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# PAKISTAN SECURITY REPORT

**2018**



PAK INSTITUTE FOR PEACE STUDIES(PIPS)



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## **PAKISTAN SECURITY REPORT 2018**

**PAK INSTITUTE FOR PEACE STUDIES (PIPS)**

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## LIST OF ACRONYMS

<b>AAT:</b>	Allah-o-Akbar Tehreek	<b>FIA:</b>	Federal Investigative Agency
<b>AJK:</b>	Azad Jammu and Kashmir	<b>Fr:</b>	Firing
<b>ANP:</b>	Awami National Party	<b>FR:</b>	Frontier Region
<b>AQIS:</b>	Al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent	<b>HG:</b>	Hand Grenade
<b>Arm:</b>	Army	<b>HRCP:</b>	Human Rights Commission of Pakistan
<b>ASP:</b>	Ansar ul Sharia Pakistan	<b>HuA:</b>	Hizbul Ahrar
<b>ASWJ:</b>	Ahl-e-Sunnat Wal Jamaat	<b>IDP:</b>	Internally Displaced Persons
<b>ATC:</b>	Anti Terrorism Courts	<b>IED:</b>	Improvised Explosive Device
<b>ATF:</b>	Anti-Terrorism Force	<b>IMNW:</b>	Ittehadul Mujahideen North Waziristan
<b>BAP:</b>	Balochistan Awami Party	<b>ISAF:</b>	International Security Assistance Force
<b>BC:</b>	Balochistan Constabulary	<b>ISI:</b>	Inter Services Intelligence
<b>BH:</b>	Beheading	<b>ISIS:</b>	Islamic State in Iraq and Syria
<b>BLA:</b>	Balochistan Liberation Army	<b>IS-K:</b>	Islamic State Khorasan
<b>BLF:</b>	Balochistan Liberation Front	<b>ISO:</b>	Imamia Student Organization
<b>BNP:</b>	Balochistan National Party	<b>ISPR:</b>	Inter-Services Public Relations
<b>BNP-M:</b>	Balochistan National Party-Mengal Group	<b>JI:</b>	Jamaat-e-Islami
<b>BRA:</b>	Baloch Republican Army	<b>JID:</b>	Joint Intelligence Directorate
<b>BSF:</b>	[Indian] Border Security Force	<b>JM:</b>	Jaish-e-Muhammad
<b>BT:</b>	Bomb Blast	<b>JuA:</b>	Jamaatul Ahrar
<b>CIA:</b>	Central Intelligence Agency	<b>JuD:</b>	Jamaatud Dawa
<b>CID:</b>	Criminal Investigation Department	<b>JUI-F:</b>	Jamiat-e-Ulema-e-Islam-Fazl
<b>Civ:</b>	Civilians	<b>Kid:</b>	Kidnapping
<b>CPEC:</b>	China-Pakistan Economic Corridor	<b>KP:</b>	Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa
<b>CTDs:</b>	Counter Terrorism Departments [of police]	<b>LeJ:</b>	Lashkar-e-Jhangvi
<b>CVE:</b>	Counter Violent Extremism	<b>LeJ-A:</b>	Lashkar-e-Jhangvi Al-Alami
<b>CVE:</b>	Counter-Violent Extremism	<b>LI:</b>	Lashkar-e-Islam
<b>DGMOs:</b>	Director Generals of Military Operations	<b>LM:</b>	Landmine Blast
<b>DSP:</b>	Deputy Superintendent Police	<b>LoC:</b>	Line of Control
<b>ETIM:</b>	East Turkistan Islamic Party	<b>Lvs:</b>	Levies Force
<b>FATA:</b>	Federally Administered Tribal Areas	<b>MDM:</b>	Muttahida Deeni Mahaz
<b>FATF:</b>	Financial Action Task Force	<b>Mil:</b>	Militant
<b>FC:</b>	Frontier Corps	<b>MQM:</b>	Muttahida Qaumi Movement
<b>FCR:</b>	Frontier Crimes Regulation	<b>MWM:</b>	Majlis Wahdatul Muslimeen
		<b>NACTA:</b>	National Counter-Terrorism Authority
		<b>NADRA:</b>	National Database and Registration Authority

**NAP:** National Action Plan  
**NATO:** North Atlantic Treaty Organization  
**NEC:** National Executive Committee  
**NI:** Nationalist Insurgents' Attack  
**NIC:** National Implementation Committee [on FATA reforms]  
**NP:** National Party  
**NPP:** National People's Party  
**NSA:** National Security Advisor  
**PkMAP:** Pakhtunkhwa Milli Awami Party  
**P-mf:** Paramilitary Forces  
**PML-N:** Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz  
**Pol:** Police  
**PPP:** Pakistan People's Party  
**PTI:** Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaaf  
**PTM:** Pakhtun Tahafuz Movement  
**QWP:** Qaumi Watan Party  
**RA:** Rocket Attack  
**RCB:** Remote-controlled Bomb  
**Rng:** Rangers

**SA:** Suicide Attack  
**Sab:** Sabotage  
**SDLF/A:** Sindhu Desh Liberation Front/Army  
**SDRA:** Sindhu Desh Revolution Army  
**SECP:** Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan  
**Sect:** Sectarian  
**SM:** Sipah-e-Muhammad  
**SP:** Superintendent of Police  
**SSP:** Sipah-e-Sahaba Pakistan  
**ST:** Sunni Tehreek  
**TA:** Terrorist Attack  
**TLP:** Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan  
**TNSM:** Tehreek-e-Nifaz-e-Shariat-e-Muhammadi  
**TTP:** Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan  
**UBA:** United Baloch Army  
**UN:** United Nations  
**WB:** Working Boundary



## METHODOLOGY AND VARIABLES

The PIPS conflict/security database and archives are the basic sources relied upon for this report. The archives and the database are the outcome of a meticulous monitoring process on every relevant incident in the country on a daily basis. A regular follow up is conducted in liaison with PIPS correspondents in the regions in order to keep track of daily developments on such incidents. PIPS compiles data from sources including newspapers, magazines, journals, field sources and screening of official record. More than 30 English and Urdu dailies, magazines, and journals, and various television news channels are monitored to update the database and archives. Regional daily newspapers and weeklies from Peshawar, Quetta, Gilgit and Karachi are also monitored for details of incidents reported in the local media. Correspondents in provincial capitals are the primary source for PIPS to verify the media reports. In case of a major incident, PIPS teams consult the local administration and journalists for further details. In cases where PIPS finds it difficult to verify facts of a particular incident, it gives preference to the official statements in that regard.

PIPS security reports utilize eight major variables with their respective set of sub-variables for analysis of the security situation in Pakistan. The security landscape is mapped through a combination of quantitative and qualitative approaches. Quantitative methods are used, based on PIPS Conflict and Security Database, to measure the scale and level of violence. Meanwhile, the qualitative approach dilates upon changes and developments on the militants' front, state responses to these developments and projections of future scenarios. The following eight major variables with their sub-sets of variable are used in the PIPS Security Reports:

- 1. Attacks:** This major variable has a sub-set of five sub-variables i.e. (i) terrorist attacks including militant attacks, nationalist insurgent attacks and sectarian-related attacks; (ii) incidents of ethno-political violence; (iii) cross-border attacks; (iv) drone attacks; and (v) operational attacks by security forces against militants. Since Pakistan's security landscape is very complicated with a diverse array of insecurity indicators in different parts of the country, the type of violence in one geographical unit is often different in its nature and dynamics from security landscape in other parts of the country. For this purpose the mentioned sub-set of variables is carefully monitored and analyzed in the security report with a view to suggest specific counter-strategy for each type of attack in these areas.
- 2. Clash:** Another variable used is of clashes which include four sub-variables, i.e., (i) inter-tribal; (ii) sectarian; (iii) clashes between security forces and militants; and (iv) militants' infightings. The number of such clashes and their geographic location is taken as an

indicator of parallel trends unfolding simultaneously with major trends and patterns of security in different areas of the country.

3. **State Responses:** It has two sub-variables: (i) security measures, and (ii) political and administrative responses. The first takes into account the security forces' operational attacks and clashes with militants, search and hunt operations and terrorists' arrests, etc. The second variable entails the government's political and administrative measures to maintain law and order and reduce insecurity and violence.
4. **Casualties:** Casualties include both the number of people killed and injured. Casualties among civilians, militants and security forces are treated as another indicator to measure the levels and trends of security in the country.
5. **Attack Tactics:** This head takes a comprehensive account of various tactics used by different actors including suicide attacks, missile attacks, hand grenade attacks, kidnappings, rocket attacks, beheadings, landmine blasts, firing, sabotage, target killings, and bomb and improvised explosive devices blasts.
6. **Development on Militants' Front:** This variable analyzes statements, activities, internal divisions and other activities of militants to determine their strength and the dynamics of their strategies.
7. **Opportunities and Challenges** include political measures and military responses to different security issues along with highlighting constraints and challenges encountered by the state.
8. **Claim of Responsibility:** It provides insight into militants' targets, tactics, areas of operation, and agendas.

## GLOSSARY

**Military Operation:** Large-scale operations launched by military and paramilitary forces against Islamist militants and separatist insurgents in KP, FATA and Balochistan to preserve law and order and the writ of the state.

**Operational Attack:** Pre-emptive attacks launched by military and paramilitary troops to purge an area of militants.

**Clashes between Security Forces and Militants:** Armed clashes between security forces and militants, triggered by militants' attack on security check posts/ convoys and confrontation during search operations.

**Terrorist Attacks:** Include militant, nationalist, insurgent and sectarian attacks. Indiscriminate use of violence by militant outfits such as Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), Lashkar-e-Islam (LI) and Lashkar-e-Jhangvi (LeJ) etc., manifested through suicide attacks, beheadings and destruction of educational institutions, CD/video shops, etc.

**Nationalist Insurgent Attacks:** Attacks by separatists/nationalist insurgents mainly in Balochistan and interior parts of Sindh.

**Sectarian Attacks:** Indiscriminate use of violence rooted in differences among various Islamic schools of thought over interpretation of religious commands. Incidents involving indiscriminate use of violence perpetrated by banned sectarian outfits such as LeJ, Tehreek-e-Jafria, Imamia Student Organization (ISO), Sipah-e-Muhammad, etc., against rival schools of religious thought.

**Ethno-political Violence:** The threat or use of violence, often against the civilian population, to achieve political or social ends, to intimidate opponents, or to publicize grievances.

**Inter-tribal Clash:** Clashes or feuds reported between tribes, mainly in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan, rural areas of Punjab and parts of interior Sindh.

**Search and Hunt Operation:** Launched by law enforcement agencies on intelligence to capture militants or to purge a particular locality of suspected militants and their hideouts.

**Sectarian Clashes:** Violent clashes between armed factions of banned sectarian outfits or between followers of rival sects such as Sunni-Shia, Deobandi-Barelvi strife. Sectarian clashes also include tribal feuds between followers of Sunni and Shia schools of thought

as in Kurram, where the Sunni Turi tribesmen frequently clash with members of the Shia Bangash tribe.

**Overall Number of Attacks:** The sum of militant and counter-militant attacks by the security forces, besides drone attacks, incidents of ethno-political violence, and attacks with sectarian motives or by nationalist insurgents.

**Plot/Unsuccessful Attempts:** These include attempts at terrorist attacks that were either foiled by security forces and bomb disposal squads, or explosives went off by accident before militants or suicide bombers reached their intended target.

## FOREWORD

2018 was an important year for Pakistan in terms of consolidating its successes in the war against terrorism. A decrease of 29 percent in terrorist attacks from the year before was an important milestone achieved at the end of the year. The Pakistan Army also declared the North Waziristan tribal district – once a critical flashpoint of militancy and an important battlefield in the war against terrorism – fully under control.\* The military operation Zarb-e-Azb was launched on June 15th in 2014 in the tribal district of KP. Until the beginning of last year, however, remnants of militants were still hiding in the difficult terrain of Shawal mountains taking advantage of loose border with Afghanistan. After having cleared Shawal of militants, Pakistan's armed forces can now claim that every inch of the tribal conflict zone is under their control.

The optimism built around the statistical decline in terrorist incidents has not only increased a sense of security among common people, boosted the confidence of the local investors but it has also broadened the prospects for foreign investment in the country. However, these plummeting numbers do not suggest, in any way, that the threat of terrorism has been completely eliminated. Certainly, most terrorist groups have been weakened but they are still present in physical and virtual spaces. A series of terrorist attacks before and during the election month of July had proved that militants could still trigger a terror wave, though were unable to sustain it. The Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), its splinter groups, mainly Jamaatul Ahrar, Hizbul Ahrar, and ISIS-affiliates perpetrated 171 terrorist attacks, while the nationalist insurgent groups, mainly Baloch, carried out 80 attacks in the year 2018. The numbers indicate that security forces and law enforcement agencies still have to maintain their vigilance on a high level.

Pakistan Tehrik-e-Insaf (PTI) government has inherited a better security situation in the country compared with the previous government of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz, for whom security was the major challenge to deal with. The new government has to carry forward and build upon the gradual successes of the past. However, the internal security does not appear the priority of the new government, which is apparently following a firefighting approach to deal with it. For instance, just after the attack on the Chinese consulate in Karachi, the government had announced the formation of a new National Action Plan (NAP), without looking into the loopholes in the existing NAP against terrorism. The NAP was the result of consensus of the security establishment and the parliament and it had contributed in connecting the scattered counter-terrorism responses into a holistic framework. The implementation on NAP was not as effective as expected because of various reasons – broadly mentioned in previous security reports by PIPS and also briefly touched upon in this report – and it needed a complete review and proper implementation plan. Instead of reviewing the existing NAP and other security approaches, the new

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\* Umer Farooq, "Army declares North Waziristan fully under control," *The Express Tribune*, May 6, 2018.

government finds it easy to take a new initiative. Even it is not known who is developing the NAP-2 as the whole process is being kept in secret. The government has another document with it, the National Internal Security Policy 2018-23, which was the result of an extensive and inclusive exercise, and which also recommends the policy framework for reviewing the NAP-1. The countering terrorism challenge is manifold and it cannot be dealt with an oversimplified threat perception.

2019 is critical for Pakistan in the context of its international obligations and commitments to develop an effective mechanism for curbing the terrorism financing; NAP-1 had suggested the measures for this purpose. A section on this issue is part of the report, but the government has to take it up more seriously as the Financial Task Action Force meeting is due in early 2019, which will review the progress on Pakistan's commitments.

Apart from terrorism financing, countering extremism, securing successes against terrorism, revamping and strengthening the civilian law enforcement structures and securing borders mainly with Afghanistan and Iran are the critical challenges, which will need the attention of the government and security institutions in the years to come. The growing radicalism on the campuses and violent sectarian tendencies in madrassas are among the major challenges related to extremism. The Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) of KP province had revealed in a report last year that 72 militants arrested in the province in one year were graduates and postgraduates.<sup>†</sup> These findings are really crucial and need urgent attention of the government. The provincial youth policies should be developed in the light of existing thinking patterns and worldviews of the youth both in religious and non-religious educational institutions.

Balochistan appeared the most critical area in 2018 in terms of security challenges, where both religious and nationalist non-state actors are making security landscape complex. To deal with the Baloch insurgency, the government has to immediately evolve a proper plan for the reintegration and mainstreaming of insurgents; realization among the Baloch youth is increasing that through violence nothing can be achieved and the state has to reciprocate in a similar way. A fast-track mechanism on missing persons in the province can prove a major confidence-building measure.

PIPS hopes that this 13th edition of its annual security report would help the policymakers, academics, media and civil society understand the gravity of the security situation in Pakistan with a view to moving towards sustainable solutions. This year too, the report includes more in-depth analysis on critical security issues. Apart from the comprehensive data on violent incidents, comparative analysis of various security variables, the changing targets and tactics of militants and nature of state responses, the report also contains comprehensive review of militant landscape, security issues related to China-Pakistan

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<sup>†</sup> Javed Aziz Khan, "72 militants arrested in KP were graduate, postgraduate," *The News*, January 13, 2018.



Economic Corridor (CPEC), CVE initiatives taken in 2018, and analysis of counterterrorism agencies' strategies and operation. The external contributions have helped in grasping different perspectives.

The credit for this report goes to the entire team at PIPS, especially Safdar Sial, who monitored security developments and narrated them for the report, Muhammad Ismail Khan, who consolidated the writings and reviewed them; Zarghona Khattak, Anam Fatima, and Maham Gillani, whose research support, especially in drawing annexures and timelines, greatly helped the analysis provided inside; and Shahzad Ahmed, who designed the various conflict maps.

**Muhammad Amir Rana**

January 5, 2019



# CHAPTER 1

## Overview of security in 2018: critical challenges and recommendations

**Muhammad Amir Rana and Safdar Sial\***

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- 
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  - Safdar Hussain, nom de plume Safdar Sial, is Joint Director at PIPS and Associate Editor of Conflict and Peace Studies journal. He has also co-authored "Dynamics of Taliban Insurgency in FATA" and "Radicalization in Pakistan".



## 1.1 Overview of security situation in 2018

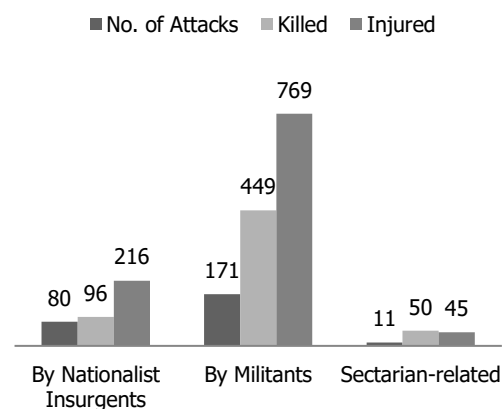
Posting a decrease of about 29 percent from the year before, as many as 262 terrorist attacks took place in Pakistan in 2018, including 19 suicide and gun-and-suicide coordinated attacks. In all, 595 people lost their lives – a decline of 27 percent from those killed in such attacks in 2017 – and 1,030 others were injured in these attacks, which were launched by different militant, nationalist/insurgent and violent sectarian groups.

The Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), its splinter groups, mainly Jamaatul Ahrar and Hizbul Ahrar, as well as other militant groups with similar objectives such as local Taliban groups, Lashkar-e-Islam and ISIS-affiliates perpetrated 171 terrorist attacks – compared to 213 in the year before – which killed 449 people and injured 769 others. Meanwhile nationalist insurgent groups, mainly Baloch, carried out 80 attacks – as compared to 138 such attacks in 2017 – which claimed 96 lives and wounded another 216 people. As many as 11 terrorist attacks were sectarian-related – 9 less from the year before – which killed 50 people and inflicted injuries on 45 others.

Among those killed in terrorist attacks in Pakistan in 2018 were 371 civilians, 173 personnel of security and law enforcement agencies (44 FC men; 65 policemen; 43 army officials; 17 Levies; 3 unspecified paramilitaries; and one Ranger) and 51 militants, who were either killed/exploded

suicide bombers or those killed in retaliatory fire by security and law enforcement personnel following some attacks. Those injured in terrorist attacks included 724 civilians, 302 security personnel and 4 militants.

**Chart 1: Classification of Terrorist Attacks in Pakistan in 2018**



As many as 136 attacks, or 52 percent of the total terrorist attacks reported in 2018, hit security forces and law-enforcement agencies across Pakistan. However the highest number of casualties (218 killed; 394 injured) for any one type of target hit in terrorist attacks was caused in 24 attacks targeting political leaders and workers. Civilians were the apparent targets of 47 attacks (about 18 percent of the total attacks). Eight attacks targeted pro-government tribesmen and peace committee members, and another 7 attacks hit members of Shia community. Other sporadic targets hit by the terrorist in 2018 are given at Table 1.

Terrorists employed diverse weapons/tactics to hit their targets mainly including improvised explosive devices (IEDs) of various types (118 attacks), firing/shootout (99 attacks), suicide blasts (19 attacks) and hand grenades 18 attacks. Less frequently employed attack tactics included 4 rocket attacks, and 2 incidents each of mortar shelling and sabotage.

**Table 1: Targets Hit in Terrorist Attacks in 2018**

Targets	No. of Terrorist Attacks	Killed	Injured
Personnel, check posts and convoys of security forces/law enforcement agencies	136	217	389
Educational institutions	6	0	3
Non-Bloch settlers/workers	3	14	5
Govt. officials, departments and offices, etc.	5	4	12
Tribal elders	4	3	3
Civilians	47	51	143
Shia religious scholars/community	7	43	43
Sunni religious leaders/community	1	2	0
Political leaders/workers	24	218	394
Hindu community	1	1	0
NGO/civil society members	1	0	0
Christian community/Church	2	6	6
Sikh community	1	1	0

Targets	No. of Terrorist Attacks	Killed	Injured
Foreign interests/diplomats/foreigners	3	11	8
Rival sectarian group	1	3	0
Health/polio workers	2	4	0
Pro-govt. tribesmen/peace committee members	8	11	16
Judges/lawyers/courts	1	0	0
CPEC projects/workers/Chinese	1	1	6
Former militants	4	4	0
Railway tracks/trains	3	0	1
Members of banned groups	1	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>1,030</b>

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, including erstwhile FATA agencies, faced the highest number of terrorist attacks compared to all other regions of Pakistan. A total of 125 reported attacks from the province claimed 196 lives and inflicted injuries on another 376 people. The KP districts where 10 or more attacks happened in the year 2018 included North Waziristan (33 attacks), DI Khan (18), Peshawar (12), Khyber (11), Bannu (11), and Bajaur and South Waziristan (10 attacks each). Meanwhile 3 attacks reported from Orakzai claimed 36 lives including a suicide blast that alone killed 35 people. In all, terrorist attacks were recorded in 18 districts of KP.



In terms of terrorism-related casualties, Balochistan was the most affected region of the country in 2018 where 354 people were killed – over 59 percent of the total 595 people killed in terrorist attacks across Pakistan – and 589 others were injured in 115 reported attacks from there. Most of these terrorism-caused casualties in Balochistan resulted from attacks perpetrated by religiously inspired militant groups such as the TTP, Hizbul Ahrar, ISIS-affiliates and some other similar unknown militants; as many as 261 people were killed and 385 others injured in 35 attacks perpetrated by these groups, mainly in Quetta and Mastung. Different Baloch insurgents groups, mainly the Baloch Liberation Army (BLA), Balochistan Liberation Front (BLF) and Baloch Republican Army (BRA), perpetrated 74 attacks killing 85 people and wounding 201 others. Meanwhile, 6 sectarian-related attacks claimed 8 lives and wounded 3 others.

In all, 12 terrorist attacks happened in Sindh – 9 in Karachi, 2 in Hyderabad and one in Larkana districts – which killed a total of 19 people and injured another 21 people. Six of these attacks were perpetrated by the TTP, Hizbul Ahrar and similar other groups that killed 8 and injured 6 people. Sindhi nationalist group Sindhudesh Liberation Army (SDLA) and a Baloch insurgent group BLA were involved in another 6 attacks reported from Sindh, which claimed 11 lives and wounded 15 others.

In Punjab, the TTP and Hizbul Ahrar perpetrated 4 attacks including 2 suicide blasts, which in all claimed 20 lives and injured 39 others. These attacks happened in Lahore, Attock, Rahim Yar Khan and Rawalpindi districts of Punjab. While, five reported attacks from Gilgit-Baltistan's Diamir, Ghizer and Gilgit districts claimed 5 lives, one attack also happened in Azad Jammu and Kashmir killing one person. (See Table 2)

**Table 2: Terrorist Attacks in Pakistan in 2018**

Region	No. of Attacks	Killed	Injured
KP (including erstwhile FATA)	125	196	376
Balochistan	115	354	589
Punjab	4	20	39
Karachi	9	18	16
Sindh (excluding Karachi)	3	1	5
Gilgit-Baltistan	5	5	3
AJK	1	1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>1,030</b>

### 1.1.1 Comparison

When counted together, 497 incidents of violence of different types – as given at Table 3 – were reported from across Pakistan in 2018. In addition to 262 terrorist attacks cited earlier, these overall violent incidents also included 131 cross-border attacks from India, Afghanistan and Iran; 31 operational strikes carried out by

security forces and their 22 armed clashes/encounters with militants; and 22 incidents of political/election-related violence. (See Table 3) A total of 869 people were killed and 1,516 others were injured in these violent incidents.

**Table 3: Nature of Overall Incidents of Violence**

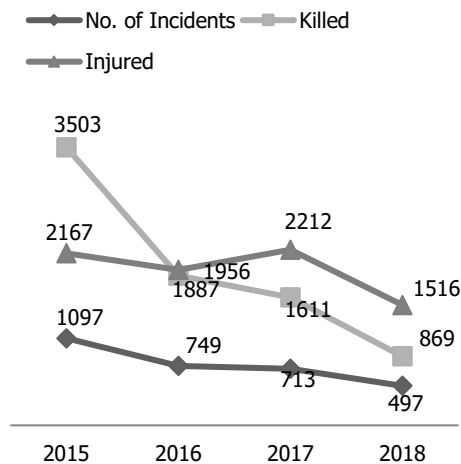
Nature of Incident	No. of Incidents	Killed	Injured
Terrorist attacks	262	595	1,030
Political/election-related violence	22	11	55
Clashes & encounters between security forces & militants	22	43	16
Inter-tribal clashes/attacks	3	10	40
Border clashes/attacks	131	111	290
Operational attacks by security forces	31	77	36
Drone attacks	3	5	1
Sectarian clashes	1	1	0
Inter-militant clashes/attacks	1	3	12
Clashes between security forces & criminal gangs	2	4	2
Communal/faith-based violence	4	2	19
Militant-tribesmen clashes	1	0	0
Plot/foiled terror attempts	10	3	4

Nature of Incident	No. of Incidents	Killed	Injured
Mob violence/protests	2	2	10
Targeted attacks [not by terrorists]	2	2	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>497</b>	<b>869</b>	<b>1,516</b>

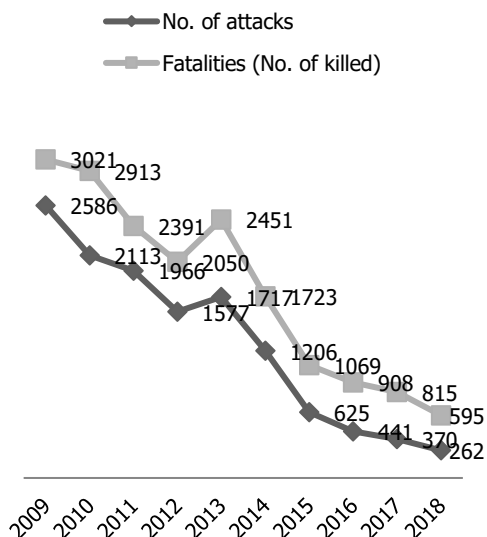
In 2018, the number of incidents of violence declined to 497 from previous year's 713, by about 30 percent. The overall number of people killed in these violent incidents also decreased by about 46 percent; from 1,611 in 2017 to 869 in 2018. Similarly, the number of people injured in all such incidents of violence decreased by 31 percent from 2,212 in 2017 to 1,516 in 2018. (See Chart 2)

A gradual decrease in the number of terrorist attacks and consequent fatalities in Pakistan can be visibly seen since 2009, or post-Swat military operation – with the only exception of 2013 when a surge in sectarian violence mainly contributed in increased number of attacks and casualties. (See Chart 3 and Table 4) As noted in previous year's report too, the Rangers-led operation in Karachi (started 2013), military operations in North Waziristan and Khyber agencies, and counter terrorism departments' (CTDs) 's anti-militant actions across Pakistan including as part of the National Action Plan (NAP) and *Raddul Fasaad*, apparently helped sustain that declining trend 2013-onward, which continued in 2018 as well.

**Chart 2: Comparison of Overall Incidents of Violence & Casualties (2015-18)**



**Chart 3: Comparison of Terrorist Attacks and Fatalities in Pakistan (2009-2018)**



**Table 4: Comparison of Terrorist Attacks and Fatalities in Pakistan (2009-18)<sup>1</sup>**

Year	No. of Terrorist Attacks (%Change)	No. of Killed (% Change)
2009	Baseline year (2,586 attacks)	Baseline year (3,021 Fatalities)
2010	18%↓	4% ↓
2011	7%↓	18%↓
2012	20%↓	14%↓
<b>2013</b>	<b>9%↑</b>	<b>19%↑</b>
2014	30%↓	30%↓
2015	48%↓	38%↓
2016	28%↓	12%↓
2017	16%↓	10%↓
2018	29%↓	27%↓

The reported 29 percent decrease in the number of terrorist attacks in Pakistan in 2018 was marked by a decreased incidence of such attacks in all regions of Pakistan, but with varying degrees, with the only exception of Gilgit Baltistan (GB). Compared to 2017, the highest decrease in the number of attacks was reported from Punjab (by 71 percent), followed by AJK (67 percent), Karachi (62 percent), Sindh, excluding Karachi (57 percent), Balochistan (30 percent), and KP (by 19 percent).

Similarly, the number of those killed and injured in these attacks plummeted across

all regions of Pakistan with the exception of Balochistan and Gilgit Baltistan. The number of terrorism related casualties surged in Balochistan from previous year (killed by 23 percent; injured by 10 percent). In GB, too, no attack had happened in previous year but in 2018 as many as 5 attacks killed 5 people. The highest decrease in terrorism-related casualties was recorded in interior Sindh, followed by Punjab and KP (*See Table 5*).

**Table 5: Comparison of Terrorist Attacks & Casualties (2017 vs. 2018)<sup>2</sup>**

Province / Region	Number of Attacks (%Change)	Killed (%Change)	Injured (% Change)
KP	19%↓	43%↓	46%↓
Balochistan	30%↓	<b>23%↑</b>	<b>10%↑</b>
Punjab	71%↓	67%↓	80%↓
Karachi	62%↓	28%↓	No change
Sindh (excluding Karachi)	57%↓	99%↓	98%↓
Gilgit-Baltistan	5 attacks (0 baseline data in 2017)	5 killed	3 injured
AJK	67%↓	No change	80%↓
<b>Total</b>	<b>29%↓</b>	<b>27%↓</b>	<b>41%↓</b>

Posting about 21 percent decrease from previous year, as many as 19 suicide attacks took place in Pakistan's 11 districts in 2018. The number of people killed in suicide attacks in 2018 increased by about

11 percent, from 286 in 2017 to 317 in 2018; the number of those injured in such blasts however decreased from 723 to 482. Relatively more lethal of the reported suicide blasts in 2018, in terms of casualties they caused, included attacks on an army units in Swat, a police check post in Lahore, corner meeting of ANP leader Haroon Bilaur in Peshawar, election gathering of Nawabzada Siraj Raisani in Mastung, a polling station in Quetta, and Shia community in Orakzai. Out of the 19 reported suicide attacks in 2018, 11 took place in Balochistan, 5 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 2 in Punjab, and one in Sindh. The TTP, Hizbul Ahrar, ISIS-affiliates as well as the BLA were behind most of these suicide attacks.

Down 40 percent from the year before, there were recorded 12 incidents of sectarian violence in 2018 – including 11 sectarian-related terrorist attacks and one armed clash between rival sectarian groups. The number of people killed in such incidents also decreased by about 31 percent, from 74 in 2017 to 51 in 2018. Apart from one major attack in Orakzai (claimed by ISIS), which killed 35 people, most among 10 other sectarian-related attacks were of low intensity mainly incidents of targeted killings that were reported from Quetta (6 attacks), D.I. Khan (3), and Peshawar (1 attack.). One incident of sectarian clash took place in Mansehra, at a shrine, causing one death. Shia community members, including

Hazaras were targeted in most of these attacks.

Marking a decrease of about 23 percent from previous year, 131 cross-border attacks were reported from Pakistan's borders with Afghanistan, India and Iran. Similarly, down 41 percent from 2017, a total of 111 people were killed in these attacks; another 290 were also injured. Those 111 Pakistani citizens killed in cross-border attacks were 57 civilians, 32 security personnel (7 FC, one paramilitary, 22 army officials, and 2 Rangers) as well as 22 militants who were killed in retaliatory fire by security forces. As in the year before, the situation at Pakistan's border with India – along the LoC in Azad Kashmir and the Working Boundary – remained relatively more volatile. Highest in all these three types of attacks took place from the country's borders with India (109 attacks; compared to 131 in 2017), followed by Afghanistan (16 attacks; compared to 28 in 2017) and Iran (6 attacks; compared to 12 in 2017). While attacks from Indian and Iranian sides were perpetrated by their security forces, respectively, the cross-border attacks from Afghanistan were largely perpetrated by militants, including Pakistani Taliban sheltered in Afghanistan.

Representing a decrease of about 59 percent from previous year, 31 anti-militant operational strikes were conducted by security forces and law enforcement agencies in the year 2018 in 18 districts and

regions of Pakistan. Compared to 296 in the year before, a total of 77 people were killed in these actions –including 68 militants, and 9 personnel of security and law enforcement agencies – and 36 others were injured. Out of the 31 operational strikes reported in 2018, as many as 14 were conducted in Balochistan, 13 in KP, 3 in Punjab, and one in Karachi.

Security and law enforcement agencies also entered into in a total of 22 armed clashes and encounters with militants – a decrease of about 68 percent from previous year – across 14 districts/regions of the country. These clashes and encounters claimed 43 lives (37 militants; 5 security personnel; one civilian) – compared to 251 killed in such incidents in 2017. As many as 16 others were also injured in these clashes including 15 security and law enforcement personnel, and one militant.

As many as 22 incidents of political/election-related violence took place in 2018, compared to 4 incidents of such violence in Pakistan in 2017. The number of people killed in these incidents also slightly increased, by about 10 percent, to 11. Incidents of political and election-related violence were reported from 16 districts of the country.

Marking a decrease of over 66 percent from the year before, as many as 3 US-led drone strikes took place in 3 tribal districts including Kurram, North Waziristan, and Orakzai. These attacks killed a total of 5

suspected militants – compared to 30 in the year before – and injured another one.

Compared to 5 in 2017, as many as 6 incidents of faith-based individual or mob/communal violence were recorded in 2018, which claimed 4 lives and injured 29 others. Three of these attacks targeted Ahmedi community. These incidents were reported from Faisalabad, Lahore, Narowal, and Sialkot in Punjab, and Charsadda and North Waziristan in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

When counted together in all types of incidents of violence, 869 people were killed in Pakistan in 2018, a decrease of about 46 percent from 2017. This decrease was marked by the death of 191 militants, compared to 683 in 2017, thus representing a decrease of about 72 percent. The number of civilians killed (456), in these violent incidents, also decreased by about 31 percent as compared to 2017. Fatalities among security forces personnel in 2018 (222) were 18 percent less from the previous year's fatalities among them (271). (See Table 6)

**Table 6: Casualties in Overall Violent Incidents in 2018**

Category	Killed	Injured
FC	56	154
Militants	191	24
Civilian	456	1,110
Police	67	80
Paramilitaries	4	7
Army	73	105
Levies	18	19

Category	Killed	Injured
Rangers	4	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>869</b>	<b>1,516</b>

## 1.2 Critical challenges and recommendations

### 1.2.1 Curbing terrorism financing and banned organizations

Curbing terrorism financing has emerged as one of the most critical security challenges for Pakistan over the last few years. Apart from the security implications, it has started negatively impacting the financial sector of the country with long-term economic consequences. The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) put Pakistan in its grey list on February 16, 2018.<sup>3</sup> That cautioned that if deficiencies in preventing suspected militants from operating bank accounts or using illegal means to transfer money, including hundi, hawala and smuggling of currency through sea, air or land routes on money laundering were not removed in one year's time, Pakistan will have to face consequences of getting on the FATF black list. The FATF will review Pakistan's progress in that regard in its February 2019 meeting. Before the review meeting, the government has to submit a progress report until mid-January on the action plan, which it had agreed with the FATF.<sup>4</sup> The next compliance report is due in May 2019.

A delegation of the Asia Pacific Group, regional associated member of the Paris-based Financial Action Task Force, had



noted during its last visit in May 2018 that though Pakistan was making some progress yet there were deficiencies in the country's systems, agencies and laws to meet its global obligations against money laundering and terror financing.<sup>5</sup> Those deficiencies were mainly found in legal mechanisms governing non-profit and charitable organisations, transparency in beneficial ownership regime and counter-terror financing mechanisms to handle suspicious transaction reports (STRs). On December 19, 2018, the National Executive Committee (NEC) meeting chaired by Finance Minister Asad Umar reviewed the progress made on the FATF Action Plan. Apparently Pakistan has made satisfactory progress on the cash smuggling, improved its banking channel, and taken few administrative measures through Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) to stop the money laundering and terrorism financing.<sup>6</sup> However, National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA), which was responsible for preparing Terrorist Financing Risk Assessments and coordinating with federal and provincial law enforcement departments, is still struggling to improve its practices.<sup>7</sup> NACTA input is significant in the context that the policy and legislative related measures are based on NACTA's assessment reports. In 2018, NACTA had signed two MoUs with SECP<sup>8</sup> and the Pakistan Centre for Philanthropy (PCP)<sup>9</sup> to collaborate in the fields of counter-terrorism financing.

Pakistan's FATF challenge is directly linked with the banned militant organization in the country. Pakistan is struggling to convince the world by describing multiple anti-militant actions it has taken and the sacrifices it has rendered. It also claims that it does not distinguish between good and bad militants. However, a drone strike and a subsequent press conference, or public demonstration by the leaders of banned organisations and their other public activities, offset the impression. For instance, just before the visit of the UN Security Council's sanctions monitoring team, Hafiz Saeed — the leader of a banned group — approached the Lahore High Court to prevent his arrest. He suspected that the government would put him under house arrest during the team's visit. He got temporary relief from the court but the media coverage of one of his news conferences resulted in his views being known abroad. Banned militant groups are continuously giving Pakistan diplomatic stress. Though the effective implementation of banning militant groups is part of the National Action Plan, and the government has taken steps to put pressure on these organisations, the latter have devised a counter-strategy: they are building a soft image through expanding their outreach in political spaces and avoiding confrontation with the government. The JuD had also attempted to join political mainstreaming through forming its political wing, Milli Muslim League, which was restricted by the

Election Commission of Pakistan to contest general elections in July 2018.<sup>10</sup> However the group contested elections from the platform of Allah-o-Akbar Tehreek,<sup>11</sup> which, too, triggered concerns inside and outside the country.

It may not be true that civilians and the military establishment have not tried to find a way out. But two major issues lie in the way of a clear position. The first is linked with the state's long association with these groups, during which they have hijacked the *ideological narrative* of the state, and the second is about the strategy of dealing with the groups. That is why despite repeated debate and policy input provided on the prospects of rehabilitating, *reintegrating and mainstreaming* certain groups, no coherent policy has been chalked out yet.

The major challenge for the government remains to implement ban on proscribed organizations and stop them from generating financial resources. Government also needs to take legislative measures to implement UNSC Resolution 1267, dealing with sanctions by the body on designated militant groups, to bar the organizations from using judicial channels for relief. The year 2019 would be critical for Pakistan to fulfill its commitments with FATF but a resolve against all sort of the militant organizations can help the government to come out of the looming crisis.

## 1.2.2 Countering Violent Extremism

The year 2018 witnessed a rise in the Barelvi radicalism in the country. The emergence of Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP) has made Pakistan's multifold countering extremism challenge more complex. The last quarter of 2018 however witnessed a much-appreciated state resolve in terms of the legal action it took against the leadership of the TLP. The state needs to sustain that resolve, adopt a clear policy against all hatemongering and extremist groups in the country, and take legal and administrative measures to restrict their activities. The government can consult all the policy documents on countering violent extremism that have been produced during the last few years.<sup>12</sup> Last year, the government also announced the second National Internal Security Policy, which was the result of the consultations with different institutions, civil society, practitioners, experts and academics;<sup>13</sup> the document also contains recommendations for curbing extremism. The government has to come up with a proper implementation plan on the policy.

Pak Institute for Peace Studies also prepared some exhaustive recommendations for Pakistan's Counter Violent Extremism (CVE) framework and reconstruction of national narratives.<sup>14</sup> The institute believes the document would be a useful source for such policy initiative. Few highlights of those recommendations are listed below:

- There is a need for establishing a national dialogue forum (NDF). It can serve as a platform for the scholars, academicians, political and religious leaders and policymakers to bring all the key challenges on the discussion table and to understand each other's viewpoints. The NDF cannot only help to connect diverse ideological, social and political segments of the society, but it can also create an environment to discuss critical issues. Such an important initiative must come from the chief executive of the country, with the support of the parliament.
- The NDF secretariat can have support from a counter-extremism research centre comprising experts from the relevant fields of social sciences and religious studies. This centre can also establish a desk to monitor the extremist narratives and hate speech.
- The provinces will need to establish curriculum review committees comprising educationists, and experts from diverse religious, academic and political backgrounds. Such committees can be established separately within existing mechanisms, with specific tasks to regularly monitor and evaluate the impact of the textbooks.
- The provinces need to prioritize the registration of madrassas and to set up a mechanism to bring them under their administrative control. Interestingly, while provinces consider madrassas a federal issue, federal ministries of religious affairs and interior are confused about who is actually responsible for administering madrassa sector.
- To neutralize violent extremist tendencies, detaching the conventional militant groups from terrorism landscape and curbing hate speech, the government has to initiate a reintegration scheme.

### **1.2.3 Ownership of Paigham-i-Pakistan**

Paigham-i-Pakistan is a unanimous declaration-cum-religious decree signed by 1,800 religious scholars across the country, prepared in accordance with the injunctions of the Holy Quran, the Sunnah and the Constitution. That was prepared as a blueprint of an inclusive Pakistan and counter-narrative to violent ideologies.<sup>15</sup> The heads of banned organisations had also endorsed the new narrative. To many it appeared a positive development that banned sectarian and militant organisations had become custodians of the Paigham-i-Pakistan. However, it proved counterproductive, as opponent sectarian groups gave an outright rejection of the document, labelling it an attempt to provide safe passage to those banned organisations, which were under severe pressure at the time.

The Paigham-i- Pakistan has failed to create any significant impact because of two reasons. First, the religious clergy is reluctant to adopt the document as a manual for their mosques and madrassas. Secondly, security institutions have taken over the declaration as their primary document to counter violent extremism and are running a countrywide campaign in educational institutions.

There is a need to encourage religious clergy to adopt the declaration as a national agenda. Similarly, the government and civil society have to take the ownership of the declaration for a larger impact.

#### **1.2.4 Implementation on National Action Plan**

The National Action Plan (NAP) was an outcome of the nation's resolve against terrorism, but it too has not been fully followed. During last four years, the government and security institutions remained confused on taking responsibility for NAP's implementation. PIPS' previous annual security reports had highlighted all those flaws and confusions on NAP implementation that has made it largely ineffective. Still, it seems that the ownership remains disputed among Nacta, the interior ministry, National Security Committee and different apex committees.

After the recent successes in the war against terrorism, the government resolve has further been distracted and weakened.

Instead of ensuring implementation on existing NAP, the interior ministry has announced plans for preparing a new NAP; this announcement has come just after the attack on the Chinese consulate in Karachi in last November,<sup>16</sup> which also hinted at the shortsighted approach of the government on core security issues. Similarly, in September last year, in a board of governors' meeting of the National Counter-Terrorism Authority, its head, Khaliq Dad Lak, not only proposed to roll back Nacta but also advised abolishing the Joint Intelligence Directorate. The JID was conceived as the backbone of Nacta but it has remained nonfunctional so far. The national coordinator has now advised the prime minister to shut it down completely. The prime minister had formed a committee for reviewing the role and functioning of Nacta.<sup>17</sup> However, the fate of this committee is not known yet.

PIPS recommends that the NAP should be made into a proper plan, with clear goals, a comprehensive monitoring mechanism, and periodic reviewing. The following measures and recommendations are result of the thought process of law enforcement agencies, practitioners, academics and experts and government can consider these not only in reviewing the NAP but also in its considerations on security sector reforms.

- There is a need to look into the matter of **parallel security structures**. Each province has parallel security forces to combat terrorism and similar threats.

- Punjab has the Elite Police Force created in 1997 to tackle counterterrorism and violent crime. But the province raised another counterterrorism force in 2014. Meanwhile, paramilitary forces are constantly being employed to deal with conventional criminal and terrorist threats in parts of the country. The paramilitary forces have been encroaching on civilian law-and-order affairs and strengthening their institutional and moral authority. On the other hand, police have become so weak that they cannot even clarify their inaction in certain instances because of the dominant role of the paramilitaries.
- Oversight of the **criminal justice system** by parliament and provincial assemblies should be increased; closer networking is needed among the subsystems of the criminal justice system.
  - Practitioners should be **trained** in conflict resolution and management so that these techniques can be employed before resorting to the use of force.
  - The **anti-terrorism courts** need to be strengthened, through working on infrastructure uplifting and capacity building.
  - An **open trial** of the terrorists was also necessary, but the state institutions preferred discreet trials through the military courts. A judgment of the Peshawar High Court has ruled that the “recent terrorism convictions by the military courts in the province were wrongful and were based on ill-will and not evidence.”<sup>18</sup> The judgment was based on 75 recently accepted petitions of the military courts’ convicts.
  - **The madrassa challenge** is complex and National Action Plan (NAP) assigned priority to reforming madrassas. Even though after the 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment, education has become a provincial subject, yet another challenge is that provinces have either not come up with relevant legislation pertaining to education or have ignored madrassas in such legislations. It is for the provinces to take up the responsibility such as by evolving strategies for maintaining a database on madrassas, managing their registration process, mainstreaming them and introducing curriculum reforms, etc.
  - The **police** need to be equipped with new technologies and resources, but utilizing the available resources also needs to be assessed. Likewise, the operational build-up of the police, its technical support, and capacity building are also areas needing attention. Their training programs should focus on technology-led policing, along with management, intelligence gathering, mobility and connectivity. At the same

time, the NAP should prioritize the de-politicization of police, so as to shape it into a professional force.

- **Prison security and reforms** should be part of the NAP. They are critical today, given that some terrorist groups have infiltrated in the ranks of police and jails officials.
- Putting an end to the easily-available heavy **weapons** is a major challenge for the security forces in their counter-militancy drive. Criminals in Karachi, sectarian terrorist groups and nationalist insurgents in Balochistan appear to have recently adopted targeted killings as the foremost instrument of terrorism; easy access to lethal weapons has made their task easier.
- Militant groups use **cyberspaces** for propagating their messages, recruiting new adherents, and generating funds, thereby making the virtual world a vulnerable place for the youth. This is the area, which need effective responses both by the state and society.
- Prison Departments, Police and its Counter Terrorism Departments (CTDs) have to launch **de-radicalization programs** for the terrorist detainees. The military-run de-radicalization centers in Swat and FATA would be a good model for such initiatives.

- There is a need for developing a

**National Databank** (NDB) synchronized with the police departments of the country, National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA), NACTA, FIA and State Bank of Pakistan. The Databank should have following features:

- A synchronized **National Red Book**, containing updated information about the wanted, suspected and arrested terrorists and their groups.
- The national databank could be divided into two categories, one for public consumption, which would include details about terrorists and their activities and second dedicated for the police and law enforcement agencies containing details of bank accounts, financial transactions data, property and other assets of the suspected and active terrorists whose names had been placed under the Fourth Schedule.
- A **common website** can be developed under the supervision of NACTA and all police and relevant authorities could be bound to provide updates/information on weekly or monthly bases.
- There is a need that all provinces have their forensic labs<sup>19</sup> linked with **National Forensic Laboratory** (NFL) in Islamabad.

- Capacity building training programs for



the Counter Terrorism Departments needed to be developed and they must know the best practices around the world to avoid any mishandling of the sensitive issues.

### **1.2.5 Border insecurities**

Pakistan's borders with India, Afghanistan and Iran remain invariably flared-up throughout the year 2018 amid cross-border incursions by militants on Pak-Afghan and Pak-Iran borders as well as ceasefire violations by Indian border security force along the LoC and the Working Boundary. In all, 131 cross-border attacks happened that claimed the lives of 111 Pakistani citizens. The situation at Pakistan's border with India remained relatively more volatile. However frequency of ceasefire violations from Indian side posted a declining trend after the month of May, possibly due to Pakistan and India agreeing on restoring ceasefire later in the month. Though it did not completely ended the border violations by Indian BSF, the agreement was in itself a positive development which was reached during a hotline conversation between the Directors General of Military Operations of Pakistani and Indian armies. Both countries however need to make more use of this bilateral mechanism to reduce border violence and insecurity.

Similarly, while Pakistan is fencing its border with Afghanistan, there is a need to evolve a joint border security mechanism

that not only curbs cross-border movement and attacks by militants but also addresses the tribesmen's concerns regarding cross-border movement including for trade and other purposes. For that both countries need to build trust first using multiple channels.

The situation at Pak-Iran border though largely remained clam but there were episodes of tensions during the first and last quarters of the year 2018 with both countries blaming each other for cross-border movement of militants. For instance, in October at least 10 Iranian security officials were kidnapped from neighboring Sistan-Baluchistan province, which Iranians believed were taken to Pakistan. Later, in December, Pakistan lodged protest with Iran over an attack claimed by the BLA that killed 6 Pakistani soldiers in Kech (Balochistan) near Pakistani-Iranian border implying the BLA militants' cross-border movement for shelter. Luckily, Pakistan has better border security cooperation and interaction with Iran as compared with India and Afghanistan, which partly helps in deescalating any tense situation at the border.

### **1.2.6 Mainstreaming of erstwhile FATA**

One of the major policy initiatives in 2018 was the passage of the 25<sup>th</sup> constitutional amendment, which merged the erstwhile Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) with adjacent Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.

This was also one of the options of the FATA committee constituted by the previous government. Apparently, the committee's findings have been paid heed to.

It is assumed that the merger will pave way for installing a proper law and order mechanism, which in the long run will be able to forestall any incipient militant group, at least to some extent. Administrative vacuum had long provided militants with a free space to operate, with little impunity.

Yet, while constitutional merger has been taken care of, much needs to be done to undertake "administrative integration", as envisioned by the amendment.

Erstwhile FATA districts need funds, which no one seems to be partaking in. The KP government's funds are meant for the whole KP, not tribal districts in specific. FATA Committee had recommended that 3% of the National Finance Commission be set aside for erstwhile FATA for a period of ten years, but that is yet to follow. It is feared that without priority development, tribal districts will fare low in development index compared to rest of KP.

More worryingly, erstwhile FATA has been without any proper law for at least two months. The repeal of Frontier Crime Regulation (FCR) was welcomed, but its alternate, the FATA Interim Governance Regulation, was no different: it too fuses judicial authority within the executive officers stationed there. Primarily because

of this reason, the Peshawar High Court has termed the Regulation a violation of the Constitution of Pakistan, setting it aside. As of now, KP government has appealed in the SC, but the current status is of abeyance, in other words, no code on paper to regulate FATA.

### **1.2.7 Balochistan**

Balochistan is facing multifold challenge of insecurity from brands of Islamist militants and Baloch insurgents. To deal with the sectarian militants, Daesh and the factions of TTP the security forces have to continue security operations. As far as the Baloch insurgency is concerned, the state has to adopt two-pronged approach comprising on hard and soft approaches. Though the state has offered amnesty for those who will surrender but at the same time government can offer peace deal to these groups. The nationalist leadership can help in the process while stressing on the government to address core grievances of the people including missing persons issues but at the same time stressing on insurgents that they cannot achieved the purpose through violence. Youths in Balochistan are in critical need of jobs and business opportunities, which would keep them away from Baloch insurgents' appeal and agenda as well. The federal government should help the province in that regard, i.e. in creating jobs and opportunities in Balochistan as well as accommodating factions of Balochi youth in rest of the country on a preferential basis.

## CHAPTER 2

# Security Landscape of Pakistan in 2018

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## 2.1 Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (including erstwhile FATA)

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) province – including erstwhile FATA agencies, which are now KP districts – faced the highest number of terrorist attacks in 2018 compared to all other regions of Pakistan. Representing a 19 percent decrease from 2017, a total of 125 terrorist attacks took place in the province, including 5 sectarian-related, which claimed 196 lives and inflicted injuries on another 376 people. The number of those killed and injured in terrorist attacks in KP also posted decline from 2017, by 43 percent and 46 percent, respectively.

Militants employed diverse attack tactics to hit their targets in KP, including 5 suicide bombings, 68 IEDs blasts, 38 incidents of firing, 9 hand grenades, 3 rocket strikes, and 2 mortar shell attacks.

