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PAKISTAN SECURITY REPORT



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LIST OF ACRONYMS

AJK:	Azad Jammu and Kashmir	Kid:	Kidnapping
AJIP:	Awami Jamhoori Ittehad Pakistan	KP:	Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa
ANP:	Awami National Party	LeJ:	Lashkar-e-Jhangvi
Arm:	Army	LI:	Lashkar-e-Islam
ASWJ:	Ahl-e-Sunnat Wal Jamaat	LM:	Landmine Blast
ATC:	Anti Terrorism Courts	LoC:	Line of Control
ATF:	Anti-Terrorism Force	Lvs:	Levies Force
BC:	Balochistan Constabulary	Mil:	Militant
BH:	Beheading	MQM:	Muttahida Qaumi Movement
BLA:	Balochistan Liberation Army	MWM:	Majlis Wahdatul Muslimeen
BLF:	Balochistan Liberation Front	MDM:	Muttahida Deeni Mahaz
BNP-M:	Balochistan National Party- Mengal Group	NATO:	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
BT:	Bomb Blast	NI:	Nationalist Insurgents' Attack
CIA:	Central Intelligence Agency	NP:	National Party
CID:	Criminal Investigation Department	NPP:	National People's Party
Civ:	Civilians	PkMAP:	Pakhtunkhwa Milli Awami Party
DGMOs:	Director Generals of Military Operations	P-ml:	Paramilitary Forces
DSP:	Deputy Superintendent Police	PML-N:	Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz
ETIM:	East Turkistan Islamic Party	Pol:	Police
FATA:	Federally Administered Tribal Areas	PPP:	Pakistan People's Party
FC:	Frontier Corps	PTI:	Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaaf
FCR:	Frontier Crimes Regulation	QWP:	Qaumi Watan Party
FIA:	Federal Investigative Agency	RA:	Rocket Attack
Fr:	Firing	RCB:	Remote-controlled Bomb
FR:	Frontier Region	Rng:	Rangers
HG:	Hand Grenade	SA:	Suicide Attack
HRCP:	Human Rights Commission of Pakistan	Sab:	Sabotage
IDP:	Internally Displaced Persons	Sect:	Sectarian
IED:	Improvised Explosive Device	SM:	Sipah-e-Muhammad
ISAF:	International Security Assistance Force	SP:	Superintendent of Police
ISI:	Inter Services Intelligence	SSP:	Sipah-e-Sahaba Pakistan
ISO:	Imamia Student Organization	ST:	Sunni Tehreek
JI:	Jamaat-e-Islami	TA:	Terrorist Attack
JQM:	Jamote Qaumi Movement	TNSM:	Tehreek-e-Nifaz-e-Shariat-e- Muhammadi
JUI-F:	Jamiat-e-Ulema-e-Islam-Fazl	TTP:	Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan
		UBA:	United Baloch Army
		UN:	United Nations

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 FATA, 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 Agency, 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.

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

In 2015, Pakistan was ranked 4th among countries most affected from terrorism, according to the Global Terrorism Index.¹ It was despite the fact that the country had witnessed a decline of 48 percent in terrorist attacks, compared to 2014.² The situation has improved further in 2016 with a reported decline of 28 percent in acts of terrorism from previous year. Still, concerted efforts and added measures are needed to move the country down on the list of countries bearing worst impact of terrorism.

Whatever Pakistan has accomplished in its war against terrorism is largely due to extensive operations launched against militants by security and law enforcement agencies across the country. Ranging from military operations in FATA, Rangers-led surgical strikes in Karachi, FC's counterinsurgency raids in Balochistan to police's Counter Terrorism Departments' (CTDs) intelligence-based operations in Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, these operation, on the whole, have contributed in improving the country's security landscape. However, a slow implementation of National Action Plan (NAP) measures failed to complement these gains.

Although, the framework of military/security operations also needs to be reviewed – especially in the context of the militants' efforts to find safe territories inside the country,³ and an increasing trend of the killing of suspected militants in encounters in Punjab and Sindh – an immediate imperative for Pakistan's counterterrorism (CT) campaign is to make soft CT approaches functional including those espoused in the NAP. An over-emphasis on hard component or the use of force, alone, cannot completely root out the problem, as the militants have territorial choices inside the country and in neighboring Afghanistan to relocate their infrastructures. Secondly, militants have shown their ability to regroup overcoming the damages suffered on the hands of security forces' operations. For instance, the rebirth of banned sectarian terrorist outfit Lashkar-e-Jhangvi (LeJ) as LeJ Al-Alami, and restructuring of Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan as Jamaatul Ahrar indicate that the challenge of militancy is far more complicated, to be dealt only through hard approaches.

The NAP has the essence to activate the non-operational or soft components of Pakistan's counterterrorism strategy. A judicial commission, led by Justice Qazi Faez Isa, which was probing the August 8, 2016 Quetta hospital bombing, has also said in its findings that state responses have become absurd and have failed to develop a comprehensive response against terrorism.

The government tends to take the credit for certain initiatives taken in 2016, which have been discussed in the later part of the report, but these were not enough to build a comprehensive response. The countering terrorism challenge is manifold and it cannot be dealt with an oversimplified threat perception. Most of the government initiatives came

after some major terrorist incidents had built pressure on it to show some progress on the front of internal security. The government needs to seriously look at its counterterrorism approach; Justice Isa commission report can help it repair its responses.

The major actors of instability in the country were still active in 2016 with their support bases intact. The presence of supporters and affiliates of Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) in parts of the country is still a big challenge. The instability in Afghanistan provides ISIS the opportunity to extend its reach and mobilize new recruits. The group is evolving nexus with Pakistani terrorist groups.⁴ The conventional banned militant outfits are still a recruitment base for the terrorist groups like ISIS, Al-Qaeda, and different local brands. The security institutions have to expand their threat perception. At the same time, the government has to take the religious extremism as a key challenge. The NAP alone cannot reverse the whole phenomenon of religious extremism. A comprehensive Counter Violent Extremism (CVE) policy is required to eliminate the enabling environment for the violent radical tendencies.

Operation Zarb-e-Azb in North Waziristan has accomplished many things. It would have been concluded until now, but weak coordination between Afghanistan and Pakistan on the issues of border security and counterterrorism is hindering the operation to reach its logical inclusion. Both countries need to evolve certain joint counterterrorism mechanism to address the common challenges.

PIPS hopes this 11th 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, 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 Economic Corridor (CPEC), assessment of NAP, CVE initiatives taken in 2016, 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 Sialwho monitored security developments and narrated them for the report, Muhammad Ismail Khan, who consolidated the writings and reviewed them; Shagufta Hayat and Hafsa Durrani, 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

Overview of security in 2016: critical challenges and recommendations

Muhammad Amir Rana and Safdar Sial*

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1.1 Overview of security situation in 2016

Marking a decline of 28 percent from previous year, a total of 441 terrorist attacks took place in 57 districts/regions across Pakistan in 2016. These attacks, launched by various militant, nationalist/insurgent and violent sectarian groups, claimed 908 lives, a decrease of 12 percent from such fatalities in the year before, and inflicted injuries on another 1,627 people. The fact that 28 percent decline in attacks resulted in only a 12 percent decrease in fatalities indicates that militants carried out some major attacks during the year.

A distribution of 441 attacks by 3 types of perpetrators, i.e. Taliban-like Islamist militants, nationalist insurgents, and sectarian terrorists, suggests that despite an overall reported decrease in fatalities in terrorist attacks in 2016, the number of people killed in attacks by the Taliban and other groups with similar objectives increased by over 10 percent; from 580 in 2015 to 640 in 2016. That indicates that the overall reported decrease in terrorism-related fatalities in 2016 was mainly caused by fewer number of people killed in terrorist attacks launched by Baloch insurgent and violent sectarian groups, as compared to 2015.

Those killed in terrorist attacks in Pakistan in 2016 included 545 civilians, 302 personnel of security and law enforcement agencies (45 FC men; 206 policemen; 27 army troops; 21 Levies; and 3 paramilitaries including one Rangers personnel) and 61 militants, who were

killed in retaliatory fire by security and law enforcement personnel following some attacks. Those injured in these attacks included 1,157 civilians, 469 security personnel and one militant.

About 48 percent (or 211) of the total reported terrorist attacks in 2016 hit personnel, convoys and check-posts of the security forces and law-enforcement agencies across Pakistan. Most of these attacks targeted police, which is why 206 policemen – including tribal Khassadar – were killed in terrorist attacks during the year including in incidents of targeted killing.

Civilians were the apparent targets of 89 attacks (about 20 percent). As many as 27 attacks (over 6 percent) hit tribal elders and volunteers constituting anti-militant peace committees and locally raised *lashkars*, mainly in FATA and KP. As many as 20 attacks apparently targeted political leaders and workers. A total of 34 attacks (about 8 percent) had sectarian targets, mainly members of the Sunni and Shia as well as Bohra community, and worship places including imambargahs and shrines. A combined 30 terrorist attacks (about 7 percent) targeted state installations and functionalities including gas pipelines, power pylons, railways trains/tracks, and government officials. Others targets hit by the terrorists more than once included religious minorities (5 attacks: 2 attacks each on Christian and Hindu community members and one attack on members of Ahmedi community),⁵ educational institutions (6 attacks), health/polio workers (4 attacks), foreign interests/foreigners (4 attacks),

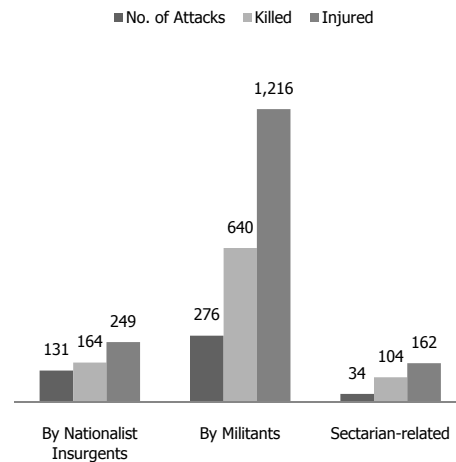
media/journalists (2 attacks), non-Baloch settlers/workers (2 attacks), and private property (2 attacks).

A considerable number of reported terrorist attacks in 2016 — 218, or about 50 percent — were incidents of targeted killing or shooting. Meanwhile, apart from launching 17 suicide attacks – one of which was sectarian-related – terrorists employed improvised explosive devices (IEDs) of different types in 172 attacks – 39 percent of the total terrorist attacks. Other attack tactics used by terrorists in 2016 included grenade blasts (23), rocket attacks (7), sabotage (3), and mortar fire (one attack).

The Pakistani Taliban, mainly the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and affiliated local Taliban groups, or other groups with similar objectives such as Jamaatul Ahrar, Khyber-Agency based Lashkar-e-Islam, Said Sajna group, and ISIS affiliates/supporters, etc., carried out more than 62 percent (276) of all the 441 reported terrorist attacks in 2016. At least, 640 people were killed and another 1,216 injured in these attacks. Baloch and Sindhi nationalist insurgents carried out 131 attacks (124 and 7, respectively) that claimed the lives of 164 people and injured 249 others. Meanwhile, 34 terrorist attacks had sectarian motives, largely perpetrated by banned Sunni and Shia sectarian groups, which claimed 104 lives and injured 162 others. (See Chart 1) Meanwhile, resurgent violent sectarian

group Lashkar-e-Jhangvi Al-Alami hit both sectarian and non-sectarian targets, hence falling in first and third category.

Chart 1: Classification of Terrorist Attacks in Pakistan in 2016



As in past two years, the highest number of terrorist attacks for any one region of Pakistan was reported from Balochistan (151 attacks, or 34 percent of total attacks in Pakistan). The province was also the most affected region of the country in terms of casualties in terrorist attacks (412 killed; 702 injured); 45 percent of total number of people killed and 43 percent of those injured in terror attacks across Pakistan in 2016 concentrated in Balochistan. A bulk of these casualties in Balochistan resulted from some major attacks carried out by Islamist militants including Jamaatul Ahrar, the TTP as well as Lashkar-e-Jhangvi Al-Alami.

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) was the second most terrorism-affected region of Pakistan in 2016, where 127 reported attacks killed 189 people and injured another 355 people. Meanwhile, 99 attacks were recorded in the Federally Administrated Tribal Areas (FATA) in which 163 people lost their lives and 221 others were wounded.

As many as 63 people were also killed in Sindh – including 60 in Karachi alone – in a total of 54 terrorist attacks reported from there in 2016.

Seven (7) terrorist attacks took place in Punjab and one in Islamabad, which in all killed 81 people and inflicted injuries on 245 others. (See Table 1)

No terrorist attack was reported from Gilgit-Baltistan and Azad Jammu and Kashmir during the year.

Table 1: Terrorist Attacks in Pakistan in 2016

Region	No. of Attacks	Killed	Injured
KP	127	189	355
Balochistan	151	412	702
FATA	99	163	221
Punjab	7	80	241
Karachi	47	60	75
Sindh (excluding Karachi)	7	3	29
Islamabad	3	1	4
Total	441	908	1,627

1.1.1 Comparison

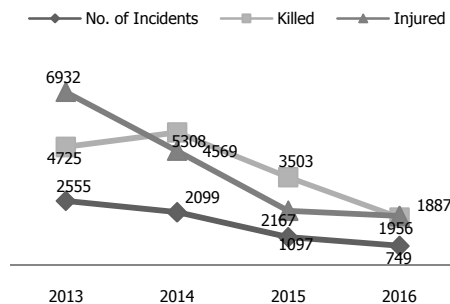
In all, 749 incidents of violence of different types – as given at Table 2 – were reported from across Pakistan in 2016, including 441 terrorist attacks cited earlier, 95 operational strikes carried out by security forces and their 105 clashes/encounters with militants, 74 cross-border attacks from India, Afghanistan and Iran, and 12 incidents of ethnic/political violence, etc. (See Table 2) A total of 1,887 people were killed and 1,956 injured in these violent incidents.

Table 2: Nature of Overall Incidents of Violence

Nature of Incident	No. of Incidents	Killed	Injured
Terrorist attacks	441	908	1,627
Political and ethnic violence	12	14	30
Clashes & encounters between security forces & militants	105	348	60
Border clashes/attacks	74	81	173
Operational attacks by security forces	95	492	49
Drone attacks	3	12	6
Inter-militant and militant-tribesmen clashes/attacks	5	5	1
Clashes between security forces & criminal gangs	13	25	9
Communal violence	1	2	1
Total	749	1,887	1,956

The number of overall incidents of violence decreased from 1,097 in 2015 to 749 in 2016, by about 32 percent. The overall number of people killed in these incidents also decreased by 46 percent; from 3,503 in 2015 to 1,887 in 2016. The number of people injured in all such incidents of violence – including attacks and clashes – also decreased from 2,176 in 2015 to 1,956 in 2016. (See Chart 2)

Chart 2: Comparison of Overall Incidents of Violence & Casualties (2013-16)



A yearly comparison of the number of terrorist attacks in Pakistan since 2009, or post-Swat military operation, indicates a gradual decline not only in such attacks but also in consequent fatalities with the exception of 2013, when this declining trend was reversed and took an upward turn – mainly due to an increased incidence of sectarian-related attacks in the country as well as a significant surge in terror acts in Karachi that year; in the same year Rangers-led operation was launched in Karachi. However, in

subsequent years, 2013-onward, the number of terrorist attacks and people killed in these attacks again posted a declining trend. (See Chart 3 and Table 3) Military operations in FATA including *Zarb-e-Azb* and similar counterterrorism campaigns in rest of the country as well as NAP actions have apparently contributed in this decline in acts of terrorism.

Chart 3: Comparison of Terrorist Attacks and Fatalities in Pakistan (2009-2016)

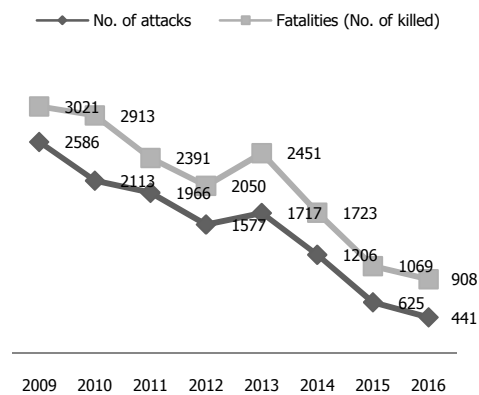


Table 3: Comparison of Terrorist Attacks and Fatalities in Pakistan (2009-13)⁶

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%↓

Year	No. of Terrorist Attacks (%Change)	No. of Killed (% Change)
2013	9%↑	19%↑
2014	30%↓	30%↓
2015	48%↓	38%↓
2016	28%↓	12%↓

The decrease in the number of terrorist attacks in Pakistan in 2016 was marked by the decreased incidence of such attacks in all regions of Pakistan except Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Similarly, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan were the only regions in Pakistan where terrorism-related casualties, including both fatalities and injuries, posted an increase in 2016. (See Table 4)

In particular, despite a 29 percent reported decrease in terrorist attacks in Balochistan, the number of people killed in these attacks surged by 63 percent and those of injured by 116 percent, as compared to previous year. In KP, the number of attacks increased by 2 percent, and the number of people killed in these attacks increased by 5 percent, and those of injured by 63 percent.

The highest decrease in the number of terrorist attacks, compared to 2015, was recorded in Punjab (69 percent) followed by Sindh (excluding Karachi) (59 percent), Karachi (44 percent), and FATA (32 percent).

Despite a significant drop in the number of terrorist attacks in Punjab, the number of people killed in these attacks fell only by 4 percent, as compared to previous year, due to some major attacks launched by militants there in 2016. Meanwhile, terrorism-related fatalities fell in Sindh (excluding Karachi) by 97 percent, in Islamabad by 75 percent, in Karachi by 60 percent, and in FATA by 38 percent.

Table 4: Comparison of Terrorist Attacks & Casualties (2015 vs. 2016)⁷

Province / Region	Number of Attacks (%Change)	Killed (% Change)	Injured (% Change)
KP	2%↑	5%↑	63%↑
Balochistan	29%↓	63%↑	116%↑
FATA	32%↓	38%↓	40%↓
Punjab	69%↓	4%↓	1%↓
Karachi	44%↓	60%↓	6%↓
Sindh (excluding Karachi)	59%↓	97%↓	78%↓
Islamabad	No change	75%↓	20%↓
Total	28%↓	12%↓	18%↑

Despite a slight decrease of 5 percent from previous year in the number of suicide attacks, the number of people killed in these attacks increased by over 51 percent, from 252 in 2015 to 382 in 2016. As many as 856 people were also injured in suicide attacks in 2016, an increase of about 97 percent from the number of

people injured in such attacks in the year before. Most of the fatalities in suicide attacks in 2016 resulted from the attacks on Christian community members in a park in Lahore, in Civil Hospital Quetta, on pro-government tribesmen in Mohmand Agency, on police cadets in police academy near Quetta, and on a shrine in Khuzdar. Out of the 17 suicide attacks in 2016, seven took place in Balochistan, five in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, three in FATA and 2 in Punjab. The TTP, Jamaatul Ahrar, Lashkar-e-Jhangvi Al-Alami and a TTP splinter Sajna group were behind most of these attacks.

The number of sectarian-related terrorist attacks fell by 41 percent, from 58 in 2015 to 34 in 2016. The number of people killed in such attacks in 2016 also decreased by about 62 percent, from 272 in 2015 to 104 in 2016. As many as 162 people were also injured in sectarian-related attacks in 2016, a decrease of 43 percent from previous year. Over 80 percent of the total number of people killed and about 84 percent of those injured in sectarian-related terrorist attacks across Pakistan in 2016 were concentrated in Khuzdar in Balochistan and Karachi in Sindh. While in Karachi most of such attacks were incidents of targeted killing, in Khuzdar a single suicide blast in Shah Noorani shrine claimed 54 lives. Other sectarian hot spots in 2016 were DI Khan, Peshawar and Quetta where three sectarian-related attacks each

were recorded during the year. Out of 34 sectarian attacks, 17 and 12 attacks targeted members of Shia and Sunni communities/groups, respectively. Three attacks hit worship places/shrines and one attack each targeted members of Bohra community and a police official due to his sectarian association.

Security forces and law enforcement agencies launched a total of 95 operational strikes and raids against militants in 2016, as compared to 143 such actions in previous year. These operations were conducted in 35 districts and regions of Pakistan; in previous year such operations were recorded in 31 districts or regions. Out of the 95 operational strikes, 38 were conducted in 11 districts of Balochistan; 24 in 5 agencies in FATA, mainly in Khyber and North Waziristan; 15 in Karachi; 13 in 8 districts of Punjab; and another 5 in 4 districts in KP. These operational strikes killed a total of 492 people including 481 militants (compared to 1,545 in 2015), 7 personnel of security and law enforcement agencies and 4 civilians. Around 35 militants and 14 security personnel were also injured in these actions.

Security and law enforcement agencies also engaged in a total of 105 armed clashes and encounters with militants, a decrease of 31 percent from the previous year, in 44 districts/regions of the country. Marking a decrease of 37 percent from previous year, these clashes and encounters claimed 348 lives in 2016 –

including 328 militants, 19 personnel of security forces and law enforcement agencies and one civilian. As many as 60 others were injured in these clashes including 20, as well as 35 security personnel and 5 civilians.

Compared to 12 in the year before, a total of 3 US-led drone strikes took place in Pakistan, including 2 in FATA and one in Nushki, Balochistan. The attack in Nushki reportedly killed Afghan Taliban leader Mullah Akhtar Mansour along with his driver. In all, these attacks killed a total of 12 suspected militants and injured 6 others.

Exactly same in number as in 2015, a total of 74 cross-border attacks and clashes were reported from Pakistan's borders with Afghanistan (18 attacks; compared to 15 in 2015), India (51; one more than in 2015) and Iran (5; compared to 9 in 2015). A total of 81 Pakistani citizens were killed in cross-border attacks from India, Afghanistan and Iran – an increase of 5 percent from previous year – and 173 others were injured. Those killed included 53 civilians, 14 army troops, 2 FC men, one Khassadar and 11 Afghanistan-based Pakistani Taliban militants, who were killed by security forces in retaliatory fire. As many as 60 people were killed and 149 others injured in cross-border attacks from Indian side. The situation at Pakistan's border with India – along the LoC in Azad Kashmir and Sialkot Working Boundary –

remained relatively more volatile, mainly during the last 4 months of 2016, with Indian BSF troops using mortar shelling and heavy artillery barrages to target Pakistani civilians as well security forces.

Incidents of ethnic and political violence in Pakistan fell significantly by about 81 percent, from 63 in 2015 to 12 in 2016; the number of people killed in these incidents also decreased, by about 83 percent. While 5 incidents of ethno-political violence were reported from Karachi, 3 took place in KP, 2 in Azad Kashmir, and one each in Punjab and Sindh.

The number of people killed in overall incidents of violence in Pakistan decreased by over 46 percent, from 3,503 in 2015 to 1,887 in 2016. This decrease was marked by the death of 921 militants, compared to 2,340 in 2015, representing a decrease of about 61 percent. The number of civilians killed in these violent incidents (619) also decreased by 20 percent as compared to 2015. Fatalities among security forces personnel in 2016 (347) were also about 10 percent less from the previous year's fatalities among them (385). The distribution of casualties in the overall reported incidents of violence in 2016 is given in *Table 5*.

Table 5: Casualties in Overall Violent Incidents in 2016

Category	Killed	Injured
FC	53	104
Militants	921	69
Civilian	619	1,353
Police	221	349
Army	48	59
Levies	22	10
Paramilitaries	2	0
Rangers	1	12
Total	1,887	1,956

1.2 Critical challenges and areas

1.2.1 Critical challenges

i. Complex militant landscape and violent extremism

The issue of militant groups is extremely complex in the Pakistani context. The ambiguities persisted over the status of some banned militant groups in 2016, which also caused fissures between civil and military leaderships.⁸ Many groups tagged as 'proxies' not only caused diplomatic problems for the country, but gradually they also took control of state narratives to emerge as a new far right that is not only interfering in 'strategic affairs' but also shrinking the space for mainstream politics. Only a few attempts have been made to understand the complex relationship among the banned militant groups – which once were

involved in fighting 'jihad' in Afghanistan and Indian held Kashmir – the anti-Pakistan Islamist militant groups, violent sectarian groups, and global terrorist movements. At the same time, the exact level of violent extremism in the country as well as potential threat by terrorist outfits cannot be measured until complete enforcement of the laws relating to the banned organizations, which are deemed as not involved in militancy inside Pakistan. The reason is that the groups involved in terrorism in Pakistan get human resource and seek ideological legitimacy for their actions from these banned organizations. Additionally, banned organizations have encroached on far-right territory and if this process continues they will erode the socio-cultural fabric of society.⁹ It is expected that the debate on these groups will continue in 2017, as these are a major hurdle in the way of effective implementation of the NAP and a major irritant in the way of formulation of an effective Counter Violent Extremism (CVE) policy.

ii. Sectarian violence

In 2016, a downward trend was recorded in sectarian violence in Pakistan for third year in a row. It is a positive development. The number of sectarian-related terrorist attacks fell by 41 percent, from 58 in 2015 to 34 in 2016. However, the fluctuations in sectarian violence are an old phenomenon in Pakistan. The sectarian violence will remain a threat so long as (i) sectarian

terrorist groups remain active in Pakistan, and (ii) the discourse of hatred in the country remains sectarian including through sectarian streams of madrassas. In this context, the recent rebirth of Lashkar-e-Jhangvi (LeJ) as Lashkar-e-Jhangvi Al-Alami (LeJ-A)¹⁰ cannot be ignored. Resurfacing with a new global outlook, LeJ-A offers a new platform for smaller, struggling militant groups and individuals, including those having violent sectarian credentials. The LeJ-A has widened its ideological and strategic spectrums to develop compatibility with global terrorist groups, including the militant Islamic State (IS) group, also known as ISIS.¹¹

iii. The madrasa challenge

The National Action Plan (NAP) assigned priority to reforming madrassas. But dealing with the madrasa challenge is neither simple nor easy. In 2016, federal and provincial governments came up with varying responses,¹² which were not enough to deal with the challenge and apparently; it seems that the government lacks understanding of the issue. It has assigned the task of madrasa reforms to the federal interior ministry, even though after the 18th 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.

iv. Border insecurities

The tension at Pakistani-Indian border emerged as a big security challenge in 2016, which was conventional in its nature but caused human sufferings alongside the Line of Control and Working boundary. In 2016, as many as 51 cross border attacks by Indian Border Security Force (BSF) troops claimed the lives of 60 Pakistani citizens including 47 civilians, 12 Army officials and one policeman. It was after a gap of 13 years that India resorted to the use of artillery barrages against Pakistan during the month of November 2016; the last time Indian BSF used artillery barrages against Pakistan was in 1999 during the Kargil war.¹³ However the last month of the year remained relatively calm, but such violation by the Indian forces cannot be ruled out.

Pakistani Taliban militants sheltered in Afghanistan carried out most of the reported 18 cross-border attacks from Afghanistan, which killed 4 soldiers (2 FC and 2 army men) and 5 civilians; 11 militants were also killed by security forces in retaliatory fire. That not only underscores the danger of an insecure Pak-Afghan border but also highlights the need for improved ties between Pakistan

and Afghanistan including cooperation on border coordination and management. To secure the Western borders, security forces have established proper check-posts along Afghan border in Tirah valley of Khyber Agency after successfully clearing the mountainous region of militant groups.

1.2.2 Critical policy initiatives

The following policy initiatives need attention of the government, as these are prerequisite for improving internal security environment alongside the implementation on the NAP. These are the challenges PIPS has been highlighting for several years.

- i. A multifold **reintegration framework** with broader focus both on violent and non-violent individuals and groups is required. A creative multipronged reintegration framework is required, irrespective of whether the state adopts a surgical approach or a political one, to tackle terrorism.
- ii. There is no denying the fact that **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.

- iii. Jail 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.
- iv. 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.
- v. 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.

1.2.3. Critical areas

i. FATA and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Continuing attacks in FATA by Jamaatul Ahrar, TTP, and other groups offer a great challenge to the security forces as well as the federal government, which is working to mainstream the region. While extensive

surveillance and combing operations in parts of KP pay at least in terms of deterring militants from launching attacks, such an effective policing system is absent in FATA where the political administration and security forces mostly rely on the clause of the FCR relating to collective responsibility to urge tribesmen and tribal elders to take action against miscreants. In this context, the need to speed up the reforms in FATA becomes manifold. The return of temporarily displaced persons (TDPs; also known as IDPs) from North Waziristan and other agencies of FATA still need a special focus of the government and security institutions.

ii. Balochistan

Changing dynamics of unrest and insecurity in Balochistan indicate the province faces a much larger threat from brands of Islamist militants than from Baloch insurgents. The latter usually launch low-intensity attacks but the groups like Lashkar-e-Jhangvi (LeJ) and its global arm LeJ Al-Alami, Jamaatul Ahrar and TTP have been carrying out major attacks in the province including the recent ones in Quetta and Khuzdar. While the nationalist insurgency is easy to tackle, provided the government shows a political resolve, Islamist militant groups including violent sectarian will be very difficult to eliminate in a province with sparse populations and a huge area with less governed spaces. Also, there is a risk that growing presence and activities of Islamist militants in the

province will contribute to decreased focus of security forces and government on Baloch insurgency and its resolution.

1.3 Recommendations

- **Effective Implementation Mechanism of the NAP and Internal Security Priorities**

PIPS endorses the recommendations put forth in the **Justice Qazi Faiz Isa Commission** report for the effective implementation of the NAP. To re-emphasize, it repeats the following sentences of the report: "The National Action Plan should be made into a proper plan, with clear goals, a comprehensive monitoring mechanism, and periodic reviewing. It should also be translated into Urdu for wider dissemination and understanding."¹⁴ While endorsing other recommendations espoused in the commission report, PIPS would also like to highlight the following recommendations for the **better policing and implementation on relevant critical points of NAP**, which still await proper attention of the relevant authorities:

- 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.
- 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 labs¹⁵ 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.

- **CVE strategy**

Counter Violent Extremism (CVE) policy is as essential as the NAP. In 2016, PIPS compiled recommendations for Pakistan's Counter Violent Extremism (CVE) framework and reconstruction of national narratives.¹⁶ The institute believes the document would be a useful source for such policy initiative. The few highlights of the recommendations were:

- 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.

- **Focus on critical areas**

- Rapid completion of development initiatives in FATA and KP is crucial. The government needs swift action to not only provides full facilities to the IDPs but also to check undesired practices by such charity organizations in IDPs camps. There is a need for making government aid agencies more effective to enhance trust of the IDPs on the state.
- Provincial borders, especially between Sindh and Balochistan and delta areas of Punjab and Sindh needed to be secure; not only criminals but terrorist groups too are exploiting the less-governed territories.

Security landscape of Pakistan in 2016

Safdar Sial*

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2.1 Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and FATA

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) was the second-most terrorism-affected region of Pakistan in 2016 after Balochistan. As many as 127 terrorist attacks were reported from 16 districts of the province, which killed 189 people and injured another 355 people. In KP, the number of attacks increased by 2 percent, compared to previous year, and the number of people killed in these attacks increased by 5 percent, and those of injured by 63 percent.

Besides 5 suicide bombings, militants used firing in carrying out 77 attacks in KP, IEDs of various types in 37 attacks, hand grenades in 7 attacks and rockets in one attack.

Some major terrorist attacks reported from the province in 2016 included a coordinated gun attack on Bacha Khan University in Charsadda; a gun-and-suicide attack in the sessions courts, Charsadda; a blast in a bus carrying government officials in Peshawar; and a suicide blast at the district and sessions court, Mardan. Another significant feature of militancy in KP in 2016 was linked to frequent targeted attacks on policemen.

Among those killed in terrorist attacks in KP in 2016 were 114 civilians, 62 personnel of security forces and law enforcement agencies – 8 FC men, 47 policemen, 6 army troops, and one Levies official – and 13 militants. Those injured included 259 civilians, 82 policemen, 9 FC troops, 4 Army soldiers and one militant.

Out of the reported 127 attacks from KP, 8 were sectarian-related – mostly incidents of targeted killing of adherents of Sunni and Shia sects of Islam besides one hand grenade attack on a mosque – which claimed 10 lives and wounded 16 others. Three such attacks took place in Peshawar and a same number of them was reported from DI Khan; one sectarian attack each occurred in Swat and Haripur.

The remaining 119 attacks reported from the province were carried out by militants belonging to the TTP, local Taliban groups, Jamaatul Ahrar and Lashkar-e-Islam etc. These attacks killed 179 people and wounded 339 others.

As many as 48, or about 38 percent of the total reported attacks from KP, took place in the provincial capital Peshawar alone. The second-most affected district was Swat, where 16 terrorist attacks happened in 2016. Meanwhile, 10 terrorist attacks took place in Bannu, 9 in DI Khan, 7 attacks each in Charsadda and Swabi, and 6 attacks in Mardan. In terms of casualties in terrorist attacks, Peshawar was affected the most (62 deaths), followed by Charsadda (47 deaths).

Table 1: Terrorist Attacks in KP in 2016

District	Attacks	Killed	Injured
Bannu	10	10	7
Battagram	1	1	1
Buner	1	1	0
Charsadda	7	47	81
D.I. Khan	9	8	3
Haripur	1	1	0

District	Attacks	Killed	Injured
Kohat	2	1	1
Lakki Marwat	5	4	3
Lower Dir	5	6	2
Mardan	6	16	94
Nowshera	3	4	2
Peshawar	48	62	125
Swabi	7	6	8
Swat	16	11	25
Tank	5	4	3
Upper Dir	1	7	0
Total	127	189	355

Apart from 127 terrorist attacks, KP also witnessed 3 incidents of ethnic and political violence, 5 operational strikes by security forces, 15 armed clashes/encounters between security/law enforcement personnel and militants, 3 cross-border incursions from Afghanistan (all in Chitral), and one clash between militants and tribesmen.

On the whole, 154 incidents of violence took place in the KP province which claimed the lives of 242 people – 122 civilians, 68 personnel of security and law enforcement agencies, and 52 militants – and wounded 373 others.

Meanwhile, 99 terrorist attacks were recorded in the Federally Administrated Tribal Areas (FATA) in 2016 in which 163 people lost their lives and 221 others were wounded. Compared to 2015, the frequency of terrorist attacks in FATA

decreased by 32 percent and the number of those killed in these attacks fell by 38 percent.

Those killed in terrorist attacks in FATA included 91 civilians, 43 security personnel and 29 militants, while those injured included 144 civilians and 77 security personnel.

Apart from conducting 3 suicide blasts in FATA, militants employed IEDs in carrying out most attacks (64) in FATA, firing in 26 attacks, hand grenades in 3 attacks, mortars and rockets in one attack each, besides indulging in one act of sabotage.

Some of the major attacks recorded in FATA during the year included: a suicide attack on Khassadar force in Jamrud; targeted killing of 7 Khassadar officials in Mohmand Agency; and a suicide blast in a mosque in Mohmand Agency.

No sectarian attack took place in FATA in 2016, and all of the 99 reported attacks were carried out by different Taliban groups, mainly the TTP and Jamaatul Ahrar, and other militants with similar objectives such as Lashkar-e-Islam.

Jamaatul Ahrar carried out most of the 36 attacks reported from Mohmand Agency. The group was also found involved in terrorist attacks in other FATA agencies mainly Bajaur Agency, where 15 attacks took place during the year 2016.

As many as 19 attacks were reported from Khyber Agency, where Lashkar-e-Islam and its ally the TTP remained active. The TTP and its splinter faction Sajna group were found active in North and South Waziristan, where 8 and 12 attacks took place, respectively. Sporadic attacks were also reported from Orakzai and Kurram agencies. (See Table 2)

Table 2: Terrorist Attacks in FATA in 2016

Agency	Attacks	Killed	Injured
Bajaur Agency	15	9	14
Mohmand Agency	36	79	76
Khyber Agency	19	37	74
Orakzai Agency	3	2	4
Kurram Agency	6	15	6
North Waziristan Agency	8	11	23
South Waziristan Agency	12	10	24
Total	99	163	221

Other than the above-mentioned terrorist attacks, 24 operational strikes by the security forces and 5 armed clashes/encounters between security forces and militants were also recorded in FATA during the year. Furthermore, 14 cross-border attacks took place in parts of FATA from other side of the Pakistani-Afghan border. Two US-led drone strikes also hit FATA. Two inter-militants clashes and one militants-tribesmen clash also took place there during the year. On the

whole, 147 incidents of violence of various types killed 439 people – 98 civilians, 52 security personnel, and 289 militants – and wounded 275 others in FATA.

2. 1.1 Attacks on security forces/law-enforcement agencies

Personnel and check-posts of security forces and law enforcement agencies were prime targets for militants in KP and FATA during 2016. As many as 112 terrorist attacks in both regions hit security and law enforcement agencies, claiming 142 lives – 58 policemen, 23 army officials, 14 FC troops, 3 Levies, 10 civilians as well as 34 militants – and wounding 232 others.

Out of these 112 attacks, 104 targeted personnel of security forces and law enforcement, and 8 attacks hit at security check posts. Militants of the TTP, Jamaatul Ahrar, Khyber Agency-based Lashkar-e-Islam, and local Taliban groups in parts of KP and FATA were mainly involved in attacks on security forces and law enforcers.

As many as 70 of these attacks concentrated in KP, most of them being incidents of targeted killing of policemen, and the remaining 42 took place in FATA.

The highest number of attacks against security/law enforcement agencies in any one regions of FATA and KP was reported from Peshawar (29 attacks), followed by Mohmand Agency (18), Swat (11), Khyber Agency (8), South Waziristan (6), Swabi

(5) and 4 attacks each in Bajaur Agency, Charsadda, and Lakki Marwat.

Some of the main attacks against security forces and law enforcers in KP and FATA in 2016 are narrated below:

- January 19: Twelve persons, including a journalist and 3 Khassadar policemen, were killed while 39 others sustained injuries when a suicide bomber targeted the tribal Khassadar force in the Karkhano Market in Jamrud, close to the Peshawar boundary with Khyber Agency.¹⁷
- February 18: Seven Khassadar personnel were killed when reportedly Jamaatul Ahrar militants opened fire at a security check-post in Karapa area of Pindiali tehsil in Mohmand Agency.¹⁸
- April 7: Militants stormed a check-post of Frontier Corps in Shabek area of Kurram tribal region. Twelve militants were killed and several others injured in retaliating firing by security forces.¹⁹
- May 25: Three FC personnel, including a senior officer, were gunned down in a targeted attack on their vehicle near Patang Chowk on Ring Road, Peshawar. The banned Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan claimed responsibility for the attack.²⁰

- September 18: Three army personnel lost their lives in a gun attack in Garhi Sohbat Khan on the outskirts of the provincial capital, Peshawar *Express Tribune* reported that those killed were civilians but working for Pakistan Army.²¹
- November 22: A truck carrying the FC personnel was targeted with an Improvised Explosive Device blast in the Bashirabad locality of Peshawar. Three FC personnel were killed and six others along with a civilian were wounded in the blast.²²
- November 26: The terrorists attacked the mosque in the FC camp in the agency, where the recruits were offering prayers. Two FC men were killed and 14 others injured during the gun battle with the terrorists. All the four terrorists were killed.²³

2.1.2 Attacks on pro-government tribesmen and tribal elders

A total of 26 terrorist attacks in KP and FATA targeted members of peace committees and anti-militant *lashkars* – usually known as pro-government tribesmen or elders – in 2016, killing 68 and wounding 49 people; 34 such attacks had happened in 2015. Peace committees were formed in parts of FATA to keep an eye on the activities of suspected elements and inform the security forces accordingly.

Around 18 of these attacks concentrated in three tribal agencies of Mohmand (7 attacks), Bajaur (5) and Khyber (6 attacks). While Jamaatul Ahrar launched most of the recorded attacks on tribal pro-government tribesmen in Mohmand and Bajaur agencies, Lashkar-e-Islam was involved in targeting them in Khyber Agency. Sporadic attacks on pro-government elders and members of peace committees were also reported from Swat (2), Tank (2), South Waziristan (1), Lower Dir (1), Upper Dir (1) and Bannu (1 attack).

Jamaatul Ahrar hit hard pro-government tribesmen in Mohmand Agency killing a total of 40 tribesmen and wounding 36 others in a total of 7 attacks. Worst of these attacks happened on September 6, when a suicide bomber attacked a mosque in Payee Khan village during Friday prayers, leaving at least 36 worshipers dead and over 30 injured. Jamaatul Ahrar spokesman said while claiming responsibility for the bombing that members of pro-government tribal *lashkars* were the target.²⁴ The group was also reportedly involved in 3 of the 5 such attacks reported from Bajaur Agency.

Similarly, as cited earlier, all 6 such attacks reported from Khyber Agency were launched by Lashkar-e-Islam. Five volunteers of the Zakhakhel Peace Committee were gunned down and another one was injured in an attack claimed by the group, on November 16.²⁵

A single reported attack targeting pro-government tribesmen in Upper Dir killed 7 tribesmen on July 18, including a leader of a peace *lashkar* and two councilors. Reportedly, they were returning from a jirga held in the Panaghar area when the remote-controlled blast hit their pick-up van.²⁶

In a similar incident reported from Swat, militants opened fire on Mohammad Khan, a village defense committee member, when he came out of his house with his two police guards, killing him and a policeman and wounding another policeman.²⁷

2.1.3 Attacks on civilians

As many as 45 terrorist attacks in KP and FATA in 2016 apparently targeted civilians claiming 40 lives and inflicting injuries on another 133 people; 23 of these attacks took place in KP and 22 others in FATA.

Civilians faced 9 attacks in Peshawar, 8 in Mohmand Agency, 6 in Bannu, 4 in North Waziristan and 3 attacks each in Khyber, Kurram and South Waziristan agencies. Two reported attacks against civilians in Mardan claimed 14 lives.

On September 2, at least 14 people, including 2 policemen and 4 lawyers, were killed and 54 others injured when a suicide bomber blew himself up near the entrance of Mardan's district and sessions court. According to police sources, the attacker detonated a hand grenade before exploding his suicide vest.²⁸

2.1.4 Attacks on political workers/leaders

Compared to 18 in the year before, terrorists carried out 10 attacks on the political workers/leaders in parts of KP and FATA, in which 8 people were killed and 7 others were injured. These attacks were reported from Swat (2 attacks), Swabi (2), Lower Dir (2), DI Khan (1), Kurram Agency (1), Peshawar (1) and Nowshera (1 attack).

Among those killed in these attacks were a general councilor of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz in Swabi, an Awami National Party leader and former union council nazim in Mingora, the PPP local leader Hussain Turi in Parachinar, Kurram Agency, district deputy general secretary of JUI-F Syed Shah Ali Khan in Lower Dir, and a woman councilor of Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf Zainab Khattak in Nowshera.

2.1.5 Attacks on govt. officials and offices/institutions

At least 10 attacks in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and FATA hit government functionaries and offices/institutions during 2016, killing 42 and wounding 83 people. Most of these casualties resulted from 2 attacks, one on sessions court in Shabqadar and second on a bus carrying government employees in Peshawar.

On March 7, a suicide bomber opened fire at police officers at sessions courts in Shabqadar and started running toward the

courtrooms where a large number of lawyers and their clients were present. A policeman began fighting the attacker, who then detonated his explosives in a court compound. Jamaatul Ahrar claimed the responsibility for the attack saying it was revenge of the hanging of Mumtaz Qadri, the convicted murderer of Punjab.²⁹

Some days later, on March 16, at least 16 people were killed and 30 others injured when a bomb exploded in a bus carrying government officials. The blast took place on Sunehri Masjid road, Peshawar after the bus picked up government employees from Shergarh in Mardan and was transporting them to work in the city. Khyber Agency-based Lashkar-e-Islam group claimed the responsibility for the attack saying it was revenge against ratification of death sentence of 13 convicts by the military chief and the military operation.³⁰

In Peshawar, militants shot dead Nawab Safi, an officer of the Provincial Management Service, who was presently serving as section officer in the Establishment Department. He was coming out of the mosque after offering prayers when two motorcyclists opened fire on him.³¹

2.1.6 Attacks on educational institutions

Six reported attacks on educational institutions in parts of KP and FATA killed 26 people and injured 40 others.

At least 21 people, most of them students and teachers, were killed as at least four militants armed with hand grenades and AK-47 rifles attacked Bacha Khan University in Charsadda, on January 20. Security forces killed all four attackers. The mastermind of the APS Peshawar attack, Omar Mansoor, of the banned TTP's Geedar group claimed the attack. However, a spokesperson from the TTP, Mohammad Khorasani, issued a conflicting statement saying the attack was against Shariah.³²

Other 5 attacks on educational institutions were reported from Mohmand, North Waziristan, and South Waziristan agencies in FATA and Tank in KP province. In all, a minor girl was killed and 5 others, including a policeman, were injured in these attacks on schools.

2.2 Balochistan

As in past two years, the highest number of terrorist attacks for any one region of Pakistan was reported from Balochistan (151 attacks, or 34 percent of total attacks in Pakistan). The province was also the most affected region of the country in terms of casualties in terrorist attacks with 412 people killed and 702 others injured, constituting 45 percent and 43 percent, respectively, of the total number of people killed and injured in such attacks across Pakistan in 2016.

Despite a 29 percent reported decrease in terrorist attacks in Balochistan, compared to 2015, the number of people killed in

these attacks surged by 63 percent and those of injured by 116 percent.

The reported surge in terrorism-related casualties in the province was largely caused by a phenomenal increase, compared to previous year, in casualties resulting from terrorist attacks carried out by either Taliban militants – mainly the TTP and Jamaatul Ahrar – or violent sectarian groups – in particular Lashkar-e-Jhangvi Al-Alami. The casualties resulting from attacks by Baloch insurgents nonetheless fell significantly from the year before.

The Islamist militant and violent sectarian groups carried out a combined 27 attacks in Balochistan in 2016, which claimed 249 lives – an increase of 82 percent from people killed in such attacks in Balochistan 2015 – and injured 483 others. Some major attacks by militant and violent sectarian groups included: the TTP's attacks on a polio health centre in January and a FC convoy in February in Quetta; Jamaatul Ahrar's onslaught on Quetta's lawyers community in Civil Hospital in August; and Lashkar-e-Jhangvi Al-Alami's attacks on police academy in Quetta in October, and on Shah Noorani shrine in Khuzdar in November.

Meanwhile, different Baloch insurgent groups carried out 124 terrorist attacks, which claimed 163 lives – a decrease of 22 percent from people killed in attacks by Baloch insurgents in 2015 – and wounded

214 others. The Baloch insurgent groups reportedly found involved in these attacks included the Baloch Liberation Front (BLF), Baloch Republican Army (BRA), Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA), Lashkar-e-Balochistan, and United Baloch Army (UBA).

Those killed in terrorist attacks in Balochistan in 2016 included 230 civilians, 115 police officials, 31 FC troops, 18 Levies, 2 army men, 2 paramilitaries, and 14 militants. Meanwhile 425 civilians, 219 policemen, 50 FC troops, 5 Levies, and 3 army men were among those injured in these attacks.

The provincial capital was worst hit by terrorists in 2016 where 49 terrorist attacks took place, killing 238 people and wounding another 458. As many as 20 attacks were reported from Dera Bugti, 15 from Kech, 11 from Mastung, 8 from Khuzdar, 7 from Nasirabad, and 6 attacks each from Awaran and Gwadar districts of Balochistan.

Over 72 percent of the total number of people killed in terrorist attacks in Balochistan concentrated in Quetta and Khuzdar due to some major attacks that hit the two cities in 2016.

Table 3: Terrorist Attacks in Balochistan in 2016

District	Attacks	Killed	Injured
Awaran	6	9	24
Barkhan	2	4	2
Bolan	3	6	22

District	Attacks	Killed	Injured
Dera Bugti	20	8	15
Gwadar	6	16	3
Jafarabad	1	0	0
Kalat	2	4	4
Kech	15	15	23
Khuzdar	8	61	104
Kohlu	2	3	6
Lasbela	1	0	2
Loralai	1	3	0
Mastung	11	15	3
Nasirabad	7	9	10
Panjgur	3	2	0
Pishin	1	1	0
Qilla Abdullah	3	2	3
Quetta	49	238	458
Sibi	4	8	14
Sohbatpur	3	6	0
Zhob	3	2	9
Total	151	412	702

On the whole, 681 people lost their lives and 744 others sustained injuries in a total of 234 incidents of violence of different types reported from Balochistan in 2016. These overall violent incidents included 151 terrorist attacks described earlier, 38 operational attacks by security forces, 37 armed clashes and encounters between security forces and militants, 6 cross-border attacks in areas bordering Iran and Afghanistan, one drone strike, and one inter-militants clash.

A US-led drone strike in Nushki area of Balochistan reportedly killed Afghan

Taliban leader Mullah Akhtar Mansour along with his driver.

A total of 60 dead bodies were also recovered from different areas of the province during the year; identities of most bodies and their killers were unknown.

Security forces, either independently or in collaboration with bomb disposal squad, foiled 18 terror bids in Balochistan.

2.2.1 Attacks by religiously-inspired militants

The TTP, its splinter groups Jamaatul Ahrar and Saeed Sajna group, or Mehsud Taliban, ISIS-affiliates and supporters and Lashkar-e-Jhangvi Al-Alami (LeJ-A) carried out 22 attacks in Balochistan in 2016; attacks by LeJ-A hitting non-sectarian targets only are included here; its sectarian attacks in Balochistan are described in the following section. These attacks claimed in all 187 lives besides inflicting injuries on another 381 people.

These attacks by religiously-inspired militants – excluding sectarian – were reported from 5 districts of Balochistan including Quetta (15 attacks), Zhob (3), Qilla Abdullah (2), and one attack each in Kalat and Mastung. As many as 15 of these attacks targeted security forces and law enforcement agencies, 3 attacks hit civilians, 3 targeted government officials, and one attack each targeted a hospital and

Hindu community members. Some major attacks of this type are narrated below:

- January 13: A suicide bomber detonated his vest near the vehicles of security personnel close to a government health center in Satellite Town area of Quetta being used to organize a polio vaccination campaign. At least 15 people including 13 policemen and an FC troop were killed and 25 others injured in the blast,³³ which was separately claimed by the TTP and another banned group Jaishul Islam.
- February 6: A suicide bomber on a bicycle, carrying explosive material, blew himself when he was near a truck in an FC convoy in Quetta. At least 10 people, including four FC troops and a girl, lost their lives and 35 others were injured including 15 FC men. The Khorasani group of the banned TTP claimed responsibility for the attack.³⁴
- August 8: At least 70 people, most of them lawyers, were killed and more than a hundred wounded in a suicide attack targeting mourners of Bilal Anwar Kasi, who gathered at a state-run hospital in Quetta. Four injured later died in hospital, raising the death toll to 74. Jamaatul Ahrar and the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) both claimed responsibility for the attack, separately.³⁵ Earlier on the day, Balochistan Bar Association

president Bilal Anwar Kasi was killed in a gun attack. The Jamaatul Ahrar had claimed the killing.³⁶

- October 25: At least 61 security personnel were killed and 165 others injured as 3 heavily armed terrorists wearing suicide vests stormed a police training centre near Quetta; fatalities later rose to 64. Most of the deaths were caused when two of the attackers blew themselves up. The third was shot dead by FC troops. IG FC Sher Afgan said communication intercepts showed the attack was carried out by Al-Alami faction of the Lashkar-e-Jhangvi (LeJ). However the Islamic State group also claimed the responsibility suggesting the two groups coordinated for the attack.³⁷

2.2.2 Sectarian-related attacks

Compared to 12 in the year before, a total of 5 sectarian-related attacks took place in Balochistan in 2016, including 3 in Quetta and 2 in Khuzdar. However compared to 34 lives in previous year, sectarian-related attacks claimed 62 lives in Balochistan in 2016 and inflicted injuries on 102 others. This surge in casualties was largely contributed by a lethal attack by Lashkar-e-Jhangvi Al-Alami (LeJ-A) on a shrine in Khuzdar district.

Two of these attacks targeted members of Hazara Shia community, another two hit members of Sunni community and one attack targeted a shrine of Shia Muslims.

The LeJ-A carried out 2 attacks, LeJ was involved in one attack while Shia sectarian group Sipah-e-Muhammad was reportedly behind 2 attacks.

As cited earlier, 3 of these attacks were reported from Quetta, respectively killing a Sunni prayer leader, two men of Hazara Shia community, and 4 women of Hazara Shia community travelling in a bus. In Khuzdar, 2 such attacks separately hit a shrine killing 54 devotees and a Sunni cleric.

2.2.3 Attacks by Baloch insurgents

Baloch insurgent groups carried out a total of 124 terrorist attacks in 20 districts in Balochistan in 2016 – a decrease of 36 percent from 2015. Similarly marking a 23 percent decline from 2015, the attacks by Baloch insurgents killed 163 people in 2016; another 219 were also injured in these attacks. The attack tactics employed by the insurgents included 60 incidents of firing or targeted killing mainly of policemen, 52 IEDs blasts, 5 rocket attacks, 6 grenade attacks, and one act of sabotage.

