



## Organized Crime Watch-33

### Pakistan's Organized Crime Weekly Review

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

#### **16 November to 22 November 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.

The nationwide confirmed cases of Covid-19 were 376,929 as of November 22, 2020, while 330,885 of them have recovered so far in the country. The death toll reached 7,696. The detail on regional distribution of the total detected cases across Pakistan as well as consequent deaths is given in the table below<sup>1</sup>:

Area	Number of Confirmed Cases	Number of Deaths	Deaths as % of Cases
AJK	6,123	144	2.35
Balochistan	16,810	161	0.95

<sup>1</sup> <http://covid.gov.pk/stats/pakistan>

Gilgit Baltistan	4,542	95	2.09
Islamabad	27,018	279	1.03
KP	44,599	1,327	2.97
Punjab	114,508	2,861	2.49
Sindh	163,329	2,829	1.73

## 1. Terrorism Watch

The terrorists stepped up attacks against personnel of security forces and law enforcement agencies during the week under review. Overall, four security and law enforcement officials lost their lives in three terrorist attacks reported from parts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. Details are given below:

- o November 17: Unknown militants shot dead a police officer Gula Jan in Jamrud and injured his driver. The slain officer served as the first SHO of the newly-established Jamrud police station after the merger of erstwhile Fata with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and the extension of the Police Act to the region.<sup>2</sup>
- o November 18: Two security personnel lost their lives, and another was injured when militants attacked a security forces' convoy in South Waziristan tribal district. The convoy was heading towards Makeen when terrorists fired rockets in the mountainous area. The attack resulted in the martyrdom of Hawaldar Matloob Alam and Sepoy Suleman Shaukat.<sup>3</sup>
- o November 18: An armed man on a motorcycle tried to enter the office of an intelligence agency, adjacent to the office of the deputy commissioner, and opened indiscriminate fire. As a result, an FC official Muslim Khan was critically injured and later succumbed to his injuries. Security forces killed the attacker.<sup>4</sup>

Separately, a suspected terrorist Mullah Omer, wanted by the Iranian government for a long time, and his two sons were killed in an exchange of fire with police in Turbat town of Kech district. Mullah Omer belonged to banned Iranian outfit Jaishul Adal, a splinter of Jundullah.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Dawn, November 18, 2020, <https://www.dawn.com/news/1591001/police-officer-shot-dead-in-khyber-attack>

<sup>3</sup> Daily Jang (Urdu), November 19, 2020, <https://e.jang.com.pk/11-19-2020/pindi/pic.asp?picname=520.png>; Dawn, November 20, 2020, <https://www.dawn.com/news/1591289/two-soldiers-martyred-in-s-waziristan>

<sup>4</sup> Daily Jang (Urdu), November 19, 2020, <https://e.jang.com.pk/11-19-2020/pindi/pic.asp?picname=520.png>

<sup>5</sup> Dawn, November 18, 2020, <https://www.dawn.com/news/1590939/terrorist-wanted-by-iran-two-sons-killed-in-clash-with-police>

Similarly, security forces raided a suspected compound of militants in North Waziristan killing four alleged militants; an army soldier was martyred, and two others were injured in the exchange of fire with the militants.<sup>6</sup>

## **2. Terror Financing**

During the week under the review, an anti-terrorism court (ATC) convicted Jamaatud Dawa (JuD) chief Hafiz Saeed and three others in two separate terror-financing cases. The court handed down 10 years and six-month imprisonment each to Hafiz Saeed, Malik Zafar Iqbal and Yahya Mujahid, besides six months imprisonment to Abdul Rehman Makki. The court also confiscated property, possessed by Saeed, besides imposing a fine of Rs110,000 on him. The CTD had registered the cases against the convicts under Section 11-N of Anti-Terrorism Act 1997. It was alleged that the convicts committed terrorism financing by managing assets of proscribed organization and helped raise funds. The CTD had registered various FIRs against the JuD leaders in different cities of Punjab.<sup>7</sup>