The KP districts where 10 or more attacks happened in the year 2018 included North Waziristan (33 attacks), DI Khan (18), Peshawar (12), Khyber and Bannu (11 attacks each), and Bajaur and South Waziristan (10 attacks each). Meanwhile 3 attacks reported from Orakzai claimed 36 lives including a suicide blast that alone killed 35 people. In all, terrorist attacks were recorded in 18 districts of KP.

The TTP, Jamaatul Ahrar, Hizbul Ahrar, ISIS-affiliates, Lashkar-e-Islam, Ittehadul Mujahideen North Waziristan, local Taliban groups as well as rival sectarian groups of

Sunni and Shia denominations were reportedly involved in these attacks.

**Table 1: Terrorist Attacks in KP  
(including former FATA) in 2018**

District	Attacks	Killed	Injured
Bajaur	10	8	7
Bannu	11	10	55
Chitral	1	0	0
D.I. Khan	18	19	29
Khyber	11	7	20
Kurram	1	7	1
Kohat	1	1	0
Lower Dir	1	3	2
Mohmand	7	5	5
North Waziristan	33	44	98
Nowshera	1	1	13
Orakzai	3	36	44
Peshawar	12	28	69
South Waziristan	10	9	17
Swabi	1	1	0
Swat	2	15	15
Tank	1	1	0
Upper Dir	1	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>376</b>

Some relatively intense and high-scale terrorist attacks reported from the province in 2018 included an ambush and onslaught against security forces in Soor Daag area of Dattakhel tehsil of North Waziristan; suicide blast in sports area of army unit in Sharifabad area of Kabal in Swat; suicide attack on a corner meeting of ANP leader Haroon Bilour in Peshawar; and suicide blast targeting largely Shia community members in a bazaar in Orakzai.

In addition to 125 terrorist attacks cited earlier, 13 operational strikes by the

security forces and 6 armed clashes/encounters between security forces and militants were also recorded in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Furthermore, 15 cross-border attacks took place in parts of KP from Afghanistan, mostly by Pakistani Taliban militants sheltered there. Three US-led drone strikes also hit KP. Six incidents of political/election-related violence, and two inter-tribal clashes also took place in KP during the year. On the whole, 183 incidents of violence of various types killed 297 people – 129 civilians, 94 security personnel, and 74 militants – and wounded 504 others in KP, including erstwhile FATA agencies.

**Table 1a: Targets Hit by Militants in KP in 2018**

Targets	No. of attacks	Killed	Injured
Security forces/law enforcement	62	75	128
Educational institutions	3	0	3
Govt. officials	3	1	10
Tribal elders	2	2	0
Civilians	27	28	77
Shia community	2	36	41
Sunni community	1	2	0
Political leaders/workers	11	34	108
FC/army/police convoys	1	2	2
NGO / civil society members	1		

Targets	No. of attacks	Killed	Injured
Sikh community	1	1	0
Rival sectarian group	1	3	0
Health/polio workers	1	2	0
Pro-govt. tribesmen/peace committee members	6	7	6
Former militants	2	2	0
Member of banned groups	1	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>376</b>

Frequently hit targets in KP in 2018 are described below.

### 2. 1.1 Attacks on Security Forces/Law Enforcement Agencies

As many as 62 terrorist attacks in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa – about 50 percent of the total attacks reported from the province – hit security and law enforcement agencies. These attacks killed 75 people including 63 personnel of security and law enforcement agencies, 12 militants and 2 civilians, and wounded 128 others including 110 security personnel.

The TTP, Jamaatul Ahrar, Hizbul Ahrar, Khyber Agency-based Lashkar-e-Islam, and local Taliban groups were mainly involved in attacks on security forces and law enforcers.

Highest number of attacks on security personnel for any one region of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa was recorded in North Waziristan; 23 attacks on security personnel killed 33 mostly army and FC men in the tribal district. Security forces and law enforcement agencies came under 13 attacks in DI Khan, resulting in 10 fatalities. Similarly, 4 such attacks were reported from each of Peshawar, Khyber, Bannu, Mohmand and South Waziristan districts. A single reported attack against security forces personnel from Swat caused 12 fatalities.

Compared to previous year, there were relatively fewer major and high-profile attacks against security forces and law enforcers in KP in 2018, which are narrated below:

- February 3: A suicide bomber blew himself up in sports area of army unit in Sharifabad area of Kabal in **Swat** district when army personnel were playing a volleyball match. As many as 11 army men lost their lives including a captain and 13 others were injured. According to AFP, the TTP claimed the attack in an email sent to media.<sup>20</sup>
- March 30: A police convoy headed by District Police Officer Dr Muhammad Zahid was returning from an operation in which a wanted terrorist was killed when their vehicle hit an improvised explosive device in **DI Khan**, leaving four personnel injured; 3 of them later

died in hospital. The DPO narrowly escaped the attack.<sup>21</sup>

- May 17: A young suicide bomber on a bicycle hit into a Frontier Constabulary (FC) vehicle near Katchehry Chowk, **Nowshera**. At least 13 people were injured including 6 FC men. Next day Afghanistan-based Hizbul Ahrar group claimed the attack saying Roohul Amin alias Usman resident of Nangarhar in Afghanistan had perpetrated the attack.<sup>22</sup>
- September 22: Seven personnel of Pakistan Army, including an officer, were martyred when a group of soldiers were ambushed by militants in the Soor Daag area of Datakhel tehsil of **North Waziristan** near the Afghan border. In return fire, the surviving soldiers in the group killed nine attackers. While *Dawn* reported security personnel were conducting a search operation when attacked, daily *Mashriq* said they were on routine patrol.<sup>23</sup>
- October 11: Three soldiers lost their lives and five others were wounded in a roadside bomb blast in **South Waziristan** near the Afghan border. Soldiers were carrying out routine search operations when the explosion took place.<sup>24</sup>
- November 12: An army officer and two sepoy were martyred when militants ambushed a military convoy in Rogha

Bahadar village of the Razmak area of **North Waziristan** tribal district. A fourth security man suffered injuries in the incident.<sup>25</sup>

- December 28: A bomb disposal party was on routine patrol when an IED planted on roadside exploded, killing two soldiers Naib Subedar Shahzad and Sepoy Mohammad Kaleem. One injured was identified as Sepoy Mohsin Khan. The incident happened some 65km west of the district headquarters **Ghalanai**, in Mohmand.<sup>26</sup>

### 2.1.2 Attacks on Civilians

Compared to 32 in the year before, as many as 27 terrorist attacks in KP in 2018 apparently targeted civilians. These attacks claimed 28 lives – all civilians – as compared to 130 fatalities in attacks on civilians in KP in 2017, and inflicting injuries on another 77 people. This decrease in casualties resulting from attacks on civilians suggests these were mostly low intensity attacks. Indeed, only in two of these 27 attacks, five or more people were killed.

The TTP, Jamaatul Ahrar, Lashkar-e-Islam, local Taliban groups as well as Mullah Nazir group of Taliban in South Waziristan were reportedly involved in these attacks hitting civilians. As many as 21 of these attacks on civilians employed IEDs of different types, including 10 landmines and 5 toy IEDs. Another 3 attacks were made with hand

grenades, 2 with mortar shells and one was an incident direct shootout or firing.

Attacks on civilians mainly happened in tribal districts of KP, or erstwhile FATA agencies, including 6 in South Waziristan, 4 each in North Waziristan and Khyber, and 2 attacks each in Bajaur and Mohmand. A single attack on civilians in Kurram claimed 7 lives.

Reportedly on January 30, seven members of a family, including three women, were killed and one was injured in a landmine explosion near the Afghan border in Upper Kurram Agency. The family was going from Muqbal to Boshara village near Parachinar to participate in the funeral of a relative when their vehicle hit the landmine.<sup>27</sup>

In North Waziristan, a wedding ceremony was in progress at the residence of Zangi Khan in Sedgi area of the tribal district when masked militants lobbed a hand-grenade at guests in the hujra. Two people died on the spot and 35 others, including children, were injured. Three of the wounded died at the hospital.<sup>28</sup>

In South Waziristan, Taliban commander Riaz of Mullah Nazir group and his militants held 25-year-old Abdullah at gunpoint near his house in Spin area, 16 kilometres east of Wana, and demanded payment of extortion (bhatta) from him. On refusal and a heated argument with Taliban commander, Abdullah was shot dead and the militants escaped.<sup>29</sup>



In an unlucky incident reported from Swat, children of a same family went to work in the fields early in the morning. When one of them hit the land with a hoe a hidden mortar shell exploded. Three children died and two others sustained injuries in the blast.<sup>30</sup>

### 2.1.3 Attacks on Political Leaders and Workers

In 2018, as many as 11 terrorist attacks in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa targeted political leaders and workers. In all, 34 people were killed and 108 others injured in these attacks that were reported from Peshawar (4 attacks), Bannu (3), and Bajaur, DI Khan, North Waziristan, and Tank districts (one attack each). The TTP was behind most of these attacks. Two of these attacks were suicide blasts.

Some major and high-profile attacks on political leaders in 2018 are listed below.

- July 10: Awami National Party (ANP) leader and a candidate for a provincial assembly seat Haroon Bilour was among 14 killed in a reported suicide blast in a corner party meeting in Yakatoot area of **Peshawar**, 65 others were injured. Daily *Jang* reported on July 12 that death toll had reached to 21 as 7 more injured died at hospital. Haroon's father Bashir Bilour, a prominent ANP leader, was also killed in a suicide blast in Peshawar in 2012.<sup>31</sup>

- July 13: A remote controlled motor cycle-fitted IED blast targeted the convoy of JUI-F leader and MMA candidate from NA-35 Akram Khan Durrani in **Bannu**. Though he survived the attack, 5 people were killed and 30 others injured.<sup>32</sup>

- July 22: Former provincial minister and PTI candidate for a provincial assembly seat Ikramullah Gandapur was killed along with his driver in a suicide blast in Kulachi tehsil of **DI Khan**. One of the injured policemen later died in hospital. Reportedly a suicide bomber blew himself off as soon as Mr Gandapur came out of his house and sat in his car.<sup>33</sup>

### 2.1.4 Attacks on Pro-govt. Tribesmen and Tribal Elders

In all, six attacks hit pro-government tribesmen and peace committee members and another two attacks targeted tribal elders in KP in 2018. These attacks killed 9 people and injured 6 people. All these attacks happened in tribal districts of KP, or former FATA agencies, including in Bajaur, Khyber, North Waziristan and Orakzai. The TTP, Lashkar-e-Islam and Jamaatul Ahrar perpetrated these attacks.

### 2.1.5 Sectarian-related Attacks

As many as five sectarian-related attacks in KP claimed 42 lives in 2018. The most lethal among these was the one perpetrated by the Islamic State terrorist group also known

as ISIS and Daesh, in Orakzai, which alone killed 35 people and injured 40 others. Same as in 2017, three such attacks were reported from DI Khan district of KP, which claimed 5 lives. One such attack also happened in Peshawar that caused two deaths. (Detail on these attacks can be seen in *Section 2.8 on Sectarian Violence*)

## 2.2 Balochistan

In terms of terrorism-related casualties, Balochistan was the most affected region of the country in 2018 where 354 people were killed – over 59 percent of the total 595 people killed in terrorist attacks across Pakistan – and 589 others were injured in 115 reported attacks from there. While attacks in Balochistan went down by 30 percent, the number of consequent casualties surged from previous year (killed by 23 percent; injured by 10 percent).

Those killed in terrorist attacks in Balochistan in 2018 were 237 civilians, 91 personnel of security and law enforcement agencies and 26 militants.

Most of these terrorism-caused casualties in Balochistan resulted from attacks perpetrated by religiously inspired militant groups such as the TTP, Hizbul Ahrar, ISIS-affiliates and some other similar unknown militants; as many as 261 people were killed and 385 others injured in 35 attacks perpetrated by these groups, mainly in Quetta and Mastung. Different Baloch

insurgents groups, mainly the Baloch Liberation Army (BLA), Balochistan Liberation Front (BLF) and Baloch Republican Army (BRA), perpetrated 74 attacks killing 85 people and wounding 201 others. Meanwhile, 6 sectarian-related attacks claimed 8 lives and wounded 3 others.

As many as 38 attacks, or about 34 percent of the total reported attacks from Balochistan, concentrated in the provincial capital Quetta killing 111 people. Fourteen (14) attacks took place in Kech, 7 in Qilla Abdullah and 6 attacks each in Dera Bugti, Kohlu, and Mastung. The reported attacks from Mastung also caused the highest number of casualties for any one region of the province. (*See Table 3*)

**Table 3: Terrorist Attacks in Balochistan in 2018**

District	Attacks	Killed	Injured
Awaran	1	5	8
Bolan	1	0	0
Chagai	3	4	27
Dera Bugti	6	6	11
Gwadar	4	8	11
Kalat	3	3	6
Kech	14	24	45
Kharan	4	6	9
Khuzdar	4	0	3
Kohlu	6	3	12
Lasbela	3	0	8
Mastung	6	161	202
Nasirabad	4	1	28

District	Attacks	Killed	Injured
Panjgur	2	4	8
Pishin	1	3	2
Qilla Abdullah	8	1	47
Qilla Saifullah	4	11	0
Quetta	38	111	158
Sibi	2	1	1
Washuk	1	2	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>589</b>

Apart from 115 terrorist attacks listed at Table 3, several other violent incidents of various types also took place in Balochistan including 15 operational strikes against militants, 8 clashes/encounters between security forces and militants, and 7 cross-border attacks from Afghanistan and Iran, etc. On the whole, 420 people lost their lives and 624 others sustained injuries in a total of 149 incidents of violence.

Also, security forces, either independently or in collaboration with bomb disposal squad, foiled 2 major terror bids in Balochistan in 2018.

The targets hit in the 115 reported terrorist attacks from Balochistan are given at Table 3a.

**Table 3a: Targets Hit by Terrorists in Balochistan in 2018**

Targets	No. of attacks	Killed	Injured
Security forces/law	64	112	234

Targets	No. of attacks	Killed	Injured
enforcement			
Educational institutions	1		
Non-Bloch settlers/workers	3	14	5
Govt. officials	1	3	2
Tribal elders	2	1	3
Civilians	15	14	35
Shia religious scholars/community	5	7	2
Govt. installation/hospitals/banks/property	1	0	0
Political leaders/workers	10	184	279
Hindu community	1	1	0
Christian community/Church	2	6	6
Foreign interests/Diplomats/Foreigners	1	3	6
Health/polio workers	1	2	0
Pro-govt. tribesmen and peace committee members	2	4	10
CPEC/workers/Chinese	1	1	6
Former militants	2	2	0
Railway tracks / trains	3	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>589</b>

### 2.2.1 Attacks by Religiously-inspired Militants

Religiously inspired militants such as the TTP, Jamaatul Ahrar, Hizbul Ahrar and ISIS were reportedly involved in 35 attacks in Balochistan. A significant number of people (261) were killed in these attacks and as many as 385 others were injured. Out of these 35 attacks by religiously inspired groups, 22 were concentrated in Quetta, which killed 92 people. Seven such attacks were recorded in Qilla Abdullah and 4 in Mastung; the attacks in Mastung included few major ones, which resulted, in all, in 161 deaths and injuries to another 199 people. One attack each took place in Gwadar and Qilla Saifullah.

As many as 24 of these attacks targeted security forces and law enforcement agencies, 4 hit political leaders and workers, 2 attacks each targeted members of Christian community and civilians, and one attack each targeted a Hindu community and polio workers. Some major attacks of this type are narrated below:

- January 2: Two suicide bombers tried to attack a check post of FC in Balili neighborhood of **Quetta**. Militants opened indiscriminate firing injuring 12 people including 5 FC men, but the security personnel killed them before they could reach the post and explode their vests.<sup>34</sup>
- January 9: A suicide bomber walked up to a truck of police deployed to secure provincial assembly building in **Quetta**. The blast killed 7 people including 5 policemen and injured 16 others including 8 security personnel. The TTP claimed the attack.<sup>35</sup>
- February 14: The militants opened fire on FC personnel patrolling on 2 motorcycles on Sariab Road, **Quetta**, killing 4 of them. The TTP claimed the attack.
- March 15: A reported bomb blast in the house of 71-year-old cleric Maulvi Abdul Jomezai killed 6 people and destroyed the house in **Qilla Saifullah**. The blast took place when the victims were unloading firewood from a tractor-trolley parked in the courtyard of the house. Reportedly, explosives placed under the firewood went off.<sup>36</sup>
- April 2: Four members of a Christian family were gunned down in **Quetta**. The victim family was travelling in a rickshaw when armed men on a motorcycle opened fire on them on Shah Zaman road. Islamic State groups also known as ISIS and Daesh claimed the attack.<sup>37</sup>
- April 24: Six police officials were killed and 16 other personnel, including 8 FC soldiers, were injured in a suicide blast and an exchange of fire with the suicide

- bombers in **Quetta**. Two suicide bombers attempting to enter the FC camp were killed in an exchange of fire with the FC personnel in the Western Bypass area, another suicide bomber riding an explosives-laden motorbike managed to hit a truck carrying Balochistan Constabulary personnel on Airport Road. The proscribed Hizbul Ahrar claimed the attack on the FC camp, identifying the attackers as Abdul Basit Momand and Omer Afridi.<sup>38</sup>
- April 24: Two suicide bombers stormed a security check post, established at a railways track in **Dasht**. Security forces opened fire and the suicide bombers exploded their vests killing 3 FC men and injuring 6 others.<sup>39</sup>
  - May 17: At least 5 suicide bombers in an explosive laden vehicle tried to enter an FC facility (FC Madadgar Centre) in Quetta but their bid was foiled by the security personnel deployed there. Two suicide bombers blew themselves in front of the main gate, injuring 4 FC men and one traffic policeman; the policeman died next day in a hospital. The remaining 3 militants were killed in exchange of fire with security officials. A week later an investigation report claimed the bombers had been identified as Afghan nationals and sent by Afghanistan-based Hizbul Ahrar, who worked in collaboration with LeJ.<sup>40</sup>
  - June 4: A young man wearing an explosive-laden jacket tried to enter FC check-post on Quetta-Karachi highway in **Mastung**. Challenged by security personnel, he blew himself up near the check-post. As a result of the explosion, three FC personnel were killed on the spot and two others were injured.<sup>41</sup>
  - July 13: Nawabzada Siraj Raisani, Balochistan Awami Party (BAP) candidate for a Provincial Assembly seat, was among 128 people killed in a shocking suicide attack on an election gathering in the **Mastung**; three injured died next day taking the death toll to 131. Daily Dunya on July 17 quoted District Administration's report saying death toll had reached 150 whereas 185 were injured.<sup>42</sup>
  - July 25: A suicide blast near Eastern Bypass of **Quetta** claimed 31 lives including 6 of policemen and 2 minors and injured 70 others. A police vehicle was the apparent target of the blast. Deputy Inspector General of Quetta police Abdul Razzaq Cheema survived the suicide attack but another police officer, Riaz Ahmed Nothani, was killed. ISIS claimed the attack. Quetta police said the suicide bomber blew himself up after he was stopped from entering the Tameer-i-Nau Education Complex school, which served as a polling station.<sup>43</sup>

### 2.2.2 Attacks by Baloch Insurgents

Down 44 percent from previous year, Baloch insurgent groups carried out 74 terrorist attacks in 20 districts of Balochistan in 2018. These attacks killed 85 people – compared to 138 in 2017 – and injured 201 others.

Baloch insurgents carried out 14 attacks in Kech district alone, which mainly targeted political leaders and security forces and caused 24 deaths besides wounding another 45 people. Ten reported attacks by Baloch insurgents in Quetta – targeting non-Baloch settlers/workers, civilians and security forces – claimed 11 lives and wounded 13 others. Six attacks each took place in Kohlu and Dera Bugti, and 4 attacks took place in each of Kharan, Khuzdar, and Nasirabad districts. Other districts from where attacks by Baloch insurgents were reported included Awaran, Bolan, Chagai, Gwadar, Kalat, Lasbela, Mastung, Panjgur, Pishin, Qilla Abdullah, Qilla Saifullah, Sibi and Washuk.

The attack tactics employed by the Baloch insurgents included 38 IEDs blasts, 27 incidents of firing or targeted killing, 8 grenade attacks, and one rocket attack.

Baloch insurgents targeted security and law-enforcement personnel, their convoys and check-posts in a total of 39 attacks killing 49 people – 26 FC troopers, 4 policemen, 13 paramilitaries including Levies as well as 2 civilians and 4 militants

– and wounding 126 others. These attacks were reported from 14 districts of Balochistan with 9 from Kech, 8 from Quetta and 3 attacks each from Dera Bugti, Nasirabad and Qilla Saifullah.

Some relatively more intense attacks by the Baloch insurgents – mainly by BLF, BLA and BRA – against security forces in the year 2018 are listed below:

- January 15: BLF militants opened fire on a vehicle of security forces killing 5 officials and injuring 6 others in Shapok area of Turbat in **Kech** district.<sup>44</sup>
- January 28: Two security personnel Lance Naik Arif Nawaz and Sepoy Imran were martyred and four others sustained injuries in a roadside explosion in the Dasht Siyachi area of Jiwani town in **Gwadar** district.<sup>45</sup> Reportedly BLF was involved in the attack.
- July 24: BLF militants targeted a convoy of security personal and election staff taking poll material to Buleda of **Kech** district near the rugged mountainous area close to the Iranian border. Attackers atop a mountain opened fire on the convoy causing death of 3 security personnel and one teacher and injuries to 13 others.<sup>46</sup>
- September 18: BLA militants shot dead two Levies officials and injured another at Junction Chowk in **Qilla Saifullah**. The militants managed to escape after

the attack. The third injured official died 2 days later in hospital.<sup>47</sup>

- October 2: A Levies vehicle was targeted with a remote controlled roadside bomb blast in Pirandar area of Awaran. Five Levies officials were killed and 8 injured. Those killed included Naik Sakhi, Shad Muhammad and Abdul Rehman, Khalil Ahmed and Asadullah.<sup>48</sup>
- October 25: The convoy of Inspector General FC was going from Panjgur to Khuzdar. When it was passing through the mountainous area of Nag tehsil, in **Washuk** armed militants opened fire on it and fled. Five FC personnel received bullet injuries and two of them died on the spot. The BLF initially claimed the attack. Later, BLA spokesperson Jihand Baloch told Al Jazeera that BLA fighters conducted this attack, and it was a joint operation with the BLF.<sup>49</sup>
- November 18: An improvised explosive device planted on a roadside, reportedly by BLA militants, was detonated with a remote control to target an FC vehicle in Margate area of **Quetta**. As a result of the blast, three FC men were killed and three others injured. The targeted vehicle was transporting rations to the security personnel.<sup>50</sup>
- December 14: Six security personnel lost their lives and 14 others were

injured when militants targeted their vehicle with an IED blast and firing in Turbat area of **Kech** district. Four militants were also killed in retaliatory fire by security forces. Baloch militant group BLA claimed the attack.<sup>51</sup>

### 2.2.3 Sectarian-related Attacks

One less from the year before, six sectarian-related attacks were reported from Balochistan in 2018, which killed 8 people and injured 3 others. All these attacks happened during the first quarter of the year and targeted Hazara Shia community; Lashkar-e-Jhangvi (LeJ) reportedly perpetrated these attacks. Among those 8 killed were 7 members of Hazara community and one policeman who were appointed on security of Hazara vegetables vendors.

All these sectarian-related attacks are narrated below:

- March 4: A member of Hazara Shia community Naiz Ali was gunned down in the Ali Bhai Road area. Police termed it a case of targeted killing.<sup>52</sup>
- March 7: One policeman was killed and another sustained injuries when militants opened fire on them while they were guarding Hazara vegetable vendors in Hazar Ganji area of Quetta.<sup>53</sup>
- April 1: Militants opened fire on a taxi on Alamdar Road that was heading to Hazara Town. One person in the taxi, Nazar Hussain, was killed and another,

- Gul Hassan, was injured. The driver and a woman in the car remained safe.<sup>54</sup>
- April 18: A Hazara Shia man Muhammad Asif, who ran an auto parts business, was shot dead at his shop on the busy Abdul Sattar Road in Quetta. The deceased received 5 bullets in upper parts of his body.<sup>55</sup>
  - April 22: Two members of the Shia Hazara community were shot dead and another was injured in an attack in Western Bypass area of the city. It was the third such incident in past 3 weeks.<sup>56</sup>
  - April 28: Armed militants riding a motorcycle opened fire on the two Hazara men who were sitting in an electronics shop in the Jamaluddin Afghani Road area, which is located in the centre of the city. Both died in the firing on the spot, after receiving bullet wounds in their heads.<sup>57</sup>

## 2.3 Sindh

In all, 12 terrorist attacks happened in Sindh – 9 in Karachi, 2 in Hyderabad and one in Larkana districts – which killed a total of 19 people and injured another 21 people. Among those 19 killed were 6 civilians, 5 policemen and one Rangers personnel besides 7 militants.

Six of these attacks were perpetrated by the TTP, Hizbul Ahrar and similar other groups that killed 8 and injured 6 people. Sindhi nationalist group Sindhudesh Liberation Army (SDLA) and a Baloch insurgent group

BLA were involved in another 6 attacks reported from Sindh, which claimed 11 lives and wounded 15 others.

Out of the total 12 reported attacks from Sindh, 5 targeted security forces and law enforcement agencies, 3 attacks hit political leaders and workers, and another 2 attacks targeted Chinese nationals and civilians.

Besides one suicide blast, militants employed IEDs in 4 attacks, firing in 6 attacks and hand grenade in another one attack.

**Table 4: Terrorist Attacks in Sindh**

Types of Attacks	No. of Attacks	Killed	Injured
By nationalist insurgents	6	11	15
By Taliban and similar militants	6	8	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>21</b>

Regional distribution of terrorist attacks in Sindh in the year 2018 is given at Table 4a.

**Table 4a: Regional Distribution of Terrorist Attacks in Sindh**

Location	No. of Attacks	Killed	Injured
Hyderabad	2	1	2
Karachi	9	18	16
Larkana	1	0	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>21</b>

### 2.3.1 Karachi



The number of terrorist attacks in Karachi declined by 62 percent, and the number of those killed in these attacks plummeted by 28 percent. Out of 9 reported attacks from Karachi, as many as 6 were launched by the TTP, Hizbul Ahrar and other groups with similar objectives, while 3 attacks were perpetrated by Baloch and Sindhi nationalist groups.

The TTP carried out two attacks in Karachi in January against security forces including one failed coordinated suicide attack. Reportedly, on January 16, a suicide bomber blew up his vest near the armoured vehicle of Sindh Police SSP Anwar Ahmed Khan in Malir Cantonment Area of Karachi. The bomber's aides opened fire but were killed by security forces in counter-firing. The TTP claimed the attack.<sup>58</sup> Earlier in the month, on January 12, to be precise, a policeman Shakir Ahmed was killed in an armed attack in the Gulberg area, which was perpetrated by the TTP.<sup>59</sup>

The Baloch nationalist insurgent group BLA carried out 2 attacks against Chinese nationals in Karachi. First, on February 5, a Chinese national working for a local shipping firm in a senior position was gunned down in what police described as a targeted attack; a passerby was also injured.<sup>60</sup> Later, on November 23, three heavily armed BLA terrorists, including one wearing suicide vest, assaulted Chinese consulate in Karachi with a gun-and-grenade attack. Security forces managed to kill all three in an over hour-long shootout;

two police officials and two visa applicants were also killed and a private guard was wounded. Security officials recovered a pair of suicide jackets, magazines with ammunition, slabs of C4 explosive, batteries, chemicals, etc.<sup>61</sup>

In October, Hizbul Ahrar, a splinter group of the TTP, claimed two attacks in Karachi. On October 3, militants opened fire on policemen near Ahsanabad Choki area of Karachi killing Sub-Inspector Muhammad Rafiq; an assistant sub-inspector escaped unhurt.<sup>62</sup> Few days later, police constable Syed Ahmed Abbas Rizvi, 42, was shot and injured in front of his home in Sector 11-D near Imambargah Karwan-i-Hyderi. Rizvi succumbed to his injuries in the Abbasi Shaheed Hospital. Hizbul Ahrar claimed this attack as well but investigators said they were not taking claim seriously.<sup>63</sup>

Sindhi nationalists also launched one attack in Karachi, a roadside blast in the Quaidabad area, which killed two teenagers and injured eight other people. The blast took place at a fruit cart close to a hospital, adjacent to the deputy commissioner office. Another bomb was also defused. According to investigators, nationalist insurgents could be involved in the attack as they have their presence in Quaidabad area; explosives used in the blast were also similar to previously used by insurgents.<sup>64</sup>

Two attacks by unidentified militants targeted security forces and political leaders in the city. On March 13, a soldier

of Pakistan Rangers was killed and three others suffered injuries when a patrolling team of the paramilitary force came under attack in Lyari. One of the attackers was also killed when FC personnel returned fire.<sup>65</sup> Similarly, on May 9, three people were injured including a local office bearer of PML-N when some unknown gunmen threw grenade and opened fire in Lyari.<sup>66</sup>

### 2.3.2 Interior Sindh

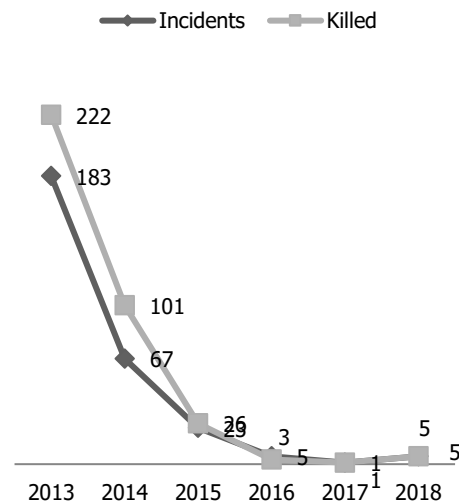
Security situation of interior Sindh showed signs of considerable improvement from previous year. As many as 3 low intensity attacks claimed one life and injured 5 others. In 2017, 7 terrorist attacks had killed 94 people and injured 277 others. Out of these 3 attacks, two were perpetrated by the Sindhu Desh Liberation Army or Front (SDLA/SDLF), and one was carried out by Sindhu Desh Revolutionary Army (SDRA).

Two of these attacks from interior of Sindh happened in Hyderabad and one in Larkana. On January 29, a low-intensive improvised explosive device (IED) exploded close to a large garbage bin near Mehran Centre along the main Qasimabad road of Hyderabad killing a rag picker and injuring a passerby.<sup>67</sup> On July 24, two people riding a motorcycle threw a cracker on a car that had just dropped a candidate of Allah-o-Akbar Tehreek (AAT) at its office in Latifabad area of the city. The AAT was used by Jamaatud Dawa to contest elections after ECP refused to register it as

a political entity. The car driver was injured in the blast.<sup>68</sup>

In Larkana, a cracker blast near a PPP election camp injured 3 people in July. The PPP leader Bilawal Bhutto Zardari was contesting election from this constituency. The SDLA claimed the attack.<sup>69</sup>

**Chart 1: Trends of Ethno-political Violence in Karachi (2013-18)**



### 2.3.3 Ethno-political Violence in Karachi

Compared to one in previous year, 5 incident of ethno-political violence took place in Karachi in 2018 in which 5 persons were killed including two MQM-Haqiqi activists Akhter Ali and Hammad Abbasi, two Pak Sarzameen Party (PSP) workers, and Raza Ali Abidi, former MNA and leader of a faction of MQM.

## 2.4 Punjab

In Punjab, the TTP and Hizbul Ahrar perpetrated 4 attacks including 2 suicide blasts, which in all claimed 20 lives and injured 39 others. These attacks happened in Lahore, Attock, Rahim Yar Khan and Rawalpindi districts of Punjab.

Compared to 2017, the terrorist attacks in Punjab fell by 71 percent, and the number of those killed and injured in these attacks dropped by 67 percent and 80 percent, respectively.

Out of the 4 reported attacks from Punjab, two were perpetrated by the TTP – both suicide blasts – and one attack each was carried out by Hizbul Ahrar and some unknown militants.

**Table 5: Terrorist Attacks in Punjab**

District	Attacks	Killed	Injured
Attock	1	5	17
Lahore	1	13	17
Rahim Yar Khan	1	0	3
Rawalpindi	1	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>39</b>

The TTP carried out 2 major attacks in Lahore and Attock. On March 14, a suicide bomber blew himself up at the Nisar Police check-post near the Tableeghi Markaz in Raiwind (Lahore) after a cop tried to stop him from entering the venue where a bi-annual congregation was under way. At least nine people, including five policemen,

were killed and 20 others injured in the blast, which was claimed by the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan. Two of the injured policemen died later, on March 15 and 16, thus raising the death toll to 11. Yet another injured civilian died on March 19 raising the death toll to 12.<sup>70</sup> In the second TTP-perpetrated attack in Punjab, on May 3, a van was carrying 30 people in Attock when a suicide bomber hit it on the driver's side killing 3 and injuring 18 others; one of the injured died next day. The deceased included the van driver and two pedestrians Habib Khan and Hafiz Iftikhar.<sup>71</sup>

In Rawalpindi, on December 8, an army man and a civilian were martyred while two persons were injured in firing incident at military checkpost on Marble Factory Road. The militants managed to flee from the scene. Hizbul Ahrar claimed the attack.<sup>72</sup>

Earlier in the year, in January, a roadside landmine explosion injured the driver and two others in Rahim Yar Khan. Other passengers remained safe.<sup>73</sup>

## 2.5 Gilgit Baltistan

There was an abrupt deterioration in the security situation of Gilgit-Baltistan during the month of August. Militants attacked some schools in Diamir and later a judge and security forces in Diamir, Gilgit and Ghizer. While no one claimed these attacks, informed sources in the region feared the TTP and other similar groups could be behind the attacks, who apparently wanted

to disrupt a recently renewed focus on tourism industry in the Gilgit-Baltistan.

**Table 6: Terrorist Attacks in Gilgit-Baltistan in 2018**

District	Attacks	Killed	Injured
Diamir	3	0	0
Ghizer	1	0	0
Gilgit	1	5	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>

Besides 5 terrorist attacks against the targets cited earlier, 2 incidents of encounter between security forces and militants were also noted, which in all claimed 7 lives and injured 4 others.

The reported 5 terrorist attacks, which claimed as many lives and wounded 3 others, are described below:

- August 3: Over one dozen schools, most of them girls' and including an Army Public School, in various parts of Diamer district were torched in the early hours of Friday morning by attackers believed to be militants opposed to girls' education.<sup>74</sup>
- August 4: Another girls' school was destroyed in a brazen arson attack in Diamer district. The number of schools torched in the district over the past two days increased to 14.<sup>75</sup>
- August 5: District and Sessions Judge Malik Anayatul Rehman was going from Shatial to Tanger tehsil to attend the funeral of martyred constable Arif

Hussain when the armed men taking advantage of high ground opened fire on his car, in Diamir district. While the vehicle was badly damaged, the judge escaped unharmed in the attack.<sup>76</sup>

- August 11: A group of terrorists comprising 8 to 10 members attacked the police check-post at Karghah Nullah, some 20km off Gilgit town. The terrorists opened fire on the check-post, causing the death of 3 policemen Fazlur Rehman, Nawab Khan and Muhammad Wakeel on the spot and injuries to two others. The policemen fired back killing two attackers and injuring another.<sup>77</sup>
- August 20: Around 12 attackers opened fire on a contingent of police deployed at the check-post situated 50km away from Gahkuch, the district headquarters of Ghizer, before setting the post alight. Following an exchange of fire with security officials, the militants managed to escape to Diamer. No casualty was reported.<sup>78</sup>

As cited earlier, militants also engaged in two encounters or clashes with police. First, on August 4, in an exchange of fire with suspected militants during a late-night raid on a house in Tanger tehsil of Diamer, a policeman was killed and another was wounded.<sup>79</sup> Next day, in a search operation, police killed a reported militant Shafiq who was the prime suspect behind the brazen arson attacks targeting 14 girls schools in the Chilas, Darel and Tanger

tehsils of Diamer district.<sup>80</sup> Police began conducted raids in various parts of Diamer last night to track down those responsible for the arson attacks. GB Spokesperson Faizullah Faraq said that 10-12 police parties were involved in the operations.

Although the reported militant violence in Gilgit Baltistan was instantaneous, security experts suggested the government should not rule out such violence in future and indeed should try to find out and address the real factors and triggers and punish those behind these attacks. Some reports suggested, as cited earlier, that the TTP militants could be behind these attacks, who wanted to discourage tourists from visiting these areas with a view to hurt Pakistan. Some linked it to efforts by hostile countries to disrupt the CPEC projects in the region that borders on China's Xinjiang province from where the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) starts. Others however saw in this violence local factor and actors involved. In 2004, too, half a dozen girls' schools had been torched in one go in GB. Girls' schools were also targeted by extremist forces in 2011 and 2015. Some traditions and extremism are main reasons for local resistance to female education in the district, which has the lowest literacy rate in Gilgit-Baltistan.

## 2.6 AJK

In a single, apparently, terror incident reported from Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK), a 50-year-old man was killed while

two others were injured in a landmine explosion in the Lawana Khaitar village of tehsil Barnala in Bhimber district, where the victims were collecting firewood.<sup>81</sup>

## 2.7 Suicide Attacks

Posting about 21 percent decrease from previous year, as many as 19 suicide attacks took place in Pakistan's 11 districts in 2018. The number of people killed in suicide attacks in 2018 increased by about 11 percent, from 286 in 2017 to 317 in 2018; the number of those injured in such blasts however decreased from 723 to 482.

Relatively more lethal of the reported suicide blasts in 2018, in terms of casualties they caused, included attacks on an army units in Swat, a police check post in Lahore, a corner meeting of ANP leader Haroon Bilaur in Peshawar, an election gathering of Nawabzada Siraj Raisani in Mastung, a polling station in Quetta, and Shia community in Orakzai. Out of the 19 reported suicide attacks in 2018, 11 took place in Balochistan, 5 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 2 in Punjab, and one in Sindh. The TTP, Hizbul Ahrar, ISIS-affiliates as well as the BLA were behind most of these suicide attacks.

Those killed in suicide attacks in 2018 included 244 civilians, 26 policemen, 11 army soldiers, and 10 FC men, as well as 26 militants. Those injured included 402 civilians, 45 FC troopers, 22 policemen, and 13 army soldiers.

As many as 11 – or about 58 percent of the total reported suicide blasts in Pakistan in 2018 – took place in Balochistan. These attacks claimed 222 lives – compared to 108 killed in such blasts there in 2017 – besides inflicting injuries on 322 others. Exactly same as in previous year, provincial capital Quetta faced 6 suicide blasts that killed 60 people and injured 117 others. Four reported suicide attacks from Mastung killed as many as 161 people and wounded another 199 people. One such attack was also recorded in Chagai that claimed one life. Except the Chagai attack – which targeted Chinese engineers and was claimed by the BLA – all other suicide blasts were perpetrated by religiously inspired militants including the TTP, Hizbul Ahrar and ISIS affiliates. Eight out of the total 11 suicide attacks reported from Balochistan targeted security forces and law enforcement agencies in Quetta and Mastung, and 2 attacks hit political leaders and workers including the most lethal of all such attacks in 2018 that targeted an election gathering of Nawabzada Siraj Raisani, Balochistan Awami Party (BAP) candidate for a Provincial Assembly seat. One suicide blast in Balochistan targeted Chinese engineers, as cited earlier.

Five (5) suicide blasts happened in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa – one in each of DI Khan, Nowshera, Orakzai, Peshawar, and Swat districts – which in all claimed 74 lives and wounded 126 others. One of these attacks, the one reported from Orakzai, was

sectarian-related and was claimed by ISIS. The TTP perpetrated 3 and Hizbul Ahrar one suicide blasts in KP. Two suicide blasts in KP targeted security and law enforcement personnel, another 2 hit political leaders and workers and one suicide blast targeted Shia community.

The TTP militants targeted security forces and civilians in two attacks in Lahore, provincial capital of Punjab. In all, 18 people were killed and 34 were injured in these blasts. Similarly, a single reported suicide blast in Karachi killed 3 people.

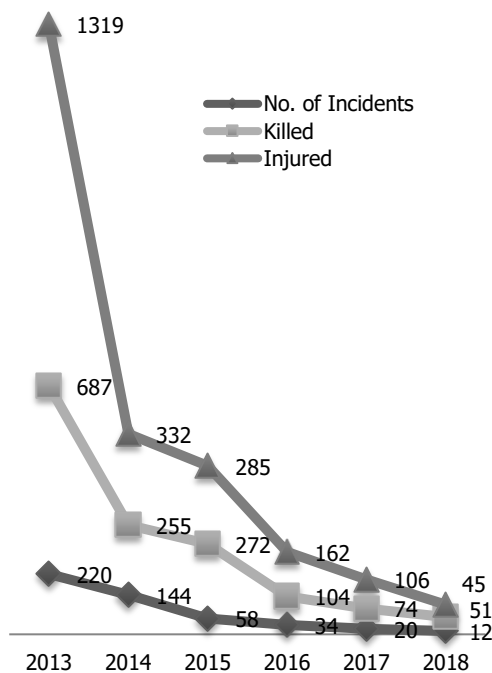
**Table 7: Suicide Attacks in Pakistan in 2018**

District	Attacks	Killed	Injured
Attock	1	5	17
Lahore	1	13	17
<b>Punjab Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>34</b>
Chagai	1	1	6
Mastung	4	161	199
Quetta	6	60	117
<b>Balochistan Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>322</b>
D.I Khan	1	4	2
Nowshera	1	1	13
Orakzai	1	35	40
Peshawar	1	22	58
Swat	1	12	13
<b>KP Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>126</b>
Karachi	1	3	0
<b>Sindh Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Pakistan Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>482</b>

## 2.8 Sectarian Violence

Down 40 percent from the year before, there were recorded 12 incidents of sectarian violence in 2018 – including 11 sectarian-related terrorist attacks and one armed clash between rival sectarian groups.

**Chart 2: Trends of Sectarian Violence (2013-2018)**



The number of people killed in such incidents also decreased by about 31 percent, from 74 in 2017 to 51 in 2018. Apart from one major attack in Orakzai (claimed by ISIS), which alone killed 35

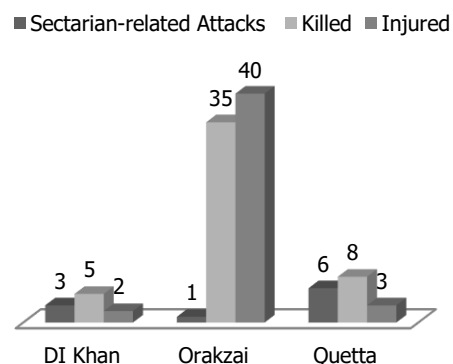
people, most among 10 other sectarian-related attacks were of low intensity mainly incidents of targeted killings that were reported from Quetta (6 attacks), D.I. Khan (3), and Peshawar (1 attack.). One incident of sectarian clash took place in Mansehra (KP), at a shrine, causing one death.

Shia community members, including Hazaras were targeted in 7 sectarian-related attacks while 3 attacks hit Sunni scholars and leaders including an Ahle Sunnat Wal Jamaat (ASWJ) leader, a Sipah-e-Sahaba activist and a common Sunni community member whose organizational association was not known. One security-related attack hit security personnel deployed to protect Hazara vegetables vendors in Quetta. Meanwhile, as cited earlier, one clash took place in Mansehra between rival sects.

Sunni groups including Lashkar-e-Jhangvi and ISIS, and a Shia group Sipah-e-Muhammad were reportedly involved in carrying out sectarian-related terrorist attacks in 2018.

Most of the reported 12 incidents of sectarian violence – 10 or 83 percent – were concentrated in DI Khan and Orakzai in KP, and Quetta in Balochistan. (See Chart 3)

As in past several years, most of the sectarian attacks and clashes (11) in 2018 were incidents of targeted killing or firing. One such attack employed suicide bombing.

**Chart 3: Sectarian Flashpoints in 2018**

Half of the reported incidents of violence took place in Balochistan and as many as in KP. (See Table 8)

**Table 8: Incidents of Sectarian Violence in 2018**

Province	District	Attacks	Killed	Injured
Balochistan	Quetta	6	8	3
	<b>Balochistan Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>
KP	D.I. Khan	3	5	2
	Orakzai	1	35	40
	Peshawar	1	2	0
	Mansehra	1	1	0
	<b>KP Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>Pakistan Total</b>		<b>12</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>45</b>

All 6 reported incidents of sectarian violence from Balochistan happened in Quetta. As cited earlier, Hazaras were the prime target of these attacks, which all happened in March and April. In March two sectarian attacks in the city killed 2 people including one Hazara man Niaz Ali and one policeman guarding Hazara vegetable vendors in a market. In April, 6 Hazara community members were shot dead in 4 attacks, perpetrated by the LeJ militants.

In KP, however, the reported 6 incidents of violence spread over 4 districts. Worst of these incidents happened in Orakzai. At least 35 people, including over 2 dozen Shia Muslims, 7 Sunni and 3 Sikh, were killed and 40 others sustained injuries in a reported suicide explosion in Kalaya bazaar in front of a Shia madrassa in Orakzai; the area has majority of Shia population. Next day the Islamic State (IS) group, also known as Daesh by its Arabic acronym, claimed the attack.<sup>82</sup>

In DI Khan, two such attacks happened in February. On February 2, assailants reportedly linked to Shia group Sipah-e-Muhammad riding on a motorcycle opened fire on Mohammad Taimur Baloch, who was affiliated with the proscribed Sipah-e-Sahaba Pakistan. Taimur and a passerby identified as Ikram, a student, received bullets. Both were taken to hospital where doctors declared Taimur Baloch dead.<sup>83</sup> On the same day, Lashkar-e-Jhangvi attackers riding a motorcycle opened fire at Matiullah, caretaker of Imambargah Hazrat Abbas,



killing him on the spot. A passerby named Mohammad Jan was also injured.<sup>84</sup> Later, in August, three separate incidents of target killing happened in Parva tehsil of DI Khan that claimed the lives of 3 people. Those killed included Baqir Hussain, Hifazatullah, and Kalu.<sup>85</sup>

In Peshawar also one sectarian-related attack took place, on October 4 in which the acting head of Ahle Sunnat Wal Jamaat (ASWJ) Peshawar district Maulana Ismail Darwesh was shot dead along with his police guard. The attackers were on a motorcycle, who managed to escape after opening fire on Darwesh and his guard.<sup>86</sup>

In Mansehra, director Fisheries Dr Tanveer was killed in an armed sectarian clash at a shrine on April 14.<sup>87</sup>

## **2.9 Violence against Political Leaders and Workers**

Although attacks on political leaders and workers have become a regular feature of terrorist violence in Pakistan, frequency of such attacks usually increases before and during election times. That exactly happened during the election year of 2018. Similarly, supporters and workers of different parties were also seen engaged in incidents of political violence in terms of armed clashes as well as attacks during election campaign and on the polling day.

Compared to 13 such attacks in previous year, as many as 24 terrorist attacks in

2018 targeted political leaders and workers including some lethal ones. In all, these attacks claimed the lives of 218 people and injured 394 others. Eight of these attacks were carried out by Baloch and Sindhi nationalist insurgent group, which were low-intensity attacks and caused injuries to 27 people. Nonetheless, all 218 fatalities reported in such attacks resulted from 16 attacks perpetrated by the Pakistani Taliban such as the TTP as well as Islamic State terrorist group also known as ISIS, or Daesh.

As cited earlier, this reported surge in casualties in attacks targeting political leaders coincided with the holding of general election in Pakistan in July 2018; 14 out of 24 reported attacks against political leaders/workers and election-related targets in 2018 happened in the month of July alone.

Similarly, incidents of political and election-related violence among activists and supporters of different parties also surged significantly, from 4 in 2017 to 22 in 2018.

Thus, on the whole, 46 reported incidents of violence in 2018 – including terrorist attacks against political leaders/workers as well as incidents of political violence cited earlier – claimed the lives of 229 people and injured 449 others.

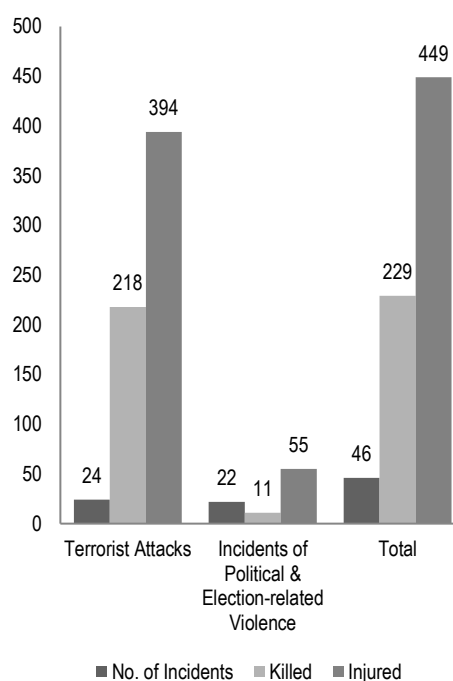
### 2.9.1 Terrorist Attacks on Political Leaders

A higher number of casualties in the terrorist attacks targeting political leaders, as cited earlier, was caused by some lethal attacks in Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa provinces. Indeed a single suicide blast in Mastung district of Balochistan claimed 150 lives. Nawabzada Siraj Raisani, Balochistan Awami Party (BAP) candidate for a Balochistan Assembly seat, was among those killed.<sup>88</sup> Similarly, on July 25, a suicide blast near Eastern Bypass of Quetta claimed 31 lives including 6 policemen and 2 minors and injured 70 others. Quetta police said the suicide bomber blew himself up after he was stopped from entering the Tameer-i-Nau Education Complex, which served as a polling station.<sup>89</sup> The ISIS claimed both the attacks.

One such major attack against political leaders was also reported from Peshawar. Reportedly, ANP leader and a candidate for a provincial assembly seat Haroon Bilour was among 21 killed in a suicide blast in a corner party meeting in Yakatoot area of Peshawar; 65 others were injured. Haroon's father Bashir Bilour, a prominent ANP leader, was also killed in a suicide blast in Peshawar in 2012.<sup>90</sup> Similarly, in DI Khan district of KP, former provincial minister and PTI candidate for a provincial assembly seat Ikramullah Gandapur was killed along with his driver and a policeman in a suicide blast in Kulachi tehsil.<sup>91</sup> In Bannu, JUI-F leader

and MMA candidate from NA-35 Akram Khan Durrani survived two terror attacks. In one of these attacks, a remote controlled motor cycle-fitted IED blast targeted his convoy killing 5 people.<sup>92</sup>

**Chart 4: Violence against Political Leaders, Workers in 2018**

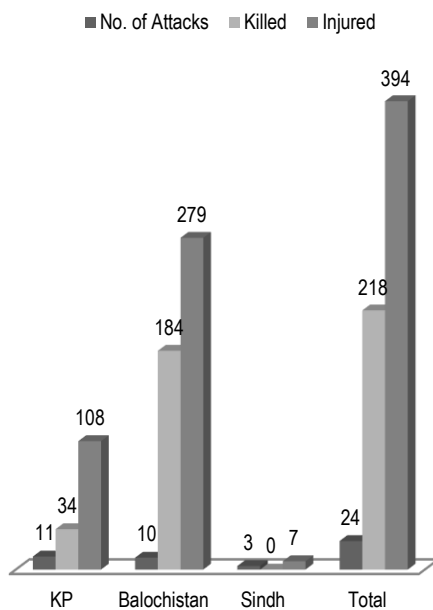


Out of the total 24 terrorist attacks targeting political leaders, 10 took place in Balochistan which claimed 184 lives. Eleven such attacks happened in KP and three in Sindh. (See Chart 6)

Terrorist attacks against political leaders and workers did not confine to those belonging to one or few exclusive parties but such attacks hit at least 10 parties

including Allah-o-Akbar Tehreek (AAT) – Jamaatud Dawa contested elections from AAT platform after failing to get registered as a political party with the Election Commission of Pakistan – Awami National Party (ANP), Balochistan Awami Party (BAP), Balochistan National Party's (BNP) Awami and Mengal factions, Jamiat Ulema-i-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F), Mutahidda Majlis-e-Amal (MMA), Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N), Pakistan People's Party (PPP), Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaaf (PTI), and independent election candidates besides few polling stations. (See Table 9)

**Chart 5: Terrorist Attacks on Political Leaders/Workers in 2018**



**Table 9: Distribution of Attacks in Terms of Targets and Areas**

Target	No. of Attacks	Geographical Spread of Attacks	Responsible Groups
AAT	1	Sindh (Hyderabad)	SDLA
ANP	3	KP (Peshawar); Balochistan (Qilla Abdullah)	TTP, Unknown militants
BAP	3	Balochistan (Khuzdar, Mastung, Chaghai)	BLF, ISIS, Baloch insurgents
BNP-A	1	Balochistan (Kech)	BLF
BNP-M	2	Balochistan (Kech)	BLA
Independent/No association	2	Balochistan (Kohlu); KP (Peshawar)	BLA, Unknown militants
JUI-F	3	KP (Bannu, Tank); Balochistan (Quetta)	TTP, Unknown militants
MMA	2	KP (Bannu)	TTP
PML-N	1	Sindh (Karachi)	Unknown militants
PPP	2	KP (Bajaur); Sindh (Larkana)	SDLA, Unknown militants

Target	No. of Attacks	Geographical Spread of Attacks	Responsible Groups
PTI	3	KP (Peshawar, North Waziristan, DI Khan)	TTP
Polling stations	1	Balochistan (Quetta)	ISIS
<b>Total</b>	<b>24 Attacks</b>		

### 2.9.2 Political Violence

Compared to 4 in 2017, as many as 22 incidents of political violence also took place, mostly between May and July 2018. These incidents claimed 11 lives and injured 55 others.