Security and law-enforcement personnel, their convoys and check-posts were among the prime targets the insurgents hit at: in as many as 57 attacks against such targets 86 people were killed, which included 20 FC troops, 30 police officials, 17 Levies, 2 paramilitary men, 7 civilians and 10 militants. Baloch insurgents hit security and law enforcement agencies mainly in Quetta, in 27 attacks, and came

under attack in Mastung 6 times. Meanwhile, 3 such attacks were reported from Awaran, Dera Bugti, Gwadar and Kech. On the whole, security forces were hit by Baloch insurgents in 16 districts.

On January 18, the security personnel were on routine patrol when a bomb went off near their vehicle in the Margat area of Quetta killing 6 men of the paramilitary Frontier Corps (FC) and wounding another.³⁸ Again in Quetta, on June 29, officials of FC were patrolling in their official vehicle when they were attacked on Double Road. Two officers died on the spot while another two succumbed to their injuries in hospital.³⁹ In Gwadar district, 6 Levies officials and an administrative official were killed when reportedly BLA militants ambushed their vehicle and blew it with a rocket. The attack happened in Kuldarn, in Jiwani, close to Iranian border.⁴⁰ Once again in the same area, on October 23, two personnel of the Pakistan Coast Guards (PCG) were shot dead by gunmen in the coastal town of Jiwani; two civilians were injured, who died in a hospital next day. A spokesman for the Baloch Liberation Army, Jeehand Baloch, claimed responsibility for the attack in an email message sent to the media.⁴¹

Baloch insurgents also hit apparently civilians in as many as 35 attacks killing 46 and wounding 81 others. They used IEDs, mostly landmines, in 23 attacks, hand grenades in 3 attacks, rockets in 2 attacks besides 7 incidents of targeted shootout.

On April 12, three of a family died when the motorcycle they were riding hit an improvised explosive device (IED) placed on a roadside in Garshand area in Wadh tehsil of Khuzdar district.⁴² During the same month, at least 2 similar landmine blasts hit a tractor and a motorbike, respectively, in Sohbatpur and Sibi killing in all 5 people. In Quetta, 5 people were killed and 28 injured in a bomb blast on June 24. Reportedly, a time device was fixed to a bicycle by militants who parked it in the market at Almo Chowk, where peoples were busy shopping when the bomb went off.⁴³ In Awaran, at least 11 people were injured when militants hurled a grenade at a bus-stop in the town on August 24. According to some media reports, three people were also killed in the attack.⁴⁴ On December 30, a BLF spokesman Gohram Baloch claimed that a man identified as Muslim was killed by BLF 2 days ago in Tump area as he was working against the interests of the organization. He regretted the killing of another man, Bohair Hamza, as a result of mistaken identity.⁴⁵

Baloch insurgents hit state installations in Balochistan, including gas pipelines, power pylons, and railway tracks and trains, as well as government officials and functionaries in a total of 15 attacks. These attacks claimed 12 lives and injured 28 others besides causing damage to the targeted buildings, railways tracks and trains, power pylons, gas pipelines and

other infrastructure. Six of such insurgent attacks were reported from Dera Bugti, followed by 2 attacks each from Bolan, Gwadar, and Mastung districts. In a single such attack reported from Sibi, two passengers of Quetta-bound Jaffar Express were killed and five others injured when a bomb hit a railway track near Mithri area on April 5.⁴⁶ Similarly, one attack each in Kech and Quetta hit similar targets.

In Bolan district, at least six passengers of Rawalpindi-bound Jaffar Express train died and 19 others sustained injuries in two successive explosions on a railway track in Mach area, on October 7. A spokesman for the Baloch Liberation Army said the attack had targeted 'military personnel who travel to Rawalpindi by this train'.⁴⁷ In Mastung, two officials of Pakistan Customs, Naseer Ahmed Jamali and Iftikhar Ahmed, were killed and another was injured when militants sprayed a volley of bullets on their vehicle on October 24.⁴⁸ In Gwadar district, On November 26, a team of the Coal Geophysical Company, under the patronage of the Oil and Gas Development Company, were carrying out a survey in the Dando area of Kolanch when it came under heavy fire. The security guards retaliated but two of them died in the exchange of fire.⁴⁹

Baloch insurgents targeted also political leaders and members, mainly of the National Party (NP) and the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz, in a total of 9 attacks killing 7 and wounding 11 others. These attacks also included two attacks on

Balochistan Home Minister Mir Sarfaraz Bugti, who remain unhurt in these attacks. These attacks took place in Kech – home town of NP – Khuzdar, Dera Bugti, Awaran and Mastung. The BLF was the main group behind these attacks besides Lashkar-e-Balochistan and the BRA.

Meanwhile 2 insurgent attacks on non-Baloch workers or settlers killed 7 people. On May 23, reportedly BLF militants shot dead 5 suspected non-Balochi persons in the Mand area of Kech district and also set their vehicle on fire. The victims were identified as Abdul Qayyum, Muhammad Amin, Mahed, Nadil and Abdul Karim.⁵⁰ On September 5, alleged Baloch insurgents riding a motorcycle opened fire on 2 labourers in Mastung who died on the spot while the attackers managed to escape.⁵¹

In a rare attack by Baloch insurgents, the spiritual leader of the Zikri community Syed Mullah Akhtar Mullai was shot dead in the Balgather Gadagi area of Kech district. Few days later, the BLF claimed it had killed the leader of the Zikri community for 'spying for Pakistani agencies and its state institution' and not for his religious or sectarian beliefs.⁵²

Separately, a team of houbara bustard hunters from Abu Dhabi, led by Prince Sheikh Saif bin Zayed Al Nahyan, came under a gun attack allegedly by BLF insurgents in the Gichk area of Panjgur. Personnel of Frontier Corps and other

security men retaliated, forcing the attackers to flee.⁵³

2.3 Sindh

Marked by a decrease of 47 percent from previous year, as many as 54 terrorist attacks took place in Sindh in 2016, including 47 in Karachi, 3 in Hyderabad, and one attack each in Khairpur, Larkana, Shikarpur and Sukkur districts. These attacks claimed 63 lives, a decrease of 75 percent from previous year, and injured 104 others; most of those killed and injured (60 and 75, respectively) concentrated in Karachi.

Among those killed in these attacks were 35 civilians – including a bulk of the members of Shia and Sunni communities, who lost their lives in sectarian-related attacks – 21 policemen, 2 Army officials and One Rangers personnel besides 4 militants. Among those injured were 90 civilians, 5 policemen and 9 Rangers.

Factions of the TTP and associated or other militants with similar objectives such as Jamaatul Ahrar carried out 28 attacks in Sindh – all in Karachi, including 20 against policemen and Rangers – killing 31 people and wounding 36 others.

Meanwhile 19 sectarian-related attacks were reported from Sindh – 18 from Karachi and one from Shikarpur – that claimed 31 lives besides inflicting injuries on 38 others. As many as 11 out of the

total reported sectarian attacks from Sindh in 2016 took place in the two months of October and November.

Sindhi nationalist insurgents, mainly Sindhu Desh Liberation Army (SDLA) and another hitherto unknown group Sindhu Desh Revolutionary Army, carried out a total of 7 attacks in Sindh – 3 in Hyderabad, and one attack each in Karachi, Larkana, Khairpur and Sukkur. These attacks killed one and wounded 30 people.

Table 4: Terrorist Attacks in Sindh

Types of Attacks	No. of Attacks	Killed	Injured
By nationalist insurgents	7	1	30
By Taliban and similar militants	28	31	36
Sectarian-related attacks	19	31	38
Total	54	63	104

As cited earlier, the provincial capital Karachi faced highest number of attacks (47) among all districts of Sindh. Three attacks took place in Hyderabad, and one attack each was reported from Khairpur, Larkana, Shikarpur and Sukkur districts.

Table 5: Regional Distribution of Terrorist Attacks in Sindh

Location	No. of Attacks	Killed	Injured
Hyderabad	3	0	12
Karachi	47	60	75
Khairpur	1	0	0

Location	No. of Attacks	Killed	Injured
Larkana	1	1	15
Shikarpur	1	2	2
Sukkur	1	0	2
Total	54	63	104

2.3.1 Karachi

Showing a 44 percent decrease from previous year, as many as 47 terrorist attacks took place in Karachi in 2016. These attacks claimed 60 lives, a decrease of 60 percent as compared to 2015, and injured 75 others.

In a high-profile target killing, renowned Sufi singer and qawwali maestro Amjad Sabri was travelling from his home to a television studio to attend an iftar transmission, when armed motorcyclists targeted him. Hakeemullah Mehsud group of the TTP claimed the responsibility.⁵⁴ In November, Sindh Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah told journalists in a press conference that the Counter-Terrorism Department of police had arrested two men involved in Sabri's killing, who were associated with Naeem Bukhari group of Lashkar-e-Jhangvi.⁵⁵ In all, the militants targeted civilians in 5 attacks in Karachi in 2016 killing one and wounding 28 people.

The Taliban and other militants targeted personnel of security forces and law enforcement agencies in Karachi in a total of 20 attacks. As many as 20 policemen, 2 army men and 3 militants were killed in these attacks, while 3 militants, a same

number of Rangers and one civilian were injured. Most of these attacks (15) were incidents of targeted killings while 5 attacks employed IEDs. Security forces and law enforcers, mainly police, were targeted across Karachi including in Nazimabad, Northern Bypass, Gulshan-e-Iqbal, Korangi, Liaquatabad, Orangi Town, Ayesha Manzil, Sadar, Defense Housing Authority, North Karachi, North Nazimabad, and Gulistan-e-Jauhar areas.

Some of the police and security officials target killed by militants in Karachi in 2016 included a police commando Syed Zahid Hussain Jafri; a Christian police official Shahbaz Bhatti; two military men, Lance Naik Abdul Razzaq and Sepoy Khadim Hussain; a traffic police sub-inspector Muhammad Arshad; an assistant sub-inspector Shahzad Akhtar; and a deputy superintendent of traffic police Faiz Ali Shigri, who was reportedly killed in a sectarian attack.

On April 20, 8 gunmen riding four motorcycles killed 3 police officials guarding polio workers in the streets of Orangi Town. In the second attack by the same 8 militants riding motorcycles, another 4 policemen guarding polio workers were shot dead. The militants opened fire on policemen when they were sitting in a police van.⁵⁶ A splinter group of the TTP known as Jamaatul Ahrar claimed the responsibility of the attack.

Separately, at least three people including a security guard were killed when two militants opened fire inside a wine shop at Abul Hasan Isphahani Road, on June 5. Two victims belonged to Hindu community.⁵⁷ In another attack on members of Hindu community, a Hindu doctor was shot dead outside his clinic by militants in Pak Colony, on August 5.⁵⁸ In a related attack, 4 men on two motorcycles shot dead Shaikh Sajid Mehmood, 55, a member of the Ahmedi community, when he came out of his home in Kaneez Fatima Society, off Superhighway, in the Sachal area.⁵⁹

In an attack on civil society members, gunmen shot dead rights activist and blogger Khurram Zaki, when he and his friend Khalid Rao were having tea at a roadside stall in Sector 11-B of North Karachi.⁶⁰

Apart from the attacks by the Taliban and other militants, violent sectarian groups carried out a total of 18 attacks in Karachi, killing 29 people and injuring 36 others. Out of these 18 attacks, as many as 11 attacks hit members and leaders of Shia community; 6 hit Sunni religious community; while one attack targeted members of Bohra community. With the exception of one IED blast, all other sectarian-related attacks reported from the city were incidents of targeted killing. Incidents of sectarian violence surged in the months of October and November. In October, 5 sectarian-related attacks took place killing 8 members of Shia community.

In November, 6 sectarian attacks took place killing 9 people including 6 adherents of Sunni and 3 of Shia sects.

Sindhi nationalist insurgents also carried out an attack in Karachi. A Chinese engineer, his driver and a private guard were injured on the National Highway in a bomb attack claimed by the little-known Sindhudesh Revolutionary Army, reportedly opposed to the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor.⁶¹

2.3.2 Interior Sindh

Compared to 17 in previous year, as many as 7 terrorist attacks took place in interior Sindh during the year 2016, including 6 carried out by Sindhi insurgent groups and one sectarian-related attack. These attacks killed 3 people – representing a significant decline from 101 people killed in terrorist attacks in interior Sindh in 2015 – and injured 29 others.

The attacks by Sindhi nationalists, mainly the Sindhu Desh Liberation Army (SDLA), targeted railways tracks/trains (in Hyderabad, Khairpur), civilians (in Hyderabad), Rangers (in Hyderabad and Larkana) and convoy of a Chinese engineer (in Sukkur). These attacks killed a Rangers official and injured 27 people. On July 30, a routine patrol vehicle carrying paramilitary soldiers had just left the Rangers headquarters, situated on Miro Khan Road, when a bomb strapped to a bicycle and another planted in a heap of

garbage went off simultaneously killing a Rangers personnel and wounding 15 others including 5 Rangers. Larkana police were reported to have found a pamphlet — purported to have been written by Sindhudesh Revolutionary Army — claiming responsibility for the attack. It warned the paramilitary force to leave Sindh as soon as possible.⁶²

An attack by SDLA targeted civilians in Hyderabad. A powerful cracker went off underneath the Sakhi Abdul Wahab Shah Jillani flyover, where a soft drink seller was serving his customers. Nine people were injured in the blast.⁶³ On December 14, a low-intensity bomb exploded at a tyre shop on the premises of a petrol station in Rohri, Sukkur; the bomb was placed in a bicycle. Some reports said a Chinese engineer's vehicle was the target, who remained unhurt. Two people were reportedly injured in the blast, a claim that the police denied.⁶⁴

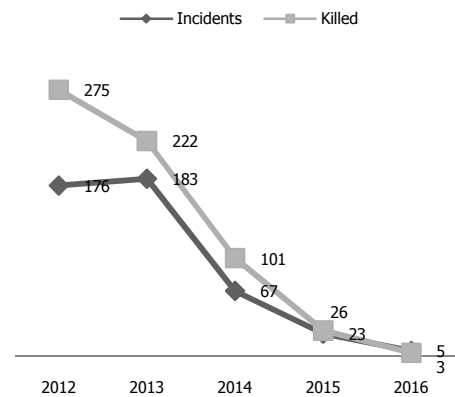
Meanwhile, police and people foiled a major act of terror by killing a would-be suicide bomber and arresting another before they could detonate their suicide vests inside an imambargah in Khanpur, Shikarpur. Three policemen were injured when one of the attackers detonated a grenade; one of the injured later died in hospital.⁶⁵

2.3.3 Ethno-political violence in Karachi

Compared to 23 in previous year, 5 incidents of ethno-political violence took

place in Karachi in 2016, which claimed 3 lives and injured 11 others. Among those killed in these incidents of targeted killing and clashes were a member of Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM) and a worker of Pak Sar Zameen Party besides one person who got killed during MQM supporters' attack on the buildings of ARY and Samaa TV channels.

Chart 1: Trends of Ethno-political Violence in Karachi (2012-16)



2.4 Punjab

Compared to 24 in 2015, a total of 7 terrorist attacks took place in Punjab, a decrease of 69 percent. Despite this significant drop in the number of terrorist attacks in Punjab, the number of people killed (80) and injured (241) in these attacks fell only by 4 percent and one percent, respectively, compared to previous year. That was due to a major

attack launched by militants against members of Christian community in Lahore in March 2016.

Out of the 7 reported attacks from Punjab, 5 were carried out by the Taliban and other militants with similar objectives, namely Jamaatul Ahrar and an ISIS-affiliated group, killing 79 and wounding 235 others. The remaining 2 attacks were sectarian-related and claimed one life besides wounding 6 others.

Those killed in terrorist attacks in Punjab included 75 civilians, 4 policemen, and one militant; those injured were 237 civilians and 4 policemen.

As in previous year, the provincial capital Lahore faced the highest number of casualties in 2016.

Table 6: Terrorist Attacks in Punjab

District	Attacks	Killed	Injured
Faisalabad	1	3	0
Lahore	1	74	231
Rahim Yar Khan	1	1	2
Rawalpindi	1	1	0
Sahiwal	2	1	3
Sialkot	1	0	5
Total	7	80	241

At least 74 people were killed, including 29 children, and more than 233 injured in a suicide blast in the parking space of a crowded park in Lahore where Christians were celebrating Easter Sunday, on March 27. A spokesman for the Jamaatul Ahrar

claimed the responsibility saying Christians were the target.⁶⁶

In Rawalpindi, a head constable Adnan Aziz was gunned down near Dhoke Kashmirian on January 21.⁶⁷ In Faisalabad, 3 police officials including sub-inspector Muhammad Imran were killed when militants opened fire on a patrolling party on February 19. Police found some ISIS pamphlets from the spot, inscribed with a statement which read that a similar fate awaited those who collaborated with the infidels.⁶⁸

In Rahim Yar Khan, 2 officials of the CTD of police were injured in a suicide blast near a mosque in Shafi Town area on December 30. A burqa-clad bomber blew himself when the CTD officials tried to stop him and his companion. DPO Zeeshan Asgher said that the attacker had apparently come to target acting DSP of CTD Mohammad Ashraf who was present nearby.⁶⁹

Sectarian-related attacks were reported from Sahiwal and Sialkot districts. In the former, 2 men allegedly gunned down the caretaker of an imambargah Khalid Butt and critically injured his 24-year-old son Ali Raza when the duo was en route to the imambargah in 86/6-R village.⁷⁰ Separately, the prayer leader of a mosque and four others were injured when armed men attacked a procession on Eid Miladun Nabi in December in village Bhoonaanwali near Daska, in Sialkot district.⁷¹

2.5 Islamabad

Same in number as in the year before: 3 attacks took place in Islamabad in 2016 claiming one life and wounding 4 others.

On January 13, two men on a motorcycle threw a hand grenade into the office building of ARY News injuring one employee. The attackers left behind pamphlets in English and Urdu languages claiming that Islamic State Wilayah Khorasan or the ISIS had carried out the attack.⁷²

On February 12, one police officer was killed and two others were wounded when gunmen opened fire at a security checkpoint.⁷³ In the third reported attack from Islamabad, a general councilor belonging to the Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI) was shot at and injured by assailants within the jurisdiction of the Karachi Company police station, on December 8. The UC-35 chairman Malik Rafiq, who also belongs to the PTI, claimed that the attackers had marked an imambargah and the office of the college's principal on one map, implying that they were doing reconnaissance for carrying out some terrorist activities.⁷⁴

2.6 Suicide attacks

Compared to 18 in the year before, Pakistan faced 17 suicide attacks in 2016 – including one sectarian-related – which killed 382 people and injured 856 others. Despite a 5 percent recorded decrease in the number of suicide attacks, the number of people killed

and injured in these attacks increased by over 51 percent and 97 percent, respectively, when compared to 2015.

Most of the fatalities in suicide attacks in 2016 resulted from the attacks: on Christian community members in a park in Lahore (74 dead; 231 injured); in Civil Hospital Quetta (74 dead; 108 injured); on pro-government tribesmen in Mohmand Agency (36 dead; 30 injured); on police cadets in police academy near Quetta (64 dead; 165 injured); and on a shrine in Khuzdar (54 dead; 100 injured).

Those killed in suicide attacks included 285 civilians, 83 policemen, 5 FC men, 2 army personnel and 7 militants. Those injured included 653 civilians, 182 policemen, 18 FC men, and 3 army soldiers.

Out of the 17 recorded suicide attacks in 2016, 7 took place in Balochistan, 5 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 3 in FATA and 2 in Punjab. The TTP, Jamaatul Ahrar, Lashkar-e-Jhangvi Al-Alami and a TTP splinter Sajna group were behind most of these attacks.

Table 7: Suicide Attacks in Pakistan in 2016

District	Attacks	Killed	Injured
Charsadda	1	20	31
Kalat	1	3	3
Khuzdar	1	54	100
Khyber Agency	2	13	39
Lahore	1	74	231
Mardan	3	15	82

Mohmand Agency	1	36	30
Peshawar	1	3	0
Quetta	4	163	333
Rahim Yar Khan	1	1	2
Zhob	1	0	5
Total	17	382	856

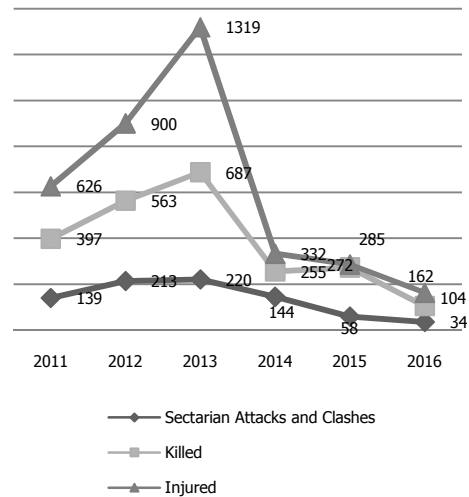
Sunni sectarian groups Lashkar-e-Jhangvi and Lashkar-e-Jhangvi Al-Alami (LeJ-A), and a Shia group Sipah-e-Muhammad were reportedly involved in carrying out sectarian-related terrorist attacks in 2016; the LeJ-A was involved in the only sectarian-related suicide blast recorded in 2016, from Wadh, Khuzdar.

2.7 Sectarian violence

For third year in a row, a visible downward turn was observed in the incidents of sectarian violence in Pakistan in 2016. Representing a decrease of over 41 percent from the year before, a total 34 incidents of sectarian violence were recorded in the country; all these incidents were sectarian-related terrorist attacks, as no sectarian clash was reported during the year.

The number of people killed in sectarian-related terrorist attacks in 2016 also decreased by about 62 percent, from 272 in 2015 to 104 in 2016. As many as 162 people were also injured in these attacks, a decrease of 43 percent from previous year. Out of the total 34 sectarian attacks recorded in 2016, 17 and 12 attacks, respectively, targeted members of Shia and Sunni communities/groups. Three attacks hit worship places/shrines and one attack each targeted members of Bohra community and a police official due to his sectarian association.

Chart 2: Trends of Sectarian Violence (2011-2016)

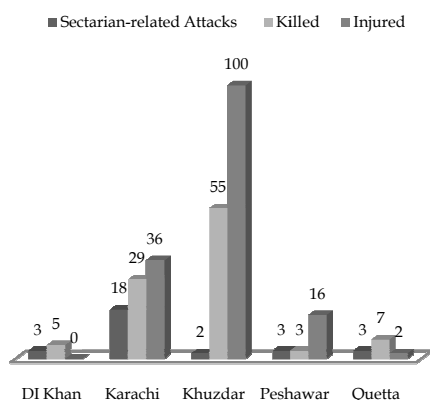


About 81 percent of the total number of people killed and 84 percent of those injured in sectarian-related terrorist attacks across Pakistan in 2016 were concentrated in Khuzdar in Balochistan and Karachi in Sindh. While in Karachi most of such attacks were incidents of targeted killing, in Khuzdar a single suicide blast inside the compound of Shah Noorani shrine claimed 54 lives. Other sectarian

hot spots in 2016 were D.I. Khan, Peshawar and Quetta where three sectarian-related attacks each were recorded during the year. (See Chart 3)

Most of the sectarian attacks (29) in 2016 were incidents of targeted killing. Other attack tactics employed by sectarian terrorists included a suicide blast, an IED attack, and 2 hand grenade attacks besides one act of sabotage.

Chart 3: Sectarian Flashpoints in 2016



As in previous year, the highest number of sectarian-related terrorist attacks from any one region of Pakistan in 2016 was reported from Sindh, where 31 people lost their lives and 38 others were injured in 19 such attacks recorded in Karachi (18 attacks) and Shikarpur (one attack).

However, in terms of casualties in sectarian attacks, Balochistan was the

worst-affected region, where 62 people lost their lives and 102 others were injured in 5 recorded attacks, including 2 in Khuzdar and 3 in Quetta.

As many as 8 sectarian-related terrorist attacks were reported from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, which killed 10 people and wounded 16 others. Meanwhile, 2 reported sectarian attacks from Punjab claimed one life and wounded 6 people. (See Table 8)

Also, compared to 31 districts in 2014 and 15 in 2015, sectarian-related attacks were reported from 10 districts from across Pakistan in 2016.

Table 8: Sectarian-related Terrorist Attacks in 2016

Province	District	Attacks	Killed	Injured
Punjab	Sahiwal	1	1	1
	Sialkot	1	0	5
	Total	2	1	6
Balochistan	Khuzdar	2	55	100
	Quetta	3	7	2
	Total	5	62	102
Sindh	Karachi	18	29	36
	Shikarpur	1	2	2
	Total	19	31	38
KP	D.I. Khan	3	5	0
	Haripur	1	1	0
	Peshawar	3	3	16

Province	District	Attacks	Killed	Injured
	Swat	1	1	0
	Total	8	10	16
Pakistan Total		34	104	162

The reported 19 attacks from **Sindh** represented a decrease of about 30 percent from the year before, and the number of people killed in these attacks (31) also posted a decrease of 81 percent from the number of people killed in such attacks in Sindh in 2015. As many as 11 out of the total 19 reported sectarian attacks from Sindh in 2016 took place in the two months of October and November. Some of the sectarian attacks reported from Sindh in 2016 are narrated below:

- April 8: A 55-year-old Shia man, his young son and their acquaintance were killed in an ambush minutes after they had come out of an imambargah near Shafiq Mor in North Karachi after offering Friday prayers.⁷⁵
- May 11: Armed motorcyclists gunned down four activists of Ahle Sunnat Wal Jamaat (ASWJ), an alleged reincarnation of Sunni sectarian group Sipah-e-Sahaba Pakistan, in front of a mosque in the Federal-B area of Karachi.⁷⁶
- October 17: Two men on a motorcycle lobbed a bomb as women and children sat outside an

imambargah in the densely populated Liaquatabad district of Karachi. As a result a boy was killed and about two dozen were injured.⁷⁷

- October 29: Two assailants riding a motorbike stopped outside a house, near the Nazimabad police station in Karachi and the area headquarters of the Sindh Rangers, where a Muharram majlis for women was being held. One of the attackers entered a tent put up for men outside the house, pulled out a pistol, fired indiscriminately and killed 5 people; another 5 were injured in the attack, claimed by Lashkar-e-Jhangvi Al-Alami.⁷⁸
- November 4: In first of a string of 3 sectarian attacks recorded in Karachi on the same day, armed motorcyclists shot dead two Tableeghi Jamaat members in Patel Para, near Fatima Bai Hospital. The victims Maulana Abdul Baqi and Maulana Mohammad Amin were later reported to be leaders of the Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) and were buried in their home town Khuzdar, Balochistan. The ASWJ had also claimed they were their supporters;⁷⁹ ASWJ and JUI-F both subscribe to Deobandi school of thought. In the second attack, militants shot dead 3 workers of the ASWJ; two helmet-wearing motorcyclists targeted Maulana Usman Haidery, Mohammed Yaqoob

and Shahid Rafiq-all in their early 30s-near Shafiq Mor.⁸⁰ In the third attack, a Sunni prayer leader Shafiq Rehman was shot dead in North Nazimabad.⁸¹

- November 27: A deputy superintendent of traffic police Faiz Ali Shigri was killed and his driver Head Constable Rasheed injured in a gun attack near the Laal Flats in Gulistan-e-Jauhar. Police said it was apparently a sectarian attack.⁸²

In Balochistan, though the number of sectarian-related attacks fell by 58 percent from the previous year, but the number of people killed in such attacks increased by over 82 percent. As cited earlier, 5 sectarian attacks killed 62 and injured 102 people in Balochistan in 2016.

A single sectarian-related suicide blast reported from Khuzdar district of the province, in November, killed 54 people, and injured 100 others. Initially, 52 people were killed when a teenage suicide bomber blew himself up in courtyard of the Shah Noorani shrine in a remote mountainous region of the district; two injured died one day after, raising the death toll to 54. Over 1,000 people were present at the shrine at the time of blast.⁸³ According to an AFP report, the militant Islamic State group, also known as ISIS, claimed responsibility for the attack. Local sources said Lashkar-e-Jhangvi Al-Alami had collaborated with ISIS to launch the attack, like in the case of Quetta police

academy attack in October. The LeJ-A was involved in another heinous sectarian attack reported from the province that targeted Hazara Shia women in Quetta. Reportedly, on October 4, four women belonging to the Shia Hazara community were killed and another suffered serious injuries when gunmen opened fire on a bus carrying about 30 passengers and going to Hazara Town from the city terminal. The Lashkar-e-Jhangvi Al-Alami said while claiming the attack that it was carried out in revenge for the violence inflicted by the Syrian government on its Muslim population.⁸⁴ Separately, two men belonging to the Hazara Shia community lost their lives in an incident of targeted killing in Sariab, Quetta on August 1. According to police, Mohammad Nabi and Ghulam Nabi were fired upon by gunmen when they were travelling in a rickshaw.⁸⁵

Two sectarian attacks in Balochistan targeted adherents of Sunni sect of Islam. On January 26, an *imam masjid* (prayer leader) Faizullah was killed at Moti Raam road by armed motorcyclist when he was going home after leading Isha prayers.⁸⁶ In Khuzdar, armed men gunned down Sarfaraz Ahmed, a Sunni religious cleric of a local madrassa Anwarul Quran.⁸⁷

In **Khyber Pakhtunkhwa**, as many as 8 sectarian-related attacks took place in 2016, as compared to 10 in previous year. These attacks killed 10 people, a decrease of more than 70 percent from 2015, and injured 16 others. Out of total 10 attacks,

3 took place in D.I. Khan, another 3 in Peshawar and one attack each occurred in Haripur and Swat.

Four sectarian attacks in KP targeted members of Shia community, 3 attacks hit Sunni community and one attack hit a mosque reportedly run by Jamaatud Dawa. With the exception of one hand grenade blast, all these attacks were incidents of targeted killing.

All 3 attacks reported from D.I. Khan targeted adherents of Shia sect of Islam. On May 5, as many as 4 members of Shia community were killed by armed motorcyclists in two separate incidents of targeted killing reported from Muriali Mor and Grid Station Road areas of the city. Those killed were identified as Master Mukhtar Hussain, Akhtar Hussain, Atif Zaidi Advocate and Ali Murtajiz Zaidi Advocate.⁸⁸ In the third sectarian attack reported from D.I. Khan, Abbas Sheerazi, a lawyer adhering to the Shia sect of Islam, was gunned down in the city on July 7.⁸⁹

In Peshawar, 2 sectarian attacks targeted Shis Muslims and another hit a mosque. On February 8, a Shia elder Malik Iftikhar Ali was shot dead while his son escaped unhurt in an attack near the Kohati Gate.⁹⁰ On May 2, at least 14 people were injured after motorcyclists threw a grenade inside a mosque in Peshawar reportedly run by the banned Jamaatud Dawa.⁹¹ On August 19, militants riding a motorcycle opened

fire on vehicle of a leading Sunni religious scholar Hazrat Muhammad, administrator at Akora Khattak madrassa. Hazrat Muhammad and his son were killed in the attack while his wife was injured.⁹²

In Swat, a Sunni prayer leader Abdul Wadud was shot dead at a mosque in the Marghuzar area of Saidu Sharif on July 18.⁹³ In a related incident, the district head of Sunni Tehreek, Maulana Shaukat Nawaz, was gunned down in Makhan Colony of Haripur, on October 23.⁹⁴

In **Punjab**, 2 such attacks killed one and injured 6 people. One of these target killed caretaker of an imambargah in Sahiwal,⁹⁵ while in the second incident, 5 people were injured when members of a rival sect attacked those observing Eid Milad-un-Nabi procession in Daska, Sialkot.⁹⁶

2.8 Violence against political leaders and workers

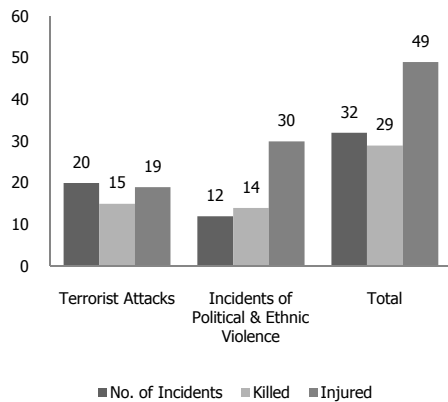
As many as 20 terrorist attacks in 2016 targeted political leaders and workers – down 51 percent from such attacks in 2015 – which claimed the lives of 15 people and injured 19 others.

Similarly, the incidents of ethnic and political violence targeting political leaders and workers also fell significantly by about 81 percent, from 63 in 2015 to 12 in 2016; the number of people killed in these incidents (14) also decreased by about 83

percent from such fatalities in previous year.

On the whole, 32 reported incidents of violence in 2016, including terrorist attacks and incidents of ethno-political violence, against political leaders and workers claimed the lives of 29 people and injured 49 others.

Chart 4: Violence against Political Leaders, Workers in 2016



2.8.1 Terrorist attacks on political leaders

The Taliban militants, including the TTP, local Taliban groups and Jamaatul Ahrar, as well as Baloch nationalist insurgent groups targeted political leaders in a total of 20 attacks, mainly in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan.

The political leaders and workers killed in these targeted terrorist attacks included Mir Allah Bakhsh, National Party (NP)

Councilor of Union Council Hazar Gangi of Tehsil Naal in Balochistan; Mir Ghulam Hussain Sarpara, a central leader of the NP in Mastung; a local leader of the NP Mir Taj Mohammad Sajidi in Khuzdar; the PPP local leader Hussain Turi in Parachinar, Kurram Agency; a general councilor of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) Imtiaz Ali in Swabi; a local Awami National Party (ANP) leader Jamshed Khan in Swat; Jamiat Ulema-e-Fazl (JUI-F) leader Mufti Ehtishamul Haq and his son in Kech; the district deputy general secretary JUI-F Syed Shah Ali in Lower Dir; former member of KP assembly, ANP leader Shoaib Khan in Swabi; a woman councilor of Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI) Zainab Khattak in Nowshera; and Municipal Councilor Maula Bakhsh in Awaran.

Out of the total 20 attacks targeting political leaders, 9 attacks each took place in Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa; one such attack was also reported from Kurram Agency of FATA and Islamabad. (See Chart 5)

Leaders and workers of the outgoing Balochistan chief minister Abdul Malik Baloch’s National Party (NP) faced the highest number of terrorist attacks (6) in 2016 compared to other parties. Leaders/workers of PML-N, ANP and the PTI faced 3 attacks each. Meanwhile two attacks targeted leaders of JUI-F besides one attack on members of Jamaat-e-Islami (JI). (See Table 9)

Chart 5: Terrorist Attacks on Political Leaders/Workers in 2016

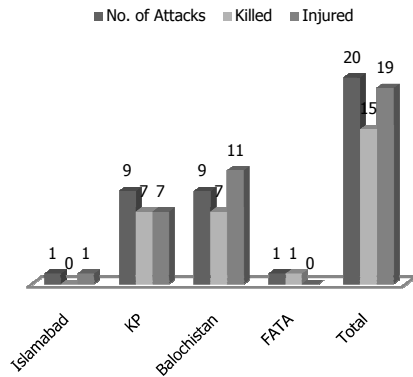


Table 9: Distribution of Attacks in Terms of Targets and Areas

Target	No. of Attacks	Geographical Spread of Attacks	Responsible Groups
ANP	3	KP (Swat, Swabi, Peshawar)	Local Taliban, TTP
PPP	1	FATA (Kurram Agency)	TTP
JUI-F	2	KP (Lower Dir); Balochistan (Kech)	BLF, Jamaatul Ahrar
PML-N	3	KP (Swabi); Balochistan (Dera Bugti)	TTP, BRA
PTI	3	KP (DI Khan, Nowshera); Islamabad	Local Taliban, unknown militants
NP	6	Balochistan (Awaran, Mastung, Khuzdar, Kech, Khuzdar)	BLF, Lashkar-e-Balochistan
JI	1	KP (Lower Dir)	Jamaatul Ahrar
Others	1	KP (Swat)	TTP
Total	20 Attacks		

Some of the attacks on political leaders in 2016 are listed below:

- January 22: Balochistan Home Minister Mir Sarfaraz Bugti narrowly escaped an apparent terrorist attack when his convoy hit a roadside landmine in Dera Bugti district of Balochistan. Meanwhile three of his colleagues were injured in attack.⁹⁷ The minister came under attack again in Dera Bugti on February 29 when militants ambushed his convoy while he was heading to Dera Bugti from Sui. He and others remained unhurt in the attack.⁹⁸
- February 5: A device fitted in a bicycle parked near the residence of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Excise and Revenue Minister Ali Amin Gandapur in D.I. Khan went off. Three people were injured in the blast.⁹⁹
- April 23: Mir Ghulam Hussain Sarpara, a central leader of the National Party and former nazim of Mastung, was visiting his agricultural land in Gardigap when militants shot him dead and escaped.¹⁰⁰
- July 17: Former Awami National Party MPA and Islahi Jirga president Shoaib Khan, popularly known as Malang Baba, was gunned down by two unidentified motorcyclists in his hujra in Swabi.¹⁰¹
- July 24: Militants killed Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) leader Mufti Ehtishamul Haq and his son in

Kech district of the Balochistan province.¹⁰²

- August 29: The district deputy general secretary JUI-F and an active member of Talash Dushkhel Qaumi Jirga, Syed Shah Ali Khan, was shot dead by armed men when he was asleep in the lawn of his house in Amlook Darra Talash village in Lower Dir.¹⁰³
- September 24: A woman councilor of Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf Zainab Khattak was shot dead by unknown assailants at her home in Nowshera. She previously also remained a polio worker.¹⁰⁴
- December 13: Militants hurled a grenade at the National Party office in Turbat town during a party meeting. The grenade exploded in the office, leaving 8 party workers injured, two of them seriously.¹⁰⁵

2.8.2 Ethno-political violence

Incidents of ethnic and political violence and clashes in Pakistan – between workers and supporters of different political parties – fell significantly by about 81 percent, from 63 in 2015 to 12 in 2016; the number of people killed in these incidents also decreased, by about 83 percent. While 6 incidents of ethno-political violence were reported from Sindh including 5 in Karachi, 3 such incidents took place in KP, 2 in Azad Kashmir, and one in Punjab. (See Table 10)

Table 10: Incidents of Ethno-political Violence in Pakistan

Region	District	No. of Incidents	Killed	Injured
Punjab	Gujranwala	1	2	0
Punjab Total		1	2	0
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Buner	1	1	0
	DI Khan	1	1	0
	Peshawar	1	3	2
KP Total		3	5	2
AJK	Haveli	1	2	7
	Kotli	1	1	10
AJK Total		2	3	17
Sindh	Karachi	5	3	11
	Thatta	1	1	0
Sindh Total		6	4	11
Total (Pakistan)		12	14	30

Besides 3 acts of sabotage, 9 incidents of ethno-political violence across Pakistan in 2016 were incidents of firing and armed clash.

In Azad Kashmir, the reported 2 incidents were linked to the 2016 elections there. On February 11, an armed clash between workers of the PPP and PPML-N left one dead and 10 injured in Kotli district. AJK Prime Minister Chaudhry Abdul Majeed was on his way to address an election rally of PPP contestant Javed Ludhianvi when the scuffle took place in forward town of Nikyal, close to Line of Control.¹⁰⁶ Later, on

July 10, armed clash between activists of PML-N and PPP in Haveli district cost two lives, while seven others, including the local PML-N candidate for the AJK Legislative Assembly, were injured.¹⁰⁷

One of the 6 such incidents reported from Sindh took place in Thatta, where the chief of his own Jeay Sindh Tehreek (JST) faction, Shafi Karnani, was shot dead by armed motorcyclists on April 6.¹⁰⁸ The remaining 5 incidents from Sindh took place in Karachi killing 3 people and wounding 11 others. Five persons were injured in a sabotage attack on election camp of PTI at Five Stars Chowrangi in on April 2.¹⁰⁹ One incident killed a member of Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM) in Liaquatabad-3 on July 3,¹¹⁰ while another claimed the life of Kashif Sagheer, brother of a local office-bearer of the Pak Sarzameen Party, in Orangi Town, on October 10.¹¹¹ On June 25, the Jamiat Ulema-e-Pakistan (JUP) leader Aqeel Anjum was targeted at a time when he was returning home after offering Zuhr prayers. The attack took place in Orangi Zaman Town. No casualty took place.¹¹² On August 22, reportedly instigated by their leader's speech, MQM workers attacked office buildings of ARY and Samaa TV channels, torched vehicles and also opened firing. At least one person was killed and five injured.¹¹³

In KP, incidents of political violence were reported from Buner, D.I. Khan, and Peshawar districts. On April 22, Sardar

Soran Singh, special assistant to chief minister KP on minorities affairs and an MPA, was gunned down in a targeted attack near Pir Baba in Buner district. The TTP claimed the responsibility. Few days later, Deputy Inspector General (DIG) Malakand Azad Khan said in a press conference the TTP claim was fake as a fellow PTI leader Baldev Kumar was behind the murder of Soran Singh as he wanted to avenge political rivalry.¹¹⁴ On May 18, reportedly political rivals shot dead an activist of Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) in Ramak area of Dera Ismail Khan.¹¹⁵

In Peshawar, two workers of the PML-N and one worker of PPP were killed in an exchange of fire between them over hoisting of party flag on a house at Khazana village located near Peshawar.¹¹⁶

One such incident was also recorded in Punjab. On March 23, two passerby were killed when an armed clash erupted in Dhela Chatta village of Wazirabad, in Gujranwala district between supporters of PML-N and PTI. Reportedly PML-N workers were celebrating NA-101 by-polls victory of their leader Justice (Retd) Iftikhar Cheema when they confronted supporters of PTI.¹¹⁷

2.9 Violence against religious minorities

In all, 5 terrorist attacks targeted members of minority communities in 2016, claiming 82 lives and wounding 236

others. Two of these attacks hit members of Ahmedi and Hindu communities in Karachi, killing two persons. A suicide blast targeted members of Christian community gathered to celebrate Ester in a park in Lahore, which claimed 74 lives and wounded 231 others.¹¹⁸ In a similar attack reported from Peshawar, four terrorists trying to attack a Christian colony on Peshawar's outskirts were killed during a stand-off with security forces. A civilian was also killed in the attack while two Frontier Corps soldiers, a police constable and two civilian guards were injured.¹¹⁹ Separately, a Hindu shopkeeper was shot killed by militants at his shop in Chaman, Balochistan.¹²⁰

Table 11: Terrorist Attacks against Religious Minorities

District	Attacks	Killed	Injured	Target
Karachi	2	2	0	Ahmedi and Hindu communities
Lahore	1	74	231	Christian community
Peshawar	1	5	5	Christian community
Qilla Abdullah	1	1	0	Hindu community
Total	5	82	236	

Besides terrorist attacks against minority communities cited earlier, an incident of communal or mob violence against Ahmedi community was also recorded during the year. On December 12, the enraged crowd occupied the worship place of Ahmedi community in Dulmial village of Chakwal, Punjab and set on fire religious books,

fans, carpets and other items. An Ahmedi man, identified as Malik Khalid Javed, 65, who was present at the worship place, died on the spot after having suffered a cardiac arrest. While a man Naeem Shafique, 27, and not belonging to the minority community, was hit by a bullet during the attack and killed. Another non-Ahmedi man, received bullet injury.¹²¹

According to local sources, some Muslim clerics had instigated people against the minority community. The attack happened on the day of Eid Milad-un-Nabi (birthday celebrations of the holy prophet (PBUH), when religious sentiments are usually high. Secondly, a hate campaign was already going on against the Ahmedi community, including on the social media, after Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif announced naming the physics centre at the Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad after Professor Dr Abdus Salam, Pakistan's Nobel laureate, who reportedly belonged to the Ahmedi community.

2.10 Violence against journalists

Media and journalists were attacked in a total of three incidents including 2 terrorist attacks and one incident of politically motivated violence. Once person died and 11 got injured in these incidents, reported from Islamabad, Nasirabad and Karachi.

In Islamabad, 2 men on a motorcycle threw a hand grenade into the office

building of ARY News on January 13, injuring one employee. The attackers left behind pamphlets in English and Urdu languages claiming that Islamic State Wilayah Khorasan or ISIS had carried out the attack.¹²²

District	Attacks	Killed	Injured
North Waziristan Agency	1	1	3
South Waziristan Agency	1	0	0
Tank	1	0	2
Total	6	26	40

On April 2, journalists were visiting a piece of land allotted by the Revenue Department for the Journalist and Labour Colony in Dera Murad Jamali in Nasirabad district of Balochistan when a group of men armed with sticks and stones attacked them injuring 5 persons.¹²³

In Karachi, reportedly instigated by their leader's speech, MQM workers attacked office buildings of ARY and Samaa TV channels on August 22, torched vehicles and also opened firing. At least one person was killed and five others were injured.¹²⁴

2.11 Attacks on educational institutions

Compared to 14 in the year before, as many as 6 terrorist attacks hit educational institutions in parts of FATA and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in the year 2016. A total of 26 people were killed and 40 others injured in these attacks.

Table 12: Attacks against Educational Institutions

District	Attacks	Killed	Injured
Charsadda	1	25	35
Mohmand Agency	2	0	0

Worst of these attacks hit Bacha Khan University in Charsadda on January 20, where at least 21 people, mostly students and teachers, were killed by 4 fully armed militants; the security forces killed all 4 militants.¹²⁵ In South Waziristan, militants blew up part of a newly constructed government school and abducted 18 laborers working on the site, on February 20. The workers were later released.¹²⁶

A police constable was among two injured when militants opened fire at a primary school in Tank on February 21.¹²⁷ In Mohmand Agency, on November 25, militants planted an improvised explosive device in the school building owned by Malik Bashir Khan in Chamarkand area, some 75km northwest of agency headquarters Ghalanai, which went off with a bang, damaging the structure. Jamaatul Ahrar militant group claimed responsibility for the blast and said such attacks would continue in future until enforcement of Islamic system in Pakistan.¹²⁸ In another similar attack reported from Mohmand, on December 22, militants blew up the building of community model primary school for boys of Malik Nasir Khan in Mosal Kor area.¹²⁹

In North Waziristan Agency, a nine-year-old girl was killed and three other children were wounded when explosives exploded when they opened their school gate, on December 12.¹³⁰

2.12 Drone strikes

Compared to 12 in the year before, a total of 3 US-led drone strikes took place in Pakistan, including 2 in FATA and one in Nushki, Balochistan. In all, these attacks killed a total of 12 suspected militants and injured 6 others.

In Nushki area of Balochistan, a US drone reportedly killed Afghan Taliban leader Mullah Akhtar Mansour with his driver along the Pak-Afghan border on May 21. According to media reports, Mullah Mansoor carried a Pakistani passport with the name of Wali Muhammad and was coming in a car from Iran.¹³¹

Earlier, on January 9, five militants including Maulana Noor Saeed, a key commander of the banned TTP, and Uzbeks were killed and two others wounded in the first US drone strike of 2016, which took place in Datta Khel tehsil of North Waziristan Agency.¹³²

On February 22, a US drone fired four missiles that hit three mud-built houses in the Lower Kurram Agency near the Afghan border killing five suspected militants. The slain militants reportedly belonged to the Haqqani network of the Afghan Taliban.¹³³

2.13 Border attacks

Exactly same in number as in 2015, a total of 74 cross-border attacks and clashes were reported from Pakistan's borders with Afghanistan (18 attacks; compared to 15 in 2015), India (51; one more than in 2015) and Iran (5; compared to 9 in 2015).

A total of 81 Pakistani citizens were killed in cross-border attacks from India, Afghanistan and Iran – an increase of 5 percent from previous year – and 173 others were injured. Those killed included 53 civilians, 14 army troops, 2 FC men, one Khassadar and 11 Afghanistan-based Pakistani Taliban militants, who were killed by security forces in retaliatory fire.

Table 13: Border Attacks/Clashes in 2016

Nature of Attack	No. of Attacks	Killed	Injured
Pak-Afghan border	18	20	22
Pak-India border	51	60	149
Pak-Iran border	5	1	2
Total	74	81	173

As many as 60 people were killed and 149 others injured in cross-border attacks from Indian side. The situation at Pakistan's border with India – along the LoC in Azad Kashmir and Sialkot Working Boundary – remained relatively more volatile, mainly during the last 4 months of 2016, with Indian BSF troops using mortar shelling

and heavy artillery barrages to target Pakistani civilians as well security forces.

2.13.1 Pak-Afghan

Most of the cross-border attacks from Afghanistan – including 14 in FATA, 3 in KP and one in Balochistan – were launched by the Pakistani Taliban militants who have taken refuge in bordering areas of Afghanistan.

Security forces and their check-posts, mainly in Pakistani tribal areas bordering Afghanistan, were the prime targets of these attacks, and were hit in 13 incidences causing 10 deaths. Meanwhile the remaining 5 attacks apparently targeted tribesmen. Some of the cross-border attacks from Afghanistan are narrated below:

- January 21: Three rockets were fired from Afghanistan, one of which hit a shop in Angoor Adda in South Waziristan, killing three tribesmen and wounding another one.¹³⁴
- June 12: Official workers were building a gate on the Pakistani side of the Torkham border when the Afghan forces opened fire wounding an FC official, Major Ali Jawad Changezi, who succumbed to his injuries at the Combined Military Hospital in Peshawar on June 14.¹³⁵ The situation at the Torkham remained tense for some days following that incident. Until June 14,

at least 11 Pakistani citizens had been injured in cross-firing at Torkham between Pakistani and Afghan forces¹³⁶

- July 29: A group of militants, who had crossed over into Chitral from the Afghan side of border, opened fire on four Kalash shepherds, killing two and injured one. Attackers also managed to take away over 300 goats from the shepherds.¹³⁷ Next day, on July 30, more than 40 armed militants from across the Afghan border herded away about 2,500 goats from a pasture in Birir in Chitral.¹³⁸
- September 23: Pakistani Taliban militants sheltered in Kunar province of Afghanistan attacked a security post in Nawa Pass area of Chamarkund, in Bajaur Agency, and later attacked the Sheikh Baba check-post in Safi tehsil of Mohmand tribal region. Security forces repulsed both attacks,¹³⁹ which were claimed Jamaatul Ahrar.
- October 16: Militants targeted a check-post at Angoor Adda, South Waziristan, from the Birmal area in Paktika province of Afghanistan with light and heavy weapons. Two security personnel, Idrees Khan and Arshad, were killed and Naek Saeed was injured. Apparently, the TTP militants sheltered in Afghanistan carried out the attack.¹⁴⁰

Continuing cross-border by Pakistani Taliban militants sheltered in Afghanistan not only underscored the danger of an insecure Pak-Afghan border but also highlighted the need for improved ties between Pakistan and Afghanistan including cooperation on border coordination and management. Secondly, some major attacks in mainland Pakistan in 2016 were reportedly handled by Pakistani militants in Afghanistan. Militant commanders of different banned groups including the TTP, Jamaatul Ahrar and Lashkar-e-Islam have relocated to Afghanistan owing to the military operations in tribal areas. However, they are still coordinating with their operational commanders in Pakistan from the across the border. For instance, after the Bacha Khan University attack early 2016, Pakistani security officials believed that not only the attack was handled from Afghanistan but four attackers had crossed into Pakistan from Torkham in Khyber Agency, which is a regular crossing point with Afghanistan for travelers, along with Chaman in Balochistan. That is why, following the attack, the Khyber Agency's political administration established at least five new registration points at Torkham border to keep proper record of all the Afghans entering Pakistan.¹⁴¹ Security forces also established check-posts in Landi Kotal, Khyber Agency at places on Pak-Afghan border which connect to Lalpura tehsil of Afghanistan's Nangarhar province. While basic purpose of these

check-posts is to check smuggling of drugs, vehicles and weapons, these will also be used to check illegal border crossing of criminals and militants.¹⁴²

The fact that some Pakistani Taliban leaders have been targeted and killed in Afghanistan in recent months – either in drone strikes or operations conducted by the international and Afghan forces – indicates a strong presence of different Pakistani Taliban groups there. It also validates Pakistani worries of cross-border terrorism from Afghanistan. During the month of September, an important Pakistani Taliban commander Azam Tariq, his son and some other militants were killed by the NATO-backed Afghan special forces in Afghanistan's Paktika province. Senior members of the TTP confirmed the death of Azam Tariq, who once served as its spokesman, and termed it a big loss for the splinter Mehsud militant group, headed by Commander Khan Said alias Sajna.¹⁴³

The Pakistani-Afghan border crossing at Chaman in Balochistan was closed earlier in the month of August by the Pakistani authorities and reopened towards end of the month. On August 18, Pakistani tribesmen held a demonstration at the Friendship Gate to protest against Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's remarks about Balochistan. When they were leaving the place, Afghan demonstrators across the border torched a Pakistani national flag.¹⁴⁴ As a result, Pakistani authorities closed the border indefinitely.

During a flag meeting, held on August 30, the Pakistani officials — led by Lt Col Changez Khan of the Frontier Corps, Balochistan — told the Afghan delegation that burning of the flag and torching of a portrait of Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah had hurt the sentiments of Pakistanis and the authorities had to close the Friendship Gate in Chaman as a result. The Afghan delegation, led by Colonel Muhammad Ali, condemned the burning of the flag and termed it a conspiracy by the enemy to create hatred between the two countries.¹⁴⁵ Finally, the border was reopened on September 1 – after about 12 days of closure.¹⁴⁶

In the month of May, the Pakistan-Afghanistan border at Torkham was also closed for some time for normal traffic. The border was opened after intervention by the military chief who met Afghan Ambassador Omar Zakhilwal.

