



Organized Crime Watch-34

Pakistan's Organized Crime Weekly Review

Compiled by National Initiative against Organised Crime (NIOC)

23 November to 29 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 398,024 as of November 29, 2020, while 341,423 of them had recovered so far in the country. The death toll has reached 8,025. 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	6,855	165	2.40
Balochistan	17,158	166	0.96

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

Gilgit Baltistan	4,649	97	2.08
Islamabad	30,123	314	1.04
KP	47,190	1,368	2.89
Punjab	119,035	2,991	2.51
Sindh	173,014	2,924	1.69

1. Terrorism Watch

Two terrorist attacks took place during the week, both in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, claiming five lives including four civilians and one policeman. On November 16th, four daily wagers working for the Frontier Works Organization, a military engineering organization, were killed when gunmen opened fire on a vehicle near Mirali town in North Waziristan tribal district.² On the same day, a police constable Shah Faisal, 24, was gunned down in a targeted attack at Taru Jabba area of Nowshera district.³

Meanwhile, an alleged suicide bomber was killed by a security official in crossfire when he attempted to attack a Counter Terrorism Department police station on Burki Road, Lahore, the provincial capital of Punjab. The TTP said its young suicide bomber had hit a bus carrying CTD officials, killing them all, a claim that was strongly rejected by police and could not be validated by local accounts.⁴

2. Terror Financing

During the week under review, Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) Sindh has registered seven cases of terror financing in Karachi against the operatives of the banned organizations, while 10 suspects were also arrested.⁵

3. Drug Trafficking

The Anti-Narcotic Force (ANF) foiled an attempt to smuggle drugs to the Netherlands. Separately, the ANF nabbed a drug peddler from in Karachi and seized 25 kilograms of heroin. In another raid

² Dawn, November 27, 2020, <https://www.dawn.com/news/1592649/four-working-for-fwo-shot-dead-in-north-waziristan>

³ Dawn, November 27, 2020, <https://www.dawn.com/news/1592567/constable-killed-in-targeted-attack-in-nowshera>

⁴ Dawn, November 25, 2020, <https://www.dawn.com/news/1592178/ttp-claims-otherwise-suicide-attack-at-ctd-police-station-foiled>

⁵ Daily Jang, November 24, 2020 https://jang.com.pk/news/848722?_ga=2.216712657.670373376.1606206255-2039814662.1604552106

- The Sargodha police arrested seven drug pushers and confiscated 6.4 kilograms of hashish from them.¹⁷
- The Lodhran police arrested 6 suspects and seized over 2 kilograms of hashish from them.¹⁸
- The Gawalmandi police (Lahore) arrested a suspected drug dealer and seized over 1 kilograms of hashish from him.¹⁹
- The Vehari police arrested one drug pusher and seized 5 kilograms of hashish from his possession.²⁰
- The Hyderabad police nabbed one drug pusher and seized over 2 kilograms of hashish from him.²¹ Separately, Hyderabad police in different operations arrested three drug pushers and seized over 5 kilograms of hashish from their possession.²²
- The Karachi police claimed to arrest two drug dealers during a raid.²³ The Sukhan police arrested three suspects involved in drug peddling and other crimes.²⁴ The Sukkur excise police arrested two suspects and confiscated 7.5 tonnes of poppy husk from their possession²⁵.
- The Crime Investigation Agency (CIA) of Islamabad police arrested a drug peddler involved in supplying narcotics at Quaid-e-Azam University (QAU) and recovered 1.120 kilograms hashish from his possession.²⁶

4. Cyber Security

In order to ensure smooth working of the parliament particularly due to corona crisis, a special fund of Rs6 million has been earmarked by National Assembly Secretariat to ensure virtual meetings. According to new plan, the allocated fund would be spent on making parliament cyber-efficient. Training of sitting MNAs will be part of the programme. All the bills, agenda, publications will be available on

¹⁷ *The Express Tribune*, November 24, 2020, <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/news/Karachi/2020-11-24/MTM0ZGZhZTc1YjFhZjM1OTYwMwY2YmUxYmU3MThmMzIuanBIZw%3D%3D>

¹⁸ *Daily Dunya*, November 24, 2020, https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2020-11-24&edition=MUL&id=5410159_45436187

¹⁹ *The Express Tribune*, November 29, 2020, <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/news/Karachi/2020-11-29/MmRjMzA2MmRIYmRhNDcyYzA1ZjJhYTAxMmYyYjAxYzIuanBIZw%3D%3D>

²⁰ *Daily Dunya*, November 29, 2020, https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2020-11-29&edition=MUL&id=5416813_83224231

²¹ *Daily Express*, November 25, 2020,

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1107909619&Issue=NP_KHI&Date=20201125

²² *Daily Express*, November 28, 2020,

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1107916948&Issue=NP_KHI&Date=20201128

²³ *The Express Tribune*, November 27, 2020, <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/news/Karachi/2020-11-27/ZWFhNTQyMmJhY2Q1YTdhY2QwZTZmZWJhYWQwZWFKZDkuanBIZw%3D%3D>

²⁴ *The Express Tribune*, November 29, 2020, <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/news/Karachi/2020-11-29/ZDYxNmM0NzE0NzQwZGY1YWZmN2Q2NTZkZDgxMDdhZmIuanBIZw%3D%3D>

²⁵ *The Express Tribune*, November 29, 2020, <https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/news/Karachi/2020-11-29/ZjhhYzFIZmE1NGMxY2RjNTZkYWM4YjVhMTMwMTc4NjUuanBIZw%3D%3D>

²⁶ *The Nation*, , November 27, 2020, <https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2020-11-27/page-13/detail-7>

digital system. The lawmakers can access all these through laptops, according to officials in parliament.²⁷

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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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²⁷ The Nation, November 28, 2020 <https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2020-11-28/page-2/detail-1>