## **3. Cyber Security**

The government has notified rules that define how social media will be governed in Pakistan. Responding to these rules, some giant technology companies announced that the regulations would make it difficult for them to continue their operations in the country. The rules titled, “Removal and Blocking of Unlawful Online Content (Procedure, Oversight and Safeguards) Rules 2020,” have been framed under the Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act 2016 (PECA). Earlier this year, Prime Minister Imran Khan promised to initiate a “broad-based” consultation on content regulation after a strong backlash from stakeholders over the release of formally known as the Citizen Protection (Against Online Harm) Rules 2020.<sup>8</sup>

## **4. Drug Trafficking**

According to one report, the Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) has seized 74 tons of drugs and arrested 27 drug peddlers during this year.<sup>9</sup> On the other hand, Levies forces foiled narcotics smuggling bid in Khuzdar and recovered 25 kilograms of hashish during operation.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> Daily *Jang* (Urdu), November 23, 2020, [https://e.jang.com.pk/11-23-2020/pindi/pic.asp?picname=01\\_02.png](https://e.jang.com.pk/11-23-2020/pindi/pic.asp?picname=01_02.png)

<sup>7</sup> *Dawn*, November 19, 2020 <https://tribune.com.pk/story/2272819/jud-chief-hafiz-saeed-sentenced-to-life>

<sup>8</sup> *Dawn*, November 20, 2020 <https://www.dawn.com/news/1591357>

<sup>9</sup> Daily *Jang*, November 21, 2020, <https://e.jang.com.pk/11-21-2020/Quetta/page2.asp>

<sup>10</sup> Daily *Jang*, November 21, 2020, <https://e.jang.com.pk/11-21-2020/Quetta/page2.asp>

The Anti-Narcotics Court in Rawalpindi fined four drug peddlers.<sup>11</sup> In a separate hearing, the court awarded life imprisonment to one drug peddler.<sup>12</sup>

Meanwhile, the ANF and civil society members in Quetta called a conference for policy making against the menace of drug trafficking in Balochistan.<sup>13</sup>

The police in the four provinces also conducted multiple anti-drug operations as mentioned below:

- Police in the Hazara division launched a ‘Drug-Free Hazara’ campaign. Under the campaign, a special crackdown has been launched against suspected drug peddlers apart from rounding up addicts and transferring them to rehabilitation centers.<sup>14</sup> Separately, the Hazara police sought the help of religious scholars to control narcotics in the division.<sup>15</sup>
- Similarly, Peshawar police launched a grand operation against drug addicts with target of arresting 1, 500 addicts in the three-day operation.<sup>16</sup>
- Islamabad police arrested 9 suspects in a crackdown against drug pushers and criminal elements and seized narcotics including hashish and ice from their possession.<sup>17</sup> In another operation, Islamabad police arrested 5 drug peddlers from various areas of the city and recovered hashish and heroine from their possession.<sup>18</sup>
- Shalkot police (Balochistan) seized 160kg of hashish during snap checking at the western bypass.<sup>19</sup>
- Layyah police (Punjab) arrested two drug peddlers and seized over 3 kilograms of hashish from them.<sup>20</sup>
- Tulamba police arrested one drug peddler and seized over 10 kilograms of hashish from his possession.<sup>21</sup>
- The Loralai police (Balochistan) claim to have seized 600 kilograms of drugs during the past 10 months.<sup>22</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> Daily Jang., November 19, 2020, [https://e.jang.com.pk/11-19-2020/pindi/pic.asp?picname=02\\_09.png](https://e.jang.com.pk/11-19-2020/pindi/pic.asp?picname=02_09.png)

<sup>12</sup> Daily Jang, November 20, 2020, [https://e.jang.com.pk/11-20-2020/Pindi/pic.asp?picname=02\\_15.png](https://e.jang.com.pk/11-20-2020/Pindi/pic.asp?picname=02_15.png)

<sup>13</sup> Daily Express, November 20, 2020,

[https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1107897505&Issue=NP\\_QTA&Date=20201120](https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1107897505&Issue=NP_QTA&Date=20201120)