The situation at the Torkham crossing remained tense in June despite the two countries' repeated statement to resolve the issues peacefully and amicably. The Afghan security forces reacted to Pakistan's construction of a gate at the crossing, which Pakistan claimed was legal and was meant to check militants' cross-border incursions. A Pakistani Army Major was killed and 13 other Pakistanis injured in incidents of cross-border firing from Afghanistan.

Both sides had later agreed on the formation of a bilateral mechanism to discuss all issues related to border security. Senior Pakistani and Afghan military officials met for the first time in Kabul in July to discuss technical aspects of the border security and other affairs.

2.13.2 Pak-India

Out of the total 51 cross-border attacks from India, as many as 39 were recorded in Bhimber, Haveli, Kotli, Neelum, Poonch and Rawalakot districts along the Line of Control (LoC) that claimed 50 lives and injured another 91 people. As many as 12 cross-border attacks took place in Sialkot and Narowal sectors along the Working Boundary, claiming 10 lives and injuring 58 people.

The situation at the Pak-India border started to become tense during and after September. Indian Border Security Force (BSF) troops had violated LoC and Working Boundary only 3 times before September – twice in April and once in August. While 4 such attacks took place in September and 2 in December, as many as 41 cross-border attacks from Indian side were recorded in 2 months of October and November.

India stepped up verbal attacks against Pakistan as well as border violations towards the end of September, particularly after the Uri incident when 4 suspected militants infiltrated into the Indian army

camp at Uri town in Indian-held Kashmir and killed 18 Indian soldiers. Indian claimed the militants had infiltrated from Pakistan to attack the Uri camp, which Pakistan denied and asked for evidence. Sporadic incidents of firing were reported from Indian side of border, mainly in Keel. Lipa and Bhimber sectors, and in one such incident two Pakistani soldiers were also killed.¹⁴⁷ Indian termed the violations of LoC as surgical strikes against suspected infiltrators, a claim that Pakistan denied.¹⁴⁸ On the whole, in September, Indian border security forces violated LoC in Kashmir at least 4 times along Bhimber, Poonch and Haveli sectors.

The situation became worse in October amid repeated cross-border attacks by the Indian BSF troops; 24 cross-border attacks from Indian were recorded during the month that killed 20 Pakistani citizens and injured another 75 besides causing huge loss of cattle and damage to the houses and other buildings. While border tensions were previously rising on the LoC, Indian troops also launched at least 10 cross-border attacks inside Pakistan along the Sialkot Working Boundary in October.

The directors general military operations of the two countries talked on hotline during the first week of October but that did not result in any reduction of cross-border violence. Indeed, attacks from Indian side increased after October 20. On October 24, an infant and an elderly man were killed and 7 people were injured in heavy

mortar shelling by the Indian BSF in villages in Bajwat, Chaprar, Harpal, Sucheetgarh, Merajkey and Charwah sectors along the Sialkot Working Boundary when residents were asleep.¹⁴⁹ Next day, 2 more people were killed and 3 others injured in heavy mortar shelling by the Indian BSF soldiers on villages in Bajwat, Harpal and Chaprar sectors in Sialkot.¹⁵⁰ Heavy mortar shelling by the Indian BSF troops on villages along the Working Boundary continued for the third consecutive day, on October 26, killing 2 residents of villages in the Chaprar sector and leaving another 8 badly wounded.¹⁵¹ Also, on October 27, the BSF stepped up shelling in Tatta Pani, Jandrot and Nikyal sectors along the LoC killing a teacher and wounding several others. On the same day, mortar shells exploded inside homes in Sangaran, Sukho Chak, Karol, Chak Bheka, Behal Dogar and Bada Bhai Masroor villages in the Shakargarh sector killing Naseem Bibi, a resident of Karol village, and Zaiba Bibi, 32, of Abiyal Dogar village. At least 24 people were also badly wounded.¹⁵² On October 28, Indian troops targeted a marriage party in Chafrigahi village in Nikyal sector along LoC that killed three people including a woman and a child and injured 5 others.¹⁵³ On October 31, Indian troops fired shells along the LoC in Nikyal, Jandrot and Kel sectors. Three men and a woman died and six others were wounded in intense firing reported from Nikyal sector.¹⁵⁴

In November, at least 36 Pakistani citizens lost their lives and another 63 were injured in 17 incidents of Indian cross-border firing and shelling. Indian BSF troops also shelled a passenger bus during the month leaving 9 passengers and a passerby dead and several others injured.¹⁵⁵ On November 7, three people, including a policeman, were killed during the Indian Army firing in the Nikyal sector in southern Kotli district. Besides Nikyal and Kiran sectors, the Indian BSF also targeted Balakot, Lanjot and other rural areas damaging several houses; in all 8 people were injured.¹⁵⁶ Next day, 3 more people including a woman and her daughter and a young man died and 6 others were injured in firing by Indian troops in Battal and Khoi Ratta sectors.¹⁵⁷ On November 14, according to a statement issued by the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), 7 Pakistani soldiers lost their lives at the LoC in the Bhimber sector in a ceasefire violation by Indian troops.¹⁵⁸ Between November 19 and 21, at least 8 people were killed including 6 children and a woman, and over 20 others were injured in 3 separate incidents of Indian firing in: Singhala Village of Khoi Ratta; Chota Nar Dabsi, Mathrani, Pir Kalanjar, Mohra, Tarkundi and Oli Panjni villages of the Nikyal sector; and several villages in Bhimber. On November 23, 3 Pakistan Army soldiers were killed in an exchange of fire with Indian troops near the LoC, ISPR said.¹⁵⁹

Also in November, it was reportedly after a gap of 13 years that India resorted to the use of artillery barrages against Pakistan; the last time Indian forces used artillery barrages against Pakistan was in 1999 during the Kargil war.¹⁶⁰ In some areas the firing and shelling were so intense, indiscriminate and frequent that the people had to move out of those areas to some safer places. For instance, around mid-November, over 200 families affected by Indian shelling from across the LoC in Bhimber district of Azad Jammu and Kashmir left their homes in vulnerable areas to take refuge in safe places. Displacements took place from Balewal and Khairowal villages of the Chhamb (Iftikharabad) sector of Barnala tehsil.¹⁶¹

Apart from recording its concerns about Indian border violations in the UN, Pakistan also conveyed this concern to the envoys of five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) during a briefing on the aggravating situation on the LoC and Working Boundary. Foreign Secretary Aizaz Chaudhry's briefing for the ambassadors of China, France, Russian Federation, Britain and the US was meant to draw their attention to the growing threat to regional peace and security from India's escalatory actions.¹⁶²

In December, situation remained relatively calm when 3 cross-border attacks from India took place along LoC. On December 16, at least 8 children, aged between 5

and 15 years, were injured and the driver was killed when Indian army shelled a school van in Nikyal Sector of the Kotli district.¹⁶³

2.13.3 Pak-Iran

Iranian border security forces carried out 5 cross-border attacks in 2016 in Balochistan's Panjgur district, as compared to 9 such attacks in previous year. One person was killed and 2 injured in these attacks, 4 of which were incidents of mortar shelling and one rocket attack.

Iran claims that its attacks are meant to chase and target Iranian Baluch insurgents operating from its Sistan-Baluchistan province along Pak-Iran border areas.

Only one of the 5 cross-border attacks from Iran caused casualties; all others did not cause any damage or loss because the fired shell landed in open places. On December 18, Iranian border security forces fired at least nine rockets that exploded in the Prom area. One of the rockets hit a pick-up truck killing one and wounding two persons.¹⁶⁴

Pakistani authorities on June 17 started building a gate at Pakistan's border with Iran at Taftan, reportedly to curb illegal trade. Frontier Corps Sector Commander Brigadier Khalid Beg and Balochistan

Collector Customs Saeed Ahmed Jadoon laid the foundation of the 'Pakistan Gate' at Taftan in Chagai district. The construction of the gate was reported to be completed in two months at a cost of Rs15 million. Iran has already constructed a trade gate inside its border at Mir Java in Zahedan, capital of Sistan Baluchistan province, and has been demanding that Pakistan build a similar gate on its side of the border. Iran has also erected 10-foot-high walls at various places along with its border with Pakistan.¹⁶⁵

In July, Pakistan and Iran decided to hold further discussions on the need for establishing an institutional mechanism to oversee border security and to study the setting up of a joint commission. The two countries welcomed the reciprocal visits by political, economic and military officials, expressing hope that bilateral relations would grow with the passage of time. They also called for fighting the common threat posed by the militant Islamic State (IS) group, saying that it not only posed danger to the stability of Muslim countries but was also a disgrace to Islam. The consensus emerged after meetings between National Security Adviser Nasser Khan Janjua and his Iranian counterpart during the former's three-day visit to Tehran.¹⁶⁶

Table 14: Regional Distribution of Cross-border Attacks

Border	District	Attacks	Killed	Injured
Pak - Afghan	Bajaur Agency	3	1	2
	Khyber Agency	3	1	13
	Kurram Agency	2	2	2
	Mohmand Agency	4	4	2
	Chitral	3	7	1
	Zhob	1	0	0
	South Waziristan	2	5	2
	Total		18	20
Pak - India	Bhimber	12	12	8
	Haveli	2	0	1
	Kotli	13	25	52
	Narowal	1	0	0
	Neelum	6	10	13
	Poonch	4	0	11
	Rawalakot	2	3	6
	Sialkot	11	10	58
	Total		51	60
Pak - Iran	Panjgur	5	1	2
	Total	5	1	2
Total from 3 borders		74	81	173

Militant landscape of Pakistan in 2016

Muhammad Amir Rana*

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2016 has witnessed three major changes in the militant landscape in Pakistan. First, the operational capabilities of the militant groups have been affected further, which is reflected in statistics of the terrorist attacks. The decrease in small and medium scale terrorist attacks shows that the militant groups are losing human resources and territories of their influence where these groups would launch such attacks to show their muscle. This is happening among both religious and non-religious militant groups.

Second, the militant groups are under constant transformation. In 2016, while few groups lost their grounds, some new groups encroaching on their spaces. The rise of Jamaatul Ahrar and rebirth of defunct Lashkar-e-Jhangvi are the examples of such shifts. Third, the militants are struggling to form new alliances and are trying to form alliances with foreign groups, mainly Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) and Al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent (AQIS). This phenomenon can pose a potent threat depending on how the religious militant groups will deal with their internal differences.

The chapter will examine these three trends, which shaped the militant landscape in 2016. It will also focus on changing targets and tactics of the groups and complex case of ISIS in Pakistan. First, the report will review the militants' operations in 2016.

3.1 Major actors of instability in 2016

Despite the fact that the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) is facing problems to launch its operation inside Pakistan from its bases in Afghanistan, it remained the major actor of instability in Pakistan in 2016 along with its splinter group Jamaatul Ahrar. Among non-religious and nationalist groups, Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) was the leading actor of instability in Balochistan, though its operational capabilities have also been weakened.

3.1.1 Religiously-inspired militant groups

Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan

In 2016, the TTP remained the major actor of instability, carrying out 106 terrorist attacks across the country. (*See Table1*) The statistics show that its operational capabilities have suffered a great blow as the group was found involved in 212 terrorist attacks in 2015. Comparing with 384 deaths previous year, TTP attacks caused 193 deaths in 2016.

The targets and tactics the group adopted in 2016, shows that it carried out 72 terrorist operations in KP and FATA and its outreach has been expanded to Balochistan as it launched 15 terrorist attacks in the province comparing with 7 attacks in 2015. Karachi is still important for the group for the financial resources and TTP showed its presence through by managing 17 attacks in the city in 2016. The city also got a new TTP chief,¹⁶⁷ Haji

Dad Mehsud, but analyst believed it would be a hard task for new chief to sustain its activities in the city.¹⁶⁸ The group also trying to reestablish its network in Swat region and sending threatening letters to traders for donations and warning them of the consequences.¹⁶⁹ These letters also indicate that the group is facing financial issues.

A TTP splinter Sajna group also managed 6 terrorist attacks including 5 in South Waziristan territory and one in adjoining Zhobdistrict of Balochistan province.

Another TTP faction, called as Umer Mansoor Naray group, faced leadership crisis when its head Mansoor Naray was killed in a drone strike inside Afghanistan. Mufti Ghufuranullah has been nominated the new chief of the group. This was the group which was behind the Peshawar Army Public School attack.¹⁷⁰

Jamaatul Ahrar

The TTP's weakening operational capabilities resulted in the strength of its splinter group, Jamaatul Ahrar, which is gradually expanding its outreach in different parts of the country. In 2016, it accepted the responsibility for or was found involved in 66 terrorist attacks comparing 28 in 2015. The group was found responsible for the most deadly attacks of the years, including attacks on

Charsadda University, Christian community in Gulshan-e-Iqbal Park, Lahore, Civil Hospital, Hospital, Mardan sessions courts, and FC camp in Mohmand Agency. That is why attacks by Jamaatul Ahrar caused more casualties (292 deaths; 541 injuries) than caused by attacks by the TTP.

Local Taliban

The small militant groups in KP and FATA, described as the local Taliban,¹⁷¹ carried out 61 terrorist attacks in 2016, five more than 2015. Attacks by these groups caused 37 deaths and injuries to 80 others. The increase in the attacks by local Taliban mainly in KP province indicates growing level of radicalism and thus recruitment as such groups manage these attacks on their own.

Lashkar-e-Islam

The network of outlawed Lashkar-e-Islam (LI) has been badly damaged during military operations in Khyber Agency and many of its members have flown into Afghanistan, where reportedly, they have joined Islamic State Khorasan chapter.¹⁷² Its head Mangal Bagh was killed in a drone attack in Afghanistan¹⁷³, but its terrorist operations are still continuing in Khyber Agency and adjoining settled areas of KP. In 2016, it has launched 18 attacks in Khyber Agency and suburbs of Peshawar.

Table 1: Terrorist Attacks Claimed/Perpetrated by Terrorist Groups

Organization	Balochistan	FATA	Islamabad	KP	Punjab	Sindh (excluding Karachi)	Karachi	Total
Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP)	15	25	1	47	1	-	17	106
JamaatulAhrar	2	45	-	15	1	-	3	66
TTP splinter Sajna	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	6
Lashkar-e-Islam	-	16	-	2	-	-	-	18
Local Taliban	-	6	-	55	-	-	-	61
Lashkar-e-Jhangvi (LeJ)	1	-	-	4	1	1	10	17
Lashkar-e-Jhangvi Al-Alami	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	6
Sipah-e-Muhammad Pakistan	2	-	-	-	-	-	6	8
Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA)	55	-	-	-	-	-	-	55
Balochistan Republican Army (BRA)	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
Balochistan Liberation Front (BLF)	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	27
Lashkar-e-Balochistan	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
United Baloch Army (UBA)	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Sindhu Desh Liberation Front (SDLF)	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	4
Sinduhesh Revolutionary Army	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
ISIS affiliates/supporters	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	3
Rival Sectarian group	-	-	-	3	1	-	1	5
Nationalist insurgents	7	-	-	-	-	1	-	8
Unknown militants	-	2	1	1	2	-	8	14
Total	151	99	3	127	7	7	47	441

Lashkar-e-Jhangvi

Lashkar-e-Jhangvi (LeJ) was found involved in 17 terrorist attacks across the country in 2016, whereas it had conducted 33 terrorist attacks in 2015. Many of its top leaders had been killed in 2015 or captured in 2016, including Naeem Bukhari and Asif Chuto.¹⁷⁴

- Resurgence and transformation of LeJ

In 2016, LeJ Al-Alami (LeJ-A) emerged as a new security threat. Many consider it a rebirth of LeJ with a new global outlook. The group was found involved in six major terrorist attacks in Quetta, Mastung and Khuzdar districts of Balochistan and in Karachi. The Al-Alami faction, mainly in

Karachi, Peshawar and D.I. Khan, also coordinated many of the attacks, which have been accepted by the LeJ factions. The LeJ-A offers a new platform for smaller, struggling militant groups and individuals, including those with violent sectarian credentials. LeJ-A has widened its ideological and strategic spectrums to develop compatibility with global terrorist groups, including the militant group ISIS.¹⁷⁵ This faction indicates that the LeJ group is apparently emerging as a new threat with changed name and tactics.

Experts believe that the group is trying to fill the void created by the elimination of main leaders of the LeJ and its weakening infrastructure. Some reports suggested that the attack on Punjab home minister Shuja Khazada on August 16, 2015 was also launched by LeJ Al-Alami.¹⁷⁶ The group is currently led by a shura (council) comprising 6 members and has around 300 militants. Syed Safdar alias Yusuf Khorasani is the head of the group, who belongs to Karachi and is wanted to police for sectarian-related attacks in interior Sindh. Most of the group members are from tribal areas. The group itself was once confined to Miranshah, North Waziristan, after it was established in 2001 by a splinter faction of LeJ led by Abid Iqbal Mehsud.¹⁷⁷ Now it has expanded its outreach to Balochistan and Karachi and has well-established operational links with LeJ members in Punjab. The central leadership of the group is based in

Afghanistan; the group leader Yusuf Khorasani recently survived an attack in Zabul province in Afghanistan.¹⁷⁸

Table 2: Casualties in Terrorist Attacks

Group Responsible	Killed	Injured
TTP	Balochistan: 43 FATA: 56 Islamabad: 1 KP: 75 Karachi: 17 Punjab: 1	Balochistan: 89 FATA: 91 Islamabad: 2 KP: 116 Karachi: 14
Jamaat-ul-Ahrar	Balochistan: 75 FATA: 81 KP: 53 Punjab: 74 Karachi: 9	Balochistan: 108 FATA: 86 KP: 116 Punjab: 231
BLA	Balochistan: 96	Balochistan: 130
Local Taliban	FATA: 2 KP: 35	FATA: 3 KP: 77
BRA	Balochistan: 15	Balochistan: 22
BLF	Balochistan: 35	Balochistan: 35
LeJ	KP: 6 Punjab: 1 Sindh (excl. Karachi) : 2 Karachi: 10 Balochistan: 2	KP: 1 Punjab: 1 Sindh (excl. Karachi): 2 Karachi: 30
Lashkar-e-Islam	FATA: 18 KP: 16	FATA: 32 KP: 30
Unknown militants	FATA: 1 Karachi: 5 Punjab: 1	FATA: 3 Karachi: 21 Islamabad: 1 KP: 14 Punjab: 4
Sipah-e-Muhammad Pakistan	Balochistan: 2 Karachi: 13	-
SDLF		Sindh (excl. Karachi): 10
UBA	Balochistan: 4	Balochistan: 6
TTP splinter Sajna	FATA: 5	FATA: 6 Balochistan: 5

Group Responsible	Killed	Injured
ISIS affiliates/sup porters	Punjab: 3	Balochistan: 13 Islamabad: 1
Nationalist insurgents	Balochistan: 9	Balochistan: 13 Sindh (excl. Karachi): 2
Rival sectarian group	Karachi: 1 KP: 4	Karachi: 1 KP: 1 Punjab: 5
Lashkar-e-Jhangvi Al-Alami	Balochistan: 127 Karachi: 5	Balochistan: 268 Karachi: 5
Sinduhesh Revolutionary Army	Sindh (excl. Karachi): 1	Sindh (excl. Karachi): 15 Karachi: 3
Lashkar-e-Balochistan	Balochistan: 4	Balochistan: 13

Sipah-e-Muhammad Pakistan

Shia sectarian group Sipah-e-Muhammad Pakistan (SMP) carried out 8 terrorist attacks in 2016, mainly targeted killings. Karachi is the major operation base of the group, but its terrorist activities are decreasing in the city as it was found involved in 6 terrorist attacks in 2016, while it had managed 12 attacks there in 2016. The group also carried out two attacks in Balochistan.

3.1.2 Nationalist insurgent groups

These groups are mainly concentrated in Balochistan province and they follow radical nationalist agendas. Such small groups are also present in Sindh province but their sabotage activities are limited in certain areas and mostly they use improvised explosive devices in their small-scale attacks. The operational capabilities

of the nationalist militant groups have suffered during 2016 and they caused less damage comparing with 2015. All active seven nationalist militant groups were found involved in 131 small and medium scale terrorist attacks in 2016; in 2015, these groups had managed 235 such attacks. Baloch separatist groups are facing internal crisis, which have impacted on their operational capabilities.

Balochistan Liberation Army

Among Baloch separatist groups, Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) remained the most fatal group in Balochistan in 2016, which carried out 55 terrorist attacks. (See Table 1) These attacks are much lesser comparing with 88 attacks launched by the group in 2015. This is an indication of its decreasing operational strength in Balochistan. Quetta, Bolan, Kech, Khuzdar and Kohlu districts in Balochistan are the major areas of operation of this group.

Baloch Republican Army

Baloch Republican Army (BRA) was found involved in 24 terrorist attacks mainly in Dera Bugti, Nasirabad, Dera Murad Jamali, Barkhan and Loralai districts of Balochistan.

Lashkar-e-Balochistan

Lashkar-e-Balochistan carried out 8 terrorist attacks in 2016. The group was

mainly active in Makran coastal belt and neighboring districts.

Balochistan Liberation Front

After BLA, the Balochistan Liberation Front (BLF) was the most active nationalist militant group of the year as it conducted 27 terrorists attacks, compared to 38 attacks in 2015. The group operates across Balochistan, but is primarily concentrated in the southern coastal Makran belt as well as in Awaran and Khuzdar.

United Baloch Army

UBA, led by Mehran Marri, is a splinter group of BLA, which launched 3 attacks in Balochistan in 2016.

Sindhu Desh Liberation Army or Front (SDLA)

The SDLA, also known as SDLF, was believed to be involved in 4 small-scale terrorist attacks in 2016. The group was involved in attacks on railway tracks, banks and inter-provincial transportation system in interior Sindh.

Sindudesh Revolutionary Army

This is a new entry in nationalist militant groups and less is known about its leadership and inspiration of the group. But its name reflects that it shares political views with SDLA. In 2016, it carried out two small-scale attacks in Sindh.

3.1.3 'Unidentified' militants

Militants and nationalist insurgents, whose group identities and organizational affiliation were not defined or who did not claim responsibility for terror attacks, were involved in over 14 terrorist attacks across the country. These militants might have definite group affiliations but media reports of terrorist attacks did not cover those, and in many cases, law-enforcement agencies remained clueless about any such affiliation.

3.2 Changing strategies and tactics

The dynamics of some of the old threats continued to evolve in 2016, but responses of law-enforcement departments need a dedicated platform to scientifically monitor the changing behaviors, trends and emerging patterns of terrorist groups. This initiative will help them to broaden their threat perception and evolve effective responses. The transformed sectarian groups like LeJ-A and their alliance with ISIS and other groups have increased the risk of their expanding targets from sectarian to non-sectarian. These groups were also involved attacking security forces but they can go for non-conventional targets as well like they targeted the lawyers' community in a hospital in Quetta in August 2016.

In 2016, target killing remained the major tactic for the terrorists. (*See Table 3*) The

terrorists used variety of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) in 2016, which indicate that IEDs will remain a big challenge for law enforcement agencies. The terrorists also launched 17 suicide attacks in 2016, compared to 18 such blasts in 2015.

Table 3: Terrorist Attacks' Tactics in 2016

Tactics	Attacks
FR	218
IED	172
HG	23
RA	7
Suicide Attacks	17
SAB	3
Mortar	1
Total	441

3.3 Search for new territories

The militant groups always remain in search of safe spaces. Military operations in the tribal areas and counterterrorism campaigns have uprooted terrorist networks from their traditional hotbeds. While many found shelter on the other side of the Pak-Afghan border, few found sanctuaries inside Pakistan. Those that relocated to Afghanistan also needed an operational infrastructure within Pakistan, which enhanced the importance of local sectarian groups trying to re-establish themselves in collaboration with TTP remnants. Afghanistan-based Pakistani

groups can partially shift their organizational set-ups to less secure regions along the Sindh-Balochistan border or elsewhere.¹⁷⁹ Mainly, interior Sindh is becoming a new target of militant groups. Militants with diverse militancy background are trying to establish themselves there.¹⁸⁰ A detained terrorist, who tried to carry out a suicide attack in Shikarpur, has revealed that his family had contacts with Afghan Taliban leader Mullah Omar as well as outlawed Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan chief Mullah Fazlullah. Usman Yousafzai, 18 years old, said his father Rahamullah was arrested during Swat operation. On his release, he had left for Afghanistan, where he was killed in a drone attack. He said his family lived in Karachi's Baldia Town two years back. However, when the Rangers-led Karachi operation intensified, he and his family left the area and stayed in Balochistan's Hub area before shifting to Quetta.¹⁸¹

In the given circumstances, Sindh and Balochistan governments as well as security institutions working in the two provinces have agreed to join forces against terrorism.¹⁸² However, vigilance by the security forces is required so that the militants should not get any space to establish their networks.

3.4 Changing recruitment patterns

Educational institutions and radical segments of religious groups are attractive

as sources of recruitment for sectarian terrorist groups. Shahbaz Taseer, the son of former governor of Punjab who released from the Taliban custody in 2016, was abducted by the educated youth from Engineering University Lahore on behalf of the terrorist group.¹⁸³ Radical tendencies among educated youth, from both public and private educational institutions, have the potential to serve the purpose of global terrorist movements as well as local violent radical groups. Self-radicalized individuals who are influenced by militant ideologies fall in this category. Members of conventional militant groups like Jamaatud Dawa and the banned Jaish-e-Mohammad always remain available for Al Qaeda and IS.

3.5 The new nexuses

The common challenges bring divergent militant forces together. As many tribal militant groups are facing survival challenge, eight rival militant groups had reportedly formed an alliance for operational collaboration inside Pakistan.¹⁸⁴ It was the initiative taken by Yusuf Mansoor Khorasani, head LeJ-A, and the groups which joined the alliance included the TTP, Jundullah, TTP Sajna group, TTP Shahryar group, Jamaatul Ahrar, TTP Khalifa Mansour group and TTP Qari Hussain group; LeJ Al-Alami also has alliance with ISIS. But most of these groups were earlier part of same organization but internal differences and later operation Zarb-e-Azb had caused

divisions among them. It is not sure how long this alliance will survive as in 2015 too such attempts were made but did not prove successful.¹⁸⁵

The religiously inspired militant groups are also trying to reconcile with the Baloch separatist groups. The TTP released a video at the end of 2016 offered its support to Baloch insurgents. There are fewer chances for formal alliance between them as separatist groups follow nationalist, leftwing and secular values, which is not compatible with the Taliban ideologies. It could be an attempt by the TTP to include religiously inclined militants towards them and use their networks for terrorist operations.

3.6 Assessing the ISIS threat

The ISIS dominated the debate on militancy in Pakistan even in 2016. The state institutions made contrary claims about the presence of the group in the country. Prime Minister,¹⁸⁶ Foreign Office,¹⁸⁷ and Interior Ministry,¹⁸⁸ kept denying the presence of the group in the country. On the other hand, law enforcement agencies continued claiming success against the terrorists group.

Punjab police's Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) claimed in November 2016 that they had busted an 8-member cell of the ISIS, and arrested the group's Lahore chief among others in a raid conducted in Lahore's posh cantonment

area.¹⁸⁹ Karachi police also arrested a terrorist involved in major attacks in the city who is an electrical engineer.¹⁹⁰ According to the CTD officials, the Lahore cell was recruiting individuals and families and sending them to Afghanistan and Syria as well as radicalizing youths to become violent extremists and terrorists. The cell members were also planning to announce Islamic caliphate in Pakistan. The arrested members of the busted cell were involved in robbing banks, looting shrines and houses of the Shia and Ahmedi communities. Those detained were identified as Lahore ISIS chief Nabeel Ahmed alias Abu Abdullah, Abu Bakar alias Sarmad, Muhammad Abdullah Dar, Syed Yusif-al-Islam, Badarul Islam, Haq Nawaz and Hafiz Raheel Anwar.¹⁹¹ Peshawar police had also made several claims that the ISIS was trying to strengthen its position in parts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

These are few claims made by the law enforcement agencies, but ISIS also accepted the responsibility of three terrorist attacks inside the country, which further complicated the situation. Later LeJ Al-Alami announced partnership with the ISIS and claimed it is organizing terrorist attacks with the support of Middle Eastern group.¹⁹²

However it is certain that ISIS-inspired militant groups such as Jamaatul Ahrar, factions of the TTP and Sunni sectarian outfits have started to forge operational coordination. While sectarian ideals could

be described as the main motive behind this growing nexus, the targets hit by these groups also include law enforcement and security agencies and others. Previously there have been attacks that were simultaneously claimed by ISIS or its supporters, Jamaatul Ahrar and/or Jundullah that lends credence to the fact that ISIS inspiration is emerging as a new threat in Pakistan.

3.7 Al-Qaeda in Pakistan

Although the Al-Qaeda in the Indian Sub-continent (AQIS) was not found involved in any major attack inside Pakistan in 2016, the group continued collaborating with local groups.¹⁹³ Experts give credit to AQIS for surviving in the region in unfavorable circumstances.¹⁹⁴ The law enforcement agencies in Karachi still consider AQIS as a potent threat.¹⁹⁵

The conventional militant groups¹⁹⁶ also bring pressure on Pakistan, especially defunct Jaish-e-Muhammad's alleged involvement in terrorist attack at Pathankot airbase in India forced government to take action against the group and its leader was taken into the custody.¹⁹⁷ It seems the issue of banned organizations will dominate the debate on militancy in 2017 too, alongside the ISIS, Al-Qaeda, Haqqanis and Afghan Taliban. It is important that the law enforcement agencies continue reviewing their threat perception especially about the conventional militant groups.

State responses: anti-militant operations and National Action Plan

Muhammad Amir Rana and Safdar Sial*

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4.1 Operational front

Compared to 2,061 in 2015, as many as 809 militants, including Baloch insurgents, were killed in 2016 in military operations as well as their armed clashes and encounters with the security forces/law-enforcement agencies. These operations and clashes/encounters were not confined to a particular area or region but were reported from across 4 provinces of Pakistan and the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA).

Security forces and law enforcement agencies apprehended a total of 1,418 suspected terrorists and members of violent radical groups in 315 search and combing operations conducted all over the country.

Also, security and law enforcement agencies, either alone or in collaboration with officials of bomb disposal squads, foiled 55 terror bids mainly by defusing IEDs; these also include the incidents where militants failed to reach and hit their targets either due to personal reasons or by intervention by law enforcers.

4.1.1 Military/security operations

Security forces and law enforcement agencies launched a total of 95 operational strikes and raids against militants in 2016, as compared to 143 such actions in previous year. These operations were conducted in 35 districts and regions of Pakistan; in previous year such operations were recorded in 31 districts or regions. Out of the 95 operational strikes, 38 were conducted in 17 districts in Balochistan; 24

in 5 agencies in FATA, mainly in Khyber and North Waziristan; 15 in Karachi; 13 in 8 districts of Punjab; and another 5 in 4 districts in KP. These operational strikes killed a total of 492 people including 481 militants (compared to 1,545 in 2015), 7 personnel of security and law enforcement agencies and 4 civilians. Around 35 militants and 14 security personnel were also injured in these actions.

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

Region	District	Attacks	Killed	Injured
Balochistan	Awaran	1	3	0
	Barkhan	1	4	0
	Bolan	1	3	0
	Dera Bugti	2	7	0
	Kalat	2	38	2
	Kech	6	11	0
	Khuzdar	1	1	0
	Kohlu	3	9	0
	Lasbela	3	8	0
	Mastung	2	7	0
	Nasirabad	2	6	0
	Panjkur	4	6	3
	Pishin	1	4	2
	Qilla Abdullah	1	4	0
	Quetta	4	16	7
	Sibi	2	11	0
	Zhob	2	3	0
Total		38	141	14
FATA	Khyber	12	106	22
	Mohmand	3	8	0
	North Waziristan	7	104	0
	Orakzai	1	0	0
	South Waziristan	1	4	0
	Total		24	222

Region	District	Attacks	Killed	Injured
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Buner	1	2	0
	Kohat	1	0	0
	Peshawar	1	1	0
	Tank	2	5	0
	Total	5	8	0
Punjab	DG Khan	1	10	0
	Gujranwala	1	5	0
	Lahore	1	4	0
	Multan	1	8	0
	Muzaffargarh	1	3	0
	Okara	1	6	0
	Rajapur	4	23	11
	Sheikhupura	3	18	0
Total	13	77	11	
Sindh	Karachi	15	44	2
	Total	15	44	2
Total Pakistan		95	492 (481 militants)	49 (35 militants)

In 2016, the highest number of operational strikes for any one region of Pakistan was reported from Balochistan. In the province, mainly the FC, as well as police and Levies, conducted 38 operations killing 140 militants of Baloch insurgent groups BLF, BLA, and BRA, etc., as well as those belonging to the TTP, and LeJ. One FC troop was also killed in one of these operations. As cited earlier, these anti-militant operations were reported from 17 districts of Balochistan, including 6 from Kech, 4 operational strikes each from Panjgur and Quetta, and 3 such strikes each from Kohlu and Lasbela. Two operational strikes were recorded from each of Kalat, Dera Bugti, Mastung,

Nasirabad, Sibi and Zhob districts. Awaran, Barkhan, Bolan, Khuzdar, Pishin, and Qilla Abdullah were other districts where at least one operational strike was recorded during the year.

As many 24 incidences of military operation in FATA claimed in all 222 lives – 218 militants, 4 civilians – and wounded 22 others. Most of these strikes (12) in FATA targeted the TTP and Lashkar-e-Islam militants in Khyber Agency killing 106 militants. The third phase of Khyber Operation was also started in the agency, mainly in the areas of Tirah Valley close to Pak-Afghan border. Meanwhile, Operation Zarb-e-Azb continued in North Waziristan, where 7 military operational strikes killed 104 militants, mostly those linked to the TTP and associated groups. Similarly, 3 operational strikes were reported from Mohmand Agency and one from Orakzai Agency. In an unlucky incident reported from South Waziristan, on December 5, the security forces opened fire on a suspected vehicle on an unfrequented route near the Barmalzai Fort, leaving four persons dead. Eight people were traveling in the pick-up vehicle which the security personnel mistook as carrying militants.¹⁹⁸

The Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) of Punjab police was the leading force in conducting anti-militant operations in the province. As many as 71 militants were killed in such operation in Punjab in 2016; 6 policemen also lost their lives. Reportedly, militants belonging to the TTP

and other Taliban groups, Al-Qaeda and violent sectarian groups including LeJ were mainly targeted in these operations conducted across 8 districts of Punjab including DG Khan, Gujranwala, Lahore, Multan, Muzaffargarh, Okara, Rajanpur and Sheikhpura.

The Rangers and police, mainly the CTD, conducted 15 independent and/or joint intelligence-based operations against militants in Karachi in 2016. These operations killed 44 militants mainly belonging to Al-Qaeda, Al-Qaeda in the Indian Sub-continent (AQIS), LeJ, Jundullah, different TTP factions as well as those inspired by or affiliated with ISIS.

4.1.2 Security forces' clashes and encounters with militants

Security and law enforcement agencies also engaged in a total of 105 armed clashes and encounters with militants, a decrease of 31 percent from the previous year, in 44 districts/regions of the country. Marking a decrease of 37 percent from previous year, these clashes and encounters claimed 348 lives in 2016 –including 328 militants, 19 personnel of security forces and law enforcement agencies and one civilian. As many as 60 others were injured in these clashes including 20, as well as 35 security personnel and 5 civilians.

As for operational strikes, the highest number of security forces' clashes and encounters with militants was also reported from Balochistan where 37 such incidents

took place during the year. As many as 24 such incidents were reported from 14 districts of Punjab. In one of these incidents, a high-profile Al-Qaeda leader Bilal Lateef alias Yasir Punjabi, was killed in a reported encounter with the CTD of police in May.

Security and law enforcement personnel indulged in as many as 23 armed clashes and encounters with militants in Karachi. On March 12, police claimed to have killed two AQIS militants – including Karachi chief of the group Mohammed Arshad and another militant Mohammed Umair—in Quaidabad area, who were reportedly planning a suicide attack at Drigh Road railway station to target ordnance supply to the military.¹⁹⁹ Also, a high-profile militant commander Kamran Aslam alias Kamran Gujjar, allegedly associated with ISIS, was killed during an encounter with police in Ittehad Town on March 17.²⁰⁰

4.1.3 Terrorists arrested

Security forces and law enforcement agencies arrested a total of 1,418 suspected terrorists and members of radical organizations in 315 search and combing operations conducted all over the country. These included 812 suspected militants linked with the TTP or local Taliban groups. Militants linked with foreign outfits were arrested too from Pakistan: 57 of these were affiliated with the ISIS and 24 were with Al-Qaeda. As many as 236 nationalist insurgents were apprehended, too, mainly from Balochistan.

Table 2: Clashes and Encounters between Security Forces and Militants

Regions	District	Attacks	Killed	Injured
Balochistan	Awaran	5	18	5
	Barkhan	1	3	0
	Chagai	1	3	0
	Dera Bugti	4	4	5
	Gwadar	2	6	2
	Kalat	4	20	8
	Kech	3	8	1
	Kohlu	2	13	0
	Nasirabad	4	8	1
	Quetta	8	23	4
	Sibi	2	15	0
	Zhob	1	3	0
	Total	37	124	26
	FATA	Bajaur	1	2
FR Tank		1	1	0
Khyber		1	1	0
North Waziristan		2	26	4
Total		5	30	4
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa		Bannu	1	1
	Battagram	1	1	1
	D.I Khan	1	1	0
	Haripur	1	4	0
	Kohat	1	2	4
	Lakki Marwat	2	2	0
	Nowshera	1	0	3
	Total	8	12	8
North West Frontier Province	Swabi	4	9	5
	Swat	2	7	1
	Upper Dir	1	3	1
	Total	15	30	15
Punjab	Bahawalpur	1	5	0
	DG Khan	3	15	0
	Gujranwala	2	7	0
	Gujrat	1	1	0
	Khanewal	2	8	0
	Khushab	1	1	0
	Lahore	3	11	2
	Layyah	1	3	0
	Lodhran	1	4	0
	Total	19	60	2
	Punjab (continued)	Muzaffargarh	2	7
Nankana Sahib		1	5	0
Rajanpur		1	5	0
Rawalpindi		1	1	0
Sheikhupura		4	27	0
Total		24	100	2
Sindh	Hyderabad	1	3	0
	Karachi	21	56	10
	Khairpur	1	0	3
	Total	23	59	13
Gilgit-Baltistan	Diamir	1	5	0
	Total	1	5	0
Pakistan Total	105	348 (328 militants)	60 (20 militants)	

Over 100 among those arrested were reportedly associated with Sunni sectarian group Lashkar-e-Jhangvi including two high-profile leaders of the group Naem Bukhari and Asif Chotu; the latter was reportedly arrested from DG Khan district of Punjab,²⁰¹ which analysts described as a major success against the violent sectarian groups in the province. Karachi police and the Sindh Counterterrorism Department also confirmed the arrest of Asif Chotu, who has been a key figure behind the reorganization of the violent sectarian group.²⁰²

Table 3: Terrorists Arrested in 2016

Militant Organization	No. of Search Operations	Suspected Terrorists Arrested
Afghan nationals	10	31
Afghan Taliban	1	8
Ahle Sunnat Wal Jamaat	1	5
Al-Qaeda operatives	11	24
Banned militant outfit (excluding sectarian and tribal)	6	18
Banned militant outfits (inclusive of all)	5	21
BLA	3	4
BLF	1	8
BRA	1	6
Foreign militants (excluding Afghans)	4	13
Hizb-ul-Tahreer	4	5
Indian Intelligence Agency RAW's operatives	10	17
ISIS	20	57

Militant Organization	No. of Search Operations	Suspected Terrorists Arrested
Jaish-e-Mohammed	2	9
Jamaatul Ahrar	1	2
Jundullah	1	1
Lashkar-e-Islam	1	2
Lashkar-e-Jhangvi	31	101
Local Taliban / TTP	150	812
Nationalist insurgents	45	212
Tehreek-e-Nifaz-e-Shariat-e-Mohammadi	1	1
Tehreek-e-Taliban Balochistan (TTB)	1	35
United Baloch Army (UBA)	1	6
Unknown Militants	4	20
Total	315	1,418

In March, Pakistan's security agencies claimed to have arrested an alleged agent of Indian RAW from Balochistan's border with Iran. Kulbhushan Yadav had Indian passport with the name of Hussein Mubarak Patel and a valid Iranian visa on it. Mr Yadav claimed in a video released by Pakistani ISPR that he was working on behalf of RAW and was engaged in activities of disruption and terrorism in Balochistan.

4.1.4 Failed/foiled terror bids

Meanwhile, 55 terrorist attempts were thwarted by the security forces, either independently or in collaboration with officials of bomb disposal squads, mostly by defusing the IEDs. These foiled/failed

attempts also include the incidents where militants failed to reach and hit their targets either due to personal reasons or by intervention by law enforcers.

Table 4: Failed/Foiled Terror Bids in 2016

District	Attacks	Killed	Injured	Intended Target
Bagh	1	0	0	Educational institutions
Bajaur Agency	4	2	0	Civilians, security forces/law enforcement
Bannu	1	0	0	Educational institutions
Charsadda	2	0	0	Civilians, security forces/law enforcement
Dera Bugti	4	0	0	Security forces/law enforcement, worship places/shrines
Hangu	3	0	0	Civilians
Hyderabad	1	1	0	Shia religious scholars/community
Jhelum	1	0	0	Railway tracks / trains
Karachi	2	0	0	Govt. officials, political leaders/workers
Kech	3	0	0	Security forces/law enforcement
Khuzdar	1	0	0	Civilians

District	Attacks	Killed	Injured	Intended Target
Khyber Agency	2	0	0	Civilians, unknown
Kohat	1	0	0	Unknown
Lakki Marwat	1	4	0	Unknown
Matiari	1	0	0	Railway tracks / trains
Mohmand Agency	4	0	0	Civilians
Narowal	1	0	0	Unknown
Nasirabad	3	0	0	Civilians, security forces/law enforcement
Nushki	1	0	0	Security forces/law enforcement
Orakzai Agency	1	0	0	Health/polio workers
Peshawar	8	0	2	Civilians, security forces/law enforcement
Quetta	2	0	0	Christian community, govt. installation, offices
Rawalpindi	1	0	0	Civilians
Sibi	4	0	0	Railway tracks / trains, security forces/law enforcement
Swabi	1	0	0	Civilians
Swat	1	0	0	Civilians
Total	55	7	2	

4.2 National Action Plan: a year in review

The National Action Plan (NAP) has completed its two years. The pace and success of implementation of NAP measures were far from satisfactory in 2016. Prime Minister Mian Nawaz Sharif himself expressed dissatisfaction over the implementation of NAP many times during the year.

A major hurdle in the way of effective implementation of the NAP was the lack of a centralized mechanism. To deal with the issue, civil and military leadership appointed the National Security Adviser to the PM Lt. Gen. (retd.) Nasser Khan Janjua to monitor the progress on the NAP. On the other hand, security institutions made a few adjustments in their operational strategies but failed to completely transform their counterterrorism approach. In 2016, the terrorists' operational infrastructure and support networks, albeit weakened, remain intact.²⁰³

The formation of a new NAP monitoring committee under Lt. Gen. (retd.) Janjua reflected the fire-fighting approach of the government, as the national-level apex committee, and provincial-level apex committees comprising civil-military leadership, were already formed for similar purposes.²⁰⁴ The Interior Ministry and NACTA also have similar roles. Meanwhile, Chairman Senate Mian Raza Rabbani has suggested the formation of a

parliamentary oversight committee of NAP.²⁰⁵ But the government preferred to establish another monitoring committee.

It appears that the government invested much on monitoring the implementation of the NAP, rather to directly invest in the counterterrorism initiatives. Such approaches shift the burden on to the police and its counterterrorism departments, which are merely operational forces. To neutralize the pressure, police and other law enforcement agencies have tendencies to adopt extra-judicial measures.²⁰⁶ The police always need strategic insight of the government and support of other institutions to make their operations effective. This in itself not only exposes the capacity gaps of the implementing institutions, but also brings the structural dichotomies on the surface, resultantly causing confusions on some points of the NAP, especially pertaining to the status of banned organizations and madrasa reforms in the country. Few analysts point out that the NAP is too much military-centric, squeezing the space of the civilians.²⁰⁷

In view of the security landscape in 2016, a comprehensive review of the progress on the NAP in a year will help to identify the critical challenges, which are needed to be adjusted in the national counterterrorism plan.

The report will not only examine the progress on each NAP point in 2016 but

also identify the gaps in the state responses. In 2015, Pak Institute for Peace Studies had done a comprehensive exercise to review one-year progress on the NAP and invited leading experts to contribute their valuable insights and comments. The institute contacted several of these experts again to seek their views on the developments. A comparison of their views is also part of this report, which can help to measure the success level of the NAP.

4.2.1 Progress on NAP points

1. Execution of convicted terrorists:

The National Action Plan had conceived the execution of convicted terrorists as a deterrent factor, though there was no empirical evidence available to endorse the notion. The architects of the NAP put so-called deterrent element at the top, but two years of the practice prove the perception wrong. According to the last two year's data of compiled by the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan, only 29 were the terrorist convicted out of 426 executions.²⁰⁸ The experts see a security centric approach behind the point and argue lengthy imprisonment sentences have more impact.²⁰⁹

The government considers executions simple solution rather investing in high security prisons for terrorists and other dangerous criminal. Punjab province has built first high security prison in 2015²¹⁰,

but maintaining such prisons required trained staff and resources. The government has to reconsider its policy of deterrent and need to focus more on concrete measures for countering terrorism.

2. Speedy military courts:

Since January 2015, the military courts have convicted at least 157 people, of whom 153 people have been sentenced to death.²¹¹ According to a report by the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ), military courts had until mid-2016 tried 105 civilian militants, among who 81 were found guilty with 77 awarded death sentences while four given life sentences.²¹² The report also said that the heirs of 17 people convicted by military courts had alleged that the convicts were denied a right to a fair trial in petitions to the Supreme Court of Pakistan.

The power of military courts will lapse on January 5, 2017. Initially, the government was giving an impression that it would not extend the 21st amendment of the constitution under which the military courts were established.²¹³ But towards the end of the year, media quoting interior ministry sources claimed that government has prepared the draft of a new law, integrating the Protection of Pakistan Act and Anti-Terrorism Act, while giving military courts permanent status.²¹⁴ The experts and watchdogs also do not see any advantage of the special powers to

security forces to detain individuals for prolonged periods. Instead, they suggest that parliament should deal with the issue as it did in the case of the Protection of Pakistan Act, 2014; when that law expired in July, parliament simply opted to do nothing.²¹⁵ The government and judiciary have to work on judicial reforms and to make sure speedy trials of terrorism cases, rather adopted an ad hoc approach.

3. Armed militias and banned militant groups:

NAP's points 3 and 7 deal with a similar kind of challenge. The point 3 shows commitment of the state that militant outfits and armed gangs will not be allowed to operate in the country and the point 7 reflects practical approach that the defunct outfits will not be allowed to operate under any other name. However, the ambiguity remains surrounded by these two points.

The federal government has added two more organizations in the list of proscribed militant groups in 2016. Lashkar-e-Jhangvi Al-Alami²¹⁶ and Jamaatul Ahrar²¹⁷, a splinter group of the TTP, are the new entries in the list for their involvement in terrorist activities across the country. The list of total number of banned groups now stands at 63, available on the website of National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA).

However, the banned groups dominated the debate on internal security in Pakistan in 2016 and, at time, caused rift among civil

and military leaderships. The reaction of the civil and military leaderships over the Cyril Almeida's story published in *Dawn*²¹⁸ on October 7, 2016 was the reflection of the seriousness of the issue. Security experts argue that the existing ambiguities on the status of certain banned militant groups are a major hurdle in the way of eradicating the terrorism and extremism from the society. Many banned groups usually take refuge behind anti-Indian rhetoric. State institutions have not even bothered to categorically disown these groups, which once again confuses the ordinary Pakistani citizen.²¹⁹ The point of an effective implementation of the ban on these organizations was included in the NAP because these organizations provide not only ideological legitimacy to terrorist groups but also a conducive environment for their operations. The banned organizations also have encroached on far-right territory and, if this process continues, they will erode the socio-cultural fabric of society.²²⁰

In this perspective, a clear and comprehensive approach is required to deal with the banned organizations in the country. First and immediate task for federal government would be to rationalize the list of banned organizations and divide it into different categories. The NACTA website only contains the names of the banned organizations and does not provide any reasons of banning them and record of their terrorist, criminal, anti-state activities. This is important not only for

legal and operational purposes but also for the public awareness. The list can be divided into at least 2 broad categories: the groups who have been and have not been functional over the last five years. There is also need to divide the groups into separate categories, based on who are involved in violence and terrorism inside the country and those who have such record out of the country. A clear distinction between ethnic, nationalist militant groups and religious groups is also required, because it confuses the debate on the issue and creates problem in the policy formulations. The current list puts three organizations, including Jamaatud Daawa (JuD) in schedule 2 (under observation), while brackets two organizations as enlisted under UNSCR. However, the UNSCR list²²¹ includes the names of nine Pakistani militant groups including JuD. If the state has any reasons behind this distinction, it should be mentioned. At the same time, no mechanism has been evolved to exclude the names of the groups, who have become non-functional or wanted to quit the path of militancy and extremism.

4. Strengthening and activation of NACTA:

Comparing with previous years, The National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) was more active in 2016. The authority got its official webpage,²²² which also includes a long awaiting official list of banned organizations and number of

registered religious seminaries in the country.²²³ A "Red Book" of terrorists was prepared containing complete information and profiles of the terrorists.²²⁴ Interior Minister told the upper house of the Parliament that the long awaiting Joint Intelligence directorate would start functioning soon.²²⁵ It was the core mandates of the NACTA to provide and share intelligence and information with relevant enforcement agencies. The authority has also formed the steering committee and core experts group to formulate the Counter Extremism policy.²²⁶

The measures taken by the NACTA could be considered as a modest beginning, but the pace of progress is not compatible with the scale of the terrorism and extremism challenges. Former National Coordinator of NACTA Khawaja Khalid Farooq thinks that the interior minister is keeping NACTA under his administrative control whereas the NACTA Act mentions it must be placed under the prime minister.²²⁷ Former head of the counterterrorism authority, Tariq Pervez, has also similar concerns and thinks that the NACTA cannot be called functional unless the legal requirement of holding the body's board of governors²²⁸ meeting is fulfilled²²⁹.

5. Countering hate speech and extremist material:

The police have shown progress on this front, but this is a huge challenge. Minister

of State for Interior Baleegh-ur-Rahman sharing the final progress report of the year on the implementation of NAP in Senate claimed that 1,365 cases had been registered across the country over hate speeches, 2,454 people had been arrested and 70 shops sealed after recovery of hate literature. Similarly, 1,526 cases about misuse of loudspeaker were registered.²³⁰

The police have succeeded in creating an environment at local level where individuals and Imams of the mosques have become careful in their sermons. However, the religious extremists are increasingly using the tactic of converting religious rage into mob anger where it becomes difficult for police to register cases.

6. Choking terror financing:

To curb terrorism financing the government has taken few major initiatives in 2016. First, the establishment of a national task force to curb terror financing and weaken militants' resources of finance and funding under NACTA.²³¹ The task force will comprise representatives of federal and provincial governments as well as from nongovernmental organizations, or NGOs.

State Bank of Pakistan has instructed all banks in the country to freeze accounts linked to 2,021 individuals listed on the Fourth Schedule of the Anti-Terrorism Act (ATA) 1997.²³² Most among 2,021

individuals were linked to sectarian groups and organizations.²³³

The State Bank of Pakistan has also issued new guidelines in form of a circular that aim to prevent the possible use of the banking sector for money laundering, terrorist financing and illegal transfer of funds. President of Pakistan Mamnoon Hussain has issued an ordinance empowering Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) to take adequate measures against fraud, money laundering and terror financing. According to the issued Companies Ordinance 2016, the SECP is empowered to investigate and also conduct a joint investigation.²³⁴

Because financing for terror activities is carried out through informal channels, regulatory measures by the State Bank could be only limitedly effective to check flow of terror financing. The measures are important, but the scope of freezing the bank accounts of individuals linked with banned militant groups should be across the board and transparent. It should not target specific militant groups. Moreover, accounts of individuals have been frozen, whereas no action has been taken against accounts of banned groups. A comprehensive action covering both traditional and non-traditional sources was required instead of just targeting the normal banking, which only few terrorists use and that too often with fake names. At the same time the list should be in harmony with the terrorist groups named

in UN Security Council Resolution 1267.

7. Banned groups

This point is closely linked to point 3, which is elaborated above.

8. Dedicated counterterrorism force:

After Punjab²³⁵ and Balochistan²³⁶, the federal capital Islamabad also has rapid response force.²³⁷ The rapid response unit will serve as a counterterrorism force.