**Table 10: Incidents of Political/ Election-related Violence in Pakistan**

Region	District	No. of Inciden	Killed	Injured
Punjab	Attock	1	0	0
	Faisalabad	2	1	5
	Gujranwala	1	1	7
	Lahore	1	0	2
	Multan	1	0	0
	Rawalpindi	1	0	4
	Sialkot	1	1	0
	Multiple Districts	2	0	9
<b>Punjab Total</b>		<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>27</b>
	Charsadda	1	1	0

Region	District	No. of Inciden	Killed	Injured
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Kohistan	1	0	12
	Lower Dir	1	0	2
	Mansehra	2	0	7
	Swabi	1	1	2
<b>KP Total</b>		<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>23</b>
Sindh	Jacobabad	1	1	3
	Karachi	5	5	2
<b>Sindh Total</b>		<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Total (Pakistan)</b>		<b>22</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>55</b>

Those killed in such violence included: two former and present MQM-Haqiqi activists, two Pak Sarzameen Party (PSP) activists, and leader of an MQM faction and former MNA Raza Ali Abidi in Karachi; Waqar Ahmed Wahla, candidate for PP-109 from the Aam Aadmi Party in Faisalabad district; a PTI supporter in Swabi; a close relative of a Qaumi Watan Party (QWP) candidate in Charsadda; a PTI councilor in Gujranwala; a PML-N worker in Pasrur, Sialkot; and a young PPP activist in Jacobabad in interior Sindh.

### 2.9.3 Comparison with Election-related Violence in 2013

In 3 months of run-up to elections in 2013 (March to May), as many as 148 terrorist attacks took place in Pakistan targeting political leaders, workers and election-related gathering, rallies and offices, etc. In 3 months of run-up to 2018 election (May to July), only 19 terrorist attacks hit such

targets. This is a decrease of over 87 percent.

However despite a significant decrease in frequency of terrorist attacks on election-related targets, as compared to 2013 election, the number of people killed in such attacks in the selected 3 months of 2018 increased by over 20 percent; from 179 in 2013 to 215 in 2018.

One other contrasting difference in trends of election-related terrorist violence in 2013 and 2018 can be described in terms of perpetrators of such attacks. In 2013, out of 148 such attacks, at least 52 were perpetrated by nationalist insurgents, mainly Baloch, and the rest were conducted by the Taliban and others. However in 2018, nationalist insurgents perpetrated only 7 low-scale attacks against political leaders/workers and other election-related targets; that however corresponds to an overall decrease in such attacks. In 2018, ISIS was behind many lethal attacks targeting political leaders/workers and election-related targets.

Similarly, the number of incidents of political violence also declined significantly from 80 in 2013 (March to May) – 51 of these were concentrated in Karachi alone – to 13 in 2018 (May to July).

## **2.10 Terrorist Violence against Religious Minorities**

Compared to 6 in 2017, four terrorist attacks in 2018 exclusively targeted members of religious minority communities, which claimed 8 lives and injured 6 others. Two of these attacks targeted Christian community members in Quetta, while one attack each hit members of Sikh and Hindu communities, in Peshawar and Gwadar, respectively.

Islamic State terrorist group carried out two attacks against Christian community in Quetta on April. On April 2, four members of a Christian family were gunned down in Quetta. The victim family was travelling in a rickshaw when armed men on a motorcycle opened fire on them on Shah Zaman road. ISIS claimed the attack.<sup>93</sup> Later, militants on 2 motorcycles opened fire on Christian worshippers returning home after attending prayers in a church. The incident happened in Essa Nagri area of Quetta, killing 2 members of Christian community and injuring 6 others. Next day, Islamic State terrorist group reportedly claimed the attack.<sup>94</sup>

In Peshawar, on May 29, a lone attacker shot dead Sikh peace activist Charnjeet Singh at his shop at Scheme Chowk on Kohat Road in the limits of Inqilab police station. Police said it was apparently an incident of targeted killing.<sup>95</sup>

**Table 11: Terrorist Attacks against Religious Minorities**

District	Attacks	Killed	Injured	Target
Gwadar	1	1	0	Hindu community
Peshawar	1	1	0	Sikh community
Quetta	2	6	6	Christian community/ churches
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	

On June 1, a tailor belonging to Hindu community was shot dead and two others were injured when gunmen opened fire at their shop in Pishukan, a small coastal town of Gwadar district.<sup>96</sup>

### 2.11 Communal and Mob Violence

Compared to 5 in 2017, as many as 6 incidents of individual or mob/communal violence – including 5 faith-based – were recorded in 2018, which claimed 4 lives and injured 29 others.

Three of these attacks targeted Ahmedi community, two were on the issue of blasphemy and one had local security related motive.

These incidents were reported from Faisalabad, Lahore, Narowal, and Sialkot in Punjab, and Charsadda and North Waziristan in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

**Table 12: Incidents of Communal and Mob Violence**

District	Violent Incidents	Killed	Injured	Damages \ Target
Charsadda	1	1	0	Blasphemy accused
Faisalabad	1	0	18	Ahmedi community
Lahore	1	1	0	Ahmedi community
Narowal	1	0	1	Political leader/government
North Waziristan	1	2	10	Civilians
Sialkot	1	0	0	Ahmedi community
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>29</b>	

These incidents are narrated below:

- January 22: A second-year student of a private college, Faheem Ashraf, shot dead Sareer Ahmed, principal of the New Islamia Public High School and College on the Matta Road in Shabqadar town in Charsadda district after accusing him of blasphemy.<sup>97</sup>
- May 6: A religiously charged young man opened fire on Interior Minister Ahsan Iqbal during a corner meeting in his constituency in Narowal. Iqbal was injured in the attack. The suspect was

reportedly influenced by Tehreek Labbaik Ya Rasool Allah and attacked the minister for the government's alleged effort in past to rephrase the oath on finality of prophethood.<sup>98</sup>

- May 24: A building belonging to the Ahmadi community in congested Kashmiri Mohallah in Sialkot was demolished amid allegations that this act was carried out by mob urged on in the name of faith.<sup>99</sup>
- June 26: Ahmadiya Community Pakistan spokesman Saleemuddin said two masked men entered the house of Qazi Muhammed Shoban in Nishtar Colony on the night of June 25 and shot him dead.<sup>100</sup>
- August 23: Eighteen people were wounded in an attack on a place of worship belonging to the Ahmadi community. The incident, which took place in Chak 69-RB in Faisalabad, began with a quarrel over a petty issue between Ahmedis and Muslims. The worship place was ransacked and some of its items were set on fire following an exchange of gunfire.<sup>101</sup>
- August 24: One person was killed and 10 others were injured when security forces allegedly opened fire on protesters in Hamzoni village of Dattakhel tehsil in North Waziristan tribal district. BBC Urdu later claimed two were among those killed. The locals

were protesting against the arrests made in connection with a bomb blast in which a havaldar was killed.<sup>102</sup>

## 2.12 Drone Strikes

Marking a decrease of over 66 percent from the year before, as many as 3 US-led drone strikes took place in 3 tribal districts including Kurram, North Waziristan, and Orakzai, during first two months of 2018. These attacks killed a total of 5 suspected militants – compared to 30 in the year before – and injured another one.

Militants of Haqqani Network of the Afghan Taliban were mainly targeted in these drone strikes, which are narrated below:

- January 17: A US drone carried out a strike near Badshahkot village in lower division of Kurram Agency close to the Afghan border in which one suspected militant was injured. He was identified as Khalid, an Afghan national.<sup>103</sup>
- January 24: Two militants of the Haqqani Network, commander Ihsanullah alias Khuraye and his associate Nasir Mehmood, were killed in a US drone attack in Orakzai Agency. The drone targeted with missiles a house in Dapa Mamazai village destroying it. There were however different claims about the exact location and target. The FO said it happened in Kurram Agency while the ISPR claimed it took place in Hangu

district of KP, adjacent to Orakzai Agency, and targeted an individual in an Afghan refugee camp. The US denied it targeted the refugee camp.<sup>104</sup>

- February 8: Three alleged Haqqani Network militants were killed in a US drone strike at a compound close to the Afghan border in North Waziristan Agency.<sup>105</sup>

## 2.13 Border Attacks

Marking a decrease of about 23 percent from previous year, 131 cross-border attacks were reported from Pakistan's borders with Afghanistan, India and Iran. Similarly, down 41 percent from 2017, a total of 111 people were killed in these attacks; another 290 were also injured.

Those 111 Pakistani citizens killed in cross-border attacks were 57 civilians, 32 security personnel (7 FC, one paramilitary, 22 army officials, and 2 Rangers) as well as 22 militants who were killed in retaliatory fire by security forces.

As in the year before, the situation at Pakistan's border with India – along the LoC in Azad Kashmir and the Working Boundary – remained relatively more volatile. Highest in all these three types of attacks took place from the country's borders with India (109 attacks; compared to 131 in 2017), followed by Afghanistan (16 attacks; compared to 28 in 2017) and Iran (6 attacks; compared to 12 in 2017).

**Table 13: Border Attacks/Clashes in 2018**

Nature of Attack	No. of Attacks	Killed	Injured
Pak-Afghan border	16	43	22
Pak-India border	109	64	264
Pak-Iran border	6	4	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>290</b>

While attacks from Indian and Iranian sides were perpetrated by their security forces, respectively, the cross-border attacks from Afghanistan were largely perpetrated by militants, including Pakistani Taliban sheltered in Afghanistan.

### 2.13.1 Pak-Afghan

Marking a decline of 43 percent from previous year, 16 cross-border attacks took place from Afghanistan. These attacks claimed 43 lives – including 21 personnel of security forces and 22 militants, who were killed in retaliatory fire by security forces – and injured 22 others.

As many as 15 out of the reported 16 attacks from across the Afghan border happened in different parts of KP, as given at Table 14, and one such attack took place at Chaman in Balochistan. The TTP carried out most of these attacks (14), Jamaatul Ahrar perpetrated one attack, and the Afghan National Army also launched one cross-border attack.



Security forces and their check-posts, mainly in parts of KP bordering on Afghanistan, were the prime targets of these attacks, and were hit in 13 attacks; the remaining 3 cross-border attacks from Afghanistan targeted civilians.

In January, two cross-border attacks from Afghanistan were recorded that were incidents of missile and rocket firing in Mohmand. No loss of life was reported in these two attacks. On January 18, nonetheless, Pakistan security forces destroyed the Umar Radio Tower near the Pak-Afghan border claiming "the move would stop the transmission of "hostile, anti-state propaganda."<sup>106</sup> The move was apparently meant to secure the country's borders with Afghanistan from militants' influence as the propaganda being broadcast on the said radio was reportedly helping the agenda of anti-Pakistan militants.

While no cross-border attack from Afghanistan happened in February, in March one such incident was recorded on March 15 in which an FC official Hanif Khan was killed when Pakistani Taliban militants sheltered in Afghanistan assaulted FC personnel in Khyber. The militants escaped when security forces returned fire.<sup>107</sup>

On April 15, a major cross-border terrorist attack took place in Kurram. Infiltrating from Khost in Afghanistan, the Pakistani Taliban militants (sheltered there) attacked FC troops patrolling near the Laka Teegha

check post in lower Kurram. At least 2 FC personnel were killed and 12 others injured in the attack. The death toll later reached to 5 when 3 of the injured died in hospital.<sup>108</sup> A cross-border attack from Afghanistan also took place in Mohmand in April that killed a 21-year-old soldier Farmanullah; security forces also killed three terrorists.<sup>109</sup>

In another major cross-border attack from Afghanistan, 6 army officials lost their lives on May 13. Reportedly, TTP militants from across the Afghan border crossed into Shawal area of North Waziristan and attacked a security check post with light and heavy weapons. As a result, 6 army soldiers were killed and another one injured. The attackers managed to escape.<sup>110</sup>

In June, militants from Afghanistan perpetrated 4 attacks in parts of KP, which were relatively more lethal, in terms of casualties they caused; though 11 out of total killed in these attacks and clashes were militants, the remaining 5 belonged to Pakistan army and paramilitary troops. Three of the 4 attacks from across the Afghan border happened in North Waziristan and one in Bajaur. The TTP and Jamaatul Ahrar (JuA) was reportedly involved in these attacks which all targeted security forces and their check-posts.

In July, one attack from Afghanistan took place in Upper Dir district of KP. Reportedly, militants from across the Afghan border

attacked a security check-post in Dir killing one and injuring 3 security officials manning the post.<sup>111</sup> Two such attacks in September. On September 2, a cross-border violent incident was recorded in bordering region of Kurram tribal district. Reportedly, A Frontier Corps soldier Lance Naik Rehmanullah died and another was injured when militants from Afghan territory fired at a border post in lower tehsil of Kurram, adjacent to Afghanistan's Khost province.<sup>112</sup> On September 27, Pakistani Taliban militants sheltered in Afghanistan attacked a security check post in border area of Spinwam, North Waziristan. Fatehullah of Bittani Rifle lost his life in the firing incident.<sup>113</sup>

In October, two reported attacks from Afghanistan – one each by the TTP and the Afghan National Army (ANA) – caused the death of 7 attackers and injuries to 3 others. In November, too, security forces repulsed a cross-border attack from the TTP militants and killed one terrorist commander. The militants tried to launch the attack in Ghakhi Pass area of Bajaur after entering into Pakistan from Kunar province of Afghanistan.<sup>114</sup>

Meanwhile, the Pakistan Army said on December 15th that the ongoing work of fencing the Pak-Afghan border was getting pace and could be completed by December 2019, which will further help contain terrorist activities on this side of the mountainous border — running from tribal areas in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to

borderlands in Balochistan. According to the details provided in a tweet by the director general of the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), the army's public affairs wing: "Work on forts & fence continues on Pak-Afg[hanistan] B[or]d[er]. Total length 2611 KM. Work on 233 of 843 forts & 802 of 1200 KM pri 1 areas completed. Aiming speedy completion in pri 1 areas, overall completion [is expected] by Dec 2019 IA [InshaAllah]. Shall benefit peaceful people of Pak & Afg[hanistan] while restricting terrorists."<sup>115</sup>

### 2.13.2 Pak-India

Out of the total 109 cross-border attacks reported from India in 2018, as many as 67 – or over 61 percent – concentrated in 3 AJK districts Bhimber, Kotli and Poonch, along the Line of Control (LoC). Meanwhile 19 such attacks were recorded in Sialkot, along the Working Boundary. Cross-border attacks from India also took place in 4 other districts of AJK including Hattian (8 attacks), Haveli (2), Neelum (4), and Rawalakot (4 attacks); 5 such attacks were reported from unspecified place along the LoC.

As many as 72 cross-border attacks from Indian took place from January to May, while 37 other attacks happened from June to December. Indicating a reduced frequency of attacks in last seven months of the year, as shown at Chart 4. It could be possibly due to the fact that Pakistan and India had agreed in late May to restore

ceasefire on the Line of Control and Working Boundary.

Among those 63 Pakistani citizens killed in cross-border violence from India were 52 civilians, 9 army soldiers and 2 Rangers personnel.

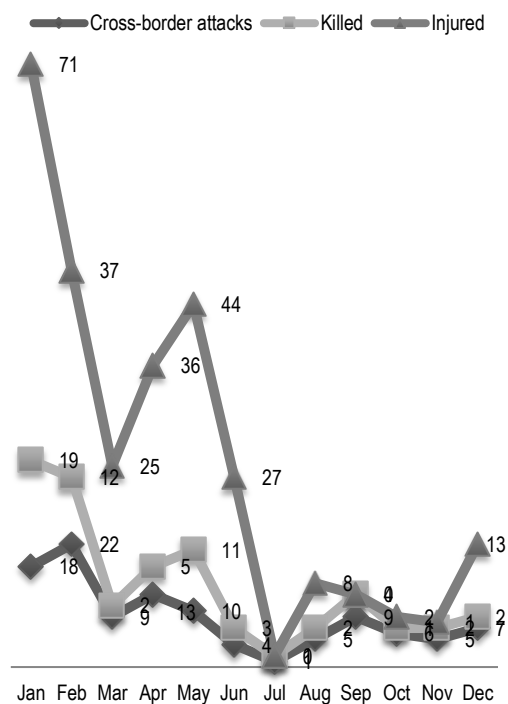
In January, Indian BSF troops carried out 18 cross-border attacks inside Pakistani territory, which claimed the lives of 19 Pakistani citizens and injured 71 others. Kotli, Bhimber, Poonch, Rawalakot and Haveli districts of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) were mainly affected by these attacks, with 11 reported attacks. Seven (7) attacks happened in different villages along the Sialkot Working Boundary killing 9 people. All fatalities from Indian firing and shelling resulted from attacks that happened between January 11 and January 21 indicating intense shelling in those days.

As many as 22 cross-border attacks from India inside Pakistani territory happened in February 2018, all across the Line of Control (LoC). These attacks claimed 12 lives and injured 37 others. As many as 12 attacks were recorded in Kotli district alone, five happened in Poonch, and two attacks took place in each of the Bhimber and Rawalakot districts. One attack was reported from unspecified location.

In March, all 9 reported cross-border attacks from India took place along the LoC including 3 from each of Kotli and Poonch districts, 2 from Bhimber and one from an

unspecified LoC position. On March 14, members of the United Nations Military Observers Group for India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) were interacting with the locals in Polas village in Poonch district of AJK when suddenly Indian troops resorted to firing from across the LoC injuring two locals identified as Sardar Saghir and Muhammad Azam Qureshi.<sup>116</sup>

**Chart 4: Trends of Cross-border Attacks from India in 2018**



In April, too, all 13 reported cross-border attacks from India took place along the LoC; six in Poonch, 5 in Kotli and 2 in Bhimber districts of Azad Jammu and

Kashmir. Five civilians lost their lives in these attacks and 36 others sustained injuries. The military's public affairs wing ISPR said that Pakistan army had told Indian military that its ceasefire violations along the Line of Control are escalating an already tense situation, besides adding to miseries of people living along the Line of Control. ISPR statement also noted that so far, during the current year, 219 innocent civilians had fallen casualty, both martyred and injured due to Indian targeted ceasefire violations. The breaches of ceasefire are following last year's pattern when over 1,800 were reported.<sup>117</sup>

On May 29, Pakistan and India agreed to restore ceasefire on the Line of Control and Working Boundary, but sadly border violations by Indian BSF continued after that. However, the agreement was in itself a positive development which was reached during a hotline conversation between the Directors General of Military Operations of Pakistani and Indian armies. The conversation between Maj Gen Sahir Shamshad Mirza and Lt Gen Anil Chauhan was held on a Pakistani initiative.<sup>118</sup> In May, with the exception of 2 cross-border attacks reported from the LoC in Azad Kashmir, all other reported attacks from Indian side concentrated along the Sialkot Working Boundary.

In June, out of 4 reported attacks from Indian side, 3 concentrated along the Line of Control (LoC) in Azad Kashmir including in Poonch and Kotli districts. One attack was

reported from across the Working Boundary in Sialkot district of Punjab. These attacks in all killed 3 civilians and injured 27 others, all civilians. In July, a single attack was recorded from India in which Muhammad Naeem, a mentally ill youth, was shot dead by the Indian BSF after he had mistakenly crossed into an Indian territory while walking along the zigzagged Shakargarh working boundary.<sup>119</sup>

In August, 5 reported attacks from across the Indian border killed two people. First, on August 2, a woman Nusrat Bibi was killed in Indian shelling in Ghasla village in Mandal sector along the LoC in Azad Kashmir.<sup>120</sup> Later, on August 18, the Indian border security force (BSF) troops targeted many villages in Leepa Valley of Hattian district with heaving shelling. A 65-year old man Zulfiqar was killed and two others were injured. Some houses were also damaged in the shelling reported from Chatt Kari, Lab Gran, Said Pura, Ghasla, Chak Muqam, Bana Mola, and Antliyan.<sup>121</sup>

Eight out of 9 reported attacks from Indian side in September happened in Azad Kashmir along the Line of Control (LoC); one attack was reported from Sialkot Working Boundary. In all, 4 people lost their lives in these attacks. On September 30, the AJK Prime Minister Raja Farooq Haider was travelling with two ministers and his personal staff officer in a helicopter when Indian army opened fire on them near LoC in Abbaspur village; the helicopter narrowly escaped the attack.<sup>122</sup>

In October, five out of 6 reported attacks from Indian side happened in Azad Kashmir along the LoC; one attack was reported from Sialkot Working Boundary. One person was killed in these attacks. In November, the reported 5 attacks from across the LoC happened in Bhimber, Hattian Bala and Kotli district of AJK. One soldier of Pakistan army and a civilian lost their lives in these attacks.

Seven cross-border attacks from Indian took place in December including 6 along the LoC – two in Neelum and one each in Hattian, Poonch, Rawalakot, and Kotli districts of AJK – and one in Chaprar sector of Sialkot. One soldier and a civilian were killed and 13 others injured in these attacks. On December 22, Indian border security troops fired mortar shells on Pakistani security posts in Athmuqam that killed one soldier Maqsood Kazmi.<sup>123</sup> On December 31, Indian BSF troops conducted shelling targeting civilian population along the LoC in Neelum district of AJK. In the shelling, one woman was killed and 9 others injured including 4 women and 2 kids.<sup>124</sup>

### 2.13.3 Pak-Iran

Iranian border security forces carried out 6 cross-border attacks in 2018 in Balochistan's Chagai, Gwadar and Panjgur districts, compared to 12 such attacks in 2017. Four Pakistani citizens were killed and as many others were injured in these attacks, which were largely incidents of

mortar shelling and artillery firing. All these attacks are narrated below:

- March 17: Iranian forces fired about half a dozen mortar shells into Pakistani territory near the Panjgur border. The shells landed and exploded in an open space in the Parako area, a small village. However no casualty was recorded.<sup>125</sup>
- April 16: Iranian border guards shot dead two Pakistanis and detained five others when they illegally crossed into their country. Later, they handed over the two bodies as well as the five arrested men to the Levies authorities at the border.<sup>126</sup> The incident took place near Gwadar.
- April 23: Iranian border forces fired mortar shells at Pakistani border villages in the Nokondi area of Chagai district. They landed and exploded in an open place without causing any loss of life or damage to property.<sup>127</sup>
- June 10: In the only attack reported from Iranian side of the border, A mortar shell fired from Iranian side of the border landed and exploded in an open place in Panjgur without causing any damage to property or loss of life.<sup>128</sup>
- October 19: Iranian security forces fired over two dozen mortar shells, causing panic in the border villages in Chagai district. Several camels and

cattle grazing in the fields were killed. The shelling came few days after Iranian security officials were kidnapped from neighboring Sistan-Baluchistan province.<sup>129</sup>

- November 11: Two Pakistani citizens were killed and 4 injured in firing by Iranian border security forces in Parom area of Panjgur. Reportedly the victims were about to cross the border when Iranian troops opened fire on them.<sup>130</sup>

Separately, in September, Iran's Revolutionary Guards claimed to have killed four militants who they said had slipped across the border from Pakistan to try to carry out an attack. They said two other militants were wounded in the clash in the southeastern province of Sistan-Baluchistan, with the "rest of the terrorists fleeing to the soil of the neighbouring country."<sup>131</sup>

Meanwhile the October shelling from Iranian side reportedly came few days after at least 10 Iranian security officials were kidnapped from neighboring Sistan-Baluchistan province. Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif had also asked Pakistan to step up efforts to secure the border in a telephone call with his Pakistani counterpart Shah Mehmood Qureshi. Five of the kidnapped officials were later released with efforts from Pakistan. Pakistan also offered coordinated operations along the border to Iran as well as help in recovering the kidnapped Iranian

guards. Iranian foreign minister Javad Zarif called on Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan in which the latter offered the cited coordination. The purpose of such operations would be to pre-empt terrorist incidents in future.<sup>132</sup>

In December, Pakistan lodged protest with Iran over an attack claimed by the BLA that killed 6 Pakistani soldiers in Kech (Balochistan) near Pakistani-Iranian border implying the BLA militants' cross-border movement for shelter. The attack had happened a day after the two countries signed a memorandum of understanding for "improving border security and stopping smuggling of petroleum products, drugs and arms and human trafficking."<sup>133</sup>

**Table 14: Regional Distribution of Cross-border Attacks**

Border	District	Attacks	Killed	Injured
Pak - Afghan	Bajaur (KP)	2	7	5
	Khyber (KP)	1	1	0
	Kurram (KP)	2	6	10
	Mohmand (KP)	3	4	0
	North Waziristan (KP)	6	24	4
	Qilla Abdullah (Balochistan)	1	0	0
	Upper Dir (KP)	1	1	3
	<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>22</b>

Border	District	Attacks	Killed	Injured
Pak - India	Bhimber (LoC)	14	11	13
	Hattian (LoC)	8	2	7
	Haveli (LoC)	2	0	3
	Kotli (LoC)	32	16	77
	LoC (Unspecified)	5	2	7
	Neelum (LoC)	4	2	9
	Poonch (LoC)	21	6	32
	Rawalakot (LoC)	4	3	4
	Sialkot (WB)	19	22	112
	<b>Total</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>264</b>
Pak - Iran	Chagai (Balochistan)	2	0	0
	Gwadar (Balochistan)	1	2	0
	Panjgur (Balochistan)	3	2	4
	<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Total from 3 borders</b>		<b>131</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>290</b>





## CHAPTER 3

# Militant landscape of Pakistan in 2018

**Muhammad Amir Rana**

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In 2018, major Pakistani militant groups suffered huge losses both in terms of damage to their operational capacities as well as elimination of their leaders, including in Afghanistan. The head of the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) Mullah Fazlullah,<sup>134</sup> and his son Abdullah,<sup>135</sup> also known as Iman Diri, were killed in separate drone strikes in Kunar province of Afghanistan.<sup>136</sup> Abu Sayed Orakzai, a top commander of Islamic State's Khorasan chapter and brother of ISIS founder in the region Saeed Khan was also killed in Afghanistan.<sup>137</sup> The TTP also confirmed the death of its commander Khalid Mehsud aka Khan Said Sajna, who was hit by a missile fired by the US drone in North Waziristan.<sup>138</sup> Many Lashkar-e-Jhangvi (LeJ) and Jundullah militants were also killed in operations launched by the Pakistani security forces and police's counter terrorism departments (CTDs) in the country. These killings caused disruption among the militant groups, which resulted in the reduction of terrorist attacks.

The geographical distribution of the reported terrorist attacks in 2018 suggests that militants' operational spaces are shrinking and getting confined to certain regions. Terrorist attacks in 2018 were largely concentrated in pockets of Balochistan and tribal districts of KP province mainly in North Waziristan. However, militants were still able to perpetrate some high intensity and high profile attacks in 2018, though with less frequency compared to past years.

While the TTP still remained the perpetrator of most acts of terrorism in the country, its

splinter Jamaatul Ahrar (JuA) suffered further losses. Since the killing of its head last year, the internal differences have further weakened the group. In 2018, JuA carried out 15 attacks, which are about 50 percent less from JuA-perpetrated attacks in previous year. The group's spokesperson Asad Mansur had also surrendered before the security forces,<sup>139</sup> which indicated the annihilation underway in the organization. However, a breakaway faction of JuA, which identified itself as Hizbul Ahrar, registered its presence in Punjab and Karachi apart from KP's tribal districts, which indicated that the Pakistani Taliban militants could still pose a potent threat.

Nonetheless, in 2018, LeJ has further lost its operational strength and Daesh also failed to keep its operational momentum as of first half of the year.

Among nationalist insurgent groups, Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) and Baloch Liberation Front (BLF) were the leading actors of instability in Balochistan province. BLA's attack on Chinese consulate in Karachi was alarming as it was one of the major terrorist attacks by the Baloch insurgents, which they conducted away from Balochistan province.

The chapter will examine some significant developments, which shaped the militant landscape in 2018. It will also focus on changing targets and tactics of the groups and changing dynamics of the militancy in Pakistan.

## 1 Major actors of instability in 2018

### 1.2. Religiously-inspired militant groups

#### *Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan*

Though the TTP has suffered huge losses in 2018, it still remained the major actor of instability in the country. The group was found involved in 79 terrorist attacks across the country, including 57 in KP and erstwhile FATA, 18 in Balochistan, 2 in Punjab and another 2 in Karachi. Combined together, these attacks by the TTP claimed 185 lives and left 3336 other injured. (See *Table 1 & 2*) In 2017 the group had carried out 70 attacks that killed 186 people. The statistical comparison shows that the operational capabilities of the group are still intact though its outreach has largely shrunk to tribal district of the KP province, where it had carried most terrorist attacks. Still, as cited earlier, the group showed its presence in Balochistan province by conducting 18 terrorist attacks there. However, few media reports reflected that the TTP was desperately struggling to re-establish its network and overcome internal differences.<sup>140</sup> Managing the financial resources has emerged as the biggest challenge for the group and it was trying to reconnect with financial source of supply in Karachi, where the group is targeting the outskirts of the city to generate the funds.<sup>141</sup>

#### *Jamaatul Ahrar and Hizbul Ahrar*

In 2018, JuA accepted the responsibility for or was found involved in 15 terrorist attacks comparing 37 in 2017. In these attacks the group killed 11 people and injured 16 others. All of its attacks were reported from KP province. The group is losing its operational strength and human resource as its rival and breakaway faction, i.e. Hizbul Ahrar led by Mukarram Khan, is gradually gaining strength; the latter was found involved in 6 terrorist attacks across the country including few major ones. The data collected through open sources shows that the Hizbul Ahrar had claimed responsibility of 2 attacks each from Balochistan and Karachi and one each attack from Punjab and KP province. However, some of the attacks shown in Table 1 as perpetrated by the unknown militants could have indeed been carried out by Hizbul Ahrar, which were either not claimed by the group or not reported in media with their claim. That is possible because the law enforcement departments in Sindh and Punjab believe that the group was involved in more than dozen attacks.

#### *Local Taliban*

The small militant groups in KP and its tribal districts, described as the local Taliban,<sup>142</sup> carried out 28 terrorist attacks in 2018, which claimed 11 lives and left 50 others injured. In 2017, the local Taliban groups had claimed 29 attacks. Continuing attacks by them suggest that small radical groups

in KP province are still active and have attraction in their cause as most of such attacks are religiously motivated and targeted against girls schools, NGO's, security forces and tribal elders. In North Waziristan, a local Taliban group attributed to Mullah Nazir, is targeting Pakhtun Tahaffuz Movement (PTM) members. Once the group was tagged as good Taliban and is now operating under the cover name of a peace committee.<sup>143</sup>

### ***Ittehadul Mujahideen North Waziristan***

On December 9 last year a local media outlet from North Waziristan reported that almost all the girls' schools in Mir Ali sub division have been closed.<sup>144</sup> In May a pamphlet distributed by a militant group called Ittehadul Mujahideen North Waziristan warned residents against sending grown-up girls to schools. The group had issued the warning after damaging two girls' schools in North Waziristan district of KP.<sup>145</sup> According to media reports the group comprises on local radicals supported by the different Taliban groups in the tribal district.<sup>146</sup>

### ***Lashkar-e-Islam***

Lashkar-e-Islam (LI) – a Khyber district-based militant group and an important ally of Islamic State Khorasan chapter in Afghanistan – was found involved in 10 terrorist attacks in 2018, compared to 21 in 2017. Five persons lost their lives in these

attacks perpetrated by the group. The group is reportedly losing its operational capabilities.

**Table 1: Terrorist Attacks Claimed/ Perpetrated by Terrorist Groups**

Organization	Balochistan	KP (including erstwhile FATA)	GB & AJK	Punjab	Sindh (excluding Karachi)	Karachi	Total
Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP)	18	57	-	2	-	2	79
Jamaatul Ahrar	-	15	-	-	-	-	15
Daesh	4	1	-	-	-	-	5
Lashkar-e-Islam	-	10	-	-	-	-	10
Local Taliban	-	28	-	-	-	-	28
Lashkar-e-Jhangvi (LeJ)	6	1	-	-	-	-	7
Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA)	23	-	-	-	-	2	25
Balochistan Liberation Front (BLF)	22	-	-	-	-	-	22
BLA+BLF (Joint)	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Balochistan Republican Army (BRA)	12	-	-	-	-	-	12

Organization	Balochistan	KP (including erstwhile FATA)	GB & AJK	Punjab	Sindh (excluding Karachi)	Karachi	Total
Lashkar-e-Balochistan	5	-	-	-	-	-	<b>5</b>
Sindhu Desh Liberation Front (SDLF)	-	-	-	-	2	-	<b>2</b>
Sindhu Desh Revolutionary Army	-	-	-	-	1	-	<b>1</b>
Sipah-e-Muhammad Pakistan	-	1	-	-	-	-	<b>1</b>
Rival Sectarian group	-	2	-	-	-	-	<b>2</b>
Nationalist insurgents	11	-	-	-	-	1	<b>12</b>
Hizbul Ahrar	2	1	-	1	-	2	<b>6</b>
Ittehadul Mujahideen North Waziristan	-	1	-	-	-	-	<b>1</b>
Mullah Nazir Group	-	1	-	-	-	-	<b>1</b>
Unknown militants	11	7	6	1	-	2	<b>27</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>262</b>

### ***Daesh***

Daesh or the Khorasan chapter of the Islamic State group, also known as ISIS, has shown its strong presence in

Balochistan while managing four major terrorist attacks in the province. The group also carried out one major attack in KP province. In all, these five attacks killed 224 people and injured 301 others. Daesh is getting involved in sectarian terrorist attacks both in Afghanistan and Pakistan as suggested by Orakzai attack that targeted Shia community. This trend can be interpreted in terms of the group's human resource that is mainly coming from sectarian organizations; another explanation for that could be that such targets are soft to find and attack. The data on terrorist attacks claimed by Daesh in Pakistan suggests the group has relatively greater presence and activities in Balochistan and northern Sindh, where a new emerging sectarian fault-line lies. The Hazara community in Quetta valley, the Shia population in northern Sindh and Shia influence on Sunnis there, a pluralist culture of shrines, poorly governed provincial borders and most importantly, the Shia pilgrimage routes to Iran and Iraq attract a multitude of sectarian actors in this region.

During general election in July, Daesh proved most lethal than all terrorist groups in Pakistan as its attacks on a political gathering in Mastung and a polling station near Quetta caused the loss of over 180 lives. The initial assessments showed that the local elements in the group might have wanted to sabotage the electoral campaign as the sensitivity level increases during these times. Another interpretation was

made that terrorist groups' unpredictability is their operational strength as they can change their targets and tactics any time, as the ISIS did in Balochistan. However, the terrorist groups escalated violence during the elections to show their strength and attract attention.<sup>147</sup>

### ***Al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent (AQIS)***

Though Al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent (AQIS), the operational front of Al-Qaeda, was not found involved in any terrorist attack during 2018 but it remained in the loop of the law enforcement agencies. The Sindh CTD officials still consider the group a potent threat as it has allies in many militant organizations. The CTD had claimed many arrests related to AQIS members in 2018 but most important was the arrest of Umar Jalal Chandio;<sup>148</sup> informed journalists claim that Jalal Chandio was very close aide of Al-Qaeda's head Ayman Al Zawahiri.<sup>149</sup>

**Table 2: Casualties in Terrorist Attacks**

Group Responsible	Killed	Injured
<b>TTP</b>	Balochistan: 46 KP/FATA: 117 Karachi: 4 Punjab: 18 <i>Total: 85</i>	Balochistan: 69 KP/FATA: 233 Karachi: 0 Punjab: 34 <i>Total: 336</i>
<b>Jamaatul Ahrar</b>	KP/FATA: 11	KP/FATA: 16

Group Responsible	Killed	Injured
<b>Daesh</b>	Balochistan: 189 KP/FATA: 35 <i>Total: 224</i>	Balochistan: 261 KP/FATA: 40 <i>Total: 301</i>
<b>Lashkar-e-Islam</b>	KP/FATA: 5	KP/FATA: 18
<b>Local Taliban</b>	KP/FATA: 11	KP/FATA: 50
<b>LeJ</b>	Balochistan: 8 KP/FATA: 1 <i>Total: 9</i>	Balochistan: 3 KP/FATA: 1 <i>Total: 4</i>
<b>BLA</b>	Balochistan: 28 Karachi: 8 <i>Total: 36</i>	Balochistan: 76 Karachi: 2 <i>Total: 78</i>
<b>BLF</b>	Balochistan: 33	Balochistan: 53
<b>BLA+BLF (Joint)</b>	Balochistan: 2	Balochistan: 3
<b>BRA</b>	Balochistan: 10	Balochistan: 24
<b>Lashkar-e-Balochistan</b>	--	Balochistan: 17
<b>SDLF</b>	--	Sindh (excl. Karachi): 4
<b>SDRA</b>	Sindh: 1	Sindh: 1
<b>SMP</b>	KP/FATA: 1	KP/FATA: 1
<b>Rival sectarian group</b>	KP/FATA: 5	-
<b>Nationalist insurgents</b>	Balochistan: 12 Karachi: 2 <i>Total: 14</i>	Balochistan: 28 Karachi: 8 <i>Total: 36</i>
<b>Hizbul Ahrar</b>	Balochistan: 15 KP/FATA: 1 Punjab: 2 Karachi: 2 <i>Total: 20</i>	Balochistan: 20 KP/FATA: 13 Punjab: 2 <i>Total: 35</i>
<b>Mullah Nazir Group</b>	KP/FATA: 1	--

Group Responsible	Killed	Injured
<b>Unknown militants</b>	Balochistan: 11 KP/FATA: 8 AJK/GB: 6 Punjab: 0 Karachi: 2 <i>Total: 27</i>	Balochistan: 35 KP/FATA: 4 AJK/GB: 5 Punjab: 3 Karachi: 6 <i>Total: 53</i>
<b>Total</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>1,030</b>

### ***Lashkar-e-Jhangvi***

Lashkar-e-Jhangvi (LeJ), a fatal Sunni sectarian terrorist group, was found responsible for 7 terrorist attacks in Pakistan comparing 10 attacks in 2017. Six of these attacks were reported from Balochistan, and one from KP province.

### **3.1.2 Nationalist insurgent groups**

The destructive edge of the Baloch nationalist insurgent groups is still intact despite decrease in the numbers of the terrorist attacks perpetrated by the groups in 2018. The Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) and Baloch Liberation Front (BLF) carried out a combined 45 terrorist attacks in Balochistan and 2 attacks in Karachi. The attack on Chinese consulate in Karachi on November 23 was perpetrated by the BLA to convey a warning against the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).<sup>150</sup> It was the second attack on Chinese interests in 2018 as the BLA had attempted to hit a passenger coach of Chinese engineers in Dalbandin area of Balochistan in August 2018.<sup>151</sup> Both were suicide attacks, an

attack tactic used by the Baloch militants for the first time; religiously inspired groups usually employ that operational tactic. That was surprising for many as the Baloch insurgent movement has nationalist credentials and left-wing leaning. However it also reflects the growing desperation among the Baloch insurgents who not only want to expand the impact of their terrorist activities but also remain relevant and in news. A BLA commander Aslam Achu was the mastermind of both attacks. He has formed a Majid Brigade of the group on the name of a 1970's Baloch insurgent leader. He used his son in the Dalbandin suicide attack to encourage the other insurgent to use the most lethal tactic of the terrorism. However, in Chinese consulate attack, the insurgents had the suicide vest but failed to use it. Aslam Achu, himself had been killed along with his six lieutenants in a suicide attack in southern Afghanistan.<sup>152</sup> He had also tried to unite different Baloch insurgent groups under one banner and formed an alliance by the name of BRAS (Brother in Baloch language). The BLA and BLF also launched joint attacks against the security force in Kharan and Kech districts.<sup>153</sup> However the insurgent groups have failed to sustain the alliance over the leadership and resources distribution issues.<sup>154</sup>

### ***Balochistan Liberation Army***

All together, Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) managed 25 terrorist attacks in 2018, killing 36 people and injuring 78 people. (See Table 1) These attacks are lesser



comparing with 51 attacks launched by the group in 2017. Quetta, Bolan, Kech, Kharan, Khuzdar and Dalbandin districts in Balochistan were the major areas of operation of this group in 2018.

### ***Balochistan Liberation Front***

After BLA, the Balochistan Liberation Front (BLF) carried out 22 terrorist attacks, compared to 39 attacks in 2017. In these attacks 33 people were killed and 53 got injured. BLF attacks mainly remained confined in the southern coastal Makran belt and Khuzdar. After the security forces' operations, the group leadership has moved into the neighbouring countries, which is negatively impacting its operational capabilities.

### ***Baloch Republican Army***

Baloch Republican Army (BRA) was found involved in 12 terrorist attacks in 2018 and their attacks were confined mainly in Dera Bugti, Nasirabad and Kholu districts of Balochistan. These attacks killed 10 people and injured 24 others.

### ***Lashkar-e-Balochistan***

Lashkar-e-Balochistan carried out 4 low-intensity terrorist attacks in 2018. The group was mainly active in Makran coastal belt and neighbouring districts.

### ***Sindhu Desh Liberation Army or Front (SDLA)***

The Sindhi nationalist groups including the SDLA, also known as SDLF, and Sindhu Desh Revolutionary Army (SDRA) were believed to be involved in 3 small-scale terrorist attacks in 2018. The groups were involved in attacks on railway tracks, banks and inter-provincial transportation system.

#### **3.1.3 'Unidentified' militants**

The religiously motivated militants, whose group identities and organizational affiliations were not defined or reported by media and law enforcement and security officials, were involved in 27 terrorist attacks across the country. This number is higher comparing with 2017 when such militants conducted 39 attacks.

## **3.2 Changing strategies and tactics**

As noted earlier, Baloch insurgents tried to launch some major attacks, using the strategy of coordinated suicide assaults, but largely failed. First, traditionally having been relied on low intensity subversion acts and attacks, they don't have yet that capability which the religiously inspired groups have in launching major, lethal attacks. Secondly, the response by the law enforcement agencies was quick and effective to neutralise the attackers, mainly in the case of China consulate attack. Other than these attempts, nationalist insurgents

mainly relied on IEDs of different types, mainly locally made, to carry out 42 attacks, employed firing or direct shootout in 29 attacks and used grenades and rockets in 8 and one attacks, each. Out of 80 terrorist attacks launched by nationalist insurgents, mainly Baloch, there were only 5 attacks in which 5 people or more were killed. That also indicates a relatively low impact and low intensity terrorist attacks by Baloch and Sindhi insurgents when compared to the attacks perpetrated by religiously inspired groups.

The TTP, ISIS, Hizbul Ahrar, Jamaatul Ahrar and other similar religiously inspired militants groups launched 17 suicide blasts

including some major ones, as cited earlier, besides employing IEDs in 67 attacks and firing in another 60 attacks. In KP in particular, several incidents (at least 25) of landmine explosion were noted. Sectarian groups employed largely firing or target killing tactic, with the exception only one suicide blast claimed by ISIS in Orakzai.

On the whole, 99 terrorist attacks, or 38 percent of total 262 attacks recorded in 2018, were incidents of direct firing or shootout. That also implies militants' increasing reliance on hit and run strategy, apparently due to growing operational difficulties in planning and launching bomb blasts.

### State responses: anti-militant operations

**Safdar Sial**

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## 4.1 Operational Front

Security and law enforcement agencies continued anti-militant operations, including as part of Raddul Fasaad, across the country in 2018. However frequency of these actions was much lower than in the years before. As many as 105 militants were killed in 2018 in military/security operations as well as their armed clashes and encounters with the security forces – compared to 524 militants killed in such actions in 2017. These operations and clashes/encounters were not confined to a particular area or region but were reported from across all regions of Pakistan, as given at Tables 1 & 2, respectively.

Also, security and law enforcement personnel, mainly the Counter-Terrorism Departments (CTDs) of police, apprehended a total of 431 suspected terrorists and members of militant groups in 165 search and combing operations conducted all over the country. These search operations do not include several other similar actions in which suspects were arrested and mostly released after preliminary investigation.

Furthermore, security forces foiled at least 10 major terror bids or plots, either independently or in collaboration with Bomb Disposal Squads, mainly by recovering and defusing IEDs planted by militants.

### 4.1.1 Military/Security Operations

Representing a decrease of about 59 percent from previous year, 31 anti-militant

operational strikes were conducted by security forces and law enforcement agencies in the year 2018 in 18 districts and regions of Pakistan.

Compared to 296 in the year before, a total of 77 people were killed in these actions – including 68 militants, and 9 personnel of security and law enforcement agencies – and 36 others were injured.

Out of the 31 operational strikes reported in 2018, as many as 15 were conducted in Balochistan, 13 in KP, 2 in Punjab, and one in Sindh (Karachi).

**Table 1: Operational Attacks by Security Forces, against Militants and Insurgents**

Region	District	Attacks	Killed	Injured
Balochistan	Awaran	2	9	1
	Bolan	1	1	0
	Dera Bugti	2	8	0
	Kalat	1	1	0
	Mastung	4	9	11
	Multiple Districts	1	1	0
	Qilla Abdullah	1	4	0
	Quetta	3	6	6
	<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>18</b>
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Bajaur	2	4	0
	DI Khan	4	5	4
	Kohat	1	0	1
	Mohmand	2	3	0

Region	District	Attacks	Killed	Injured
	North Waziristan	1	8	7
	South Waziristan	1	8	0
	Swabi	2	2	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>13</b>
Punjab	DG Khan	2	5	2
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>
Sindh	Karachi	1	3	3
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Total Pakistan</b>		<b>31</b>	<b>77<sup>155</sup></b>	<b>36<sup>156</sup></b>

As cited earlier, Operation Raddul Fasaad continued across Pakistan in 2018, though with relatively less frequent anti-militant operations, as compared with the previous year. Some major security or counterterrorism operations, or in which some important militants were killed, are listed below:

- January 4: A wanted terrorist belonging to the TTP, Zahir Shah, and his accomplice were killed in an intelligence-based operation in Dera Ismail Khan. They were involved in an attack on Pakistan Army official Major Ishaq in November 2017.<sup>157</sup>
- February 19: Security forces foiled a major terrorism bid in Bajaur reportedly by killing two suicide bombers during an intelligence-based operation near the Pakistan-Afghan border.<sup>158</sup>
- April 21: Security forces conducted an operation in the Bhambhooor area of Dera Bugti and killed five suspected militants.<sup>159</sup>
- April 30: A militant leader of the banned Lashkar-e-Jhangvi was killed during a search operation jointly launched by the police and Frontier Corps in the mountainous areas of Splingy and Qabu of Mastung district. A heavy exchange of fire between the security forces and suspected militants continued for several hours.<sup>160</sup>
- May 16: Security forces conducted an operation in Killi Almas, a village on the outskirts of Quetta, and killed a key LeJ leader Salman Badini, allegedly involved in target killing of over 100 Hazara Shias and policemen, along with his 2 aids, who were would-be suicide bombers. One injured militant was also arrested. One security official Colonel Sohail Abid lost his life and 4 others were injured in the exchange of fire.<sup>161</sup>
- June 20: The CTD and Frontier Corps personnel launched an operation in the Dasht area of Mastung. Four terrorists were killed in the ensuing cross-fire including a woman; one suicide bomber also died after he exploded his vest close to APC vehicle. Six security personnel and two passers-by were also wounded.<sup>162</sup>
- June 23: The army media wing ISPR said security forces had conducted a successful intelligence-based operation against militants in Spina Mela village in

- Ladha sub-division, an area of South Waziristan dominated by Mehsud tribe. The ensuing gunfight left six militants dead, including a high value target; two soldiers were also martyred.<sup>163</sup>
- July 20: Hidayatullah Mufti, the mastermind of the Mastung suicide bombing on a political gathering of Siraj Raisani, was killed in an operation launched by the security forces in Darenjo village of Kalat. He led a group of operatives of the so-called militant Islamic State group, who are present in different areas of Balochistan.<sup>164</sup>
  - September: Two anti-militant security operations took place in North Waziristan and Bajaur. On September 13, security forces raided an area near Miranshah. Militants returned fire and an armed clash ensued in which 5 militants were killed including a top commander Zarrar alias Parrakay (Daily *Dawn* identified the commander as Aftab Parrakay). Three security officials also lost their lives and 7 others were injured.<sup>165</sup> Later, on September 24th, security forces claimed to have killed two alleged terrorists, including a deputy operational 'commander' of the banned Tehreek-i-Taliban Bajaur chapter, in a special operation conducted in the hilly Gat Agra area of Mamond tehsil in Bajaur district.<sup>166</sup>
  - October 24: The CTD and police personnel during the joint operation shot dead Muhammad Abid, the most wanted terrorist involved in the Dera Ismail Khan jailbreak.<sup>167</sup>
  - November 30: In Swabi, security forces and police killed a militant in a joint operation. An Elite Force personnel was also injured in the action. The killed militant Zeeshan was allegedly involved in Raiwind (Lahore) attack.<sup>168</sup>
  - December 1: A wanted terrorist Hakim was killed in an Intelligence-based operation in the Dera Ismail Khan's Daraban area. Six civilians taken hostage by him were also freed. Four security forces personnel received injuries during the operation.<sup>169</sup>

#### 4.1.2 Security Forces' Clashes and Encounters with Militants

Security and law enforcement agencies also entered into in a total of 22 armed clashes and encounters with militants – a decrease of about 68 percent from previous year – across 14 districts/regions of the country. These clashes and encounters claimed 43 lives (37 militants; 5 security personnel; one civilian) – compared to 251 killed in such incidents in 2017. As many as 16 others were also injured in these clashes including 15 security and law enforcement personnel, and one militant.

As many as 8 incidents of armed clashes and encounters between security forces and militants took place in Balochistan (8), which claimed 18 lives. Six such incidents took place in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa killing 5

people. Four such clashes and encounter happened in Punjab claiming 11 lives. Furthermore, 2 armed clashes and encounters happened in each of Diamir (GB) and Karachi (Sindh). (See Table 2)

**Table 2: Clashes and Encounters between Security Forces and Militants**

Regions	District	Attacks	Killed	Injured
Balochistan	Bolan	1	0	0
	Kalat	1	6	2
	Kech	2	7	0
	Lasbela	1	1	2
	Nasirabad	1	1	0
	Quetta	2	3	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>4</b>
GB	Diamir	2	2	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Bannu	2	2	3
	D.I Khan	2	1	3
	North Waziristan	1	1	0
	Nowshera	1	1	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>
Punjab	DG Khan	2	4	4
	Gujrat	2	7	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4</b>
Sindh	Karachi	2	7	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Pakistan Total</b>		<b>22</b>	<b>43</b> (37 militants) <sup>170</sup>	<b>16</b> (1 militant) <sup>171</sup>

Some of the reported clashes and encounters between security, law enforcement agencies and militants are described below:

- January 13: The police claimed to have killed 4 alleged militants affiliated with Lashkar-e-Jhangvi and the militant Islamic State group, also known as ISIS or Daesh, in Karachi. One of the dead was identified as Maulvi Ishaq, an important commander of LeJ wanted in cases of target killings of policemen.<sup>172</sup>
- March 9: Security forces raided a place in Turbat on the information about presence of militants there. The militants opened fire on security personnel after being besieged. Four militants were killed in the ensuing clash. Security forces also seized bombs, rockets, a machine gun and explosives.<sup>173</sup>
- April 26: A suspected terrorist identified as Khateeb was killed in an encounter with the CTD officials in Gujrat. He was allegedly involved in many high profile attacks.<sup>174</sup>
- May 27: Six terrorists belonging to the TTP were killed in an encounter with the Gujrat Counter Terrorism Department personnel. Those killed were later identified as terrorists M Sohaib of Sargodha, Abdul Muqeem, M Faisal Nisar, M Usman of Sargodha, Abdul Azeem and Rauf Ahmad of Muzaffargarh.<sup>175</sup>



- August: Militants engaged in two encounters or clashes with police in Diamir. First, on August 4, in an exchange of fire with suspected militants during a late-night raid on a house in Tanger tehsil of Diamer, a policeman was killed and another was wounded.<sup>176</sup> Next day, in a search operation, police killed a reported militant Shafiq who was the prime suspect behind the brazen arson attacks targeting 14 girls schools in the Chilas, Darel and Tanger tehsils of Diamer district.<sup>177</sup> Police began conducted raids in various parts of Diamer last night to track down those responsible for the arson attacks. GB Spokesperson Faizullah Faraq said that 10-12 police parties were involved in the operations.
- September 4: The Anti-Violent Crime Cell (AVCC) claimed to have gunned down three TTP terrorists, including two Afghan bombers, during a shootout in in Raees Amroha Colony, Ittehad Town, Baldia Town. Those killed were identified as Zubair, alias Waqas, Rehmat Ramzan and Faisal Rasheed. Zubair was the Karachi chief of the TTP's Swat chapter.<sup>178</sup>

#### 4.1.3 Terrorists Arrested

In 2018, as many as 431 alleged terrorists and members of militant groups were detained by security and law enforcement agencies in 165 search and combing operations conducted all over the country.