<sup>14</sup> Daily Dunya, November 17, 2020, [https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2020-11-](https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2020-11-17&edition=ISL&id=5401987_14758441)

[17&edition=ISL&id=5401987\\_14758441](https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2020-11-17&edition=ISL&id=5401987_14758441)

<sup>15</sup> Dawn, November 21, 2020, <https://www.dawn.com/news/1591513/mansehra-police-seek-clerics-help-for-drugs-control>

<sup>16</sup> The Express Tribune, November 18, 2020, <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/news/Karachi/2020-11-18/ZGE0YTBhMjIxOWY1ODUxYTU5YW11N2QwMDMxYjJhNjcuanBlZw%3D%3D>

<sup>17</sup> Dawn, November 16, 2020, <https://www.dawn.com/news/1590560/suspects-arrested-in-islamabad>

<sup>18</sup> The Nation, November 21, 2020, <https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2020-11-21/page-13/detail-4>

<sup>19</sup> The Express Tribune, November 16, 2020, <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/news/Karachi/2020-11-16/N2YyYWFiYzk5ZWU1NTRiNjJmZTE3ZDQyZTAxNjZkODkuanBlZw%3D%3D>

<sup>20</sup> Daily Jang, November 16, 2020, <https://e.jang.com.pk/11-16-2020/pindi/pic.asp?picname=88.png>

<sup>21</sup> Daily Express, November 16, 2020,

[https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1107888536&Issue=NP\\_MUX&Date=20201116](https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1107888536&Issue=NP_MUX&Date=20201116)

<sup>22</sup> Daily Express, November 18, 2020,

[https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1107892814&Issue=NP\\_QTA&Date=20201118](https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1107892814&Issue=NP_QTA&Date=20201118)

- Pakistan Coast Guards and Pakistan Army, in a joint operation, have foiled a drug smuggling bid and recovered 101 kilograms of crystal and 2700 kilograms of hashish worth over Rs17 billion.<sup>23</sup> In a separate operation, Pakistan coast guards arrested three suspects and seized Rs. 270 million worth of drugs from their possession.<sup>24</sup> The coast guards arrested two drug pushers near Balochistan and seized 15 kilograms of Hashish and crystal from them.<sup>25</sup>
- Excise police in Karachi arrested a drug peddler and recovered 14 kilograms of hashish from his possession.<sup>26</sup>
- Sargodha police arrested a drug peddler and seized narcotics from his possession.<sup>27</sup> In a separate operation, Sargodha police arrested two drug peddlers and seized over 4 kilograms of hashish from their possession.<sup>28</sup>
- Rawalpindi police arrested two drug peddlers and seized over 4 kilograms of hashish from their possession.<sup>29</sup> In another operation against drug trafficking, Rawalpindi police arrested three drug peddlers and seized 3 kilograms of hashish from them.<sup>30</sup>
- Dalbadin police arrested three drug peddlers and recovered narcotics from their possession.<sup>31</sup>
- Peshawar police arrested one drug peddler and recovered 5 kilograms of hashish from his possession.<sup>32</sup>
- Islamabad police seized 14 kilograms of hashish from various suspects in last 10 days.<sup>33</sup> A media report noted that 707 kilograms of narcotics have been seized by Islamabad police so far in 2020.<sup>34</sup>
- Lahore police seized 2,516 kilograms of hashish in the past 10 months.<sup>35</sup>

<sup>23</sup> Daily Express, November 16, 2020,

[https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1107887797&Issue=NP\\_KHI&Date=20201116](https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1107887797&Issue=NP_KHI&Date=20201116)

<sup>24</sup> The Express Tribune, November 20, 2020, <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/news/Karachi/2020-11-20/NmRkNjYxMmUyYmNmNjFjMzQ0NTFiZTJlMDdhZWYxYWYuanBlZw%3D%3D>