The Sindh police is also demanding a professional and dedicated Counter Terrorism Force trained by tactical units of armed forces of Pakistan.²³⁸

9. Counter religious extremism and effective measures against religious persecution:

The government has not taken any concrete measures to stop religious persecutions in the country. It seems this point in NAP got very little attention of the government. The government links this issue with growing extremist tendencies in the country and this task has been given to NACTA to suggest a policy framework for this purpose. The counterterrorism authority has established a steering committee to work on formulating the National Counter Extremism Policy (NCEP), which, it is believed, will cover the following: national security, building community resilience, media engagement,

promotion of culture, education reforms, and [creation of an enabling environment for] rehabilitation and reintegration of militants. It is not clear whether the government will accept NACTA's forthcoming recommendations or not. Nor is it clear whether it has any intention of announcing a CVE policy. The recommendations could also become a casualty of the government's political considerations.²³⁹ However, the steering committee needed to underline two major issues: One, the discourse of hatred in the country has become increasingly sectarian. The government's approach in dealing with sectarian terrorists has been oriented around counter-terrorism, without addressing the causes promoting sectarian minds. Second, intolerance against religious minorities is still a major issue in the country. Though the government has included interfaith harmony portfolio in the ministry of religious affairs,²⁴⁰ but it has failed to play any role to stop the religious persecutions or to create conducive environment for socio-religious harmony in the country.

10. Registration and regulation of madrassas:

The National Action Plan (NAP) assigned priority to reform madrassas and the task was given to the federal interior ministry, even though after the 18th Amendment, education has become a provincial subject. Sindh was the only province, which took some measures for madrasa regulations

and introduced the Sindh Madressah Registration Bill, 2016. The bill encompasses all issues concerning the seminaries in Sindh that require to be taken care of by the National Action Plan.²⁴¹ Meanwhile the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government allocated funds of Rs300 million for the madrassa Darul Uloom Haqqania in Akora Khattak, which is known for its affiliation with the Taliban and other radical groups. The provincial government claimed the madrassa administration has promised to introduce reforms; experts disagree with the approach of funding madrassas like this in hope of some reform. No seminary has been given any grant by the federal government since 2002.²⁴² The federal government also claims certain developments on madrassa regulation front. The Interior Ministry and Ettehad Tanzeemat Madaaris Pakistan (ITMP), an umbrella organization of different madrassa educational boards, had reached on an understanding over the question of regulation of madrassas.²⁴³ NACTA and the ITMP have prepared a new form for madrassa registration.²⁴⁴ Copies of this form have been disseminated to provincial government and federal security agencies, to get their opinion and input. Furthermore, the government closed 254 unregistered and suspicious madrassas in the country as part of National Action Plan.²⁴⁵

These measures are not enough for regulating or mainstreaming the religious schools; instead these are making the issue more complex as madrassa educational boards are also not happy with the government policies and a slow pace of reforms.²⁴⁶ Dealing with the challenge of madrassa reforms is not so simple. The government is mainly focusing on registering the madrassas, but it is ignoring two critical aspects. First, certain madrassas and banned militant outfits provide human resources, ideological support and, more critically, hideouts for terrorists, which help them in carrying out attacks. This issue could be dealt only through clear security approach. The second pertains to the nature and quality of the education the madrassas provide. It is the duty of the provinces to take measures to bring them into mainstream.

The madrassa leadership has always remained skeptical about the state intention to regulate the religious schools. But the federal and provincial governments should try as a first step to bridge the mistrust and then introduce a policy of registration, which binds madrassas to provide compulsory formal education for certain hours a day. They should also ensure that while madrassas continue religious teaching according to the curriculum, they do not teach formally or informally, any controversial subjects to the students. Also, the provincial governments should introduce a

mechanism to check that madrassas are not offering any out-of-syllabus refresher courses against a particular religion, sect or community.

11. Ban on glorification of terrorism through print and electronic media:

After the NAP, spaces for pro-militant narratives have been significantly reduced, but extremist messages are still common. Justice Faez Isa inquiry commission²⁴⁷ report noticed that the media glorify terrorists, while reporting terrorist incidents. The commission called such media practices as “bad journalism”.

12. FATA reforms:

The FATA Reforms Committee²⁴⁸ proposed recommendations for reforms in FATA to prepare it for a five-year transition period for merger into Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.²⁴⁹ Besides the proposed transitional measures to finally merge FATA in the KP province, some other key recommendations were as follows:

- Setting the end of 2016 as the target date for the return of temporarily displaced persons and the completion of reconstruction before the end of 2017
- The setting up of a high-level special committee comprising experts and officials under the KP governor to prepare before the end of 2016, a ten-year development plan for FATA

- Holding of party-based local bodies’ elections in FATA after the completion of rehabilitation phase and promulgation of the Fata Local Government
- Renaming of the Frontier Crimes Regulation as Fata Regulation Act, 2016, omitting all sections relating to collective responsibility, retaining the Jirga system for both civil and criminal matters, whereby the court will appoint a council of elders to adjudicate matters in accordance with the ‘riwaj’ and prevailing law in force
- The reorganization and revamping of Levies to perform police function, introduction of police uniform and basic training, sanction and induction of additional 10,000 men, improved border management between Pakistan and Afghanistan and abolition of rahdari and permit system to end corruption and cross border movement; and
- Introduction of proper land settlement property record in Fata on a priority basis for administration of civil laws and as a prerequisite for banking operation and investment.

However, experts underscore the need to take some preliminary steps, which they believe are required for an effective mainstreaming of FATA under the rolled out plan. First, the proposed implementation committee should have

more provincial representation, given that the reforms appear to center on the integration of FATA with KP. Second, the FATA secretariat and the governor's office need to be urgently strengthened with a view to enhance their administrative capacity to handle the to-be-assigned tasks. Third, Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif himself needs to be more involved in the whole process.

13. Dismantling communication networks of terrorist organizations:

The terrorist organizations have sophisticated communication networks and they use both traditional and cyber communications means for operational purposes. The government uses traditional ways to disrupt their communication networks through complete shutdown of cellular networks at important religious and national occasions. A comprehensive legal and security regime to deal with this challenge is still needed.

Afghan cellular SIMs are another critical issue as terrorists and criminals use these SIMs for illegal and militant activities. Though Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) has disabled international roaming for Afghan based operators in Pakistan, but the spillover of signals of Afghan SIMs in settlements nears the border is still a big challenge.²⁵⁰ Pakistan has to take up this issue with Afghanistan.

14. Measures against abuse of Internet and social media for terrorism:

In 2016, the parliament passed the Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act 2016 (PECA), which aims at penalizing those who misuse online space including for terrorist activities. Salient features of the PECA are below:

- The main objective of the PECA is to prevent and penalize cybercrime which is defined as the unlawful access and/or interference with information systems in order to cause harm or incite hatred/violence.
- The Act also criminalizes cyber stalking, identity theft, child pornography, distribution of "malicious codes," spamming, etc.
- The federal government has to set up a separate investigating agency to look into such offences and to appoint presiding officers of the court to try cases under this Act.
- It creates international cooperation with foreign governments/agencies for mutual exchange of information and assistance, while retaining the right to refuse such requests if Pakistan's sovereignty or security is prejudiced in any way.
- The Act empowers Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) to remove "unlawful online content", which the authorities deem to be

against national security, public order and morality.

The Act was passed after several amendments made possible through intense advocacy with parliamentarians. Even though the original bill was altered to address those concerns, digital rights activists believe the Act passed has still some loopholes. For one, an activist with insight on digital space feared, "the vague language of the Act can be used to cover a vast amount of activity and speech that does not directly relate to terrorism."²⁵¹

15. Zero tolerance for militancy in Punjab:

Repeated arrests and killing by law enforcers of militants associated with Al-Qaeda, TTP and others in parts of Punjab in 2016 indicates either terrorists were already present in Punjab or have moved recently after operations in FATA. Those arrested also include ISIS supporters. To eliminate militants' sleeper cells in Punjab is a huge challenge mainly due to complex militant landscape of the province. Punjab also hosts militants focused on Kashmir who usually do not carry out attacks in Pakistan but are among major sources of recruitment for anti-Pakistan terrorist groups. Certain sectarian groups, especially the LeJ remnants have fled from Punjab and sought refuge in different parts of Balochistan, such as Quetta and Khuzdar, especially its sub-district Wadh.²⁵² Such

reports increase pressure on Punjab government to take stricter measures against the militant networks in the province or assign this task to paramilitary forces. The Punjab government is reluctant to engage paramilitary force Rangers in counterterrorism operations in the province. The provincial government reluctantly engaged the Rangers in an operation against criminals and terrorists in the Indus delta, generally known as *kacha* areas, in south Punjab and upper Sindh in April last year. In September, when the pressure once again mounted on Punjab, initially the Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) denied presence of no-go area ruled by banned militant outfits in any part of the province, later the government had invited the Rangers in the province to conduct operations against banned organizations and terrorists.²⁵³

The issue will linger on, unless the Punjab government evolves an effective counterterrorism policy.

16. Taking the ongoing operation in Karachi to its logical conclusion:

Law-enforcement agencies in Karachi face multiple challenges to deal with, including ethno-political violence, sectarian killings, organized crime, land grabs and militancy associated with local and global jihadi network. Analysts argue that maintaining stability and peace in Karachi needs a long-term strategy, which can be achieved only through the consensus involving both

security and political leadership.²⁵⁴ At the same time federal, provincial governments and the security institutions have to start the transfer phase of the operation. It will require restructuring the policing system in the metropolis to deal with urban policing challenges. This process will take time, but it has to be started now and meanwhile, government and security institutions have to make efforts that the operation would not become politicized. The politicization will not only undermine the success of the operation but also provide opportunity to criminal and militant groups to regain political strength.

17. Balochistan reconciliation:

The political reconciliation in Balochistan was one of important point of the NAP, but Balochistan chief minister Nawab Sanaullah Zehri had so far shown lesser interest in reconciliation with insurgent leaders compared to his predecessor Malik Baloch. However he has said that government would accept only those disgruntled Baloch leaders who believed in the country and its Constitution.²⁵⁵

Nonetheless, the Baloch insurgency appears to be weakening in terms of leadership crisis although little has been done to address the grievances of the Baloch people mainly related to economic underdevelopment, the issue of missing persons and recovery of dead bodies, and so-called 'army's over-presence and influence'. One aspect of this weakening

insurgency, as believed by many scholars, is growing rifts among insurgent leaders, and foot soldiers' and field commanders' growing mistrust²⁵⁶ and grievances against self-exiled leaders²⁵⁷. Under the provincial government's amnesty scheme, launched last year, several hundred insurgents including commanders have surrendered so far.

However, new Army Chief General Qamar Bajwa recently showed an olive branch to Baloch separatists²⁵⁸, which kept the hope of achieving political reconciliation in the province alive.

18. Dealing firmly with sectarian terrorists:

NAP's point 18 was included in the plan to show the state commitment against sectarian violence in Pakistan. Apparently, this is part of counterterrorism campaigns of the provinces and the government has not chalked out any separate operational or political strategy to deal with the issue.

19. Policy to deal with the issue of Afghan refugees:

The NAP talks about formulation of a comprehensive policy to deal with the issue of Afghan refugees, beginning with registration of all refugees. The government however granted registered Afghan refugees in Pakistan an extension of another six-month extension.²⁵⁹ Meanwhile, the UN refugee agency has doubled its assistance package for families

who opted to return voluntarily to Afghanistan. More than 380,000 Afghan refugees²⁶⁰ have returned from Pakistan this year and over 1.5 million refugees will be enjoying this extension. However, the federal and provincial governments have yet to come up with some comprehensive solution. Only the police and other law enforcement agencies are trying to deal with the issue.

20. Revamping and reforming the criminal justice system:

On November 25, 2016 the Senate of Pakistan passed a bill to amend several laws for enhancing punishments for various offences. The purpose will be to strengthen the country's criminal justice system, as espoused in National Action Plan, to effectively curb terrorism and extremism. However, a sub-committee headed by Attorney General for Pakistan Ashtar Ausaf Ali was also tasked by the General retired Nasir Janjua, head of the Committee on Implementation of the NAP to review the progress of cases being tried in various courts under anti-terrorism laws.²⁶¹ The fate of this sub-committee is little known, but criminal justice system is

a chronic problem of the country. There are 3 million court cases pending in Pakistan.²⁶² Only in 2016, the IG Punjab received 10,253 complaints for the non-registration of FIRs; 1283 complaints for the registration of false cases; 861 for seeking bribe.²⁶³

Specifically in counterterrorism perspective, the police's ability to apprehend the proclaimed offenders is also a big issue²⁶⁴, and to cover this weakness the probabilities of extra judicial measures by the police increased.²⁶⁵

4.2.2 Mapping experts opinions on NAP

In 2015, Pak Institute for Peace Studies (PIPS) has collected the expert analysis on NAP twenty points and they have not only the evaluated the progress on the national plan but also identified the gaps, implementation and capacity issues in the state responses. In 2016, PIPS once again compiled the experts' observations the following table provides a comparison with their observations of the previous year. The mapping of experts' perceptions will help to understand the quality of the state's counterterrorism responses.

Table5: Experts' perceptions on National Action Plan

No	Point	2015	2016
1	Death plenty	There was no direct relation between the decline in terror attacks and resumption of death penalty.	The government lacks clarity over how to proceed with death penalties. The penalties are halted, followed by their resumption. Executions have been halted since August, the cause of which is uncertain. ²⁶⁶
2	Military courts	The details of the proceeding of the military courts are shrouded in secrecy, besides marking a dark spot on the country's nascent democracy.	The tenure of military courts will expire on 7 January 2017; the government has not publically clarified as to what do thenext steps entail. ²⁶⁷
3	Militant outfits & armed gangs	The government's subsequent action and statements suggest lack of clarity on dealing with certain groups.	The government has not been successful in curbing the activities of banned outfits, which still operates under fake names. Even their members contested elections. ²⁶⁸
4	NACTA	The organization's staff lack strategic guidance and its head remain powerless.	NACTA has still not been activated fully to perform its due role. ²⁶⁹ NACTA has practically been made a subsidiary of interior ministry.
5	Hate literature / speech	The country's existing laws are sufficient in cracking down on hate speech, provided law-enforcement agencies are trained and equipped to do that. Instead of having any national counter-hate strategy, the government has opted to regulate "public order" and check "systemic" dissemination of hate material.	It is all about the state's willingness to act against hate speech and material. In other words, a strict implementation of existing laws is needed in an inclusive way and without any political and strategic considerations. ²⁷⁰
6	Terror financing	There has been zero conviction in terror financing, a subject that stays untouched because of the government's lack of understanding of the web of militant economy. Even estimates about terror financing are unclear.	The government placed some restrictions on militants from generating funds through charities. ("chanda"), besides freezing accounts of banned outfits' members. ²⁷¹
7	Action against defunct militant groups	Banned groups, despite arrests of their leaders, still carry out public meetings and protest demonstrations	Already covered under point 3

No	Point	2015	2016
8	Establishing a dedicated counterterrorism force	All police departments in the four provinces have their own specialized forces, they lack coordination, and budget is yet to be released for the much-needed federal counter-terrorism force.	The "old-rotten system [of police] failed to contribute positively in the society, thus negatively effecting the implementation of NAP." ²⁷²
9	Counter extremism and protection of minorities	Action against sectarian militants will create positive atmosphere for religious minorities, but the presence of sectarian mindset, supported by discriminatory laws, still hangs above, creating fears of religious persecution.	The government is not implementing its own laws to curb hate speech and the persecution of religious minorities; Ahmedi and Shia communities are still being subjected to violence. ²⁷³
10	Registration & regulation of religious seminaries	The government has lately taken action against religious seminaries, such as by geo-tagging them and asking them to register afresh. The moves, however, largely faced resistance from some religious educational boards and clergy; lately, it was decided in meeting of the country's political and military leaders with representatives of madrasa educational boards to form a committee for preparing forms to register madrassas and to evolve a mechanism for register madrasa accounts	The government started geo-tagging of religious seminaries, thereby tightening government's grips on them. Even recently, the government has identified some religious seminaries with militancy links and has decided to take action against them. ²⁷⁴
11	Ban on glorification of terrorists & terrorist groups through print & electronic media	Only Punjab has issued a statute banning glorification of terrorists, on media. Yet, several militant outfits continue to publish and post material online.	Justice Qazi Isa reports also fault media for glorifying militants; on the other hand, media regulatory body has been asking media to follow the code, which debars them from glorifying militants.
12	FATA reforms and repatriation of IDPs	The government claims to have restored security in parts of FATA, nothing practical is done to introduce the long-demanded administrative reforms.	No impressive improvement in their situation. ²⁷⁵ The government-constituted committee unveiled a report on FATA reforms, suggesting options for mainstreaming FATA with rest of the country. The way ahead is about taking that report forward.
13	Dismantling communication networks of terrorists	The government claims to have dismantled terrorist networks, several of which operated from North Waziristan. Independent observers argue although terrorist	Telecommunication and Internet/cyberspace are among the main communication channels of the terrorists besides traditional means. Despite the government's

No	Point	2015	2016
		networks have been weakened and their capacity to operate hampered but they are not completely dismantled.	high claims, it has failed so far to dismantle militants' communications channels. That is visible from the continuing major or high intensity attacks in the country, which are reportedly coordinated and launched by more than one groups. ²⁷⁶
14	Countering terrorism in cyber spaces	The government's plan of introducing cyber-crime bill to monitor internet for terrorist activities, inflict several restrictions on the regular users, and violators, of the internet. Civil society fears that any such law could be misused in the name of terrorism, not least because there is no comprehensive personal data protection mechanism.	The PECA 2016 was passed giving "vast powers to the State to regulate speech and criminalize activity in cyber space." However, the vague language of the Act could be used to cover a lot of activity and speech that may not necessarily fall under terrorism or NAP, infringing upon civil liberties. ²⁷⁷
15	Counter extremism	That the Prime Minister vowed to end militancy from Punjab, to many, showed the government's admission of the presence of militants in Punjab. Questions are asked as to whether the government will ever take on all outfits.	Government does not have a clear vision for NAP. It looks as if they are using it to simply kill terrorists and not to achieve its actual aim, which is to reduce and curb the spread of radicalization. Chaudhry Nisar heads many of the various committees set up to oversee the implementation of NAP but it is unclear whether any of them are working properly and delivering any results. ²⁷⁸
16	Karachi operation	There are clear signs that the operation has effectively reduced terrorist attacks and criminal activities in the metropolis. Prime Minister Sharif has frequently deflected political opposition to the operation, saying that it will continue till its logical end	Sindh has its apex committee which convenes meetings over counter terrorism through the Rangers operation, but it seems that they do not want to have to follow NAP just because of political rivalry. ²⁷⁹ The non-cooperation between the center and provinces has been a cause for concern as no one is ready to take full responsibility to implement NAP; it points to the lack of drive and vision to implement NAP effectively. ²⁸⁰
17	Political reconciliation in Balochistan	The NAP calls for the empowering Balochistan government to pursue reconciliation policy with the	The outgoing Balochistan chief minister Malik Baloch had taken some serious steps to reach out to

No	Point	2015	2016
		disgruntled Baloch, heavy-handed measures of dealing in Balochistan continue to trickle in the media. To some Baloch nationalists, the approaches are poles apart.	the Baloch insurgent leaders in exile. However, after the incumbent chief minister Sanaullah Zehri held office, the efforts for political reconciliation almost stalled. No concrete efforts have been made thus. ²⁸¹
18	Countering sectarianism	The government's approach in dealing with sectarian terrorists has been oriented around counterterrorism, without addressing the causes promoting sectarian minds.	Over 100 militants associated with violent sectarian groups were arrested across Pakistan in 2016 including 2 key LeJ leaders Naeem Bukhari and Asif Chottu. Several others were also killed in search operations and raids as well as encounters with security and law enforcement officials. Despite these, banned sectarian groups continued to operate across Pakistan, as the government failed to constitute a policy to this end. ²⁸²
19	Policy on Afghan refugees	Despite calls for registering and/or evicting Afghan refugees, they hardly had any role in terrorist attacks inside Pakistan.	The country seems to have shown a lot of discontent towards the Afghan population in Pakistan over the last year. But one area where significant progress was made was with regards to the safe repatriation of Afghan refugees back to their homeland. ²⁸³
20	Reforming criminal justice system	Despite some on and off measures to expedite pending cases, the criminal justice system requires meaningful overhaul.	No "groundbreaking" work was done to this end. ²⁸⁴ Both the center and provinces "miserably failed" to reform the police system with regards to: increasing police budget; provide modern training and equipment; cleanse the police of corruption and inefficiency. ²⁸⁵

CPEC security developments in 2016

Safdar Sial*

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There has been relative improvement in the country's overall security situation in 2016 that boded well for the security of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) as well. However some major attacks by Islamist and sectarian militants groups, mainly in Balochistan – the province that holds a pivotal place in the CPEC due to hosting Gwadar Port – raised concerns about the security of those working on different corridor projects.

In 2016, at least two terrorist attacks apparently targeted Chinese nationals engaged in CPEC-related projects, one each in Karachi, and Rohri, interior Sindh. On May 30, a Chinese engineer, his driver and a private guard were injured on the National Highway in a bomb attack claimed by the little-known Sindhudesh Revolutionary Army, reportedly opposed to the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor.²⁸⁶ In Rohri (Sukkur), a low-intensity bomb exploded at a tyre shop on the premises of a petrol station; the bomb was placed in a bicycle. Some reports said a Chinese engineer's vehicle was the intended target, who remained unhurt. Two people were reportedly injured in the blast, a claim that the police denied.²⁸⁷

However, on the whole, military operations in North Waziristan and Khyber agencies and also in Karachi and parts of Balochistan have significantly damaged militant's networks and operational infrastructure. Secondly, since the attack on army public school in Peshawar in December 2014, which had killed over 100 children, federal and provincial governments have been more vigilant and have increased surveillance against the

militants. Thirdly, government evolved and announced National Action Plan (NAP) against terrorism early 2015, which, though being implemented partly, has been exerting significant pressure on the extremist and militant groups in the country.

This article reviews the measures taken by the federal and provincial governments as well as security institutions in 2016 to provide security for successful implementation of CPEC projects and of those working on them, including the Chinese nationals.

5.1 The Special Security Division (SSD)

The Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) director general in his message on New Year's Eve described arrangements made for the security of the CPEC as one of the major successes achieved by Pakistan Army in 2016; alongside successful tests of various missiles and the military operation *Zarb-e-Azb*. The message explained that during the year arrangements for the actualization and security of the CPEC and raising of a Special Security Division (SSD) and Task Force-88 for its maritime security were successfully carried out.²⁸⁸

Pakistan Army has taken a leading role in the establishment of the SSD for the protection of Chinese engineers, project directors, experts and workers employed on various Chinese-funded projects across Pakistan. The SSD was initially planned, in the year 2015, to have a force of 15,500 troops comprising six infantry brigades with each brigade having three infantry

units. Apart from that, a special, dedicated intelligence unit was also planned for the SSD.

The new Army Chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa has also vowed, like his predecessor, that foolproof security will be provided for CPEC and that army would render necessary "assistance to the Balochistan government for capacity-building of law enforcement agencies and provide security for projects in remote areas."²⁸⁹

However, despite achievement of many of its linked objectives – as stated in the ISPR message – the broader goal of development and deployment of the SSD troops was not fully achieved in 2016. That was mainly due to issues linked to finance, smaller provinces' concerns about their share in the CPEC – that partly affected the deployment of the developed SSD components – infrastructure/logistics, equipment, and the required diverse input and participation from various sections of security and law enforcement institutions.

According to the plan, the anticipated total strength of the SSD is to be raised to around 32,000, at second stage, including over 13,000 troops raised by 2016, and the remaining to be raised from different other forces in different regions, mainly from the following (work on developing these units started in 2015 and continued in 2016):²⁹⁰ Paramilitary FC: 12 wings, a total of 5,500 troops; the Rangers

(paramilitary): no specific number announced yet; Police: 3,000 men from CT or special units; Levies: 1,000 troops; Karakorum Force (KKF): 400 troops; and FWO (Frontier Works Organizations): 12 units.

Meanwhile, formation and functioning of different units of the SSD will vary in each province/region: in Balochistan, FC will serve as the main tier, supported by army, police and Levies; in Sindh, Rangers will be the main tier force, supported by army and police; in Punjab, police will serve as main tier with support from army; in KP, army will serve as main tier with the support from police; and in Gilgit-Baltistan, too, army will serve as the main tier and will be supported by local law enforcers.²⁹¹

An official document of the Ministry of Interior submitted with the National Assembly on September 2 – in response to a written question posed by MNA Dr Shahida Rehmani of the Pakistan People's Party – said that Pakistan had successfully raised the SSD to ensure four-layer security of those working on the CPEC-linked projects.²⁹² According to the document, as reported in media, the SSD, consisting of 9 composite infantry battalions and 6 civil armed forces wings had been successfully raised at the cost of over Rs23 billion and was commanded by Major General Abid Rafique. "The government has also spent Rs5.8 billion by raising 6 SSD wings of civilian armed forces with the minimum strength of 4,502

security personnel in all the four provinces,” it said.²⁹³ Further details read like this:²⁹⁴

“The government raised three SSD wings of Punjab Rangers consisting of 2,190 and an SSD wing of Frontier Corps of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa consisting of 852 security personnel. Similarly, it raised a wing of FC Balochistan with strength of 730 personnel and Sindh Rangers consisting of 730 personnel. Over 6,300 security personnel are guarding around 3,800 Chinese workers engaged in 176 small and mega projects in Punjab... Around 2,000 security personnel have been deployed for security of over 700 Chinese engineers working on 19 projects in various districts of KP. Around 3,200 security personnel are guarding 600 Chinese workers engaged in eight projects in Balochistan. Over 2,640 armed personnel have been deputed for security of over 1,140 Chinese workers working on 103 projects in the Sindh province. Over 439 police personnel are guarding around 900 Chinese engineers working on six mega projects in the ICT [Islamabad Capital Territory] and over 1,270 security personnel deputed on security of 1,700 Chinese workers engaged in around 15 projects...667 security personnel are guarding 13 Chinese workers engaged in a project started years back in FATA.”

However, the federal and provincial governments had not finalized and agreed upon a set of ToRs for the deployment of

the specially developed CPEC security force by October 2016; a newspaper report during that month quoted an official of the Interior Ministry as saying that the ToRs for the deployment of the SSD for the CPEC security will be finalized within a week.²⁹⁵ “Even Punjab’s reply is not very much clear on the issue of ToRs,” the report claimed an official of the interior ministry said while briefing the meeting on the progress review of the CPEC, chaired by Federal Minister Planning, Development and Reform Ahsan Iqbal.²⁹⁶ In September, too, a report claimed that administrative issues for the deployment of the SSD remained to be sorted out, as “the provinces had not responded to the letters written to them on the rules of engagements of the armed forces in the execution of the CPEC projects.”²⁹⁷ The provincial input is required because CPEC security is responsibility of federal as well as provincial governments.

Yet another report claimed that there were differences between the army and the federal government on SSD’s working ToRs. Reportedly, the differences pertained to the role of army in its proposed ToRs, “which the government thought could expand military’s influence on law enforcement agencies at the cost of civilian administration’s authority.”²⁹⁸

5.2 Navy’s Task Force-88

On December 13, an International Maritime Conference on the CPEC was held

at Gwadar to commission the special "Task Force-88" of Pakistan Navy. The force was established to protect Gwadar Port and its sea lanes against conventional and non-traditional threats.²⁹⁹ Ships, Fast Attack Craft, speedboats, planes for aerial supervision and drones are part of the TF-88 besides marines who will be deployed at sea and around Gwadar for security operations.³⁰⁰

Earlier, in November, the 4th Pak-China naval exercise was held to promote maritime security with a special focus on thwarting any challenges to CPEC security. Also, Pakistan Navy has raised a Coastal Security and Harbour Defence Force for "tackling threats along the coast and stationed a Force Protection Battalion at Gwadar for protection of Chinese workers."³⁰¹

5.3 Other developments

Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah told a Chinese delegation on December 24 that Sindh was raising a special force of 2,000 ex-army men for the security of Chinese workers in the province. He apprised the delegation led by Foreign Ministry Director General for External Security Liu Guangyuan of the newly recruited 4,000 policemen who were being imparted special training by the army and would also be assigned the security of the Chinese workers of CPEC projects. More than 150 policemen were already deployed

to protect 800 Chinese working on Thar energy project.³⁰²

Similarly, the Punjab government set up Special Protection Unit (SPU) to ensure the security of CPEC, its installations and the work force and foreign experts working on various development projects in the province. Inspector General Punjab Police Mushtaq Ahmad Sukhera revealed this while speaking at the passing out parade of SPU and Punjab Constabulary, at Police Training School, Rawat, on September 23.³⁰³

Media reported in October that the Pakistan Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission (Suparco) will provide comprehensive satellite service to monitor the CPEC and help secure those areas which were vulnerable to terrorist attacks and criminal activities. Suparco was reportedly already providing "complete geo sensing of the entire corridor from Gwadar to Khunjerab (Pak-China border)."³⁰⁴

Earlier, a report claimed that Pakistan and China were developing a satellite to monitor the routes of the CPEC. Sindh transport minister Syed Nasir Hussain Shah revealed this while speaking at the fourth national conference on space, science and technology, organised by the Institute of Space and Planetary Astrophysics (ISPA), University of Karachi.³⁰⁵

5.4 Challenges and issues

Both Pakistan and China share this concern that some external factors, mainly a neighboring country, posed serious challenges to the implementation and security of the CPEC-linked projects. Pakistan's military and civilian leaders repeatedly expressed these concerns, and indeed attributed some major terrorist attacks to these external actors. For instance, at a CPEC seminar held in Gilgit early September, former Chief of Army Staff Raheel Sharif delivered his sternest warning to external actors looking to destabilize the project and the country. At the same time, Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, accompanied by the Chinese ambassador, on a visit to Balochistan, repeated the same message.³⁰⁶ Similarly, Federal Minister Ahsan Iqbal was quoted by media as saying in December that "isolated incidents are sponsored from outside Pakistan to break the momentum of the CPEC."³⁰⁷

There are some issues and gray areas which are not only delaying the creation and deployment of the SSD and other forces which are to become part of the SSD, but could also impact the operational effectiveness and coordination. The foremost issue is linked to command and control structure of the SSD to be raised from diverse forces including local ones which lie in provincial jurisdictions. Although an intelligence unit is planned for SSD at federal level, experts believe that it

may not suffice to the required intelligence sources and threat assessment at local level. That could also raise the issue of coordination of the intelligence unit with various provincial-level security structures. Then there are financial and budgetary constraints for an effective maintenance of the required forces and their operations.

To win China's trust for Pakistan's security infrastructure, mainly the one dedicated for CPEC, is also a challenge. Some Chinese companies had proposed to have personal security arrangements, which Pakistan denied due to political, socio-cultural and bureaucratic issues it could entail. Similarly, a leading foreign media house in a recent report said there has been a "clamour among Chinese scholars for an increased involvement of Chinese security firms in overseas projects by the Chinese companies." Issued by a leading Chinese think tank, the report urged Chinese companies working on projects in Pakistan to take the initiative and solve security issues on their own. However, according to Federal Minister Ahsan Iqbal, that is not advisable for Chinese security firms to enter Pakistan because their appearance could "become controversial in the event of any unpleasant incidents they are involved in."³⁰⁸ Nonetheless, Chinese government vowed full support for Pakistani efforts to provide security to CPEC-linked projects and personnel.

Then there is the issue of gradually exceeding expenditure on special security

arrangements for the CPEC projects. In September, the matter of funding for the two divisions to be raised for CPEC security was discussed by the finance minister and the army chief at a special meeting. A few days later, in an ECC meeting, the federal government decided that the capital cost of all CPEC power projects that are under construction would be raised by 1pc to pay for the running cost of the CPEC security force, and that Nepra should be given a policy directive to include this cost escalation in the tariff given to these plants. The regulator,

Nepra, however objected to the proposition.³⁰⁹

The security expenditures are not one-time expenditures and are expected to sustain for long period of time. Therefore, there is a need to make a sustainable arrangement to fulfill them. Also, Pakistan should do utmost efforts to establish good relations with Afghanistan and evolve and implement a joint mechanism for border security and coordination. Insecurity at Pak-Afghan border could create significant security threats for CPEC projects and workers.

CHAPTER 6

Killings in Karachi: down, but not out

Zia Ur Rehman*

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With the Rangers-led targeted operation aimed at restoring peace to Karachi entering its fourth year, there was marked improvement in the overall law and order situation in the city in the year 2016. However, even as fatalities from political violence and gang wars sharply declined in Karachi amid the ongoing operation, the city continued to face sectarian violence during the year under review.

With the backing of the federal government and the military, the security operation had started in Karachi in September 2013, mainly targeting four categories of violent groups involved in fueling violence in the city: Taliban, sectarian outfits, armed wings of ethno-political parties and criminal gangs operating in Lyari and other parts of the city.

In the 20-point National Action Plan (NAP), which the federal government had adopted—in the wake of the December 2014 attack on a Peshawar school—to counter militancy and violence in the country, one point specifically stated that the '[o]ngoing operation in Karachi will be taken to its logical end'.

Taliban groups weakened

Since the launch of the operation, various Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) factions operating in Karachi have been the prime targets of law enforcement agencies. The factions were extensions of the Swat, Mohmand and South Waziristan chapters of the TTP in Karachi and had started when militants began taking refuge in Karachi after the military launched

operations in FATA in 2009. The militants would shave off their beards, trim their long hair and worked as petty labourers, as part of a strategy to wait for the right time to organise their respective outfit's network in Karachi.

The TTP affirmed its presence in Karachi for the first time when it openly threatened activists of the Awami National Party (ANP) to quit the party. The TTP militants then started attacking police personnel, polio vaccinators and civil society workers, besides unleashing a brutal extortion campaign on Pashtun traders. However, since the launch of the Karachi operation, all three TTP factions have been weakened after their key leaders and militants were arrested or killed in shootouts with law enforcement agencies. In 2016, the crackdown against the TTP continued and the killing and arrest of many of its members made headlines.

Although law-enforcement agencies were largely successful in shattering the network of Taliban militants in Karachi, they had to deal with the emerging menace of transitional militant outfits and self-radicalised, educated militants in the city's affluent neighbourhoods.

The transitional groups mainly included Al Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent (AQIS), Laskhar-e-Jhangvi Al-Alami (LJA) and Harkat-ul-Mujahideen Al-Alami (HuMA), which according to law enforcement agencies and media reports, had been working in collaboration with the TTP and the LeJ.

According to Raja Omar Khattab, a senior counter-terrorism police official in Karachi, law enforcement agencies had weakened the AQIS network by arresting several leaders in 2016 but the outfit still existed in Karachi and operated in small cells, which had launched attacks on law enforcement personnel and schools.

In February 2016, the chief military spokesperson announced the arrest of Farooq Bhatti alias Musaana, a key AQIS leader in Pakistan, along with Naeem Bukhari and Sabir Khan, heads of LeJ's Sindh and Karachi chapters, respectively.

Similarly, the LJA, an anti-Shia militant group splintered from LeJ, has also been on the radar of the law enforcement agencies. On August 25, 2016, Sindh Rangers announced a Rs 5 million reward for assistance in finding a key LJA leader Syed Safdar, having several aliases, including Yousuf, Huzaifa, Khorasani, Muaviya, Ali, Shah Ji aka Zeeshan, along with his accomplices and facilitators.

The HuMA, a proscribed militant group and an offshoot of Harkat-ul-Mujahideen, has also been active in Karachi and its members have been joining the LeJ and AQIS.

Law enforcement agencies have also been keeping an eye on Karachi's prestigious academic institutions for individuals and smaller cells affiliated with international jihadist networks, including Al Qaeda and

ISIS, which have been recruiting middle- and upper-middle class students for years.

The government was first alerted to their presence when police arrested suspects in connection with an attack in Safoora Goth neighbourhood in May 2015 wherein 47 members of the Ismaili community travelling in a bus had been shot dead. The intelligence-based crackdown on academic institutions continued throughout 2016.

Sectarian violence linked to Balochistan

The surfacing of sectarian violence in Karachi in October 2016 has left a question mark on three years of efforts by law enforcement agencies to bring peace to the city and forced the government to launch an across-the-board crackdown on sectarian outfits. The action led to the arrest of several leaders of Deobandi and Shia groups and killing of militants associated with such groups in shootouts with law enforcement agencies.

Karachi is one of most active theatres of violence between Sunni Deobandi and Shia groups, where tit-for-tat killings occur on a regular basis, according to law enforcement officials and security analysts. Since 2011, as many as 349 persons have lost their lives in such violence — 215 Shias and 134 Sunnis, according to police statistics.

These groups have carried out surveillance of active members, professionals and

clerics of rival sects and targeted them whenever they got an opportunity.

Proscribed militant groups Sipah-e-Sahaba Pakistan, the LeJ and Jundullah in Karachi traditionally share operational and ideological ties with Al Qaeda and the TTP. Police officials believe that after the crackdown in the tribal areas and Karachi, Taliban groups and sectarian outfits have found new sanctuaries in the Sindh-Balochistan border area, where they jointly plan attacks on the Shia community and government interests in Karachi and elsewhere in Sindh. Counter-terrorism Department in Karachi has also written to the federal government, seeking action against militant groups based in Khuzdar district of Balochistan, which have been providing sanctuaries to the LeJ and the TTP.

In retaliation for attacks on the Shia community, Shia militant groups, such as the proscribed Sipah-e-Muhammad Pakistan, have also been active in Karachi. Although Shia leaders deny the existence of militants in their community, police officials believes that Shia militant outfits exist and are involved in the killings of Sunni clerics in the city.

District Central of Karachi has traditionally been the area most vulnerable to sectarian violence. In the last six years, at least 138 people belonging to Shia and Sunni sects have been killed in sectarian violence in this district. Also, clashes between groups

representing Deobandi and Bareilvi sects—the ASWJ and Sunni Tehreek—have also regularly occurred in Godhra neighbourhood of the district.

Armed wings of political parties

The actions of militant wings of mainstream ethno-political and religious parties have also been blamed for aggravating the security situation and law enforcement agencies have also targeted such wings during the operation. Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM), the main political party in the city, suffered much from the operation as a large number of its members were arrested or went into hiding to escape detention. The party also claimed that a number of its workers had been killed extra-judicially or abducted by law enforcement agencies.

MQM found itself in a graver crisis in August 2016, following a diatribe by its London-based chief Altaf Hussain and incitement to the party workers to attack media houses. Within hours, the Rangers picked up the party's top brass in Karachi, including Farooq Sattar, MQM's parliamentary leader in the National Assembly, and sealed the party headquarter—known as Nine Zero—for the first time. The clampdown forced MQM's Pakistan-based leaders to disown Altaf Hussain.

The crackdown and the consequent weakening of MQM's armed front also

undermined MQM's well-known ability to shut down the city within minutes. However, its electoral strength remained intact, although its vote bank seemed to be shrinking.

Awami National Party, Sunni Tehreek and Sindhi ethnic parties also suffered much from the operation and dozens of their workers were also arrested in 2016.

Lyari, one of the ancient towns in Karachi, had become the epicenter of intense warfare between rival criminal gangs over the last several years. The gang wars had resulted in the killing of a large number of innocent people. Law enforcement agencies also shattered the gangs' networks, partly by killing a number of gang leaders in the operation throughout 2016.

Bloodshed in Balochistan

Shahzada Zulfiqar*

* Shahzada Zulfiqar is a senior journalist based in Quetta, with a deep understanding of politics in Balochistan.

Contrary to the Balochistan government's claims of restoration of peace and rooting out terrorist activities in the province, acts of terrorism continued to be reported throughout 2016.

Although, in the wake of the National Action Plan (NAP), violence by separatist insurgents receded to some extent, attacks by banned sectarian and other militant extremist groups rose. These included a number of assaults exacting a high death toll, mainly suicide attacks targeting lawyers in Sandeman Provincial Hospital (Quetta) on August 8, trainee cadets in Police Training College (Quetta) on October 24 and pilgrims at Shah Noorani shrine (Khuzdar) on November 12. The three attacks killed at least 180 people, mainly lawyers and police personnel, and caused injuries to over 300.

The Balochistan government has claimed that all militants active in the province, whether separatists or militant extremists, are being patronized by Indian intelligence agency RAW and Afghanistan's intelligence agency NDS. The provincial home minister has shown in his press conferences recorded confession statements of around a dozen Afghan nationals arrested by law enforcement agencies. The recordings showed them confessing to being trained by Indian intelligence operatives and sent to Pakistan by NDS in order to carry out terrorist activities, such as targeted killings and bombings in various cities of Balochistan.

The provincial home minister has also claimed that Abu Sufian alias Amir Muaviya, the spokesperson for banned

Lashkar-e-Jhangvi sectarian group, has a sanctuary in the Afghan border town of Spin Boldak, from where he monitored terrorists activities in Pakistan with active support of Indian and Afghan intelligence agencies.

It has been two years since the federal government adopted the 20-point National Action Plan (NAP), with the primary objective to root out terrorism from the country. Even before the formulation of NAP, intelligence-based operations against militants were going on in Balochistan, but their pace picked up after the adoption of NAP in January 2015. Reduction in the scale of the separatist insurgency was apparent across Balochistan in 2016, but religious extremist militancy persisted. The military operation under NAP in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province seemed to have reduced the capabilities of the extremist militants there and at least some of them shifted their focus to Balochistan where the security measures had not been as stringent over the same period.

Suicide attacks by banned sectarian organizations targeting the Shia population declined. This might have been part of the militants' tactics, to either go into hiding and largely suspend their activities or relocating in the wake of action against them in their areas of operation, mainly the outskirts of Quetta and the neighbouring district of Mastung. However, militants from the militant sectarian outfits continued to target, albeit in small-scale attacks, members of the Shia community.

Separatist Baloch insurgents have been active in 24 out of the total 32 districts of

Balochistan. Their activities reduced by varying degrees in each restive district in 2016, but were not completely brought to an end. They continued to attack the security forces, civilians and government installations, etc., in some northeastern districts, such as Loralai, Musakhail, Harnai, and in eastern, central and western parts of Balochistan. The government claimed that the main insurgent commanders such as Dr. Allah Nazar of Baloch Liberation Front (BLF), Abdul Nabi Bungalzai of United Baloch Army (UBA) and Aslam Achoo of Baloch Liberation Army (BLA) were killed in intelligence-based operations. However, video messages of Allah Nazar and Bungalzai surfaced on the social media subsequently, while BLA also claimed that Achoo was alive.

Between January 1 and November 12, 2016, over 400 persons, including civilians and personnel of law enforcement agencies and paramilitary Frontier Corps, were killed in about 145 reported attacks.

Most of these casualties however resulted from attacks by the Taliban and sectarian groups such as Lashkar-e-Jhangvi Al-Alami.

The Baloch separatist groups were able, however, to carry out low-level attacks, including killing of civilians after calling them agents of security agencies also some assaults on law enforcement agencies' personnel and government

installations. In the districts of central and eastern Balochistan, where the insurgents had once created serious law and order problems, they appeared to have been reduced to token presence by the end of 2016. In some districts of the coastal Makran division, separatist insurgent groups were still active to some extent, but their activists seemed to be constantly on the run amid heavy security forces' deployment.

The government has gone to great lengths to restore peace in the region in the context of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and economic activities relating to the Gwadar port. In view of the strategic and economic significance of CPEC for Pakistan, the security agencies seem to have little tolerance for anyone creating hurdles in the implementation of the project. A significant number of regular army and Frontier Corps personnel have been deployed in Gwadar to safeguard the CPEC route as well as Gwadar town. A special wing of Pakistan Navy has been raised for the security of vessels in the territorial waters around the Makran coast.

The leadership of the Baloch Liberation Front (BLF) insurgent group, which has been active in the western or central districts of Balochistan, has gone into hiding, either in the areas close to the Iranian border or moved across the border into Iran or Afghanistan. According to available data, BLF claimed responsibility for around 25 attacks in 2016.

A number of important militant commanders of Baloch Republican Army (BRA) insurgent group, whose leader Brahamdagh Bugti lives in self-exile in Switzerland, surrendered to the authorities in the eastern districts particularly in Bugti's home town Dera Bugti. BRA claimed to have carried out over 30 attacks and 'operations' in 2016.

Similarly, in the Kohlu Marri area, many tribesmen who had been loyal to separatist leader Nawab Khair Bakhsh Marri and involved with the Baloch Liberation Army (BLA) have shifted to different areas of Sindh, including Karachi. BLA is the oldest and the most effective of Baloch insurgent groups. It operates in Kohlu and across Balochistan and claimed to have conducted around 70 attacks in 2016. Late Nawab Khair Bakhsh, after being estranged from his elder son Harbiyar Marri, nominated his youngest son Zamaran alias Mehran Marri who formed another insurgent group, United Baloch Army (UBA). Harbiyar, who now heads BLA, and Mehran live in London in self-exile. UBA claimed responsibility for around a dozen attacks in Mastung, Kalat and Bolan districts in 2016. Its area of operation appeared to have shrunk to these districts.

Another insurgent group, Lashkar-e-Balochistan, led by Javed Mengal, the eldest son of elderly Baloch leader Sardar Attaullah Mengal, claimed responsibility for

around 20 attacks in central Balochistan during the year under review.

Under the government's general amnesty scheme, around 500 Baloch militants surrendered to the authorities during 2016, vowing to quit the insurgency and remain loyal to Pakistan.

Despite repeated wall chalking in favour of Daesh, as the so-called Islamic State militant organization is sometimes referred to in Balochistan, in the provincial capital Quetta, even in the vicinity of the offices of the provincial chief minister and the governor, the Balochistan government has been denying the presence of Daesh-related elements in any part of Balochistan. The claim of responsibility by Daesh in two gruesome suicide attacks during the year has perhaps persuaded the government to take the threat more seriously. Among banned religious and sectarian militant organizations, TTP, Lashkar-e-Jhangvi, Lashkar-e-Jhangvi Al-Aalami and Jamaat-ul-Ahrar have been operating in the province for quite some time. The LeJ and the TTP are the oldest among them.

The TTP has also been operating in Balochistan's northern parts, bordering Afghanistan and FATA, and the security forces have launched operations against the outlawed group, both before and since the adoption of NAP. It has been involved in abducting government officials and NGO staff for ransom. The LeJ has replaced

Sipah-e-Sahaba Pakistan, which was involved in sectarian violence in the province before being proscribed. LeJ activists seem to be using the names of Jaish-Ul-Islam, Lashkar-e-Jhangvi Al-Aalami and Jamaat-Ul-Ahrar as much for any operational reasons as to create the impression that several such organizations are operating in the province.

Suicide attack in Sandeman Provincial Hospital

On August 8, Jamaatul Ahrar militants gunned down Balochistan Bar Association President Bilal Kasi. When lawyers gathered in the hospital where Kasi's body was brought, a suicide bomber detonated his explosives among approximately 200 lawyers, including the top leadership of the legal fraternity in Balochistan. As many as 72 people, including 56 lawyers, were killed and another 112 received injuries. Many of the injured died due to excessive bleeding or for want of first aid inside the biggest hospital of the province. Doctors, paramedics and support staff were not available in the hospital until hours after the suicide bombing. Daesh and Jamaatul Ahrar claimed responsibility for the attack. Police claimed that the mastermind of the attack, Jahangir Badini, and four of his accomplices were killed in an encounter in Huramzai area of Pishin district on December 5.

Police investigation found that Rs. 0.7 million had been brought from Afghanistan

and handed over to Jahangir in border town of Chaman to carry out the attack. The suicide bomber was identified as Ahmad Ali Awan, 29. He belonged to a very poor family and had been working as a clerk for a lawyer and also as a rickshaw driver after office hours. One of his brothers had been killed in Afghanistan while fighting against government forces. His family lived in Killi Deeba in the heart of Quetta. Jahangir who lived in Awan's neighbourhood had apparently enlisted him as a suicide bomber. He brought new clothes and shoes for Awan for the attack. Jahangir and two of his accomplices, all of who were later reportedly killed in a clash with the police, gunned down Bilal Kasi and later took the suicide bomber to the hospital. Minutes before the bomber detonated his explosives, Jahangir and the other two men disappeared from the scene. This was the first incident of this magnitude in which the police tracked down the mastermind and accomplices, identifying all the main characters.

Attack on police training college

On the night of October 24, three heavily armed attackers scaled over a rundown wall of the Police Training College in Quetta. They went to the sleeping quarters of the unarmed trainee cadets and started shooting at them. Commandoes from the military, and Frontier Corps and police personnel were sent to rescue the cadets. In a four-hour gun battle, 61 persons including an army captain and a

commando were killed while 117 people sustained injuries. Two of the attackers blew up their explosives and the third was shot and killed by law enforcement personnel.

Learning from the August 8 hospital experience, the government made doctors, paramedics and all necessary medicines available to treat the injured. Police stated that all three attackers were Afghan nationals and were being given directions from Afghanistan. Lashkar-e-Jhangvi Al-Alami and Daesh claimed responsibility for the attack.

Attack on Shah Noorani shrine

Hardly three weeks after the PTC attack, a suicide bomber found a soft target in one of the most remote parts of Balochistan. The bombing occurred at a Sufi shrine in Wadh area of Khuzdar district. The pilgrims, mostly from Karachi, had gathered on the premises of the Shah Noorani shrine for the evening *Dhamal* (a trance-like dance) when the suicide bomber blew himself up in the middle of the crowd, killing 52 people and injuring another 102. Several people who were initially hurt succumbed to their injuries, many because no medical assistance or ambulance could be arranged for them for several hours. The injured received first aid at a hospital in Hub town and were later shifted to Karachi. Daesh and Lashkar-e-Jhangvi Al-Aalami both claimed responsibility for this attack also.

Targeted killing of women

For the first time in the history of Balochistan, four women were killed in a targeted attack by armed militants. In the October 4 attack on the outskirts of Quetta, four women, three of them from the Shia Hazara community and the fourth a Sunni, were travelling in the women-only compartment of a bus, when an armed man entered the compartment and opened fire, killing all four. Police say the assailant apparently believed that all four women were Shias. The attacker later escaped. Lashkar-e-Jhangvi Al-Aalami claimed responsibility for the attack and called the killing of Shia women revenge for killing of Sunni women and children in Syria by government forces.

Judicial commission report

After the August 8 mass killing of lawyers in Quetta, the Supreme Court of Pakistan constituted a judicial commission of inquiry led by its judge Qazi Faez Isa. In its findings, the commission faulted the government and its agencies for failing to take adequate security measures in and around the hospital and the Police Training College to prevent the attacks. The commission also pointed out examples of bad governance on account of nepotism, favouritism, deviation from rules and political interference, etc., in public hospitals and government departments.

The commission report severely criticized the provincial chief minister, the home minister and the government spokesman for making false claims about arresting the mastermind of the hospital attack, which it stated misled the public and undermined the investigation. It also made several recommendations to improve government departments' performance by following rules without exception or political interference in posting and transfer of government employees, particularly in the administration.

CHAPTER 8

A review of India-Pakistan relations in 2016

Ershad Mahmud*

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In 2016, the relations of Pakistan with India took an ugly turn. The killing of Kashmiri militant leader Burhan Muzaffar Wani on 8th July was a watershed, triggering a five-month long unprecedented public agitation in Indian-held Kashmir in the recent past.

Being a party to the dispute, the Government of Pakistan, tried hard to champion the cause of Kashmir at diplomatic and political levels, which unravelled India to a great extent. The recent uprising has not only put Kashmir back in Pakistani media headlines but has also made it central to the Government decision-making process.

Interestingly, Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, who himself is an ethnic Kashmiri, has taken quite a strong stance on Kashmir in the United Nations General Assembly's annual session. Pakistan's civilian and military leadership unanimously raised the Kashmir issue on a number of occasions, in various forms and shapes.

Breach of 2003 ceasefire

The diplomatic and political battle swiftly turned into the exchange of fire on the Line of Control (LoC) and Working Boundary. Consequently, the 2003 ceasefire tattered into pieces quickly. An intense but largely unreported armed conflict is underway along the Line of Control since July to date.

The LoC has always been fragile; particularly after 1989 when a mass movement erupted in Kashmir Valley where exchange of fire has been a constant part of human life in the area.

However, in November 2003, the Governments of Pakistan and India announced a ceasefire which sustained till July this year, despite periodic interlude. It was a landmark movement forward and it helped affected communities to get back to their homes, businesses and rebuild their lives in a peaceful environment.

Before delving into the dynamics of the exchange of tension along the LoC and Working Boundary, one must understand the geography of this region. Pakistan's territorial border with India and the Indian held Jammu and Kashmir encompasses three different components known as the international boundary, Line of Control and the working boundary.

The 750 kilometre-long Line of Control extends from Thaku Chak/Munawar in the South of Kashmir to Map reference NJ 9842 in the North. In the south around 195 km, from Thaku Chak/Munawar to Abhiul Gujran is the working Boundary, between Pakistan and the disputed territory of Jammu and Kashmir. Beyond NJ 9842, the area was left without demarcation.

Although the LoC has been defined on maps, it has not yet manifested any practical applicability on the ground. The line dividing the erstwhile princely state of Jammu and Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan, is designated as Control Line since Simla Agreement, which was signed in July 1972. Previously, during 1949-1971, it was known as the ceasefire Line. The border between the held State of Jammu and Kashmir and Pakistan is named as working

boundary. It begins beyond the southern extremity of the ceasefire line³¹⁰.