As cited earlier, these search operations do not include several other similar actions in which suspects were arrested and mostly released after preliminary investigation.

Highest arrests were made of the TTP and local Taliban militants (134). In all, 101 members of different Baloch insurgents were also detained. Others among those arrested included 65 suspected militants linked to different unspecified banned groups. As many as 32 among those detained were reportedly affiliated with ISIS, another 32 with Lashkar-e-Jhangvi, while at least 12 were suspected members of Al-Qaeda. (See Table 3)

**Table 3: Suspected Terrorists Arrested in 2018**

Militant Organization	Operations	Terrorist Arrested
Afghan Taliban	2	8
Al-Qaeda	2	2
Al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent	4	10
Ansarul Shariah Pakistan	1	4
Banned militant outfit (excluding sectarian and tribal)	1	2
Banned militant outfits (inclusive of all)	24	65
BLA	1	2
BLF	1	3
BRA	1	4
Hizbul Tahreer	1	2
ISIS	16	32

Militant Organization	Operations	Terrorist Arrested
Jaish-e-Mohammed	2	4
Jamaatul Ahrar	1	6
Lashkar-e-Islam	2	2
Lashkar-e-Jhangvi	15	30
Lashkar-e-Jhangvi Al-Alami	1	1
Local Taliban / TTP	63	134
Nationalist insurgents (NI)	17	92
Sindhudesh Revolution Army	2	6
Tehreek-i-Jafaria Pakistan	2	2
Unknown Militants	6	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>431</b>

In March, a newspaper report claimed that the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) was set to attack cricket matches for Pakistan Super League (PSL) held in Lahore but the CTD and Intelligence Bureau (IB) officials jointly carried out operations and averted the plan making several arrests. However the arrests were not revealed publicly, according to an official involved as quoted by the news report; the CTD received lead from its Gujranwala office whereas the operation was carried out by the commandos of the IB.<sup>179</sup>

Table 3 lists organizational association and number of different brands arrested across Pakistan by law enforcers in 2018.

#### 4.1.4 Failed/Foiled Terror Bids

In all, the security forces thwarted 10 major terrorist plots or attempts, either

independently or in collaboration with officials of bomb disposal squads, mostly by defusing the IEDs. (See Table 4)

**Table 4: Failed/Foiled Terror Bids in 2018**

District	Attacks	Killed	Injured	Suspected group
Bannu	2	0	0	Local Taliban Unknown/ unknown militants
D.I Khan	1	2	0	Local Taliban
Dera Bugti	1	0	0	Nationalist insurgents
Hangu	1	0	0	Local Taliban
Karachi	1	0	0	TTP
Khuzdar	1	0	0	Unknown/unk nown militants
Mohmand	2	1	4	Jamaatul Ahrar Local Taliban
Peshawar	1	0	0	Local Taliban
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	

# National Action Plan (NAP): progress, impediments and way forward

Ihsan Ghani \*

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On 16 December 2014, gunmen attacked Army Public School in the north-western Pakistani city of Peshawar, killing 145 people, including 132 schoolchildren ranging between eight and eighteen years of age, 10 school staff members and three soldiers. 960 people were rescued. The attack jolted the nation. As they say, "sometimes you need a big fall to rise": A parliamentary committee was formed, and an expert group was tasked to prepare an Action Plan to counter extremism and terrorism. The outcome was National Action Plan (NAP).

This was a key step in its own right. Although Pakistan has been embroiled in conflicts for long, the state did not have any policy dealing with national security or internal security or counter-terrorism for that matter. For long, the state's reaction to terrorist attack was knee-jerk, sporadic, inconsistent and short-lived. It was the first time that a plan was properly charted out.

Prepared in a very short duration, the plan was subsequently approved at the All Parties Conference, hence getting the much-needed political backing. It consisted of 20 points, entailing both anti-terrorism measures as well as counter terrorism processes.

It has been four years since this plan was charted. This article focuses on the progress since then: how much could be achieved, and how much is yet to be achieved?

## Implementation

The first question has been: who will implement the NAP? To this end, the government first constituted 16 subcommittees at the federal level and apex committees in the provinces.

As to the committees, 12 of those 16 are headed by the Minister for Interior and 4 by other ministers. As of now, those subcommittees have met only once, that too immediately after their formation. Since then there has been no meeting.

The second issue has been monitoring of NAP. This task was initially assigned to the National Police Bureau, which oversees all policing departments, and then to NACTA. Then, it was handed over to the National Security Advisor: on 17 August 2017, an implementation taskforce was established under the NSA office. This was not the end. On 7 December 2017, NAP coordination was assigned to Additional Secretary in Ministry of Interior.

## Progress

The 20 points of NAP can be categorized into those dealing with counter-terrorism, the hard approaches, and counter-extremism, the soft approaches.

- Progress on NAP has been more on the **counter terrorism** side. To this end, its performance can be termed satisfactory, below are its key points:

NAP point	Description	Progress										
1	Implementation of death sentence of those convicted in cases of terrorism, will be undertaken.	Moratorium on capital punishment has been lifted.  486 people have been executed under Pakistan Penal Code or Anti-Terrorism Act since NAP came into effect.										
2	Special Trial Courts under the supervision of Army, for two years, to be constituted.	11 Special Trial Courts have been setup.  246 persons awarded death sentences from those courts.										
3	Militant outfits and armed gangs will not be allowed to operate in the country.	Presence of militias has been curtailed to a great extent. <table><tr><th>Descripti on</th><th>Total</th></tr><tr><td>Combing Operations</td><td>2,49,909</td></tr><tr><td>Persons picked up</td><td>47,38,338</td></tr><tr><td>Arrested</td><td>3,87,045</td></tr><tr><td>Terrorist Arrested</td><td>3,831</td></tr></table>	Descripti on	Total	Combing Operations	2,49,909	Persons picked up	47,38,338	Arrested	3,87,045	Terrorist Arrested	3,831
Descripti on	Total											
Combing Operations	2,49,909											
Persons picked up	47,38,338											
Arrested	3,87,045											
Terrorist Arrested	3,831											
4	NACTA, the anti-terrorism institution, will be strengthened.	Strengthening of NACTA has been initiated										
8	Establishing and deploying a dedicated counter-terrorism force.	CTF has been constituted.										
11	Ban on glorification of terrorists and terrorist organizations through print and electronic media.	Terrorist presence has been curtailed on print and electronic media.										

NAP point	Description	Progress
13	Communication network of terrorists will be dismantled completely.	Over 94 million SIMs have been blocked, biometric system for issuance of SIMs is in place
16	On-going operation in Karachi will be taken to its logical end.	Crime, terrorism greatly reduced in Karachi
18	Sectarian terrorists will be dealt with firmly.	Sectarian terrorism has significantly reduced

- If we look at the **countering extremism** side of NAP, progress is far from satisfactory. These include:

NAP point	Description	Progress
3	Militant outfits and armed gangs will not be allowed to operate in the country.	Though reduced, there are still armed gangs, particularly belonging to the proscribed militant and extremist organisations.
4	NACTA, the anti-terrorism institution will be strengthened	Role of NACTA is still under review with clouds hanging over its future role.

NAP point	Description	Progress	NAP point	Description	Progress
5	Strict action against the literature, newspapers and magazines promoting hatred, extremism, sectarianism and intolerance will be taken	Following actions have been taken: Cases registered - 25417 Persons arrested- 26855 Premises sealed - 70 Equipment confiscated – 23789 Despite all these actions, such literature is easily and openly available while the state closes its eyes			Freezing of Bank Accounts Ban on financial support and services by Financial Institutions Arms License Embargo Provincial Governments have though not been able to enforce legal action under ATA 1997 in letter and spirit
6	Choking financing for terrorist and terrorist organizations	Model law for facilitation and regulation of charities formulated Choking Financing for Terrorism Units (CFTUs) established in all provincial CTDs CFT has made an integral part of provincial police investigations Despite these efforts, there are still accusations by international regulatory authorities of financing of terrorist and extremist organisations and that the CFT/AML regimes are not being implemented.	9	Taking effective steps against religious persecution	Religious persecution in Pakistan is a dilemma. The state generally does not acknowledge religious persecution but denial does not end such trends. There is no authentic data available and no policy can be formulated without availability of data. No efforts have been made to make any progress in reducing religious persecution
7	Ensuring against re-emergence of proscribed organizations	66 organizations have been proscribed and 06 organizations have been placed under observation. Actions have been taken against Proscribed Persons, such as: Passport Embargo	10	Registration and regulation of religious seminaries	Geo-tagging of madaris has been completed throughout the country. Two separate Registration and Data forms for Madaris have been developed in consultation with Ittehad Tanzeem-ul-Madaris Pakistan (ITMP). These forms have been shared with provinces. Implementation of Registration and collection of data is slow.

NAP point	Description	Progress
11	Ban on glorification of terrorists and terrorist organizations through print and electronic media	Terrorist organisations are still very active on social media.
12	Administrative and development reforms in FATA with immediate focus on repatriation of IDPs	Constitutional Amendment has been approved by NA and Senate; the procedure of merging of FATA into KP has begun but it is going to take a long time before the process is complete in earnest.
14	Measures against abuse of internet and social media for terrorism	98.3 million SIMs have been blocked Biometric verification system has been put in place Monitoring of WhatsApp, Twitter, Skype, FB, Instagram etc. has been started, results would take time to emerge Pakistan Electronic Crimes Act 2015 has been passed by the Parliament where FIA has been nominated as authorized agency A number of sites have been blocked but such blocking is generally counterproductive. A system to counter this militant ideology and propaganda needs to be put in place. NACTA evolved a system for the same purpose and the same needs to be implemented

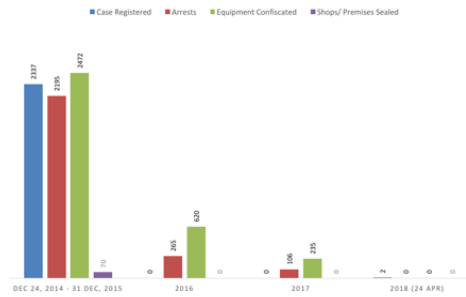
NAP point	Description	Progress
15	Zero tolerance for militancy in Punjab	There has been visible improvement in security situation through actions by the CTD, resulting in neutralizing a number of top terrorist leadership. There is a need to counter extremism which is still on the rise.
17	Balochistan government to be fully empowered for political reconciliation with complete ownership by all stakeholders	No progress as we see deterioration of security situation in the province
19	Formulation of a comprehensive policy to deal with the issue of Afghan refugees, beginning with registration of all refugees	Despite having to deal with refugees for over four decades, Pakistan does not have a Refugees Policy. No serious attempt has been made for formulation of such a policy
20	Revamping and reforming the criminal justice system	This should in fact have been point No. 1 of the NAP. A functional and efficient CJS would result in more than half the NAP points becoming redundant. There has been no significant progress so far and merits attention.  NACTA has developed recommendations for Revamping of Criminal Justice System along with its implementation



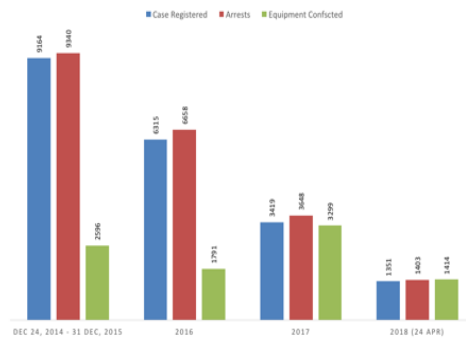
NAP point	Description	Progress
		<p>plan, responsibilities, timelines and sector wise (Police, Prosecution, Prison, Parole &amp; Probation and Judiciary) cost. These recommendations were compiled through consensus and in coordination with provinces, ICT, GB and AJK.</p> <p>These recommendations were approved by Interior Minister and then were shared with the provinces for adoption. No progress has been received about implementation of these recommendations.</p>

The next few graphs show NAP progress through the years. (The rise in operations in 2017 is the result of Operation "Raddul Fassar" launched in Feb 2017.)

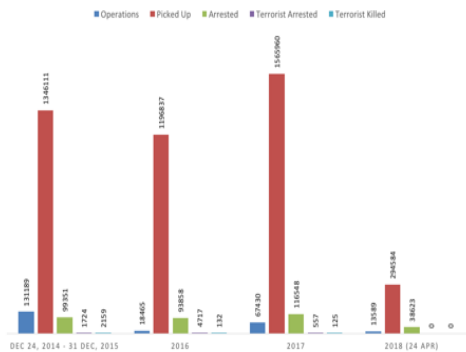
### NAP 5: HATE SPEECH AND MATERIAL



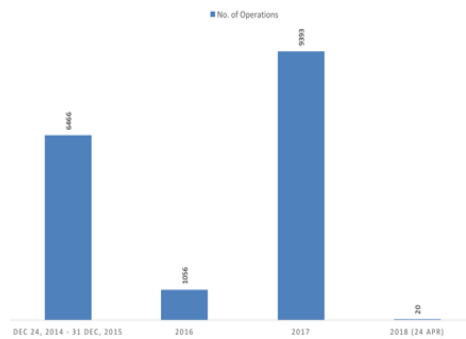
### NAP 5: MISUSE OF LOUDSPEAKER

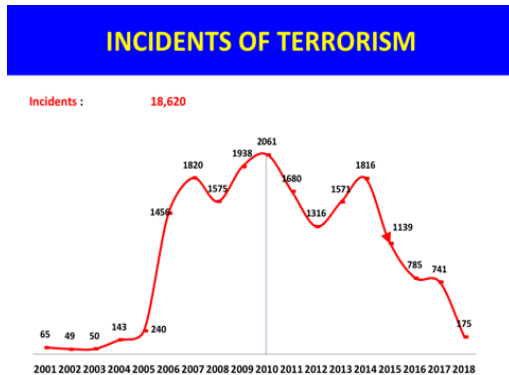


### COMBING OPERATIONS



### IBOs CONDUCTED





## Observations

The progress on NAP, as depicted in graphs, raise the following questions:

- Was our political leadership ever serious about countering terrorism and extremism?
- Has NAP's purpose been fulfilled and all its objectives achieved?
- Have extremism and terrorism been wiped out of the country?
- Have we surrendered our quest for a peaceful and prosperous Pakistan?
- Have we lost interest in the Plan?

These questions are difficult to answer. The Prime Minister Office never took ownership of the Plan. It was delegated to Minister for Interior and then apart from few think tanks, media and the parliament, interest withered away. The military and police continued with their operations.

Terrorism has been contained to a large extent through LEAs' and military

operations. From a peak of over 2000 attacks a year, these have been brought down to fewer than 200 attacks this year. Deadly and spectacular attacks are still being carried out by terrorists but their frequency has been drastically reduced. NAP has contributed significantly to this downward trend.

Yet extremism is still prevalent in the society and the state is not focussing on that. Over the last many years, political leadership has outsourced counter terrorism and even countering extremism efforts. Countering terrorism is the easier part to take care of, but it is the extremism part that requires more time, focus and effort.

In the same manner, Preventing Violent Extremism has remained unaddressed. NACTA developed National Counter Extremism Policy Guidelines after over 30 deliberation sessions with more than 300 diverse stakeholders from across the country. These have been shared with the provinces for implementation but response is not very encouraging.

## National Narrative

National narrative is a nation's past, present and future. It is the stories of the past, the present state of the nation and future hope and plans. Its raison d'être is the establishment of a founding story, the conception of national identity, and the parameters of national unity. The

possibilities for introducing significant changes into a national narrative are greatest during periods of crisis. In the case of Pakistan, there is generally a huge space between paper and ground. On the one hand we profess tolerance and then we surrender to the forces of intolerance and extremism at Faizabad.

Our narrative at birth was the two-nation theory which leaned more towards pan-Islamic and anti-Hinduism after independence. Afghan War again altered our narrative to "fighting the infidels" to "Pakistan first" after 9/11. In fact, Pakistan's narrative of being an Islamic State has been freely used by extremists and terrorists. National Internal Security Policy (NISP 2014-18) tasked NACTA to come up with a National Narrative to counter extremism and terrorism.

After a series of consultations with diverse stakeholders, NACTA came up with a National Narrative based on the following themes:

- Religion
- Politics and Political System
- Constitution and Law
- National security
- Education and Culture
- Role of Media
- National Development or Political Economy
- Rehabilitation & Reconciliation

This document was finished towards end of the previous regime and its approval was delayed so that it can be presented to the new government for approval, adoption and implementation. It now is incumbent upon the present regime to take it up.

## **Conclusion and way forward**

Pakistan leadership generally has short-term political ownership of issues, and NAP is no exception. We have wasted time and there have hardly been any serious efforts to counter extremism. Our de-radicalisation initiatives have been very few and have not been sustained. Nothing much has been done when it comes to formulating long-term policies and particularly implementation of these policies if and when these are formulated. Future of Pakistan's premier CT/CE agency, NACTA is once again in limbo.

A Committee was formed on 25 September 2018 on the directions of the Prime Minister by NACTA to examine the NACTA Act, determine its future role, including its role in NAP coordination, reporting and implementation etc. It has 9 members, with Minister for Finance (and not Interior) as the Convener. Other members include Ministers for Law and Justice and Interior. Secretaries Interior and Finance, Directors General ISI, MI and IB are also members. NC Nacta is the Secretary of the Committee.

The committee was directed to submit its report within two weeks. No report has

been submitted as yet. "Reportedly", an informal and inconclusive meeting was held, where no headway has been made and no one has bothered to seek progress of the committee.

## Way Forward

The committee formed to look at the future role of NACTA should be made more broad-based to include members of both houses of the parliament, experts of the subject to ensure that role and responsibilities of NACTA are settled for ever. In case the committee submits its report and recommend major changes in NACTA's role, the amendments will have to go through the parliament. With the current polarisation in the parliament, their passage may not be an easy task.

NAP needs to be revisited. The way forward on NAP implementation is that the Prime Minister Secretariat takes ownership of NAP as it relates to various agencies/ministries and not to one particular agency for implementation or review. There is an urgent need for review of NAP implementation mechanism and assigning clear responsibilities to each sub-committee and relevant Ministry/agency so that this task of national importance is achieved successfully. The first step is to revive the main Implementation Committee headed by the Prime Minister and to reconstitute it in view of changed circumstances. To demonstrate his intent, the PM must hold its frequent and regular meetings.

The Prime Minister may also nominate a focal agency for NAP which will carry out monitoring of progress and implementation of NAP by various agencies and also suggest course corrections where required. The focal agency may also submit periodical reports to the PM office regarding NAP implementation based on report provided by heads of various sub committees. The focal agency should not be responsible for collection of data relevant to NAP points rather the sub-committees' secretaries should ensure that monthly progress reports are submitted to focal agency for compilation and analysis. The focal agency may hold periodical meetings with relevant subcommittee to identify issues related to implementation and suggest course corrections.

What a new NAP has also to cater for are the emerging threats, which could include the following:

1. Situation in Afghanistan, Taliban are resurgent and Da'esh is expanding influence.
2. Cyber- crimes and terrorism are not only on the rise; the state is slow in responding to these threats
3. Militant organisations have entered into electoral process, having long-term repercussions. There is also talk of mainstreaming proscribed militant organisations.
4. Global regulatory authorities and their concerns about terror financing, money

- laundering and allegations of Pakistani state support for militants and militancy
5. Sub nationalist movements in Balochistan, KP/FATA, AJK and GB
  6. Foreign policy and global and regional power politics including relations with India and balancing relations with Iran and Saudi Arabia
  7. Issues arising out of FATA merger with KP province
  8. Afghan and other refugees, their status and a formal policy to resolve these issues

With a new government in place, it is to be seen if it continues with the previous practice of outsourcing CVE/CT efforts or take responsibility of these struggles. Whether the Nacta BoG meeting was to do

exactly that or was it a mere political stunt? The absence of follow up (on the two-week timelines) does not auger well.

With clouds over its future, international entities helping and supporting NACTA have paused. Similarly, with an uncertain future, NACTA too is unclear about their future work. If future of the premier CT/CE agency remains in doubt, work on other CT/CVE efforts including NAP would also remain uncertain.

NAP cannot be implemented through mere rhetoric but requires ownership, implementation and monitoring mechanisms and stringent accountability of those responsible for implementation.



# The gap between theory and practice of "Fourth Schedule"

*Sher Ali Khalti\**

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\* Sher Ali Khalti is a senior journalist based in Lahore. He covers issues related to security in the province.





## **The theory of fourth schedule**

In the parlance of law-enforcement agencies, a person proscribed to undertake any movement is known as "Fourth Scheduler." The name of such a person is included in the Fourth Schedule, under the Anti-Terrorism Act, after the provincial home department notifies so, on the basis of his links with any proscribed outfit.

The legal requirement states:

"Any individual about whom either there is a credible intelligence-information or who has a history of being linked to a Proscribed Organization can be proscribed by Home Department of a Province and can be subjected to restrictions on travel, speech and business, under the Anti-Terrorism Act, 1997."

Fourth schedulers, or "proscribed persons under law", come under a range of restriction: One, they cannot move freely. They cannot visit railway stations, airports and bus, nor are to be seen at schools, colleges and universities. If they want to move somewhere distant, they have to inform the nearby police station, where a Station House Officer (SHO) deals with them. They cannot even travel from the limits of one police station to another, without being permitted in writing by the SHOs of the two stations. They are also constrained to participate or attend public meeting/gathering, and if they ever do so, the law-enforcement agencies can search their house.

Secondly, all kind of assets of fourth schedulers are frozen. Their National

Identity Cards (NICs) and bank accounts are blocked by the government, and their names placed on Exit Control List (ECL).

A person is placed on the list, or expunged from it, by the home department and the concerned deputy commissioner, on the basis of intelligence reports. Usually, the name is placed for three years, but the duration can also be extended. By the same token, any name can be removed, based on good conduct of the person or disassociation from proscribed outfit.

## **The practice of fourth schedule**

Many names have been removed in the wake of street pressure. Already, many fourth schedulers were known to be travelling from one district to another.

Something similar happened in 2018, when Punjab government caved in to the street pressure of Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan who demanded resignation of senior leadership of the government. Those dealing the protest were put on the fourth schedule, but they were still able to travel to Islamabad-Rawalpindi junction to lead a protest. Clearly, the government had ability to monitor the fourth schedulers, but it seems that was not done so. More so, after their agreement to call of the protest, their names were rather written off the list.

Similarly, according to law, fourth schedulers cannot hold a protest or participate in the rally. But again, in practice, it has been observed that SHO or higher police officials cannot stop them because of their political influence and

power. The powerful fourth schedulers don't seek any written permission before leaving their place. Ironically, police rather provided them security. It is observed that the fourth schedulers have their own security personnel who guard them all the time. They manage to move because of strong relations in the power corridors.

The most glaring case of miscarriage of justice in terms fourth schedule was observed during election 2018. Several fourth schedulers contested polls.

According to Election Commission of Pakistan, fourth schedulers can contest election. This despite the fact that their bank accounts are seized and their CNICs and passports are blocked.

In 2018, several contested elections. Masroor Ahmad Jhangvi's name was included in the list in 2014 but he took part in by-election from Jhang in 2016, which he won. He was however disqualified on 21 March 2018, after passage of two years. His membership as an MPA was disqualified over a number of terrorism cases against him. Yet he contested in 2018, though he lost this time to another fourth scheduler, Maulana Muavia Azam.

Similarly, chief of banned organization, Ahle Sunnat Wal Jamaat (ASWJ), who is also the joint secretary of the Difa-e-Pakistan Council (DPC), Maulana Ahmad Ludhianvi's name was removed from fourth schedule on June 13, 2018. In his

nomination papers for general elections, submitted on June 19 to the returning officer for NA-115, Jhang, Maulana Ludhianvi has written that during the past three years, he made six foreign visits all to Saudi Arabia, including three for performing Haj and three for Umra. He contested as independent candidate.

On 15 July 2018, Senators Raza Rabbani and Pervaiz Rasheed expressed their concern that members of banned outfit organization were allowed to contest the election after removing their names from the fourth schedule. According to some estimates, 150 members of TLP who were part of Faizabad's sit-in contested the election.

On the other hand, most of the fourth schedulers complain their names are unnecessarily included in the list. They argue they were not involved in any terrorist activity or that they were not affiliated with sectarian or extremist banned outfit. This complain often comes as police seem to be lacking capacity in identifying the people supposed to be put on the list.

It appears the police do not bother to enlist someone's name unless they commit serious offence or attack. The SHOs of the police station don't do anything against extremists if they are not active in their limits. Sometimes SHOs become silent because of fear of extremists.

If any incident of terrorism happens, police pick up anyone with beard to show their performance. Police declare them sympathizer of terrorist and recommend including their name in the fourth schedule. On July 20, 2018, clerics from different religious groups had a meeting with home minister who assured them all those ulema would be excluded from list of fourth schedule who were put wrongly.

## **Conclusion**

Even though provincial governments, especially Punjab's, monitor fourth schedule and banned outfit, such actions are ineffective if the state lacks will in taking on the groups and their members. 2018 shows how banned outfits changed their names, contested polls, and even collected charities. The practice should meet theory.



# Competing with each other: AQIS and IS-K in 2018

*Farhan Zahid\**

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• IS-K's terrorist strikes in Pakistan during 2018	111
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• Conclusion	114

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\* Dr. Farhan Zahid earned his PhD in Terrorism Studies from Vrije University Brussels (VUB), Brussels, Belgium. He authored *"Roots of Islamic Violent Activism in South Asia"*, (2014), *"From Jihad to al-Qaeda to Islamic State"*, 2015; and *"The Al-Qaeda Network in Pakistan"*, (2015).



The jihadi landscape of Pakistan comprises not only of regional and local groups but also with a more global agenda. Two such groups, Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) and Al-Qaeda, with origin in the Middle East, have been vying for stewardship of global jihadism, well inside Pakistan. Both global Islamist have been able to spread their tentacles and develop a network of franchises in Pakistan. In 2018, their activities remain pivotal in perpetrating some high casualty terrorist attacks.

American troops' withdrawal from Afghanistan will have divergent consequences on AQIS, which sees Taliban as ally, and IS-K, to which Taliban are competitor. This in turn will result peace and security in Pakistan.

### **IS-K in Pakistan**

ISIS's activities in Pakistan are undertaken under its Khurasan chapter, which also covers Afghanistan. Ever since ISIS shot to the top, it has been opening up regional chapters, embracing local and regional likeminded Islamist terrorist groups. Pakistan was no exception; a number of Islamist groups pledged allegiance to IS's Khurasan Waliyat, one of its 34 governorates operational since 2014 in Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Long before the start of IS-K's activities in Pakistan, renowned terrorist expert Muhammad Amir Rana has projected that as IS-K gains ground, it would challenge the state by providing alternative socio-cultural and political narratives. The caliphate

slogan, it was argued, would likely to influence the terrorist organizations operating in Pakistan professing enforcement of Shariah law, establishment of Khilafah system and fulfillment of their sectarian objectives. He concluded that not only that the IS-K would influence these organizations and also gain moral support and financial assistance from their donors<sup>180</sup>.

It did not take long enough for the Islamic State of Iraq and Sham (ISIS) to announce its Walayat-e-Khurasan comprising of territories of Pakistan, Afghanistan and Central Asian Republics in September 2014 after proclaiming the Islamic State in the backdrop of capturing Mosul in June 2014.<sup>181</sup>

The IS central did have some connections in Pakistan and Afghanistan even before the capture of Mosul and later proclamation of the Islamic State Caliphate in June 2014. It became clear from the "Bin Laden Letters" (translated and released after Operation Neptune Spear) that the Al-Qaeda Central was in contact with its Iraqi affiliate but having tough time in controlling it. The timing for establishing a new Walayat (province) was inadvertently right as factions of Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) were squeezing into Afghanistan after the launch of military operation (Zarb-e-Azb) by Pakistani security forces in tribal areas of Pakistan and many on-the-run Pakistani militants joined hands with newly established IS-K in Afghanistan's eastern provinces. At least three Pakistani Islamist terrorist organization, which were previously aligned with Al-Qaeda, namely

Tehreek-e-Khilafat Pakistan, Jundullah and TTP (Shahidullah Faction) pledged allegiance to IS Caliph Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi<sup>182</sup>.

A number of non-Pakistan Islamist terrorist groups also decided to defect to IS-K after the announcement of IS-Khurasan Chapter. Apart from these three Islamist militant groups operating in Pakistan a number of jihadi commanders of other Islamist groups defected to IS-K. Afghanistan based and previously Al-Qaeda affiliated Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU) also joined IS camp in pledged allegiance to Caliph Baghdadi. (Radio Free Europe, Aug 6, 2015) Moreover, Chechen and Uighur Islamists had also bandwagoned the other jihadis to follow suit and joined IS-K.

For IS central, Pakistan is a crucial state. The IS-K has developed local franchises in Pakistan through a number of local Islamist terrorist organizations and lured in radicalized individuals from different walks of life. IS-K is capitalizing on Pakistan's rich jihadi landscape, a radicalized environment and a wide range of Islamist terrorist groups operating in almost every corner of the country. According to a senior counter terrorism department official of Sindh police, the IS-K is pursuing its recruitment drive in Sindh province especially in universities colleges of Karachi. The IS-K is involved in spreading its ideology through social media and also through a network of Islamist individuals working in cells to introduce IS-K's message to local youth

both men and women. A number of recruits have been able to follow IS's path to travel of Iraq and Syria and most recently a good number has travelled to IS-K strongholds in Afghanistan's eastern provinces and in Pakistan's Balochistan province where some districts such as Mastung experiencing IS-K's influx<sup>183</sup>.

Since the advent of IS-K in Pakistan-Afghanistan theatre, there have been certain new developments as far as relations between IS-K and other Islamist terrorist organizations operating in the same theatre. The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan (Afghan Taliban) under their new leadership has been able to forge relations. The primary reason is change of leadership on both sides. There has also been factionalization on both sides. The Afghan Taliban are now led by Haibatullah whereas the IS-K, after losing four Emirs in drone strikes, is now splintered into two factions. The IS-K faction operating in south-eastern provinces (Kunar, Paktika, Paktia, Logar, Khost, and Nangarhar) are led by Shaikh Aslam Farooqi, an ex-militant commander of Pakistani Islamist terrorist organization Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT). It is not sure whether Farooqi had relations with Afghan Taliban leadership before his joining of IS-K. He has been able to build liaison with Afghan Taliban. The anti-Afghan Taliban faction is led by Mauvia Uzbeki, an Uzbek militant (former member of IMU) based in Northern provinces of Afghanistan<sup>184</sup>.



## **IS-K's terrorist strikes in Pakistan during 2018**

In March 2018, National Coordinator of National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) Ihsan Ghani has said that the Islamic State group posed a real threat to Pakistan. He said that that "We cannot isolate ourselves from the situation in Afghanistan<sup>185</sup>."

The IS-K has been able to perpetrate acts of terrorism in both Pakistan and Afghanistan since 2014; while more active in Afghanistan, the terror entity does have tentacles in Pakistan and its occasional but massive terrorist strikes have resulted in mass casualties.

As the 2018 was general elections year in Pakistan, the IS-K capitalized on election related activities and perpetrated a number of terrorist attacks in the country. The most important terrorist attack was suicide bombing of a corner meeting of Balochistan Awami Party (BAP) on July 18 resulting in 149 deaths and more than 200 injuries in Mustang district of Balochistan province. The BAP candidate for the provincial assembly Mir Siraj Raisan was also killed in the terrorist attack. The Balochistan police, during the course of investigations, was able to identify the suicide bomber as Hafeez Nawaz hailing from Mirpur Sakro, subdivision of Thatta district in Sindh province. The Sindh province connection also raised eyebrows of growing presence and recruitment of IS-K in neighboring

Sindh province. According to police investigations, the suicide bomber's brother and sister had also joined IS-K and moved to Afghanistan two years ago.<sup>186</sup>

The police and security forces made a major breakthrough by claiming to kill Mufti Hidayatullah, the emir of IS-K in Balochistan in an encounter in Kalat district of Balochistan province on July 20. The intelligence-led operation was conducted in Kalat, where Hidayatullah and two other IS-K militants were killed by police and security forces<sup>187</sup>.

The IS-K presence in Sindh province was further confirmed by the arrest of three IS-K militants from Karachi in September 2018. According to the CTD Karachi official statement, the three Islamist terrorists were linked to broader IS-K's broader network in Pakistan and the suspects in custody were involved in generating funds by involving in target killings and kidnappings for ransom in Karachi. The CTD official further stated that four more suspects belonging to the same IS-K Karachi cell are still at large and claimed to have killed two IS-K commanders. The police also recovered Rs 10 million ransom money from their possession. The said IS-K cell members used to kidnap people from Karachi and had connections in Afghanistan as well as most of their victim's relative received calls for ransom from Afghanistan<sup>188</sup>.

Earlier to these events, two IS-K terrorists were arrested in Multan planning to attack the district offices of Pakistani intelligence agencies. In the same month, the Punjab police claimed to have thwarted an IS-K terror plot ahead of Defense Day celebrations, which falls on September 6. The Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) of Punjab police arrested Muhammad Iqbal, Usman Zia and Hasnain Muavia from Multan district. The trio belonged to IS-K and had plans to perpetrate acts of terror in Punjab. The police also recovered hand grenades, explosives and weapons from their possession<sup>189</sup>. The consecutive arrests of IS-K militants have confirmed the terrorist group's presence in Pakistan's most populous Punjab province and their ambitions appeared quite high.

During the last quarter of 2018, it seemed that the IS-K accelerated its activities in Pakistan and November 25 suicide bombing at food market in Orakzai district of Pakistani tribal area. The terrorist strike claimed the lives of 32 people while 31 received injuries<sup>190</sup>. The IS-K deliberately targeted the market area because of its proximity to Shia mosque.

The IS-K spokesperson claimed responsibility of the terrorist attack at ISIS's Amaq News Agency while identifying the suicide bomber as Abbas al-Khorasni. The communiqué further stated,

"After putting trust in Allah the Almighty, yesterday, the martyrdom-seeking brother

'Abbas al-Khorasani (may Allah accept him) set off towards a gathering of Rafidha polytheists in the Orakzai area in the southwest of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in Pakistan. He went into the midst of their assembly and detonated his explosive vest on them, which led to killing 57 and wounding 75 apostates, and unto Allah is all praise and gratitude<sup>191</sup>."

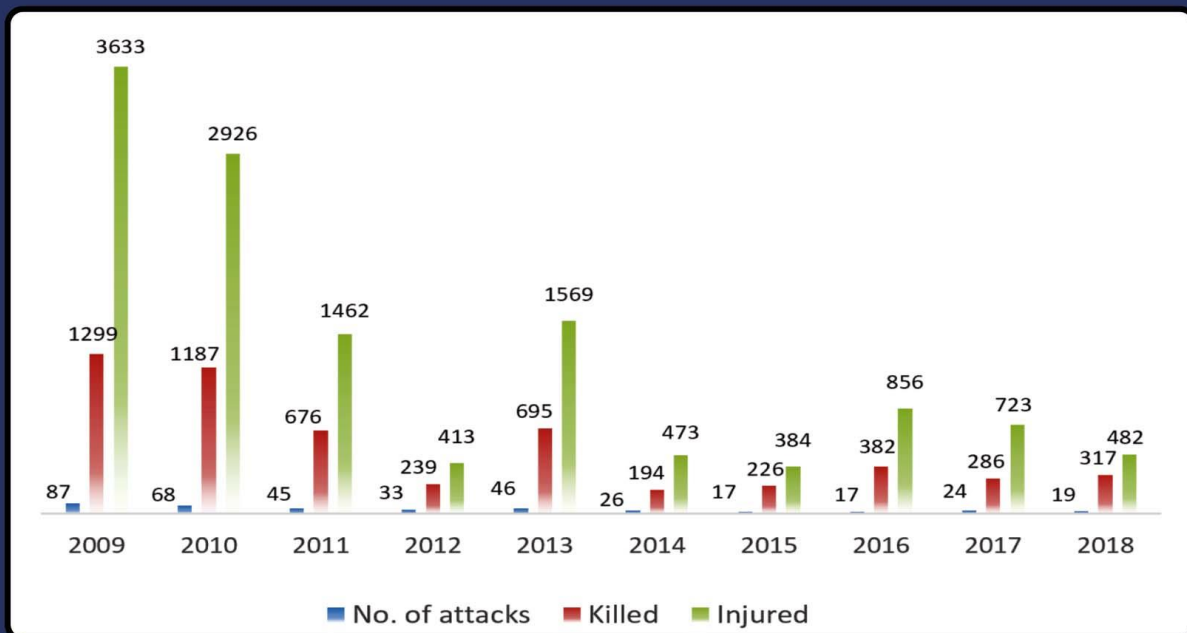
## **Al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent**

Another entry on the scene is Al-Qaeda's South Asia Chapter, the Al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent (AQIS) and its local version Jamaat Ansar al-Sharia.

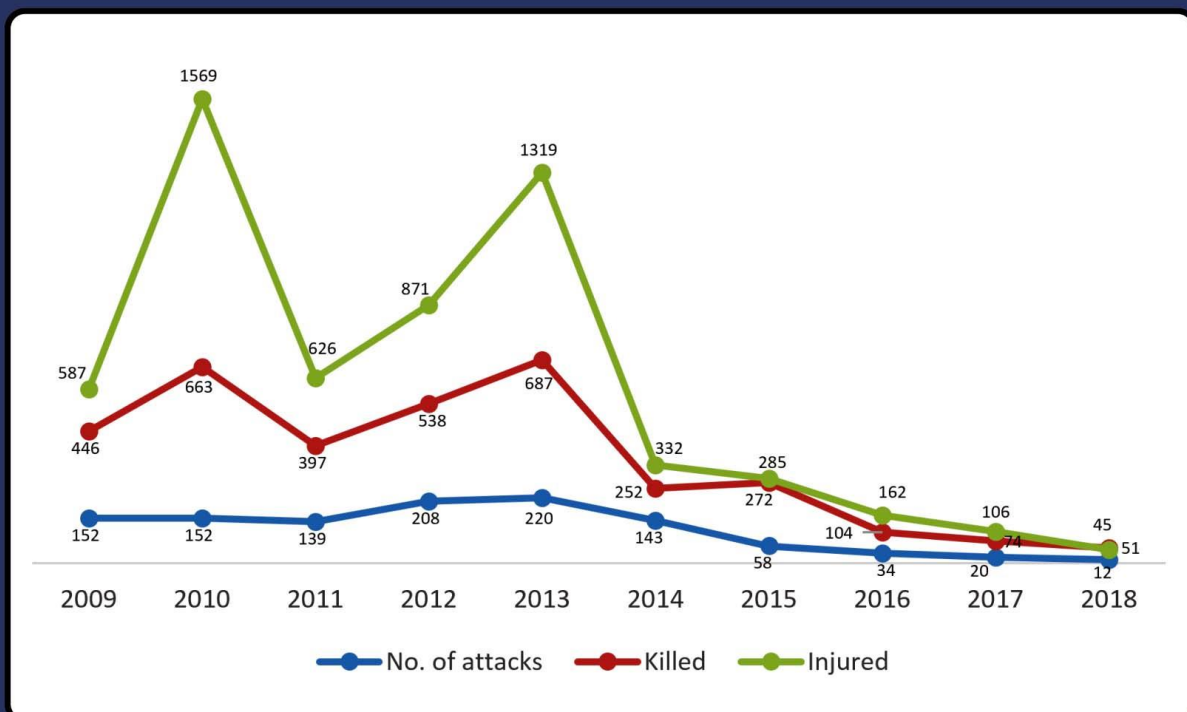
Al-Qaeda in the Subcontinent (AQIS) was Al-Qaeda's response to IS-Central after IS launched its local chapter IS-K in July 2014. The Al-Qaeda Emir Ayman al-Zawahiri himself appeared in a video introducing Asim Umar, the Zawahiri-nominated Emir of AQIS. The two vowed to strike terror in the the Indian Subcontinent.

The rationale was quite simple: Al-Qaeda just could not allow ISIS to gain ground from the variegated jihadi landscape of Pakistan that Al-Qaeda has long been dominating. The Al-Qaeda network in Pakistan is known to be the oldest and strongest. Pakistan is the place where Al-Qaeda was born in the backdrop of Afghan War (1979-89) and grew in neighbouring Afghanistan where it found safe havens in Afghan Taliban period.

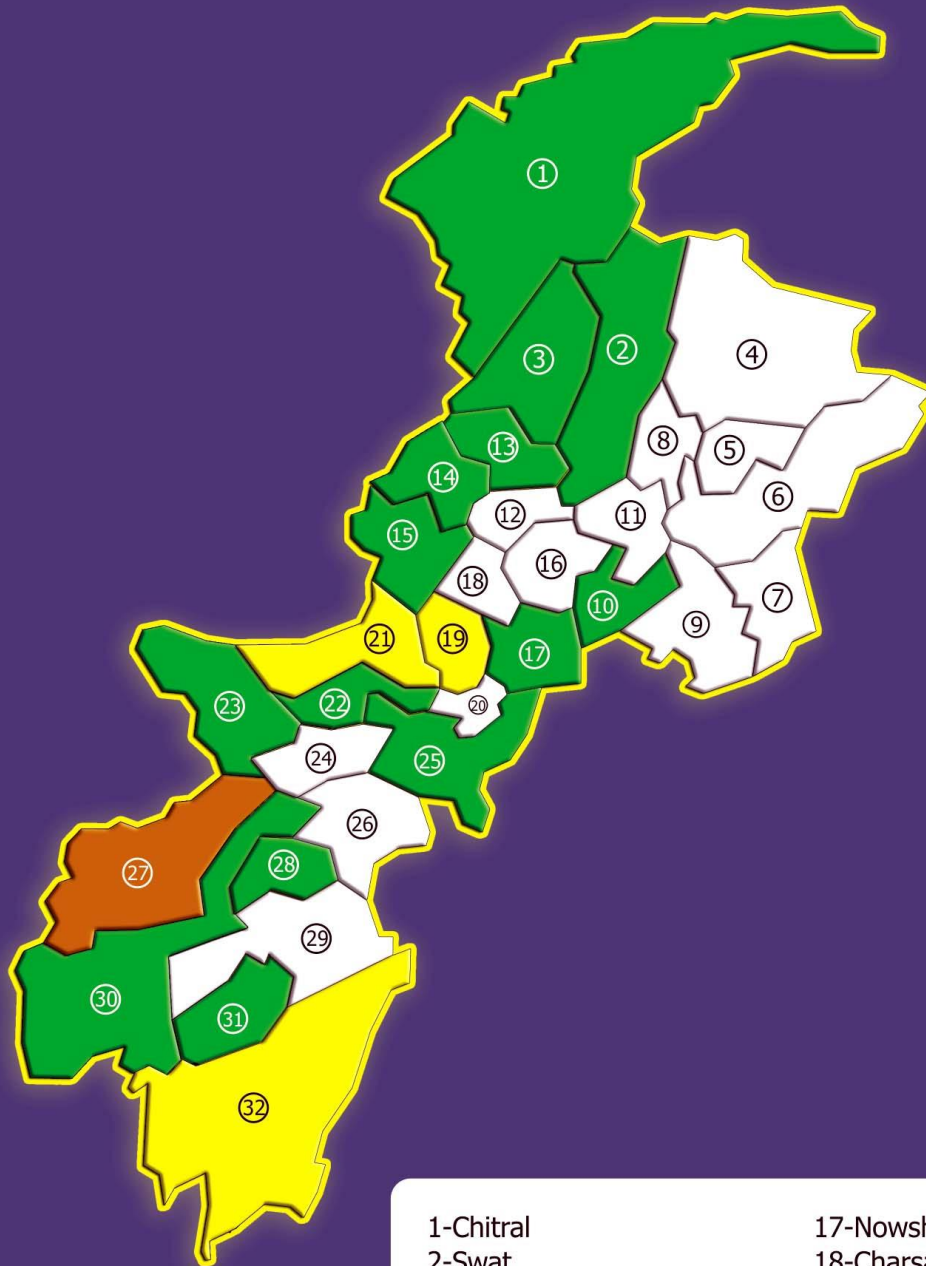
## Suicide Attacks in Pakistan (2009-2018)



## Incidents of sectarian violence in Pakistan (2009-2018)

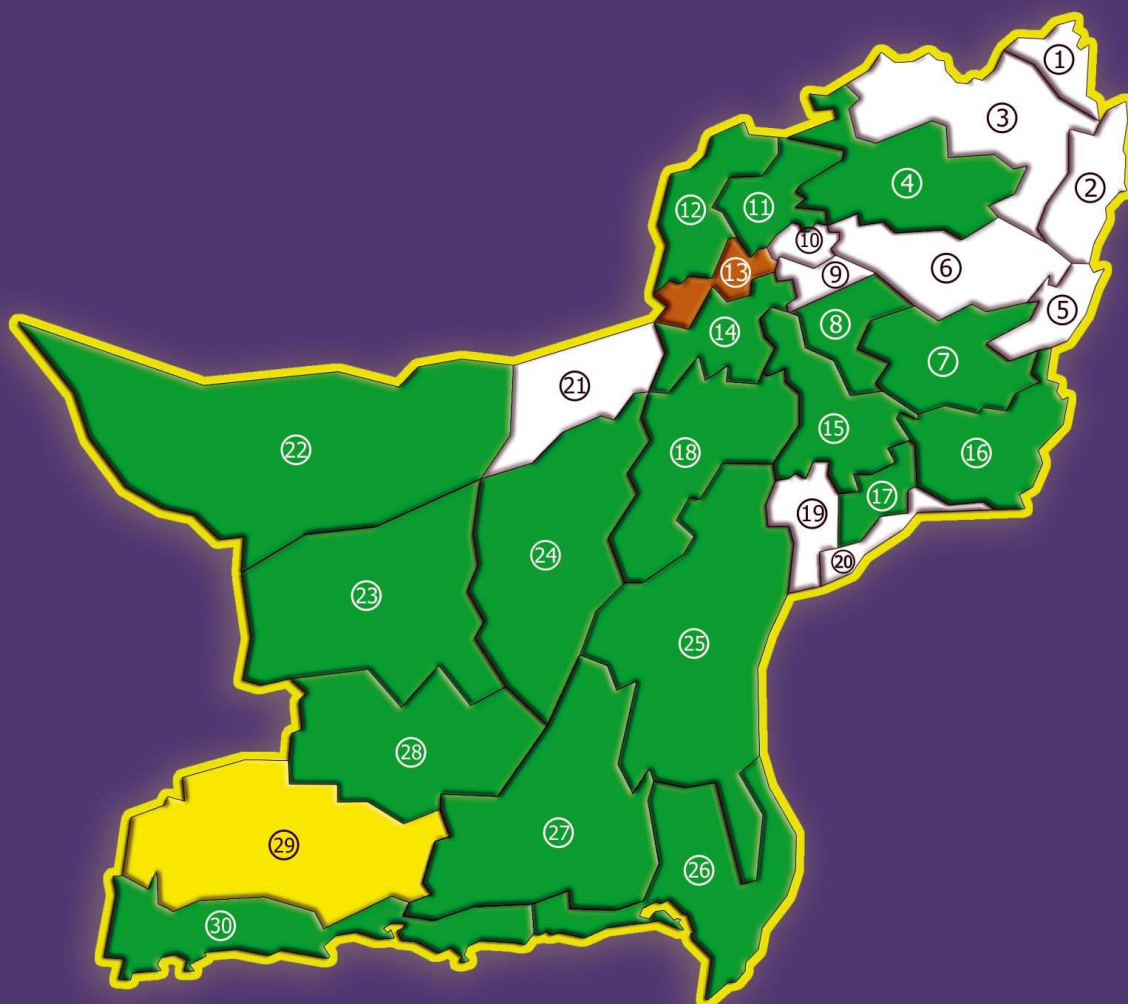


# KP (including erstwhile FATA)



- |                   |                     |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1-Chitral         | 17-Nowshera         |
| 2-Swat            | 18-Charsada         |
| 3-Upper Dir       | 19-Peshawar         |
| 4-Kohistan        | 20-Adam Khel        |
| 5-Battagram       | 21-Khyber           |
| 6-Mansehra        | 22-Orakzai          |
| 7-Abbottabad      | 23-Kurram           |
| 8-Shangla         | 24-Hangu            |
| 9-Haripur         | 25-Kohat            |
| 10-Swabi          | 26-Karak            |
| 11-Buner          | 27-North Waziristan |
| 12-Malakand       | 28-Bannu            |
| 13-Lower Dir      | 29-Lakki Marwat     |
| 14-Bajaur         | 30-South Waziristan |
| 15-Mohmand Agency | 31-Tank             |
| 16-Mardan         | 32-Dera Ismail Khan |

# Balochistan



- |                   |               |
|-------------------|---------------|
| 1-Sherani         | 18-Kalat      |
| 2-Musakhel        | 19-Jhal Magsi |
| 3-Zhob            | 20-Jaffarabad |
| 4-Qilla Saifullah | 21-Nushki     |
| 5-Barkhan         | 22-Chaghi     |
| 6-Loralai         | 23-Washuk     |
| 7-Kohlu           | 24-Kharan     |
| 8-Sibi            | 25-Khuzdar    |
| 9-Harnai          | 26-Lasbela    |
| 10-Ziarat         | 27-Awaran     |
| 11-Pishin         | 28-Panjgur    |
| 12-Qilla Abdullah | 29-Kech       |
| 13-Quetta         | 30-Gwadar     |
| 14-Mastung        |               |
| 15-Bolan          |               |
| 16-Dera Bugti     |               |
| 17-Nasirabad      |               |

- More than 50 attacks in the year.
- More than 20 and less than 50 attacks in the year.
- More than 10 and less than 20 attacks in the year.
- More than one and less than 10 attacks in the year.
- No attack in the year.