<sup>25</sup> Daily Jang, November 20, 2020, [https://jang.com.pk/news/846929?\\_ga=2.193827245.1674483096.1605789632-2039814662.1604552106](https://jang.com.pk/news/846929?_ga=2.193827245.1674483096.1605789632-2039814662.1604552106)

<sup>26</sup> The Express Tribune, November 17, 2020, <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/news/Karachi/2020-11-17/MGM5MTdmMmU0NDJmMjQ1ODE3NmYxOWI4NGNjN2QuanBlZw%3D%3D>

<sup>27</sup> The Express Tribune, November 17, 2020, <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/news/Karachi/2020-11-17/OTgxYTlmNDI1ZjlmMmY3OGRkNWYyNDk1ZmI5NTM5Y2MuanBlZw%3D%3D>

<sup>28</sup> The Express Tribune, November 21, 2020, <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/news/Karachi/2020-11-21/YTE2ZTM4MDcwMjQ1ZmQ1MTkxYmUxYWlyMGVkdjMTUuanBlZw%3D%3D>

<sup>29</sup> Daily Jang, November 17, 2020, [https://e.jang.com.pk/11-17-2020/Pindi/pic.asp?picname=02\\_06.png](https://e.jang.com.pk/11-17-2020/Pindi/pic.asp?picname=02_06.png)

<sup>30</sup> The Nation, November 21, 2020, <https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2020-11-21/page-14/detail-7>

<sup>31</sup> Daily 92, November 17, 2020,

<https://www.roznama92news.com/backend/web/uploads/epaper/7/2020/11/17112020/p2-qa025.jpg>

<sup>32</sup> The Express Tribune, November 19, 2020, <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/news/Karachi/2020-11-19/ODkwOTVmNzIxN2FmYTQ4MmM0MjhiZWVkZjZkYzUyMTQuanBlZw%3D%3D>

<sup>33</sup> The Express Tribune, November 19, 2020, <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/news/Karachi/2020-11-19/ZGMwNGQ3ZTM1OGMwODE0NjVIZmY2Y2UwMzAzMDNlZmQuanBlZw%3D%3D>

<sup>34</sup> The Express Tribune, November 20, 2020, <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/news/Karachi/2020-11-20/ODI3M2RjMDhlNjIxMWNjZDgyN2Q3YWEyMDE4NzIxYmMuanBlZw%3D%3D>

<sup>35</sup> The Express Tribune, November 19, 2020, <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/news/Karachi/2020-11-19/MTRjNTNjODNmYTFjMTU2YzMOYjZiMGFkYTAyZTM2YzguanBlZw%3D%3D>

- Bajaur police recovered heavy amount of (90 packets) of hashish during crackdown against drug trafficking and arrested the suspects.<sup>36</sup>
- Mohmand police arrested one drug peddler and seized over 8 kilograms of opium from his possession.<sup>37</sup>
- Police foiled a bid to smuggle large quantity of narcotics from South Waziristan to Punjab through Tank district. Police seized 300 Kgs hashish and 60 Kgs opium from a truck.<sup>38</sup>
- Kulachi police (DI Khan district) arrested one drug peddler and seized 2 kilograms of heroin from his possession.<sup>39</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 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.

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<sup>36</sup> *Daily Express*, November 20, 2020, [https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1107897765&Issue=NP\\_PEW&Date=20201120](https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1107897765&Issue=NP_PEW&Date=20201120)

<sup>37</sup> *Daily Express*, November 21, 2020, [https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1107900235&Issue=NP\\_PEW&Date=20201121](https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1107900235&Issue=NP_PEW&Date=20201121)

<sup>38</sup> *The Nation*, November 22, 2020, <https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2020-11-22/page-3/detail-7>

<sup>39</sup> *Daily 92*, November 22, 2020, [https://www.roznama92news.com/efrontend/web/index.php/?station\\_id=4&page\\_id=1&is\\_common=&xdate=2020-11-22&n=n6](https://www.roznama92news.com/efrontend/web/index.php/?station_id=4&page_id=1&is_common=&xdate=2020-11-22&n=n6)