Isolating Pakistan campaign

The indigenous Kashmiri uprising was seen through the prism of security, law and order in New Delhi. Instead of addressing the Kashmir issue politically, Narendra Modi-led Government declared it a Pakistan-sponsored and anti-India movement and dealt it with brute forces. Therefore, India devised a multi-layered strategy to handle the Kashmiri upsurge; it engaged Pakistan in a low-intensity conflict along the LoC and put diplomatic and military pressure in an attempt to deter it from supporting the Kashmir cause. Additionally, New Delhi publically associated itself with the armed insurgency in Balochistan for the first time.

On Independence Day, Modi in a 90-minute long address at Red Fort opened up a new front by expressing his concern about the state of human rights in Balochistan, Gilgit-Baltistan and Azad Jammu and Kashmir³¹¹.

Modi's public pledge to back anti-Pakistan elements in Balochistan not only infuriated Pakistan but also compelled Pakistan to enhance its vigilance and restrict activities of nationalists groups in Balochistan.

At the diplomatic level, it labels Pakistan a terrorist state and urged the world to isolate it³¹². In a recent BRICs conference, Modi Government tried hard to introduce a

resolution in order to declare Pakistan a terrorist state. Luckily, the Chinese and Russians came to our rescue and thwarted this move.

Boycotting the SAARC summit

The 19th South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) summit was scheduled to be held in Islamabad in November 2016 but India clearly communicated its refusal to attend it through social media. The pretext was not unusual. Indian Ministry of External Affairs stated that they boycotted the conference due to the increasing cross-border terrorist attacks and growing interference in the internal affairs of member states³¹³. Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Bhutan also toed the Indian line and regretted to participate in the SAARC summit. It can be considered a major success in isolating Pakistan diplomatically as four out of eight member states did not attend the SAARC summit.

Coercing Pakistan

Besides diplomatic moves and military buildup, for the first time in history, India officially threatened to stop water flow of Indus river system to Pakistan. The Indian Prime Minister himself ordered its officials to chalk out a plan to divert Indus river system which is a sheer violation of the Indus Water Treaty, brokered by the World Bank in 1960.

Modi stated that "blood and water can't flow together."³¹⁴ Nobody knows exactly whether the statement was merely a political bluff to put pressure on Pakistan or is a serious move to scrap the Indus Water Treaty which managed to survive even during the crucial times of 1965 and 1971 wars.

Additionally, a high-level meeting was held in Indian Prime Minister's office to revoke the status of 'Most Favoured Nation' to Pakistan³¹⁵.

Military buildup along the LoC

Indian forces started a rapid buildup along the Line of Control, aimed to engage Pakistan militarily on this border after the tragic killing of Burhan Wani. The Line of Control on Pakistani side is densely populated and a number of major towns are in the firing range of the Indian army stationed across the LoC. Nearly 250 villages are located along the Line of Control on AJK side wherein around 200 schools have been closed due to cross-LoC firing so far. Since partition, the people who live close to the Line of Control have always been the first victims during various conflicts between India and Kashmir.

An Army official stationed on LoC in Chakothi confided to this writer that because of the human population, they have to exercise immense restraint in retaliation and India knows that Pakistan

cannot indiscriminately fire over the friendly population across the LoC.

Authorities confirmed that frequent and indiscriminate firing and shelling have killed more than 50 civilians; nine troops, including a captain, and a policeman whereas 134 persons were injured till December 6 this year. A huge number of people left their homes to find refuge at safe places, either in AJK or neighbouring districts of Punjab or Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

The Indian approach to deal with Pakistan

The events that took place in 2016 have resulted in a paradigm shift in India-Pakistan relations, manifested in the following ways:

The fundamental Indian strategy to deal with Pakistan revolves around the strategy of disengagement and aggressive diplomacy; gradually reducing the bilateral relationships to a minimum level. That is why New Delhi is not responding the calls to resume dialogue, what to talk about engagement with the Kashmir resistance leadership.

Indian involvement in Balochistan got established when an officer of the Research and Analysis Wing, Kulbhushan Yadav, was arrested over charges of spying and fomenting terrorism in Pakistan.

Prime Minister Modi, in his speech on the Independence Day, gave consent to support separatist movement in Balochistan and mentioned that Gilgit-Baltistan and Azad Jammu and Kashmir would be on his radar.

The claim of conducting “surgical strike” inside Pakistan-controlled territory or along the LoC has also drastically transformed India’s approach to deal with Pakistan or threats emanating from Pakistan. It is a clear departure of the previous Indian policy of strategic restraint and this response is considered as a powerful assertion of forces against Pakistan.

The field commanders stationed along the LoC have been told to retaliate at their will. They are fully empowered to disproportionately use force and even armour without waiting for formal sanction. Previously, the Army commanders were required to take permission from the top military and political leadership before responding to Pakistan Army.

The major goal of Indian foreign policy is to isolate Pakistan globally and encircle it regionally. In this connection, India is strengthening its relations with Afghanistan and Iran through massive investment in these countries.

Conclusion

It is a hard reality that the leadership of India and Pakistan have miserly failed to

sort out their differences during the last seven decades and no headway is insight. The current leadership of India and Pakistan, despite initial positive gesturing, could not create an atmosphere where peaceful means could be employed to resolve all outstanding issues including Jammu and Kashmir dispute.

The domestic competitive politics and particularly the upcoming state elections will not allow Indian leadership to ponder about de-escalation and resumption of the dialogue with Pakistan and Kashmiri stakeholders as tension helps ruling BJP to grab the right wing vote bank and keep a check on the liberal and leftist segments of the society.

The persistent tension in India-Pakistan relations does not suit the Kashmir cause as it diverts international attention from the conflict ridden- Kashmir Valley to Pakistan-India military escalation and Kashmir situation becomes a minor global priority.

The low-level conflict and violence along the LoC have the potential to explode into a greater conflict. Given that only India and Pakistan are the nuclear neighbours in the region who are at loggerheads, talking off and on about using nuclear arsenals in case if an all-out war erupts. In the current standoff, the usage of nuclear weapons did not only come into discussion but also appeared as a significant

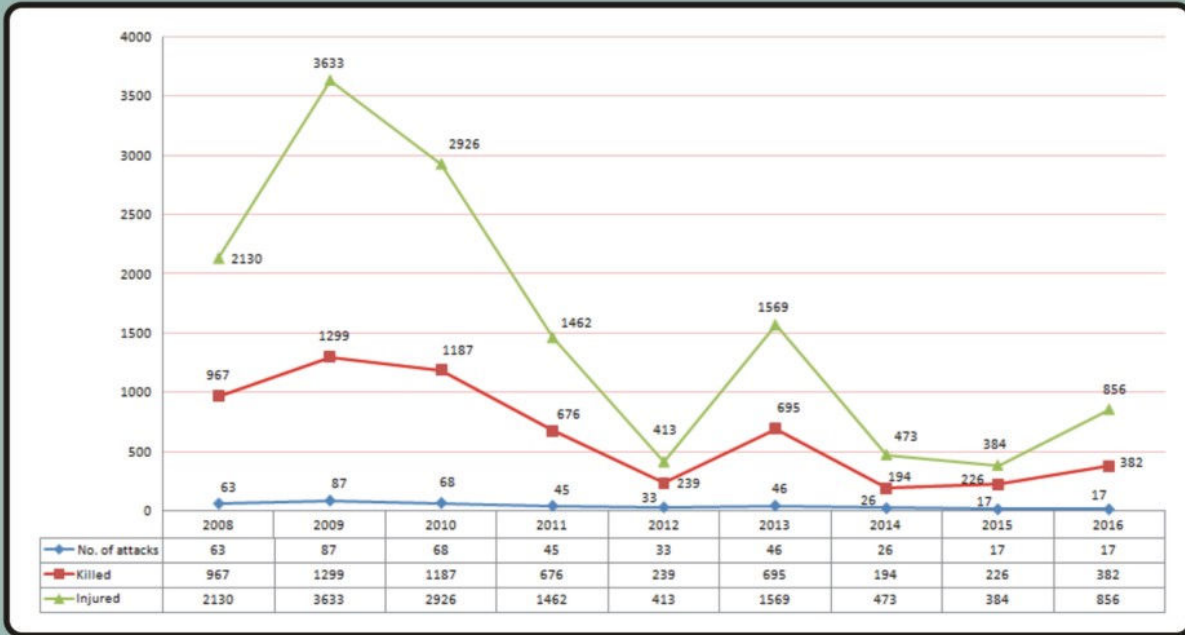
component of military strategy of both countries.

and not allow it to intensify and expand into a full-fledged war.

The international think tanks have had several simulations and scenario exercises regarding the possibility of India-Pakistan nuclear war. The outcome of these exercises illustrates that it is not necessary that India-Pakistan will always be able to keep low-intensity conflict to a limited level

Pakistan should use all avenues of dialogue and engagement with India; particularly it should vigorously enhance its engagement with the Indian civil society. Otherwise, entire India might possibly get united behind the BJP or right wing groups.

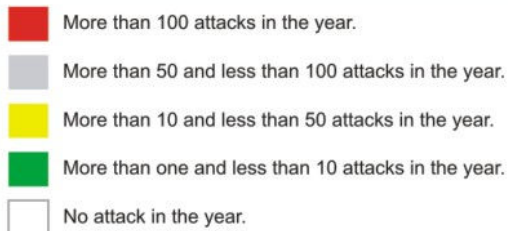
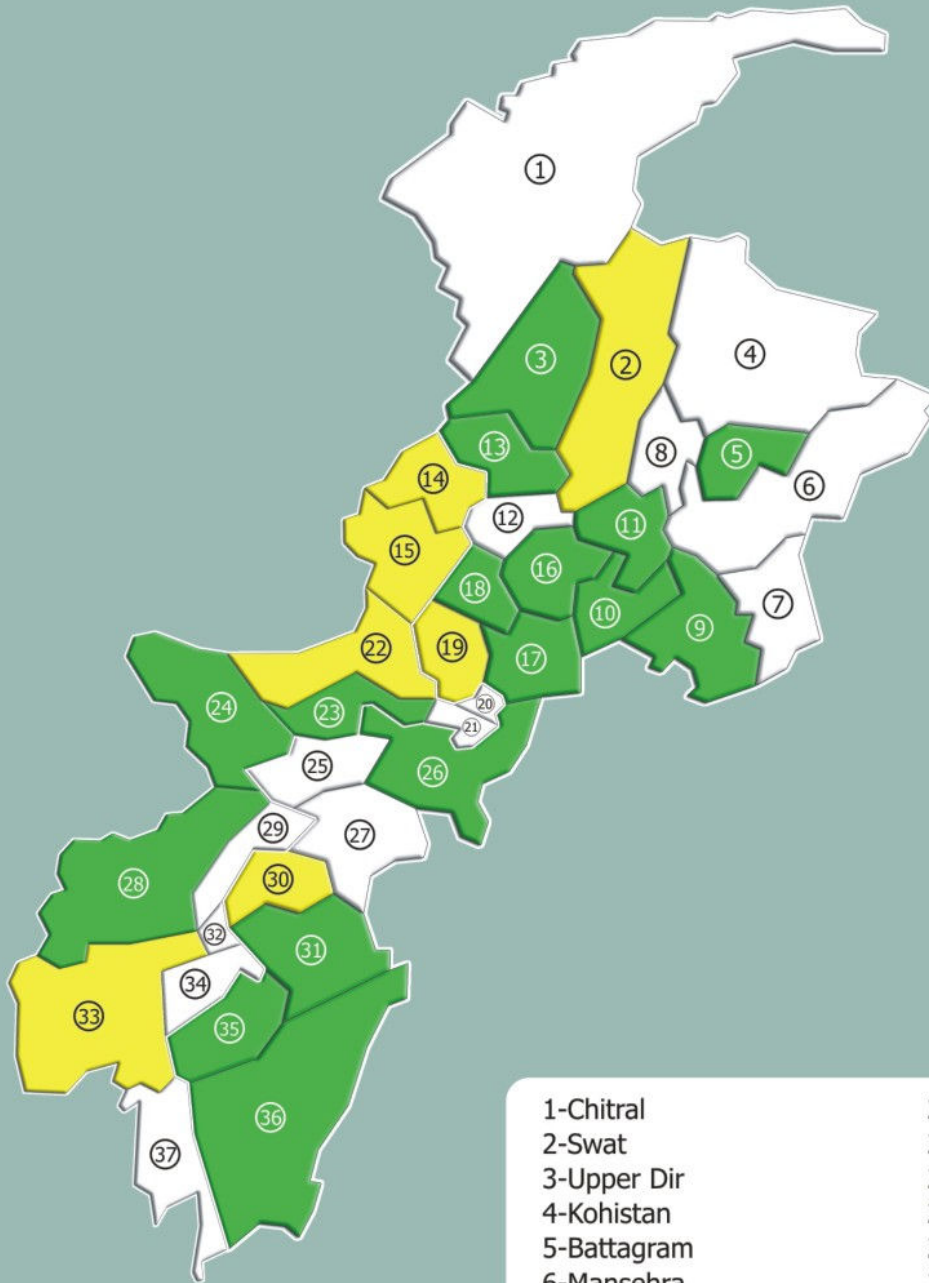
Suicide Attacks in Pakistan (2008-2016)



Sectarian Violence in Pakistan (2009-2016)

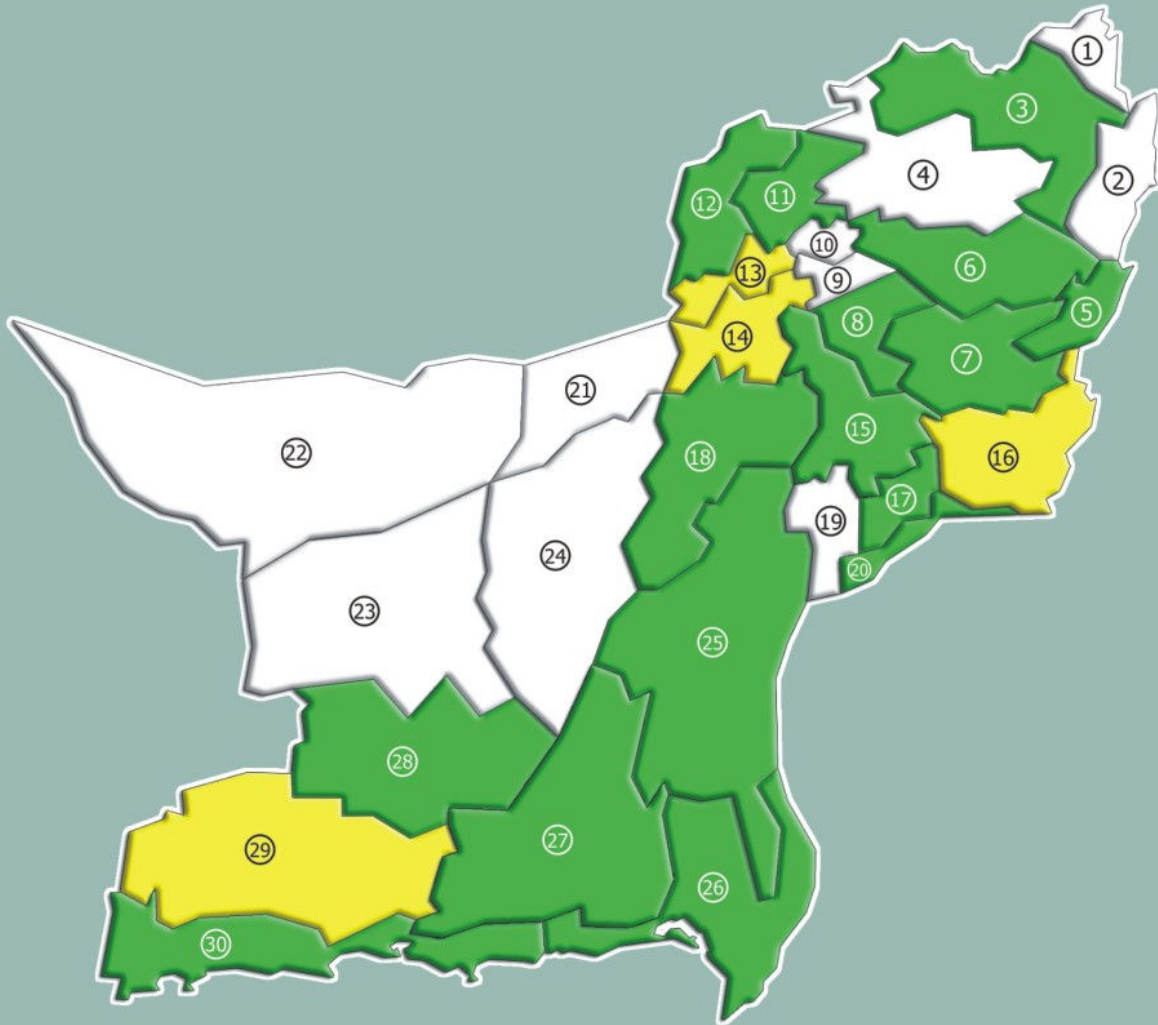


KP / FATA



- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| 1-Chitral | 21-FR Kohat |
| 2-Swat | 22-Khyber Agency |
| 3-Upper Dir | 23-Orakzai Agency |
| 4-Kohistan | 24-Kurram Agency |
| 5-Battagram | 25-Hangu |
| 6-Mansehra | 26-Kohat |
| 7-Abbottabad | 27-Karak |
| 8-Shangla | 28-North Waziristan Agency |
| 9-Haripur | 29-FR Bannu |
| 10-Swabi | 30-Bannu |
| 11-Buner | 31-Lakki Marwat |
| 12-Malakand | 32-FR Lakki Marwat |
| 13-Lower Dir | 33-South Waziristan Agency |
| 14-Bajaur | 34-FR Tank |
| 15-Mohmand Agency | 35-Tank |
| 16-Mardan | 36-Dera Ismail Khan |
| 17-Nowshera | 37-FR Dera Ismail Khan |
| 18-Charsada | |
| 19-Peshawar | |
| 20-FR Peshawar | |

Balochistan



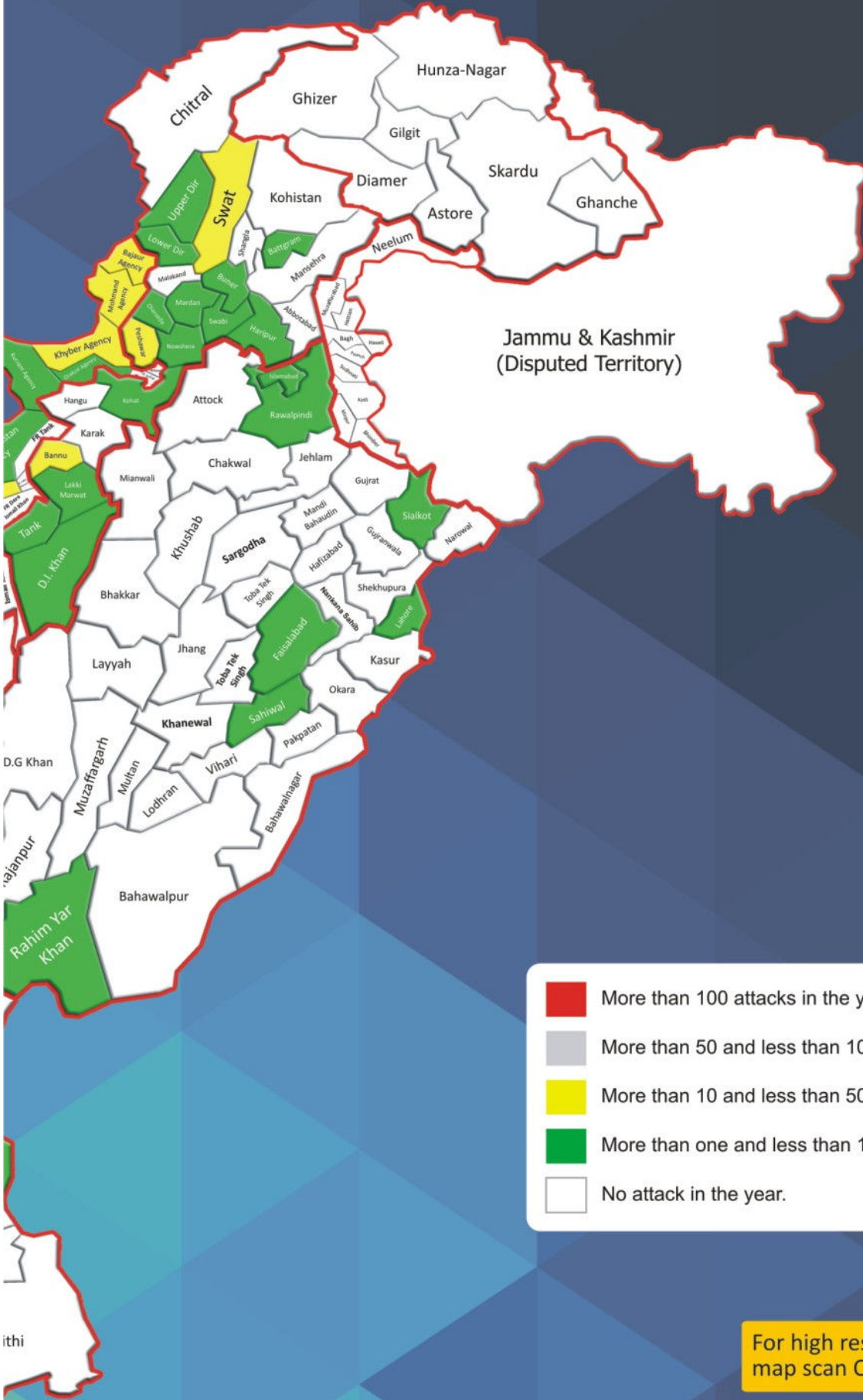
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| 1-Sherani | 18-Kalat |
| 2-Musakhel | 19-Jhal Magsi |
| 3-Zhob | 20-Jaffarabad |
| 4-Qilla Saifullah | 21-Nushki |
| 5-Barkhan | 22-Chaghi |
| 6-Loralai | 23-Washuk |
| 7-Kohlu | 24-Kharan |
| 8-Sibi | 25-Khuzdar |
| 9-Harnai | 26-Lasbela |
| 10-Ziarat | 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 100 attacks in the year.
- More than 50 and less than 100 attacks in the year.
- More than 10 and less than 50 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

2016



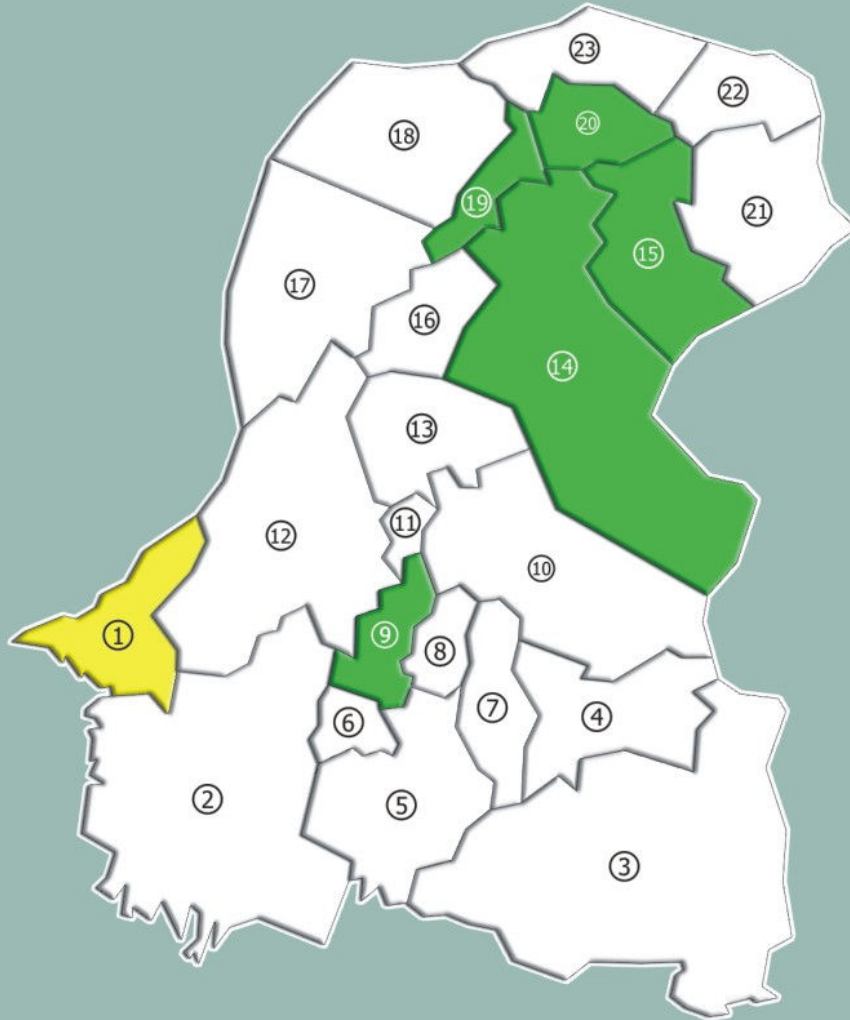


- More than 100 attacks in the year.
- More than 50 and less than 100 attacks in the year.
- More than 10 and less than 50 attacks in the year.
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- No attack in the year.

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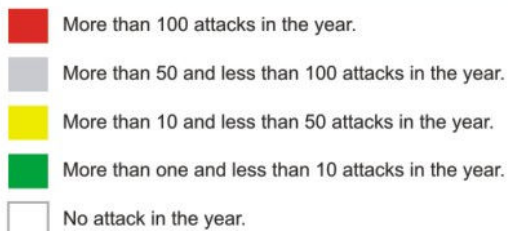
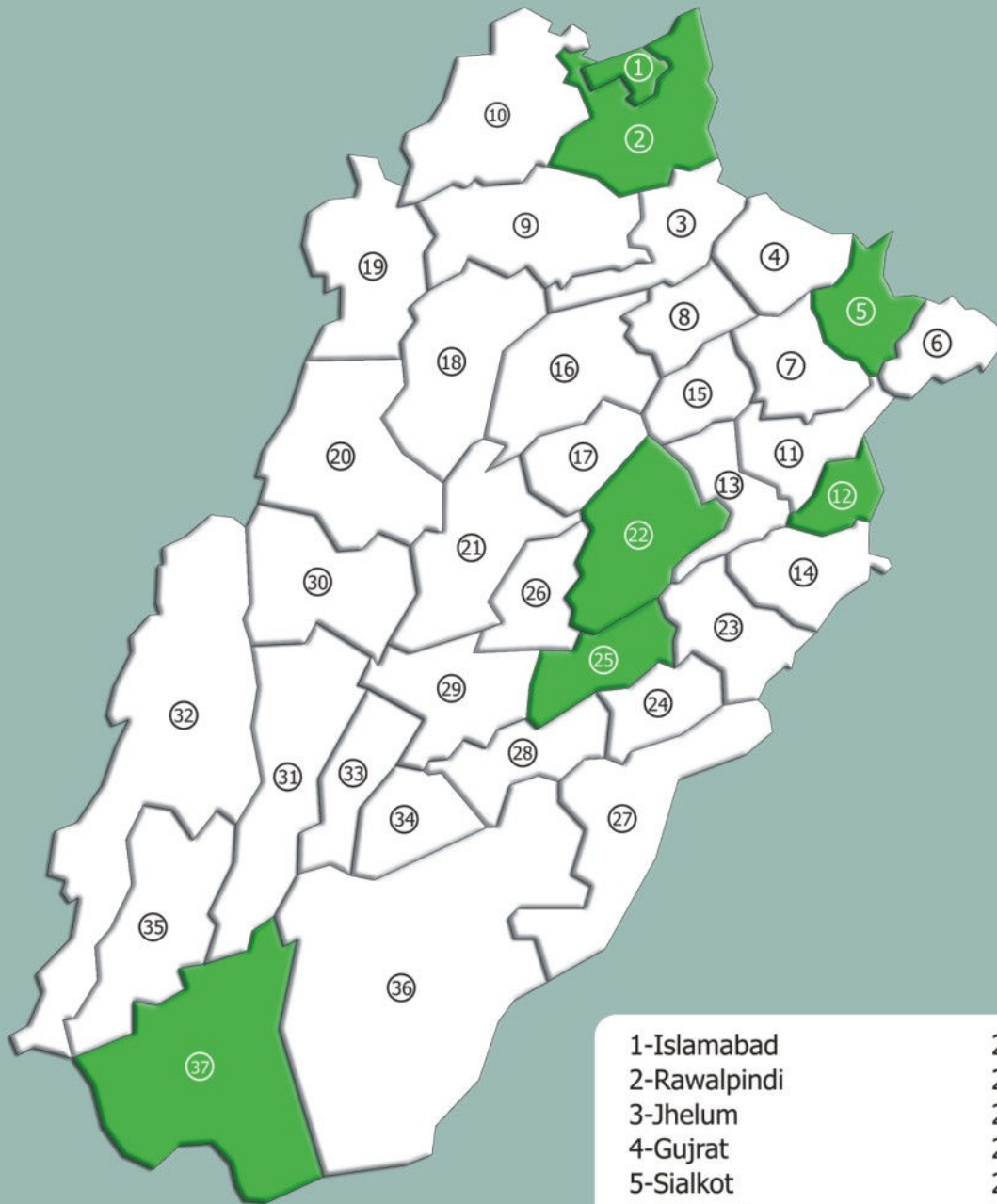
Sindh



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|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1-Karachi | 18-Qambar Shahdadkot |
| 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 | |

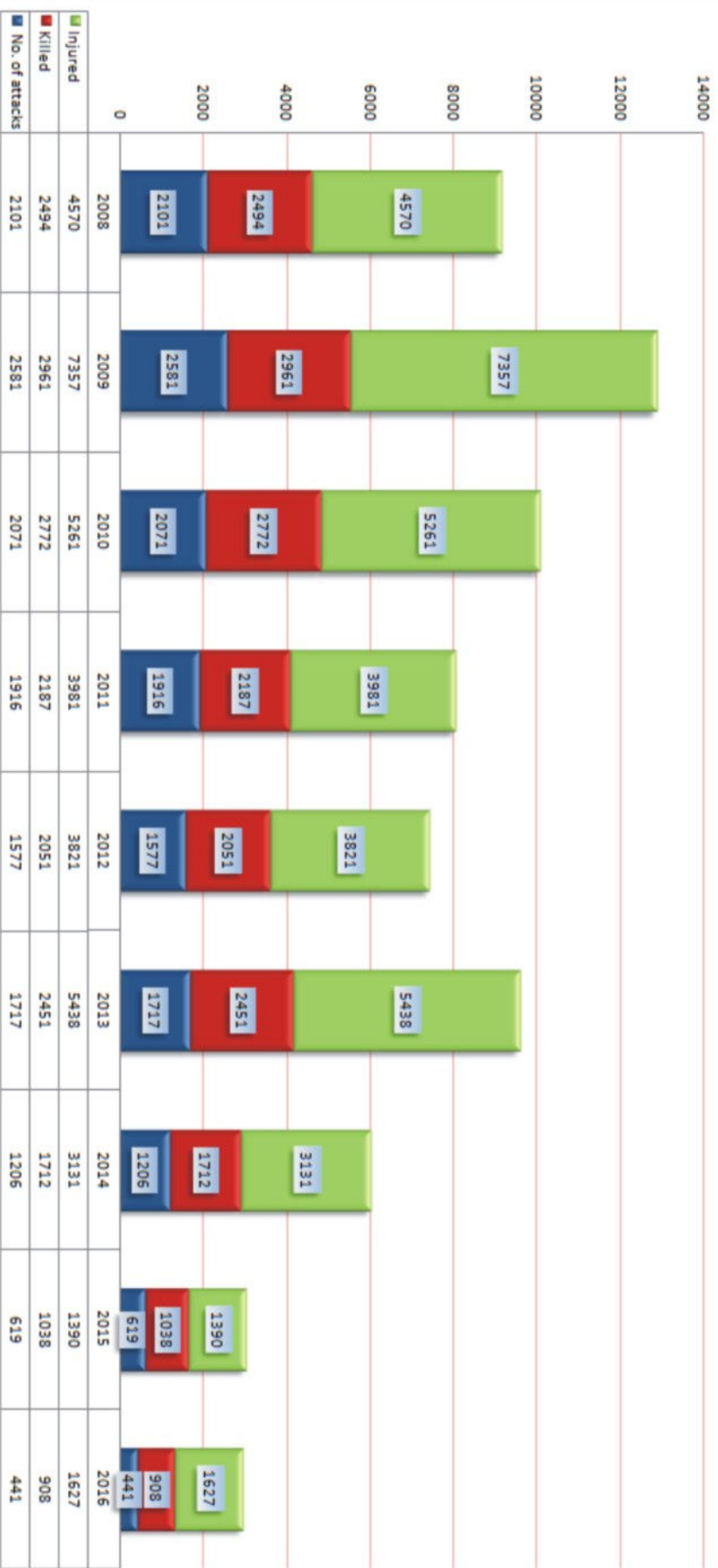
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- No attack in the year.

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 Violence in Pakistan (2008-2016)



Bordering on blame game

Tahir Khan*

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With several attacks along Pakistan's western border with Afghanistan, security remained fragile in 2016.

The most prominent attack was a suicide bomb during Friday prayers in a mosque in late September, killing 34 people. The outlawed Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan's splinter group Jamaat-ul-Ahrar claimed responsibility, arguing the naïve notion that the slain people were part of the pro-government peace committees. Locals say majority of those killed were children as they were standing in the last rows.

Like other Pakistani armed groups, Ahrar is also seen as a threat to the security in the border regions. The splinter group was launched in August 2014 after differences emerged in the Taliban ranks.³¹⁶ Today, the group, which mainly comprises of the former TTP militants from Mohmand tribal region, has emerged as a major threat, claiming several deadliest attacks in which mostly civilians lost their lives.

On November 26, a group of four bombers attacked a Frontier Corps camp in Mohmand agency and killed at least two security personnel and injured 14 others, according to the military spokesman. Ahrar claimed the attack and released an image of the four bombers.³¹⁷

One of the contentious issues by attacks along the border areas is about their location. Pakistani officials believe Ahrar's militants operate from the Afghan side of the border. The same is said of some other leaders. Afghan leaders – President Ashraf Ghani and Chief Executive Dr Abdullah Abdullah – have publicly said

Afghan forces have conducted a series of operations against Maulvi Fazalullah (the TTP's chief) but failed. In a way, therefore, the Afghan leaders accept that Pakistani militant leader is hiding in the Afghan border region.

Hafiz Saeed Khan, chief of the Islamic State of Daesh for the Khurasan region, was killed in a U.S. drone strike in Afghanistan's eastern Nangarhar province in August.³¹⁸ Several other senior Pakistani Taliban leaders were also killed in Afghanistan this year, including Omar Mansoor alias Narai and Azam Tariq, strengthening the notion that Pakistani Taliban leaders have sanctuaries in Afghanistan's border regions.^{319 320} Pakistani journalists who cover terrorism-related issues, mostly in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan, say they routinely receive phone calls on Afghani SIMs when the militant groups claim responsibility for attacks in Pakistan.

Pakistani Taliban, however, have never publicly confirmed they are hiding on the Afghan side of the border. A Pakistani Taliban leader once said that pushing them to Afghanistan "would be more dangerous for Pakistan."³²¹ Afghan officials, on their part, insist that Taliban, whom they call armed opponents, operate from the Pakistani side of the border, which is the main source of tension between the two countries. Afghan ambassador in Islamabad, Omar Zakhilwal, in an interview with Waqt TV news channel in December, said his country is "asking Pakistan not to allow space for Taliban recruitment, space for their meetings and space for their leadership."³²² In May 2016,

Afghan Taliban chief Mullah Akhtar Mansoor was killed - in Pakistan's Balochistan province.³²³ Afghan government leaders insist that the Taliban elected their new "Amir-ul-Momineen" or commander of faithful in a gathering in Balochistan.

There are signs that various factions of the Taliban may form an alliance at least for joint or coordinated operations and attacks in Pakistan. There are even reports of at least two meetings of the representatives of the TTP, TTP Ahrar, other TTP splinter groups – Khain Said and Shaheryar groups – in which they have agreed on combined operations. Moreover, Lashkar-e-Jhangvi and Daesh now coordinate attacks; Daesh provides manpower and Lashkar facilitate the attacks. This way, Lashkar seems to have shifted focus to Daesh from its longstanding association with al-Qaeda. The Taliban groups' new alliance and the Daesh-Lashkar strategy could be seen as a new challenge for Pakistan. It seems security challenges could remain for a long time as Pakistan and Afghanistan are not taking serious measures to deal with the threat.

Pakistan is now facing a dilemma of the presence of the Pakistani militants in Afghanistan border regions, and the mistrust between Pakistan and Afghanistan hinder the efforts to secure the border.

Border management

The traditional blame game and public accusations are unhelpful and further widen mistrust which also affected efforts by both countries to agree on any effective border management. A senior Pakistani official believed that border management is now more important even than Pakistan's quest for helping in encouraging the Afghan Taliban to join the peace process. Pakistan seemed serious in the border management and did not budge an inch from its plan to make travel documents for Afghans entering Pakistan. The plan was first introduced at Torkham, one of the busiest crossings from June 2016.³²⁴

Pakistan army's spokesman Lt Gen Asim Bajwa said last year the new border management system will also be put in place at 18 crossing points to check the cross-border movement. More people would be recruited for the Frontier Corps, mainly responsible for the border security with Afghanistan.

Earlier, thousands of Afghans, especially those living in the border region, would cross the border without valid travel documents. Spokesman for the Pakistan's Embassy in Kabul, Akhtar Munir, says the Embassy and the country's four consulates in Afghanistan would issue nearly 2000 visas daily but up-to 18,000 people from Afghanistan would enter Pakistan, majority without travel documents, on a single day.

Pakistani officials argue militants would take advantage of the loose border control and would enter without any proper check. They also claim that the militants who were involved in the attacks on the Bacha Khan University in Charsadda district (January 2016); the Pakistan Air Force residential colony near Peshawar (September 2015); and the Army Public School in Peshawar (December 2014), had entered Pakistan via Torkham from Afghanistan.

On their part Afghans have serious suspicions about Pakistan's new border mechanism and view it as a move to push for the recognition of the border. Afghan officials disagree with Pakistan's stance and instead insist that the militants have various routes in the rugged mountains to cross the border.

Whatever arguments Pakistan and Afghanistan might have been, both the countries facing are security challenges and will have to eventually agree on some sort of mechanism to address to the border security.

Pakistani and Afghan troops were involved in clashes for days in June this year at Torkham, the busiest border crossing between the troops of the two countries, after Afghan forces tried to prevent Pakistan from building a gate. Afghans insisted construction of the gate was in violation of the understanding between the two countries and that Pakistan cannot

take any unilateral decisions regarding the border issues.

Pakistan disagreed with the notion and argued that the gate, now completed and formally inaugurated, was over 30 meters inside the Pakistani side of the border, which Afghans call as "Durand Line." Some Afghans viewed the development as a move by Pakistan to push for its longstanding quest to get the Durand Line recognized. Although Pakistan considers Durand Line as a closed chapter, Afghanistan says it is an unresolved issue. Afghans have deep suspicions about every step taken regarding the border.

Cross-border movement of the militants will remain one of the major irritants in relations between Pakistan and Afghanistan unless they agree on a strategy to jointly secure the porous border. Mistrust and suspicion have hindered efforts to agree on a joint mechanism to monitor the porous nearly 2600 kilometers border, which the Afghan call "Durand Line."

Both have failed to reactivate the Border Coordination Centers along the two major crossing points – Torkham and Chaman. They were part of the trilateral coordination centers along with ISAF until the U.S.-led NATO forces formally ended their combat mission by end 2014.

The coordination centers were crucial for sharing information on the illegal

movement by the militants. The uneasy neighbors had initially agreed to revive the Centers when the relations warmed up following the visit to Pakistan by President Ashraf Ghani in November 2014. But it never happened in the wake of tense relationship and deep suspicions among Afghans, who view any action about the border by Pakistan as an attempt to get the Durand Line recognized.

CHAPTER 10

CTD Punjab in 2016

Shahzada Irfan Ahmed*

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On 21 July 2010, the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) working under Punjab police was named as Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) Punjab. This was done, to achieve the objective of establishing and strengthening of provincial special counter-terror departments.

CTD Punjab's functions is supposed to, among other things, collect, collate and disseminate information; apprehend militants and sectarian activists; monitor religious seminaries; crack down on hate promoters, keep a vigilant check on those who returned or trained from Afghanistan – CTD calls them Afghan Trained Boys (ATBs) or Returned Afghan Prisoners (RAPs). Pointedly, the CTD also checks the activities of those on the Fourth Schedule of Anti-Terrorism Act.

A year in review

A cursory look at the news report show some gains made by the CTD in 2016:

The year 2016 started with some major achievements for the CTD. It claimed to have busted an Islamic State (IS) cell in Sialkot on the last day of the outgoing year and arrested a man allegedly recruiting young men for the group on the very first day of the new year. Later in the month, there were arrests of some members of the banned outfit Lashkar-i-Jhangvi (LeJ). Besides, CTD and police of Layyah and Muzaffargarh arrested a member of banned outfit at the local passport office.

The department claims its successes continued in the following month and the

department arrested several members of banned outfits and recovered explosive material them.

By the end of March, when military announced of launching an operation in Punjab against terrorism, the CTD Punjab started to prepare lists of members of banned outfits, who had been placed on the Fourth Schedule of Anti-Terrorism Act (ATA) 1997, and to devise a comprehensive strategy to counter the menace of terrorism.

The horrible blast at Gulshan Iqbal, Lahore that claimed at least 75 lives on the eve of Easter made the security authorities focus their attention on the terrorist groups operating in the province. The very next month, operation Zarb-e-Ahan was launched against the notorious Chotoo Gang and mass evacuations were ordered along the riverine area of Rajanpur district in southern Punjab. This operation was not an easy one to handle and the need was felt to call Army to the support of the police whose several members had been held hostage by the gang.

In the middle of the month of-May, the CTD reported that it had arrested two members of a banned outfit, Sautul Ummah, who had pledged allegiance to the militant IS.

The month of June was a challenging one for CTD as security officials of the province decided to place sleeper cells as top priority on lists of "search and comb operations" in Punjab.

In August, there were reports about looming threats of terrorist attacks, especially on soft targets in the province.

In the aftermath of the Quetta attack, Punjab regional police office approved of beefing up security measures all over the province. Besides, in the face of terror threats Punjab canceled all outdoor activities planned for 14th August. Two days prior to the Independence Day, combing operations were launched in Rawalpindi. Punjab police ordered to carry out combing operations around educational institutions in suburb areas.

In September, a senior CTD official in Punjab claimed they had busted an IS recruitment network in Rawalpindi and Attock. Later in the year, the Punjab government empowered the CTD to monitor all the activities of Fourth Schedule. The department also claimed arresting two IS members involved in attacking news channel in Sargodha and in another incident busting an 8-member cell of IS. Earlier, its Lahore chief was also arrested.

Publically, the CTD claims to have made several successes. A list of what the department claims to have achieved from January to October, is also provided in the box.

According to the figures shared by the CTD spokesman, the department claims the following success from January 2016 to October 2016.

- A decrease of 71 per cent in terrorism incidents in Punjab
- No incident of sectarian target killing in Punjab
- All pending terrorism cases have been detected
- 107 terrorists have been killed in intelligence-based operations by CTD
- 297 terrorists have been arrested
- 55 terrorists have been convicted
- 125 leaders of proscribed organisations have been arrested / detained
- Proscribed organisation Lashkar-e-Jhangvi has been wiped out from Punjab
- 101 kg explosives, 5 suicide jackets, 35 grenades, 200 detonators, 15 rockets and 21 kalashnikov have been recovered
- 650 hardcore activists have been detained
- 80 accused have been arrested in hate material cases
- 42 accused convicted in hate material cases
- 123 terror financiers arrested
- 18 terror financiers have been convicted
- 18 accused arrested for hate material on social media
- 9 convicted for promoting hate material on social media
- Geo tagging done at 13798 madrassas, 61,000 mosques and 3,000 minority worship places

Independent structure

CTD officials espouse their success to its structure and functioning. The idea behind the CTD was to have a dedicated department meant to tackle terrorism; unlike the conventional police, the CTD does not have to perform multiple functions like patrolling, investigations of criminal cases involving citizens, VIP duties and so on.

It has been learnt that the old staff of CID and the directly-recruited corporals have been merged into one force managed by CTD.

The dedicated role is seemingly made possible through rigorous training of its personnel. A CTD official explained the department recruits corporals through a competitive exam, who then goes through rigorous and specialized training, spread over two to two-and-a-half years in respective fields. Although the required academic qualification is graduation, an official said, there are many corporals who have higher qualifications like Masters. M. Phil, Bachelor of Law. The entry level corporals are paid around Rs 80,000 to Rs 90,000 per month, which helps address their financial needs; in turn, they can fully concentrate on their work. An official said there is a huge interest among the educated youth to join CTD Punjab, as one can see a large number of candidates, both boys and girls, applying for induction in the department.

The CTD performs three major functions: Intelligence, Investigations, and Operations. Its real strength, it is argued, lies in Intelligence, which otherwise is missing in provincial police forces.

More so, the CTD Punjab depends on its own intelligence collection system and coordinates with other sister civilian security organisations as well. In certain cases, an official said, it seeks help from security and intelligence agencies run by armed forces, with the common objective of curbing terrorism.

The department is largely independent in its working and has a highly trained and well-equipped force to carry out raids at terrorists' hideouts, without calling police force of the respective districts to its help. Similarly, there is a dedicated prosecution section that only handles the cases registered by CTD and presents the department in courts without wasting any time. In the start, the CTD Punjab did not have its own centers to keep terrorists and suspects; now, it has its own police stations, where it can carry out investigations and interrogate the detainees.

Selection action?

Amid the claims of exceptional performance of CTD Punjab, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Andaleem Abbas has sought information from Punjab government on the Proclaimed Offenders

(POs) under the Punjab Transparency and Right to Information Act 2013. She wrote a letter in the backdrop of a report submitted by the Punjab police in the Lahore High Court (LHC) in which it admitted that some 1,002 POs are yet to be taken into custody. Some of these are involved in terrorism-related offenses.

The report, jointly compiled by the Punjab police and CTD was submitted in November 2016 before Justice Abdul Sami Khan, the administrative judge of Anti-Terrorism Courts. The report stated that while 57 POs were arrested in October, another 41 escaped during the same period because of the negligence of the officials concerned. The report also admitted the implementation of the National Action Plan had been severely hampered by the poor performance of police and CTD. She has also asked why the CTD budget was cut by about Rs792.8 million for financial year 2015-16 and what measures the Punjab government is taking to improve the performance of the police and the CTD. The letter also mentions that according to the police/CTD report, 17 out of the 22 most-wanted terrorists in the country belong to Punjab.

Similarly, there have been allegations that the CTD Punjab is sometimes selective in its actions and may not act against someone with strong connections. There is a feeling that the POs still on the loose might belong to this category.

The CTD Punjab official claims there is minimal interference in the department's working as people, however influential they are, avoid coming to the rescue of a suspect against whom there is sufficient evidence. This definitely is for the reason that they do not want to get associated with a terrorist or a case of terrorism in any way and avoid complications arising from it. So, he says, people would generally stay away and not even make a call to get an update.

A year ender news report carried by *The News*, Lahore has highlighted that in almost all the press releases about killings of terrorists by CTD, the department's spokesman who is also his head, has mentioned they were killed by their accomplices in shootouts. The report raises doubts that such encounters can be staged and that there can risks of severe high handedness by the department.

The CTD official rejects the allegation that CTD Punjab can victimize anybody and states that a strong internal accountability mechanism is there and they have to follow the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) before going ahead with their plans. For example, he says the suspects are subjected to surveillance for a reasonable time and arrests are made only when sufficient evidence has been collected. Besides, he says, decisions are taken only once the cases have been analyzed at the officers' level and there is no truth in the allegation that the low

ranking officials can victimize anybody they want to.

Instead, he argued, the force is working with a missionary zealot the risk of their lives, which needs moral support. He explains the CTD Punjab has its own

trained commandos that raid terrorist hideouts themselves and even in case of joint operations they form the first tier. They are always exposed to terrorists and there have been several incidents where they have suffered harm at the hands of terrorists, he adds.

CHAPTER 11

Exodus of refugees is not durable

Ahmed Shah Durrani*

* Ahmad Shah Durrani is a graduate of Lahore University of Management Sciences.

2016 has been yet another year in recent times when security measures taken within the context of the National Action Plan (NAP) expedited the rate of voluntary returns to increase recently. This high rate is also owed to other non-state push factors on the Pakistan side and a number of pull factors on the Afghan side, according to survey data by the UN body dealing with registered Afghans in Pakistan.

Consistent policy

To recap, Pakistan's Afghan refugee policy, including the process of its formation and review, has been fairly consistent since 2007, which has focused on three core components: voluntary repatriation, sustainable reintegration into Afghanistan and assistance to Afghan refugees and host communities in Pakistan.

In 2016, the process of policy formation and review for Afghan refugees at the national level has also remained fairly consistent in Pakistan since 2007.³²⁵ The process begins with consultations between the Pakistan and Afghan governments in the presence of international stakeholders. A summary of these consultations is then presented before an inter-ministerial conclave convened by SAFRON. The Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Interior, Law and Parliamentary Affairs and Defence are all represented at this conclave, alongside representatives of provincial governments and various intelligence agencies. Consultations are also conducted with leaders of major political parties, before a summary of all proposals and dissenting notes is presented before a cabinet

meeting chaired by the Prime Minister for final approval.

Most importantly, security remained important concern within Pakistan's Afghan refugee policy during the same period. As evident from the composition of the abovementioned conclave, security agencies have an important role in the management of Pakistan's Afghan refugee policy. The activities of Afghan refugees living in camps and host communities are also tracked by security agencies at both the provincial and national level, while the Ministry of Interior maintains statistics on the involvement of Afghan refugees in crime. Notably, however, not a single Afghan refugee has been apprehended in relation to incidents of terrorism – contrary to the damaging impressions created about them in the media.

Largest exodus since 2006

In 2016, an exodus of around 0.4 million registered Afghan refugees from the country took place, the largest number of returning refugees recorded since 2006.³²⁶

The living conditions of Afghan refugees in Pakistan have also been indirectly impacted by a number of internal and external security measures in place since the launch of the government's National Action Plan against violent extremism in 2015. These include the ongoing crackdown by provincial security agencies against illegal foreign residents in Pakistan since 2015,³²⁷ and the tighter border control regime on the Durand Line that has been in place since late June 2016. According to reports, tighter border control

has reduced the flow of people across one of the main border crossings at Torkham from 20,000/day to 1200/day. Since many refugees' livelihoods depend on regular border crossings, these security measures were key factors in pushing a record number of refugees to return voluntary to Afghanistan this year.³²⁸

That the bulk of these returns took place after late June, in the aftermath of border skirmishes between Pakistani and Afghan forces at Torkham, has given rise to questions about whether Pakistan's refugee policy is being impacted by its strained relations with Kabul.³²⁹ Moreover, the exodus of Afghans happened even as fighting between the Afghan government and Taliban forces began intensifying.

According to United Nations Humanitarian Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) survey data, the rate of returning refugees also rose due to a number of non-security related push and pull factors on both the Pakistan and Afghan side, respectively. Some of the significant pull factors were: i) the wish to rejoin family members in Afghanistan, which influenced around 50% of all registered returnees; ii) the increase in UNHCR's assistance package to returnees from \$200 to \$400, which influenced around 16% of all registered returnees; and iii) increased efforts by the Afghan government to reintegrate refugees in their home provinces, which influenced around 8% of all registered returnees.³³⁰

Increased cases of official harassment were still an important push factor in determining whether refugees decided to return. Around 6% of all registered refugees reported that encounters with abusive state authorities had swayed their decision to return. Moreover, 31% of those who returned by the end of October reported that the fear of official harassment had swayed their decision. Some human rights organizations and relief organizations have accused the Pakistani state of deliberately using such strong-arm tactics, such as deportation of one or more members of the same family, to effectively force refugees out of the country.³³¹³³² However, IOM data on the returns of undocumented refugees reveals that out of the nearly 200,000 undocumented Afghans who repatriated from Pakistan this year, a relatively small proportion (around 20,000) had been deported.³³³

Another important push factor influencing the decisions of returning refugees this year was the effect of "public opinion" about Afghans in Pakistan.³³⁴ A number of media reports have documented how the straining of relations between Islamabad and Kabul this year had the effect of turning public opinion in Pakistan against the refugees.³³⁵ It is also likely that at least some of the reported cases about official harassment of Afghan refugees were driven more by public opinion and less by deliberate policy.

However, the fact that the protection space afforded to Afghan refugees in Pakistan is so susceptible to the swings of public opinion is indeed a cause for concern. Over the years, human rights observers have noted that this problem is linked with the precarious and often uncertain residency status of Afghan refugees in the country.³³⁶ Since completion of the refugee registration exercise in 2007, registered Afghan refugees have only been afforded “temporary” residency in Pakistan for a pre-defined time period. While the validity of their temporary residency has been extended numerous times over the past nine years, these extensions have often only been for a few months at a time. This has left many Afghan refugees in a precarious and uncertain position regarding their future stay in Pakistan.