Geographical Spread of  
Insecurity in Pakistan

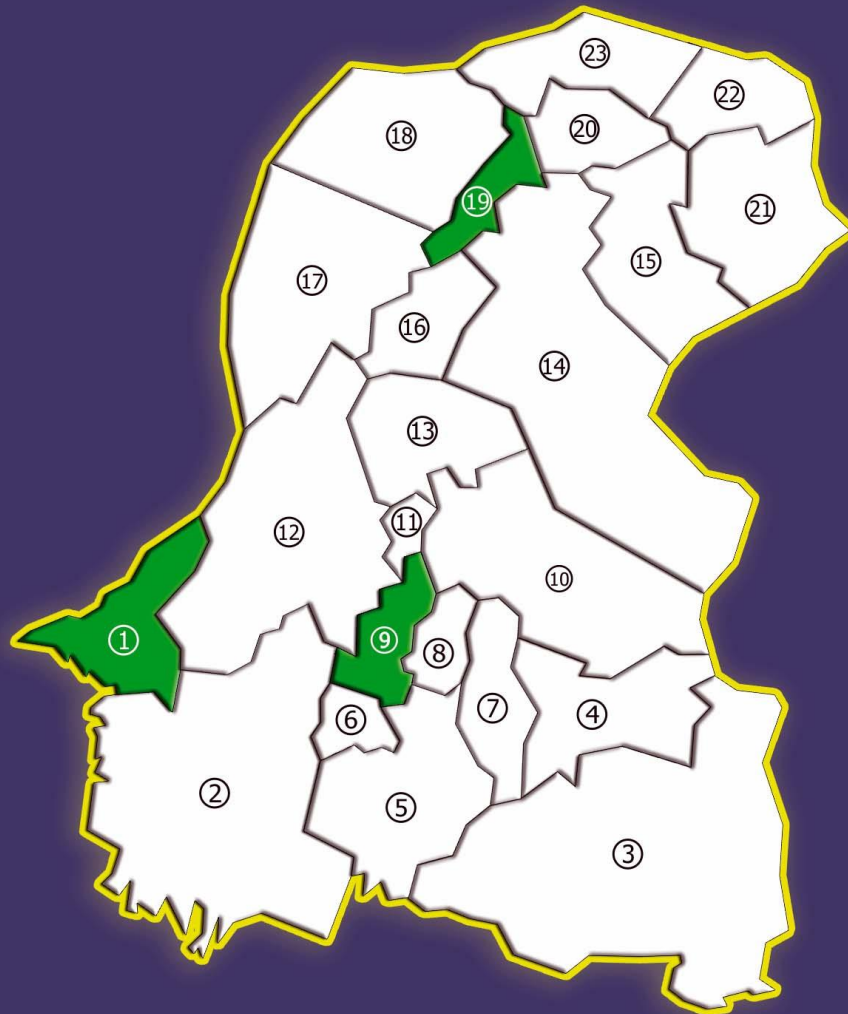
2018







# Sindh

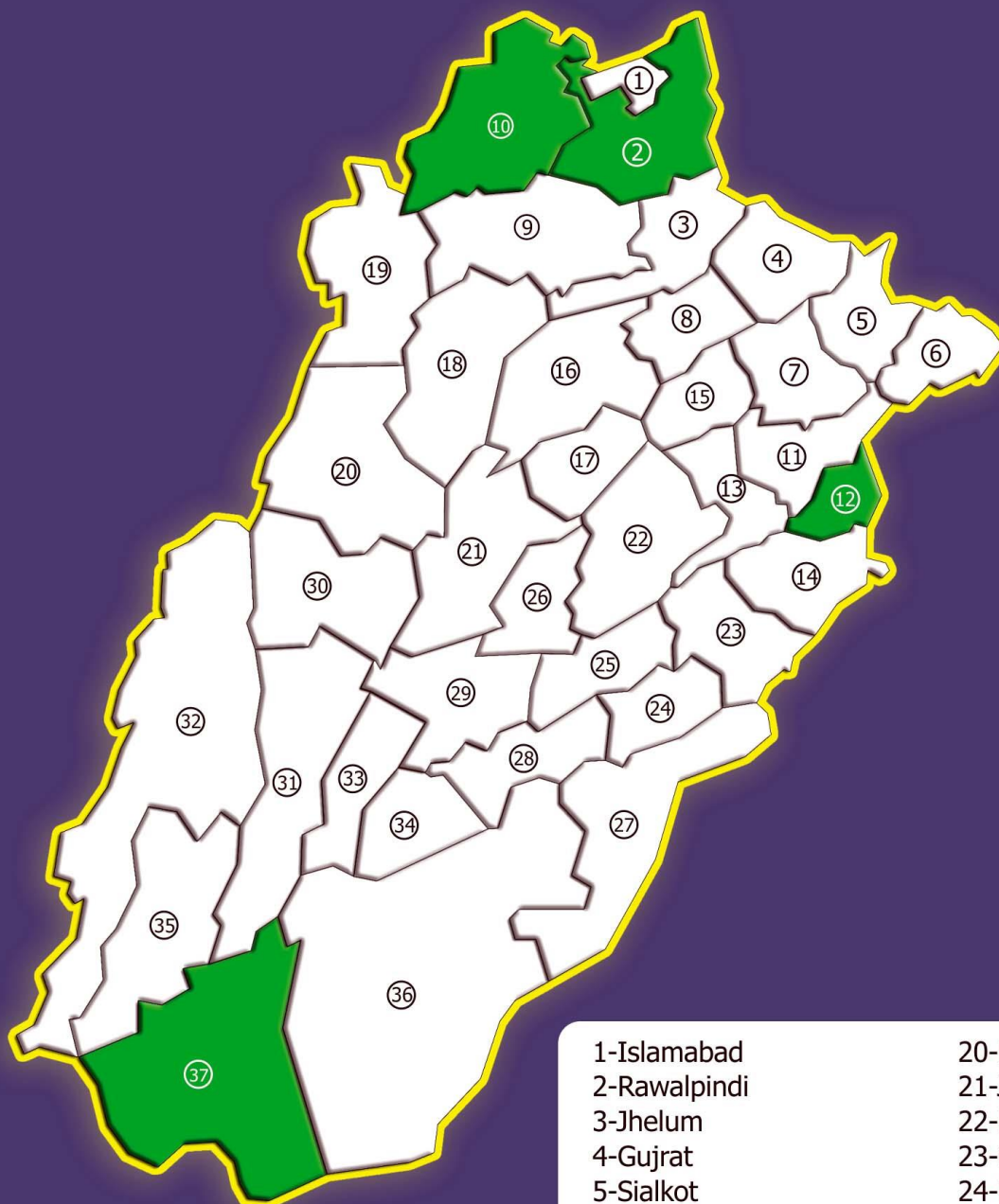


- |                        |                    |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1-Karachi              | 18-Qambar Shahdadt |
| 2-Thatta               | 19-Larkana         |
| 3-Tharparker           | 20-Shikarpur       |
| 4-Umerkot              | 21-Ghotki          |
| 5-Badin                | 22-Kashmore        |
| 6-Tando Muhammad Khan  | 23-Jacobabad       |
| 7-Mirpurkhas           |                    |
| 8-Tando Allahyar       |                    |
| 9-Hyderabad            |                    |
| 10-Sanghar             |                    |
| 11-Matiari             |                    |
| 12-Jamshoro            |                    |
| 13-Shaheed Benazirabad |                    |
| 14-Khairpur            |                    |
| 15-Sukkur              |                    |
| 16-Naushahro Firoze    |                    |
| 17-Dadu                |                    |

- |                                       |                                                     |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| <span style="color: red;">■</span>    | More than 50 attacks in the year.                   |
| <span style="color: brown;">■</span>  | More than 20 and less than 50 attacks in the year.  |
| <span style="color: yellow;">■</span> | More than 10 and less than 20 attacks in the year.  |
| <span style="color: green;">■</span>  | More than one and less than 10 attacks in the year. |
| <span style="color: white;">■</span>  | No attack in the year.                              |

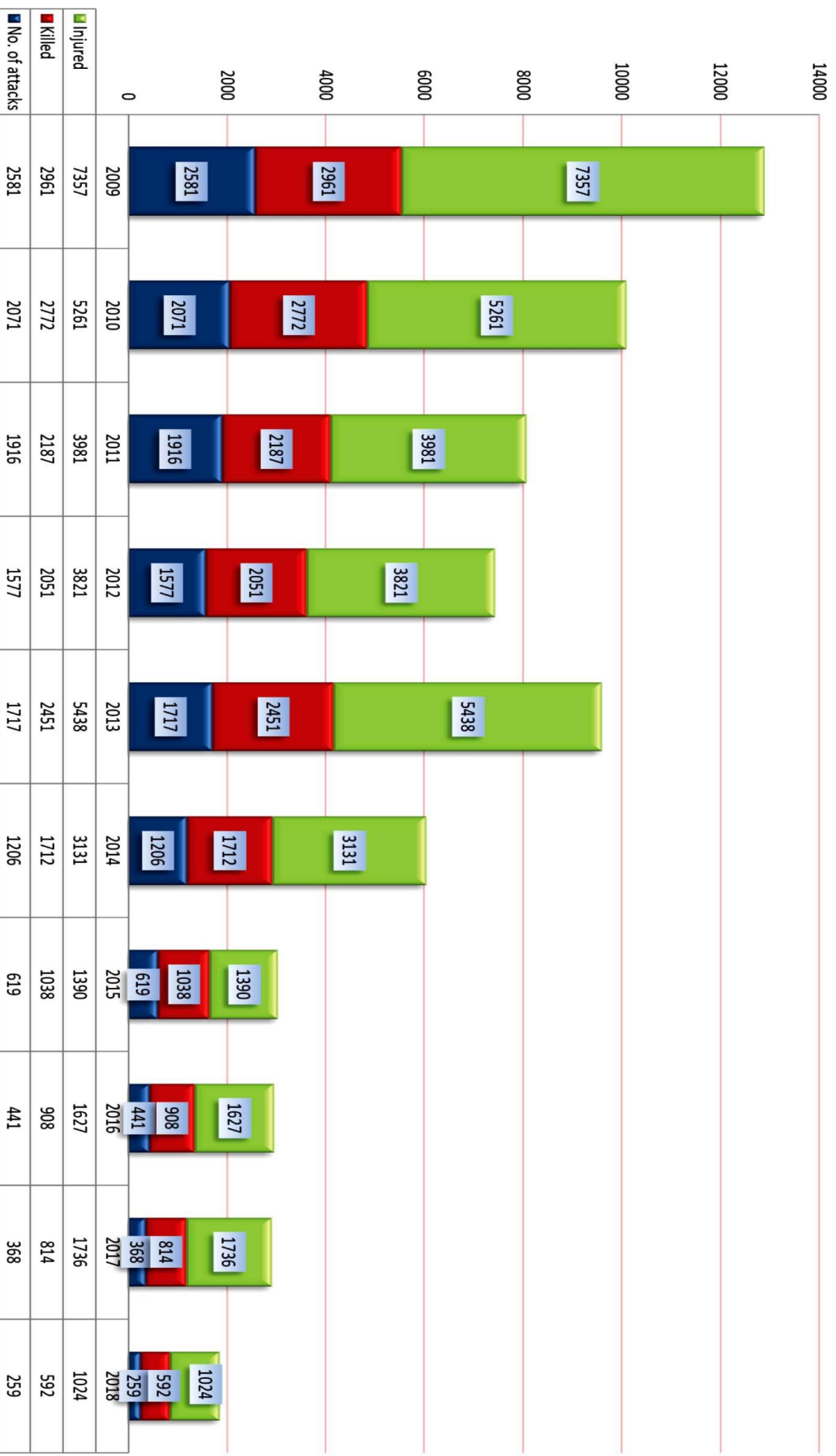


# Punjab



- |                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1-Islamabad       | 20-Bhakkar         |
| 2-Rawalpindi      | 21-Jhang           |
| 3-Jhelum          | 22-Faisalabad      |
| 4-Gujrat          | 23-Okara           |
| 5-Sialkot         | 24-Pakpattan       |
| 6-Narowal         | 25-Sahiwal         |
| 7-Gujranwala      | 26-Toba Tek Singh  |
| 8-Mandi Bahauddin | 27-Bahawalnagar    |
| 9-Chakwal         | 28-Vehari          |
| 10-Attock         | 29-Khanewal        |
| 11-Sheikhupura    | 30-Layyah          |
| 12-Lahore         | 31-Muzaffargarh    |
| 13-Nankana Sahib  | 32-Dera Ghazi Khan |
| 14-Kasur          | 33-Multan          |
| 15-Hafizabad      | 34-Lodhran         |
| 16-Sargodha       | 35-Rajanpur        |
| 17-Chiniot        | 36-Bahawalpur      |
| 18-Khushab        | 37-Rahim Yar Khan  |
| 19-Mianwali       |                    |

# Intensity of terrorist violence in Pakistan (2009-2018)



Immediately after the announcement, the first major operation of AQIS was attempted hijacking of Pakistan Navy frigate PNS Zulfiqar in September 2014. The perpetrators of the terrorist attack were all radicalized Islamist officers of Pakistan Navy.

In 2018, the AQIS could not outperform IS-K as far terrorist activities are concerned. It rather suffered some major losses. Some of the most-wanted AQIS terrorists were arrested by CTD Karachi and the organization could not manage to strike terror in retaliation.

Most important of all was the arrest of Umar Jalal Chandio alia Kathio, the Emir of AQIS Sindh. The CTD Karachi arrested him from Karachi's Gulshan-e-Iqbal locality on November 20. Chandio inspired the terrorists involved in Safoora Goth incident in 2015. Before joining IS-K, Tahir Minhas alias Sain remained a member of AQIS and close to Chandio. A total of 47 members of Ismail-Shia community were shot dead by the IS-K cell militants near Safoora Goth in the suburbs of Karachi. Chandio's wife is also said to be an active member of AQIS<sup>192</sup>.

After his arrest Raja Umar Khattab, in-charge of CTD Karachi revealed in the press conference:

"Jalal was associated with Al Qaeda's Arab network while Haji Sahib (code name) was active in Karachi and the Wadh area of

Balochistan where the group's mainly Baloch youths were involved in kidnapping for ransom, terrorism and attacks on Nato forces' containers<sup>193</sup>."

Another important AQIS commander Ahsan Mehsud alias Roshan was arrested from Karachi in March 2018. Mehsud was involved in planning to assassinate secular party Muthadia Quami Movement (MQM) leaders in order to create chaos in the city. He was also considered close to masterminds of Safoora Goth incident<sup>194</sup>.

Apart from operations in Pakistan where AQIS remained at back-foot the terror entity has been able to perpetrate acts of terrorism in Afghanistan. It is also said that the AQIS leadership, including its Emir Asim Umar, are based in Afghanistan under Afghan Taliban tutelage.

A US serviceman Sgt. Leandro Jasso was killed in November 2018, during a gun battle with AQIS and Afghan Taliban militants in Nimroz province of Afghanistan. The clash showcased AQIS presence in Afghanistan and it has become evident Al-Qaeda militants are embedded with Afghan Taliban-led insurgency. Despite its presence in Afghanistan and pledge of loyalty to Afghan Taliban, Al-Qaeda appears not to publicly advertise its presence in Afghanistan<sup>195</sup>.

## Conclusion

Both IS-Central and Al-Qaeda-Central are eager to keep their presence in Pakistan and Afghanistan. It is evident from terrorist incidents that IS-K is taking a lead whereas AQIS, Al-Qaeda's local chapter, has not been able to keep up the pace with its renegade cousin. Despite losses and failures Al-Qaeda seems to be playing a long-term game plan.

The closeness between Al-Qaeda and Afghan Taliban is no secret and Afghan Taliban forces are apparently on the march. The growing terrorist and insurgent activities of Afghan Taliban are becoming a matter of grave concern for not only Afghan government but also for US and other western countries involved in the conflict. The Afghan Taliban are by no means ready to negotiate a peaceful settlement of

Afghan conflict other than withdrawal of US forces from Afghanistan. If this scenario comes up the Al-Qaeda would again be in spotlight as it has been tagging the line of Afghan Taliban since long. Thus the AQIS would be having a future in the region despite stern pressure from Pakistani law enforcement agencies.

On the other hand in this scenario of withdrawal, the IS-K would lose and Afghan Taliban would go after and destroy the terrorist entity as they have already been doing in current scene. Afghan Taliban despite their fall from power after 9/11 attacks have not parted ways from Al-Qaeda. Things are not yet clear on future scenario of Afghanistan but current pace of Afghan Taliban activities at least vindicate that they would have some role in future landscape of Afghanistan and so as AQIS.

## CHAPTER 8

### CPEC security in 2018

*Anam Fatima\**

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## Security incidents

Two attacks by Balochistan Liberation Army, one on Chinese workers and another on Chinese consulate, stand distinct for their *modus operandi*: both were suicide attacks, a rarity by the Baloch secessionist groups; one of these was outside Balochistan, another oddity.

On August 11, at least 5 people, including three Chinese workers and two security personnel, were injured in a suicide attack on a bus in the Dalbandin area of Chagai district, Balochistan.<sup>196</sup> BLA claimed the attack, naming details of the suicide bomber, Rehan Baloch, elder son of its senior commandant, Aslam Baloch.<sup>197</sup> Prior to the attack, a video message was released by the group, in which it warned the Chinese from exploiting their resources. China condemned attack and urged Pakistan to carry out investigation.

Then, after two months, on November 23, three terrorists tried to enter Chinese consulate in Karachi but all of them were defeated to death by the security forces operation.<sup>198</sup> <sup>199</sup> Unfortunately, counter-firing caused death of five innocents, including two civilians and three security personnel. The government of Pakistan termed this attack the terrorist attempt to undermine Pak-China strategic trade cooperation and an effort to frighten the Chinese investors of CPEC.

In addition to these, in February,<sup>200</sup> a senior officer of Cosco, a state-owned Chinese shipping company, was shot dead in Karachi. After investigation, the Counter

Terrorism Department (CTD) revealed that organization's internal affair led to the target killing of Cosco official. As more than 4000 Chinese nationals have been working in Sindh on various CPEC projects, the CTD recommended CPEC-linked companies to strengthen their private security system other than provided by the government.<sup>201</sup>

In April,<sup>202</sup> a dispute occurred between police and Chinese engineer of a CPEC linked motorway project in Khanewal, Punjab. Chinese engineers blamed the Special Protection Unit (SPU) for restricting them from going outside and attacking their residential camps, causing injury to their personnel. Police, on the other hand, said the SPU was there to protect Chinese workers, given that the private guards of the firm had quit for nonpayment of their income, and that the Chinese acted aggressively against the security-based restrictions. After investigating the matter, Khanewal district administration declared the five Chinese workers as "persona non-grata" for breach of security-related SOPs (Standard Operating Procedure) and deported them to China.<sup>203</sup>

CPEC projects are vulnerable to regional concerns and grievances. In July, nonpayment by the government to local land owners in KP resulted in halting of the construction work on Kuzabanda to Chanjal area in Battagram district.<sup>204</sup>

## **Performance of security and law enforcement agencies**

This year, the Sindh CTD performed well to ensure the security of Chinese nationals. For the Chinese working over CPEC and non-CPEC projects, it provided 797 police constable, 1572 SPU personnel, 889 army soldiers, and 820 rangers.<sup>205</sup>

The CTD has arrested two suspects of Jeay Sindh Muttahida Mahaz (JSMM),<sup>206</sup> a banned outfit, who were allegedly involved in the attack on Chinese engineers in Sukkur in December 2016. The arrested suspects confessed JSMM involvement in attack on Chinese engineer in Ghotki last year. They said their aim was to frighten the foreign workers and disrupt the execution of CPEC.

A total of 2843 security personnel are deployed for security of 2878 Chinese working on CPEC in Sindh, while 843 private security guards in have been deployed to ensure security of CPEC projects there.<sup>207</sup>

Gwadar port security official has highlighted the better security situation in Gwadar for last two years.<sup>208</sup> Meanwhile, China held discussion with Balochistan government to ensure the security of Chinese working on CPEC projects.<sup>209</sup>

Meanwhile, Kahuta police in Islamabad have decided to "reinvestigate" the case of Chinese went missing on Karot power project and register First Information

Report (FIA) of kidnapping against the unknown person.<sup>210</sup>

Meanwhile, Pakistan Army and Navy ensured the security of CPEC. While visiting the Thar coal power project Block II,<sup>211</sup> Commander V Corps Lt. Gen. Shahid Baig stressed Pak Army will ensure the security of CPEC projects in Sindh.

Yet another important development this year was the meeting of the Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Mian Saqib Nisar with the chief justices of the high courts, in which it was noted that CPEC may trigger civil and criminal disputes on Pakistan, and therefore discussed the development of a dispute resolution mechanism. One member in the meeting suggested a forum like International Financial Corporation (IFC) Dubai be constituted to take care of the foreign direct investments.<sup>212</sup>

## **Expansion of security units/divisions**

Sindh government has recruited total 813 constables to SPU and has announced around 2,782 posts in the financial year 2018-19 to ensure the security of CPEC.<sup>213</sup> On the other hand, KP government has decided to hire 2800 security personnel to SPU.<sup>214</sup> Moreover, Railway police is set to recruit 5,000 policemen to ensure the secure construction of railway tracks under CPEC.<sup>215</sup>



A report said that government has decided to establish SPU in AJK for the security of CPEC and non-CPEC foreign workers.<sup>216</sup>

It was also reported that for the two quarters of this fiscal year 2017-2018, government allocated Rs. 10,026 million to establish SSD for CPEC security in North Waziristan.<sup>217</sup> Yet the SSD in North Waziristan has not been established till the end of 2018.

However, to ensure the CPEC routes security, government has planned to establish the Intelligence Bureau offices. The decision will be implemented next fiscal year costing 470 million rupees.<sup>218</sup>

### **Security of motorway projects**

National Highway and Motorway Police have decided to employ total 10,000 police personnel under CPEC to ensure smooth traffic flow on national highways and Motorways.<sup>219</sup> In Sargodha, for the advanced security monitoring of CPEC motorway projects, CCTV and drone cameras at sight will be deployed by police.<sup>220</sup>

Furthermore, the National Logistic Cell (NLC) is likely to start a truck tracking system to keep a check on transportation along CPEC routes.<sup>221</sup> The CPEC project director Daud Butt mentioned different techniques would be introduced to ensure the road safety and transportation. Federal government has decided that the Center of

Excellence will study how to control the traffic flow along CPEC routes.<sup>222</sup>

### **Security of Chinese nationals other than CPEC workers**

Regardless of Chinese working on CPEC, government of Pakistan has ensured the security of all Chinese nationals residing and working on some other projects in country.

Rawalpindi Inspector General Police (IGP) and regional police officials will ensure the security of Chinese nationals working on CPEC and non CPEC linked projects. Also, the Punjab government has decided to find out the number of Chinese nationals who have not yet notified police about their residential places and also, tend to restrict unauthorized movement of Chinese nationals via intelligence survey.<sup>223</sup>

In the backdrop of Chinese involvement in the illicit activities in Karachi like ATM hacking, Sindh government urged the federal government to develop data of all Chinese nationals particularly working under the CPEC, in Sindh.<sup>224</sup>

The SPU of Punjab has developed a "Provincial Foreigner Security Cell"<sup>225</sup> to ensure the security of foreigners in Pakistan specially the Chinese nationals working on CPEC related projects. In addition to that, Sindh police is keen to expand the jurisdiction of Special Protection Unit (SPU) that will change the designation of the SPU

deputy inspector general of police (DIG-P) to Foreign Security DIG-P, who will monitor provincial and district foreign security cell to ensure the security of foreign nationals working on CPEC and non-CPEC projects.<sup>226</sup>

Even Islamabad police organized a seminar and briefed Chinese students about security threats and gave those instructions to be followed during their stay in Islamabad.<sup>227</sup>

## Speculations

International media regulated speculations about China establishing military base in Pakistan and is covertly engaged in dialogues with Baloch militants<sup>228</sup> for the security of CPEC. Rumors also surfaced about China sending prisoners to work on CPEC projects in Pakistan. Both, China and Pakistan, rejected media reports.<sup>229,230</sup>

However, Chinese security experts believed that China firms in Pakistan should enhance their interaction with domestic people and improve communication with security officers.

## China's response

China has appreciated the improved security situation in Pakistan, saying CPEC is not vulnerable to Baloch militant outfits anymore. Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Yao Jing lauded the role of law enforcement agencies and Pakistan armed forces to ensure the security of Chinese workers

under the CPEC. "We have no security concern in Pakistan," he added.

It offered Punjab SPU officers training in China that was accepted by Punjab police.<sup>231</sup> Also, it has provided 50 motorcycles and 200 bulletproof jackets to GB administration to ensure the security of CPEC projects.<sup>232</sup>

After Pakistan forces foiled attack on Chinese consulate, China urged Pakistan to take "practical measures" to ensure security of its citizens and institutions in Pakistan.<sup>233</sup>

Also, China has informed Pakistan that CPEC is vulnerable to Eastern Turkistan Islamic Movement (ETIM), its new allies and Baloch rebels. Since then, Pakistani spy agencies are covertly operating.<sup>234</sup>

## Security audit of CPEC

Punjab government has ordered the civil administration and divisional police chiefs to conduct the security audit of CPEC and non-CPEC projects, asking them to submit their reports; some divisional chiefs have not submitted their report yet.<sup>235</sup>

While in Karachi, the report on security audit of CPEC projects counted the number of private guards and noted it was not equal to the number of SPU, law enforcement agency personnel, District Police, Army, Rangers and FC. The report found lack of "security equipment and security enablers" at different projects camps and suggested

management to overcome these deficiencies.<sup>236</sup>

Besides that, out of total six maritime patrol vessels (MPVs)<sup>237</sup> Pak –China defense authorities agreed to launch in 2015, 2 are still under construction at Karachi.

### **CPEC security against natural disasters**

China is so keen to ensure the implementation of CPEC projects without any impediments. For that matter, about 40<sup>238</sup> geologists from China and Pakistan has decided to survey the Makran Trench in Balochistan to assess the likelihood of earthquake that may affect the Gwadar port and CPEC related projects in Balochistan. Also, China has introduced a new meteorological satellite for the advanced weather forecast and decided to provide free meteorological information to the countries included in BRI. In July, China launched two satellites<sup>239</sup> for Pakistan to monitor CPEC execution from space.

### **Security cost of CPEC**

Turning down the petition filed by the five Chinese Independent Power Producers (IPPs) against the additional security charges in power tariff for CPEC projects,<sup>240</sup> the National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA) has maintained its previous decision to attach 1% capital cost of CPEC power projects as security cost.<sup>241</sup> It was also reported that China did not

respond to Pakistan's request to share CPEC security cost.<sup>242</sup>

### **International context**

Time and again, officials from Pakistan underlined foreign involvement in conspiracies against CPEC. Senator Mushahid Hussain said that it is India and its western supporters who have been encouraging misconceptions about CPEC. Former minister for Planning, Development, and Reforms Ahsan Iqbal affirmed that India and Afghanistan are yet not comfortable with CPEC and urged all stakeholders, politicians, media, and judges to avoid differences to counter the CPEC conspiracies.<sup>243</sup>

About Chahbahar Port, which simultaneously has been considered sister and rival port to Gwadar port, Iran has ensured that "Indian involvement in Chahbahar Port would not be allowed to be used against Pakistan."<sup>244</sup>

### **Conclusion**

Though there is decline in number of security incidents of CPEC, the aggression of BLA, its diverting nature of attack and geographical sought review of SPUs. Although security audit of CPEC may help to improve the situation but government remained unsuccessful to follow up security audit in Punjab and could not implement the suggestions of Sindh audit report. Apart from handling the issue of foreign

involvement to disrupt CPEC, government should pay heed to the regional concerns and grievances. Not only government of Pakistan but also China should be engaged in dialogue with local people to avert the perception that Chinese have been exploiting their resources under the garb of CPEC. Since the launch of CPEC has added

to the responsibilities of Pakistan to ensure security of Chinese national of CPEC and non CPEC workers in country, China should share the cost of CPEC security. Like the idea of dispute resolution mechanism proposed by CJP, security policies of CPEC should also be formulated.

### Karachi operations: five years on

*Zia Ur Rehman\**

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\* The writer is a senior journalist based in Karachi. He has written articles and book on violence in Sindh, in particular Karachi.



Tremendous progress has been made over the past five years in combating violence of all forms in the province. Various reports prepared by various law-enforcement agencies and security think-tanks, including the PIPS, showed a significant reduction in militant attacks (suicide attacks, armed attacks, indiscriminate firing) and fatalities from violence during the recent years as compared to period five years ago.

Paramilitary Sindh Rangers-led 'targeted operation' proved successful in restoring peace in Karachi, the country's commercial capital. But in the last two months of 2018, Karachi has been witnessed six acts of terrorism in a span of five weeks.

However, the presence of local extremist group linked with the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan and other proscribed terror groups in the northern Sindh remains a key challenge for the law-enforcement agencies.

## **Karachi**

For over a decade, Karachi had been in the grip of violence, killing thousands of people in terrorism, target killings and sectarian attacks. The violence was on peak from 2007 to 2013, with 2013 being termed as the bloodiest year so far for Karachi: 2,700 people were killed in that year alone, said *The Express Tribune* report in January 2014, citing official statistics of law enforcement agencies.

On September 5, 2013, the then Pakistani cabinet headed by prime minister Mian Nawaz Sharif gave the green light to start a

major crackdown on various criminal and proscribed militant groups. The operation aims to rid the country's financial hub of security threats from serious criminals, including militant groups, targeted killers and extortionists.

And it worked. The operation, which is still going on in the city, has a positive impact in terms of curbing all kinds of violent groups.

The Sindh Rangers, the paramilitary law enforcement force which spearheaded the operation, recently released statistics assessing the five years performance of the operation. The operation mainly targeted networks of Taliban militants, criminal syndicates, sectarian outfits and militant wings of ethno-political parties, such as the Mutahida Qaumi Movement-London, a MQM's faction loyal to its founder Altaf Hussain, in the five years.

"The Sindh Rangers has carried out 14327 operations since the start of operation in September 2013. During the raids, Sindh Rangers has arrested 10716 suspects and handed over to police for legal action. Among the arrested people, 2189 were hardcore terrorists while 1826 were involved in target killings," the statistics show.

Also, law enforcement body has arrested 786 criminals involved in extortions and 193 who were involved in kidnapping for ransom, the Rangers' statistics shows. Sindh Rangers has also lost its 29 soldiers in the past five years in Karachi operation

while 103 Rangers personnel were injured while performing their duties.

The operation by law enforcement agencies seems to have had positive effects on security situation of the city, officials said. The Sindh Rangers in its report claimed that the incidents of kidnapping for ransom, target killings, extortion and other crimes had reduced significantly in the city since September 2013. The terrorist incidents in the city has been decreased from 55 and 66 in 2013 and 2014 respectively to zero in 2017 and 2018 while the targeted killing has also significantly decreased to 965 and 602 in 2013 to 2014 to 45 and two in 2017 and 2018 respectively, according to the Rangers statistics. Similarly, the extortion cases from 1524 and 899 in 2013 and 2014 has been fallen to 31 in 2018 while kidnapping for ransom has been declined from 174 cases in 2013 to 5 in 2018.

Furthermore, the Rangers force also recovered 50 rocket launchers, 122 heavy or light machine guns, 1414 Kalashnikovs, 8117 pistols and 1555 rifles since the launch of operation, Rangers claimed. 1742 crackers or hand grenades, 28 improvised explosive devices, 901 kilograms explosive materials, 16 suicide jackets and 35 RPG-7 rockets were also recovered from the militants in the crackdown.

However, in the end of 2018, Karachi experienced a wave of terror acts. It started on November 17 when three people killed

in a bomb attack in Quaidabad neighbourhood.

On November 23, three armed men belonging to the Baloch Liberation Army, a proscribed Baloch separatist group, attacked Chinese consulate in Karachi's Clifton area. Four people, including two policemen and two Pakistani civilians were killed in an hour-long shooting while three attackers were also killed. No Chinese national was hurt in the attack.

A power explosion occurred in the wee hours of December 3 in a car parked in an empty plot of upscale area of DHA. Police said that the two packets of explosive materials weighing seven kilograms, which did not detonate, were recovered from the site.

At least six people injured on December 9 in a hand grenade attack on a program of Bahadurabad faction of MQM-Pakistan celebrating the Prophet (PBHU) birthday in Gulistan-e-Johar area. On December 23, unidentified assailants attacked on the Pak Sarzameen Party's local office in Rizvia Society area, killing two party activists. On December 25, a MQM-P's former parliamentarian Ali Raza Abidi was target killed in the Defence Housing Authority (DHA) area.

Law enforcement officials believe that proscribed separatist groups from Balochistan and Sindh had made alliances to increase the terror acts in Karachi. They



suggested the resurgence of the MQM-London faction and internal fissure among Mohajir ethnic political parties could be key factors behind the three attacks.

### **Taliban groups:**

Since the launch of Karachi operation, various factions of the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) were prime target of law enforcement agencies. The groups, an extension of Swat, Mohmand and South Waziristan chapters of the TTP, expanded its influence to Karachi after their militants began taken refuge in the metropolis after military launched operations there in 2009.

The TTP affirmed its presence in Karachi for mid-2012, attacking police personnel, anti-polio medics, civil society workers and the Awami National Party's workers – besides running a brutal campaign of collecting extortions from affluent Pashtun traders. However, since the launch of operation, the outfit's all three factions became weakened after its key leaders and militants arrested or killed in shootout with law enforcement agencies. In 2016, the crackdown continued against the TTP and several deaths and arrests of its members made headlines.

However, for law enforcement agencies in the city, the new emerging menace was transitional militant outfits and self-radicalised, educated militants in the affluent neighbourhoods of the city. These groups mainly included the Al-Qaeda in

Indian Sub-Continent (AQIS), the Laskhar-e-Jhangvi Al-Alami (LJA) and the Harkat-ul-Mujahideen al-Alami (HuMA), which according to law enforcement agencies and media reports, have been working in collaboration with the TTP and the LeJ.

### **Sectarian groups**

Karachi has long been the most active theatre of sectarian violence between Sunni, Deobandi and Shia groups and tit-for-tat killings had been common. These groups carry out surveillance of active members, professionals and religious clerics of rival sects and they targeted whenever they find an opportunity. Proscribed militant groups the Sipah-e-Sahaba Pakistan, the LeJ and Jundullah in Karachi traditionally shared its operational and ideological ties with the al-Qaeda and the TTP while banned militant groups, such as the Sipah-e-Muhammad Pakistan, had been recruiting support from Shia youth.

Almost expectedly, and despite the ongoing Rangers' operation in the city, sectarian violence resurfaced in October 2016, in which several people were killed on sectarian ground and religious gatherings were attacked.

This left a question mark over the three-year-long efforts of the law enforcement agencies, and forced them to launch an across-the-board crackdown on sectarian outfits. The action led to arrests of leaders of Deobandi and Shia groups, and killing of

associated militants groups in shootouts led by enforcement agencies.

Both ASWJ and Shia groups claimed that dozens of its members from Karachi has been 'picked up' by law enforcement agencies and their whereabouts are unknown. Karachi has also witnessed a rise in 'enforced disappearances' of Shia youth for their alleged links with militancy in the Middle-East.

### **Ethno-political parties' militant wings**

The militant wings of ethno-political parties, that were instrumental in destroying the peace and order of the city, were also targeted by the law enforcement agencies. Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM), the main political party in the city, suffered much from the operation, a large number of its party members were arrested or had to go into hiding to escape detention. The party also claimed that a number of its workers were killed extra-judicially or abducted by law enforcement agencies.

In August 2016, the MQM jumped into crisis far graver than any before it, when its London-based chief, Altaf Hussain, incited his party workers to attack the media houses. Within hours, Rangers picked up the party's top brass in Karachi and sealed the party headquarters, Nine Zero, for the first time. The clampdown forced the party's Pakistan-based leaders to disown Altaf Hussain and caused the creation of the

MQM-London that is the key target of law enforcement agencies while dealing the ethno-political violence.

### **Lyari's gangs**

With the killing of Ghaffar Zikri, an important gang commander who had eluded law enforcers for around 18 years, in a police shootout on October 4, peace is limping back to Lyari, one of the oldest areas of Karachi.

Lyari had become epicenter of gang warfare and criminals resulting into a huge number of killings of innocent people. Although gangs and gang wars in Lyari have been common since the 1960s, the present-day conflict dates back to the '90s. After becoming a haven for these numerous gangs, it has remained troubled by violent rivalries between the gangs seeking to expand their control over a variety of illicit markets including extortion, theft, drugs, kidnappings for ransom and assassinations.

However, after the launch of the Rangers-led citywide operation against violent groups in September 2013, gangs started weakening. Law enforcement agencies took serious action against these networks by killing and arresting their key leaders through its intelligence network across the neighbourhood. The Lyari's gang-world's main characters, such as Rehman Dakait, Arshad Pappu, Baba Laadla, Uzair Baloch and Ghaffar Zikri have either been arrested, killed in police shootouts or in skirmishes

among gangs. Police officials believe that two other gangs, led by Zahid Ladla (brother of the slain Baba Ladla) and Wasiullah Lakho, were still active in Lyari and both of them operate from outside.

### **Northern Sindh's Hafeez Brohi Group**

For past few years, rural Sindh, especially its northern parts sharing borders with Balochistan and South Punjab, has been emerging a new hotbed of militancy in Pakistan, where several militant groups, particularly the TTP and the LeJ, have become active through their support and use of a local militant group led by Hafeez Brohi, a Shikarpur-based militant commander.

Until recently, there was complete denial of presence of religious extremist groups from civil society and even law enforcement agencies and argument that 'outsider' militants have been carrying out terror activities in the region. However, after the terror attack on a Shia mosque in Shikarpur in January 2015, law enforcement agencies (LEAs) have honed in on the involvement of Hafeez Brohi and his local militant group.

According to the Counter Terrorism Department's (CTD) Red Book 2017, which has names, photos and particulars of the most-wanted militants, Hafeez Brohi (or Abdul Hafeez Pandrani) is listed as one of three terrorists from Northern Sindh. The other two militants on the list are Maqsood

Brohi, a SSP leader and resident of Shikarpur, and Farooq Ahmed Shah, a Khairpur-based sectarian leader.

An intelligence official said that the group has been involved in most of the terror attacks occurred in the region in the past five years. One of Brohi's brothers was killed in Afghanistan and another was killed in Shikarpur when he carried out the 2013 suicide attack on Ibrahim Jatoi, a local Shia politician and tribal chieftain. Brohi, now 36 and a resident of Shikarpur, began his activities with the Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) and has been regularly travelling to Afghanistan since 1998. In northern Sindh, he and his group of Afghanistan returnees joined LeJ and started working closely with Asif Chotoo, the terror outfit's chief for Sindh and Balochistan.

There is not much known about the Hafeez Brohi group. The leader belongs to the villages of Khaliq Pandrani and Haji Khwasti in Shikarpur; most of members of his group are from these two villages. It is believed Hafeez Brohi has family ties to Mastung, Balochistan. Although Shikarpur is his home district, the group is spread throughout upper Sindh. A few months ago, LEAs arrested militant Nadir Jhokrani in Karachi for his involvement with the Hafeez Brohi Group in February 2017 suicide attack on Qalandar shrine in Sehwan. He told interrogators that he provided shelter to the suicide bomber in Kandhkot area of Kashmore district.

The Hafeez Brohi group operates as an irregular organization that works with a number of international and national terrorist groups, including Islamic State (IS), the TTP and LeJ. Although IS and TTP are claiming credit for recent violent attacks, LEAs believe that members belonging to the Hafeez Brohi are responsible. As an anti-Shia organization, the IS permits several anti-Shia outfits in Pakistan, including the Hafeez Brohi group, to align themselves with it.

Law enforcement officials also said that support from Balochistan is the key reason

behind the strengthening of Brohi group. Because of northern Sindh's porous borders with Balochistan's Khuzdar and Jhal Magsi districts, militants from Hafeez Brohi group and LeJ located on both sides of the border have not only easily shuttle between two provinces but also provide support in carrying out subversive attacks. "Because they [militants] belong to Baloch tribes and local, it is very easy for them to bring weapons and suicide attackers, and find hideouts," said an intelligence official.

## CHAPTER 10

# Military courts: sunset and beyond

*Najam U Din\**

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The 150 lives lost in the December 2014 Army Public School (APS) attack in Peshawar left both instant and more enduring effects on the administration of justice and the counter-terrorism approach in Pakistan.

The immediate impact included the resumption of executions of death row prisoners – initially, of those convicted of ‘terrorism offences’ but, soon afterwards, of all death penalty convicts. Thus ended an informal moratorium on executions in Pakistan, which had been in place since December 2008 (even though the courts had continued to award death penalty during those six years).

Unveiled in January 2015, the most prominent post-APS attack policy initiative was the National Action Plan (NAP) to counter terrorism. One of the stated aims under the 20-point NAP announced by the prime minister in a televised address was the establishment of “special trial courts under the supervision of [the] army” for two years.

Military courts were later authorized under the 21<sup>st</sup> Amendment to the Constitution and amendments to the Army Act, 1952, to try civilians belonging to any “terrorist group or organization misusing the name of religion or a sect”.

At that time, parliament approved the military courts’ jurisdiction over civilians as an exceptional, short-term measure to effectively prosecute “terrorists”. Although the constitutional amendment establishing the military courts was adopted by

consensus, that should not obscure the reservations and reluctance of a number of political parties to the constitutional change. The then Senate chairman later spoke of his regret for “voting against his own conscience”. He added that he had never felt more ashamed in his life than when he supported the 2015 legal provisions establishing military courts.

Apparently, what helped sell the deal to some of the last remaining skeptics in 2015 was the so-called ‘sunset clause’ in the 21<sup>st</sup> Amendment to the Constitution. Under this clause, the military courts’ term was supposed to end on 7 January 2017.

However, the limited shelf-life of the law alone did not stop rights organizations from criticizing it for falling short of constitutional guarantees and Pakistan’s international standards. A lack of clarity about the military courts’ processes and procedures while trying civilians were also highlighted well before these courts rendered their first judgment.

In August 2015, the Supreme Court (SC) had upheld establishment of military courts to try civilian terror suspects in a majority ruling but also ruled that the superior judiciary would have the authority to review any military court judgment. The SC endorsed the military courts’ establishment on the ground that it was a temporary phenomenon.

As it turned out, the two-year deadline did not bring the curtain down on military courts’ jurisdiction to try civilians. A further two-year extension granted in 2017 by

parliament, through another amendment to the constitution, expires in the first week of January 2019.

Even before the APS attack, there were extensive misgivings about the perpetrators of violent extremism, militancy and terrorism not being brought to justice.

The delay in concluding of court cases, the high acquittal rate of the 'terrorism' accused, and threats to judges, lawyers and witnesses of the civilian courts by terror elements were highlighted as challenges, making it harder for the conventional courts to convict militants. To be fair, the responsibility for this state of affairs rested with all the stakeholders of the rule of law chain, including those tasked with investigation and prosecution. But the blame for not delivering was heaped, almost entirely and unfairly, on the doorstep of the civilian courts.

These and other problems in the criminal justice system needed to be tackled. The reasoning was that the short time given to the military courts would also afford an opportunity for appropriate reforms in the administration of justice.

It was in this general context that the military courts were unveiled as panacea for Pakistan's terrorism woes. There was no illusion even from the start that the speed and certainty of convicting the accused would coincide with compromising the prevalent due process rights.

## **Military court convictions**

According to a statement issued in mid-December 2018 by Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), the military's media wing, the federal government had referred 717 cases to military courts since their establishment.

In the 546 cases finalized out of the total, 310 convicts had been given the death penalty and another 234 had been awarded rigorous imprisonment, ranging from life imprisonment to five-year prison terms. Only two accused had been acquitted. As many as 56 of the 310 convicts given the capital punishment had been executed.

Execution of the remaining 254 was pending completion of the legal process in higher courts, according to the ISPR statement.

## **Reservations and concerns**

Rights groups have argued that the military court trials meet neither international standards nor Pakistani constitutional guarantees for a fair trial. They have particularly raised concerns over these courts holding their proceedings in secrecy and lack of access to information about the trials.

The duration and conditions of detention of accused have also been criticized. The high rate of confession has been mentioned as another concern, raising serious questions



about coercive measures being used to secure 'confessions'.

The reservations raised by rights organizations and activists at the time of the military courts' establishment are precisely the ones now being put forward by the lawyers of the convicts and their relatives in petitions before high courts as grounds to overturn convictions. The families have mainly cited scant information about charges against the accused as well as denial of access for the accused to their families, to counsel of their choice and to the evidence being used against them. Neither the families, nor general public or media practitioners are allowed to attend or follow the hearings.

In their petitions before civilian courts, some petitioners have often contended how they learned about charges against a relative, and at times even about the fact that they were in official custody, only when a statement by the ISPR announced their conviction by the military courts.

Nearly all the convicts have been reported to be sentenced, even to capital punishment, on the basis of confessions. These, the families have argued, have been coerced.

Lawyers representing the convicts in civilian courts have complained of denial of access to court documents, making it difficult to file effective appeals.

## Judicial review

The above-discussed grounds have found favour with some superior courts in recent months. The key occasions when military courts were in the news in 2018 included a Peshawar High Court (PHC) decision in mid-October, setting aside convictions of 73 persons found guilty of terrorism charges including suicide attacks and killing of security personnel and civilians. The court overturned the death and life sentences awarded to the convicts after concluding that the charges against them had not been proven beyond reasonable doubt. The court ordered the release of the convicts, nearly 50 of whom had been awarded death penalty, while the rest were handed down jail terms.

The grounds cited for acquittal included absence of substantial evidence, except confession statements recorded years after convicts' arrest, and unfairness in the trial. "The way all convicts have been proceeded against right from their arrest in different parts of the country in the custody of the agencies and landing them in the internment centres for months/ years, are not appreciated at all for the purpose of convictions," the court said in a 173-page detailed judgement.

The detailed judgment elaborately discussed flaws in the confession statements of all convicts and rejected them as the basis for conviction. The high court observed that all the judicial

confessions recorded in Urdu were "in one and the same handwriting and in one specific tone/style".

It observed: "[F]or Khyber Pakhtunkhwa there were in all three Field General Court Martial courts and each and every document on file would show that all the three courts were functioning on one and the same pattern [and] not even a single accused has deviated differently to the questions put on him."

The PHC bench noted that the questions put to all accused were exactly the same and produced the same answers in all cases.

The court ruled that even in the secret reports of the prosecution, army and intelligence agencies, no one had been named till the time, someone was arrested and he was shifted to the internment centre, where each and every one who had been arrested from anywhere in the down country was framed in a particular charge.

It added that after years of confinement, the arrested man was abruptly produced before the authorities for recording of confessional statements and that too in exactly the same tone and language.

In pointing out the lack of any incriminating evidence except the confession statement, the bench concluded: "All cases, in view of the above facts and figures are cases of no evidence, if the alleged confessional

statements are subtracted, pulled out of the entire proceedings..."

However, in early November the Supreme Court suspended the PHC decision on acquittal of 73 convicts and their release from prison on an appeal by the Defence Ministry. No date has yet been indicated on the detailed hearing of the appeal by the Supreme Court. There will be more clarity on the working and impact of the military courts after the apex court has had a chance to evaluate their work.

Much attention to the due process of law in the military courts proceeding might be warranted in view of the PHC verdict alone. Inconsistencies with international fair trial standards assume even greater importance amid the possibility of imposition of the death penalty.

## Conclusion

As much as the military courts were conceived as a device to end impunity for terrorism and serious crimes, their 'exceptional' and short duration was also supposed to afford the government an opportunity to introduce the desired reforms in criminal justice system.

The deficiencies in the criminal justice system are admittedly many and there is general consensus on the urgent need for reform. However, little effort or urgency has been demonstrated either in addressing the concerns during the military courts

proceedings or showing urgency in proceeding with judicial reform.

The APS massacre had united all political parties but one might be excused for thinking that not sufficient benefit has been extracted from that unity. There is already discussion of a further extension of jurisdiction for the military courts to try civilians. There is a real risk that unless considerable resolve and acumen to improve things emerges, and fast, the 'exceptional' departure from the normal legal processes will revisit us again, and again.

Safeguards in the form of parliamentary oversight of military courts might have prevented some of the problems from materializing. Even so, it is worth considering, for the sake of perspective, that never in the history of the world has a military distinguished itself for dispensing justice. That alone should strengthen the argument for urgently winding down of military court and reforming the regular criminal justice system without delay. Some might say that doing that promptly is in the interest of not just the military or the judiciary, but indeed all institutions.



# Reviving India-Pakistan Relations and Kashmir in 2018

*Ershad Mahmud\**

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## Introduction

The current year, 2018, has marked a worst time in the history of India-Pakistan. The stand-off between India and Pakistan remained unchanged and no tangible improvement was recorded in bilateral relations in 2018 despite having several opportunities. Belligerent statements and gruesome exchange of fire along the Line of Control and the Working Boundary have been witnessed almost throughout the year. The diplomatic relations, people-to-people contacts and bilateral trade have almost touched its lowest ebb in decades. The induction of Cold Start doctrine in the Indian military strategy further deepened the trust deficit.

The establishment of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's government and its reconciliatory statements cut no ice. New Delhi refused to resume bilateral dialogue. Even the opening up of Kartarpur corridor, a border crossing point with India to facilitate Sikh community to visit Dera Baba Nanak, to Gurdwara Darbar Sahib, the final resting place of Sikhism's founder Guru Nanak in Pakistan's Punjab on 28<sup>th</sup> November, could not move India to pick up the thread of dialogue with Pakistan.

## Making sense of LoC escalation

The 776 km (482 miles) long Line of Control is considered a place which is exceptionally hostile and a heavily militarized region in the world. Almost 200,000 troops of the nuclear-armed neighbors i.e. India and Pakistan are stationed here and equipped with the state-of-art weapons having a

long-history of animosity.<sup>245</sup> In Nov. 2003, an unwritten ceasefire was declared between two countries which lasted till 2013, despite short-lived skirmishes.

Ever since Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) took over the government in May 2014, the power dynamics have completely changed. The exchange of fire along LoC and even on the Working Boundary, dividing Sialkot and the Jammu region, got political sanction and persistent encouragement from political and military leadership alike.

The traditional strategy "fight fire with fire" has significantly transformed into an ambitious but fairly dangerous action plan, whose key goal is to hit Pakistan's military capabilities intended to inflict heavy losses besides demonstrating high degree of a military edge. The Indian military's high command has repeatedly demonstrated its resolve to inflict a heavy damage on Pakistan which becomes difficult for Pakistan to absorb. For instance, Lt. Gen. Syed Ata Hasnain (retd.) suggested that "the cost of misadventure must be made unacceptable"<sup>246</sup>.

A few defense analysts misconstrue Pakistan's response to so-called surgical strikes such as a noted Indian writer stated that "India's fears of a retaliation seem baseless and unfounded in light of Pakistan's low-profile response to India's surgical strikes. Pakistan does not seem to have a response mechanism for a scenario wherein India retaliates to its proxy wars with aggressive military action, short of full-scale war"<sup>247</sup>.

On January 12, Indian Army Chief Bipin Rawat clearly spoke his mind, saying:

"Earlier, we were targeting only infiltrating militants [on the LoC]. But these extremists are disposable commodities for Pakistan. Instead, the pain has to be felt by the Pakistan armed forces for supporting infiltration. So we have started targeting [Pakistani] posts and I can assure you that, in these exchanges of fire, [Pakistan] has suffered three-four times the casualties. That is why we get repeated requests from Pakistan to take the ceasefire back to 2003 levels."<sup>248</sup>

On January 15, Rawat reiterated his statement: "The Pakistan army is helping infiltrators; if they provoke us further, we will take stronger action."<sup>249</sup>

The possibility of meeting of the two Directors Generals of Military Operations (DGMO) to talk about the resumption of ceasefire along the LoC was eradicated. Gen. Rawat said: "If we see a drop in infiltration along the LoC we are willing to call for a ceasefire, but not until we see a drop in infiltration levels."<sup>250</sup>

In September, welcoming India's decision to cancel talks with Pakistan, Gen. Rawat said, "it is time to avenge the kind of barbarism meted out by the neighbouring country to ensure the "other side feels the same pain."

"We need to take stern action to avenge the kind of barbarism that terrorists and the Pakistan Army have been carrying against

our soldiers. It is time to give it back to them in the same coin but not by resorting to similar kind of barbarism. I think the other side must also feel the same pain," he told reporters in Jaipur<sup>251</sup>.

### **The Cold Start doctrine - a core part of military strategy**

Although Cold Start doctrine has long been debated in India but for the first time in history, Gen. Bipin formally made it a fundamental part of India's military strategy. The purpose of this doctrine is to swiftly make inroad into Pakistan, with a small contingent of forces backed by ground forces and air force. It will not allow Pakistan to respond quickly or use the international diplomatic mechanism to avert India's offensive.

Consequently, a full-scale war would not be triggered. Keep in mind that India and Pakistan, since their independence, have fought three wars, two of them over Kashmir. India claims that it had carried out cross-border surgical strikes in Azad Jammu and Kashmir in 2016 against the militants groups. Although, Pakistan denied any kind of surgical strikes but it emboldened Indian forces to take a chance to employ Cold Start doctrine.

While responding to a question during a press conference on the possibility of Pakistan using its nuclear weapons in case the situation along the border deteriorates, General Bipin said: "We will call the



(nuclear) bluff of Pakistan. If we will have to really confront the Pakistanis, and a task is given to us, we are not going to say we cannot cross the border because they have nuclear weapons. We will have to call their nuclear bluff<sup>252</sup>.”

