**Terrorist attacks in Pakistan up by 50 percent in May 2017**

* *The number of those killed in these attacks also surged by 54 percent: says PIPS monthly security report*

Islamabad (PR) – Posting a 50 percent increase from the month before, the militant, nationalist insurgent and violent sectarian groups launched a total of 39 terrorist attacks in Pakistan in May 2017. These attacks killed 71 people – compared to 46 in previous month – and injured 107 others.

Those killed in terrorist attacks in Pakistan in May included 58 civilians, 12 personnel of security and law enforcement agencies and one militant; as many as 90 civilians, and 17 security personnel were those injured.

Terrorists once again hit Balochistan hard in the month of May 2017 where 42 people lost their lives and 70 others were injured in 13 reported terrorist attacks. A single attack, claimed by ISIS, targeting convoy of Senate Deputy Chairman Maulana Abdul Ghafoor Haideri killed 26 and injured 40 people in Mastung.

Compared to previous month, the number of terrorist attacks also rose in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, by 100 percent, and in FATA, by about 67 percent.

As many as 10 terrorist attacks took place in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa during the month under review – launched by different local Taliban groups as well as the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and Jamaatul Ahrar – which claimed 12 lives and injured 22 others.

A same number of attacks, i.e. 10, was recorded in FATA in May 2017 claiming 13 lives and wounding 5 others. With the exception of one sectarian-related attack, claimed by Lashkar-e-Jhangvi, all other reported attacks from FATA were carried out by Lashkar-e-Islam, and the TTP.

Three terrorist attacks took place in Karachi, which claimed the lives of two policemen and injured another two persons. One reported attack from Punjab killed an Ahmedi man in Rahim Yar Khan. Meanwhile, two back-to-back blasts happened in AJK at a place near the Line of Control (LoC) killing one and wounding 8 people.

A U.S. drone attack in North Waziristan reportedly killed three militant commanders of the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan including Abdullah Kashmiri.

Indicating a 100 percent increase from the month before, a total of 20 cross-border attacks were reported from Pakistan’s borders with India (14 attacks), Afghanistan (4) and Iran (2 attacks) in May 2017. These attacks killed in all 19 Pakistani citizens besides wounding 72 others.

Security and law enforcement agencies carried out 5 operational strikes against militants, mainly in Balochistan, killing a total of 9 militants. A same number of armed clashes and encounters between security forces and militants was also recorded during the month, which killed 15 militants and one soldier.

On the whole, 125 people were killed and 190 others injured in 75 incidents of violence of different types recorded from across Pakistan in May 2017.