to net 858 criminals including 197 for holding illegal weapons, 299 drug peddlers and bootleggers during September.¹⁶ According to media reports, Rawalpindi Police have arrested a drug peddler and recovered 1.5kg of drugs from his possession and in a separate operation arrested another drug paddler and recovered 2kg hashish.
- Sargodha Police in Punjab arrested 15 drug peddlers in a district wide operation against drugs, while district Chakwal police arrested one drug dealer and recovered 2kg hashish from his possession.
- Peshawar police arrested four drug dealers and recovered huge quantity of drugs, while Dera Ismail Khan Police has also arrested on drug dealer and recovered 2kg hashish.

4. Cyber Security

During the week under review, Cyber Crime Wing of the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) apprehended 16 suspects involved in data theft and scamming. According to details, the suspects

¹⁰ *Pakistan Today*, October 9, 2020, <https://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2020/10/09/class-a-drugs-worth-rs1bn-seized-during-karachi-island-raid/>

¹¹ *Daily Jang*, October 7, 2020, https://jang.com.pk/news/827973?_ga=2.61581615.2087019873.1601882446-445604765.1600348003

¹² *Daily Jang*, October 9, 2020, <https://jang.com.pk/news/828155>

¹³ *The Express Tribune*, October 7, 2020, <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/news/Karachi/2020-10-07/MDc0ZDQ3OGQ3N2E4YWZiODBjNWQ5MDFIZTRhOTU2MjEuanBIZw%3D%3D>

¹⁴ *The Express Tribune*, October 5, 2020, <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/news/Islamabad/2020-10-05/MmI4MjY2YmM2NzNIYmRmMmFkYmZjYmI5ZTRhMTJjODAUanBIZw%3D%3D>

¹⁵ *Daily Express*, October 10, 2020,

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1107795311&Issue=NP_ISB&Date=20201009

¹⁶ *The Nation*, October 7, 2020, <https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2020-10-07/page-14/detail-4>

had scammed and deprived numerous people of millions of rupees by offering online banking, ATM cards, and Benazir Income Support Program (BISP) schemes.¹⁷

.....

About NIOC:

National Initiative against Organized Crime (NIOC), in collaboration with the Global Initiative Resilience Fund, is the first-ever initiative in Pakistan launched in November 2019 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

¹⁷ Haroon Hayder, “FIA Arrests 16 Suspects for Data Theft And Scamming,” Propakistani, October 6, 2020, <https://propakistani.pk/2020/10/05/fia-arrests-16-suspects-for-data-theft-and-scamming>