This statement prompted a heated debate in the region. Khawaja Muhammad Asif, Pakistan’s Foreign Minister, regarded it as an invitation for the nuclear encounter, declaring that if this is what they desire, they are welcome to test our resolve.

Likewise, on February 12, India’s Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said, “I wouldn’t certainly set a timeline [for action against Pakistan]. But will say this: ‘Pakistan will pay for this misadventure.’ I repeat: ‘Pakistan will pay for it.’” She was referring to a militant attack two days prior at the Sunjuwan military station in Jammu, in which five soldiers and one civilian were killed, and 11 people including an army major were injured<sup>253</sup>.

Giving response to his counterpart, Pakistan’s Defence Minister Khurram Dastgir hit back, “Any Indian aggression, strategic miscalculation or misadventure, regardless of its scale, mode or location, will not go unpunished and shall be met with an equal and proportionate response<sup>254</sup>.”

During 2018, the Indian High Commission officials in Islamabad and the Pakistani High Commission officials in New Delhi were summoned multiple times to their

respective ministries of foreign affairs to serve demarche.

## **A short-lived détente**

Despite all these heated statements, Pak-India relations witnessed a sharp positive turn in March this year when Pakistan invited the Indian High Commissioner along with military attaché to attend the Pakistan Day celebrations in Islamabad on 23rd March. The media gave an immense coverage to this event across the region. It was the first event of its kind.

A few days later, a six-member Pakistani delegation of diplomats and technical experts travelled to New Delhi for participating in the meeting of the 114<sup>th</sup> round of Indus Water Commission. This was a highly significant development in the backdrop of Prime Minister Modi personally chairing a meeting in September 2016 to discuss measures of imposing water cost on Pakistan.

Breaking the 20-month long impasse, Indian officials travelled to Pakistan in mid-May to attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) meeting. Ever since the attack on Uri Airbase camp and the subsequent so-called ‘Surgical Strikes’ of September 2016, India had scaled down the diplomatic contact with Pakistan.

On May 29, Pakistani and Indian Director Generals of Military Operations (DGMOs) agreed to restore ceasefire along the Line

of Control and the Working Boundary while speaking on the hotline. Both the DGMOs agreed to undertake sincere measures to improve the existing situation in order to ensure peace and evade the hardships of the civilians along the borders. Besides, they also agreed on fully implementing the ceasefire understanding of 2003 in letter and spirit forthwith to avoid any violation in future. The two Director Generals also agreed to exercise restraint and resolve matters through existing mechanisms (hotline contacts and border flag meetings) at the local commanders' level in case of any future incidents.

Interestingly, Indian Home Minister Rajnath Sindh said that New Delhi was ready to hold talks with Islamabad and that "not welcoming anyone who wants to talk was not the right thing".

Pakistani military leadership has also responded positively and its public relations organ- ISPR's chief acknowledged the significance of dialogue twice in the recent days, especially on the issue of Kashmir. On 13 April 2018, Chief of Army Staff (COAS) Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa said that "comprehensive and meaningful" dialogue with India remains the inevitable route to restoring peace in the region but stressed that any bilateral talks with the neighbours can only be held "on the basis of sovereign equality, dignity and honour".<sup>255</sup>

The Director General of the ISPR said: We are willing to ignore the first shot that is fired from the Indian side, provided it does not result in a casualty on our side," he said. However, the second shot would be responded in kind. Pakistan's desire for peace should not be construed as a weakness<sup>256</sup>.

Ironically, within a few weeks, cross-LoC exchange of fire and diatribe of allegation were resumed which is yet to be stopped. Most of the times, no valid information is presented pertaining to what exactly triggered the round of firing.

### **Facts speaks for themselves**

The Azad Jammu and Kashmir State Disaster Management Authority (SDMA) provided quite comprehensive data about the casualties, injuries and property damages only inside Azad Jammu and Kashmir. Its 2018's facts and figures show that district Kotli, Bhimber and Poonch bore the heavy brunt of the fire, while the Jehlum Valley and Haveli were partially affected. Luckily, no causality or property damage was reported in the Neelum Valley, which was the worst victim of cross-LoC firing in the previous decades and a large part of it is located opposite to the Indian military posts.



## State Disaster Management Authority (SDMA)

Detail of losses and damages-2018 along LoC due to Indian Army firing										
Sr.	District	Person Died		Person Injured		House Damaged		Shops	Others	Cattle Head Perished
		M	F	M	F	Partially	Fully			
1	Neelum									
2	Muzaffarabad									
3	Jhelum Valley	2	1	11	2	5	1			
4	Bagh									
5	Poonch	5	1	17	13	17	2	1		9
6	Haveli	1		4	3	7				
7	Sudhnoti									
8	Kotli	6	5	45	49					1
9	Bhimber	5	1	5	6	6				3
10	Mirpur									
	<b>Total (Male Female)</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>13</b>

Source: AJK State Disaster Department, Muzaffarabad, data was provided on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

The Inter Service Public Relations (ISPR) provided compact data which also includes the figures of killings along the Working Boundary besides LoC. According to ISPR; 55 people in total, 27 at the LoC and 28 at the Working Boundary, were killed, and 299 injured, 155 at the LoC and 144 at the WB, while the ceasefire violations were reported 2543 times by India.

In 2018 casualties and ceasefire violations witnessed a steep increase as compared to last four years. ISPR's data states that 315 CFV in 2014, 248 in 2015, 382 in 2016, 1881 in 2017, and 2543 in 2018 were reported.

Likewise, the number of civilian casualties' increased every year i.e. in 2015, 39; in 2016, 46; in 2017, 52 while in 2018, 55 casualties were reported. The media published news about soldiers' casualties but no reliable data is available about the killing of Pakistani troops in this year.

As mentioned above, heavy weapons are being used as a strategy to inflict substantial toll and damage on the adversary. Sources close to military stated that 120 mm heavy mortars and machine guns were used in the attack on the Pakistani posts. At times, small missiles

were also used. Consequently, a huge number of villagers fled their homes and found shelter in safe places where they have to reside until peace returns.

### **A lost opportunity**

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's victory in the general elections and succeeding positive overtures by Prime Minister Imran Khan created a landmark opportunity for the resumption of the dialogue. He extended an olive branch towards India in his victory speech as well as his first address to the nation.

In a tweet on August 21, Khan proposed talks on all issues including Jammu and Kashmir with India. He further proposed that bilateral trade agreements should be considered as the first step towards confidence-building.

In September, Khan sent a letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi proposing talks between the countries' respective foreign ministers at the UN General Assembly. India initially agreed to talks, but canceled the meeting very next day. It was considered a major setback to Khan's soft approach towards India which created a round of quarrel over social media between the Indian and Pakistani leadership, furthering the already existing gulf.

The opening of Kartarpur corridor for Sikh devotees by Pakistan in November this year could not make any break through. India

clearly stated that the opening of Kartarpur had nothing to do with the resumption of bilateral relations.

### **Conclusion**

The de-escalation along the LoC and the WB is vital to stabilize the region and reduce the existing tension between the two arch-rivals. Unfortunately, since December 2013, Directors General of Military Operations (DGMOs), have not met to sort out border management related issues together. Currently, a complete breakdown in communication between the two countries is prevailing.

The United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) is the only mechanism which used to monitor and verify ceasefire violations. It has offices in Srinagar, Islamabad and New Delhi; equipped with necessary strength and budget which can be employed for the purpose. Ironically, UNMOGIP has not been allowed by New Delhi to fulfill its responsibilities since the early 1970s.

It seems that due to general elections of India, scheduled to be held in May 2019, the political climate is not conducive for the normalization of relations. Some observers even expect further deterioration in the relationship until general elections in India is over.

The BJP Government has empowered its military leadership to deal with the Kashmiri

militants as well as the Pakistani troops stationed along the LoC and the WB without any fear of accountability. Therefore, the hawkish elements and particularly the military command is dictating tone and content of the relationship between the two countries. Indian Army Chief Gen. Bipin has taken the leadership role over Kashmir, and even about Pakistan. He publically articulated policy-level decision which is quite unusual and alarming.

India and Pakistan cannot run away from dialogue and the inclusion of Kashmiri

representative in the process, simply because there is no option available other than a sustained engagement.

Both countries should respect the 2003 unwritten ceasefire agreement in letter and spirit and maintain peace on the LoC and the Working Boundary. To investigate the incidents of ceasefire violations India and Pakistan should either take services of UNMOGIP or constitute a joint working group.



## CHAPTER 12

### The troubled Pakistan-Iran border

*Muhammad Akbar Notezai\**

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## **Dynamics at border**

A few kilometers away from the Iranian border, in the western Balochistan's Chaghi district, lays Talaap. Different Baloch tribes dominate the mountains and plains of this area. What is unique about this area compared to other bordering areas is that there is no border wall. After all, Iran has been unilaterally building a wall on its side of the border, but Talaap is excluded. Instead, there are landmines in this area.

The border between Pakistan-Iran, all of it with Pakistan's Balochistan province, is called the Pakistan-Iran Barriers. It is 909 kilometers long. Iran has been building a thick concrete wall. Given that it is impossible to built-up a wall on the whole 909 kilometers' long distance, Iran has been making all the efforts to make its border secure with Pakistan.

Recent news from Talaap aroused fear. A vehicle reportedly struck the landmines in the area, killing some people on the spot. On the Iranian side, big check posts are installed, from where Iranian security personnel, with binoculars, watch round the clock this area of 100 families. Fearing indiscriminate firing from the Iranian side, locals do not travel in nights. If at all, there is any urgency, they travel without turning on the lights of their vehicles and motor cycles.

There are also reports of families leaving Talaap due to fear. Surely, not all can leave, given the crops they are growing in the area. Locals are mostly agriculturalists.

They have to live in Talaap under the constant fear and terror.

In mid-October 2018, it was reported that around a dozen Iranian security personnel were kidnapped along the border with Pakistan's Balochistan Province. After the mid-October kidnapping incident, more than two dozens of mortar shells were fired from the Iranian territory into the Talaap areas. Those shells exploded away from the populated areas, which is why there were no casualties.

But the episode did create fear in the population, who remained confined to their houses. Such episodes are to follow later too. "Iran has done so six times, especially in the Talaap area," says a security official based in Taftan bordering town, who requests anonymity, "These violations are of firings and mortar shells."

This was not for the first time Iranian security personnel have been kidnapped on the border with Pakistan; such incidents have taken place in the past. Media reports suggested that security personnel were kidnapped by a Baloch Sunni militant group, Jaish al-Adl ("Army of Justice" in Arabic language).

Jaish al-Adl, formed in 2012, is a successor to a colossal militant group by the name of Jundullah ("Soldiers of God"), headed by Abdul Malik Reki. Reki was captured and executed in 2010 by Iranian authorities.

After the execution of Abdul Malik Reki, the Sunni Baloch militancy on either side of the border weakened to a greater extent. For a few years, there were hardly incidents by

the Baloch Sunni militant groups. It further got splintered into a few more militant groups. Among these groups, Jaish al-Adl emerged stronger which organized itself over the years.

Iranian security personnel assume Baloch Sunni militants hide into populations adjacent to the border. Hence their firing of mortar shells on Pakistani side of the border. On the Pakistani side, border region is remote. There are not much security forces across the border with Iran. Due to this reason, Talaap and several other bordering populations are at the mercy of Iranian security personnel.

Historically, Pakistan-Iran border has been a peaceful, open border region. Baloch would intermingle with each other across the border. Baloch, straddling on both sides, have cultural, economic, and social relations with each other. This is no longer the case. Their movement is curtailed, and they are now socially, economically, and culturally cut off from each other.

### **Playing into regional rivalries**

Unlike officially, Pakistan-Iran relations are at the crossroads. There is trust deficit between two countries, largely centered on which side Pakistan takes in the on-going conflict in the Middle East, not least between Iran and Saudi Arabia.

As per Iran's thinking, Pakistan can no longer become a mediator between Iran

and Saudi Arabia. Pakistan, to them, is into Saudi orbit.

As if in response, Iran is going soft on India, the arch rival of Pakistan. Iran has asked India to build the Chahbahar port, which is situated some 70 kilometers away from the Gwadar port project being developed by China. India has so far committed \$500 million to the Chahbahar port and \$2 billion dollar to build up a railway line from Chahbahar to Hajigaj in Afghanistan. After the operationalization of the Chahbahar port project, India will be connected to Iran, Afghanistan, and Central Asia. Thus, it will bypass Pakistan.

If Pakistan tries to pinch Iran on the Indian involvement, Iran relates it to Saudi factor, implying as if India-Pakistan relations are no different than Iran-Saudi Arabia rivalry.

Due to India-Iran closeness, Pakistan is concerned about its bordering areas with Iran. To many in Pakistan, such concerns were materialized with the arrest of Kulbushan Jadhav, an Indian spy in Balochistan who had come through Iran. Ever since, Pakistani intelligence agencies have been on extra-alert on its border with Iran. In previous times, Pakistan could allegedly pinpoint Afghanistan for allowing Baloch separatists, to use Afghan soil against Pakistan. Now, Iran is also added to the list for the same reasons and apprehensions. Overall, along with eastern borders with India, Pakistan is now equally concerned about Indian espionage activities

on its western borders with Iran and Afghanistan. Efforts are made to consolidate surveillance at the Pak-Iran border.

It does not end here. Iran thinks Baloch Sunni militancy across its borders is a Pakistani-Saudi-American joint venture, even though the two vehemently deny the charge. Yet, based on this assumption, Iran has recently become soft on the Baloch separatists, once its adversaries. When former Balochistan interior minister Sarfraz Bugti claimed to have killed the Baloch separatist leader Dr. Allah Nazar Baloch of the Balochistan Liberation Front (BLF), there were rumors he was injured and taken to Iran for the treatment. One media report in a local newspaper also claimed Dr. Allah Nazar Baloch's close associates were killed in an Iranian village close to the border of Pakistan.

As a whole, the Baloch nationalists are desperately looking the overall situation. Quetta-based analysts are of the opinion that the state's crackdowns have pushed separatists into the mountains, and they have been suffocated. This is why, they further add, they had no other options than to join temporarily hands with Iran. This is has further unnerved the state of Pakistan. Because they are anti-state and anti-development which the state assumes them, and they are, security officials claim, trying to sabotage the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) on Indian dictations.

## Conclusion

Apparently, a minor border clash in the hinterlands of the two countries, emanating from some miscalculation on ground, mortar shells fired from this or that side sits inside the broader regional dynamics, with serious implications for national security. The border tension is expected to escalate between the two countries over the years. Already, once a peaceful border region is now witnessing security, thick-concrete walls, and check-posts.

The more Pakistan slips into the Saudi orbit, the more its relations with Iran will worsen. Following the new sanctions on Iran, Pakistan has further gone into dilemma, that what to do and what not to do, with Iranian affairs. And the more Iran co-opts India, the more Pakistan will less incentive to allay Iran's concerns. This is a classic catch-22 situation.

If their borders remain troubled, anyone can fish in the troubled water. This is what is happening in the border region.

To move forward, both countries should mutually sit on the negotiating tables, as well as take Baloch population on board. The ramifications of such tensions should be understood. If they mutually negotiate and win the hearts of their respective Baloch populations, they can stand up against the evil designs. As of now, unfortunately, the situation on ground seems otherwise.



**Notes**



## Notes

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- <sup>1</sup> ↑and↓ represent increase and decrease, respectively, from previous year.
- <sup>2</sup> ↑and↓ represent increase and decrease, respectively, from 2017 to 2018.
- <sup>3</sup> *Dawn*, February 17, 2018, <https://www.dawn.com/news/1389873>
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**Annex 1: Suicide Attacks in Pakistan in 2018****KP (including erstwhile FATA)**

Date	Location	Target	Killed	Injured	Claim of responsibility
03 Feb, 2018	Swat/Kabal	Security forces/law enforcement	Mil - 1 Arm - 11	Arm - 13	TTP
17 May, 2018	Nowshera	Security forces/law enforcement	Mil-1	Civ - 7 FC - 6	Hizbul Ahrar
10 Jul, 2018	Peshawar	Political leaders/workers	Civ - 21 Mil - 1	Civ - 58	TTP
22 Jul, 2018	D.I Khan/Kulachi	Political leaders/workers	Civ - 2 Pol - 1 Mil - 1	Civ - 1 Pol - 1	TTP
23 Nov, 2018	Orakzai	Shia religious scholars/community	Civ - 35	Civ - 40	ISIS affiliates/supporters
<b>Total</b>		<b>5 Attacks</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>126</b>	

**Balochistan**

Date	Location	Target	Killed	Injured	Claim of responsibility
09 Jan, 2018	Quetta	Security forces/law enforcement	Pol - 5 Civ - 2	Pol - 8 Civ - 8	TTP
28 Feb, 2018	Quetta	Security forces/law enforcement	FC - 4 Mil - 1	FC - 6	TTP
09 Apr, 2018	Quetta	Security forces/law enforcement	Mil - 1	FC - 5	TTP
24 Apr, 2018	Quetta	Security forces/law enforcement	Mil - 3 Pol - 6	Pol - 8 FC - 8	Hizbul Ahrar
24 Apr, 2018	Mastung/Dasht	Security forces/law enforcement	FC - 3 Mil - 2	FC - 6	TTP
17 May, 2018	Quetta	Security forces/law enforcement	Mil - 5 Pol - 1	FC - 4	Hizbul Ahrar
04 Jun, 2018	Mastung	Security forces/law enforcement	Mil - 1 FC - 3	FC - 2	TTP
13 Jul, 2018	Mastung	Political leaders/workers	Mil - 1 Civ - 150	Civ - 185	ISIS affiliates/supporters
25 Jul, 2018	Quetta	Political leaders/workers	Civ - 25 Mil - 1 Pol - 6	Civ - 70	ISIS affiliates/supporters
11 Aug, 2018	Chagai/Dalbandin	CPEC/workers/Chinese	Mil - 1	Civ - 4 FC - 2	BLA
19 Aug, 2018	Mastung	Security forces/law enforcement	Mil - 1	FC - 6	Unknown/unknown militants
<b>Total</b>		<b>11 Attacks</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>322</b>	

**Punjab**

Date	Location	Target	Killed	Injured	Claim of responsibility
14 Mar, 2018	Lahore/Raiwind	Security forces/law enforcement	Civ - 5 Mil - 1 Pol - 7	Civ - 12 Pol - 5	TTP
03 May, 2018	Attock	Civilians	Mil - 1 Civ - 4	Civ - 17	TTP
<b>Total</b>		<b>2 Attacks</b>	<b>18 Killed</b>	<b>34 Injured</b>	

**Sindh**

Date	Location	Target	Killed	Injured	Claim of responsibility
16 Jan, 2018	Karachi	Security forces/law enforcement	Mil - 3	--	TTP
<b>Total</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>3 Killed</b>	<b>--</b>	

**Annex 2: Drone Attacks in Pakistan in 2018**

Date	Location	Killed	Injured	Detail
17 Jan, 2018	Kurram Agency/Lower Kurram	--	Mil - 1	A US drone carried out a strike near Badshahkot village in lower division of Kurram Agency close to the Afghan border in which one suspected militant was injured. He was identified as Khalid, an Afghan national.
24 Jan, 2018	Orakzai Agency	Mil - 2	--	Two militants of the Haqqani network, commander Ihsanullah alias Khuraye and his associate Nasir Mehmood, were killed in a US drone attack in Orakzai Agency. The drone targeted with missiles a house in Dapa Mamazai village destroying it. There were however different claims about the exact location and target. The FO said it happened in Kurram Agency while the ISPR claimed it took place in Hangu district of KP, adjacent to Orakzai Agency, and targeted an individual in an Afghan refugee camp. The US denied it targeted the refugee camp.
08 Feb, 2018	North Waziristan Agency	Mil - 3	--	Three alleged Haqqani Network militants were killed in a US drone strike at a compound close to the Afghan border in North Waziristan Agency.
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	

**Annex 3: Cross-Border Attacks and Clashes in 2018****Pak-Afghan Border**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Killed</b>	<b>Injured</b>	<b>Perpetrator</b>
03 Jan, 2018	Mohmand Agency/Lower Mohmand	Civilians			TTP
05 Jan, 2018	Mohmand Agency/Safi	Civilians			TTP
15 Mar, 2018	Khyber Agency	Security forces/law enforcement	FC - 1		TTP
15 Apr, 2018	Kurram Agency/Lower Kurram	Security forces/law enforcement	FC - 5	FC - 9	TTP
26 Apr, 2018	Mohmand Agency	Security forces/law enforcement	Mil - 3 Arm - 1		TTP
13 May, 2018	North Waziristan Agency/Shawal	Security forces/law enforcement	Arm - 6	Arm - 1	TTP
03 Jun, 2018	Bajaur	Security forces/law enforcement	Mil - 6	FC - 4 Arm - 1	Jamatul Ahrar
15 Jun, 2018	North Waziristan/Shawal	Security forces/law enforcement	Arm - 3 Mil - 5		TTP
22 Jun, 2018	North Waziristan	Security forces/law enforcement	P-mil - 1		TTP
24 Jun, 2018	North Waziristan	Security forces/law enforcement	Arm - 1		TTP
19 Jul, 2018	Upper Dir/Dir	Security forces/law enforcement	Arm - 1	Arm - 3	TTP
02 Sep, 2018	Kurram	Security forces/law enforcement	FC - 1	FC - 1	TTP
27 Sep, 2018	North Waziristan/Spinwam	Security forces/law enforcement	Arm - 1		TTP
02 Oct, 2018	North Waziristan	Security forces/law enforcement	Mil - 7	Mil - 3	TTP
14 Oct, 2018	Qilla Abdullah/Chaman	Security forces/law enforcement			ANA
13 Nov, 2018	Bajaur	Civilians	Mil - 1		TTP
<b>Total</b>		<b>16 Attacks</b>	<b>43 Killed</b>	<b>22 Injured</b>	

**Pak-India Border Attacks**

Date	Location	Target	Killed	Injured	Perpetrator
03 Jan, 2018	Sialkot/Shakargarh	Civilians		Civ - 2	Indian BSF
04 Jan, 2018	Sialkot	Civilians		Civ - 3	Indian BSF
05 Jan, 2018	Haveli/Nezapir Sector	Civilians		Civ - 2	Indian BSF
11 Jan, 2018	Kotli/Khuiratta	Civilians	Civ - 1		Indian BSF
15 Jan, 2018	Kotli	Security forces/law enforcement	Arm - 4	Arm - 5	Indian BSF
17 Jan, 2018	Sialkot	Civilians			Indian BSF
18 Jan, 2018	Sialkot	Civilians	Civ - 2	Civ - 6	Indian BSF
19 Jan, 2018	Sialkot	Civilians	Civ - 3	Civ - 19	Indian BSF
19 Jan, 2018	Bhimber	Civilians	Civ - 1		Indian BSF
19 Jan, 2018	Bhimber/Smahni	Civilians		Civ - 1	Indian BSF
20 Jan, 2018	Sialkot	Civilians	Civ - 4	Civ - 9	Indian BSF
20 Jan, 2018	Kotli/Nakyal Sector	Security forces/law enforcement	Arm - 1 Civ - 1	Civ - 4	Indian BSF
21 Jan, 2018	Kotli/Nakyal Sector	Civilians	Civ - 2	Civ - 3	Indian BSF
22 Jan, 2018	Sialkot	Civilians		Civ - 5	Indian BSF
23 Jan, 2018	Kotli/Nakyal Sector	Civilians		Civ - 1	Indian BSF
27 Jan, 2018	Poonch/Hajira	Civilians		Civ - 6	Indian BSF
28 Jan, 2018	Loc	Civilians		Civ - 3	Indian BSF
30 Jan, 2018	Kotli	Civilians		Civ - 2	Indian BSF 71
01 Feb, 2018	Kotli/Khuiratta	Civilians		Civ - 9	Indian BSF
01 Feb, 2018	Poonch/Hajira	Civilians		Civ - 2	Indian BSF
04 Feb, 2018	Rawalakot/Neza Pir Sector	Civilians	Civ - 1	Civ - 2	Indian BSF
04 Feb, 2018	Kotli	Civilians	Civ - 1	Civ - 2	Indian BSF
05 Feb, 2018	Poonch/Hajira	Civilians	Civ - 2	Civ - 2	Indian BSF
05 Feb, 2018	Kotli	Civilians		Civ - 2	Indian BSF
11 Feb, 2018	Kotli	Civilians		Civ - 2	Indian BSF
11 Feb, 2018	Kotli	Civilians		Civ - 2	Indian BSF
11 Feb, 2018	Poonch	Civilians		Civ - 2	Indian BSF
13 Feb, 2018	Poonch/Abbaspur	Civilians		Civ - 1	Indian BSF
15 Feb, 2018	Poonch	Civilians	Civ - 1		Indian BSF
15 Feb, 2018	Kotli/Tatta Pani Sector	Civilians		Civ - 3	Indian BSF
19 Feb, 2018	Kotli/Khuiratta	Civilians	Civ - 1		Indian BSF
20 Feb, 2018	Kotli/Khuiratta	Civilians		Civ - 1	Indian BSF
21 Feb, 2018	Bhimber/Chamb	Civilians	Civ - 1	Civ - 1	Indian BSF
22 Feb, 2018	Rawalakot	Civilians	Civ - 1		Indian BSF
23 Feb, 2018	Kotli	Civilians	Civ - 1	Civ - 5	Indian BSF
25 Feb, 2018	Loc	Civilians			Indian BSF

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Date	Location	Target	Killed	Injured	Perpetrator
26 Feb, 2018	Kotli/Khuiratta	Civilians			Indian BSF
27 Feb, 2018	Kotli/Nakyal Sector	Civilians	Civ - 1		Indian BSF 36
27 Feb, 2018	Kotli/Nakyal Sector	Civilians		Civ - 1	Indian BSF
28 Feb, 2018	Bhimber	Security forces/law enforcement	Arm - 2		Indian BSF
01 Mar, 2018	Bhimber/Smahni	Civilians	Civ - 1	Civ - 4	Indian BSF
02 Mar, 2018	Bhimber	Civilians	Civ - 1	Civ - 2	Indian BSF
05 Mar, 2018	Kotli/Khuiratta	Civilians		Civ - 2	Indian BSF
07 Mar, 2018	Kotli/Nakyal Sector	Civilians		Civ - 1	Indian BSF
10 Mar, 2018	Loc	Civilians		Civ - 4	Indian BSF
14 Mar, 2018	Poonch/Abbaspur	Civilians		Civ - 2	Indian BSF
17 Mar, 2018	Poonch/Madarpur	Civilians		Civ - 1	Indian BSF
18 Mar, 2018	Kotli/Nakyal Sector	Civilians		Civ - 9	Indian BSF
28 Mar, 2018	Poonch/Abbaspur	Civilians			Indian BSF
07 Apr, 2018	Kotli/Nakyal Sector	Civilians	Civ - 1	Civ - 3	Indian BSF
10 Apr, 2018	Poonch	Govt. officials			Indian BSF
10 Apr, 2018	Poonch	Civilians		Civ - 1	Indian BSF
11 Apr, 2018	Kotli/Khuiratta	Civilians		Civ - 8	Indian BSF
11 Apr, 2018	Poonch/Hajira	Civilians		Civ - 10	Indian BSF
11 Apr, 2018	Bhimber	Civilians		Civ - 1	Indian BSF
12 Apr, 2018	Kotli/Khuiratta	Civilians		Civ - 4	Indian BSF
13 Apr, 2018	Kotli/Nakyal Sector	Civilians	Civ - 1	Civ - 1	Indian BSF
14 Apr, 2018	Kotli/Khuiratta	Civilians		Civ - 2	Indian BSF 56
18 Apr, 2018	Poonch/Hajira	Civilians	Civ - 1		Indian BSF
20 Apr, 2018	Poonch	Civilians		Civ - 1	Indian BSF
24 Apr, 2018	Poonch	Civilians		Civ - 3	Indian BSF
26 Apr, 2018	Bhimber	Civilians	Civ - 2	Civ - 2	Indian BSF
15 May, 2018	Poonch/Hajira	Civilians	Civ - 1		Indian BSF
15 May, 2018	Sialkot/Shakargarh	Civilians			Indian BSF
17 May, 2018	Sialkot	Civilians		Civ - 4	Indian BSF
18 May, 2018	Sialkot	Civilians	Civ - 6	Civ - 22	Indian BSF



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Date	Location	Target	Killed	Injured	Perpetrator
19 May, 2018	Bhimber	Civilians		Civ - 2	Indian BSF
20 May, 2018	Sialkot/Charwah	Civilians			Indian BSF
21 May, 2018	Sialkot	Security forces/law enforcement	Rng - 1	Rng - 3	Indian BSF
22 May, 2018	Sialkot	Security forces/law enforcement	Rng - 1 Civ - 1	Civ - 4	Indian BSF
23 May, 2018	Sialkot	Civilians	Civ - 1	Civ - 9	Indian BSF
27 May, 2018	Kotli/Tatta Pani Sector	Civilians			Indian BSF
01 Jun, 2018	Poonch/Abbaspur	Civilians		Civ - 1	Indian BSF
03 Jun, 2018	Sialkot	Civilians	Civ - 2	Civ - 24	Indian BSF
08 Jun, 2018	Kotli/Khuiratta	Civilians		Civ - 2	Indian BSF
12 Jun, 2018	Poonch/Abbaspur	Civilians	Civ - 1		Indian BSF 77
22 Jul, 2018	Sialkot/Shakargarh	Civilians	Civ - 1		Indian BSF
02 Aug, 2018	Loc	Civilians	Civ - 1		Indian BSF
16 Aug, 2018	Hattian/Leepa Valley	Civilians		Civ - 2	Indian BSF
18 Aug, 2018	Hattian/Leepa Valley	Civilians	Civ - 1	Civ - 2	Indian BSF
20 Aug, 2018	Hattian/Leepa Valley	Civilians		Civ - 3	Indian BSF
25 Aug, 2018	Kotli/Nakyal Sector	Civilians		Civ - 1	Indian BSF
03 Sep, 2018	Kotli/Goi	Civilians	Civ - 1		Indian BSF
04 Sep, 2018	Loc	Civilians	Civ - 1		Indian BSF
10 Sep, 2018	Bhimber	Civilians	Civ - 1		Indian BSF
15 Sep, 2018	Neelum	Civilians			Indian BSF
19 Sep, 2018	Poonch	Civilians			Indian BSF
22 Sep, 2018	Sialkot/Chaprar Sector	Security forces/law enforcement			Indian BSF
29 Sep, 2018	Rawalakot	Civilians	Civ - 1		Indian BSF
30 Sep, 2018	Poonch/Abbaspur	Govt. officials			Indian BSF
30 Sep, 2018	Hattian/Leepa Valley	Civilians			Indian BSF
11 Oct, 2018	Sialkot	Civilians		Civ - 1	Indian BSF
14 Oct, 2018	Haveli	Civilians		Civ - 1	Indian BSF
23 Oct, 2018	Bhimber/Smahni	Civilians			Indian BSF
27 Oct, 2018	Hattian/Leepa Valley	Civilians			Indian BSF
30 Oct, 2018	Neelum	Civilians			Indian BSF 10

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Date	Location	Target	Killed	Injured	Perpetrator
31 Oct, 2018	Hattian/Leepa Valley	Civilians	Civ - 1		Indian BSF
01 Nov, 2018	Hattian/Leepa Valley	Civilians			Indian BSF
03 Nov, 2018	Bhimber/Smahni	Civilians	Civ - 1		Indian BSF
08 Nov, 2018	Bhimber	Security forces/law enforcement	Arm - 1		Indian BSF
13 Nov, 2018	Kotli/Khuiratta	Civilians		Civ - 1	Indian BSF
14 Nov, 2018	Bhimber/Smahni	Civilians			Indian BSF
06 Dec, 2018	Hattian	Civilians			Indian BSF
07 Dec, 2018	Sialkot/Chaprar Sector	Security forces/law enforcement		Rng - 1	Indian BSF
14 Dec, 2018	Poonch	Civilians			Indian BSF
18 Dec, 2018	Rawalakot	Civilians		Civ - 2	Indian BSF
22 Dec, 2018	Neelum	Security forces/law enforcement	Arm - 1		Indian BSF
24 Dec, 2018	Kotli/Khuiratta	Civilians		Civ - 1	Indian BSF
31 Dec, 2018	Neelum	Civilians	Civ - 1	Civ - 9	Indian BSF
<b>Total</b>		<b>109 Attacks</b>	<b>64 Killed</b>	<b>264 Injured</b>	

**Pak-Iran Border Attacks**

Date	Location	Target	Killed	Injured	Responsibility
17 Mar, 2018	Panjgur	Civilians			Iranian border security forces
16 Apr, 2018	Gwadar	Civilians	Civ - 2		Iranian border security forces
23 Apr, 2018	Chagai	Civilians			Iranian border security forces
10 Jun, 2018	Panjgur	Civilians			Iranian border security forces
19 Oct, 2018	Chagai	Civilians			Iranian border security forces
11 Nov, 2018	Panjgur/Parome	Civilians	Civ - 2	Civ - 4	Iranian border security forces
<b>Total</b>		<b>6 Attacks</b>	<b>4 Killed</b>	<b>4 Injured</b>	

**Annex 4: Attacks on Educational Institution in 2018**

District	Attacks	Injured	Killed	Responsibility
Dera Bugti	1	0	0	BRA
Khyber Agency	1	0	Civ - 3	Lashkar-e-Islam
North Waziristan Agency	1	0	0	Ittehadul Mujahideen North Waziristan
Diamir	2	0	0	Unknown/unknown militants
Chitral	1	0	0	Local Taliban
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	

**Annex 5: Attacks on Political Leaders and Workers**

Date	Location	Killed	Injured	Responsibility
18 Mar, 2018	Bajaur Agency/Khar Bajaur			Unknown/unknown militants
09 May, 2018	Karachi		Civ - 3	Unknown/unknown militants
19 May, 2018	Quetta	Civ - 1		Unknown/unknown militants
10 Jun, 2018	Kech/Mand			BLF
10 Jun, 2018	Kech/Turbat			BLF
15 Jun, 2018	Kohlu			BLA
03 Jul, 2018	North Waziristan		Civ - 10	TTP
05 Jul, 2018	Peshawar			TTP
07 Jul, 2018	Bannu		Civ - 7 FC - 1	TTP
10 Jul, 2018	Peshawar	Civ - 21 Mil - 1	Civ - 58	TTP
11 Jul, 2018	Khuzdar		Civ - 2	BLF
13 Jul, 2018	Mastung	Mil - 1 Civ - 150	Civ - 185	ISIS affiliates/supporters
13 Jul, 2018	Bannu	Civ - 5	Pol - 5 Civ - 25	TTP
16 Jul, 2018	Qilla Abdullah		Civ - 1	Unknown/unknown militants
22 Jul, 2018	D.I Khan/Kulachi	Civ - 2 Pol - 1 Mil - 1	Civ - 1 Pol - 1	TTP
22 Jul, 2018	Bannu			TTP
22 Jul, 2018	Chagai/Dalbandin		Civ - 20	Nationalist insurgents
24 Jul, 2018	Hyderabad/Latifa bad		Civ - 1	SDLF/SDLA
25 Jul, 2018	Larkana		Civ - 3	SDLF/SDLA
25 Jul, 2018	Quetta	Civ - 25	Civ - 70	ISIS

Date	Location	Killed	Injured	Responsibility
		Mil - 1 Pol - 6		affiliates/supporters
05 Sep, 2018	Peshawar	Civ - 2		TTP
19 Sep, 2018	Peshawar			Unknown/unknown militants
26 Oct, 2018	Tank	Civ - 1		Unknown/unknown militants
30 Nov, 2018	Kech/Turbat		Civ - 1	BLF
<b>Total</b>	<b>24 Attacks</b>	<b>218 Killed</b>	<b>394 Injured</b>	

#### Annex 6: Attacks on Members of Peace Committees or Pro-Govt. Tribesmen

Date	Location	Killed	Injured	Responsibility
05 Feb, 2018	Panjgur	Civ - 1	Civ - 8	BLF
15 Feb, 2018	Orakzai Agency	Civ - 1	Civ - 2	Jamatul Ahrar
16 Feb, 2018	Bajaur Agency	Civ - 1		Jamatul Ahrar
29 May, 2018	Bajaur Agency/Nawagai		Civ - 1	Jamatul Ahrar
20 Jul, 2018	Khyber/Tirah	Civ - 2		Lashkar-e-Islam
31 Jul, 2018	North Waziristan/Miranshah	Civ - 2		TTP
23 Sep, 2018	Dera Bugti	Civ - 3	Civ - 2	BRA
25 Oct, 2018	Khyber/Tirah	Civ - 1	Civ - 3	Lashkar-e-Islam
<b>Total</b>	<b>8 Attacks</b>	<b>11 Killed</b>	<b>16 Injured</b>	

#### Annex 7: Attacks on Civilians

Date	Location	Killed	Injured	Responsibility
13 Jan, 2018	Bannu	Civ - 1	Civ - 2	Local Taliban
14 Jan, 2018	South Waziristan Agency/Sarwekai		Civ - 2	TTP
17 Jan, 2018	Qilla Abdullah/Chaman		Pol - 2 Civ - 1	Nationalist insurgents
21 Jan, 2018	Rahim Yar Khan		Civ - 3	Unknown/unknown militants
29 Jan, 2018	Hyderabad	Civ - 1	Civ - 1	Sindhudesh Revolutionary Army
30 Jan, 2018	Kurram Agency/Upper Kurram	Civ - 7	Civ - 1	TTP
04 Feb, 2018	Panjgur	Civ - 3		Nationalist

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Date	Location	Killed	Injured	Responsibility
				insurgents
05 Feb, 2018	Khuzdar		Civ - 1	BLF
08 Feb, 2018	North Waziristan Agency/Mir Ali	Civ - 1	Civ - 1	TTP
11 Feb, 2018	Khuzdar/Wadh			BLF
21 Feb, 2018	Bhimber	Civ - 1	Civ - 2	Unknown/unknown militants
04 Mar, 2018	North Waziristan Agency/Mir Ali		Civ - 1	TTP
06 Mar, 2018	Mohmand Agency		Civ - 1	Local Taliban
15 Mar, 2018	Qilla Saifullah	Civ - 6		Unknown/unknown militants
21 Mar, 2018	Chagai	Civ - 3	Civ - 1	Nationalist insurgents
21 Mar, 2018	Khuzdar			BLF
24 Mar, 2018	D.I Khan		FC - 2 Civ - 8	Local Taliban
28 Mar, 2018	Mohmand Agency	Civ - 1	Civ - 2	Jamatul Ahrar
31 Mar, 2018	Kohlu/Kahan	Civ - 1		BRA
12 Apr, 2018	Quetta	Civ - 1	Civ - 1	BRA
18 Apr, 2018	Khyber Agency/Tirah Valley		Civ - 2	Lashkar-e-Islam
27 Apr, 2018	North Waziristan Agency	Civ - 5	Civ - 32	TTP
03 May, 2018	Attock	Mil - 1 Civ - 4	Civ - 17	TTP
24 May, 2018	South Waziristan Agency	Civ - 1		Mullah Nazir Group
25 May, 2018	Khyber Agency	Civ - 2	Civ - 2	Unknown/unknown militants
10 Jun, 2018	South Waziristan/Tiarza		Civ - 1	TTP
29 Jun, 2018	Sibi/Lehri		Civ - 1	Nationalist insurgents
30 Jun, 2018	South Waziristan/South Waziristan		Civ - 2	TTP
03 Aug, 2018	South Waziristan/South Waziristan		Civ - 1	Local Taliban
06 Aug, 2018	Khyber		Civ - 3	Lashkar-e-Islam
26 Aug, 2018	Bannu		Civ - 1	Local Taliban
02 Oct, 2018	Peshawar		Civ - 1 FC - 1	Local Taliban
06 Oct, 2018	Kohlu		Civ - 7	BRA
22 Oct, 2018	Bannu		Civ - 5	Local Taliban
30 Oct, 2018	North Waziristan		Civ - 1	Local Taliban
31 Oct, 2018	Kohlu		Civ - 2	BRA
03 Nov, 2018	Lasbela/Hub		Civ - 1	Lashkar-e-

Date	Location	Killed	Injured	Responsibility
				Balochistan
15 Nov, 2018	Khyber/Bara	Civ - 1		Lashkar-e-Islam
16 Nov, 2018	Karachi	Civ - 2	Civ - 8	Nationalist insurgents
21 Nov, 2018	Bajaur/Nawagai	Civ - 2		Jamatul Ahrar
21 Nov, 2018	Qilla Abdullah/Chaman		Civ - 13	Unknown/unknown militants
22 Nov, 2018	Swat/Matta	Civ - 3	Civ - 2	Unknown/unknown militants
29 Nov, 2018	Bajaur	Civ - 2		Jamatul Ahrar
02 Dec, 2018	Orakzai		Civ - 2	Local Taliban
13 Dec, 2018	South Waziristan/Ladha	Civ - 1	Civ - 1	TTP
30 Dec, 2018	Bannu	Civ - 1		TTP
31 Dec, 2018	Lasbela/Hub		Pol - 1 Civ - 4	Lashkar-e-Balochistan
<b>Total</b>	<b>47 Attacks</b>	<b>51 Killed</b>	<b>143 Injured</b>	

#### Annex 8: Attacks on Personnel, check posts and convoys of security forces/law enforcement agencies

Date	Location	Killed	Injured	Responsibility
01 Jan, 2018	Qilla Abdullah/Chaman		Civ - 4 FC - 1 Pol - 2	Unknown/unknown militants
01 Jan, 2018	Dera Bugti/Sangsillah		Lvs - 1	BRA
02 Jan, 2018	Quetta	Mil - 2	Civ - 7 FC - 5	TTP
05 Jan, 2018	Mohmand Agency/Safi		Arm - 1	Jamatul Ahrar
06 Jan, 2018	Quetta	Pol - 1	Pol - 1	BLA
09 Jan, 2018	Quetta	Pol - 5 Civ - 2	Pol - 8 Civ - 8	TTP
11 Jan, 2018	North Waziristan Agency	Arm - 1	Arm - 2	TTP
12 Jan, 2018	Karachi	Pol - 1		TTP
15 Jan, 2018	Kech/Turbat	FC - 5	FC - 6	BLF
16 Jan, 2018	Karachi	Mil - 3		TTP
18 Jan, 2018	Quetta	Pol - 2	Pol - 1	TTP
21 Jan, 2018	Quetta	Pol - 1		TTP
25 Jan, 2018	Kohlu	Lvs - 1	Lvs - 1	BRA
27 Jan, 2018	Qilla Saifullah	Lvs - 1		Nationalist insurgents
28 Jan, 2018	Gwadar/Jiwani	FC - 2	FC - 4	BLF
28 Jan, 2018	Quetta	Pol - 1		TTP
30 Jan, 2018	Gwadar/Pasni		FC - 5	Lashkar-e-Balochistan
03 Feb, 2018	Swat/Kabal	Mil - 1		TTP

Date	Location	Killed	Injured	Responsibility
		Arm - 11	Arm - 13	
03 Feb, 2018	Nasirabad		Pol - 1	BLA
07 Feb, 2018	North Waziristan Agency/Mir Ali	Arm - 2	Arm - 3	TTP
14 Feb, 2018	Quetta	FC - 4		TTP
17 Feb, 2018	Bajaur Agency/Mamund		Civ - 1 Lvs - 1	Jamatul Ahrar
18 Feb, 2018	Swabi	Pol - 1		Local Taliban
20 Feb, 2018	Peshawar		Mil - 1	Local Taliban
21 Feb, 2018	Mohmand Agency			Jamatul Ahrar
28 Feb, 2018	Quetta	FC - 4 Mil - 1	FC - 6	TTP
28 Feb, 2018	Quetta	Pol - 2		TTP
02 Mar, 2018	Khyber Agency		Arm - 2	Lashkar-e-Islam
04 Mar, 2018	Quetta	Pol - 1		Unknown/unknown militants
04 Mar, 2018	Kech/Turbat		Civ - 4	Lashkar-e-Balochistan
05 Mar, 2018	Kalat/Johan	FC - 1	FC - 6	BLA
06 Mar, 2018	Quetta	Pol - 1		BLA
07 Mar, 2018	Quetta	Pol - 1	Pol - 1	LeJ
09 Mar, 2018	Quetta		Lvs - 1	BLA
09 Mar, 2018	Lasbela/Hub		FC - 2	Lashkar-e-Balochistan
13 Mar, 2018	Karachi	Mil - 1 Rng - 1	Rng - 3	Unknown/unknown militants
14 Mar, 2018	Lahore/Raiwind	Civ - 5 Mil - 1 Pol - 7	Civ - 12 Pol - 5	TTP
24 Mar, 2018	Dera Bugti			BRA
28 Mar, 2018	D.I Khan	Pol - 1		TTP
30 Mar, 2018	D.I Khan	Pol - 3	Pol - 1	Local Taliban
01 Apr, 2018	Quetta	Pol - 1		BLA
05 Apr, 2018	Khyber Agency/Tirah Valley	P-mil - 1	P-mil - 2	Lashkar-e-Islam
06 Apr, 2018	North Waziristan Agency/Mir Ali		Arm - 5	TTP
09 Apr, 2018	Quetta	Mil - 1	FC - 5	TTP
11 Apr, 2018	D.I Khan		FC - 1	Local Taliban
15 Apr, 2018	Bannu		FC - 3	TTP
17 Apr, 2018	Khyber Agency/Bara		Pol - 2	Lashkar-e-Islam
17 Apr, 2018	Quetta		Pol - 1	Nationalist insurgents
18 Apr, 2018	North Waziristan Agency/Datta Khel	Arm - 1		TTP
20 Apr, 2018	North Waziristan Agency/Datta Khel	Arm - 1		TTP
21 Apr, 2018	Kech/Turbat	FC - 1		BLF

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Date	Location	Killed	Injured	Responsibility
22 Apr, 2018	North Waziristan Agency/Miran Shah	Arm - 1	Arm - 3	TTP
24 Apr, 2018	Quetta	Mil - 3 Pol - 6	Pol - 8 FC - 8	Hizbul Ahrar
24 Apr, 2018	D.I Khan	Arm - 1	Arm - 3	TTP
24 Apr, 2018	Mastung/Dasht	FC - 3 Mil - 2	FC - 6	TTP
24 Apr, 2018	D.I Khan		Pol - 2	Local Taliban
27 Apr, 2018	D.I Khan		Pol - 1 Civ - 2	Local Taliban
28 Apr, 2018	D.I Khan		Pol - 1	Local Taliban
02 May, 2018	Mohmand Agency/Safi			Jamatul Ahrar
11 May, 2018	Bannu	Pol - 1	Pol - 3 Civ - 3	TTP
17 May, 2018	Quetta	Mil - 5 Pol - 1	FC - 4	Hizbul Ahrar
17 May, 2018	Nowshera	Mil - 1	Civ - 7 FC - 6	Hizbul Ahrar
24 May, 2018	Dera Bugti		FC - 2	BRA
25 May, 2018	D.I Khan		Pol - 1	Local Taliban
27 May, 2018	Quetta	Pol - 2 Mil - 2	Civ - 4 Mil - 1	TTP
28 May, 2018	Nasirabad	Civ - 1	Pol - 3 Civ - 11	BLA
28 May, 2018	D.I Khan	Pol - 1		TTP
29 May, 2018	Peshawar		Arm - 2	Local Taliban
30 May, 2018	North Waziristan Agency/Datta Khel	Arm - 2	Arm - 3	TTP
03 Jun, 2018	D.I Khan		Pol - 2	Local Taliban
04 Jun, 2018	Mastung	Mil - 1 FC - 3	FC - 2	TTP
07 Jun, 2018	Quetta	Pol - 1	Pol - 2	BLA
07 Jun, 2018	Lower Dir/Temergara	Pol - 2 Civ - 1	Pol - 2	TTP
12 Jun, 2018	Peshawar		Pol - 1 Civ - 2	Local Taliban
16 Jun, 2018	Quetta	Lvs - 1 Civ - 2		TTP
17 Jun, 2018	Quetta		Civ - 1 Mil - 1	BLA
20 Jun, 2018	Quetta	Civ - 1	Pol - 1	TTP
21 Jun, 2018	Peshawar	Pol - 1		Local Taliban
23 Jun, 2018	Nasirabad/D.M.Ja mali		Pol - 4 Civ - 8	BLA
26 Jun, 2018	D.I Khan	Pol - 1	Pol - 1	Local Taliban
16 Jul, 2018	North Waziristan	Arm - 2		TTP
20 Jul, 2018	Qilla		Civ - 5	TTP



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Date	Location	Killed	Injured	Responsibility
	Abdullah/Chaman			
24 Jul, 2018	Kech/Buleda	Civ - 1 FC - 3	Civ - 4 FC - 9	BLF
30 Jul, 2018	South Waziristan/South Waziristan	FC - 1	FC - 3	TTP
31 Jul, 2018	D.I Khan	Pol - 2		Local Taliban
05 Aug, 2018	North Waziristan/Razmak		Arm - 3	TTP
06 Aug, 2018	Bannu	Mil - 1		TTP
06 Aug, 2018	North Waziristan/Spinwam		Arm - 2	TTP
11 Aug, 2018	Gilgit	Pol - 3 Mil - 2	Pol - 2 Mil - 1	Unknown/unknown militants
12 Aug, 2018	Qilla Abdullah/Chaman	Civ - 1	FC - 2 Civ - 8	TTP
18 Aug, 2018	North Waziristan/Dattakhel	Civ - 1	Arm - 3 Civ - 2	Local Taliban
19 Aug, 2018	Mastung	Mil - 1	FC - 6	Unknown/unknown militants
20 Aug, 2018	Ghizer			Unknown/unknown militants
23 Aug, 2018	North Waziristan/Dattakhel	FC - 1	FC - 3	TTP
25 Aug, 2018	Mastung		Pol - 3	BLA
26 Aug, 2018	Kech/Turbat		FC - 3 Civ - 2	BLF
16 Sep, 2018	Qilla Saifullah	Lvs - 1		Nationalist insurgents
17 Sep, 2018	Kharan		Civ - 8	BLA
17 Sep, 2018	North Waziristan/Spinwam		Arm - 2	TTP
18 Sep, 2018	Qilla Saifullah	Lvs - 3		BLA
20 Sep, 2018	North Waziristan/Spinwam		Arm - 5	TTP
22 Sep, 2018	North Waziristan/Dattakhel	Arm - 7 Mil - 9		TTP
24 Sep, 2018	North Waziristan/Mir Ali	Arm - 1	Arm - 1	TTP
24 Sep, 2018	Bajaur/Mamond	Lvs - 1		Jamatul Ahrar
25 Sep, 2018	Kalat	Lvs - 1		BLA
30 Sep, 2018	Upper Dir	Arm - 1	Arm - 1	TTP
02 Oct, 2018	Awaran	Lvs - 5	Lvs - 8	BLF
02 Oct, 2018	Kech/Tump		FC - 2	BLF

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Date	Location	Killed	Injured	Responsibility
03 Oct, 2018	Karachi	Pol - 1		Hizbul Ahrar
04 Oct, 2018	Kech/Buleda	P-mil - 1		BLF
08 Oct, 2018	Karachi	Pol - 1		Hizbul Ahrar
08 Oct, 2018	Qilla Abdullah/Chaman		FC - 5	Unknown/unknown militants
11 Oct, 2018	South Waziristan/Makeen	Arm - 3	Arm - 5	TTP
13 Oct, 2018	Kech/Turbat	FC - 1		BLF
19 Oct, 2018	South Waziristan/Sararogha	FC - 2		TTP
21 Oct, 2018	Kharan			Nationalist insurgents
22 Oct, 2018	D.I Khan	Pol - 1		Unknown/unknown militants
25 Oct, 2018	Washuk	FC - 2	FC - 3	BLF and BLA Joint
25 Oct, 2018	Quetta	Pol - 1		TTP
26 Oct, 2018	North Waziristan		Arm - 2	TTP
31 Oct, 2018	Khyber/Tirah		Arm - 1	Lashkar-e-Islam
05 Nov, 2018	North Waziristan/Dattakhel	Arm - 1	Arm - 1	TTP
07 Nov, 2018	North Waziristan		Arm - 3	TTP
12 Nov, 2018	North Waziristan	Arm - 3	Arm - 1	TTP
17 Nov, 2018	Quetta	Pol - 1		Unknown/unknown militants
17 Nov, 2018	North Waziristan	Arm - 2	Arm - 2	TTP
18 Nov, 2018	Quetta	FC - 3	FC - 3	BLA
18 Nov, 2018	South Waziristan/South Waziristan	P-mil - 1	P-mil - 2	TTP
27 Nov, 2018	North Waziristan			TTP
29 Nov, 2018	North Waziristan/Shawal		Arm - 2	TTP
05 Dec, 2018	Kohlu/Kahan	FC - 1	FC - 2	BRA
08 Dec, 2018	Rawalpindi	Arm - 1 Civ - 1	Civ - 2	Hizbul Ahrar
14 Dec, 2018	Kech/Turbat	Mil - 4 FC - 6	FC - 14	BLA
16 Dec, 2018	Sibi	FC - 1		BLA
21 Dec, 2018	North Waziristan		Arm - 2	Local Taliban
28 Dec, 2018	Mohmand	Arm - 2	Arm - 1	Jamatul Ahrar
<b>Total</b>	<b>136 Attacks</b>	<b>217 Killed</b>	<b>389 Injured</b>	