The Pakistani state has, so far, been unwilling or unable to incorporate more permanent solutions to the Afghan refugee question that affords them the chance to fully integrate into local society. To some extent, this can be blamed on the political dynamics of the major refugee-hosting provinces, Baluchistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Nationalist parties in Baluchistan, for example, have routinely called for the ouster of Afghan refugees from the province, where they are seen as diluting the Baloch ethnic majority. Longer term solutions for Afghan refugees such as

pathways to citizenship may be politically untenable under these circumstances.

However, with instability once again on the rise in Afghanistan and the significant role that Afghan refugees play in Pakistan’s formal and informal economy, it may not be entirely possible or even feasible to push for the complete repatriation of all refugees from the country. The Pakistani government now seems to have a greater understanding of this point after seeing the adverse effects that the massive exodus of Afghan refugees has had on the local economy, especially in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, this year. For example, the most recent proposals submitted for cabinet approval by the Commission for Afghan Refugees recommend the extension of registered refugees’ stay in the country till the end of 2017, a significant improvement on more recent extensions, which have been for 6 months at the most. The proposals also recommend the registration of undocumented Afghans to provide them greater protections and the establishment of flexible visa regimes to facilitate the residency of traders, students and Afghans inter-married into Pakistani families. Finally, the proposals also include the recommendation of passing a national refugee law that will grant Afghan refugees a more dignified and permanent residency status in the country.³³⁷

Durable solution

In November, the repatriation exercise was halted till March 2017 after concerns emerged about the Afghan government's ability to cope with their migration. However, a large number of refugees might still remain in Pakistan even after the repatriation exercise is complete.

A durable solution to the Afghan refugee question may also have to take into account this eventuality, as noted by the UN's High Commissioner for Refugees during the Brussels 2005 meeting

(mentioned earlier).³³⁸ Till now, Afghan refugees have only been "temporary residency" status in Pakistan, a status which has been extended over the years for irregular periods of time. Certainty about their future residency status will ensure that Afghan refugees are provided more adequate protection space in the country. The establishment of a flexible visa regime for Afghan citizens is an important development in this regard. Unfortunately, more long-term solutions like pathways to citizenship seem untenable within the current political climate of the region.

CHAPTER 12

Law-enforcement on terrorism – 2016 fact sheet

Dr. Farhan Zahid*

* Dr. Farhan Zahid is an expert of counter-terrorism and Islamist militant groups in Pakistan. He is author of *Roots of Islamic Violent Activism in South Asia* and *The Al-Qaeda Network in Pakistan*.

The year 2016 has remained a challenging one for Pakistani law enforcement forces as Islamist terrorists came up with new and improved tactics in a highly contested environment amid Operation Zarb-e-Azb and operation in Karachi against criminals and terrorists. The LEA performance was much better compared to last year and according to South Asia Terrorism Portal (SATP) there has been a 50% decrease in fatalities from 3682 in 2015 to 1801 in 2016³³⁹.

	Civilians	SFs	Terrorists	Total
Balochistan	251	153	228	632
FATA	76	39	315	430
Islamabad Capital Territory	0	2	0	2
KP	123	50	40	213
Punjab	84	21	138	243
Sindh	76	24	171	271
PoK				
Gilgit-Baltistan	2	4	4	10
Azad Kashmir	0	0	0	0
Total	612	293	896	1801

*Data till December 18, 2016

Punjab province

Countering violent extremism remained a serious challenge for law enforcement authorities in Pakistan's most populous province.

- The first major terrorist incident was the Easter Day suicide attack on Christian communities celebrating the religious festival on March 27 in Lahore. Most of the victims were Muslims though the attack was

intended to target Christian families gathered in Gulshan-e-Iqbal Park on Easter Sunday as a suicide bomber managed to breach the security and blew himself up. 75 people lost their lives and more than 370 were injured³⁴⁰. Jamaat ul Ahrar, a Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) faction led by Omar Khalid Khurasani claimed responsibility for the attack³⁴¹. Serious efforts were made by law enforcement agencies to arrest the masterminds of the attack. The operation against terrorists in Punjab was accelerated after the attack and at least 200 people were detained and 5000 were questioned.³⁴²

- In a crackdown against sectarian Lashkar-e-Jhangvi (LeJ) in Punjab a key commander Asif Ramzi alias Choto was arrested in Dera Ghazi Khan District in February 2016. Asif had Rs.10 million as head-money and was involved in a number of assassinations and target killings of Shia community.
- In July the Lahore police arrested three militants Idrees, Ghulam Dastgir and Tahir Yousaf from a suburb of Lahore and recovered cash, explosive material, electric circuits and other possessions³⁴³. Two Islamic State of Iraq and Sham (ISIS) cells were busted in Punjab during 2016. In November, according to Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) Lahore police the cell members had already sent 14 people and their families to Syria and eight arrested ones were about to depart for Syria. The cell was involved in propagating the ISIS

ideology through social media and recruitment; and ISIS literature, videos, mobile phones, laptops, and anti-army pamphlets were also seized from their possession. The cell members had been able to send at least 14 people to Syria and their families. All the arrested militants were also planning to leave for Syria³⁴⁴.

- In other operations against the terrorist organizations in Punjab, the police killed at least six militants in Sheikhpura in October 2016³⁴⁵.
- On May 20, CTD personnel raided a meeting place of Al-Qaeda, in Muzaffargarh, and ensued in a fierce shoot out killing six militants. Some of them were top Al-Qaeda commanders (Muneeb Javed alias Qandahari, Tayyab Nawaz alias Hafiz Mateen, Zeeshan alias Abu Daujana), who had earlier planned to attack the campus of Bahauddin Zakariya University in Multan where they also had an encounter with Multan police. The same terrorists were also involved in Rawalpindi's Parade Lane attack in 2009; target killing of Brigadier Fazal Qadri in Sarghoda; and killing of an intelligence officer³⁴⁶.

Overall the focus of Punjab police during 2016 had been the implementation of National Action Plan and all the District Police Officers in all 34 districts of Punjab were directed to report their performance as far

as the implementation of the plan in Punjab province was concerned. Crackdown against hate-material, registration of Afghan refugees in Punjab, and taking actions against proscribed organizations operating in the province remained the focus area of the law enforcement authorities.

Khyber-Pakhtunkhawa province

Despite the continuation of Operation Zarb-e-Azb in its second year in neighboring FATA, the KPK province suffered at the hands of Islamist militants during the whole year.

- The first major attack occurred on January 20 when TTP militants stormed the Bacha Khan University in Charsada district. Twenty students and teachers lost their lives when terrorists opened fired on them at the campus and more than fifty were injured³⁴⁷. The attack was a fiasco for law enforcement authorities since the security detail deputed at the campus failed to stop the breach. However, more casualties were averted by the courageous action of the local Station House Officer who managed to stop the terrorists from going any further during the gunfight while sacrificing his own life.
- Several other high profile terrorist attacks in KPK tested the nerves of law enforcement agencies. These included: on March 7, the suicide attack on the Charsada district court, resulting in the death of 20 people;

on March 16, bombing a bus in Peshawar with government employees on board, leading to 17 deaths; and an attack on the Mardan district courts, killing 14 and injuring 52. Apart from these major attacks terrorists also managed to target police officers and personnel of Frontier Constabulary in a series of attacks killing 49 in total.

Sindh province

The security situation in Sindh was not too promising even though the law enforcement authorities' approach was mainly offensive killing a wide range of terrorists in Karachi and other parts of Sindh.

According to SATP database of terrorism, security forces in Sindh clashed with terrorists in at least 16 major encounters killing 63 terrorists belonging to Al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent, TTP (factions) and Lashkar-e-Jhangvi³⁴⁸. The encounters mostly took place in the outskirts of Karachi, Malir, Manghopir, Sohrab Goth, Pipri, Gadap, Ittehad Town and Quaidabad, areas that are considered to be hotbeds of Islamist militancy and are heavily populated with Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) from KPK and FATA because of the ongoing military operations.

The paramilitary force Pakistan Rangers was also given police powers to undertake operations in Karachi. This decision was taken after the launch of the Karachi

Operation in 2013 and the Rangers were given a lead role in conducting operations against extortionists, terrorists and other mafias.

Apart from some operational successes the performance of the law enforcement agencies was disappointing. Karachi was plagued with sectarian violence with continued attacks on the Shia communities. The Rangers were also criticized for mostly targeting secular parties such Mutahida Quami Movement (MQM) and Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) and taking no significant action against Islamist parties creating a political vacuum for them to operate in.

One major incident in this connection was the assassination of Sufi singer Amjad Sabri which was initially blamed on one secular party and some workers were also arrested. That turned out to be a sham when Asim Capri and Ishaq Bobby (two LeJ terrorists) were arrested by the police and confessed to not only assassinating Amjad Sabri but also to killing 31 police officers in Karachi and scores of workers of secular political parties.

Balochistan

Only five percent area of Pakistan's largest province has police jurisdiction, while the rest 95% is policed by tribal militia Levies Force, comprising of local people appointed on the directions of *Sardars* and tribal elders.

Balochistan is infested with both nationalist-separatist insurgency and sectarian violence. Some of the major incidents of terrorism in Pakistan occurred in Baluchistan during 2016.

The Balochistan Police with its limited area of jurisdiction remained engaged as Islamist terrorist groups LeJ al-Alami, and Islamic State-Khurasan repeatedly targeted Quetta city and other urban centers in Baluchistan.

The surfacing of LeJ al-Alami as the new face of LeJ was indeed troublesome. The organization perpetrated three major and several other acts of terrorism in Baluchistan. LeJ has been responsible for targeting Hazara-Shia community in Quetta city and involved in target killings of polio vaccination teams; one major incident in this regard resulted in the deaths of 15 polio workers in January 2016.

Other times the LeJ militants have targeted law enforcement personnel. On August 8 the LeJ al-Alami in collusion with ISIS-Khurasan targeted a gathering of lawyers outside a hospital killing 70 in a suicide attack. Just two months after that the LeJ al-Alami and ISIS claimed responsibility for launching suicide attacks on Police Training College Quetta on October 24, killing 60 police cadets and injuring another 170.

After a further three weeks the same terrorist organization perpetrated another suicide attack, this time on a Sufi shrine in Khuzdar district and killed 54 people while over a 100 were wounded.

Law enforcement forces appeared helpless amid such accelerated attacks causing mass casualties. The police already have a limited role to play in the province's administrative setting and previous claims of destroying the network of LeJ in Baluchistan seem quite remote.

Conclusion

Despite security forces' operations against militants in tribal areas and paramilitary-led operation in Karachi the violent non-state actors (especially Islamists) appear to keep the law enforcement forces off balance. There is a visible change in the tactics of militants as they now orchestrate attacks that lead to the most number of casualties rather than executing small scale operations. The law enforcement forces in all four provinces struggle to get their acts together while the Islamist terrorists continue to carry out attacks all over Pakistan without much hindrance. The policy makers need to reevaluate their options and focus primarily on the training and equipping of law enforcement bodies to take on the terrorists more aggressively and holistically. Moreover there is a dire need of formulating a concrete counter terrorism policy keeping abreast of changing times.

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ANNEXURES

Annex 1: Suicide Attacks in Pakistan in 2016

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Date	Location	Target	Killed	Injured	Claim of responsibility
07 Mar	Charsadda	Govt. installation / hospitals / banks/property	Pol (3) Civ (17)	Civ (31)	JamatulAhrar
19 Apr	Mardan	Govt. installation / hospitals / banks / property	Civ (1)	Civ (16)	TTP
20 May	Peshawar	Security forces/law enforcement	Mil (3)		TTP
30 May	Mardan	Security forces/law enforcement		Pol (2) Civ (10)	TTP
02 Sep	Mardan	Civilians	Pol (2) Civ (12)	Civ (54)	JamatulAhrar
Total		5 Attacks	38 Killed	113 Injured	

FATA

Date	Location	Target	Killed	Injured	Claim of responsibility
19 Jan	Khyber Agency	Security forces/law enforcement	Pol (3) Civ (9)	Civ (39)	TTP
17 Apr	Khyber Agency	Pro-government tribesmen	Civ (1)	-	Lashkar-e-Islam
16 Sep	Mohmand Agency	Pro-government tribesmen	Civ (36)	Civ (30)	JamatulAhrar
Total		3	49	69	

Balochistan

Date	Location	Target	Killed	Injured	Claim of responsibility
13 Jan	Quetta	Security forces/law enforcement	Civ (1) Pol (13) FC (1)	Civ (12) Pol (13)	TTP
29 Jan	Zhob	Security forces/law enforcement	-	Arm (3) Civ (2)	TTP splinter Sajna group

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Date	Location	Target	Killed	Injured	Claim of responsibility
03 Feb	Kalat	Security forces/law enforcement	Mil (3)	FC (3)	TTP
06 Feb	Quetta	FC/army/police convoys	Civ (6) FC (4)	Civ (20) FC (15)	TTP
08 Aug	Quetta	Building of Civil hospital	Civ (74)	Civ (108)	JamatulAhrar
25 Oct	Quetta	Security forces/law enforcement	Arm (2) Pol (62)	Pol (165)	Lashkar-e-Jhangvi Al-Aalmi
12 Nov	Khuzdar	Worship places/shrines/imambargahs	Civ (54)	Civ (100)	Lashkar-e-Jhangvi Al-Aalmi
Total		7	220	441	

Punjab & Islamabad

Date	Location	Target	Killed	Injured	Claim of responsibility
27 Mar	Lahore	Christian community	Civ (74)	Civ (231)	JamatulAhrar
30 Dec	Rahim Yar Khan	Security forces/law enforcement	Mil (1)	Pol (2)	Unknown militants
Total		2	75	233	

Annex 2: Drone Attacks in Pakistan in 2016

Date	Location	Killed	Injured	Detail
09 Jan	North Waziristan Agency	Mil (5)	Mil (2)	Five militants including Maulana Noor Saeed, a key commander of the banned Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), and Uzbeks were killed and two others wounded in the first US drone strike of 2016, which took place in DattaKhel tehsil of North Waziristan Agency.
22 Feb	Kurram Agency	Mil (5)	Mil (4)	A US drone fired four missiles that hit three mud-built houses in the Lower Kurram Agency near the Afghan border killing five suspected militants. The slain militants belonged to the Haqqani network.

Date	Location	Killed	Injured	Detail
21 May	Nushki	Mil (2)	-	A US drone killed Afghan Taliban leader Mullah Akhtar Mansour with his driver in a remote area of Balochistan along the Pak-Afghan border. Reportedly Mullah Mansoor carried a Pakistani passport with the name of Wali Muhammad and was coming in a car from Iran.
Total	3	12	6	

Annex 3: Cross-Border Attacks and Clashes in 2016

Pak-Afghan Border

Date	Location	Target	Killed	Injured	Perpetrator
21 Jan	South Waziristan Agency	Civilians	Civ (3)	Civ (1)	TTP
06 Mar	Mohmand Agency	Security check posts	-	-	Afghan security forces
21 Mar	Bajaur Agency	Security check posts	FC (1)		TTP
23 Apr	Mohmand Agency	Security check posts	-	Arm (2)	TTP
27 May	Mohmand Agency	Security forces/law enforcement	Mil (4)		Unknown/unknown militants
12 Jun	Khyber Agency	Security forces/law enforcement	FC (1)		Afghan security forces
14 Jun	Khyber Agency	Security forces/law enforcement	-	FC (5) Civ (6)	Afghan security forces
24 Jun	Bajaur Agency	Security forces/law enforcement	-	Mil (2)	TTP
29 Jul	Chitral	Civilians	Civ (2)	Civ (1)	Unknown/unknown militants
30 Jul	Chitral	Civilians	-	-	Unknown/unknown militants
03 Aug	Chitral	Militants	Mil (5)		Nil
19 Aug	Khyber Agency	Security forces/law enforcement		Arm (2)	TTP
23 Sep	Bajaur Agency	Security check posts	-	-	JamatulAhrar

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Date	Location	Target	Killed	Injured	Perpetrator
23 Sep	Mohmand Agency	Security check posts	-	-	JamatulAhrar
14 Oct	Kurram Agency	Security forces/law enforcement	Mil (1)	Civ (1) Arm (1)	TTP
16 Oct	South Waziristan Agency	Security forces/law enforcement	Arm (2)	Arm (1)	TTP
06 Nov	Zhob	Civilians	-	-	Unknown/unknown militants
08 Dec	Kurram Agency	Security forces/law enforcement	Mil (1)		TTP
Total		18	20	22	

Pak-India Border Attacks

Date	Location	Target	Killed	Injured	Perpetrator
10 Apr	Rawalakot	Civilians	-	-	Indian BSF
19 Apr	Narowal	Security forces/law enforcement	-	-	Indian BSF
14 Aug	Haveli	Civilians	-	-	Indian BSF
02 Sep	Bhimber	Civilians	-	-	Indian BSF
06 Sep	Haveli	Civilians	-	Civ (1)	Indian BSF
26 Sep	Poonch	Civilians	-	-	Indian BSF
29 Sep	Bhimber	Security forces/law enforcement	Arm (2)	-	Indian BSF
01 Oct	Bhimber	Civilians	-	-	Indian BSF
03 Oct	Bhimber	Civilians	-	-	Indian BSF
04 Oct	Bhimber	Civilians	-	Civ (1)	Indian BSF
05 Oct	Kotli	Civilians	-	-	Indian BSF
16 Oct	Bhimber	Security forces/law enforcement	-	-	Indian BSF
19 Oct	Kotli	Civilians	Civ (1)	Civ (3)	Indian BSF
19 Oct	Kotli	Civilians	-	Civ (2)	Indian BSF
21 Oct	Sialkot	Civilians	-	-	Indian BSF
21 Oct	Sialkot	Civilians	-	-	Indian BSF
22 Oct	Sialkot	Civilians	-	-	Indian BSF

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Date	Location	Target	Killed	Injured	Perpetrator
23 Oct	Sialkot	Civilians	-	Civ (1)	Indian BSF
24 Oct	Sialkot	Civilians	Civ (2)	Civ (7)	Indian BSF
25 Oct	Sialkot	Civilians	Civ (2)	Civ (3)	Indian BSF
25 Oct	Bhimber	Civilians	Civ (1)	-	Indian BSF
26 Oct	Sialkot	Civilians	Civ (2)	Civ (8)	Indian BSF
27 Oct	Kotli	Civilians	Civ (1)	Civ (3)	Indian BSF
27 Oct	Sialkot	Civilians	Civ (3)	Civ (23)	Indian BSF
28 Oct	Kotli	Civilians	Civ (3)	Civ (5)	Indian BSF
28 Oct	Kotli	Civilians	Civ (2)	-	Indian BSF
28 Oct	Bhimber	Civilians	-	Civ (2)	Indian BSF
29 Oct	Neelum	Civilians	-	Civ (3)	Indian BSF
30 Oct	Sialkot	Civilians	-	Civ (7)	Indian BSF
31 Oct	Kotli	Civilians	Civ (4)	Civ (6)	Indian BSF
31 Oct	Sialkot	Civilians	-	-	Indian BSF
01 Nov	Sialkot	Civilians	Civ (1)	Civ (9)	Indian BSF
06 Nov	Poonch	Civilians	-	Civ (5)	Indian BSF
07 Nov	Kotli	Civilians	Pol (1) Civ (2)	Civ (8)	Indian BSF
08 Nov	Rawalakot	Civilians	Civ (3)	Civ (6)	Indian BSF
09 Nov	Neelum	Civilians	-	-	Indian BSF
14 Nov	Bhimber	Security forces/law enforcement	Arm (7)	-	Indian BSF
15 Nov	Bhimber	Civilians	-	-	Indian BSF
19 Nov	Kotli	Civilians	Civ (4)	-	Indian BSF
21 Nov	Kotli	Civilians	Civ (2)	Civ (10)	Indian BSF
21 Nov	Bhimber	Civilians	Civ (2)	Civ (3)	Indian BSF
21 Nov	Bhimber	Civilians	-	Civ (1) Civ (1)	Indian BSF
22 Nov	Neelum	Security forces/law enforcement	-	-	Indian BSF
23 Nov	Neelum	Civilians	Civ (10)	Civ (8)	Indian BSF
23 Nov	Neelum	Civilians	-	Civ (2)	Indian BSF
23 Nov	Kotli	Civilians	Civ (1)	Civ (7)	Indian BSF

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Date	Location	Target	Killed	Injured	Perpetrator
23 Nov	Poonch	Civilians	-	Civ (3)	Indian BSF
23 Nov	Kotli	Security forces/law enforcement	Arm (3)	-	Indian BSF
07 Nov	Kotli	Civilians	Pol (1) Civ (2)	Civ (8)	Indian BSF
08 Nov	Rawalakot	Civilians	Civ (3)	Civ (6)	Indian BSF
11 Dec	Neelum	Civilians	-	-	Indian BSF
16 Dec	Kotli	Civilians	Civ (1)	Civ (8)	Indian BSF
30 Dec	Poonch	Civilian		Civ (3)	Indian BSF
Total		51	60	149	

Pak-Iran Border Attacks

Date	Location	Target	Killed	Injured	Responsibility
02 Sep	Panjgur	Civilians	-	-	Iranian border security forces
28 Sep	Panjgur	Unknown	-	-	Iranian border security forces
28 Oct	Panjgur	Unknown	-	-	Iranian border security forces
25 Nov	Panjgur	Unknown	-	-	Iranian border security forces
18 Dec	Panjgur	Civilians	Civ (1)	Civ (2)	Iranian border security forces
Total		5	1	2	

Annex 4: Attacks on Educational Institution in 2016

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Date	Location	Target	Killed	Killed	Responsibility
20 Jan	Charsadda	Bacha Khan University	Mil (4) Civ(21)	Civ (35)	TTP
21 Feb	Tank	Primary school	-	Pol (1) Civ (1)	TTP
Total		2	25	37	

FATA

Date	Location	Target	Killed	Injured	Responsibility
20 Feb	South Waziristan Agency	Government school	-	-	TTP splinter Sajna group
25 Nov	Mohmand Agency	Private school	-	-	JamatulAhrar
12 Dec	North Waziristan Agency	Govt. school for Girls	Civ (1)	Civ (3)	TTP
22 Dec	Mohmand Agency	community model primary school for boys		-	JamatulAhrar
Total		4	1	3	

Annex 5: Attacks on Shrine and Worship Places

Date	Location	Target	Killed	Injured
02 May	Peshawar	A Mosque	-	Civ (14)
13 Sep	Shikarpur	Imambargah	Mil (1) Pol (1)	Pol (2)
12 Nov	Khuzdar	A Shrine	Civ (54)	Civ (100)
Total		3	56	116

Annex 6: Attacks on Govt. Offices, Institutions and Officials

Date	Location	Targets	Killed	Injured	Responsibility
20 Feb	Gwadar	District Education Office	-	-	Lashkar-e-Balochistan
07 Mar	Charsadda	Sessions Court, Shabqadar	Pol (3) Civ (17)	Civ (31)	JamaatulAhrar
16 Mar	Peshawar	Govt. officials in a Bus	Civ (16)	Civ (30)	Lashkar-e-Islam
19 Apr	Mardan	Excise and Taxation Office	Civ (1)	Civ (16)	TTP
08 Jun	Quetta	Govt. officials	Civ (1)	-	TTP

Date	Location	Targets	Killed	Injured	Responsibility
22 Jun	Peshawar	Govt. officials	Civ (1)	-	Local Taliban
30 Jun	Bajaur Agency	Govt. officials	Civ (1)	-	JamaatulAhrar
30 Jun	Peshawar	Govt. officials	Pol (1)	Civ (5)	Local Taliban
08 Aug	Quetta	Civil Hospital	Civ (74)	Civ (108)	JamatulAhrar
11 Aug	Quetta	Govt. officials	-	Pol (4) Civ (9)	ISIS affiliates/supporters
08 Oct	Peshawar	Govt. officials	-	-	Local Taliban
24 Oct	Mastung	Govt. officials	Civ (2)	Civ (1)	BLF
01 Nov	Quetta	Office of the Civil Defense		Civ (3)	BLA
15 Nov	Buner	Govt. officials	Civ (1)	-	Local Taliban
26 Nov	Gwadar	Govt. officials	Civ (2)	-	BLA
22 Dec	Tank	Govt. Hospital building	-	Civ (1)	TTP
22 Dec	Bajaur Agency	Govt. officials	Civ (1)	-	TTP
Total	17		121	208	

Annex 7: Attacks on Members of Peace Committees or Pro-govt. Tribesmen

Date	Location	Killed	Injured	Responsibility
04 Jan	South Waziristan Agency	-	Civ (1)	TTP splinter Sajna group
21 Jan	Bajaur Agency	-	Civ (2)	JamatulAhrar
27 Feb	Bajaur Agency	Civ (1)	-	Local Taliban
27 Feb	Bajaur Agency	-	Civ (1)	Local Taliban
17 Apr	Khyber Agency	Civ (1)	-	Lashkar-e-Islam
14 May	Tank	Civ (2)	-	Local Taliban
23 May	Swat	Pol (1) Civ (1)	Pol (1)	Local Taliban
29 May	Bajaur Agency	Civ (1)	-	JamaatulAhrar
31 May	Swat	Civ (1)	-	Local Taliban
07 Jun	Mohmand Agency	Civ (2)	Civ (1)	JamaatulAhrar
17 Jun	DeraBugti	Civ (1)	Civ (3)	BRA
29 Jun	Mohmand Agency	-	Civ (2)	JamaatulAhrar

Date	Location	Killed	Injured	Responsibility
30 Jun	Bajaur Agency	-	Civ (1)	JamaatulAhrar
02 Jul	Khyber Agency	Civ (1)	-	Lashkar-e-Islam
17 Jul	Mohmand Agency	Civ (1)	Civ (3)	JamaatulAhrar
18 Jul	Upper Dir	Civ (7)	-	TTP
30 Jul	Mohmand Agency	-	-	JamaatulAhrar
30 Jul	Khyber Agency	Civ (2)	Civ (5)	Lashkar-e-Islam
04 Sep	Tank	Civ (1)		TTP
16 Sep	Mohmand Agency	Civ (36)	Civ (30)	JamaatulAhrar
04 Oct	Khyber Agency	Civ (1)	Civ (1)	Lashkar-e-Islam
07 Oct	Mohmand Agency	-	-	JamaatulAhrar
31 Oct	Lower Dir	Civ (1)	-	Local Taliban
11 Nov	Khyber Agency	Civ (1)	-	Lashkar-e-Islam
13 Nov	Mohmand Agency	Civ (1)	-	JamaatulAhrar
16 Nov	Khyber Agency	Civ (5)	Civ (1)	Lashkar-e-Islam
28 Nov	Bannu	Civ (1)	-	JamaatulAhrar
Total	27	69	52	

Annex 8: Breakdown of Terrorist Attacks

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Month	Frequency	Killed	Injured
January	11	30	53
February	7	6	8
March	10	44	65
April	9	9	20
May	16	22	47
June	10	5	18
July	15	16	37
August	9	9	10
September	11	27	79
October	8	6	2

Month	Frequency	Killed	Injured
November	9	10	12
December	12	5	4
Total	127	189	355

Balochistan

Month	Frequency	Killed	Injured
January	20	40	48
February	12	27	58
March	3	2	0
April	9	14	11
May	12	18	38
June	14	23	38
July	13	11	19
August	15	92	150
September	14	16	11
October	13	89	199
November	15	71	112
December	11	9	18
Total	151	412	702

FATA

Month	Frequency	killed	injured
January	7	22	44
February	11	17	10
March	8	13	13
April	7	20	7
May	5	3	10
June	7	4	7
July	7	6	8
August	6	7	7

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Month	Frequency	killed	injured
September	10	41	42
October	12	6	22
November	14	21	31
December	5	3	20
Total	99	163	221

Punjab

Month	Frequency	Killed	Injured
January	1	1	0
February	1	3	0
March	1	74	231
November	1	1	1
December	3	1	9
Total	7	80	241

Sindh (excluding Karachi)

Month	Frequency	Killed	Injured
May	1	-	-
June	1	-	-
July	1	1	15
August	1	0	9
September	1	2	2
December	2	0	3
Total	7	3	29

Karachi

Month	Frequency	Killed	Injured
January	2	1	9
February	2	0	1

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Month	Frequency	Killed	Injured
March	5	4	4
April	4	10	3
May	4	7	5
June	3	4	1
July	3	4	0
August	2	3	0
September	5	6	2
October	7	10	30
November	9	11	16
December	1	0	4
Total	47	60	75

Islamabad

Month	Frequency	Killed	Injured
January	1	0	1
February	1	1	2
December	1	0	1
Total	3	1	4

Annex 9: Incidents of Ethnic and Political Violence in 2016

Region	Location	Attacks	Killed	Injured
Punjab	Gujranwala	1	2	0
	Punjab Total	1	2	0
KP	Buner	1	1	0
	D.I Khan	1	1	0
	Peshawar	1	3	2
	KP Total	3	5	2
Sindh	Karachi	5	3	11

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Region	Location	Attacks	Killed	Injured
	Thatta	1	1	0
	Sindh Total	6	4	11
Azad Kashmir	Kotli	1	1	10
	Haveli	1	2	7
	Azad Kashmir Total	2	3	17
Total Pakistan		12	14	30

Month	Frequency	Killed	Injured
January	0	0	0
February	1	1	10
March	1	2	0
April	3	2	5
May	1	1	0
June	2	3	2
July	2	3	8
August	1	1	5
September	0	0	0
October	1	1	0
November	0	0	0
December	0	0	0
Total	12	14	30

Annex 10: Major Targets of Terrorism in 2016

Targets	No of Attacks	Killed	Injured
Personnel, check-posts and convoys of security forces/law enforcement Agencies.	217	373	610
Civilians.	85	86	250
Political leaders/workers.	19	14	18
Shia religious scholars/community.	17	27	38
Pro-government tribesmen.	27	69	52
Gas pipelines.	5	-	-

Targets	No of Attacks	Killed	Injured
Sunni religious leaders/community.	12	19	6
Health/polio workers.	4	3	6
Railway tracks / trains.	6	8	24
Educational institutions.	6	26	40
Media/journalists.	2	0	6
Govt. officials.	11	26	49
Power pylons.	1	-	-
Tribal elders.	4	9	5
Worship places/shrines/imambargahs.	3	56	116
Non-Bloch settlers/workers.	2	7	0
Govt. installation/hospitals/banks/property.	6	95	159
Christian community.	2	79	236
Ahmedi community.	1	1	-
NGO / civil society members.	1	1	2
Foreign interests/ Diplomats/Foreigners.	4	2	9
Bohra community.	1	1	1
Lashkar-e-Jhangvi.	1	-	-
Hindu Community.	2	2	-
Zikri Community.	1	1	-
CD/other shops/private property	1	3	-
Total	441	908	1,627

Annex 11: Terrorist Attacks' Tactics in 2016

Tactics	Attacks
FR	218
IED	172
HG	23
RA	7
Suicide Attacks	17
SAB	3
Mortar	1
Total	441

Annex 12: Official List of Banned Outfits

Below are the organizations banned in Pakistan, based on the list released by Interior Ministry in the Senate on December 18, 2015 and reported in the media.¹

1. 313 Brigade,
2. Abdullah Azam Brigade
3. AhleSunnatWalJamaat
4. Al Harmain Foundation
5. Al Qaeda
6. Al-Khair Trust
7. Al-Rasheed Trust
8. Amar BilMaroofWaNahi Anil Munkir (Haji Namdar Group)
9. Anjuman-i-Imamia
10. Baloch Student Organisation-Azad
11. Balochistan BunyadParast Army
12. Balochistan Liberation Army
13. Balochistan Liberation Front
14. Balochistan Liberation United Front
15. Balochistan MusallahDifaTanzeem
16. Balochistan National Liberation Army
17. Balochistan Republican Army
18. Balochistan Waja Liberation Army
19. Daesh, Islamic State (IS)
20. East Turkmenistan Islamic Movement
21. Haji Namdar Group
22. HizbutTehrir
23. Islam Mujahideen
24. IslamiTehreek Pakistan
25. Islamic Jihad Union
26. Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan
27. Islamic Students Movement of Pakistan
28. Jaish-i-Islam
29. Jaish-i-Mohammad
30. Jamaat-ud-Dawa (JuD)
31. JamiatulAnsar
32. JamiatulFurqan
33. Jeay Sindh MuttahidaMahaz
34. Khair-un-Naas International Trust
35. Khana-i-HikmatGilgitBaltistan
36. Khuddamul Islam
37. Lashkar-e-Taiba or LeT,
38. Lashkar-i-Balochistan

¹ Iftikhar A. Khan, "IS among 61 banned outfits, minister tells Senate", *Dawn*, December 19, 2015
<http://www.dawn.com/news/1227402>

39. Lashkar-i-Islam, Ansarul Islam
40. Lashkar-i-Jhangvi
41. MarkazSabeelOrganisation
42. Millat-i-Islamia Pakistan
43. Muslim Students Organisation
44. Peoples Aman Committee (Lyari), Karachi
45. Rabita Trust
46. Shia Tulaba Action Committee
47. Sipah-i-Mohammad Pakistan
48. Sipah-i-Sahaba Pakistan
49. TahafuzHadudullah
50. TanzeemAhleSunnatWalJamaat
51. TanzeemNaujawananeAhleSunnat
52. Tariq Geedar Group
53. TehreekNafaz-i-Aman
54. Tehreek-i-Islami
55. Tehreek-i-Jafria Pakistan
56. Tehreek-i-Nifaz-i-Shariat-i-Mohammadi
57. Tehreek-i-Taliban Bajaur
58. Tehreek-i-Taliban Mohmand
59. Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan
60. Tehreek-i-Taliban Swat
61. United Baloch Army
62. JamaatulAhrar
63. Lashkar-e-Jhangvi Al Alami

TIMELINES

Security Situation in ICT, KP and Northern Areas

	January	
Date	Progress	Source
Jan. 1, 2016	Senators demanded that the government made public the inquiry report on all major terrorist attacks including the APS attack.	<i>The Nation</i> , January 2, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/editors-picks/02-Jan-2016/senators-demand-publication-of-aps-attack-inquiry-report
Jan. 14, 2016	Apex Committee of KP reviewed the progress on the implementation of NAP and the law and order situation in FATA.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 15, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=15_01_2016_007_001
Jan 21, 2016	At World Economic Forum the Pakistani PM reiterated that the government was committed to eliminating terrorism and military operations like Zarb-e-Azb was continuing successfully.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 22, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=22_01_2016_005_008
Jan. 22, 2016	Apex Committee of KP asked Peshawar division commissioner to investigate the security arrangements on the day of the BKU attack.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 23, 2016 http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=23_01_2016_001_006
Jan. 22, 2016	Opposition leader in National Assembly, Khurshid Ahmed Shah, called for the remove of Interior Minister Chaudry Nisar Ali Khan for not condemning the BKU attack.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 23, 2016 http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=23_01_2016_003_001
Jan. 22, 2016	Federal government failed to respond to KP government's request of Rs. 66.28 billion special security package.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 23, 2016 http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=23_01_2016_007_006
Jan. 22, 2016	VCs of public universities met and demanded that federal and provincial governments provide funds for their security requirements.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 23, 2016 http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=23_01_2016_007_001
Jan. 22, 2016	Awami National Party-Wali chairperson Begum MasimWali Khan called the BKU attack a conspiracy against Pashtuns, to hamper development in the region.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 23, 2016 http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=23_01_2016_007_005
Jan. 24, 2016	SSP Islamabad SajidKiani directed officials to patrol around educational institutions during opening and closing times. He also directed them to deploy additional personnel around schools for effective security. Furthermore, he asked the police to review security arrangements around religious places.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 25, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=25_01_2016_004_002

Jan. 24, 2016	The Khyber Agency political administration deployed a 15 member <i>khasadar</i> (locally raised police) response team to the Torkham border as a security measure.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 25, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1235277/quick-response-team-set-up-at-torkham
Jan. 27, 2016	Officials said that the federal government assessed the security needs of KP and assured to provide Rs. 2.5 billion to universities all over the province.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 28, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=28_01_2016_003_004
Jan. 27, 2016	ANP gen. sec. MianIftikharHussain demanded for a judicial inquiry into the BKU attack and more security for universities all over KP.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 28, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=28_01_2016_007_001
Jan. 27, 2016	KP education and police departments keep shifting responsibility of security for education institutions on to each other.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 28, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=28_01_2016_007_002
Jan. 27, 2016	KP CM said that Pak-Afghan border needs to be secured in order to keep Pakistani cities safe.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 28, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=28_01_2016_007_003
Jan. 28, 2016	Peshawar police conducted mock security drills on university campuses.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 29, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=29_01_2016_007_003
Jan. 29, 2016	Heads of KP government schools said that they felt "harassed and insulted" because of the FIRs registered against them by the police for not following procedures for security arrangements in schools.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 30, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=30_01_2016_007_005
Jan. 29, 2016	Gilgit-Baltistan government tightened the security of its departments after the federal interior minister issued security threat alerts.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 30, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=30_01_2016_007_003
Jan. 30, 2016	Watchmen at government schools in Daggar refused to perform 24 hour duty and demanded the government to use PTC funds for recruiting watchmen so that they can perform routine 8 hours shift duties.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 31, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=31_01_2016_007_003
	February	
Date	Progress	Source
Jan. 31, 2016	Vulnerable parts of FATA have not been included in the federal security plans for educational institutions. Security for schools in FATA has been entrusted to local tribes.	<i>Dawn</i> , February1, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=01_02_2016_007_003

Feb. 2, 2016	KP elementary and secondary education dept. directed all schools that if a watchman was unfit for duty he should bring along with him any of his relative trained for that purpose.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 3, 2016 http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=03_02_2016_007_004
Feb. 3, 2016	Multi-party conference (MPC) asked for a judicial inquiry into the BKU attack, compensation for the victims and more security for educational institutes.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 4, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=04_02_2016_003_006
Feb. 9, 2016	The HEC studied a proposal to move BKU to a safer location.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 10, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=10_02_2016_001_004
Feb. 9, 2016	The Peshawar government informed PHC that it had amended the rules on meetings of dangerous prisoners with their relatives to once in two months. This was the result of intelligence discovery that prisoners were in contact with terrorists.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 10, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=10_02_2016_007_003
Feb. 9, 2016	A fake cry about a militant attack alarmed people and prompted security guards at a Charsadda school to open fire at a student who was reportedly scaling a wall of the building to flee.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 10, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=10_02_2016_007_001
Feb. 9, 2016	Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Sohail Aman, stated that Zarb-i-Azb had eradicated terrorism to a large extent, yet border control mechanisms along Pak-Afghan border still needed to be improved.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 10, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=10_02_2016_003_009
Feb. 9, 2016	Charsadda police thwarted a terror plot by defusing two remote controlled explosives. Later the police arrested many suspects.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 10, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=10_02_2016_003_007
Feb. 17, 2016	PHC stayed the transfer of two extortion cases from an ATC to a military court, asking for explanation about who was authorized to transfer cases to military courts and the nature of such cases.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 18, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=18_02_2016_007_004
Feb. 17, 2016	The BKU and Frontier Constabulary (FC) agreed that 32 FC personnel and 10 policemen would be deployed for the security of the varsity.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 18, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=18_02_2016_007_001
Feb. 24, 2016	COAS Gen. Raheel Sharif green lighted the troops to initiate the last phase of Zarb-i-Azb in the Shawal Valley of North Waziristan.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 25, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=25_02_2016_001_003

Feb. 25, 2016	The government failed to complete the Safe City Project for Islamabad in time, given the country's security situation.	<i>The Nation</i> , February 26, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/islamabad/26-Feb-2016/safe-city-project-remains-distant-dream
Feb. 26, 2016	Draft bill KP Police Act 2016 proposed to increase powers of provincial police chief and reduce role of public safety bodies.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 27, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=27_02_2016_007_001
	March	
Date	Progress	Source
Mar. 1, 2016	Peshawar police deployed more personnel and installed security cameras to improve security. A police-traders coordination council will also be formed as a bridge between the police and the community.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 2, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=02_03_2016_007_002
Mar. 1, 2016	KP government removed the BKU security chief from service and included him in the investigation.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 2, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=02_03_2016_007_006
Mar. 3, 2016	Petitioner moved the Peshawar High Court to seek orders for the federal and provincial governments to make all the information on the APS attack public.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 4, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=04_03_2016_007_010
Mar. 7, 2016	KP government called for the deployment of Rangers in Peshawar.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 8, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=08_03_2016_001_007
Mar. 8, 2016	Chief Minister Pervez Khattak wrote to Interior Minister asking for funds to invest into raising special forces for security and the deployment of Rangers for the protection of Peshawar.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 9, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1244515/does-well-deployed-peshawar-need-more-security-personnel
Mar. 9, 2016	Senators raised concerns over an awareness advert released by the government, which depicted terrorists with beards and turbans, as that was insensitive to the Pakhtun community and their dress codes.	<i>The Nation</i> , March 10, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/national/10-Mar-2016/senators-protest-against-terrorism-advert
Mar. 14, 2016	COAS Gen. Raheel Sharif publicly announced that the army was about to conclude its operations in tribal areas.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 15, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=15_03_2016_001_005
Mar. 14, 2016	PHC stopped the administration of BKU from taking any adverse action against the university's security head, who was found, by an inquiry committee, to be responsible for the attack on BKU.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 15, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=15_03_2016_007_006

Mar. 15, 2016	The PHC directed both federal and provincial governments to submit comments regarding the petition seeking orders for the two governments to make public all the information about APS attack.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 16, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=16_03_2016_007_005
Mar. 16, 2016	ANP President AsfandyarWali Khan alleged that under the PTI-led government the province of KP "has become a safe haven for terrorists."	<i>Dawn</i> , March 17, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=17_03_2016_003_005
Mar. 17, 2016	ANP called for the government to review the NAP and find out why terrorists were targeting KP. He also said that security forces should fight back the terrorists with the same organization with which the terrorists were attacking KP.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 18, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=18_03_2016_007_002
Mar. 20, 2016	The federal police began a "search and combing" operation in Islamabad and Rawalpindi in preparation for Pakistan Day Parade on March 23.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 21, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=21_03_2016_004_002
Mar. 21, 2016	President MamnoonHussain said that civilian agencies were being strengthened to take charge of the tribal areas after the conclusion of Zarb-i-Azb so that terrorists did not get a chance to regroup.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 22, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=22_03_2016_005_011
	April	
Date	Progress	Source
Apr. 2, 2016	The Apex Committee of KP and FATA took notice of the extortion calls being made to the people of Peshawar from the Pak-Afghan border. And in response it decided to shut down illegal communication towers within the Pakistani territory.	<i>Daily Mashriq</i> , April 3, 2016, http://epaper.pknewspapers.com/daily-mashriq.html
Apr. 2, 2016	Authorities mobilized tribes against threats of TTP and IS on the Afghan side of the border near Kurram Agency.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 3, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=03_04_2016_001_006
Apr. 8, 2016	KP cabinet's committee on police reforms set to review proposed KP Police Act 2016, after the home department suggested many amendments to the draft bill.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 9, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=09_04_2016_007_002

Apr. 9, 2016	KP education and police departments not prepared to act against head masters of schools who have FIRs registered against them for not adopting the recommended security measures at their respective government schools. The KP education and police departments felt since the government failed to provide the head masters with funds for security then the head masters were not at fault.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 10, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=10_04_2016_007_002
	May	
Date	Progress	Source
May 5, 2016	Apex Committee of KP reviewed the implementation of NAP and discussed matters relating to the return of displaced people in the province and FATA.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 6, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=06_05_2016_007_001
May 6, 2016	The PHC ordered security for a local trader who was being threatened by an extortionist supposedly belonging to a banned militant outfit.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 7, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=07_05_2016_007_004
May 7, 2016	KP government admitted that extortion had become the biggest problem in KP after terrorism and that it was closely linked to the rise of terrorism.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 8, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=08_05_2016_007_007
May 18, 2016	KP government and police informed the PHC that after receiving the terror alert from the federal government in Aug 2014 about possible attacks on educational institutions, they had relayed the information to the management of all such schools.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 19, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=19_05_2016_007_008
May 21, 2016	Army "cleansed" Waziristan of militants and plans on introducing social change in the rural society to transform it into "a semi-urban/rural set-up."	<i>Dawn</i> , May 22, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1259935
	June	
Date	Progress	Source
Jun. 2, 2016	COAS Raheel Sharif said that as Zarb-i-Azb operation entered its final phase, intelligence-based raids and combing operations were being intensified.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 3, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=03_06_2016_001_001
Jun. 6, 2016	Interior Minister inaugurated the much delayed Safe City Project in Islamabad.	<i>The Nation</i> , June 6, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/national/07-Jun-2016/nisar-opens-islamabad-safe-city

July		
Date	Progress	Source
Jul. 11, 2016	Senior security officials announced that the mastermind of the APS attack had been killed in a drone strike in Afghanistan.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 12, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=12_07_2016_001_005
Jul. 14, 2016	From a tip-off by ISI and using the security cameras of the Safe City Project, the police thwarted a major terrorist attack in Islamabad.	<i>The Nation</i> , July 15, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/national/15-Jul-2016/mumbai-style-terror-strike-on-capital-thwarted
August		
Date	Progress	Source
Sep. 2, 2016	Representatives of various political parties in KP urged the government to let the Afghans stay in Pakistan for five more years.	<i>Dawn</i> , September 3, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=03_09_2016_004_003
Sep. 2, 2016	KP politicians called on the government for unity to "foil designs of terrorists" and to implement NAP in its "true sense."	<i>Dawn</i> , September 3, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=03_09_2016_007_007
Sep. 23, 2016	Both the treasury and opposition in KP Assembly said that they won't support any reforms to police that excessively increase their powers which might be misused.	<i>Dawn</i> , September 24, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=24_09_2016_007_002
November		
Date	Progress	Source
Nov. 2, 2016	In the 2nd phase of compensating for damaged houses in South Waziristan Agency, a total of 4,700 militancy-affected tribes will be paid.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 3, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=04_11_2016_007_004
Nov. 10, 2016	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa police launched the City Patrol Force in Peshawar for dealing with crime, road accidents, and emergency situation.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 11, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=11_11_2016_007_005
Nov. 12, 2016	The KP government abandoned any plans of reviewing and changing content of three school subjects (Urdu, Islamiyat, Social Studies) out of fear of any backlash from religio-political parties in Peshawar.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 13, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1296070
Nov. 13, 2016	Authorities in Peshawar believed that IS has struck nexus with other militant groups like TTP and JamaatulAhrar for carrying out attacks	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , October 14, 2016,

Nov. 17, 2016	The New City Patrol force in Peshawar was raised to also keep watch on people included on the Fourth Schedule lists.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , November 18, 2016, http://tribune.com.pk/story/1235065/new-peshawar-force-keep-watch-fourth-schedulers/
Nov. 19, 2016	Corps Commander announced that the Frontier Corps will be bifurcated into two separate wings to protect the western border. Both wings will have separate headquarters and two inspectors general.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 20, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1297452
Nov. 19, 2016	In efforts of promoting and maintaining peace in North Waziristan, authorities have officially banned carrying and keeping of arms. They have also closed down a few <i>madrassas</i> and plan to promote tourism in the area.	<i>The News</i> , November 20, 2016, http://tns.thenews.com.pk/peace-place-violence/
December		
Date	Progress	Source
Dec. 20, 2016	First batch specialized force Rapid Response Unit completed first phase of training; they soon will be inducted into Islamabad's police force.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , December 21, 2016, http://tribune.com.pk/story/1269538/countering-terror-first-batch-new-rapid-response-unit-graduates/

Security Situation in Sindh and Karachi Operation

January		
Date	Progress	Source
Dec. 31, 2015	PPP not happy with the Ranger's operation in Karachi because under NAP the Rangers have enhanced powers to raid government offices and arrest political leaders.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 1, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=01_01_2016_004_005
Jan. 6, 2016	A software engineer, believed to be disrupting communication system, was arrested from Karachi	<i>Jang</i> , January 7, 2016 In Print
Jan. 12, 2016	Rangers search house of New York Time Correspondent, Salman Masood, as part of a "terrorist search operation," but nothing suspicious was recovered.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 13, 2014, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=13_01_2016_004_004

Jan. 13, 2016	Ruling party considers whether or not to deploy Rangers in Punjab to carry out operations against banned outfits and criminals.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 14, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=14_01_2016_001_007
Jan. 19, 2016	Sindh government announced that 10 more anti-terrorist courts will be set up in Karachi.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 20, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=20_01_2016_001_004
Jan. 27, 2016	COAS declared that the Rangers-led operation in Karachi will continue with full force to maintain peace in the city.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 28, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=28_01_2016_001_001
Jan. 29, 2016	Sindh Rangers Dir. General Bilal Akbar announced that an important Taliban leader had been arrested.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 30, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=30_01_2016_001_004
Jan. 30, 2016	PM declared that Rangers will stay in operation till complete peace is restored to Karachi. He also admitted that certain points of NAP need expedited implementation.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 31, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=31_01_2016_001_008
	February	
Date	Progress	Source
Jan. 31, 2016	Sindh Rangers Chief issued a statement saying that the Rangers operation in Karachi is restoring sense of security around the city.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 1, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=01_02_2016_005_008
Feb. 1, 2016	Sindh CM granted 90-days extension to special powers of Rangers under ATA.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 2, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=02_02_2016_001_003
	March	
Date	Progress	Source
Mar. 8, 2016	Sindh government opposed the Rangers' demand for the creation of separate police stations and expansion of policing powers	<i>Dawn</i> , March 9, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=09_03_2016_001_004
Mar. 10, 2016	Supreme Court held that it was beyond the scope of the Court's power to pass any order regarding the Rangers' demand for police stations and policing powers. The Court called upon the government to take up the matter.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 11, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=11_03_2016_001_001
Mar. 11, 2016	The government removed the Sindh Police Chief on charges of corruption.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 12, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=13_03_2016_001_001

Mar. 20, 2016	The chief of Pakistan Rangers said that the targeted operations in Karachi were not against any group or company and their only mission was to eradicate terrorism and crime from the city.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 21, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=21_03_2016_001_001
April		
Date	Progress	Source
Apr. 13, 2016	COAS Raheel Sharif said that Rangers operation in Karachi will not conclude anytime because "Peace (in Karachi) is crucial because of its direct link with the country's economic progress."	<i>Dawn</i> , April 14, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=14_04_2016_001_001
May		
Date	Progress	Source
May 1, 2016	According to CRSS, the Rangers operation in Karachi has seen a significant drop in violence within first quarter of 2016.	<i>The News</i> , May 2, 2016, https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/116733-Law-and-order-in-Karachi-this-year-so-far-so-good
May 9, 2016	The federal government extended the policing powers of the Rangers in Karachi for another 77 days.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 10, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=10_05_2016_005_008
May 21, 2016	Sindh police acquired 6 drones to strengthen its surveillance system especially in areas with tough terrains.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 22, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1259921
June		
Date	Progress	Source
Jun. 27, 2016	The Army will have a dominant role in the recruitment of the 20,000 new police personnel in Karachi.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 28, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=28_06_2016_001_003
July		
Date	Progress	Source
Jul. 13, 2016	Sindh Rangers blamed PPP officials of intervening when they were interrogating a suspect allegedly helping criminals in Larkana.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 14, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=14_07_2016_001_006

Jul. 19, 2016	Interior Minister wrote to Sindh CM asking him to extend the policing powers of the Karachi Rangers.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 20, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=20_07_2016_001_001 <i>The Nation</i> , July, 20, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/newspaper-picks/20-Jul-2016/nisar-writes-to-qaim-urges-extension-in-rangers-powers
Jul. 22, 2016	Corps Commander asked Sind CM to extend special powers of Karachi Rangers.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 23, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=23_07_2016_001_003
Jul. 23, 2016	PPP leaders held discussions to decide whether or not to extend the special powers of Karachi Rangers and whether or not their jurisdiction should extend to other provinces.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 24, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=24_07_2016_001_004
Jul. 28, 2016	According to CRSS, number of deaths, due to violence, in Karachi in the second quarter of 2016 was less than the number recorded in the first quarter.	<i>The News</i> , July 29, 2016, https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/138433-Karachi-seeing-marked-improvement-in-law-order-due-to-Rangers-led-operation
Jul. 30, 2016	The federal government still is waiting for the new Sindh CM to approve extending the Rangers powers.	<i>The Nation</i> , July 31, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/national/31-Jul-2016/rangers-powers-issue-to-be-resolved-soon
	August	
Date	Progress	Source
Jul. 31, 2016	PPP held a meeting with Sindh CM to order him to notify the extension of the Rangers' powers	<i>Dawn</i> , August 1, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=01_08_2016_001_003
Aug. 1, 2016	PPP decided that Rangers' powers will be extended for three months for Karachi division and not for the whole of Sindh.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 2, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=02_08_2016_001_004
Aug. 2, 2016	The center rejected Sindh's summary to extend the Rangers to only Karachi because the center wants it to be extended to the whole province.	<i>The Nation</i> , August 3, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/national/03-Aug-2016/centre-rejects-sindh-summary-limiting-rangers-powers
Aug. 3, 2016	PPP upset with the center issuing notifications for the unconditional extensions of the Rangers powers to the whole province.	<i>The Nation</i> , August 4, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/national/04-Aug-2016/unconditional-extension-in-rangers-mandate-upsets-ppp
Aug. 14, 2016	Following a secret agency's report, terror alerts were sounded in Hyderabad amid possible threats of banned outfits trying to avenge killings of their members in July.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 15, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1277546

