



Organized Crime Watch-32

Pakistan's Organized Crime Weekly Review

Compiled by National Initiative against Organised Crime (NIOC)

09 November to 15 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 359,032 as of November 15, 2020, while 323,824 of them have recovered so far in the country. The death toll reached 7,160. The detail on regional distribution of the total detected cases across Pakistan as well as consequent deaths is given in the table below:¹

Area	Number of Confirmed Cases	Number of Deaths	Deaths as % of Cases
AJK	5,455	121	2.21
Balochistan	16,407	156	0.95

¹ Data is drawn from <<http://covid.gov.pk/stats/pakistan>>

Gilgit Baltistan	4,452	93	2.08
Islamabad	24,218	257	1.06
KP	42,370	1,311	3.09
Punjab	110,450	2,475	2.24
Sindh	155,680	2,747	1.76

1. Terrorism Watch

Two terrorist attacks happened in Pakistan during the week under review. In one of these attacks, militants of a Baloch insurgent group threw a hand grenade in a police patrolling van in Quetta on November 13th, which exploded injuring three policemen and two others.²

Separately, a tribal elder Malik Abdur Rasheed, 65, was on way to home in his Khor Chai village when unknown militants opened fire on him. The elder was critically wounded and taken to the district hospital, Khar, but he did not survive.³

2. Drug Trafficking

President Dr. Arif Alvi, while emphasizing the need for collective efforts to curb the menace of drug addiction in university campuses, directed the Higher Education Commission (HEC) to develop policy guidelines in consultation with all the stakeholders to support universities in this regard.⁴

In countrywide operations, the Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) seized 148 Kgs narcotics and arrested 19 culprits including three women.⁵ In a separate operation, the ANF arrested one drug peddler in Vehari and seized 1000 Kgs of hashish from his possession.⁶ The ANF arrested three suspects and seized drugs including 7 Kgs of hashish from them during separate operations in Karachi.⁷

Meanwhile, Pakistan coast guards arrested two drug peddlers and seized 9 Kgs of hashish during an operation in Balochistan.⁸ Drugs worth Rs 20 billion including crystal meth were seized by

² Daily *Jang* (Urdu), November 14, 2020, <https://e.jang.com.pk/11-14-2020/pindi/pic.asp?picname=424.png>

³ Dawn, November 13, 2020, <https://www.dawn.com/news/1590075/tribal-elder-shot-dead-in-bajaur>

⁴ Dawn, November 13, 2020, <https://www.dawn.com/news/1590085/president-for-collective-efforts-to-root-out-drug-addiction-on-campus>

⁵ Daily *Jang*, November 09, 2020, https://e.jang.com.pk/11-09-2020/pindi/pic.asp?picname=02_08.png

⁶ Daily *Dunya*, November 09, 2020, https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2020-11-09&edition=MUL&id=5393166_20516673

⁷ *The Express Tribune*, November 13, 2020, <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/news/Karachi/2020-11-13/MWNkY2RmOTE5ODliY2IwYjU4NzUwNDYxNWNmOTI5OTkuanBIZw%3D%3D>

⁸ *Daily 92*, November 10, 2020,

https://www.roznama92news.com/efrontend/web/index.php/?station_id=7&page_id=5&is_common=&xdate=2020-11-10&n=n20

Pakistan coast guards during another operation in the hilly areas near Pasni.⁹ The anti-narcotics court sentenced a drug peddler to two years in prison for smuggling over 2Kgs of hashish to Masqat.¹⁰

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

- A special anti-drug police team in Islamabad nabbed a drug peddler from Saidpur and recovered 4 Kgs of hashish and 2Kgs of heroin from his possession.¹¹ In a separate operation against criminal activities in Rawalpindi, police arrested 14 drug peddlers and seized drugs including over 8 Kgs of hashish from them.¹²
- Loralai police arrested two drug peddlers and seized 15 Kgs of hashish from their possession.¹³
- Chiniot police arrested a drug peddler. He was arrested for drug peddling for the 20th time in 23 years. However, the district bar secretary Irfan Nekokara urged reforms in criminal justice system of Pakistan.¹⁴
- Kasur police arrested two drug peddlers including a women and seized over 3 Kgs of hashish from them.¹⁵
- Sialkot police arrested a drug peddler and seized over 7 Kgs of hashish, 3 Kgs of heroin from his possession.¹⁶
- The University of Engineering and Technology, Lahore has decided to form an anti-drug force to curb the menace of drug trafficking in its premises.¹⁷
- Hub police arrested a drug peddler and seized 8 Kgs of crystal from his possession.¹⁸ Shalkot police during a raid in Quetta recovered 160 Kgs of hashish from an Afghan smuggler.¹⁹ In a separate operation, Quetta police arrested one drug peddler and seized 160 Kgs of hashish from his possession.²⁰

⁹ Daily Express,, November 13, 2020,

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1107880990&Issue=NP_KHI&Date=20201113

¹⁰ Daily Jang, November 14, 2020, https://e.jang.com.pk/11-14-2020/Pindi/pic.asp?picname=02_02.png

¹¹ The Nation, , November 15, 2020, <https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2020-11-15/page-13/detail-2>

¹² Daily Dunya, November 15, 2020, https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2020-11-15&edition=ISL&id=5400542_22974887

¹³ Daily Jang, November 10, 2020, <https://e.jang.com.pk/11-10-2020/Quetta/page2.asp>

¹⁴ Dawn, November 10, 2020, <https://www.dawn.com/news/1589574/drug-peddler-arrested-for-20th-time-in-23-years>

¹⁵ The Express Tribune, November 10, 2020, <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/news/Karachi/2020-11-10/N2M3ZWYxMTg4YjU0NjYxNjMxMDRhYmE0NjFkMzdmNTUuanBIZw%3D%3D>

¹⁶ The Express Tribune, November 11, 2020, <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/news/Karachi/2020-11-11/NjhhMWExYjYyNmVmNzU3ZDRkMWQ3YWM2MGJhYjYmNTkuanBIZw%3D%3D>

¹⁷ Daily 92, November 15, 2020,

https://www.roznama92news.com/efrontend/web/index.php/?station_id=2&page_id=1&is_common=&xdate=2020-11-15&n=n3

¹⁸ Daily Jang, November 12, 2020, <https://e.jang.com.pk/11-12-2020/Quetta/page2.asp>

¹⁹ The Express Tribune, November 15, 2020, <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/news/Karachi/2020-11-15/OTA3N2VkZWUzNGEYNDY4NDVIMjM4ZDZmYTl2YjcyNzYuanBIZw%3D%3D>

²⁰ Daily 92, November 15, 2020,

https://www.roznama92news.com/efrontend/web/index.php/?station_id=7&page_id=1&is_common=&xdate=2020-11-15&n=n28

- Sahiwal police arrested two drug peddlers and seized over 2 Kgs of hashish from them.²¹
- Peshawar police arrested one drug peddler and seized over 4 Kgs of heroin from his possession.²²
- Karachi police arrested two suspects of drug trafficking and seized drugs including hashish, heroin and ice from their possession.²³

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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 in Pakistan.

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²¹ Daily *Dunya*, November 14, 2020, https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2020-11-14&edition=MUL&id=5398894_75843929

²² Daily *92*, November 12, 2020, https://www.roznama92news.com/efrontend/web/index.php/?station_id=4&page_id=1&is_common=&xdate=2020-11-12&n=n33

²³ *The Express Tribune*, November 15, 2020, <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/news/Karachi/2020-11-15/OTk1NjhjOTRmMmM2ZTU1Yzk4NTE2MGMyNjlmYjM0OGIuanBIZw%3D%3D>