**Annex 9: Breakdown of Terrorist Attacks****KP (including erstwhile FATA)**

Month	Frequency	Killed	Injured
January	5	9	8
February	13	21	27
March	10	7	20
April	14	10	59
May	12	9	28
June	8	6	14
July	12	40	111
August	9	6	18
September	10	22	9
October	14	11	23
November	13	51	53
December	5	4	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>376</b>

**Balochistan**

Month	Frequency	Killed	Injured
January	18	26	58
February	9	15	16
March	13	15	15
April	15	34	39
May	7	18	26
June	11	10	20
July	8	190	302
August	5	3	30
September	7	12	12
October	12	15	29
November	5	4	18
December	5	12	24
<b>Total</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>589</b>

**Punjab**

Month	Frequency	Killed	Injured
January	1	0	3
February	0	0	0

Month	Frequency	Killed	Injured
March	1	13	17
May	1	5	17
December	1	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>39</b>

**Sindh (excluding Karachi)**

Month	Frequency	Killed	Injured
February	1	1	1
July	2	0	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>

**Karachi**

Month	Frequency	Killed	Injured
January	2	4	0
February	1	1	1
March	1	2	3
May	1	0	3
October	2	2	0
November	2	9	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>16</b>

**AJK/GB**

Month	Frequency	Killed	Injured
February	1	1	2
August	5	5	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>

**Annex 10: Incidents of Ethnic and Political Violence in 2018**

Region	Location	Attacks	Killed	Injured
KP/FATA	Mansehra	2	0	7
	Lower Dir	1	0	2
	Swabi	1	1	2

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Region	Location	Attacks	Killed	Injured
	Charsadda	1	1	0
	Kohistan	1	0	12
	<b>KP/FATA Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>23</b>
Baluchistan	Multiple Districts	1	0	4
	<b>Baluchistan Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>
Punjab	Faisalabad	2	1	5
	Lahore	1	0	2
	Attock	1	0	0
	Multan	1	0	0
	Multiple Districts /Multiple Cities	1	0	5
	Rawalpindi	1	0	4
	Gujranwala	1	1	7
	Sialkot/Pasrur	1	1	0
	<b>Punjab Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>23</b>
Sindh	Karachi	5	5	2
	Jacobabad	1	1	3
	<b>Sindh Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Total Pakistan</b>		<b>22</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>55</b>

Month	Frequency	Killed	Injured
January	0	0	0
February	1	1	0
March	0	0	0
April	0	0	0
May	1	0	5
June	1	1	0
July	13	2	38
August	3	3	10
September	0	0	0
October	0	0	0
November	0	0	0
December	3	4	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>55</b>

**Annex 11: Major Targets of Terrorism in 2018**

<b>Targets</b>	<b>No. of Terrorist Attacks</b>	<b>Killed</b>	<b>Injured</b>
Personnel, check posts and convoys of security forces/law enforcement agencies	136	217	389
Educational institutions	6	0	3
Non-Bloch settlers/workers	3	14	5
Govt. officials, departments and offices, etc.	5	4	12
Tribal elders	4	3	3
Civilians	47	51	143
Shia religious scholars/community	7	43	43
Sunni religious leaders/community	1	2	0
Political leaders/workers	24	218	394
Hindu community	1	1	0
NGO/civil society members	1	0	0
Christian community/Church	2	6	6
Sikh community	1	1	0
Foreign interests/ diplomats/foreigners	3	11	8
Rival sectarian group	1	3	0
Health/polio workers	2	4	0
Pro-govt. tribesmen/peace committee members	8	11	16
Judges/lawyers/courts	1	0	0
CPEC projects/workers/Chinese	1	1	6
Former militants	4	4	0
Railway tracks/trains	3	0	1
Members of banned groups	1	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>1,030</b>

**Annex 12: Terrorist Attacks' Tactics in 2018**

<b>Tactics</b>	<b>Attacks</b>
HG (Hand Grenades)	18
IEDs	118
RA (Rocket Attacks)	4
Mortar	2
Firing	99
Sabotage acts	2
Suicide attacks	19
<b>Total</b>	<b>262</b>

**Annex 13: Operational Attacks by Security Forces 2018**

Region	Location	Attacks	Killed	Injured
Punjab	Dera Ghazi Khan	2	5	2
	<b>Punjab Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>
Sindh	Karachi	1	3	3
	<b>Sindh Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>
KP/FATA	D.I Khan	4	5	4
	Bajaur	2	4	0
	Mohmand	2	3	0
	Kohat	1	0	1
	South Waziristan	1	8	0
	Swabi	2	2	1
	North Waziristan	1	8	7
	<b>KP/FATA Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>13</b>
Balochistan	Quetta	3	6	6
	Qilla Abdullah	1	4	0
	Multiple Districts	1	1	0
	Mastung	4	9	11
	Dera Bugti	2	8	0
	Awaran	2	9	1
	Kalat	1	1	0
	Bolan	1	1	0
	<b>Balochistan Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Total Pakistan</b>		<b>31</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>36</b>

**Annex 14: Faith-based MobViolence**

Date	Location	Target	Killed	Injured
22 Jan, 2018	Charsadda/Shabkader	Blasphemy accused	Civ - 1	
06 May, 2018	Narowal/Shakargarh	Political leaders/workers		Civ - 1
24 May, 2018	Sialkot	Ahmedi community		
26 Jun, 2018	Lahore	Ahmedi community	Civ - 1	
23 Aug, 2018	Faisalabad	Ahmedi community		Civ - 18
24 Aug, 2018	North Waziristan/Dattakhel	Civilians	Civ - 2	Civ - 10
<b>Total</b>	<b>6 Attacks</b>		<b>4 Killed</b>	<b>29 Injured</b>

**Annex 15: Proscribed organizations**

Below are the organizations proscribed by the government of Pakistan; the list is retrieved from NACTA's website (<http://nacta.gov.pk/proscribed-organizations/>):

S. No	Name of Organization	Date of Notification
1	Lashkar-e-Jhangvi (LeJ)(Afghanistan)	14 Aug 2001, 3 Feb 2003 under UNSCR 1267
2	Sipah-i-Muhammad Pakistan (SMP)	14 Aug 2001
3	Jaish-e-Muhammad (JeM)	14 Jan 2002, 17 Oct 2001 under UNSCR 1267
4	Laskar-e-Tayyiba (LeT)	14 Jan 2002, 2 May 2005 under UNSCR 1267
5	Sipah-i-Sahaba Pakistan (SSP)	14 Jan 2002
6	Tehrik-e-Jaffria Pakistan (TJP)	28 Jan 2002
7	Tehrik-e-Nifaz-e-Shariat-e-Mohammad (TNSM)	14 Jan 2002
8	Tehreek-e-Islami	14 Jan 2002
9	Al-Qa'ida (Afghanistan)	17 Mar 2003, 6 Oct 2001 under UNSCR 1267
10	Millat-e-Islamia Pakistan (Ex SSP)	15 Nov 2003
11	Khuddam-ul-Islam (Ex JeM)	15 Nov 2003
12	Islami Tehreek Pakistan (Ex TJP)	15 Nov 2003
13	Jamat-ul-Ansar	20 Nov 2003
14	Jamat-ul-Furqan	20 Nov 2003
15	Hizb-ul-Tahreer	20 Nov 2003
16	Khair-un-Naas International Trust (Splinter Gp. of Jamat-ul-Da'awa (JuD))	27 Oct 2004
17	Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA)	07 Apr 2006
18	Islamic Students Movement of Pakistan	21 Aug 2006
19	Lashkar-e-Islami	30 June 2008
20	Ansar-ul-Islam (Iraq)	30 June 2008, 24 Feb 2003 under UNSCR 1267
21	Haji Namdaar Group	30 June 2008
22	Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) (Afghanistan)	25 Aug 2008, 29 July 2011 under UNSCR 1267
23	Balochistan Republican Army (BRA)	08 Sep 2010
24	Balochistan Liberation Front (BLF)	08 Sep 2010
25	Lashkar-e-Balochistan (LeB)	08 Sep 2010
26	Balochistan Liberation United Front (BLUF)	08 Sep 2010
27	Balochistan Musalla Defah Tanzeem (BMDT)	08 Sep 2010
28	Shia Tulaba Action Committee, Gilgit	10 Oct 2011
29	Markaz Sabeel Organization, Gilgit	10 Oct 2011
30	Tanzeem Naujawana-e-Ahle Sunnat (TNA), Gilgit	10 Oct 2011
31	Peoples Aman Committee (Layari)	10 Oct 2011
32	Ahle Sunnat Wal Jamat (ASWJ) Ex-SSP	15 Feb, 2012
33	Al Harmain Foundation	6 March 2012, 26 Jan 2004 under UNSCR 1267
34	Rabita Trust	6 March 2012, 17 Oct 2001 under UNSCR 1267
35	Anjuman-e- Imamia Gilgit Baltistan	24 April 2012
36	Muslim Students Organization (MSO) Gilgit	24 April 2012
37	Tanzeem Ahle Sunnat Wal Jamat, Gilgit	5 June 2012
38	Balochistan Bunyad Parast Army	04 Aug, 2012
39	Tehreek Nafaz-e-Aman	04 Aug, 2012
40	Tahafuz Hadudullah	04 Aug, 2012



S. No	Name of Organization	Date of Notification
41	Balochisan Waja Liberation Army	04 Aug, 2012
42	Baloch Republican Party Azad	04 Aug, 2012
43	Balochistan United Army	04 Aug, 2012
44	Islam Mujahidin	04 Aug, 2012
45	Jaish-e-Islam	04 Aug, 2012
46	Balochistan National Liberation Army	04 Aug, 2012
47	Khana-E-Hikmat Gilgit Baltistan, Gilgit	13 March,2013
48	Tehrik-e- Taliban Swat (TTS)	15 March,2013
49	Tehrik-e- Taliban Mohmand (TTM)	15 March,2013
50	Tariq Geedar Group (TGG)	15 March,2013
51	Abdullah Azam Brigade (Lebanon, Syria, Arabian Peninsula)	15 March,2013 23 Sep 2014 vide UNSCR 1267
52	East Turkmenistan Islamic Movement ETIM (Turkey, Afghanistan)	15 March,2013 11 Sep 2002 vide UNSCR 1267
53	Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU) (Uzbekistan)	15 March,2013 6 October 2001 vide UNSCR 1267
54	Islamic Jihad Union (IJU) (Uzbekistan, Afghanistan, Germany)	15 March,2013 1 June 2005 under UNSCR 1267
55	313 Brigade	15 March,2013
56	Tehrik-e- Taliban Bajaur (TTB)	15 March,2013
57	Amar bil Maroof Wa Nahi Anil Munkir (Haji Namdaar Group)	15 March,2013
58	Baloch Student Organization Azad (BSO-A)	15 March,2013
59	United Baloch Army(UBA)	15 March,2013
60	Jeay Sindh Muttahida Mahaz (JSMM)	15 March,2013
61	Daish/ISIL/IS/ISIS(Afghanistan)	15 July 2015 by MoI, also vide UNSCR 1267
62	Jamat Ul Ahrar (JuA)	11 Nov. 2016 06 July 2017 vide UNSCR 1267
63	Lashkar-e-Jhangvi Al-Almi (LeJA)	11 Nov. 2016
64	Ansar-ul-Hussain	30 Dec. 2016
65	Tehreek-e-Azadi-Jammu & Kashmir (TAJK)	08 June 2017
66	Jundullah	31 Jan 2018
67	Al Rahmah Welfare Trust Organization	13 Dec 2018

## Organizations under watch list

S. No	Name of organization	Date of notification
1	Ghulaman-e-Sahaba (GS)	30 May, 2017
2	Maymar Trust	29 March, 2017
3	Jamaat-ul-Da'awa (JuD)	27 Jan, 2017
4	Falah-e-Insaniat Foundation (FIF)	27 Jan, 2017

## Organizations enlisted under UNSCRs

S. No	Name of organization	Date of notification
1	Al-Akhtar Trust	01 Dec 2005
2	Al-Rashid Trust	01 Dec 2005

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## I. National Action Plan

### 1) Counter-terror financing

Date	Progress	Source
January 01, 2018	Security and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) banned funding for JuD's charity wing.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 02, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1380171">https://www.dawn.com/news/1380171</a>
January 01, 2018	A notification was issued by the government to pursue JuD and its charity wing; ban also imposed on giving charity to banned outfits.	<i>Daily Jang</i> , January 02, 2018 <a href="https://e.jang.com.pk/01-02-2018/pindi/page1.asp">https://e.jang.com.pk/01-02-2018/pindi/page1.asp</a>
January 02, 2018	Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) ensured control of corporate sectors funding to 13 banned outfits listed by United Nation Security Council (UNSC) and decided to confine tax credit support to firms funding those banned outfits.	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , January 03, 2018 <a href="https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-01-03&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3614448_99678306">https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-01-03&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3614448_99678306</a>
January 3, 2018	Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) Punjab urged government to resume bank accounts of retired and serving government employees who were placed on fourth schedule of Anti-Terrorism Act (ATA)	<i>Dawn</i> , January 4, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1380677">https://www.dawn.com/news/1380677</a>
January 3, 2018	Noose against Jaish-e-Muhammad funding tightened in government's bid to address some of FATF's concerns.	<i>The News</i> , January 4, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/264305-action-against-jaish-e-muhammad-expected">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/264305-action-against-jaish-e-muhammad-expected</a>
January 11, 2018	Monitoring headquarters will be established in four provincial capitals to monitor welfare and religious organizations in order to ensure transparency in religious organizations funding.	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , January 12, 2018 <a href="https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-01-12&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3634164_23210253">https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-01-12&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3634164_23210253</a>
January 15, 2018	Government banned investment of 71 proscribed organizations in any financial sector of the state.	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , January 16, 2018 <a href="https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-01-16&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3642289_50616815">https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-01-16&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3642289_50616815</a>
February 02, 2018	National Security Committee (NSC) called upon "few countries" not to politicize the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).	<i>Dawn</i> , February 03, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1387021">https://www.dawn.com/news/1387021</a>
February 13, 2018	US put forward a motion to place Pakistan on terror financing watch list, as per a report.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 14, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1389299">https://www.dawn.com/news/1389299</a>
February 14, 2018	Government has assigned officials to lobby with other countries against including	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , February 15, 2018 <a href="https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-02-15">https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-02-15</a>

	Pakistan in FATF list.	18-02-15&edition=ISL&id=3710022_73513243
February 15, 2018	US, UK announced to join efforts to put Pakistan on terror watchlist allegedly for failing to take action on CTF.	<i>The News</i> , February 16, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/281601-us-uk-joint-efforts-to-put-pakistan-on-terror-watchlist">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/281601-us-uk-joint-efforts-to-put-pakistan-on-terror-watchlist</a>
February 15, 2018	Govt. officials continued to take over relief and educational bodies of FIF and JuD.	<i>The News</i> , February 16, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/281613-govt-continues-taking-over-fif-jud-bodies">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/281613-govt-continues-taking-over-fif-jud-bodies</a>
February 15, 2018	Parliamentarians are wary of government inefficiency to address the issue of putting its name on FATF List.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , February 16, 2018 <a href="https://epaper.tribune.com.pk/DisplayDetails.aspx?ENI_ID=11201802160109&amp;EN_ID=11201802160050&amp;EMID=11201802160015">https://epaper.tribune.com.pk/DisplayDetails.aspx?ENI_ID=11201802160109&amp;EN_ID=11201802160050&amp;EMID=11201802160015</a>
February 16, 2018	Failure to take action against terrorist groups and individuals had put Pakistan on FATF's grey list, wrote the editorial of <i>Dawn</i> .	<i>Dawn</i> , February 17, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1389873">https://www.dawn.com/news/1389873</a>
February 20, 2018	Government action brings cosmetic changes to curb activities of JuD in its efforts to appease the US.	<i>The News</i> , February 21, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/283637-govt-action-brings-cosmetic-change-in-jud-fif-affairs">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/283637-govt-action-brings-cosmetic-change-in-jud-fif-affairs</a>
February 20, 2018	FATF has given a three-month break in deciding on including Pakistan in the grey list.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 21, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1390711">https://www.dawn.com/news/1390711</a>
February 21, 2018	Government has drafted an Action Plan 2018 to deal with US plea to put Pakistan under FATF grey list.	<i>The News</i> , February 22, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/284072-pakistan-gives-new-plan-to-cope-with-terror-financing">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/284072-pakistan-gives-new-plan-to-cope-with-terror-financing</a>
February 21, 2018	A report said two major international issues impacted economic development of Pakistan: One, EU extension of GSP status to Pakistan's products for 2 more years. And two, Pakistan under FATF grey list.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 22, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1390857">https://www.dawn.com/news/1390857</a>
February 21, 2018	Amendments in the State Bank Act are needed to tackle online terror financing. Pakistan will be out of FATF watch list if it efficiently acts upon the counter terrorism financial plan proposed by the Asia Pacific Group of FATF.	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , February 22, 2018 <a href="https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-02-22&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3726942_16473785">https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-02-22&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3726942_16473785</a>
February 23, 2018	US effort to put Pakistan under FATF watch list is against FATF standard evaluation procedure and "politically motivated", the government thinks so.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , February 24, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1643185/1-pakistan-go-fatf-terror-financing-list-june/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1643185/1-pakistan-go-fatf-terror-financing-list-june/</a>

February 23, 2018	There will be some setback to the economic development of Pakistan if it comes under FATF watch list.	<i>The News</i> , February 24, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/284964-the-likely-economic-fallout-for-pakistan-in-fatf-list">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/284964-the-likely-economic-fallout-for-pakistan-in-fatf-list</a>
February 23, 2018	Pakistan is not included in the list of countries with "strategic deficiencies" in curbing money laundering, said a report.	<i>The News</i> , February 24, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/284927-terror-financing-act-now-or-face-action-in-90-days-fatf">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/284927-terror-financing-act-now-or-face-action-in-90-days-fatf</a>
February 24, 2018	A report said the government mishandled matter related to FATF.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 25, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1391548">https://www.dawn.com/news/1391548</a>
February 28, 2018	FATF cautioned Pakistan will be grey listed in June.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 01, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1392457">https://www.dawn.com/news/1392457</a>
March 01, 2018	Assets of JuD and Falaah Insaniyat foundation confiscated.	<i>Daily Express</i> , March 02, 2018 <a href="https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1105072835&amp;Issue=NP_ISB&amp;Date=20180302">https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1105072835&amp;Issue=NP_ISB&amp;Date=20180302</a>
March 08, 2018	Punjab government confiscated 148 properties of JuD and FIF.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , March 09, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1654882/1-fatf-grey-list-148-properties-jud-fif-confiscated-punjab/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1654882/1-fatf-grey-list-148-properties-jud-fif-confiscated-punjab/</a>
March 14, 2018	The National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) has signed an MoU with the Pakistan Centre for Philanthropy (PCP) in order to ensure that charity donations don't fall into the hands of extremist groups.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 15, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1395365">https://www.dawn.com/news/1395365</a>
April 04, 2018	LHC allows Hafiz Saeed to continue their 'welfare activities'.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , April 05, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1678511/1-lhc-allows-hafiz-saeed-continue-welfare-activities/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1678511/1-lhc-allows-hafiz-saeed-continue-welfare-activities/</a>
April 10, 2018	Detained Lashkar-i-Jhangvi (LeJ) militants in Karachi made some disclosures during investigations, as per a report.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 11, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1400811">https://www.dawn.com/news/1400811</a>
May 03, 2018	Pakistan suggested amending its customs law to avert money laundering in order to satisfy FATF policies to remain out of its grey list.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , May 04, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1702010/2-customs-law-changes-cards-meet-fatf-rules/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1702010/2-customs-law-changes-cards-meet-fatf-rules/</a>
May 05, 2018	TTP activists found collecting funds and recruiting youngsters in Malir.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 06, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1405874">https://www.dawn.com/news/1405874</a>
May 05, 2018	Procedural impediments restricted anti-money laundering bodies to take action against people involved in money laundering and that may hamper Pakistan's effort to remain out of FATF grey list.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 06, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1405959">https://www.dawn.com/news/1405959</a>

May 18, 2018	Government taking hurried measures to meet FATF demands of combating money laundering and curbing terror financing before June.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 19, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1408604">https://www.dawn.com/news/1408604</a>
May 25, 2018	FATF asked Pakistan to come up with new action plan by June 8 <sup>th</sup> .	<i>The News</i> , May 26, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/321396-fatf-asks-pakistan-to-come-up-with-new-action-plan-by-june-8">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/321396-fatf-asks-pakistan-to-come-up-with-new-action-plan-by-june-8</a>
May 29, 2018	Government decided to take measure to prevent Pakistan from being listed in FATF's grey-list.	<i>Daily Jang</i> , May 30, 2018 <a href="https://e.jang.com.pk/05-30-2018/pindi/pic.asp?picname=54.png">https://e.jang.com.pk/05-30-2018/pindi/pic.asp?picname=54.png</a>
June 08, 2018	The National Security Committee (NSC) reaffirmed its commitment to cooperate with Financial Action Task Force (FATF), for addressing shortcomings in the country's anti-money laundering and counter-terror financing regimes.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 09, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1412980">https://www.dawn.com/news/1412980</a>
June 27, 2018	Pakistan has officially been placed on FATF grey list.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 28, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1416598">https://www.dawn.com/news/1416598</a>
June 28, 2018	The Foreign Office reported that an 'Action Plan' had been negotiated with the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) to address strategic deficiencies in Pakistan's anti-money laundering and counterterrorism financing regime, which had been pointed out by the global illicit financing watchdog.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 29, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1416782">https://www.dawn.com/news/1416782</a>
June 29, 2018	FATF notified Pakistan on its "grey list."	<i>Dawn</i> , June 30, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1416963">https://www.dawn.com/news/1416963</a>
June 29, 2018	FATF sets ten tasks for Pakistan to implement in the upcoming months.	<i>The News</i> , June 30, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/335443-fatf-sets-10-herculean-tasks-for-pakistan">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/335443-fatf-sets-10-herculean-tasks-for-pakistan</a>
June 30, 2018	US State Department reported that Pakistan made high-level political commitment to end terror financing.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 01, 2018. <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1417204">https://www.dawn.com/news/1417204</a>
July 06, 2018	NSC reaffirmed commitment to enforce action plan agreed with FATF.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 07, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1418467">https://www.dawn.com/news/1418467</a>
July 24, 2018	SECP and NACTA join hands to cause financial impediments to terrorist organizations.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 25, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1422433">https://www.dawn.com/news/1422433</a>
August 03, 2018	Counter terrorism and investigation authorities to draft National Risk Assessment (NRA) report to monitor the Action Plan of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , August 04, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1772860/1-taskforce-brainstorms-plan-stem-terror-financing/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1772860/1-taskforce-brainstorms-plan-stem-terror-financing/</a>

August 04, 2018	Federal cabinet empowered Finance Ministry to enhance its role to expedite the FATF action plan.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , August 05, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1773655/1-cabinet-okays-plan-curb-terror-financing/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1773655/1-cabinet-okays-plan-curb-terror-financing/</a>
August 12, 2018	Since 2015, total 106 cases of terror funding by banned outfits registered in Punjab, court convicted 44 out of 144 arrested.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 13, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1426692">https://www.dawn.com/news/1426692</a>
August 14, 2018	The Asia Pacific Group (APG) officials to visit Pakistan to check the performance of finance and other stakeholders pertaining to FATF action plan.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 15, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1427058">https://www.dawn.com/news/1427058</a>
August 16, 2018	A visiting delegation of the Asia Pacific Group, regional group of the Paris-based Financial Action Task Force (FATF), has noted that though Pakistan is making progress yet there are some deficiencies in the country's systems, agencies and laws to meet its global obligations against money laundering and terror financing.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 17, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1427502">https://www.dawn.com/news/1427502</a>
August 24, 2018	FATF interested in actions against banned outfits besides curtailing terror financing.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 25, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/358850-the-fatf-tightrope">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/358850-the-fatf-tightrope</a>
August 30, 2018	Security and Exchange Commission of Pakistan started inquiry against some banned organizations, an important condition put forward by FATF.	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , August 31, 2018 <a href="https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-08-31&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=4139314_92512529">https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-08-31&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=4139314_92512529</a>
September 04, 2018	Britain High Commissioner shared a helpful way to get Pakistan out of FATF.	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , September 05, 2018 <a href="https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-09-05&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=4149372_84456018">https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-09-05&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=4149372_84456018</a>
September 18, 2018	Counter Terrorism department in KP took various steps to accelerate actions against terror financing in line with FATF action plan.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , September 19, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1806796/1-k-p-moves-curb-terror-financing/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1806796/1-k-p-moves-curb-terror-financing/</a>
September 20, 2018	US lamented Pakistan remained inefficient to deal with UN listed bodies involved in terror financing	<i>Dawn</i> , September 21, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1434209">https://www.dawn.com/news/1434209</a>
October 10, 2018	Asia Pacific Group (APG) noted Pakistan's poor performance on FATF action plan and urged to do more.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 11, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1438240">https://www.dawn.com/news/1438240</a>
October 18, 2018	Asia Pacific Group (APG) proposed some measures to help Pakistan take out of FATF grey list.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 19, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1439939">https://www.dawn.com/news/1439939</a>
October 27, 2018	Government expressed dissatisfaction over stakeholder's response pertaining to APG	<i>Dawn</i> , October 28, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1441903">https://www.dawn.com/news/1441903</a>



	queries.	
November 25, 2018	Financial Action Task Force (FATF) sets another deadline for Pakistan as it has to comply with 27 actionable plans by December 15, including sharing evidence for effective implementation against eight mentioned banned entities and their affiliates by tracing and freezing their assets.	<i>The News</i> , November 26, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/398194-27-actionable-plans-fatf-sets-another-tight-deadline-for-pakistan">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/398194-27-actionable-plans-fatf-sets-another-tight-deadline-for-pakistan</a>
November 26, 2018	FATF's regional body, Asia Pacific Group (APG) asked Pakistan to share draft policy for devising and implementing a unified policy for all federal and provincial law enforcement agencies (LEAs) to inquire about terrorist networks, their members and also terror financing.	<i>The News</i> , November 27, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/398629-leas-action-against-terror-networks-fatf-body-asks-pakistan-to-share-draft-policy">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/398629-leas-action-against-terror-networks-fatf-body-asks-pakistan-to-share-draft-policy</a>
December 19, 2018	The government in a meeting of National Executive Committee (NEC) reviewed the progress of FATF Action Plan that aimed to curb money laundering, terror financing.	<i>Dawn</i> , December 20, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1452472">https://www.dawn.com/news/1452472</a>

## 2) FATA reforms

January 12, 2018	The National Assembly passed a key legislation that would extend the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court and the Peshawar High Court (PHC) to the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (Fata).	<i>Dawn</i> , January 13, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1382630">https://www.dawn.com/news/1382630</a>
January 14, 2018	The bill seeking extension of the higher courts to FATA awaits approval in the Senate.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 15, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1383061">https://www.dawn.com/news/1383061</a>
March 16, 2018	Army Chief Gen Qamar Bajwa stated he personally preferred FATA's merger with KP, mainly after a recent meeting he had with the youth from the region.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 17, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1395826">https://www.dawn.com/news/1395826</a>
March 22, 2018	More than 3900 people were killed in FATA due to terrorism over the last four years. Government provided financial assistance to victim's family and compensations to the affected of counter terrorism operation.	Roznama 92, March 23, 2018
April 12, 2018	The Senate, Upper House of the Parliament, approved the bill seeking the extension of the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court and Peshawar High Court to FATA.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 13, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1401371">https://www.dawn.com/news/1401371</a>
April 27, 2018	Federal government has proposed Rs 24.5 billion for FATA in budget 2018-19 to include it into national mainstream	<i>Daily Jang</i> , April 28, 2018 <a href="https://e.jang.com.pk/04-28-2018/pindi/pic.asp?picname=524.png">https://e.jang.com.pk/04-28-2018/pindi/pic.asp?picname=524.png</a>

April 30, 2018	Prime Minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi in a visit to Miramshah, while inaugurating some completed projects in FATA, said that the mainstreaming of the Federally Administered Tribal Areas is a must for its long-term progress and prosperity.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 01, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1404831">https://www.dawn.com/news/1404831</a>
May 16, 2018	The ruling Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) government had left the decision to merge FATA with KP, to the next government	<i>Dawn</i> , May 17, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1408157">https://www.dawn.com/news/1408157</a>
May 17, 2018	The cabinet unanimously approved moving the bill on Fata reforms in the National Assembly as promised by Prime Minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi.	<i>Express Tribune</i> , May 18, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1712411/1-pm-chairs-federal-cabinet-meeting/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1712411/1-pm-chairs-federal-cabinet-meeting/</a>
May 19, 2018	The National Security Committee (NSC) in their 23rd meeting presided over by Prime Minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi gave the go-ahead to the merger of FATA with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 20, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1408772/nsc-gives-go-ahead-to-fata-kp-merger">https://www.dawn.com/news/1408772/nsc-gives-go-ahead-to-fata-kp-merger</a>
May 21, 2018	150,000 people handicapped in FATA and KP due to terrorism.	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , May 22, 2018 <a href="https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-05-22&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3925236_67799451">https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-05-22&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3925236_67799451</a>
May 22, 2018	Few days after the NSC meeting endorsed the merger, Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (Fazl) supporters blocked the Peshawar-Torkhum highway.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 23, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1409346/jui-f-workers-block-road-against-fata-kp-merger">https://www.dawn.com/news/1409346/jui-f-workers-block-road-against-fata-kp-merger</a>
May 23, 2014	The National Assembly passed the constitutional amendment seeking the merger of Fata with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 24, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1409710/with-passage-of-31st-amendment-national-assembly-green-lights-merger-of-fata-with-kp">https://www.dawn.com/news/1409710/with-passage-of-31st-amendment-national-assembly-green-lights-merger-of-fata-with-kp</a>
May 27, 2018	KP Provincial Assembly announced KP merger with FATA.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 28, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1410449">https://www.dawn.com/news/1410449</a>
May 30, 2018	The federal government has notified Fata Interim Governance Regulation, 2018, declaring tribal agencies as tribal districts and changing the nomenclature of political agents to that of deputy commissioners as a prelude to the tribal regions' merger with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 31, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1411061">https://www.dawn.com/news/1411061</a>
May 31, 2018	President Mamnoon Hussain signed the 25 <sup>th</sup> Constitution Amendment Bill regarding the merger of Fata with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 01, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1411320">https://www.dawn.com/news/1411320</a>

June 08, 2018	The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government abolished the office of political agents and the collection of Agency Welfare Fund.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 09, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1412978">https://www.dawn.com/news/1412978</a>
June 11, 2018	KP Chief Secretary Muhammad Azam Khan in a meeting on Fata reforms highlighted various administrative, legal and financial issues that needed immediate attention to ensure smooth transition of the merger after the passage of the 25 <sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 12, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1413564/sub-divisions-districts-introduced-in-fata-cabinet-told">https://www.dawn.com/news/1413564/sub-divisions-districts-introduced-in-fata-cabinet-told</a>
June 19, 2018	The caretaker government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa formed a task force to address legal challenges to Fata's merger with the province.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 20, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1414885/task-force-formed-to-address-legal-issues-on-fata-kp-merger">https://www.dawn.com/news/1414885/task-force-formed-to-address-legal-issues-on-fata-kp-merger</a>
June 23, 2018	Caretaker federal law minister Barrister Ali Zafar in a meeting on Fata reforms, constituted two sub-committees to sort out financial matters and draft rules and laws to facilitate the process of the merger of the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (Fata) with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 24, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1415738/sub-committees-formed-to-facilitate-fata-kp-merger">https://www.dawn.com/news/1415738/sub-committees-formed-to-facilitate-fata-kp-merger</a>
October 26, 2018	Task force responsible for KP and FATA merger decided to retain the traditional system of <i>jirgas</i> .	<i>Roznama 92</i> , October 27, 2018 <a href="https://www.roznama92news.com/efrontend/web/index.php/?station_id=3&amp;page_id=7&amp;is_common=&amp;xdate=2018-10-27&amp;n=n37">https://www.roznama92news.com/efrontend/web/index.php/?station_id=3&amp;page_id=7&amp;is_common=&amp;xdate=2018-10-27&amp;n=n37</a>
September 11, 2018	Prime Minister Imran Khan chaired a high-level meeting on KP-FATA merger has directed to enforce local government system there at the earliest possible.	<i>Daily Mashriq</i> , September 12, 2018 <a href="https://www.mashriqtv.pk/E-Paper/peshawar/2018-09-12/page-1/detail-15">https://www.mashriqtv.pk/E-Paper/peshawar/2018-09-12/page-1/detail-15</a>
September 20, 2018	The federal government has approved PKR 15 billion to complete the process of former FATA agencies into KP, on a timespan of 10 years.	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , September 21, 2018 <a href="http://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-09-21&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=4184684_43699777">http://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-09-21&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=4184684_43699777</a>
October 30, 2018	The Peshawar High Court has declared many provisions of the FATA Interim Governance Regulation 2018 in conflict with the Constitution.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 31, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1442474">https://www.dawn.com/news/1442474</a>
December 10, 2018	Uncertainty prevails in tribal districts without legal cover, as per a report.	<i>Dawn</i> , December 11, 2018 <a href="https://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=11_12_2018_001_007">https://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=11_12_2018_001_007</a>

### 3) NACTA

January 02, 2018	Standing Committee on Interior approved bill for establishment of a national body/center in National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) to alleviate extremism.	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , January 03, 2018 <a href="https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-01-03&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3615567_88495632">https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-01-03&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3615567_88495632</a>
January 05, 2018	Government called NACTA to examine the	<i>Dawn</i> , January 06, 2018

2018	traces of Islamic state (IS), its relationship with other terrorist groups in Pakistan, and to promote the scope of Federal Investigation agency (FIA) to curtail cybercrimes.	<a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1381146">https://www.dawn.com/news/1381146</a>
January 16, 2018	NACTA has decided to cooperate in a new policy of minorities' protection.	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , January 17, 2018 <a href="https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-01-17&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3645127_42195451">https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-01-17&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3645127_42195451</a>
February 09, 2018	According to a report in a leading newspaper, NACTA National Coordinator, Ihsan Ghani said that NACTA's Sindh office made officially functional with the aim of connecting provincial and federal Law enforcement agencies.	<i>The News</i> , February 10, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/279087-nacta-sindh-office-will-be-functional-in-two-weeks">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/279087-nacta-sindh-office-will-be-functional-in-two-weeks</a>
March 04, 2018	NACTA in a report on the implementation of National Action Plan (NAP) highlighted that that over 2,300 suspected terrorists had been killed under counterterrorism actions and another 7,000 were arrested.	<i>Daily Express</i> , March 05, 2018 <a href="https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1105083183&amp;Issue=NP_ISB&amp;Date=20180305">https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1105083183&amp;Issue=NP_ISB&amp;Date=20180305</a>
May 07, 2018	National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) established a Cyber Security Wing (CS ICT) to evolve cyber security strategies and to meet emerging cyber terrorism threats.	<i>The News</i> , May 08, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/314264-nacta-establishes-cyber-security-wing-to-curb-emerging-terrorism-threats">https://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/314264-nacta-establishes-cyber-security-wing-to-curb-emerging-terrorism-threats</a>
March 30, 2018	NACTA hinted Islamic State (IS) militant had been targeting Pakistan from Afghanistan.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 31, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1398647">https://www.dawn.com/news/1398647</a>
April 22, 2018	NACTA said the incidents of terrorism decline in 2017, when compared with those in 2010.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , April 23, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1692736/1-nacta-registers-decline-terrorism-incidents/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1692736/1-nacta-registers-decline-terrorism-incidents/</a>
June 28, 2018	NACTA Joint Intelligence Directorate made officially functional.	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , June 29, 2018
July 09, 2018	NACTA named six politicians under threat from terrorists.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 10, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1419042">https://www.dawn.com/news/1419042</a>
July 24, 2018	The Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) and the National Counter-Terrorism Authority (Nacta) join hands to cause financial impediments to terrorist organizations.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 25, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1422433">https://www.dawn.com/news/1422433</a>
October 19, 2018	A committee established for NACTA reforms.	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , October 20, 2018 <a href="https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-10-20&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=4239154_46893403">https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-10-20&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=4239154_46893403</a>
November 09, 2018	NACTA guide line has been issued for the security concerned intuitions.	<i>Roznama 92</i> , November 10, 2018
November 10, 2018	NACTA wants to abolish Joint Intelligence Directorate, law wings working in the country.	<i>The News</i> , November 11, 2018 <a href="https://nation.com.pk/11-Nov-2018/nacta-wants-to-abolish-joint-intel-directorate-law-wing">https://nation.com.pk/11-Nov-2018/nacta-wants-to-abolish-joint-intel-directorate-law-wing</a>

November 22, 2018	National Counter Terrorism Authority NACTA updated the 'red book' containing information about the wanted terrorists and militants of the country.	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , November 23, 2018 <a href="https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-11-23&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=4298826_97239605">https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-11-23&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=4298826_97239605</a>
November 27, 2018	According to resources the federal government decided to make NACTA more actionable in order to bring religious harmony in the country.	<i>Nawa-e-Waqt</i> , November 28, 2018 <a href="https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/Islamabad/2018-11-28/page-8/detail-26">https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/Islamabad/2018-11-28/page-8/detail-26</a>
November 27, 2018	The Ministry of Interiors planned to unveil a new version of National Action Plan (NAP) and to restructure the National Counter Terrorism Department (NACTA) in order to effectively tackle the internal threats to security.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 28, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1448119">https://www.dawn.com/news/1448119</a>

#### 4) Cyber security

July 14, 2018	Facebook disabled accounts of MML to prevent interference in general elections.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , July 15, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1758304/1-ensuring-transparency-facebook-disables-mml-accounts/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1758304/1-ensuring-transparency-facebook-disables-mml-accounts/</a>
February 26, 2018	Islamabad High Court termed illegal, suspension of mobile network due to security threats.	<i>Daily Jang</i> , February 27, 2018 <a href="https://e.jang.com.pk/02-27-2018/pindi/pic.asp?picname=529.png">https://e.jang.com.pk/02-27-2018/pindi/pic.asp?picname=529.png</a>
May 01, 2018	Government to establish cyber terrorism security agency to regulate social media.	<i>Daily Express</i> , May 02, 2018 <a href="https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1105272642&amp;Issue=NP_LHE&amp;Date=20180502">https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1105272642&amp;Issue=NP_LHE&amp;Date=20180502</a>
May 07, 2018	National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) established a Cyber Security Wing (CS ICT) to evolve cyber security strategies and to meet emerging cyber terrorism threats.	<i>The News</i> , May 08, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/314264-nacta-establishes-cyber-security-wing-to-curb-emerging-terrorism-threats">https://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/314264-nacta-establishes-cyber-security-wing-to-curb-emerging-terrorism-threats</a>
August 24, 2018	On the request of Pakistani government, the social media website Twitter has blocked two accounts of organizations promoting terrorism.	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , August 25, 2018 <a href="https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-08-25&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=4123804_74217597">https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-08-25&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=4123804_74217597</a>
October 15, 2018	3 operators of banned organizations working on social media have been arrested by FIA.	<i>Daily Jang</i> , October 16, 2018 <a href="https://e.jang.com.pk/10-16-2018/pindi/pic.asp?picname=636.png">https://e.jang.com.pk/10-16-2018/pindi/pic.asp?picname=636.png</a>
October 15, 2018	Three activists of proscribed organizations were arrested for promoting their activities on social media.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 16, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1439295">https://www.dawn.com/news/1439295</a>
December 13, 2018	According to a report in a leading newspaper the government of Pakistan has reported over 3000 accounts to Twitter for	<i>Dawn</i> , December 14, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1451339">https://www.dawn.com/news/1451339</a>

	"spreading hate material" and "inciting violence". In the first six months of the year 2018.	
December 13, 2018	According to a report, A senate committee called for formulation of a new independent body to investigate cybercrimes.	<i>Dawn</i> , December 14, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1451323">https://www.dawn.com/news/1451323</a>

## 5) Balochistan

February 19, 2018	A Baloch activist Dr Jumma Khan has left Baloch separatist movement and established an organization to resolve the issues of overseas Baloch.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 20, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1390521">https://www.dawn.com/news/1390521</a>
May 08, 2018	Fencing along Pak-Afghan border in Balochistan continues to avert militant's inflow.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 09 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1406534">https://www.dawn.com/news/1406534</a>
September 18, 2018	Chief Minister Balochistan urged Baloch nationalists to end armed conflict and work for the development of state.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , September 19, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1806784/1-cm-appeals-remaining-ferraris-join-mainstream/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1806784/1-cm-appeals-remaining-ferraris-join-mainstream/</a>
November 20, 2018	70 BLA insurgents say farewell to arms.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , November 21, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1851619/1-70-bla-insurgents-say-farewell-arms/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1851619/1-70-bla-insurgents-say-farewell-arms/</a>
November 20, 2018	70 militants led by top Baloch commander of the banned Baloch Liberation Army surrendered.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 21, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1446953">https://www.dawn.com/news/1446953</a>

## 6) Madrassahs

February 25, 2018	KP's ruling PTI approved a grant of Rs 227 m for Darul Aloom Haqqania.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 26, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1391213/kp-govt-to-approve-rs277m-grant-for-darul-uloom-haqqania">https://www.dawn.com/news/1391213/kp-govt-to-approve-rs277m-grant-for-darul-uloom-haqqania</a>
February 26, 2018	According to a report, the Sindh madrassahs refused to share information regarding their registration and regulation with the special branch.	<i>The News</i> , February 27, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/285926-madrasas-refuse-to-share-info-with-special-branch">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/285926-madrasas-refuse-to-share-info-with-special-branch</a>
July 20, 2018	CTD said that Mastung bomber studied in Karachi seminary.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 21, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1421482">https://www.dawn.com/news/1421482</a>
August 12, 2018	Newly elect government to provide funds for seminars taken over from JuD.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 13, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1426673">https://www.dawn.com/news/1426673</a>
September 19, 2018	Tanzeemul Madaaris Ahle Sunnat Pakistan – an alliance of madrassa educational boards has chalked out a plan to gradually improve the standard of education in madrassas and reform the curriculum.	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , September 20, 2018 <a href="http://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-09-20&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=4183129_59625183">http://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-09-20&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=4183129_59625183</a>

## II. State responses

### 1) Legislation

January 14, 2018	A bill seeking extension of the higher courts to FATA awaits approval in the Senate.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 15, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1383061">https://www.dawn.com/news/1383061</a>
February 09, 2018	The President approves amendments to the Anti-Terrorism Act 1997.	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , February 10, 2018 <a href="https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-02-10&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3698688_12691064">https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-02-10&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3698688_12691064</a>
February 11, 2018	Government had ordered amendments in Anti-Terrorism Act to ban UNSC listed terror groups and organizations.	<i>Daily Express</i> , February 12, 2018 <a href="https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1105014642&amp;Issue=NP_LHE&amp;Date=20180212">https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1105014642&amp;Issue=NP_LHE&amp;Date=20180212</a>
February 15, 2018	Parliamentarians are wary of government inefficiency to address the issue of putting its name on FATF List.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , February 16, 2018 <a href="https://epaper.tribune.com.pk/DisplayDetails.aspx?ENI_ID=11201802160109&amp;EN_ID=11201802160050&amp;EMID=11201802160015">https://epaper.tribune.com.pk/DisplayDetails.aspx?ENI_ID=11201802160109&amp;EN_ID=11201802160050&amp;EMID=11201802160015</a>
July 24, 2018	The Anti-Terrorism (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018, which provided for domestically proscribing individuals and entities listed by the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), has lapsed in the absence of its passage through National Assembly.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 25, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1422434">https://www.dawn.com/news/1422434</a>
August 24, 2018	Senate Standing Committee for Human Rights took notice of attack on minorities worship place.	<i>Nawa-e-Waqt</i> , August 25, 2018 <a href="https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/Lahore/2018-08-25/page-3">https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/Lahore/2018-08-25/page-3</a>

### 2) Government Policy Initiatives

January 12, 2018	A high-level meeting chaired by Interior Minister Ahsan Iqbal approved the roadmap for a new internal security policy that will be formed via three consultations and a national conference.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 13, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1382653">https://www.dawn.com/news/1382653</a>
January 16, 2018	Government unveiled national narrative " <i>Paigham-e-Pakistan</i> ", unanimously signed by 1,829 religious scholars of all sects, to control extremism and terrorism. It declared any terror related activity against state under the garb of Sharia is un-Islamic.	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , January 17, 2018 <a href="https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-01-17&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3644898_48153406">https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-01-17&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3644898_48153406</a>
January 16, 2018	NACTA has decided to cooperate in a new policy of minorities' protection.	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , January 17, 2018 <a href="https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-01-17&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3644898_48153406">https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-01-17&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3644898_48153406</a>

		17&edition=ISL&id=3645127_42195451
January 17, 2018	A report said that the names of members of the Council of Islamic Ideology (CII) were included in Paigham-e-Pakistan without their consent.	<i>Daily Express</i> , January 18, 2018 <a href="https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1104935055&amp;Issue=NP_ISB&amp;Date=20180118">https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1104935055&amp;Issue=NP_ISB&amp;Date=20180118</a>
February 02, 2018	Government ordered formation of a special committee to monitor Afghan students' behavior, seeking report from NACTA and States and Frontier Regions Division (SAFRON) to this end.	<i>Daily Express</i> , February 03, 2018 <a href="https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1104986027&amp;Issue=NP_LHE&amp;Date=20180203">https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1104986027&amp;Issue=NP_LHE&amp;Date=20180203</a>
April 04, 2018	National Security Adviser said global efforts are needed to wipe out terrorism.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , April 05, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1677806/1-nacta-forum-nsa-says-terrorism-needs-global-response/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1677806/1-nacta-forum-nsa-says-terrorism-needs-global-response/</a>
April 17, 2018	Pakistan's positive role in global war on terrorism and its implications to be included in an <i>Economic Survey 2018</i> .	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , April 18, 2018 <a href="https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-04-18&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3849974_13111305">https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-04-18&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3849974_13111305</a>
May 08, 2018	National Civic Education Commission to be formed to promote counter terrorism narrative and awareness among citizens.	<i>Daily Express</i> , May 09, 2018 <a href="https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1105296525&amp;Issue=NP_LHE&amp;Date=20180509">https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1105296525&amp;Issue=NP_LHE&amp;Date=20180509</a>
May 31, 2018	The new National Internal Security Policy has been released.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 01, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1411238">https://www.dawn.com/news/1411238</a>
May 31, 2018	The government's new National Internal Security Policy (NISP) proposes reconciliation with individuals and groups willing to shun violence.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 01, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1411319">https://www.dawn.com/news/1411319</a>
June 03, 2018	Religious terrorism tops the list of four terrorism types pointed out in the National Internal Security Policy (NISP) 2018-2023 by the Ministry of Interior.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , June 04, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1726916/1-national-policy-aims-end-religious-terrorism/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1726916/1-national-policy-aims-end-religious-terrorism/</a>
September 12, 2018	Government sought thorough implementation of the National Action Plan (NAP).	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , September 13, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1802656/1-afridi-seeks-complete-implementation-nap/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1802656/1-afridi-seeks-complete-implementation-nap/</a>
January 25, 2018	UN sanctions-monitoring team visits Pakistan to evaluate to what extent are the anti-terrorism efforts in line with UN sanctions.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 26, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1385322">https://www.dawn.com/news/1385322</a>
May 09, 2018	US opposed Pakistan's plea to UN for listing of Jamaat-ul-Ahrar (JuA) leader Abdul Wali.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 10, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1406746">https://www.dawn.com/news/1406746</a>



May 10, 2018	FO termed blocking of Khursani's name in terror list part of double standards in fight against terrorism.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 11, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1406935">https://www.dawn.com/news/1406935</a>
October 02, 2018	The federal government asked to hand over madrasa affairs to the Ministry of Education.	<i>The News</i> , October 03, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/375836-centre-asked-to-hand-over-madrasa-affairs-to-ministry-of-education">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/375836-centre-asked-to-hand-over-madrasa-affairs-to-ministry-of-education</a>
November 27, 2018	According to resources the federal government decided to make NACTA more actionable in order to bring religious harmony in the country.	<i>Nawa-e-Waqt</i> , November 28, 2018 <a href="https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2018-11-28/page-8/detail-26">https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2018-11-28/page-8/detail-26</a>
November 27, 2018	The Ministry of Interiors planned to unveil a new version of National Action Plan (NAP) and to restructure the National Counter Terrorism Department (NACTA) in order to effectively tackle the internal threats to security.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 28, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1448119">https://www.dawn.com/news/1448119</a>
December 03, 2018	NAP to be reviewed by the Interior Ministry with the collaboration of provincial and federal govt departments are in the process of revisiting National Action Plan (NAP).	<i>The News</i> , December 04, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/401660-nap-to-be-reviewed">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/401660-nap-to-be-reviewed</a>
December 09, 2018	FATF decided tightened noose around the non-profit organizations.	<i>Daily Jang</i> , December 10, 2018 <a href="https://e.jang.com.pk/12-10-2018/pindi/pic.asp?picname=523.png">https://e.jang.com.pk/12-10-2018/pindi/pic.asp?picname=523.png</a>

### 3) Administrative actions (Fourth schedule, arrests, ECL, and banning/un-banning)

Date	Progress	Source
January 01, 2018	Security and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) banned funding for JuDs' charity wing.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 02, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1380171">https://www.dawn.com/news/1380171</a>
January 01, 2018	A notification was issued by the government to pursue JuD and its charity wing; ban also imposed on giving charity to banned outfits.	<i>Daily Jang</i> , January 02, 2018 <a href="https://e.jang.com.pk/01-02-2018/pindi/page1.asp">https://e.jang.com.pk/01-02-2018/pindi/page1.asp</a>
January 01, 2018	The Islamabad administration issued fresh order for clampdown on banned outfits.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 02, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1380306">https://www.dawn.com/news/1380306</a>