October		
Date	Progress	Source
Oct. 17, 2016	Interior ministry extended the Rangers' powers in Karachi to another 90 days.	<i>The Nation</i> , October 18, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/national/18-Oct-2016/rangers-powers-extended-for-90-days
Oct. 30, 2016	Inspector General Sindh claims there is no IS network in Sindh	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , October 31, 2016, http://tribune.com.pk/story/1215447/no-daish-network-sindh-claims-ig/
November		
Date	Progress	Source
Nov. 10, 2016	Rangers claimed to have killed three suspect terrorists, affiliated with the IS, involved in the 2015 Safoora attack in which 46 members of the Ismaili community were killed.	Dawn, November 11, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=11_11_2016_016_006
Nov. 10, 2016	Rangers claimed to have killed the chief of Jundullah's Pakistan chapter, in Lasbela, close to Sindh-Balochistan border.	Dawn, November 12, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=12_11_2016_003_004
Nov. 11, 2016	As anti-Shia LeJ al Alami gets eliminated in Punjab, it finds refuge in parts of Balochistan and Sindh. LeJ has claimed responsibility for various sectarian-based attacks in Karachi.	<i>The Friday Times</i> , November 11-17, 2016, http://www.thefridaytimes.com/tft/punjab-tackles-sindh-inherits-lej/
Nov. 13, 2016	Residents of Kalri praised the LEAs for killing the notorious gangster Gulabo.	<i>The News</i> , November 14, 2016, https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/164635-Lyari-residents-all-praise-for-LEAs-for-killing-gangster-Gulabo
Nov. 28, 2016	8-10 terrorists riding motorcycles attacked three targets within in 2 hours in Karachi.	<i>Jang</i> , November 29, 2016, http://e.jang.com.pk/11-29-2016/Pindi/pic.asp?picname=516.gif
December		
Date	Progress	Source
Dec. 8, 2016	Bodies of 10 militants killed in Karachi airport, exhumed for investigation. Search for the body of 11 th aide in the Orangi Town graveyard being carried out.	<i>Dawn</i> , December 9, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1301303
Dec. 11, 2016	Sindh police wants to put the names of 93 seminaries on the Fourth schedule list of ATA.	<i>Dawn</i> , December 12, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1301885/police-want-93-seminaries-placed-under-fourth-schedule-of-ata

Dec. 25, 2016	Lyari gang leaders have begun recruiter young men with no previous criminal record, to carry out their criminal activities.	<i>The News</i> , December 26, 2016, https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/174383-Using-young-blood-Lyaris-gang-leaders-crawling-their-way-back
Dec. 25, 2016	Sindh govt.'s plan to build high security prison for "hardcore militants" has still not moved past paperwork phase, even after two years.	<i>Dawn</i> , December 26, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1304474

Security Situation in Balochistan

	January	
Date	Progress	Source
Jan. 1, 2016	Balochistan CM said that his government will do all that is necessary to restore peace to his province. He also said that the implementation of NAP needs to accelerate.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 2, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=02_01_2016_005_002
Jan. 13, 2016	Balochistan CM said at a high-level meeting that law enforcement agencies have to take strict action against terrorists and their abettors.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 14, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=14_01_2016_005_001
Jan. 22, 2016	Balochistan Frontiers Corps arrested eight militants belonging to banned outfits.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 23, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=23_01_2016_005_004
Jan. 24, 2016	Balochistan government decided to establish a new force that will provide security to universities all over the province. The new force will be subordinate to the Vice Chancellors of the respective universities. The new force will post 60 officers in each university and will be trained and equipped with the latest weapons.	<i>Dunya</i> , January 25, 2016, http://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2016-01-25&edition=ISL&id=2132529_47172249
Jan. 28, 2016	Balochistan CM agreed to work with Iran to curb terrorism along the border areas by exchanging information regarding terrorist activities.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 29, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=29_01_2016_005_002
Jan. 29, 2016	Balochistan government promised to purge the province of all terrorists and security shall be provided at all costs.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 30, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=30_01_2016_005_003

February		
Date	Progress	Source
Jan. 31, 2016	Gen. AamirRaza directed relevant officials to ensure that terrorism is eliminated in Balochistan at all costs.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 1, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=01_02_2016_005_005
Feb. 9, 2016	Balochistan Assembly adopted two resolutions condemning the attacks on FC and BKU, and urged the government to take immediate steps to eliminate terrorism.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 10, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=10_02_2016_005_002
Feb. 12, 2016	Home Minister Bugti informed Balochistan Assembly that curbing terrorism was the biggest problem for the province. Suggestions were made to improve law and order. It was informed that the police was being de-politicized and new recruits were being inducted on basis of merit.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 13, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=13_02_2016_005_001
Feb. 17, 2016	Balochistan CM Zehri said that the top priority of his government was peace and good governance. And that he would be ready "take tough decisions" for fulfilling his targets.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 18, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=18_02_2016_005_002
Feb. 26, 2016	IG of Frontier Corps Balochistan said that forced will continue protecting the life and property of the people.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 27, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=27_02_2016_005_002
April		
Date	Progress	Source
Apr. 1, 2016	Balochistan CM Zehri denied that any military operations were taking place in the province. He assured that only targeted operations were being carried out.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 2, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=02_04_2016_005_002
Apr. 2, 2016	The IG of Frontier Corps, Balochistan, said that Balochistan's security situation was improving so well that there were no longer any "no-go areas" in the province.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 3, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=03_04_2016_005_001
Apr. 12, 2016	HRCP concerned about the rise in civilian casualties in Balochistan as a result of an operation by security forces. They urged not to use excessive force.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 13, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=13_04_2016_003_007

July		
Date	Progress	Source
Jun. 30, 2016	Balochistan CM Zehri had a meeting with Commander of Southern Command to discuss the measures to be taken to combat the new wave of terrorism creeping into the province.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 1, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=01_07_2016_003_002
August		
Date	Progress	Source
Aug. 4, 2016	Balochistan government decided to upgrade security measures throughout the province to ensure that terrorists could not reemerge.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 5, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=05_08_2016_005_009
Aug. 10, 2016	Security forces launched a combing operation in Quetta against suspected banned organizations.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 11, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=11_08_2016_005_003
September		
Date	Progress	Source
Sept. 17, 2016	BrahamdaghBugti, BPR leader, announced his intention to seek political asylum in India.	<i>Dawn</i> , September 18, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1284917
Sept. 20, 2016	BrahamdaghBugti's declaration to seek Indian nationality taken as proof of a Bugti-RAW nexus and that he was an Indian agent sent to create unrest in Balochistan.	<i>The News</i> , September 21, 2016 https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/151490-Brahamdaghs-move-exposes-Bugti-RAW-nexus
October		
Date	Progress	Source
Oct. 4, 2016	Four Hazara women were killed when gunmen opened fire on a bus in Quetta.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 5, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1288111
Oct. 27, 2016	Balochistan government asked from pre-1958 powers under Frontiers Crime Regulation (FCR) to curb terrorism and crime in the province.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 28, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=28_10_2016_001_001
November		
Date	Progress	Source
Nov. 10, 2016	Chief Minister Balochistan disclosed that mastermind of Quetta police attack was apprehended.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 11, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=11_11_2016_003_007

Nov. 10, 2016	Vice Chairman of Pakistan Bar Council (PBC) expressed reservation over delay in compensating the heirs of the Quetta attack.	Dawn, November 12, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=12_11_2016_003_005
Nov. 14, 2016	Dargah of Shah Noorani in Khuzdar attacked as devotees had gathered at the shrine.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 15, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1296346
Nov. 14, 2016	Survivors of the Shah Noorani attack claimed that the suicide bomber was a woman.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 15, 2016, http://tribune.com.pk/story/1231372/survivors-claim-shrine-bomber-woman/
Nov. 24, 2016	The government informed the Senate that the Shah Noorani attack was an attempt to sabotage CPEC. The minister also admitted that the incident occurred due to a security failure.	<i>The Nation</i> , November 25, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/national/25-Nov-2016/shah-noorani-shrine-blast-aimed-at-sabotaging-cpec
Nov. 25, 2016	According to HRCP, the law-enforcement agencies "misunderstood" the work of Baloch activist, Wahid Baloch.	Dawn, 26 November 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=26_11_2016_003_008
	December	
Date	Progress	Source
Nov. 30, 2016	In light of the security situation of Balochistan and to ensure that the CPEC security is foolproof, it was decided to divide the FC into northern and southern command divisions.	<i>Dunya</i> , December 1, 2016, http://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2016-12-01&edition=ISL&id=2768441_46529776
Dec. 5, 2016	Missing Baloch activist Wahid Baloch was released, returning to home	Dawn, 6 December 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/?page=06_12_2016_003
Dec. 11, 2016	Pakistan Navy set up Task Force-88 (TF-88) for the seaward security of Gwadar port.	<i>Dawn</i> , December 12, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1301970/special-force-set-up-to-guard-gwadar-ports-sea-lanes
Dec. 15, 2016	The Inquiry Committee on the Quetta attack submitted its report, criticizing the poor implementation of NAP and called for the banning of terrorist outfits without delay under ATA.	<i>Dawn</i> , December 16, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1302637
Dec. 17, 2016	The Inquiry Committee on the Quetta attack said that the ministry of religious affairs did not even possess basic data about the operating seminaries.	<i>Dawn</i> , December 18, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1303026

Security Situation in Punjab

January		
Date	Progress	Source
Jan. 13, 2016	Officials consider whether or not to deploy Rangers in Punjab to carry out operations against banned outfits and criminals.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 14, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=14_01_2016_001_007
Jan. 29, 2016	Punjab Law Minister RanaSanauallah said that there is no plan for carrying out an army or Rangers-led operation against militants anywhere in Punjab since other policing laws already exist in the province.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 30, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=30_01_2016_002_004
February		
Date	Progress	Source
Feb. 7, 2106	Punjab government gave schools a week's time to improve their security or else they would face consequences. But the schools threatened to shut down if the police did not stop harassing them.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 8, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=08_02_2016_004_004
Feb. 19, 2016	Punjab's IG of police and a provincial secretary met to discuss security issues, implementation of NAP and plans of launching operations against banned outfits.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 20, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=20_02_2016_001_006
Feb. 20, 2016	A militant group claimed responsibility for killing three Punjab highway policemen.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 21, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=21_02_2016_002_001
March		
Date	Progress	Source
Mar. 24, 2016	First batch of the Dolphin Force passed out (Punjab).	<i>Dawn</i> , March 25, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=25_03_2016_002_011
Mar. 27, 2016	Balochistan CM Zehri condemned the bomb blast at Gulshan-i-Iqbal Park in Lahore.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 28, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=28_03_2016_005_003
Mar. 28, 2016	Army said that they had launched a "crackdown on terrorists" suspected to be involved in the Lahore park attack.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 29, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=29_03_2016_001_009

	April	
Date	Progress	Source
Mar. 30, 2016	Following the Lahore park attack, the Parks and Horticultural Authority (PHA) outsourced public parks' security for more safety.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 1, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=01_04_2016_002_006
Apr. 1, 2016	Punjab government and the army chief met to discuss anti-operation in Punjab.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 2, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=02_04_2016_001_006
Apr. 5, 2016	The first analysis report of the Punjab Forensics Science Agency identified Khorasani, an off-shoot of TTP, as responsible for the Lahore park attack.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 6, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=06_04_2016_002_007
Apr. 7, 2016	The PHA has sought Rs 160m from the government in order to enhance security of parks in Lahore.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 8, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=08_04_2016_002_007
Apr. 9, 2016	Operation Zarb-e-Ahan was launched as mass evacuations were ordered along the riverine area of Rajanpur district against the terrorists in the districts of southern Punjab.	<i>The Nation</i> , April 10, 2016 http://nation.com.pk/national/10-Apr-2016/zarb-e-ahan-in-punjab
Apr. 12, 2016	The Zarb-e-Ahan forces got the green light to commence air strikes to eliminate the gangsters hiding in the Rajanpur area.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 13, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1251786
Apr. 12, 2016	Air strikes ordered against Rajanpur gangs.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 13, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=13_04_2016_001_004
Apr. 14, 2016	After the Punjab police failed to apprehend the Chotoo gang, the army was called in to join the operation.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 15, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=15_04_2016_004_004
Apr. 18, 2016	Security forces decided to launch "major offensive" in Rajanpur area after the Chotoo gang ignored the last warning to surrender themselves.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 19, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=19_04_2016_001_006
Apr. 20, 2016	Even after apprehending the Chotoo gang the military said that it would stay in the riverine area till it "was completely cleared of outlaws."	<i>Dawn</i> , April 21, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=21_04_2016_001_003
Apr. 21, 2016	Senators called for a "full-fledged" military operation on militant hideouts in Punjab.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 22, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=22_04_2016_005_002

May		
Date	Progress	Source
May 11, 2016	Punjab Home Dept. directed police all over Pakistan and the Rangers to make foolproof security arrangements in light of intelligence that 25-30 terrorists were planning suicide bombings in different parts of the country.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 12, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=12_05_2016_004_004
June		
Date	Progress	Source
Jun. 4, 2016	Security officials decided to place sleeper cells as top priority on lists of "search and comb operations" in Punjab.	<i>The Nation</i> , June 5, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/national/05-Jun-2016/sleeper-cells-elimination-top-priority
July		
Date	Progress	Source
Jul. 9, 2016	Lahore's Dolphin Force (DF) seems to be an investment which did not yield high returns. The equipment and uniforms, although expensive, were not fully functional for the purposes of the task force.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 9, 2016 www.dawn.com/news/1269675
August		
Date	Progress	Source
Aug. 8, 2016	In the aftermath of the Quetta attack, Punjab regional police office approved of beefing up security measures all over the province.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 9, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=09_08_2016_002_004
Aug. 9, 2016	In light of terror threats Punjab canceled all outdoor activities planned for 14 th August.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 10, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=10_08_2016_002_007
Aug. 12, 2016	Combing operations launched in Rawalpindi. COAS Raheel Sharif expressed his frustration over the government's poor progress with NAP.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 13, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=13_08_2016_001_006
Aug. 17, 2016	Punjab police ordered to carry out combing operations around educational institutions in suburb areas.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 18, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=18_08_2016_002_003

September		
Date	Progress	Source
Sep. 8, 2016	Punjab government intended to deploy Rangers for two months to help the police and CTD in apprehending terrorists in the province.	<i>Dawn</i> , September 9, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=09_09_2016_001_005
Sep. 12, 2016	402 combing operations carried out in Punjab within 3 days	<i>Dawn</i> , September 13, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=13_09_2016_002_006
Sept. 19, 2016	A senior CTD official in Punjab claimed that it has broken up IS recruitment network in Rawalpindi and Attock.	<i>The News</i> , September 20, 2016, https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/151234-Daesh-recruitment-network-broken
October		
Date	Progress	Source
Oct. 2, 2016	After extensive investigation, the Army found that the "Chottu" gang had no involvement in terrorist activities.	<i>The News</i> , October 3, 2016, https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/154545-No-terrorism-connection-of-Chottu-gang-found
November		
Date	Progress	Source
Nov. 8, 2016	Lahore High Court division bench asks for including terror law in Kasur child abuse case	<i>Dawn</i> , November 9, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=09_11_2016_002_006
Nov. 8, 2016	Punjab government empowered the CTD to monitor all the activities of Fourth Schedule.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 9, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=09_11_2016_002_003

FATA

February		
Date	Progress	Source
Feb. 6, 2016	A dawn report suggested that the FATA reforms panel was making no progress because the parties being consulted were not in agreement about bringing reforms to the region to begin with.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 7, 2016 http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=07_02_2016_005_001
Feb. 7, 2016	FATA Political Alliance rejected the formation of FATA Council and demanded a merger of the tribal region with KP.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 8, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=08_02_2016_007_009

March		
Date	Progress	Source
Mar. 15, 2016	Senior official of FATA informed the Senate committee on human rights that KP government had not conferred any additional powers on the interning authority under the Action in Aid of Civil Powers Regulations 2011.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 16, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=16_03_2016_004_005
Mar. 28, 2016	FATA reform body visited Kurram where the tribal elders expressed their support for integrating Kurram Agency into KP.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 29, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=29_03_2016_007_004
April		
Date	Progress	Source
Apr. 14, 2016	ANP stated that FATA's problems would not be addressed with the centre did not stop "treating the tribal area like their colony."	<i>Dawn</i> , April 15, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=15_04_2016_004_004
Apr. 27, 2016	Federal government has prepared a draft bill that seeks to repeal Frontier Crimes Regulation (FCR).	<i>Dawn</i> , April 28, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=28_04_2016_003_005
May		
Date	Progress	Source
May 6, 2016	FATA reforms body was heavily criticized by students for not consulting women and youth on the proposed merger with KP.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 7, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=07_05_2016_007_010
June		
Date	Progress	Source
Jun. 12, 2016	The Fata Reforms Committee, headed by Sartaj Aziz, decided to propose a set of political, judicial and security reforms, as part of a comprehensive program aimed at merging Fata into KP.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 13, 2016 www.dawn.com/news/1264492
Jun. 14, 2016	The Fata Reforms Committee is ready to submit its proposed reforms to the Prime Minister.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 15, 2016 www.dawn.com/news/1264832
Jun. 22, 2016	President Mamnoon Hussain said that Pakistan looked forward to working with the UN refugee agency to achieve their target of early repatriation of all Afghan refugees from Pakistan.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 23, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=23_06_2016_003_008

Jun. 23, 2016	The UN refugee agency decided to double the repatriation package for the Afghan refugees.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 24, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=24_06_2016_003_008
	July	
Date	Progress	Source
Jul. 25, 2016	All Bajaur Political Parties Alliance said that delay in announcing the reforms package for FATA was of great concern to the tribal people. They urged the PM to announce the package before August 14.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 26, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=26_07_2016_007_002
	August	
Date	Progress	Source
Aug. 24, 2016	Tribal Jirga demanded of federal government to merge FATA with KP without further delay.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 25, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=25_08_2016_007_001
Aug. 30, 2016	FATA Grand Alliance suggested having a legislative council decide the future of the tribal areas instead of the FATA reforms committee.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 31, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=31_08_2016_007_003
	September	
Date	Progress	Source
Sep. 6, 2016	KP CM Khattak supported the KP-FATA merger and said that it should be completed by 2018.	<i>Dawn</i> , September 7, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=07_09_2016_007_005
Sep. 25, 2016	Saifon directed FATA Secretariat to begin work on the codification of Riwayaj.	<i>Dawn</i> , September 26, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=26_09_2016_007_004
	November	
Date	Progress	Source
Oct. 31, 2016	JUI-F leaders called for holding referendum on bringing reforms in FATA.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 1, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=01_11_2016_007_001
Nov. 9, 2016	A 10-year development plan for FATA is reported being prepared.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 10, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=10_11_2016_007_002
Nov. 10, 2016	A report said that the federal government may extend a modified form of KP local government law to FATA.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 12, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=12_11_2016_007_004

Nov. 19, 2016	JUI-F FATA chapter warned that FATA residents will migrate to other parts of the country if they are merged with KP	Dawn, November 20, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=20_11_2016_007_003
Nov. 25, 2016	Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtukhwa suggested extending the province's current system to FATA.	Dawn, 26 November 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=25_11_2016_007_006
Nov. 27, 2016	A special report by a sub-committee of the Senate's Standing Committee on States and Frontier Regions lamented the development status in FATA.	Dawn, 28 November 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=28_11_2016_003_004
December		
Date	Progress	Source
Dec. 2, 2016	Report on the sectarian conflict in Kurram agency.	<i>The Friday Times</i> , December 2, 2016, http://www.thefridaytimes.com/tft/spiral-of-sectarian-bloodletting/
Dec. 6, 2016	Senate Chairman advised government to wait for the House's recommendation before taking any decision on FATA reforms. Earlier, the committee of the Whole House was constituted to consider measures required for mainstreaming FATA.	Dawn, 7 December 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1300999
Dec. 6, 2016	Senate Chairman Rabbani remarked that SAFRON and Fata Secretariat were stalling the reforms in FATA because they had vested interests in the existing system.	<i>The Nation</i> , December 7, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/national/07-Dec-2016/safron-ministry-stalling-fata-reforms-process-rabbani
Dec. 8, 2016	Final report of Fata reforms committee proposed the merging of Fata with KP and criticized the idea of holding a referendum in this regard.	<i>Dawn</i> , December 9, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1301369/govt-report-proposes-merger-of-fata-with-kp
Dec. 26, 2016	Authorities have yet to announce any plan for the repatriation of IDPs from Tirah valley.	<i>Dawn</i> , December 27, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1304692

LEAs, Security and Intelligence Agencies

January		
Date	Progress	Source
Dec. 31, 2015	According to police records, number of terrorist incidents have significantly reduced in KP over the past year but much work is still to be done with regards to militant operations and FATA reforms	<i>Dawn</i> , January 1, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=01_01_2016_001_005

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Jan. 1, 2016	Some women in Lahore packing for Syria to join ISIS, arrested	<i>Jang</i> , January 2, 2016 In Print.
Jan. 1, 2016	Son-in-law of Maulana Aziz, cleric of Red Mosque, released; he was arrested on suspicions for having links with IS	<i>NayeBaat</i> , January 2, 2016 In Print.
Jan. 2, 2016	Sources from military intelligence agencies claimed there is no presence of IS in Pakistan	<i>The Nation</i> , January 3, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/national/03-Jan-2016/no-daesh-presence-in-pakistan
Jan. 2, 2016	Shahbaz Sharif directed provincial law-enforcement agencies to further their actions against banned outfits. He also urged them to make full use of modern equipments in their efforts.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 3, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=03_01_2016_002_006
Jan. 4, 2016	SAFRON issued letter to LEAs directing them not to harass any of the Afghan refugees.	<i>The News</i> , January 5, 2016, https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/86367-With-no-decision-on-Afghan-refugees-only-a-letter-stands-between-them-and-jail
Jan. 4, 2016	Security agencies are said to be tracing two brothers from Murree, Imran and EhsanSatti, who are "recruiting for IS" in Islamabad	<i>Dawn</i> , January 5, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1230858
Jan. 5, 2016	Security forces confiscated large quantity of explosives from Kalat district, an investigation is underway.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 6, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=06_01_2016_005_006
Jan. 6, 2016	Leaflets claiming from the IS were found in a girls high schools in Dinga, Gujrat	<i>Dawn</i> , January 7, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1231297
Jan. 6, 2016	A Senate committee observed that a draft bill to regulate the activities of intelligence agencies has been awaiting comments from defense ministry since 2012.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 7, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=07_01_2016_004_005
Jan. 9, 2016	Security forces arrested militant suspected to be a part of subversion activities and seized a lot of ammunition from him.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 10, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=10_01_2016_005_004
Jan. 11, 2016	Military intelligence shut down more than 250 social media accounts in efforts of curtailing terrorist communication networks.	<i>Nawaiwaqt</i> , January 12, 2016, http://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/front-page/12-Jan-2016/444184
Jan. 13, 2016	Three suspects were picked up by law enforcement agencies in connection with the Pathankot attack.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 14, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=14_01_2016_005_005
Jan. 14, 2016	LEAs arrested a number of Jaish-e-Muhammad (JeM) members and their supporters within Karachi.	<i>The News</i> , January 15, 2016 https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/90379-Several-JeM-activists-sympathisers-arrested-in-crackdown

Jan. 14, 2016	Senate's standing committee on interior suggested that the Frontier Corps should be provided with modern weapons and adequate funds to fight against terrorists.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 15, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=15_01_2016_005_010
Jan. 15, 2016	Security forces seized illegal arms from a militant's hideout in Panjgur district. However, no arrest was made as the militant had fled before the raid.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 16, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=16_01_2016_005_004
Jan. 20, 2016	Security forces gathered intelligence on the whereabouts of the attackers of Bach Khan University and their abettors.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 20, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=21_01_2016_001_004
Jan. 21, 2016	Security officials remarked that the lack of suicide jackets and use of light weapons by the attackers on the Bacha Khan University (Charsadda) indicated that the attackers did not intend to prolong the attack but instead flee from the scene after the initial damage. But the assailants' plans were disrupted by the resistance shown by the villagers who had surrounded the campus in defense of the university.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 22, 2016 http://www.dawn.com/news/1234633/charsadda-attackers-didnt-wear-suicide-jackets
Jan. 23, 2016	COAS Gen. Sharif went into brainstorming session with chiefs of ISI and the Military Intelligence to review security measures. Five alleged facilitators of BKU attack were presented to the media as proof of the progress made in the investigation.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 24, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=24_01_2016_001_003
Jan. 24, 2016	Law enforcement agencies were reluctant to arrest PirAfzalQadri, who heads a sectarian outfit, due to his poor health, even though his name is on the fourth schedule list of ATA.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 25, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=25_01_2016_002_003
Jan. 24, 2016	The Khyber Agency political administration deployed a 15 member <i>khasadar</i> (locally raised police) response team to the Torkham border as a security measure.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 25, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1235277/quick-response-team-set-up-at-torkham
Jan. 24, 2016	Balochistan government decided to establish a new force that will provide security to universities all over the province. The new force will be subordinate to the Vice Chancellors of the respective universities. The new force will post 60 officers in each university and will be trained and equipped with the latest weapons.	<i>Dunya</i> , January 25, 2016, http://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2016-01-25&edition=ISL&id=2132529_47172249

Jan. 26, 2016	Guards of educational institutions are being trained by Elite Forces Commandos at Police Lines Rawalpindi.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 27, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=27_01_2016_004_005
	February	
Date	Progress	Source
Feb. 2, 2016	Intelligence agencies claimed that they had arrested the main facilitator of the BKU attack.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 3, 2016 http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=03_02_2016_001_006
Feb. 4, 2016	Pakistan army troops shared counter-terrorism combat experiences and exercises with police and law enforcement agencies of all four provinces, GB and AK.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 5, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=05_02_2016_003_004
Feb. 11, 2016	The police has failed to trace down the source of the threatening letters issued in the name of IS to educational institutions in Gujrat.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 12, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=12_02_2016_002_005
Feb. 12, 2016	The military thwarted a militants' plan to storm a Hyderabad jail to breakout almost 100 inmates and had arrested the militant leaders.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 13, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=13_02_2016_001_008
Feb. 21, 2016	An intelligence agency reported that a five-member group operating in southern Punjab had been issuing fake SIMs to criminals and anti-state elements in Jhang. The group, disguising to be representatives of Benazir Income Support Program (BISP), obtained numbers of ATM cards and national identity cards of the unsuspecting clients who approached them for help. The group then used the gathered information to buy and activate SIMs and later sold them to criminals.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 22, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1241087/sale-of-fake-sims-detected-in-punjab
Feb. 29, 2016	The government took steps (blocking CNICs, passports, bank accounts, etc) against members of proscribed organizations under the 4 th schedule list.	<i>The Nation</i> , March 1, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/islamabad/01-Mar-2016/govt-moves-against-banned-outfits
	March	
Date	Progress	Source
Feb. 29, 2016	Security forces claimed to kill 12 militants including a Hezbollah leader, as they advanced into the Shawal Valley.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 1, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=01_03_2016_003_004

Mar. 8, 2016	Reports emerge that ShahbazTaseer was abducted by UET student Usman Basra.	<i>Jang</i> , March 9, 2016, In Print. <i>Newstribes</i> , March 8, 2016, https://www.thenewstribes.com/2016/03/08/shahbaz-taseers-recovery-is-part-of-any-deal/
Mar. 17, 2016	The Safe City Project involving the installation of 2000 CCTV cameras around Islamabad, will be inaugurated in April.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 18, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=18_03_2016_004_003
	April	
Date	Progress	Source
Apr. 3, 2016	The army claimed that they had made great advances in the operation against militants in Shawal, clearing out an area of 640 square km.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 4, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=04_04_2016_001_001
Apr. 7, 2016	Pakistan Air Force took steps to upgrade its fleet in order to fight against militants.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 8, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=08_04_2016_005_001
Apr. 9, 2016	Security officials announced the continued military operations against banned outfits in Punjab.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 10, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=10_04_2016_001_007
Apr. 18, 2016	The army declared the operation in Shawal a success and troops were holding all important locations near the border.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 19, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=19_04_2016_003_010
	May	
Date	Progress	Source
May 2, 2016	The Army approved of the timelines and details of country wide "combing operations" against terrorists. The army said that the combing operations would be different from the previous intelligence-based operations (IBOs).	<i>Dawn</i> , May 3, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=03_05_2016_003_007
May 21, 2016	Army "cleansed" Waziristan of militants and plans on introducing social change in the rural society to transform it into "a semi-urban/rural set-up."	<i>Dawn</i> , May 22, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1259935
	June	
Date	Progress	Source
Jun. 27, 2016	The Army will have a dominant role in the recruitment of the 20,000 new police personnel in Karachi.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 28, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=28_06_2016_001_003

July		
Date	Progress	Source
Jul. 2, 2016	Security forces have fixed head money on some high-profile terrorists in Kabal Tehsil at Rs 1million each.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 3, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=03_07_2016_007_003
August		
Date	Progress	Source
Sep. 1, 2016	The Pakistan Army announced that any IS footprints had been eliminated from Pakistan.	<i>Dawn</i> , September 2, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=02_09_2016_001_002
Sept. 15, 2016	The arrested suicide bomber involved in the Khanpur (Shikarpur) incident, UsmanYousafzai, upon investigation, revealed important information about his training, hideouts and preparations leading up to the attack.	<i>The News</i> , September 16, 2016, https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/150317-Arrested-suicide-bomber-makes-startling-revelations
October		
Date	Progress	Source
Oct. 17, 2016	Officials denied that they have authorized the blocking of the CNICs of the people listed on the Fourth Schedule of ATA.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 18, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1290640
Oct. 17, 2016	COAS Raheel Sharif called a meeting with the PM to discuss "matter pertaining to national and regional security."	<i>Dawn</i> , October 18, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=18_10_2016_001_001
Oct. 18, 2016	Intelligence bureau informed parliamentarians that Afghan agency and militant outfits were against CPEC and were making every effort to bring about its failure.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 19, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=19_10_2016_005_002
Oct. 21, 2016	Interior Minister announced that suspected terrorists on the fourth schedule lists cannot be deprived of their citizenships.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 22, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1291570
November		
Date	Progress	Source
Nov.5, 2016	Ex-PPP senator Faisal RazaAbidi held for allegedly "facilitating sectarian killing."	<i>Dawn</i> , November 6, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=06_11_2016_001_005
Nov. 13, 2016	Residents of Kalri praised the LEAs for killing the notorious gangster Gulabo.	<i>The News</i> , November 14, 2016, https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/164635-Lyari-residents-all-praise-for-LEAs-for-killing-gangster-Gulabo

Nov. 15, 2016	Army chief General RaheelShareef directed return of the remaining Temporarily-Dislocated Persons by 2016 end.	Dawn, November 16, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=16_11_2016_005_005
Nov. 18, 2016	A report by State Bank revealed that Pakistan's war on terror has cost \$118 billion.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 19, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1297305
December		
Date	Progress	Source
Dec. 11, 2016	Pakistan Navy set up Task Force-88 (TF-88) for the seaward security of Gwadar port.	<i>Dawn</i> , December 12, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1301970/special-force-set-up-to-guard-gwadar-ports-sea-lanes
Dec. 16, 2016	Two terrorists of LeJ confessed to killing AmjadSabri and four Rangers soldiers.	<i>The News</i> , December 17, 2016, https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/172524-Two-terrorists-confess-to-killing-Sabri-army-soldiers
Dec. 19, 2016	Central government proposed to cut the gross federal divisible pool by 7% to meet "additional expenses" on security and federally administered regions.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , December 20, 2016, http://tribune.com.pk/story/1268366/security-expenses-centre-seeks-7-cut-gross-divisible-pool/
Dec. 20, 2016	First batch specialized force Rapid Response Unit completed first phase of training; they soon will be inducted into Islamabad's police force.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , December 21, 2016, http://tribune.com.pk/story/1269538/countering-terror-first-batch-new-rapid-response-unit-graduates/
Dec. 22, 2016	Joint Intelligence Directorate would be operational soon, ensuring efficient coordination among all intelligence agencies.	<i>Dawn</i> , December 23, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1303995

Counter Terrorism Department (CTD)

	January	
Date	Progress	Source
Dec. 31, 2015	The Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) claimed it has busted IS cell in Sialkot	<i>Dawn</i> , January 1, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1229341
Jan. 1, 2016	The Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) arrested a man who was allegedly recruiting young men for the Islamic State (IS) group.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 2, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=02_01_2016_001_001

Jan. 4, 2016	CTD arrested an alleged member of Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), after intelligence recorded one of his telephone conversations.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 5, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=05_01_2016_003_006
Jan 21, 2016	CTD arrested member of banned outfit Lashkar-i-Jhangvi (LeJ)	<i>Dawn</i> , January 22, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=22_01_2016_002_001
Jan. 30, 2016	CTD and police of Layyah and Muzaffargarh arrested a member of banned outfit at the local passport office.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 31, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=31_01_2016_004_001
	February	
Date	Progress	Source
Feb. 12, 2016	CTD arrested nine militants linked to different banned outfits in Lahore.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 13, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=13_02_2016_002_010
Feb. 22, 2016	CTD Punjab arrested AmeerAsif, alias Chotoo from Dera Ghazi Khan.	<i>Jang</i> , February 23, 2016, In Print.
Feb. 26, 2016	CTD arrested members of banned outfits and recovered explosive material.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 27, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=27_02_2016_002_007
	March	
Date	Progress	Source
Mar. 29, 2016	After the army announced an operation will be conducted in Punjab against terrorism, CTD started to prepare lists of members of banned outfits who have been placed on the Fourth Schedule of ATA 1997	<i>Dawn</i> , March 30, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=30_03_2016_004_006
	May	
Date	Progress	Source
May 16, 2016	The CTD reported that it had arrested two members of a banned outfit, SautulUmmah, that have pledged allegiance to the militant IS.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 17, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=17_05_2016_002_002
	September	
Date	Progress	Source
Sept. 19, 2016	A senior CTD official in Punjab claimed that it has broken up IS recruitment network in Rawalpindi and Attock.	<i>The News</i> , September 20, 2016, https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/151234-Daesh-recruitment-network-broken

October		
Date	Progress	Source
Oct. 7, 2016	CTD claimed to have arrested 9 militants linked to AQIS and LJ.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 8, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1288831
November		
Date	Progress	Source
Nov. 8, 2016	Punjab government empowered the CTD to monitor all the activities of Fourth Schedule.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 9, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=09_11_2016_002_003
Nov. 10, 2016	The CTD claimed arrest of 2 IS members involved in attacking news channel in Sargodha.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 12, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=12_11_2016_002_002
Nov. 17, 2016	The Counter-Terror Department claimed to have busted an 8-member cell of IS. Earlier, its Lahore chief was also arrested.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 18, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1297047
Nov. 26, 2016	CTD Sindh presented to Sindh CM its report on its operations against terrorists and demanded adequate funding to "flush out terrorist networks."	<i>The News</i> , November 27, 2016, https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/168026-CTD-presents-report-to-Sindh-CM-on-operations-against-terrorists
December		
Date	Progress	Source
Dec. 9, 2016	CTD Punjab raided offices of Tehreek-e-jadid in Rabwah and arrested four people on charges of inciting hate speech. Jibrans report on how the law is being used to protect terrorists.	<i>The Friday Times</i> , December 9-15, 2016, http://www.thefridaytimes.com/tft/terrorism-as-per-schedule/
Dec. 24, 2016	CTD has asked relevant departments to provide bank account, ID, property details of persons whose names are on the 4 th Schedule List.	<i>Dawn</i> , December 25, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1304253

National Action Plan

January		
Date	Progress	Source
Jan. 14, 2016	Apex Committee of KP reviewed the progress on the implementation of NAP and the law and order situation in FATA.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 15, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=15_01_2016_007_001

Jan. 20, 2016	ANP chief AsfandiyarWaliKhan, said that the Bach Khan Univeristy attack was the result of the government's failure to seriously eliminate terrorism.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 21, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=21_01_2016_007_004
Jan. 20, 2016	Senate called for a complete review of NAP.	<i>The Nation</i> , January 21, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/national/21-Jan-2016/senate-calls-for-complete-review-of-nap
Jan 21, 2016	Pakistan AwamiTehreek (PAT) suggested to the government 10 points for combating terrorism. Some of these were: implementation of NAP; give army the control of Nacta; special forces for each province; registration of madrassas.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 22, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=22_01_2016_002_005
Jan. 23, 2016	PPP information secretary QamarZamanKaira questioned the effective implementation of NAP under PML-N, as 72 banned outfits were still operating using new names.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 24, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=24_01_2016_002_001
Jan. 24, 2016	PM admitted that even though NAP was being implemented "vigorously", the progress had been slow.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 25, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=25_01_2016_001_008
Jan. 25, 2016	In light of the BKU attack, ChaudryNisar remarked that isolated acts of terrorism, no matter how tragic, should not minimize the success achieved under NAP.	<i>The Nation</i> , January 26, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/national/26-Jan-2016/isolated-terror-hits-can-t-eclipse-nap-gains-says-nisar
Jan. 25, 2016	Provinces asked centre to include NAP in the next National Finance Commission Award for allocation of funds.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 26, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=26_01_2016_003_004
Jan. 26, 2016	National Assembly opposition leader, Khursheed Shah raised his concerns over the "non-implementation" of NAP and blamed the government for failing to make any significant progress.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 27, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=27_01_2016_003_005
Jan. 28, 2016	NA standing committee on Interior sought a briefing on NAP's progress from the Interior Minister.	<i>The Nation</i> , January 29, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/islamabad/28-Jan-2016/na-body-seeks-briefing-on-nap
Jan. 29, 2016	PM held meeting with senior PML-N leaders to review the country's security situation and remarked that efforts will continue till the last "terrorist is eliminated."	<i>Dawn</i> , January 30, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=30_01_2016_001_005

February		
Date	Progress	Source
Feb. 1, 2016	Government under pressure to expedite implementation of NAP	<i>Dawn</i> , February 2, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=02_02_2016_001_004
Feb. 12, 2016	ANP leader said that the increase in the incidents of extortion and target killings indicates that NAP is either not being implemented or it is faulty, in either case he called for the government to review its policies.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 13, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=13_02_2016_007_004
April		
Date	Progress	Source
Apr. 3, 2016	QaumiWatan Party chairman Sherpao said that implementation of NAP was "the only solution to the menace of terrorism."	<i>Dawn</i> , April 4, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=04_04_2016_007_003
Apr. 4, 2016	PM met with Army Chief to "discuss the civil-military impasse over the authorization of the military-led counter-terrorisms operations in Punjab."	<i>Dawn</i> , April 5, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=05_04_2016_001_003
Apr. 16, 2016	President MamnoonHussain said that NAP will continue to be implemented till terrorism was eliminated.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 17, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=17_04_2016_003_006
Apr.28, 2016	A report in <i>Dawn</i> narrated that government's lack of a clear policy regarding registration and monitoring of religious seminaries, is resulting into their rise.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 29, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1255155/seminaries-boom-in-absence-of-govt-checks
May		
Date	Progress	Source
May 5, 2016	Apex Committee of KP reviewed the implementation of NAP and discussed matters relating to the return of displaced people in the province and FATA.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 6, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=06_05_2016_007_001
June		
Date	Progress	Source
Jun. 27, 2016	Interior Minister stated that social media was being used to spread harmful propaganda in the "ongoing war on terror"	<i>The Nation</i> , June 28, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/national/28-Jun-2016/social-media-playing-negative-role-in-terror-war

	August	
Date	Progress	Source
Aug. 8, 2016	KP government called for a review of NAP to check its progress and identify any hurdles in its implementation.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 9, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=09_08_2016_007_008
Aug. 8, 2016	Members of National Assembly blamed the government of failing to effectively implement NAP leading to disasters such as the Quetta attack.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 9, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=09_08_2016_003_003
Aug. 11, 2016	A document by Nacta revealed that no significant progress was made on any of the 20 NAP points in the last 18 months.	<i>The Nation</i> , August 12, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/newspaper-picks/12-Aug-2016/low-progress-marked-on-most-of-nap-points
Aug. 11, 2016	Government decided to establish a panel to oversee the execution of "troubled NAP."	<i>Dawn</i> , August 12, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=12_08_2016_001_006
Aug. 15, 2016	At a civil-military meeting, the government approved a plan to establish 29 new wings of the Frontier Corps and constituted the body that would supervise the implementation of NAP (headed by National Security Adviser).	<i>Dawn</i> , August 16, 2016, https://www.dawn.com/news/1277854/law-ministry-blamed-for-failure-of-popacourts
Aug. 17, 2016	NAP started afresh with a new implementation committee headed by the national security adviser.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 17, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1277949
Aug. 18, 2016	Senate Chairman RazaRabbani wanted a parliamentary oversight of NAP.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 19, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=19_08_2016_005_001
Aug. 18, 2016	A parliamentary meeting for the review of NAP was scheduled by NAS.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 19, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=19_08_2016_005_002
Aug. 24, 2016	PM admitted the implementation of NAP needed to be fast tracked.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 25, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=25_08_2016_001_005
Aug. 27, 2016	Interior Minister Nisar, denied that his role in NAP implementation was reduced just because NSA Janjua was appointed to head a new NAP implementation committee.	<i>The Nation</i> , August 28, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/newspaper-picks/28-Aug-2016/nisar-s-nap-manoeuvres

September		
Date	Progress	Source
Sep. 2, 2016	KP politicians called on the government for unity to "foil designs of terrorists" and to implement NAP in its "true sense."	<i>Dawn</i> , September 3, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=03_09_2016_007_007
Sept. 3, 2016	Attorney General for Pakistan, AshtarAusaf Ali, appointed to head sub-committee of the NAP Implementation Committee to review the various cases being tried under anti-terrorism laws. The Committee is required to submit its reports within 60 days.	<i>Dawn</i> , September 4, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1281974
Sep. 5, 2016	Zardari called the government to implement NAP in "letter and spirit."	<i>Dawn</i> , September 6, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=06_09_2016_005_007
Sep. 5, 2016	Attorney General Pakistan stated that existing flaws in anti-terrorism laws would be removed for proper implementation of NAP.	<i>Dawn</i> , September 6, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=06_09_2016_003_005
Sep. 16, 2016	CM Shahbaz Sharif assured that efforts for elimination of terrorists were yielding positive results.	<i>Dawn</i> , September 17, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=17_09_2016_002_002
October		
Date	Progress	Source
Oct. 4, 2016	The NSA and AG started working on reforms, under NAP, aimed at: improving the FIR system; revamping the prosecution service; creating legal services; promulgation of new federal law to deal with terrorism; facilitating speedy disposal of cases.	<i>The News</i> , October 5, 2016, https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/155038-Criminal-justice-system-to-be-overhauled
Oct. 4, 2016	PM called on all stakeholders to ensure that the 20-point NAP's goals are achieved by 2018.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 5, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=05_10_2016_001_002
Oct. 5, 2016	Interior ministry decided to review and update the list of persons placed under the 4 th schedule list of ATA.	<i>The Nation</i> , October 6, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/newspaper-picks/06-Oct-2016/fourth-schedulers-list-to-be-updated
Oct. 6, 2016	NAP related police combing operations suspended after the force recovered illegal weapons from outhouses of PML-N member.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 7, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=07_10_2016_002_009

Oct. 14, 2016	NAP Implementation Committee decided to set up a central record office to enable quick sharing of data about terrorists, militants and other criminals.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , October 15, 2016, http://tribune.com.pk/story/1199201/quick-sharing-data-nap-panel-decides-set-central-record-office/
Oct. 17, 2016	COAS Raheel Sharif called a meeting with the PM to discuss "matter pertaining to national and regional security."	<i>Dawn</i> , October 18, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=18_10_2016_001_001
Oct. 18, 2016	Interior ministry approached the finance and establishment divisions to upgrade three ranks of the capital police in order to "boost morale" and reignite the vigor in the officers to fight terrorism and crime.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 19, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=19_10_2016_004_002
Oct. 21, 2016	The government revoked its previous decision to suspend the citizenships of persons placed under the 4 th schedule list.	<i>The Nation</i> , October 22, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/national/22-Oct-2016/govt-revokes-decision-of-citizenship-suspension-of-fourth-schedulers
Oct. 24, 2016	In a session held by JPP, legal experts discussed how NAP failed and remained ineffective in fight against terror as it was rarely used against actual terrorists.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 25, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=25_10_2016_004_002
Oct. 25, 2016	HRCP demanded a reassessment of the current counter-terrorism strategy to "put an end to the bloodletting."	<i>Dawn</i> , October 26, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=26_10_2016_002_003
Oct. 26, 2016	Balochistan and Sindh officials agreed that the two provinces will forge an alliance to fight terrorism together.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 27, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=27_10_2016_005_001
Oct. 31, 2016	NSA Janjua commented that plans of de-radicalizing militants had not been abandoned but such sensitive matters have to be properly dealt with care and patience	<i>The News</i> , November 1, 2016, https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/161530-NSA-says-plan-to-de-radicalise-militants-not-in-cold-storage
	November	
Date	Progress	Source
Nov. 21, 2016	Since the introduction of NAP in Jan 2015, at least 103,346 cases have been registered across Punjab and 111,723 suspects have been arrested for different offences.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 22, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1297875/111723-suspects-arrested-under-nap-in-punjab

Nov. 25, 2016	A report by the Punjab police and Counter-terrorism Department (CTD) admitted before the Lahore High Court (LHC) that the NAP has been hampered due to the poor performances of police and CTD. The report admitted that more than 1000 proclaimed offenders booked in terror cases were still at large.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 26, 2016, http://tribune.com.pk/story/1244519/candid-admission-1000-terror-accused-loose-punjab/
Nov. 27, 2016	CTD presented report to Sindh CM on its operations against terrorists.	<i>The News</i> , November 28, 2016, https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/168026-CTD-presents-report-to-Sindh-CM-on-operations-against-terrorists
Nov. 28, 2016	At the meeting of NFC the government asked the provinces to bear greater share of the burden of security expenditures; while the provinces asked for more revenue lines to be devolved in the next NFC award.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 29, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1299239
	December	
Date	Progress	Source
Dec. 2, 2016	PPP's chairman Bilawal criticizes government over failing NAP.	<i>Dawn</i> , 3 December 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/?page=03_12_2016_001
Dec. 5, 2016	PPP chairman Bilawal accused interior minister for exploiting NAP for political purposes	<i>Dawn</i> , 6 December 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=06_12_2016_002_007
Dec. 15, 2016	The inquiry commission on the Aug 8 Quetta attack submitted its report to the Supreme Court, calling for an immediate ban on all terrorist organizations and that the NAP should have clear goals and holistic monitoring mechanisms.	<i>Dawn</i> , December 16, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=16_12_2016_001_004
Dec, 17, 2016	Article by M. Amir discusses how even after a second year of NAP the government has failed to take matters of internal security completely in their hands.	<i>Dawn</i> , December 18, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1302942

Judiciary and Military Courts

	January	
Date	Progress	Source
Jan. 1, 2016	Gen. Raheel Sharif confirmed nine death sentences awarded by military courts in terrorism cases.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 2, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=02_01_2016_001_005

Jan. 4, 2016	The conviction and death sentence of a tribesman awarded by a military court was challenged, in Peshawar High Court, on the ground that due process of law was not followed.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 5, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=05_01_2016_007_005
Jan. 4, 2016	PkMAP leader urged Balochistan CM to hold peace talks with Baloch nationalists.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 5, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=05_01_2016_005_002
Jan. 8, 2016	Since they were set up the military courts have convicted 40 terrorists and sentenced 36 of them to death.	<i>The Nation</i> , January 9, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/national/09-Jan-2016/military-courts-convicted-40-terrorists-so-far
Jan. 8, 2016	An ATC sentenced a suspected militant to 21 years in an explosive material and illicit weapon cases.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 9, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=09_01_2016_005_009
Jan. 8, 2016	An ATC sentenced two extortionists to five years imprisonment each.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 9, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=09_01_2016_005_009
Jan. 11, 2016	Asma Jahangir filed a petition to the Supreme Court against a judgment of the Peshawar High Court upholding a life sentence awarded by a military court in a terrorism case.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 12, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=12_01_2016_001_006
Jan. 12, 2016	Peshawar High Court upheld conviction and death sentence awarded by a military court.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 13, 2014, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=13_01_2016_007_007
Jan. 24, 2016	Senior lawyer, Salim Shah Hoti, said that abettors of militants were liable to the same punishments as the militants hence cases of abettors can also be tried by military courts.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 25, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=25_01_2016_003_004
Jan. 28, 2016	An ATC sentenced five convicts to 18 years of imprisonment under Ss 7, 302, 324, 353 and 15AA of ATA.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 29, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=29_01_2016_001_005
Jan. 29, 2016	The Supreme Court dismissed an appeal seeking the right of judicial review for convicts sentenced by military courts, on the grounds that the petitioner was not an aggrieved party.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 30, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=30_01_2016_001_003

February		
Date	Progress	Source
Feb. 1, 2016	NA standing committee rejected JUI-F's members bill seeking to have the words "religion and sect" omitted from the Pakistan Army Act, under which the military carried out its anti-terrorism operations.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 2, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=02_02_2016_003_003
Feb. 2, 2016	Supreme Court asked the government to respond to a petition seeking early disposal of appeals for death row cases.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 3, 2016 http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=03_02_2016_003_004
Feb. 9, 2016	Supreme Court stayed the execution of four convicts of the military courts and ordered the government to explain whether their appeals were pending or decided.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 10, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=10_02_2016_001_007
Feb. 11, 2016	COAS approved 12 death penalties awarded by military courts to convicts involved in sectarian violence and attacks on educational institutions.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 12, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=12_02_2016_001_005
Feb. 16, 2016	The SC was informed that the appeals of two convicts in the APS cases had been rejected by the military appellate forum and the army chief had confirmed their death sentences.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 17, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=17_02_2016_003_005
Feb. 23, 2016	An ATC sentenced two members of Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) to 10 years of imprisonment for raising funds for JeM.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 24, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=24_02_2016_003_007
Feb. 24, 2016	The Supreme Court decided to hear all the appeals against convictions awarded by military courts collectively. And it ordered the suspension of the executions granted earlier till the pending petitions were disposed off with.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 25, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=25_02_2016_003_002
March		
Date	Progress	Source
Mar. 3, 2016	Government not interested in extended the amendment to the Constitution which confers the military court's powers to try civilians under Pakistan Army Act 1952.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 4, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=04_12_2016_001_004
Mar. 13, 2016	Supreme Court will begin to hear appeals instituted against military courts.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 14, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=13_03_2016_001_001

Mar. 15, 2016	COAS Gen. Raheel Sharif ratified 13 death sentences awarded by military courts to convicts for involvement in acts of terrorism.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 16, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=16_03_2016_001_004
Mar. 21, 2016	In light of the pending appeals before the Supreme Court, the transfer of cases to military cases had slowed down.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 22, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=22_03_2016_003_005
	April	
Date	Progress	Source
Apr. 5, 2016	The PHC stayed the execution of two convicted militants and suspended their death sentences awarded to them by military courts.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 6, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=06_04_2016_007_005
Apr. 15, 2016	Army's GOC informed that a plan for establishing a military court in Malakand was being considered.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 16, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=16_04_2016_007_012
	May	
Date	Progress	Source
May 3, 2016	Chief of Army of Staff, General Raheel Sharif confirmed the death sentences of 11 terrorists who were tried by military courts and found guilty of "heinous offences related to terrorism."	<i>Dawn</i> , May 4, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1256129
May 10, 2016	The PHC stayed the execution of a convicted militant and suspended the death sentence awarded to him by a military court.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 11, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=11_05_2016_007_005
May 12, 2016	COAS General RaheelShareef confirmed five more death sentences of militants found guilty for carrying out the 2015 Safoora killings.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 13, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1258043
May 13, 2016	Safoora mastermind, TahirHussainMinhas, sentenced to death by military court, revealed that he had been involved in militancy since late 1990s.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 14, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1258195
May 29, 2016	Balochistan CM Zehri stated that maintenance of law and order is the main objective of his government.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 30, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=30_05_2016_005_002

June		
Date	Progress	Source
Jun. 12, 2016	Supreme Court will take up a petition relating to judicial review against verdicts awarded by military courts.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 13, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=13_06_2016_005_008
Jun. 13, 2016	Supreme Court reserved its ruling on a set of 5 appeals against convictions awarded by military courts.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 14, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=14_06_2016_003_001
Jun. 20, 2016	AsmaJehangir appealed to the Supreme Court to order retrials of all the cases in which the military courts awarded convictions including death sentences.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 21, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=21_06_2016_001_004
Jun. 23, 2016	The International Commission of Jurists urged Pakistani government to stop trying civilians through military courts.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 24, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=24_06_2016_005_006
Jun. 25, 2016	A report by the International Commission of Jurists revealed that since January 2015, the military courts had tried 105 civilian militants; found 81 guilty; awarded 77 death sentences and 4 life imprisonments.	<i>The Daily Times</i> , June 26, 2016 http://dailytimes.com.pk/islamabad/26-Jun-16/pak-military-courts-conclude-trials-of-105-militants
July		
Date	Progress	Source
Jul. 19, 2016	PHC stayed the execution of convicted militants and suspended the death sentences awarded to them by military courts.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 20, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=20_07_2016_007_003
Jul. 26, 2016	PHC stayed the execution and suspended the death sentences of militants convicted by military courts. The court also directed the defense ministry to produce the trial record of the convicts.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 27, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=27_07_2016_007_005
August		
Date	Progress	Source
Aug. 14, 2016	With the lapse of PoPA, the special courts set up under the law have become non-functional but the cases being tried by them are still pending. The law ministry submitted to the PM a proposal to revive PoPA or to have its cases tried under Anti-terrorism courts. But the government seems reluctant to revive the law via a presidential ordinance.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 14, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1277445