January 03, 2018	TTP commander Fakir Muhammad jailed in Afghanistan.	<i>Daily Express</i> , January 04, 2018 <a href="https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1104889936&amp;Issue=NP_ISB&amp;Date=20180104">https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1104889936&amp;Issue=NP_ISB&amp;Date=20180104</a>
January 05, 2018	Hafiz Saeed sent Khurram Dastagir legal notice for issuing a controversial statement against his party.	<i>The News</i> , January 06, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/265237-hafiz-saeed-tells-khurram-dastagir">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/265237-hafiz-saeed-tells-khurram-dastagir</a>
January 05, 2018	Government vowed not to take any concrete measures against JuD's leader Hafiz Saeed.	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , January 06, 2018 <a href="https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-01-06&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3622116_35073045">https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-01-06&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3622116_35073045</a>
January 05, 2018	Government issued a list of banned organization across the country.	<i>Daily Jang</i> , January 06, 2018 <a href="https://e.jang.com.pk/01-06-2018/pindi/page3.asp">https://e.jang.com.pk/01-06-2018/pindi/page3.asp</a>
January 08, 2018	CTD asked law enforcement agencies to review names placed under fourth schedule list to re notify and watch them.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 09, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1381699">https://www.dawn.com/news/1381699</a>
January 08, 2018	CTD asked law enforcement agencies to review names placed under fourth schedule list to re notify and watch them.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 09, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1381699">https://www.dawn.com/news/1381699</a>
January 10, 2018	JuD issued rejoinder to BBC report on Hafiz Saeed, terming it as "a bundle of lies."	<i>Dawn</i> , January 11, 2018 <a href="https://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=11_01_2018_005_002">https://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=11_01_2018_005_002</a>
January 12, 2018	Among number of militants arrested during CTD and police operations (2014-2017) in KP, 72 militants were graduates.	<i>The News</i> , January 13, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/267985-72-militants-arrested-in-kp-were-graduates-postgraduates">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/267985-72-militants-arrested-in-kp-were-graduates-postgraduates</a>
January 15, 2018	Government banned investment of 71 proscribed organizations in any financial sector of the state.	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , January 16, 2018 <a href="https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-01-16&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3642289_50616815">https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-01-16&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3642289_50616815</a>
January 15, 2018	A banned Taliban group Jamaatul Ahrar's spokesman Asad Mansur has surrendered before security forces in D-I Khan.	<i>Daily Express</i> , January 16, 2018 <a href="https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1104928492&amp;Issue=NP_ISB&amp;Date=20180116">https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1104928492&amp;Issue=NP_ISB&amp;Date=20180116</a>
January 16, 2018	A report in a leading newspaper said that law enforcement and security agencies had successfully dismantled the TTP's network in Karachi.	<i>The News</i> , January 17, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/269287-ttp-s-book-admits-karachi-operation-dismantled-their-network">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/269287-ttp-s-book-admits-karachi-operation-dismantled-their-network</a>
January 19, 2018	Thailand arrested Pakistanis with IS links.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , January 20, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1612807/3-thai-cops-nab-pakistani-passport-forger-alleged-links/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1612807/3-thai-cops-nab-pakistani-passport-forger-alleged-links/</a>

January 19, 2018	Maulana Sufi Muhammad said that war against army is haram, and Fazal Ullah punishment is only death sentence.	<i>Roznama 92</i> , January 20, 2018
January 23, 2018	JuD chief Hafiz Mohammad Saeed approached LHC to avert his arrest.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 24, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1384890">https://www.dawn.com/news/1384890</a>
January 28, 2018	Names of total 38 people associated with banned outfit have been put on the Exit Control List (ECL).	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , January 29, 2018 <a href="https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-01-29&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3670470_73802819">https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-01-29&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3670470_73802819</a>
February 09, 2018	Speculation and conflicting reports aroused about TTP's commander Sajna killing in US drone strike.	<i>The News</i> , February 10, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/279173-ttp-commander-sajna-killed-in-us-drone-strike">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/279173-ttp-commander-sajna-killed-in-us-drone-strike</a>
February 10, 2018	TTP appointed Maulana Muhammad Azeem as deputy chief.	<i>Roznama 92</i> , February 11, 2018
February 10, 2018	Government decided to inspect banned outfits under the Anti-Terrorism Act, 1997, after the amendments made therein.	<i>Daily Express</i> , February 11, 2018 <a href="https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1105010947&amp;Issue=NP_LHE&amp;Date=20180211">https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1105010947&amp;Issue=NP_LHE&amp;Date=20180211</a>
February 11, 2018	Pakistan banned the list of outfits including JuD, FIF, Al-Qaeda, TTP, LeJ: that are already sanctioned by UNSC.	<i>The News</i> , February 12, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/279891-pakistan-bans-groups-on-unscl-terror-list">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/279891-pakistan-bans-groups-on-unscl-terror-list</a>
February 12, 2018	Govt. officials continued to take over relief and educational bodies of FIF and JuD.	<i>The News</i> , February 13, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/281613-govt-continues-taking-over-fif-jud-bodies">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/281613-govt-continues-taking-over-fif-jud-bodies</a>
February 13, 2018	Government puts "Jundullah" in the list of banned outfits.	<i>Daily Jang</i> , February 14, 2018 <a href="https://jang.com.pk/news/448093">https://jang.com.pk/news/448093</a> <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/280698-govt-bans-jundullah-notification-issued">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/280698-govt-bans-jundullah-notification-issued</a>
February 14, 2018	According to an article in a leading newspaper, the Punjab government put bar on all operations of the Jamaatud Dawa (JuD) and the Falah-e-Insaniat (FIF) across the country ahead of the Financial Action Task Force's (FATF) key meeting in Paris.	<i>The News</i> , February 15, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/281265-fatf-meeting-in-paris-punjab-govt-takes-over-jud-fif-seminaries-health-facilities-in-rawalpindi">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/281265-fatf-meeting-in-paris-punjab-govt-takes-over-jud-fif-seminaries-health-facilities-in-rawalpindi</a>
February 16, 2018	Punjab government took control of JuD-led seminars and health forums, and presented a report to federal government on JUD activities in region.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 17, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1389975">https://www.dawn.com/news/1389975</a>
February 20, 2018	Government action brings cosmetic changes to curb activities of JuD in its efforts to appease the US.	<i>The News</i> , February 21, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/283637-govt-action-brings-cosmetic-change-in-jud-fif-affairs">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/283637-govt-action-brings-cosmetic-change-in-jud-fif-affairs</a>

February 22, 2018	Government adopted tough measures against FIF, JuD, and LeT, such as confiscating their property and putting their leaders on proscribed list.	<i>The News</i> , February 23, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/284426-fatf-meeting-informed-pakistan-launches-massive-crackdown-on-fif-jud-let">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/284426-fatf-meeting-informed-pakistan-launches-massive-crackdown-on-fif-jud-let</a>
February 26, 2018	Islamabad High Court termed illegal, suspension of mobile network due to security threats.	<i>Daily Jung</i> , February 27, 2018 <a href="https://e.jang.com.pk/02-27-2018/pindi/pic.asp?picname=529.png">https://e.jang.com.pk/02-27-2018/pindi/pic.asp?picname=529.png</a>
March 01, 2018	Assets of JuD and Falaah Insaniyat foundation confiscated.	<i>Daily Express</i> , March 02, 2018 <a href="https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1105072835&amp;Issue=NP_ISB&amp;Date=20180302">https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1105072835&amp;Issue=NP_ISB&amp;Date=20180302</a>
March 01, 2018	Friday sermons to be controlled by government to eliminate extremism, as per government's new moves.	<i>The News</i> , March 02, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/287301-govt-moves-to-regulate-monitor-friday-sermons">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/287301-govt-moves-to-regulate-monitor-friday-sermons</a>
March 02, 2018	Karachi police claimed to have arrested a man associated with AQIS and linked to Safoora bus carnage.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 03, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1392776">https://www.dawn.com/news/1392776</a>
March 02, 2018	Banned ASWJ likely to field candidates in 2018 elections as independents or under the disguise of some other party.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 03, 2018. <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1394745">https://www.dawn.com/news/1394745</a>
March 02, 2018	Government rejected any report related to consider Friday sermons monitoring. A committee to be formed which will direct and regulate the clergy over the subject of Friday sermons.	<i>Daily Jang</i> , March 03, 2018 <a href="https://e.jang.com.pk/03-03-2018/pindi/pic.asp?picname=03_03.png">https://e.jang.com.pk/03-03-2018/pindi/pic.asp?picname=03_03.png</a>
March 08, 2018	Punjab government confiscated 148 properties of JuD and FIF.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , March 09, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1654882/1-fatf-grey-list-148-properties-jud-fif-confiscated-punjab/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1654882/1-fatf-grey-list-148-properties-jud-fif-confiscated-punjab/</a>
March 11, 2018	Banned ASWJ faces isolation, plans to contest polls under new name.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 12, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1394745">https://www.dawn.com/news/1394745</a>
April 02, 2018	US designated Hafiz Saeed's Milli Muslim League (MML) as LeT affiliate in FTO list.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , April 03, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1676104/1-us-designates-hafiz-saeeds-mml-let-affiliate-fto-list/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1676104/1-us-designates-hafiz-saeeds-mml-let-affiliate-fto-list/</a>
April 03, 2018	UNSC's consolidated list of terrorist individuals and entities included 139 entries from Pakistan.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 04, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1399445">https://www.dawn.com/news/1399445</a>
April 04, 2018	LHC allows Hafiz Saeed to continue their 'welfare activities'.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , April 05, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1678511/1-lhc-allows-hafiz-saeed-continue-welfare-activities/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1678511/1-lhc-allows-hafiz-saeed-continue-welfare-activities/</a>

April 07, 2018	Bill tabled in NA to replace ordinance which amended law to include entities listed by UNSC as proscribed groups.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 08, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1400320">https://www.dawn.com/news/1400320</a>
April 10, 2018	Detained Lashkar-i-Jhangvi (LeJ) militants in Karachi made some disclosures during investigations, as per a report.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 11, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1400811">https://www.dawn.com/news/1400811</a>
May 01, 2018	LeJ leader arrested in Quetta.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 02, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1405123">https://www.dawn.com/news/1405123</a>
May 04, 2018	Hafiz Saeed filed petition against revocation of security in Lahore High Court.	Roznama 92, May 05, 2018 <a href="https://www.roznama92news.com/efrontend/web/index.php/?station_id=3&amp;page_id=0&amp;is_common=N&amp;xdate=2018-5-5&amp;n=n6">https://www.roznama92news.com/efrontend/web/index.php/?station_id=3&amp;page_id=0&amp;is_common=N&amp;xdate=2018-5-5&amp;n=n6</a>
May 05, 2018	TTP activists found collecting funds and recruiting youngsters in Malir.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 06, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1405874">https://www.dawn.com/news/1405874</a>
May 05, 2018	The 8th Judicial Conference 2018 called for instant ban on terrorist outfits and termed enforced disappearances and extrajudicial killings as crimes.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , May 06, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1703211/1-judicial-conference-recommends-ban-rallies-proscribed-organisations/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1703211/1-judicial-conference-recommends-ban-rallies-proscribed-organisations/</a>
May 07, 2018	Five TTP men held in Benazir killing case granted bail.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 08, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1406274">https://www.dawn.com/news/1406274</a>
May 11, 2018	Redbook of 123 "Most Wanted Terrorists" issued by Punjab government.	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , May 12, 2018 <a href="https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-05-12&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3903238_36919904">https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-05-12&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3903238_36919904</a>
May 11, 2018	Clergy issued an edict terming suicide attacks violation of Islamic principles.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 12, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1407193">https://www.dawn.com/news/1407193</a>
May 18, 2018	It was revealed that Nowshera suicide bomber was sent from terrorist organization called "Hazb-al-Hara" based in Afghanistan.	<i>Daily Express</i> , May 19, 2018 <a href="https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1105328303&amp;Issue=NP_ISB&amp;Date=20180519">https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1105328303&amp;Issue=NP_ISB&amp;Date=20180519</a>
May 26, 2018	ISIS member sentenced to one year of free education after threatening to attack PML (N) rally.	<i>Daily Express</i> , May 27, 2018
June 15, 2018	Maulana Abu Turab returned home after months. His family alleged that he had been kidnapped on 7 September, 2017.	<i>Daily Express</i> , June 16, 2018 <a href="https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1105420244&amp;Issue=NP_ISB&amp;Date=20180616">https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1105420244&amp;Issue=NP_ISB&amp;Date=20180616</a>
June 27, 2018	Civil hospital surgeon in Karachi among four linked with TTP arrested.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 28, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1416482">https://www.dawn.com/news/1416482</a>
June 28, 2018	Chief of Ahl-e-Sunat-Wal-Jammat (ASWJ) Ahmad Ludhiavani's name removed from Fourth Schedule of Anti-Terrorism Act.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 29, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1416641">https://www.dawn.com/news/1416641</a>

July 14, 2018	Government allowed the candidates of banned organization and people on the Fourth Schedule to contest 2018 elections.	<i>The News</i> , July 15, 2018 <a href="http://tns.thenews.com.pk/banned/#.XAgkAThKJIU">http://tns.thenews.com.pk/banned/#.XAgkAThKJIU</a>
July 19, 2018	Police arrested a man involved in killing of Haroon Bilour.	<i>Daily Jang</i> , July 20, 2018 <a href="https://e.jang.com.pk/07-20-2018/pindi/pic.asp?picname=527.png">https://e.jang.com.pk/07-20-2018/pindi/pic.asp?picname=527.png</a>
July 31, 2018	Rawalpindi administration restrained the collection of hides by any individual or organization, except charities, without official approval.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 01, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1424084">https://www.dawn.com/news/1424084</a>
August 11, 2018	Punjab to restrain 72 banned outfits from working.	<i>The Nation</i> , August 12, 2018 <a href="https://nation.com.pk/12-Aug-2018/punjab-to-restrain-72-banned-outfits-from-collecting-hides">https://nation.com.pk/12-Aug-2018/punjab-to-restrain-72-banned-outfits-from-collecting-hides</a>
September 17, 2018	Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) 'breaks' TTP, Hizbul Ahrar networks in Punjab.	<i>Dawn</i> , September 18, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1433538">https://www.dawn.com/news/1433538</a>
September 18, 2018	More than 250 militants of banned outfits surrendered to the government.	<i>Dawn</i> , September 19, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1433819">https://www.dawn.com/news/1433819</a>
September 20, 2018	CTD claims arrest of five militants involved in terrorism attacks in Karachi.	<i>Dawn</i> , September 21, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1434123">https://www.dawn.com/news/1434123</a>
October 23, 2018	US issued 8 global terrorists list which includes 2 of Pakistanis.	<i>Roznama 92</i> , October 24, 2018
October 25, 2018	Court told JuD, FIF are no more on list of banned outfits.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 26, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1441375">https://www.dawn.com/news/1441375</a>
October 27, 2018	Government banned a suspicious international non-government organization (INGO) named Al-Rahman Welfare Trust.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , October 28, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1835545/1-govt-proscribes-ingo-dubious-activities/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1835545/1-govt-proscribes-ingo-dubious-activities/</a>
October 31, 2018	US urges Pakistan to enact law banning radical groups.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 01, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1442748">https://www.dawn.com/news/1442748</a>
November 03, 2018	Government ordered a "crackdown" against "miscreants" involved in damaging public/private properties and vehicles during the protests.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 04, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1443450">https://www.dawn.com/news/1443450</a>
November 22, 2018	National Counter Terrorism Authority NACTA updated the 'red book' containing information about the wanted terrorists and militants of the country.	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , November 23, 2018 <a href="https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-11-23&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=4298826_97239605">https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-11-23&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=4298826_97239605</a>

November 29, 2018	The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECL) issued another notice to the TLP chief Khadim Hussain Rizvi, in the party's registration and funding case.	<i>The News</i> , November 30, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/400123-tlp-s-registration-funding-case-ecp-serves-another-notice-on-khadim-rizvi">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/400123-tlp-s-registration-funding-case-ecp-serves-another-notice-on-khadim-rizvi</a>
November 23, 2018	TLP head Khadim Rizvi, along many others arrested	<i>Nawa-e-Waqt</i> , November 24, 2018 <a href="https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2018-11-24/page-1/detail-6">https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2018-11-24/page-1/detail-6</a>
November 29, 2018	Raids for arresting TLP members, one arrested from Taxila	<i>Daily Express</i> , November 30, 2018 <a href="https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1105925620&amp;Issue=NP_ISB&amp;Date=20181130">https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1105925620&amp;Issue=NP_ISB&amp;Date=20181130</a>
December 01, 2018	TLP head Khadim Rizvi, Pir Afzal Qadri along other senior party members charged with terrorism cases.	<i>Roznama 92</i> , December 02, 2018 <a href="https://www.roznama92news.com/efrontend/web/index.php/?station_id=3&amp;page_id=0&amp;is_common=&amp;xdate=2018-12-2&amp;n=n18">https://www.roznama92news.com/efrontend/web/index.php/?station_id=3&amp;page_id=0&amp;is_common=&amp;xdate=2018-12-2&amp;n=n18</a>
December 02, 2018	Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) recovered arms cache with Muttahida Qaumi Movement-London (MQM-L) worker.	<i>The News</i> , December 03, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/401223-arms-cache-recovered-on-mqm-l-worker-s-tip-off">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/401223-arms-cache-recovered-on-mqm-l-worker-s-tip-off</a>
December 09, 2018	Tightened noose against East Turkistan Islamic Movement (ETIM), a group involved in terrorism acts in China.	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , December 10, 2018 <a href="https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-12-10&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=4327018_62318634">https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-12-10&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=4327018_62318634</a>
December 21, 2018	Four Al-Qaida Indian terrorists arrested from Dera Ghazi Khan.	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , December 22, 2018 <a href="https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-12-22&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=4348354_96286600">https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-12-22&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=4348354_96286600</a>
December 26, 2018	Aslam Baloch Alias Achhu, a key leader of the banned Baloch Liberation Army (BLA) and the mastermind of the recent attack on Chinese consulate, killed in Kandahar suicide attack.	<i>Dawn</i> , December 27, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1453853/banned-bla-leader-killed-in-kandahar-suicide-attack">https://www.dawn.com/news/1453853/banned-bla-leader-killed-in-kandahar-suicide-attack</a>

#### 4) Security bodies

January 23, 2018	The first batch of military-trained Counter Terrorism Force has been included in federal capital police, to deal with terrorist threats.	<i>Daily Express</i> , January 24, 2018 <a href="https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1104954042&amp;Issue=NP_ISB&amp;Date=20180124">https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1104954042&amp;Issue=NP_ISB&amp;Date=20180124</a>
February 17, 2018	15 teams of army personnel were installed for elimination of Improvised Explosive Device (IED) in South Waziristan.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , February 18, 2018 <a href="https://epaper.tribune.com.pk/DisplayDetails.aspx?ENI_ID=11201802180057&amp;EN_ID=11201802180022&amp;EMID=11201802180010">https://epaper.tribune.com.pk/DisplayDetails.aspx?ENI_ID=11201802180057&amp;EN_ID=11201802180022&amp;EMID=11201802180010</a>

February 23, 2018	Police to get control of check posts in Swat after people protested against extra security measures hampered their normal life.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , February 24, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1643142/1-authorities-swat-agree-handover-checkpoints-police-protests/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1643142/1-authorities-swat-agree-handover-checkpoints-police-protests/</a>
March 01, 2018	Rangers operation in Karachi to continue to promote peace and stability.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 02, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1392691">https://www.dawn.com/news/1392691</a>
March 09, 2018	The Counter-Terrorism department of KP police have done great job in 2017 compared to previous years, according to one report.	<i>The News</i> , March 10, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/290400-ctd-kp-shows-better-performance-in-2017">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/290400-ctd-kp-shows-better-performance-in-2017</a>
March 17, 2018	Total 49 riverine posts to be set up in Punjab to ensure secure travel.	<i>The Nation</i> , March 18, 2018 <a href="https://nation.com.pk/18-Mar-2018/49-riverine-posts-to-check-terrorists-movement?show=blocksTalking">https://nation.com.pk/18-Mar-2018/49-riverine-posts-to-check-terrorists-movement?show=blocksTalking</a>
March 29, 2018	Joint efforts of the Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) and Intelligence Bureau (IB) dismantled Tehreek Taliban Pakistan (TTP) network in Punjab.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 30, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1398331">https://www.dawn.com/news/1398331</a>
March 31, 2018	Women being trained on counter terrorism in the recently-constituted Counter Terrorism Force (CTF) in Islamabad.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 01, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1398777">https://www.dawn.com/news/1398777</a>
April 10, 2018	Pak Army hands over control of Lower and Upper Dir to local police after a decade.	<i>Nawa-e-Waqt</i> , April 11, 2018 <a href="https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2018-04-11/page-1/detail-15">https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2018-04-11/page-1/detail-15</a>
April 16, 2018	Among the militants arrested during military operation in Wana, 135 were de-radicalized, given skills after which they were handed over certificates.	<i>The News</i> , April 17, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/305599-135-reformed-militants-imparted-skills-awarded">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/305599-135-reformed-militants-imparted-skills-awarded</a>
May 01, 2018	Inactive FC check posts to be activated in Quetta to counter terrorist activities.	<i>Roznama 92</i> , May 02, 2018 <a href="https://www.roznama92news.com/efrontend/web/index.php/?station_id=3&amp;page_id=0&amp;is_common=N&amp;xdate=2018-5-2&amp;n=n2">https://www.roznama92news.com/efrontend/web/index.php/?station_id=3&amp;page_id=0&amp;is_common=N&amp;xdate=2018-5-2&amp;n=n2</a>
May 01, 2018	Army delivered Upper Dir check post control to civil police.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 02, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1405126">https://www.dawn.com/news/1405126</a>
May 03, 2018	Check posts in South Waziristan slashed from 32 to 5 due to improved peace situation.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , May 04, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1702262/1-check-posts-reduced-in-south-waziristan/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1702262/1-check-posts-reduced-in-south-waziristan/</a>
May 05, 2018	Army declares no traces of militants in North Waziristan.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , May 06, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1107096/army-clears-last-militant-stronghold-north-waziristan/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1107096/army-clears-last-militant-stronghold-north-waziristan/</a>



May 08, 2018	Fencing along Pak-Afghan border in Balochistan continues to avert militant's inflow.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 09 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1406534">https://www.dawn.com/news/1406534</a>
May 20, 2018	The Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) claimed that the four terrorist attacks in Punjab in 2017 were carried out by Jamatul Ahrar (JuA), a faction of the banned Tehreek-e- Taliban (TTP) which was operating from Afghanistan.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 21, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1408936">https://www.dawn.com/news/1408936</a>
May 21, 2018	Security agencies took action against presence of ISIS in Islamabad.	<i>Roznama 92</i> , May 22, 2018 <a href="https://www.roznama92news.com/efrontend/web/index.php?station_id=3&amp;page_id=0&amp;is_common=&amp;xdate=2018-5-22&amp;n=n18">https://www.roznama92news.com/efrontend/web/index.php?station_id=3&amp;page_id=0&amp;is_common=&amp;xdate=2018-5-22&amp;n=n18</a>
May 24, 2018	According to a report by the Punjab Government recently dispatched to Interior Ministry, there were conducted 4726 intelligence-based operations in the province in which 302 suspected terrorists were killed and 513 others were arrested.	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , May 25, 2018 <a href="http://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-05-25&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3932876_65820604">http://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-05-25&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3932876_65820604</a>
June 12, 2018	The Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) of Sindh police arrested three suspected terrorists, affiliated with al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent (AQIS), who were allegedly planning to use drones to carry out attacks in Karachi.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 13, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1070596/three-terrorists-linked-to-banned-outfits-arrested-in-karachi/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1070596/three-terrorists-linked-to-banned-outfits-arrested-in-karachi/</a>
October 19, 2018	Total 221,054 suspects were arrested by KP police under the NAP in 2018.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , October 20, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1829697/1-nap-action-k-p-police-arrested-0-2m-suspects-2018/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1829697/1-nap-action-k-p-police-arrested-0-2m-suspects-2018/</a>
October 22, 2018	Pakistani-Russian troops drill started to counter terrorism and improve military ties.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 23, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1440756">https://www.dawn.com/news/1440756</a>
November 23, 2018	A woman SP Sohail Aziz Talpur led the security operation at Chinese consulate in Karachi.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , November 24, 2018 <a href="https://epaper.tribune.com.pk/DisplayDetails.aspx?ENI_ID=11201811240318&amp;EN_ID=11201811240120&amp;EMID=11201811240054">https://epaper.tribune.com.pk/DisplayDetails.aspx?ENI_ID=11201811240318&amp;EN_ID=11201811240120&amp;EMID=11201811240054</a>
November 30, 2018	The Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) arrested two militants from Multan that were awarded six years imprisonment by Anti-Terrorism Court (ATC).	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , December 01, 2018 <a href="https://epaper.tribune.com.pk/DisplayDetails.aspx?ENI_ID=11201812010377&amp;EN_ID=11201812010145&amp;EMID=11201812010060">https://epaper.tribune.com.pk/DisplayDetails.aspx?ENI_ID=11201812010377&amp;EN_ID=11201812010145&amp;EMID=11201812010060</a>
December 02, 2018	Police have claimed that they will trace all those involved in an attack on <i>Agriculture Training Institute (ATI) Peshawar</i> .	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , December 03, 2018 <a href="https://epaper.tribune.com.pk/DisplayDetails.aspx?ENI_ID=11201812030089&amp;EN_ID=11201812030025&amp;EMID=11201812030014">https://epaper.tribune.com.pk/DisplayDetails.aspx?ENI_ID=11201812030089&amp;EN_ID=11201812030025&amp;EMID=11201812030014</a>

December 27, 2018	'Counter-Terror Force' unit has been established by the Sindh's Counter Terrorism Department (CTD).	<i>Roznama 92</i> , December 28, 2018
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## 5) Criminal justice system

January 03, 2018	TTP commander Fakir Muhammad jailed in Afghanistan.	<i>Daily Express</i> , January 04, 2018 <a href="https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1104889936&amp;Issue=NP_ISB&amp;Date=20180104">https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1104889936&amp;Issue=NP_ISB&amp;Date=20180104</a>
January 08, 2018	Peshawar High Court granted bail to Maulana Sufi Muhammad.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , January 09, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1603564/1-maulana-sufi-muhammad-released-bail/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1603564/1-maulana-sufi-muhammad-released-bail/</a>
January 15, 2018	TNSM chief Sufi Mohammad released after serving for eight years in prison.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 16, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1383097">https://www.dawn.com/news/1383097</a>
January 23, 2018	JuD chief Hafiz Mohammad Saeed approached LHC to avert his arrest.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 24, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1384890">https://www.dawn.com/news/1384890</a>
January 24, 2018	Lahore High Court barred government from taking action against JuD and Falaah-Insaniyat foundation.	<i>Nawa-e-Waqt</i> , January 25, 2018 <a href="https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2018-01-25/page-12/detail-1">https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2018-01-25/page-12/detail-1</a>
March 20, 2018	Peshawar High Court was informed that TTP spokesperson was still being investigated by military court.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , March 21, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1665297/1-ehsanullah-ehsans-case-ttp-spokesman-still-probed-phc-told/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1665297/1-ehsanullah-ehsans-case-ttp-spokesman-still-probed-phc-told/</a>
March 23, 2018	A study noted low convictions rate in KP over past 3 years due to weak anti-terrorism criminal justice system and proposed to bring advancement in it.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 24, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1397137">https://www.dawn.com/news/1397137</a>
April 04, 2018	LHC allows Hafiz Saeed to continue their 'welfare activities'.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , April 05, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1678511/1-lhc-allows-hafiz-saeed-continue-welfare-activities/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1678511/1-lhc-allows-hafiz-saeed-continue-welfare-activities/</a>
May 01, 2018	LeJ leader arrested in Quetta.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 02, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1405123">https://www.dawn.com/news/1405123</a>
May 02, 2018	To ensure the security and fundamental rights of Hazara community, Supreme Court took suo motu notice of attacks on them.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 03, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1405310/sc-takes-suo-motu-notice-of-attacks-on-hazaras">https://www.dawn.com/news/1405310/sc-takes-suo-motu-notice-of-attacks-on-hazaras</a>
May 07, 2018	Five TTP men held in Benazir killing case granted bail.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 08, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1406274">https://www.dawn.com/news/1406274</a>
May 26, 2018	ISIS member sentenced to one year of free education after threatening to attack PML (N) rally.	<i>Daily Express</i> , May 27, 2018 <a href="https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1105354156&amp;Issue=NP_ISB&amp;Date=20180527">https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1105354156&amp;Issue=NP_ISB&amp;Date=20180527</a>

July 27, 2018	2 members of Lashkar-e-Jhangvi sentenced to death in Karachi.	<i>Roznama 92</i> , July 28, 2018 <a href="https://www.roznama92news.com/efrontend/web/index.php/?station_id=3&amp;page_id=7&amp;is_common=&amp;xdate=2018-7-28&amp;n=n35">https://www.roznama92news.com/efrontend/web/index.php/?station_id=3&amp;page_id=7&amp;is_common=&amp;xdate=2018-7-28&amp;n=n35</a>
September 12, 2018	Supreme Court rejected the Federal government request to ban JuD.	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , September 13, 2018 <a href="https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-09-13&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=4166982_22084257">https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-09-13&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=4166982_22084257</a>
October 11, 2018	SC objects to registration of parties that oppose Constitution.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 12, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1438433">https://www.dawn.com/news/1438433</a>
October 18, 2018	PHC sets aside conviction of 74 'militants' by military courts.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 19, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1439941">https://www.dawn.com/news/1439941</a>
October 21, 2018	Mullah Baradar released from Pakistan jail.	<i>The News</i> , October 22, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/383844-mulla-baradar-released-from-pak-jail">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/383844-mulla-baradar-released-from-pak-jail</a>
October 26, 2018	The Chief of Army Staff, Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa confirmed the death sentence for 14 terrorists.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , October 27, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1834605/1-army-chief-confirms-death-sentences-14-hardcore-terrorists-ispr/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1834605/1-army-chief-confirms-death-sentences-14-hardcore-terrorists-ispr/</a>
November 02, 2018	Supreme Court instructed the Federal government not to release 73 military court convicts.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , November 03, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1839187/1-sc-suspends-release-73-terror-convicts/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1839187/1-sc-suspends-release-73-terror-convicts/</a>
November 14, 2018	Journalist charged under anti-terror law, sent to jail.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 15, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1445658">https://www.dawn.com/news/1445658</a>

## 6) Military courts

January 19, 2018	Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) Gen Qamar Bajwa has ratified death sentences awarded to another 10 terrorists by the military courts	<i>Dawn</i> , January 20, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1384049">https://www.dawn.com/news/1384049</a>
January 25, 2018	Minister for Interior Ahsan Iqbal told the Senate that if the panel formed at the ministry of interior approved the case of ex-spokesperson of Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and Jamaatul Ahrar Ehsanullah Ehsan, he will be tried in a military court.	<i>The News</i> , January 26, 2018. <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/273182-ttp-ex-spokesman-to-be-tried-in-military-court-senate-told">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/273182-ttp-ex-spokesman-to-be-tried-in-military-court-senate-told</a>
March 20, 2018	Peshawar High Court was informed that TTP spokesperson was still being investigated by military court.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , March 21, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1665297/1-ehsanullah-ehsans-case-ttp-spokesman-still-probed-phc-told/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1665297/1-ehsanullah-ehsans-case-ttp-spokesman-still-probed-phc-told/</a>
April 02, 2018	Army Chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa confirmed death sentence to 10 terrorists convicted by military courts.	<i>Daily Jang</i> , April 03, 2018
May 05, 2018	Army Chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa confirmed death sentence to 11 terrorists convicted by the military courts; another 3 convicts were awarded life imprisonment.	<i>Daily Jang</i> , May 06, 2018 <a href="https://e.jang.com.pk/05-06-2018/pindi/pic.asp?picname=513.png">https://e.jang.com.pk/05-06-2018/pindi/pic.asp?picname=513.png</a>

May 14, 2018	Peshawar High Court bench stayed the execution of a terror convict by suspending the sentence of death awarded to him by a military court.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 15, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1407776">https://www.dawn.com/news/1407776</a>
June 27, 2018	The Peshawar High Court (PHC) stayed the execution of 8 terror convicts by suspending their death sentence awarded by military courts.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 28, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1416730/phc-stays-execution-of-eight-terror-convicts">https://www.dawn.com/news/1416730/phc-stays-execution-of-eight-terror-convicts</a>
July 13, 2018	Chief of the Army Staff Gen Qamar Bajwa ratified death penalties handed down to 12 terrorists by a military court.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 14, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1419997/military-court-sentences-12-terrorists-to-death">https://www.dawn.com/news/1419997/military-court-sentences-12-terrorists-to-death</a>
August 16, 2018	Chief of Army Staff ratifies the death sentence of 15 terrorists.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 17, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1427493">https://www.dawn.com/news/1427493</a>
September 27, 2018	Army chief Gen Qamar Bajwa has confirmed death sentence of another 11 terrorists convicted by the military courts.	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , September 28, 2018 <a href="http://dunya.com.pk/index.php/dunya-headline/459172_1#.XCMb1DhKjIV">http://dunya.com.pk/index.php/dunya-headline/459172_1#.XCMb1DhKjIV</a>
October 18, 2018	Peshawar High Court (PHC) sets aside conviction of 74 'militants' by military courts in cases of terrorism.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 19, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1439941">https://www.dawn.com/news/1439941</a>
November 01, 2018	The Peshawar High Court has ruled that the "recent terrorism convictions by the military courts in the province were wrongful and were based on ill-will and not evidence."	<i>Dawn</i> , November 02, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1442950">https://www.dawn.com/news/1442950</a>
November 22, 2018	Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa has confirmed the death sentence of 11 hardcore terrorists.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 23, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1447212">https://www.dawn.com/news/1447212</a>
November 29, 2018	Anti-Terrorist court (ATC) awarded death sentence to a robber named Hashim, for killing a citizen.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , November 30, 2018 <a href="https://epaper.tribune.com.pk/DisplayDetails.aspx?ENI_ID=11201811300300&amp;EN_ID=11201811300104&amp;EMID=11201811300050">https://epaper.tribune.com.pk/DisplayDetails.aspx?ENI_ID=11201811300300&amp;EN_ID=11201811300104&amp;EMID=11201811300050</a>
December 16, 2018	Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa confirmed the death sentence awarded to 15 hardcore terrorists.	<i>Dawn</i> , December 17, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1451934">https://www.dawn.com/news/1451934</a>
December 21, 2018	Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa confirmed the death sentence awarded to 14 hardcore terrorists.	<i>The News</i> , December 22, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/409024-army-chief-confirms-death-sentence-to-14-terrorists">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/409024-army-chief-confirms-death-sentence-to-14-terrorists</a>
December 28, 2018	Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) Gen Qamar Bajwa ratified death sentences awarded to another 22 terrorists by the military courts.	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , December 29, 2018 <a href="https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-12-29&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=4360658_87343283">https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-12-29&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=4360658_87343283</a>
December 29, 2018	Government decided to give second extension to the military courts.	<i>Dawn</i> , December 30, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1454414">https://www.dawn.com/news/1454414</a>

### III. Banned / militant groups

#### 1) Internal dynamics

March 03, 2018	US military confirmed death of top TTP commander in Afghanistan.	<i>The Nation</i> , March 04, 2018 <a href="https://nation.com.pk/04-Mar-2018/-military-confirms-death-of-top-ttp-commander">https://nation.com.pk/04-Mar-2018/-military-confirms-death-of-top-ttp-commander</a>
March 07, 2018	The Son of proscribed Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) chief killed in drone attack in Afghanistan.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 08, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1393907">https://www.dawn.com/news/1393907</a>
March 09, 2018	US placed head money on top three Pakistani militant commanders.	<i>The News</i> , March 10, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/290372-us-places-head-money-on-top-three-pak-militant-commanders">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/290372-us-places-head-money-on-top-three-pak-militant-commanders</a>
March 30, 2018	Punjab is still vulnerable to militant threats despite the recent arrest of terrorists linked to banned outfits.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 31, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1398669">https://www.dawn.com/news/1398669</a>
May 14, 2018	Hafiz Saeed termed Nawaz Sharif's controversial remarks on Mumbai attacks as not acceptable.	<i>Nawa-e-Waqt</i> , May 15, 2018 <a href="https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2018-05-15/page-4">https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2018-05-15/page-4</a>
May 16, 2018	Saad Aziz denied involvement in Debra Lobo attack.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 17, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1408081">https://www.dawn.com/news/1408081</a>
June 11, 2018	University teacher held who are allegedly associated with banned TTP, LJ and IS.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 12, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1413491">https://www.dawn.com/news/1413491</a>
June 14, 2018	TTP chief Mullah Fazlullah reportedly killed in US drone strike.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , June 15, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1735526/1-unconfirmed-reports-ttp-chief-mullah-fazlullah-killed-us-drone-strike/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1735526/1-unconfirmed-reports-ttp-chief-mullah-fazlullah-killed-us-drone-strike/</a>
June 15, 2018	President Ashraf Ghani informed COAS Gen. Qamar Javed Bajwa about the killing of TTP chief.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 16, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1414427">https://www.dawn.com/news/1414427</a>
June 23, 2018	Noor Wali Mahsud appointed head of TTP.	<i>The News</i> , June 24, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/333048-noor-wali-mahsud-appointed-ttp-head">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/333048-noor-wali-mahsud-appointed-ttp-head</a>
July 04, 2018	TTP commander Omar Rehman killed in US drone attack in Afghanistan.	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , July 05, 2018 <a href="https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-07-05&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=4019931_34577531">https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-07-05&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=4019931_34577531</a>

July 18, 2018	Three banned outfits — the Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), Ansarul Sharia Pakistan (ASP) and Lashkar-i-Jhangvi (LJ) — developed a nexus to target political leadership in the metropolis (Karachi) to sabotage elections.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 19, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1421007">https://www.dawn.com/news/1421007</a>
August 01, 2018	US designates LeT commander Dakhil global terrorist.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 02, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1424447">https://www.dawn.com/news/1424447</a>
August 15, 2018	UN says that Al Qaeda closely allied with Taliban.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , August 16, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1781820/1-al-qaeda-closely-allied-taliban-un-says/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1781820/1-al-qaeda-closely-allied-taliban-un-says/</a>
October 09, 2018	Indian Intelligence claims that Maulana Azhar Jan is having a liver problem.	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , October 10, 2018 <a href="https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-10-10&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=4221534_58411635">https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-10-10&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=4221534_58411635</a>
November 23, 2018	Mastermind of terrorist attack on Chinese consulate in Karachi received medical treatment in the New Delhi hospital, as per some reports.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , November 24, 2018 <a href="https://epaper.tribune.com.pk/DisplayDetails.aspx?ENI_ID=11201811240315&amp;EN_ID=11201811240120&amp;EMID=11201811240054">https://epaper.tribune.com.pk/DisplayDetails.aspx?ENI_ID=11201811240315&amp;EN_ID=11201811240120&amp;EMID=11201811240054</a>
December 08, 2018	Militant North of the country's South While attacks in KP, FATA and Karachi attract media coverage, the northern region of Sindh is quietly becoming a recruiting ground for militancy.	<i>The News</i> , December 09, 2018 <a href="http://tns.thenews.com.pk/militant-north-countrys-south/#.XBc8JThKjIU">http://tns.thenews.com.pk/militant-north-countrys-south/#.XBc8JThKjIU</a>

## 2) Electoral participation

March 02, 2018	Banned Ahle Sunnat Wal Jamaat (ASWJ) likely to field candidates in 2018 elections as independents or under the disguise of some other party.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 03, 2018. <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1394745">https://www.dawn.com/news/1394745</a>
March 11, 2018	Banned Ahle Sunnat Wal Jamaat (ASWJ) faces isolation, plans to contest polls under new name.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 12, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1394745">https://www.dawn.com/news/1394745</a>
April 02, 2018	US designated Hafiz Saeed's Milli Muslim League (MML) as LeT affiliate in FTO list.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , April 03, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1676104/1-us-designates-hafiz-saeeds-mml-let-affiliate-fto-list/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1676104/1-us-designates-hafiz-saeeds-mml-let-affiliate-fto-list/</a>
June 08, 2018	Ahle Sunnat Wal Jamaat (ASWJ) chief Allama Aurangzeb Farooqi announced that their party, 'the Pak Rah-e-Haq Party' will contest elections from district Malir.	<i>The News</i> , June 09, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/327495-aswj-chief-set-to-contest-general-elections-from-malir">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/327495-aswj-chief-set-to-contest-general-elections-from-malir</a>

June 13, 2018	ECP rejected MML plea for registration as party.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , June 14, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1413889">https://www.dawn.com/news/1413889</a>
June 18, 2018	Milli Muslim league announced competing elections under the name of "Allah-o-Akbar" Tehreek".	<i>Daily Express</i> , June 19, 2018 <a href="https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1105420261&amp;Issue=NP_ISB&amp;Date=20180616">https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1105420261&amp;Issue=NP_ISB&amp;Date=20180616</a>
July 2, 2018	13 women among 260 MML candidates to contest 2018 polls.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 3, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1417518">https://www.dawn.com/news/1417518</a>
July 4, 2018	Religious groups fielded large number of candidates all over the country for general elections.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 5, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1418063">https://www.dawn.com/news/1418063</a>
July 14, 2018	Facebook disabled accounts of MML to prevent interference in general elections.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , July 15, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1758304/1-ensuring-transparency-facebook-disables-mml-accounts/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1758304/1-ensuring-transparency-facebook-disables-mml-accounts/</a>
July 14, 2018	Government allowed the candidates of banned organization and people on the Fourth Schedule to contest 2018 elections.	<i>The News</i> , July 15, 2018 <a href="http://tns.thenews.com.pk/banned/#.XAgkAThKjIU">http://tns.thenews.com.pk/banned/#.XAgkAThKjIU</a>
July 17, 2018	ASWJ claimed to have won support from PTI and PML-N in NA-238.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 18, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1420695">https://www.dawn.com/news/1420695</a>
July 18, 2018	According to an article in a leading newspaper, the number of aspirants of banned religious and extremist outfits contesting in July 2018 elections is significantly large.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 19, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1420986">https://www.dawn.com/news/1420986</a>
July 31, 2018	Despite the participation of 12 religious parties in the electoral battle this year religious parties clinch over 9 percent share of votes in National Assembly.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 01, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1424235">https://www.dawn.com/news/1424235</a>
August 03, 2018	ASWJ reveals backing PTI in 70 constituencies.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , August 04, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1772875/1-aswj-reveals-backing-pti-70-constituencies/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1772875/1-aswj-reveals-backing-pti-70-constituencies/</a>
August 07, 2018	No restriction for taking part in the election for people who are registered in the fourth schedule.	<i>Daily Jang</i> , August 08, 2018 <a href="https://jang.com.pk/news/532202">https://jang.com.pk/news/532202</a>
July 05, 2018	Tehreek-e-Labaik Pakistan fielded more candidates than PPP in Punjab.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 06, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1418282">https://www.dawn.com/news/1418282</a>
July 06, 2018	AAT fifth largest party fielding 250 candidates.	<i>The News</i> , July 07, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/338586-aat-fifth-largest-party-fielding-250-candidates">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/338586-aat-fifth-largest-party-fielding-250-candidates</a>

October 11, 2018	SC objects to registration of parties that oppose constitution.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 12, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1438433">https://www.dawn.com/news/1438433</a>
November 02, 2018	Tehreek-e-Labbair Pakistan (TLP), which contested 2018 elections, had launched protest against the release of a Christian accused of blasphemy. After some days, the TLP ends protest after a deal with government.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 03, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1443244">https://www.dawn.com/news/1443244</a>
November 20, 2018	In a detailed order on TLP sit-in, the SC asks if a "violent party" can be registered.	<i>The News</i> , November 21, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/396488-detailed-order-on-tlp-sit-in-can-a-violent-party-be-registered-asks-sc">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/396488-detailed-order-on-tlp-sit-in-can-a-violent-party-be-registered-asks-sc</a>
November 24, 2018	The religious party's electoral allies Pakistan Sunni Tehreek (PST) distanced themselves from TLP.	<i>Express Tribune</i> , November 25, 2018 <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/1853779/1-sunni-tehreek-distances-tlp/">https://tribune.com.pk/story/1853779/1-sunni-tehreek-distances-tlp/</a>
November 29, 2018	The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECL) issued another notice to the TLP chief Khadim Hussain Rizvi, in the party's registration and funding case.	<i>The News</i> , November 30, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/400123-tlp-s-registration-funding-case-ecp-serves-another-notice-on-khadim-rizvi">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/400123-tlp-s-registration-funding-case-ecp-serves-another-notice-on-khadim-rizvi</a>
December 03, 2018	Political and Religious Leaders on Monday in meeting of Difa-e-Pakistan Council (DPC) unanimously elected Maulana Hamid ul Haq Haqqani elected as chairman of Difa-i-Pakistan Council.	<i>Roznama 92</i> , December 04, 2018 <a href="https://www.roznama92news.com/efrontend/web/index.php/?station_id=3&amp;page_id=7&amp;is_common=&amp;xdate=2018-12-4&amp;n=n46">https://www.roznama92news.com/efrontend/web/index.php/?station_id=3&amp;page_id=7&amp;is_common=&amp;xdate=2018-12-4&amp;n=n46</a>

#### IV. Border issues/regional

##### 1) With India

Date	Progress	Source
January 12, 2018	DG ISPR Maj Gen Asif Ghafoor, in a response to Indian Army Chief Gen Bipin Rawat, said that Pakistan's nuclear capability is a 'weapon of deterrence' and not an option for war.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 13, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1382691">https://www.dawn.com/news/1382691</a>
January 20, 2018	The Foreign Office (FO) summoned Indian Deputy High Commissioner JP Singh to lodge a protest against casualties resulting from a ceasefire violation by Indian forces on Line of Control (LoC).	<i>Dawn</i> , January 21, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1384344">https://www.dawn.com/news/1384344</a>



Date	Progress	Source
January 25, 2018	In a Senate meeting, Foreign Minister Khawaja Asif said that Indian Border Security Forces committed 170 ceasefire violations along the Line of Control (LoC) and Working Boundary (WB) in the first 24 days of 2018.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 26, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1385405">https://www.dawn.com/news/1385405</a>
February 04, 2018	FO Director General (South Asia and Saarc) Dr. Muhammad Faisal summoned Indian Deputy High Commissioner J.P. Singh and "condemned the unprovoked ceasefire violations by the Indian occupation forces along the Line of Control (LOC).	<i>Dawn</i> , February 05, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1387468">https://www.dawn.com/news/1387468</a>
March 01, 2018	Hyderabad police claimed to have busted a gang which was reportedly getting funding from India to sabotage China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and target security personnel in Sindh.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 02, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1392745">https://www.dawn.com/news/1392745</a>
March 27, 2018	Director General of Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) Maj Gen Asif Ghafoor in a press conference said that if a 'Bajwa doctrine' exists its scope is limited just to the security aspect in Pakistan.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 28, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1398064">https://www.dawn.com/news/1398064</a>
April 28, 2018	In a phone conversation between Pakistani and Indian DGMOs, Pakistan warned India over ceasefire violations along Line of Control (LoC) and Working boundary (WB).	<i>Dawn</i> , April 29, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1404539">https://www.dawn.com/news/1404539</a>
May 12, 2018	Former interior minister Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan said that the delay and slow pace of the Mumbai attacks-related case in Pakistan was not Pakistan's doing but was a result of non-cooperation and stubbornness by India.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 13, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1407430">https://www.dawn.com/news/1407430</a>
May 22, 2018	Former chief of Indian spy agency, Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) Amarjit Singh Dulat expressed his confidence in Pakistani Chief of Army Staff Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa, saying he can help resolve the issues between the two countries.	<i>The News</i> , May 23, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/320188-gen-bajwa-can-help-resolve-pak-india-issues-ex-raw-chief">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/320188-gen-bajwa-can-help-resolve-pak-india-issues-ex-raw-chief</a>
May 30, 2018	In an initiative conversation by Pakistan, the Director Generals of Military Operations DGMOs of Pakistan and Indian has agreed to restore cease-fire on the Line of Control (LoC) and Working Boundary (WB).	<i>Dawn</i> , May 30, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1410857">https://www.dawn.com/news/1410857</a>
October 04, 2018	Foreign Office (FO) Spokesperson Dr. Mohammad Faisal said that 'Kartarpur border cannot be opened till India responds.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 04, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1436788">https://www.dawn.com/news/1436788</a>

## 2) Afghanistan

Date	Progress	Source
January 03, 2018	The Chief of Army Staff Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa inspects fencing along the Pak-Afghan border and also visited the border forts where general officer commanding of Miramshah briefed him on the region's security situation, rehabilitation of temporarily displaced persons and progress on socio-economic development projects in the area.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 04, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1380671">https://www.dawn.com/news/1380671</a>
January 04, 2018	According to a security source, unknown miscreants fired four missiles into the border area of Mohmand Agency from across Afghan border.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 05, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1380933">https://www.dawn.com/news/1380933</a>
January 11, 2018	In an interview with ARY News, the ISPR DG Maj Gen Asif Ghafoor said that Pak-Afghan border management was a key to achieving peace but stressed that Islamabad cannot be blamed for failures in the neighboring country.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 12, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1382413">https://www.dawn.com/news/1382413</a>
January 18, 2018	Pak security forces destroy radio tower along Pak-Afghan border in order to stop the transmission of "hostile, anti-state propaganda", and to prevent cross-border terror attacks.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 19, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1383936">https://www.dawn.com/news/1383936</a>
March 11, 2018	According to Arab News, Pakistan for Peace in Afghanistan, released two Taliban Commander; Ahmedullah and Ilyas Malananai who had been arrested 17 months ago.	<i>Daily Dunya</i> , March 12, 2018 <a href="https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-03-12&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3767384_40335794">https://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2018-03-12&amp;edition=ISL&amp;id=3767384_40335794</a>
May 08, 2018	Chief of the Army Staff Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa inaugurated the work for erecting fences along the Pak-Afghan border near Panjpai area of Balochistan.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 09, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1406534">https://www.dawn.com/news/1406534</a>
July 29, 2018	The meeting between a US delegation and Taliban representatives in Doha to discuss a possible ceasefire, ended with "very positive signals".	<i>The News</i> , July 30, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/348035-very-positive-signals-after-us-taliban-talks">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/348035-very-positive-signals-after-us-taliban-talks</a>
July 29, 2018	The meeting between a US delegation and Taliban representatives in Doha to discuss a possible ceasefire, ended with "very positive signals".	<i>The News</i> , July 30, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/348035-very-positive-signals-after-us-taliban-talks">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/348035-very-positive-signals-after-us-taliban-talks</a>

Date	Progress	Source
September 19, 2018	US affirmed Pakistan's strategic role in bringing peace in Afghanistan.	<i>Dawn</i> , September 20, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1434002">https://www.dawn.com/news/1434002</a>
October 21, 2018	Pakistan re-opened friendship gate at the Afghan border in Chaman, resuming trade activities, NATO supplies and the transit trade between the two countries.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 22, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1440546/pakistan-reopens-chaman-border-crossing">https://www.dawn.com/news/1440546/pakistan-reopens-chaman-border-crossing</a>
October 21, 2018	Mullah Baradar released from Pakistan jail.	<i>The News</i> , October 22, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/383844-mulla-baradar-released-from-pak-jail">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/383844-mulla-baradar-released-from-pak-jail</a>
October 24, 2018	Foreign Office rejected Afghan President Ashraf Ghani's allegations in killing of a top-ranking Afghan police officer in Kandahar.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 25, 2018 <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1441187">https://www.dawn.com/news/1441187</a>
October 25, 2018	Afghan Taliban confirm release of two top leaders.	<i>The News</i> , October 26, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/385510-afghan-taliban-confirm-release-of-two-top-leaders">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/385510-afghan-taliban-confirm-release-of-two-top-leaders</a>
May 14, 2018	Pakistan and Afghanistan initiated joint action plan.	<i>Daily Express</i> , May 15, 2018 <a href="https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1105315651&amp;Issue=NP_ISB&amp;Date=20180515">https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1105315651&amp;Issue=NP_ISB&amp;Date=20180515</a>
December 06, 2018	Border fencing along some parts of Pakistan and Afghanistan border almost complete, said (GOC) 7 <sup>th</sup> Division Major General Mumtaz Hussain.	<i>The News</i> , December 07, 2018 <a href="https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/402899-border-fencing-almost-complete">https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/402899-border-fencing-almost-complete</a>
December 09, 2018	Fencing of Ghulam Khan border in North Waziristan has completed up to 32 km.	<i>Roznama 92</i> , December 10, 2018 <a href="https://www.roznama92news.com/efrontend/web/index.php/?station_id=3&amp;page_id=7&amp;is_common=&amp;xdate=2018-12-10&amp;n=n36">https://www.roznama92news.com/efrontend/web/index.php/?station_id=3&amp;page_id=7&amp;is_common=&amp;xdate=2018-12-10&amp;n=n36</a>
December 16, 2018	Director General ISPR Maj General Asif Ghafoor said that the fencing of 2611 kilometer long Pak-Afghan border would be completed by December 2019.	<i>Roznama 92</i> , December 16, 2018 <a href="https://www.roznama92news.com/efrontend/web/index.php/?station_id=3&amp;page_id=0&amp;is_common=&amp;xdate=2018-12-16&amp;n=n6">https://www.roznama92news.com/efrontend/web/index.php/?station_id=3&amp;page_id=0&amp;is_common=&amp;xdate=2018-12-16&amp;n=n6</a>
December 29, 2018	The first step of Pakistan-Afghanistan border fencing has been completed.	<i>The Nation</i> , December 30, 2018 <a href="https://nation.com.pk/30-Dec-2018/first-phase-of-fencing-torkham-border-completes">https://nation.com.pk/30-Dec-2018/first-phase-of-fencing-torkham-border-completes</a>



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