Aug. 15, 2016	A letter by the District and Sessions Judge M. MohsinRaza Khan to the Lahore High Court (dated July 13), revealed that the law ministry failed to facilitate PoPA court judges in the dispensing of trials of terrorists in a speedy manner, as envisioned by NAP.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 16, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1277867
Aug. 20, 2016	A military appellate court has upheld the death sentences of 5 convicts of the Safoora Goth carnage.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 21, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=21_08_2016_004_002
Aug. 29, 2016	Law officers suggested that any pending cases under the lapsed Protection of Pakistan Act (PoPA) may be transferred to anti-terrorism courts by the promulgation of a presidential ordinance.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 29, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1280679
Aug. 29, 2016	The Supreme Court confirmed the convictions awarded by the military courts, including death sentences, by dismissing appeals of 16 convicts involved in terrorism.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 30, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1280883
	September	
Date	Progress	Source
Sep. 1, 2016	PHC stayed execution of two terror convicts.	<i>Dawn</i> , September 2, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=02_09_2016_007_003
Sep. 1, 2016	Sindh government accepted JUI-F's demand to transfer Soomro's murder trial to military court.	<i>The News</i> , September 2, 2016, https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/147034-JUI-F-rally-forces-govt-to-transfer-Soomros-murder-trial-to-military-court
Sept. 5, 2016	The Punjab government has asked the centre to make a decision about the fate of the pending PoPA cases, since with the expiration of the Act the special courts set up under it now stand dissolved and continued detention of the arrested people has become illegal.	<i>Dawn</i> , September 5, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1282157
Sep. 20, 2016	PHC granted bail to a suspected terrorist who was arrested under PoPA a year ago.	<i>Dawn</i> , September 21, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=21_09_2016_007_003
Sep. 22, 2016	COAS confirmed seven more death sentences awarded by military courts.	<i>Dawn</i> , September 23, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=23_09_2016_003_003
Sep. 24, 2016	Five terrorists convicted by military courts for Safoora Goth attack, challenged the decisions before the Lahore High Court.	<i>Dawn</i> , September 25, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=25_09_2016_001_001

Sep. 27, 2016	All cases pending under the now lapsed PoPA courts have been transferred to ATCs.	<i>Dawn</i> , September 28, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=28_09_2016_002_002
Sep. 27, 2016	Two convicts filed review petitions against the Supreme Court's judgment confirming their death sentences passed by military courts.	<i>Dawn</i> , September 28, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=28_09_2016_005_011
October		
Date	Progress	Source
Oct. 13, 2016	COAS Raheel Sharif confirmed 10 death sentences awarded to hardcore terrorists by military courts.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 14, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=14_10_2016_001_002
November		
Date	Progress	Source
Oct. 31, 2016	Supreme Court stayed the execution of mentally-ill death-row convict.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 1, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=01_11_2016_016_003
Nov. 7, 2016	Army Chief General RaheelShareef endorsed death sentences to 9 terrorists associated with the TTP and Lashkar-e-Islam	<i>Dawn</i> , November 8, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=08_11_2016_005_003
Nov. 14, 2016	As per ATA any of the Inquiry Commissions do not have to share their findings in the interest of public peace and order.	<i>Daily Jang</i> , November 15, 2016, http://e.jang.com.pk/11-15-2016/pindi/pic.asp?picname=512.gif
Nov. 14, 2016	Local Peshawar anti-terrorism court acquitted four alleged members of "self-styled Islamic State" arrested on the charge of "distributing anti-polio and pro-militant material" to people in Peshawar.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 15, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1296485
Nov. 18, 2016	A three-member medical board has been constituted to examine the psychological status of a death row prisoner said to be mentally ill.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 19, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=19_11_2016_016_005
Nov. 22, 2016	Army chief endorses death sentences to 10 militants	<i>Dawn</i> , November 23, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=23_11_2016_003_003

Nov. 23, 2016	ATC sentenced 5 people to death for lynching a Christian couple over alleged blasphemy in KotRadhaKishan in 2014.	Dawn, November 24, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=24_11_2016_001_001
Nov. 25, 2016	A bench of Lahore High Court expressed concerned over a 2003 ruling that acquitted the convicts under a compromise, who had earlier been sentenced by the ATC.	Dawn, 26 November 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=25_11_2016_002_005
Nov. 25, 2016	The Supreme Court released a death-row convict, imprisoned for 24 years, for lack of solid evidence to prosecute him.	Dawn, 26 November 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=26_11_2016_001_006
	December	
Date	Progress	Source
Dec. 2, 2016	The Supreme Court released death-row convict after 11 years of his imprisonment	Dawn, 3 December 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=03_12_2016_001_006
Dec. 3, 2016	Military courts set up, under the 21 st Amendment to the Constitution, to try civilians in terror cases will lapse on Jan.2 and government shows no interest in granting extensions to their powers.	<i>Dawn</i> , December 4, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1300356
Dec. 5, 2016	The military courts which would cover their mandate by end of December have awarded death sentences to 140 terrorists, besides sentencing 96 others to life. 12 have been executed.	Dawn, 6 December 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=06_12_2016_016_003
Dec. 5, 2016	A military court awarded death sentences to 4 terrorists for attacking Karachi airport and killing a senior counterterrorism official.	Dawn, 6 December 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/?page=06_12_2016_016_016
Dec. 7, 2016	A death row convict acquitted for lack of evidence	Dawn, 8 December 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=08_12_2016_002_003
Dec. 14, 2016	According to HRCP, since Dec 2014,426 criminals have been executed mostly in cases unrelated to terrorism.	<i>The News</i> , December 15, 2016, https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/171923-Only-7-per-cent-of-executions-related-to-terror-charges
Dec. 17, 2016	As the sunset clause of the 21 st amendment set to take effect next month, the army chief Bajwa confirmed 13 death sentences awarded by military courts.	<i>Dawn</i> , December 18, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1302940
Dec. 17, 2016	Pakistan is the "third most prolific executioner on the world" for two years in a row.	<i>Dawn</i> , December 18, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1303029

Dec, 18, 2016	The government looking for alternative solutions as the tenure of military courts nears its end.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , December 19, 2016, http://tribune.com.pk/story/1267442/fate-military-courts-hangs-balance/
Dec. 21, 2016	Anti-terrorism court sentenced six terrorists to 24 life sentences for the Khanpur attack in 2012.	<i>Dunya</i> , December 22, 2016, http://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2016-12-22&edition=ISL&id=2809635_83607820
Dec. 28, 2016	Army Chief Bajwa, confirmed death sentences of 8 militants found guilty of carrying out the Safoora Goth massacre and other attacks.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , December 27, 2016, http://tribune.com.pk/story/1278268/butcher-swat-face-gallows/ <i>Dunya</i> , December 29, 2016, http://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2016-12-29&edition=ISL&id=2823017_37660313
Dec. 28, 2016	Interior ministry has presented a draft law to law ministry that proposes to make military courts permanent courts to deal with terrorism cases. The military courts set up in 2014 are set to expire on January 7, 2016.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , December 29, 2016, http://tribune.com.pk/story/1278239/military-courts-get-permanent-status/ <i>Dunya</i> , December 29, 2016, http://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2016-12-29&edition=ISL&id=2823024_42750632

Developments in Criminal Justice System

	January	
Date	Progress	Source
Jan. 1, 2016	The Senate called for an inquiry into all the major terrorist attacks around the country in order to expose those responsible for the respective breaches in security.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 2, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=02_01_2016_001_004
Jan. 4, 2016	The conviction and death sentence of a tribesman awarded by a military court was challenged, in Peshawar High Court, on the ground that due process of law was not followed.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 5, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=05_01_2016_007_005
Jan. 6, 2016	A Senate committee observed that a draft bill to regulate the activities of intelligence agencies has been awaiting comments from defense ministry since 2012.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 7, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=07_01_2016_004_005
Jan. 11, 2016	Asma Jahangir filed a petition to the Supreme Court against a judgment of the Peshawar High Court upholding a life sentence awarded by a military court in a terrorism case.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 12, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=12_01_2016_001_006

Jan. 13, 2016	Convicted terrorists have been scheduled to be transferred to the new prison facility in Sahiwal from jails all over Punjab.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 14, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1232847/10-convicted-terrorists-shifted-to-sahiwal-prison
Jan. 17, 2016	Senate will take up a private member's bill on Nacta. Senate will also pass 8 bills aimed at providing "inexpensive and speedy justice."	<i>Dawn</i> , January 18, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=18_01_2016_003_007
Jan. 20, 2016	PM and COAS vowed that efforts to rid the country of terrorism will continue and the recent attack has not deterred any one from their end.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 20, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=21_01_2016_001_006
Jan. 20, 2016	An all parties parliamentary caucus on the rule of law approved an agenda to bring law reforms focusing on three primary areas: police, prosecution and free legal aid.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 20, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=21_01_2016_004_003
March		
Date	Progress	Source
Mar. 3, 2016	Government not interested in extended the amendment to the Constitution which confers the military court's powers to try civilians under Pakistan Army Act 1952.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 4, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=04_12_2016_001_004
Mar. 28, 2016	The government announced that it has decided to arrest all those individuals listed in the Fourth Schedule of the Anti-Terrorism Act (ATA). This includes at least 2000 criminals and the action has already started across Punjab.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 29, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1248604
April		
Date	Progress	Source
Apr. 2, 2016	Senator retired Lt. Gen. Abdul Qayyum said that a strong law and justice system was required to deal with national security issues.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 3, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=03_04_2016_004_004
Apr. 4, 2016	SC Chief Justice Jamali asked the government to explain to the court which law were they supposed to follow in dealing with the appeal cases of those convicted by the military courts and how were they supposed to ensure a fair trial under Article 10-A of the Constitution.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 5, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=05_04_2016_003_004

	May	
Date	Progress	Source
May 26, 2016	Interior Minister approved of introducing reforms for the improvement of the country's criminal justice system. The four main areas which will be looked are: police, prosecution, courts and accuracy of the system.	<i>Dunya</i> , May 27, 2016, http://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2016-05-27&edition=ISL&id=2387899_18584658
	June	
Date	Progress	Source
Jun. 23, 2016	The International Commission of Jurists urged Pakistani government to stop trying civilians through military courts.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 24, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=24_06_2016_005_006
	July	
Date	Progress	Source
Jul. 14, 2016	PML-N constituted a committee to gain the opposition's support in its efforts of getting anti-terrorism law, Protection of Pakistan Act (PoPA) extended.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 15, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=15_07_2016_001_002
Jul. 18, 2016	The government was considering extending the lapsed Protection of Pakistan Act (PoPA) even though it had failed to achieve its purpose of "speedy trials" and infringed upon the constitutional right of fair trial and right to liberty.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 19, 2016 http://www.dawn.com/news/1271630
Jul. 29, 2016	Senate passed the Prevention of Electronic Crime Act, 2016. PPP said the law is still imperfect and needs improvement.	<i>The Nation</i> , July 30, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/national/30-Jul-2016/senate-passes-a-less-dark-cybercrime-bill
	August	
Date	Progress	Source
Oct. 4, 2016	The NSA and AG started working on reforms, under NAP, aimed at: improving the FIR system; revamping the prosecution service; creating legal services; promulgation of new federal law to deal with terrorism; facilitating speedy disposal of cases.	<i>The News</i> , October 5, 2016, https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/155038-Criminal-justice-system-to-be-overhauled
Oct. 7, 2016	PM created a committee that will work on drafting amendments to the Criminal Procedure (CrPC) 1898, in order to improve the criminal justice system.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 8, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=08_10_2016_001_005

Oct. 10, 2016	HRCP demanded to reform the criminal justice system before hanging anymore people on death row under NAP.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 11, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=11_10_2016_002_007
Oct. 17, 2016	Officials denied that they have authorized the blocking of the CNICs of the people listed on the Fourth Schedule of ATA.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 18, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1290640
Oct. 18, 2016	Interior ministry approached the finance and establishment divisions to upgrade three ranks of the capital police in order to "boost morale" and reignite the vigor in the officers to fight terrorism and crime.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 19, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=19_10_2016_004_002
Oct. 21, 2016	Interior Minister announced that suspected terrorists on the fourth schedule lists cannot be deprived of their citizenships.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 22, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1291570
	November	
Date	Progress	Source
Nov. 10, 2016	Lahore High Court sought reasoning over whether a suspect charged under the anti-terror law could be acquitted following compromise.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 11, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=11_11_2016_002_007
Nov. 10, 2016	Interior Minister asked NADRA to unblock CNICs of those citizens whose IDs were wrongly blocked during the re-verification campaign	<i>Dawn</i> , November 12, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=12_11_2016_001_004
Nov. 18, 2016	A three-member medical board has been constituted to examine the psychological status of a death row prisoner said to be mentally ill.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 19, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=19_11_2016_016_005
Nov. 24, 2016	The Sindh Assembly unanimously enacted The Criminal Law (Protection of Minorities) Bill, 2015, criminalizing forced religious conversion.	<i>Dawn</i> , 25 November 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=25_11_2016_001_005
Nov. 25, 2016	A bench of Lahore High Court expressed concerned over a 2003 ruling that acquitted the convicts under a compromise, who had earlier been sentenced by the ATC.	<i>Dawn</i> , 26 November 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=25_11_2016_002_005
Nov. 25, 2016	It was pointed out in the Senate that Protection of Pakistan Act has lapsed, and therefore, no amendment could be made to it.	<i>Dawn</i> , 26 November 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=26_11_2016_003_005

Nov. 25, 2016	The Senate passed a bill approving amendments to various laws to bring about improvements in the criminal justice system and enhance punishments against terrorism.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 26, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1298724 <i>The Nation</i> , November 26, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/national/26-Nov-2016/law-tightened-for-curbing-extremism-terror
Nov. 29, 2016	Minority members criticize opposition to Minorities Bill 2015, which criminalizes forced conversion and sets age of conversion to 18.	<i>Dawn</i> , 30 November 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=30_11_2016_004_005
December		
Date	Progress	Source
Dec. 2, 2016	Senate committee reminded of a 1992 report on blasphemy laws; the report calls for improving in procedural aspects of the law.	<i>Dawn</i> , 3 December 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=03_12_2016_004_004
Dec. 3, 2016	Military courts set up, under the 21 st Amendment to the Constitution, to try civilians in terror cases will lapse on Jan.2 and government shows no interest in granting extensions to their powers.	<i>Dawn</i> , December 4, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1300356
Dec. 6, 2016	The National Assembly's standing committee on religious affairs and interfaith harmony has yet to "take up the bill for the establishment of a committee for the minorities".	<i>Dawn</i> , 7 December 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=07_12_2016_003_003

NACTA

January		
Date	Progress	Source
Jan. 11, 2016	The Senate asked the government for an additional Rs. 2bn for the reactivation of Nacta.	<i>The Nation</i> , January 12, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/islamabad/12-Jan-2016/senate-seeks-rs2b-more-for-nacta-reactivation
Jan. 14, 2016	The reactivation of Nacta is a long way from realization because the low salary packages and poor incentives being offered to its officers.	<i>The Nation</i> , January 15, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/national/15-Jan-2016/nacta-revival-a-far-cry-amid-low-salaries-ghani

Jan. 17, 2016	The Interior Ministry dissolved National Crisis Management Cell (NMC) and handed over its records and budget to NACTA for investigation.	<i>Dunya</i> , January 18, 2016, http://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2016-01-18&edition=ISL&id=2117031_51675842
Jan. 17, 2016	Senate will take up a private member's bill on Nacta. Senate will also pass 8 bills aimed at providing "inexpensive and speedy justice."	<i>Dawn</i> , January 18, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=18_01_2016_003_007
	February	
Date	Progress	Source
Feb. 1, 2016	The Interior Ministry announced the launch of the updated website for National Counter-Terrorism Authority (Nacta) but a perusal of the site showed that it still failed to provide any important information regarding counter terrorism activities.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 2, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1236928/not-hing-new-on-new-nacta-website
Feb. 7, 2016	The Federal government decided to establish a task force responsible for combating terrorism financing. Nacta has been entrusted with the authority to create the task force and it has begun working on its establishment and is accepting nominations from the federal and provincial governments as well as from NGOs.	<i>Daily Express</i> , February 8, 2016, http://www.express.com.pk/epaper/index.aspx?Date=20160208#
Feb. 14, 2016	A report by <i>Dawn</i> examined and commented on the reasons behind the apparent ineffectiveness of PoPA and Nacta, including legal redundancies and lack of interest from concerned departments.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 15, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=15_02_2016_004_003
Feb. 14, 2016	A report by <i>Dawn</i> remarked how Nacta is still a "dormant" authority despite its enhancement being a priority of NAP for over a year. This is mostly due to the government's failure to follow through its own plan.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 15, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=15_02_2016_004_002
	March	
Date	Progress	Source
Mar. 2 2016	All the officials of the dissolved National Crisis Management Cell (NMC) refused to be transferred to Nacta and filed a petition to the Islamabad High Court (IHC) against the transfer and the dissolution of NMC.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 3, 2016 http://www.dawn.com/news/1243240/92-ncmc-officials-refuse-to-join-nacta

May 9, 2016	Senate standing committee on Interior raised concerns about how Nacta failed to convene its Board of Governors meeting, in violation of law.	<i>The Nation</i> , May 10, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/newspaper-picks/10-May-2016/senate-body-concerned-over-non-functional-nacta
	May	
Date	Progress	Source
May 3, 2016	Nacta failed to fulfill its role, despite having a very large budget which it also failed to properly allocate. Out of its Rs 1.7 billion budget it utilized less than Rs 0.7 billion and the remaining budget will lapse on 15th May 2016.	<i>Dunya</i> , May 4, 2016 http://e.dunya.com.pk/index.php?e_name=ISL&date=2016-05-04&page=1
May 9, 2016	Chairman of Senate Standing Committee on Interior and Narcotic, Rehman Malik expressed his concerns over the performance of Nacta and wondered why no meeting of Nacta had been held for over a year.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 10, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=10_05_2016_005_002
May 21, 2016	Nacta set up its research wing using the Nacta Research and Development Fund since no budget was allocated it for the current fiscal year.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , May 22, 2016 http://epaper.tribune.com.pk/DisplayDetails.aspx?ENI_ID=11201605220146&EN_ID=11201605220078&EMID=11201605220003
	June	
Date	Progress	Source
Jun. 4, 2016	Federal government allocated Rs. 109.42 million in the federal budget for Nacta. This "modest" allocation was seen as an indication that the government did not wish to make Nacta a "fully functional entity."	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , June 5, 2016 http://epaper.tribune.com.pk/DisplayDetails.aspx?ENI_ID=11201606050122&EN_ID=11201606050061&EMID=11201606050018
Jun. 4, 2016	The government slashed Nacta's (2016-17) budget up to 90% of what it was last year.	<i>The Nation</i> , June 5, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/newspaper-picks/05-Jun-2016/govt-tall-claims-to-curb-terrorism-exposed
	July	
Date	Progress	Source
Jul. 9, 2016	Nacta asked provinces to submit final lists of the names of the people mentioned in the fourth schedule of the Anti-Terrorism Act (ATA), by the end of the month.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , July 9, 2016, http://tribune.com.pk/story/1148077/provinces-asked-submit-revised-fourth-schedule-ensure-peace/

Jul. 20, 2016	The interior ministry asked Nacta to provide special security to the superior judiciary.	<i>The Nation</i> , July 21, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/islamabad/21-Jul-2016/ministry-tasks-nacta-to-provide-security-to-judiciary
	August	
Date	Progress	Source
Aug. 2, 2016	The National Crisis Management Cell (NCCM) alerted the federal government that the return of Pakistanis fighting in foreign conflict zones may lead to a rise in sectarian violence within Pakistan. NCCM suggested that law enforcement agencies should take a proactive approach to monitor such elements and take preventive steps to tighten security at checkpoints and border control.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 3, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1275069
Aug. 18, 2016	Nacta revealed that majority of the calls received by its anti-terror helpline were fake (only 41 out of 8305 were legitimate). Nacta has asked PTA to block 75 numbers identified as frequent "hoax" callers.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 19, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1278541
	September	
Date	Progress	Source
Sept. 5, 2016	Nacta asked provinces to "rationalise" their fourth schedule lists, before submitting them at the end of the month, in order to better facilitate Nacta in devising a counter-terrorism strategy.	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , September 5, 2016, http://tribune.com.pk/story/1176117/counter-terrorism-strategy-nacta-urges-provinces-rationalise-fourth-schedule-lists/
Sep. 2, 2016	Interior ministry transferred 36 functions of the NCCM to Nacta in order strengthen it as the country's sole counter-terrorism authority.	<i>The Nation</i> , September 3, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/national/03-Sep-2016/36-functions-of-defunct-nccm-transferred-to-nacta
	October	
Date	Progress	Source
Oct. 1, 2016	Nacta asked all provinces to create a consolidated online database of all the individuals listed under the Fourth Schedules of the Anit- Terrorism Act 1997.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 1, 2016, https://www.dawn.com/news/1287247

Oct. 5, 2016	Interior ministry told Nacta to form new cell to deal exclusively with terror financing.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 6, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=06_10_2016_003_003
Oct. 20, 2016	Nacta issued in a statement that the newly formed National Counter Extremism Policy (NCEP) has begun working on a draft policy on countering extremism.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 20, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1291114
November		
Date	Progress	Source
Oct. 31, 2016	Justice QaziFaez Isa, probing the suicide attack in Quetta, expressed dissatisfaction with the performance of NACTA.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 1, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=01_11_2016_005_005
Nov. 5, 2016	Nacta recommended Interior ministry to declare Jammāt al Ahrar and LashkariJhangvi Al Alami, banned organizations.	<i>Jang</i> , November 6, 2016, http://e.jang.com.pk/11-06-2016/pindi/pic.asp?picname=617.gif

Militant groups and banned outfits

January		
Date	Progress	Source
Jan. 1, 2016	A militant of Jundullah-Khalil group, believed to be recruiting for IS and collecting funds, arrested from Karachi	<i>Dunya</i> , January 2, 2016 In Print.
Jan. 1, 2016	PPP MNA accused Interior Minister of supporting militants and terrorist organizations.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 2, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=02_01_2016_004_003
Jan. 3, 2016	IS's chief for Sindh and Islamabad, UmerKathio and Amir Mansoor, arrested.	<i>Jang</i> , January 4, 2016, In Print. <i>Dawn</i> , January 4, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1230719
Jan. 4, 2016	Kashmiri militant organization claimed that the Pathankot attack (India) was carried out by a group of Kashmiri "freedom fighters."	<i>Dawn</i> , January 5, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=05_01_2016_001_004
Jan. 4, 2016	CTD arrested an alleged member of Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), after intelligence recorded one of his telephone conversations.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 5, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=05_01_2016_003_006
Jan. 5, 2016	Militant groups make their way into rural Sindh.	<i>The News</i> , January 6, 2016, https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/86694-Terrorists-making-inroads-into-rural-Sindh

Jan. 13, 2016	Jaish-e-Mohammad's MasoodAzhar arrested in relation to the Pathankot attack.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 14, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1232884 <i>Jang</i> , January 14, 2016, In Print.
Jan. 14, 2016	Authorities raided office of Jaish-e-muhammad in Daska and recovered commando uniforms and sealed it.	<i>Jang</i> , January 15, 2016, In Print.
Jan. 15, 2016	Government considers banning falah-e-insaniat foundation (FIF) as sources have suggested that FIF holds links to LeJ.	<i>The Nation</i> , January 16, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/national/16-Jan-2016/govt-mulls-banning-falah-e-insaniat-foundation
Jan. 15, 2016	Two IS-inspired militants, whom Iranian authorities returned to Pakistan, turned away from violence after being "rehabilitated"	<i>Dawn</i> , January 16, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1233265
Jan. 16, 2016	Wall chalking in support of IS reported in Gilgit; an attempt was made to affiliate a mosque in name of IS's chief Baghdadi	<i>K-2</i> , January 17, 2016 In Print.
Jan 21, 2016	CTD arrested member of banned outfit Lashkar-i-Jhangvi (LeJ)	<i>Dawn</i> , January 22, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=22_01_2016_002_001
Jan. 21, 2016	IS's Khorasan chapter, covering Pakistan, operates a radio channel, Voice of Caliphate, in Pashto and Dari, from eastern Afghanistan, with coverage also picked in western bordering areas of Pakistan	<i>Dawn</i> , January 22, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1234476
Jan. 23, 2016	PPP information secretary QamarZamanKaira questioned the effective implementation of NAP under PML-N, as 72 banned outfits were still operating using new names.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 24, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=24_01_2016_002_001
Jan. 24, 2016	An arrested terrorist confessed that he murdered four policemen because they had testified against his banned terrorist organization (Karachi)	<i>Dunya</i> , January 25, 2016, http://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2016-01-25&edition=ISL&id=2132522_87948811
	February	
Date	Progress	Source
Feb. 1, 2016	Two men arrested for printing material for a banned organization.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 2, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=02_02_2016_002_005

Feb. 9, 2016	DG Intelligence Bureau testified to the Senate that hundreds of Pakistani fighters were joining militant organization Daesh in Syria.	<i>The Nation</i> , February 10, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/national/10-Feb-2016/hundreds-of-pakistanis-joining-daesh-intelligence-bureau <i>The Nation</i> , February 11, 2016 http://nation.com.pk/national/11-Feb-2016/hundreds-of-pakistanis-joining-daesh-ib
Feb. 10, 2016	IB official informed the Senate Standing Committee on Interior that the militant Islamic State (IS) was an emerging threat as several militant groups in Pakistan sympathized with IS.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 11, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=11_02_2016_001_006
Feb. 11, 2016	Foreign Office reassured that there is no "organized presence" of IS in Pakistan.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 12, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=12_02_2016_001_006
Feb. 16, 2016	Interior Minister Chaudry Nisar informed that certain banned outfits were operating under the assumed name of IS, when in fact there was no actual trace of IS within Pakistan.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 17, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=17_02_2016_001_003
Feb. 18, 2016	JamaatudDawa's Cyber Team, comprised of volunteers, said they look for ways to counter threats like Daesh, by approaching "pro-Pakistan elements on social media."	<i>Dawn</i> , February 19, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=19_02_2016_004_001
	March	
Date	Progress	Source
Feb. 29, 2016	At a meeting the government reviewed the steps taken to "tighten the noose" around banned organizations. It was noted that suspects and human traffickers would have their passports and CNICs cancelled. Moreover, it was stated that the FIA has taken various steps to curb corruption and has arrested 1011 people involved in cases of human trafficking.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 1, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1242789
Mar. 8, 2016	The government removes any obstacles in trying to get JuD banned on placed under the 4 th schedule list.	<i>The Nation</i> , March 9, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/editors-picks/09-Mar-2016/hurdles-in-banning-jud-being-removed-nisar
Mar. 13, 2016	DG ISPR announced that Naeem Bukhari and Muhammad Farooq Bhatti and 95 others militants had been arrested.	<i>Jang</i> , March 14, 2016, In Print. <i>Geo Tv</i> , March 18, 2016, https://www.geo.tv/latest/102515-Farooq-Bhatti-Musanna-The-profile-of-a-hardcore-terrorist

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Mar. 14, 2016	Two AQIS militants killed in an "encounter," thwarting their plans of attacking an ordnance train.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 15, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1245661
Mar. 17, 2016	Balochistan home department released a list of names of 99 militants belonging to banned organizations, carrying head money ranging between Rs 500,000 and Rs 15 million.	<i>Dawn</i> , March 18, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1246411
	April	
Date	Progress	Source
Apr. 6, 2016	JamatudDawa (JuD) sets up "DarulQazi Sharia" to dispense "justice" with regards to Sharia law. Operating in 7 cities and has decided 5500 murder cases so far in Lahore. Claims to provide arbitration services in many matters. And that their establishment is not violating the Constitution.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 7, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1250430 <i>The News</i> , April 9, 2016, https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/111426-JuDs-Sharia-courts-working-in-seven-cities <i>Jang</i> , April 9, 2016, In Print.
Apr. 9, 2016	With help from China militant MasoodAzhar has been kept off of UNSC's list of proscribed global terrorists, on technical grounds.	<i>The News on Sunday</i> , April 10, 2016, http://tns.thenews.com.pk/militant-lives-charmed-life/#.WGyZi9J97IU
Apr. 22, 2016	A banned organization, Al- Rashid Trust, known to have provided support to jihadist activities, approached the Islamabad High Court seeking to recover its frozen accounts and assets.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 23, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=27_04_2016_004_003
	May	
Date	Progress	Source
May 20, 2016	Al Qaeda leader, Bilal Lateef and thirteen militants killed in encounters with CTD had been in custody of LEAs for the past four months.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 21, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1259737
May 25, 2016	US State dept. declared Tariq Gidar Group and Jama'atulDawa as designated global terrorists.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 26, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1260750/washington-designates-two-militant-groups-as-global-terrorists
Jun. 28, 2016	Military officer court marshaled over his suspected links with banned outfits was released from Adiala Jail.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 29, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=29_06_2016_152_002

July		
Date	Progress	Source
Jul. 1, 2016	Lashakar-i-Jhangvi's militant arrested for killing policemen and members of the Shia Community and TV channel employees.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 2, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1268522/lj-militant-held-for-nine-targeted-killings
Jul. 10, 2016	Reports claim that master mind of APS attack, UmerMansoor, killed in American drone attack in Afghanistan.	<i>Dunya</i> , July 11, 2016, http://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2016-07-11&edition=ISL&id=2477630_25349824
Jul. 23, 2016	TTP appointed Mufti Ghufranullah as new regional head.	<i>The Daily Time</i> , July 24, 2016, http://dailytimes.com.pk/e-paper/2016-07-24/lahore/5454/27344
August		
Date	Progress	Source
Aug. 20, 2016	Three important Pakistani militant commanders killed in US drone strikes in Afghanistan.	<i>The News on Sunday</i> , August 21, 2016, http://tns.thenews.com.pk/three-slain-commanders/
Aug. 30, 2016	Supreme Court approached by private citizen who pled to have MQM declared a "terrorist organization."	<i>Dawn</i> , August 31, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=31_08_2016_003_006
September		
Date	Progress	Source
Sep. 1, 2016	According to research by American professor, killing off militant chiefs is an ineffective way to dismantle terrorist organizations because the groups have popular support and bureaucracy that helps them withstand any such "setback."	<i>The News</i> , September 1, 2016, In print, copied from following article: <i>The New York Times</i> , August 30, 2016, http://www.nytimes.com/2016/08/31/world/middleeast/syria-killing-terrorist-leaders.html?_r=0
October		
Date	Progress	Source
Oct. 9, 2016	Mastermind behind the 2009 attack on the Sri Lankan cricket team was killed by Nato and Afghan forces in Afghanistan during a raid.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 10, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1289233
Oct. 20, 2016	TTP threatened traders in Swat to give them "donations" or else face consequences.	<i>The News</i> , October 21, 2016, https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/158696-TTP-asks-Swat-traders-to-give-donations-or-face-consequences

Oct. 25, 2016	Links between militant groups and Daesh (IS) exist in Pakistan.	<i>Jang</i> , October 26, 2016, http://e.jang.com.pk/10-26-2016/pindi/pic.asp?picname=514.gif
Oct. 28, 2016	LeJ reorganized and operating under a new name, LeJ Al-Alami.	<i>The Friday Times</i> , October 28- November 3, 2016, http://www.thefridaytimes.com/tft/firebrand-rebrand/
	November	
Date	Progress	Source
Nov. 4, 2016	Authorities in Islamabad did not allow the banned ASWJ to take out a rally against a missile strike by Houthis against what the Saudi authorities did in Makkah.	Dawn, November 5, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=05_11_2016_004_004
Nov. 11, 2016	As anti-Shia LeJ al Alami gets eliminated in Punjab, it finds refuge in parts of Balochistan and Sindh. LeJ has claimed responsibility for various sectarian-based attacks in Karachi.	<i>The Friday Times</i> , November 11-17, 2016, http://www.thefridaytimes.com/tft/punjab-tackles-sindh-inherits-lej/
Nov. 18, 2016	The federal government has banned JamaatulAhrar and Lashkar-e-Jhangvi Al-Alami.	Dawn, November 19, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=19_11_2016_001_001
Nov. 19, 2016	14 people left Pakistan for Syria to join IS.	<i>Dunya</i> , November 20, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/national/20-Nov-2016/14-pakistanis-reportedly-reach-syria-afghanistan-to-join-isis
Nov. 19, 2016	By banning Jamat-ul-Ahrar and LeJ al-Alami, the number of proscribed organizations in the country rose to 63.	<i>The Nation</i> , November 20, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/newspaper-picks/20-Nov-2016/number-of-banned-outfits-surges-to-63
Nov. 20, 2016	More than 12 Pakistanis join Daesh in Syria	<i>The News</i> , November 21, 2016, https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/166563-Over-a-dozen-Pakistanis-join-Daesh-in-Syria
Nov. 20, 2016	IS head in Pakistan complicit in Safoora Attacks	<i>Jang</i> , November 22, 2016 In Print.
Nov. 21, 2016	A worker of MQM died in jail	Dawn, November 22, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=22_11_2016_003_006
Nov. 22, 2016	The banned ASWJ boycotted the by-election as a sign of protest over the detention of their party's candidate.	<i>The News</i> , November 23, 2016, https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/166959-ASWJ-boycotts-NA-258-by-election-in-protest

Nov. 27, 2016	TTP appointed their new chief for Karachi, Haji DaudMehsud, a former policeman.	<i>The News</i> , November 28, 2016, https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/168088-Fazlullah-announces-new-TTP-Karachi-chief
Nov. 28, 2016	Lahore High Court allowed Maulana M. Ahmad Ludhianvi (emir of banned ASWJ) to contest Jhang by-election.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 29, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1299294/aswj-chief-allowed-to-contest-jhang-by-election
	December	
Date	Progress	Source
Dec. 1, 2016	Sipah-e-Sahaba's founder's son Haq Nawaz Jhangvi filed nomination papers as an independent candidate and won the by-election in the Jhang district.	<i>The Friday Times</i> , December 2, 2016, http://www.thefridaytimes.com/tft/the-split-in-jhang/
Dec. 7, 2016	An official report by Sindh home ministry identified 62 active banned religious or sectarian organizations in the province.	<i>Dawn</i> , December 8, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1301082
Dec. 7, 2016	In the Senate standing committee, PPP legislators regretted that a fourth-scheduler was allowed to contest elections.	Dawn, 8 December 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=08_12_2016_001_001
Dec. 9, 2016	CTD Punjab raided offices of Tehreek-e-ajadid in Rabwah and arrested four people on charges of inciting hate speech. Jibrans report on how the law is being used to protect terrorists.	<i>The Friday Times</i> , December 9-15, 2016, http://www.thefridaytimes.com/tft/terrorism-as-per-schedule/
Dec. 16, 2016	Two terrorists of LeJ confessed to killing AmjadSabri and four Rangers soldiers.	<i>The News</i> , December 17, 2016, https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/172524-Two-terrorists-confess-to-killing-Sabri-army-soldiers
Dec. 20, 2016	Senate informed that from 2010 to 2016, as many as 123 cases of money laundering had been filed.	<i>The News</i> , December 21, 2016, https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/173400-123-money-laundering-cases-from-2010-to-2016-Senate-told
Dec. 24, 2016	LeJ al-almi chief survived an attack, perpetrated by a fellow member of the militant group.	<i>The Nation</i> , December 25, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/multan/25-Dec-2016/lej-faction-leader-survives-attack
Dec. 28, 2016	Washington declared Lashkar-i-Tayyiba's wing Al-Muhammdia Students as global terrorists.	<i>Dunya</i> , December 29, 2016, http://e.dunya.com.pk/index.php?e_name=ISL&edate=2016-12-29&page=1

Terror Financing

January		
Date	Progress	Source
Dec. 31, 2015	The government has established the National Terrorists Financing Investigation Cell.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 1, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1229969/seminaries-empty-accounts-perplex-govt-agencies
Dec. 31, 2015	According to Dawn, nothing "substantial" was detected in the bank accounts of 200 seminaries in Punjab monitored.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 01, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1229969/seminaries-empty-accounts-perplex-govt-agencies
Dec. 31, 2015	A superintendent of FBR turned out to have links with IS; the report claims Mehr Hamid was head of IS in Pakistan	<i>Dunya</i> , January 1, 2016, In Print. <i>The Daily Time</i> , January 24, 2016, http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/opinion/24-Jan-2016/the-state-in-a-state-of-denial
Jan.5, 2016	MoU signed with Sri Lanka on cooperation in the exchange of intelligence related to money laundering and terrorism financing.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 6, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=06_01_2016_003_002
Jan. 6, 2016	State Bank of Pakistan froze 132 bank accounts which were found to be providing financial support to terrorist groups.	<i>Dunya</i> , January 7, 2016, http://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2016-01-07&edition=ISL&id=2093247_83621434
Jan. 14, 2016	The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) arrested 45 alleged hundi dealers, from a currency market in Peshawar, under suspicions of financing terrorists.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 15, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1233071/fia-raids-currency-market-in-peshawar
February		
Date	Progress	Source
Feb. 7, 2016	The Federal government decided to establish a task force responsible for combating terrorism financing. Nacta has been entrusted with the authority to create the task force and it has begun working on its establishment and is accepting nominations from the federal and provincial governments as well as from NGOs.	<i>Daily Express</i> , February 8, 2016, http://www.express.com.pk/epaper/index.aspx?Date=20160208#
September		
Date	Progress	Source
Sep. 24, 2016	State Bank of Pakistan directed all banks in the country to freeze accounts linked to individuals listed on the Fourth Schedule of ATA, to curb terror financing.	<i>Dawn</i> , September 25, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=25_09_2016_001_003

October		
Date	Progress	Source
Oct. 5, 2016	Interior ministry told Nacta to form new cell to deal exclusively with terror financing.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 6, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=06_10_2016_003_003
Oct. 23, 2016	The State Bank of Pakistan froze 4000 bank accounts belonging to the individuals whose names were listed on the fourth schedule lists.	<i>Dunya</i> , October 24, 2016, http://e.dunya.com.pk/detail.php?date=2016-10-24&edition=ISL&id=2687217_57695890
November		
Date	Progress	Source
Nov. 10, 2016	FIA conducted 17 raids in Lahore and Faisalabad on hundi business in "the last one month", according to an FIA official.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 11, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=11_11_2016_002_008
December		
Date	Progress	Source
Dec. 1, 2016	Bank accounts of those on the Fourth Schedule of the Anti-Terrorism Act, 1997 are frozen; some government servants are also in the list.	<i>Dawn</i> , December 2, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=02_12_2016_002_006

Madrassas

January		
Date	Progress	Source
Jan. 1, 2016	Son-in-law of Maulana Aziz, cleric of Red Mosque, released; he was arrested on suspicions for having links with IS	<i>NayeBaat</i> , January 2, 2016 In Print
Jan. 1, 2016	Authorities suspect that seminaries are involved in "large-scale concealment of cash flow."	<i>Dawn</i> , January 2, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1230199
Jan. 2, 2016	Around 6,711 madrassas in Sindh geo-tagged.	<i>Jang</i> , January 2, 2016 In Print
Jan. 10, 2016	All the religious boards have rejected new recommendations regarding <i>madaris</i> reforms.	<i>The News</i> , January 11, 2016, http://nation.com.pk/national/11-Jan-2016/seminaries-reject-govt-proposals-on-registration

Jan.14, 2016	A mosque-cum-seminary, named Jamia Masjid and Madressah Al-Noor, run by Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM), in MundeekiGoraya village at Sialkot district, was sealed.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 15, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1233073/seminary-run-by-jaish-e-mohammad-in-sialkot-sealed
Jan.16, 2016	Authorities have started geo-tagging of seminaries across FATA to record their precise locations: 567 <i>madaris</i> have been enlisted so far, with 85,213 boys and girls. Meanwhile, the government has extended powers to register <i>madaris</i> in FATA.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 16, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1233315/registration-of-fata-madrasahs-in-sight
Jan. 29, 2016	Civil society representatives lodged complaints with the Aabpara police against a Lal Masjid cleric, claiming that he was promoting sectarian violence through social media.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 30, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=30_01_2016_004_001
Jan. 30, 2016	Police troops which were deployed at JamiaHafsa for monitoring were eventually withdrawn after students of the seminary displayed their annoyance to the police presence.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 31, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=31_01_2016_004_002
	February	
Date	Progress	Source
Jan. 31, 2016	182 <i>madaris</i> have been sealed so far for their links with extremism/militanct.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 1, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1236704/182-seminaries-sealed-under-nap
Feb. 13, 2016	Interior Minister ChaudhryNisar Ali Khan claimed the government has reached an understanding with boards of madrassahs over regulating them.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 14, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1239434/nisar-claims-accord-with-madrasahs
Feb. 26, 2016	According to the Federal Ministry of Education and Professional Training ' <i>Education Statistics 2014-15</i> ', there were 15,217 madrassahs against 13,405 in 2013-14, but the number of students declined from 1.836 million to 1.711 million.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 27, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1242255/more-seminaries-are-opening-up-but-enrolment-is-declining
	March	
Date	Progress	Source
Mar. 20, 2016	254 unregistered and suspicious religious seminaries are sealed.	<i>Jang</i> , March 21, 2016 http://www.shiitenews.org/index.php/pakistan/item/21776-nap-government-shuts-down-254-seminaries-across-country

April		
Date	Progress	Source
Apr. 1, 2016	The executive council of WafaqulMadaris al Arabia Pakistan decided to delist Islamabad's JamiaHafsa's fresh application for registering its students.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 2, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1249476/wafaqul-madaris-keeps-jamia-hafsa-out-of-its-list
Apr.28, 2016	A report in <i>Dawn</i> narrated that government's lack of a clear policy regarding registration and monitoring of religious seminaries, is resulting into their rise.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 29, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1255155/seminaries-boom-in-absence-of-govt-checks
June		
Date	Progress	Source
Jun. 24, 2016	DarulUloomHaqqania madrassah agreed to reforms in return for Rs. 300 million, in KP's Nowshera district.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 25, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1266978
August		
Date	Progress	Source
Aug. 20, 2016	The Sindh cabinet approved a draft of the Sindh Madaris Registration Bill, 2016.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 21, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1278846/sindh-cabinet-approves-draft-bill-to-regulate-seminaries-under-nap
October		
Date	Progress	Source
Oct. 7, 2016	An editorial in <i>Dawn</i> argues that geotagging of seminaries is the first step.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 8, 2016, http://www.dawn.com/news/1288681/geotagging-seminaries
November		
Date	Progress	Source
Nov. 3, 2016	WifaqulMadaris Al-Arabia (WMAA) demanded that the Sindh Government disclose the names of the madaris they claim have links with militant outfits.	<i>The News</i> , November 4, 2016, https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/162142-Why-is-Sindh-govt-not-disclosing-names-of-madrasas-with-terror-links
Nov. 17, 2016	State minister for religious affairs admitted that Pakistan Madressah Education Board has failed to deliver, that of mainstreaming madrassahs.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 17, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=17_11_2016_004_002

Nov. 19, 2016	In efforts of promoting and maintaining peace in North Waziristan, authorities have officially banned carrying and keeping of arms. They have also closed down a few <i>madrassas</i> and plan to promote tourism in the area.	<i>The News</i> , November 20, 2016, http://tns.thenews.com.pk/peace-place-violence/
December		
Date	Progress	Source
Dec. 23, 2016	Ministry of religious affairs decides to focus on upgrading the curriculum of religious seminaries.	<i>Dawn</i> , December 24, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1304184
Dec. 24, 2016	The government has stressed the need to reform curriculum of religious seminaries but has discussed little on how to implement such reforms.	<i>Dawn</i> , December 25, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=25_12_2016_008_001

Afghan Refugees

May		
Date	Progress	Source
May 29, 2016	Afghan government formally requested Pakistan to grant four years of extension to the 1.5 million registered refugees to legalize their stay till 2020.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 30, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=30_05_2016_007_003
June		
Date	Progress	Source
Jun. 26, 2016	Federal Ministry of Defense said that they were considering a proposal for the early repatriation of 3million Afghan refugees.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 27, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=27_06_2016_010_002
Jun. 29, 2016	The government granted a six-month extension to the registered Afghan refugees living in Pakistan.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 30, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=30_06_2016_001_001
July		
Date	Progress	Source
Jun. 30, 2016	QaumiWatan Party welcomed the government's decision of extending the stay of Afghan refugees and said that they should not be harassed.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 1, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=01_07_2016_007_002

Jul. 3, 2016	Advisor to PM on Foreign Affairs, Sartaj Aziz, frankly remarked, that the Afghan refugees camps "have become safe havens for terrorists," indicating a shift in Islamabad's Afghan policy. Afghan refugees are starting to be viewed as a huge burden and liability for Pakistan.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 4, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=04_07_2016_007_002
Jul. 14, 2016	40 Afghan unregistered refugees vacated their homes in Khyber agency, after the stay deadline expired.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 15, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=15_07_2016_007_001
Jul. 18, 2016	QaumiWatan Party suggested to the government to devise a repatriation mechanism for unregistered Afghan refugees in consultation with all political parties to remove misunderstandings between the two countries.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 19, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=19_07_2016_007_004
Jul. 20, 2016	Afghan refugees declared that they were ready to return to Afghanistan with "dignity" but they aired their concerns regarding the repatriation to the ministry of States and Frontier Regions.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 21, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=21_07_2016_004_002
Jul. 27, 2016	The return of registered refugees and undocumented Afghans to their homeland saw a slight increase. Voluntary return of refugees from KP was moving along well ever since the federal government extended stay of refugees till December 2016.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 28, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=28_07_2016_007_003
	August	
Date	Progress	Source
Aug. 4, 2016	Afghan tribal elders in KP asked the government to let the Afghan refugees stay in Pakistan for two more years, giving them time to wind up their businesses and sell off properties.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 5, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=05_08_2016_007_002
Aug. 6, 2016	Police and LEAs have not stopped harassing unregistered Afghan refugees despite the federal government's directions against mistreatment.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 7, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=07_08_2016_007_002
Aug. 20, 2016	The Supreme Court was moved by Advocate Zulfiqar Bhutta to seek direction for the deadline extension to another year for the repatriation of Afghan refugees.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 21, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=21_08_2016_003_003
Aug. 29, 2016	The closed Chaman border has halted Afghan refugee families from returning home.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 30, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=30_08_2016_005_001

September		
Date	Progress	Source
Sep. 9, 2016	Federal cabinet granted another three month extension for Afghan refugees to stay in Pakistan.	<i>Dawn</i> , September 10, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=10_09_2016_001_007
Sep. 21, 2016	JUI-f members called for the safe return of Afghan refugees with their "dignity" intact.	<i>Dawn</i> , September 22, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=22_09_2016_007_004
Sep. 28, 2016	Another repatriation center was opened to facilitate the "safe and dignified" return of Afghan refugees to their homeland.	<i>Dawn</i> , September 29, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=29_09_2016_003_005
October		
Date	Progress	Source
Oct. 4, 2016	0.2million Afghan refugees returned home this year under the voluntary repatriation program.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 5, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=05_10_2016_007_002
Oct. 7, 2016	ANP formed a panel to help address problems faced by the returning Afghan refugees.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 8, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=08_10_2016_007_002
Oct. 8, 2016	The government will allow certain Afghan refugees to stay on (including investors; those seeking medical treatment; have a Pakistani spouse; students).	<i>Dawn</i> , October 9, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=09_10_2016_007_003
November		
Date	Progress	Source
Nov. 8, 2016	Afghan woman SharbatGula deported	<i>Dawn</i> , November 9, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=09_11_2016_016_004
Nov. 9, 2016	The government of Afghanistan welcomed an Afghan refugee, after she was deported from Pakistan	<i>Dawn</i> , November 10, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=10_11_2016_003_006
Nov. 14, 2016	There are reports of extending the deadline for repatriating Afghan nationals till 2018.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 15, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=15_11_2016_016_007
Nov. 15, 2016	62 Afghan nationals were arrested from Khuzdar, for lacking legal documents.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 16, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=16_11_2016_005_008
Nov. 17, 2016	An un-signed notification in Khyber Agency asked tribesmen to acquire passports for travelling to Afghanistan from January onwards.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 17, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=17_11_2016_007_001

December		
Date	Progress	Source
Dec. 2, 2016	According to UNHCR, more than 380,000 registered Afghan refugees returned home from Pakistan.	<i>Dawn</i> , December 3, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1300186

Security Progress with Neighbouring/Foreign Countries

January		
Date	Progress	Source
Jan. 2, 2016	The new Foreign Office offered its full cooperation to India in the eradication of terrorism.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 3, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=03_01_2016_001_002
Jan. 4, 2016	Kashmiri militant organization claimed that the Pathankot attack (India) was carried out by a group of Kashmiri "freedom fighters."	<i>Dawn</i> , January 5, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=05_01_2016_001_004
Jan. 5, 2016	PM assured Modi that "prompt and decisive action" will be taken if involvement of Pakistan-based elements in the Pathankot attack was proved beyond doubt,	<i>Dawn</i> , January 6, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=06_01_2016_001_002
Jan.5, 2016	MoU signed with Sri Lanka on cooperation in the exchange of intelligence related to money laundering and terrorism financing.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 6, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=06_01_2016_003_002
Jan. 8, 2016	PM asked for "concrete" evidence from India for acting on the elements suspected of being involved in the Pathankot airbase attack.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 9, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=09_01_2016_001_007
Jan. 9, 2016	Talks will be held among China, US, Pakistan and Afghanistan to discuss the revival of Afghan peace process.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 10, 2016 http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=10_01_2016_005_008
Jan. 11, 2016	First round of four-nation consultations on reviving Afghan peace process, called for direct dialogue with Taliban factions.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 12, 2016 http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=12_01_2016_001_008
Jan. 11, 2016	Pakistan says that main component of Indian evidence, for the Pathankot case, does not check out.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 12, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=12_01_2016_001_005

Jan. 13, 2016	At a PM address, the government announced that an investigation team will be work together with India to look into the Pathankot attack.	<i>Jang</i> , January 14, 2016, In Print.
Jan. 13, 2016	Three suspects were picked up by law enforcement agencies in connection with the Pathankot attack.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 14, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=14_01_2016_005_005
Jan. 18, 2016	PM and COAS embarked on two day visit to Saudi Arabia to participate in "counter-terrorism coalition."	<i>Dawn</i> , January 19, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=19_01_2016_005_001
Jan. 27, 2016	KP CM said that Pak-Afghan border needs to be secured in order to keep Pakistani cities safe.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 28, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=28_01_2016_007_003
Jan. 28, 2016	Balochistan CM agreed to work with Iran to curb terrorism along the border areas by exchanging information regarding terrorist activities.	<i>Dawn</i> , January 29, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=29_01_2016_005_002
Jan. 30, 2016	Pakistan-Iran Joint Border Commission decided to undertake joint border supervision by monitoring cross-border activities using the latest technology	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , January 31, 2016, http://tribune.com.pk/story/1037348/pakistan-iran-agree-to-enhance-joint-border-supervision/
February		
Date	Progress	Source
Feb. 17, 2016	Security officials admitted that there were thousands of people crossing the Afghan-Pak border unregulated and it was not possible to check every person crossing, which is how terrorists slip into the country among all the chaos.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 18, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=18_02_2016_001_009
Feb. 22, 2016	Officials at Torkham border beefed up security making sure that only people with valid documents were crossing the border.	<i>Dawn</i> , February 23, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=23_02_2016_007_005
April		
Date	Progress	Source
Apr. 2, 2016	Authorities mobilized tribes against threats of TTP and IS on the Afghan side of the border near Kurram Agency.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 3, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=03_04_2016_001_006
Apr. 12, 2016	Tribal elders of Kurram agency started negotiations with their Afghan cousins to force I.S out of their regions.	<i>Dawn</i> , April 13, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=13_04_2016_007_005

May		
Date	Progress	Source
May 10, 2016	Border authorities have tightened the checking of Afghans crossing over into Pakistan and restricted their movement to a barbed footpath along the border.	<i>Dawn</i> , May 11, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=11_05_2016_003_004
May 20, 2016	Pakistan left with a few days to decide whether it will purchase eight multi-role fighter jets F-16s from the US	<i>Dawn</i> , May 21, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=21_05_2016_001_006
June		
Date	Progress	Source
Jun. 17, 2016	Authorities started to build a gate at the border with Iran at Taftan to curb illegal trade.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 18, 2016 www.dawn.com/news/1265654
Jun. 18, 2016	Torkham border reopened for traffic after being closed for a week because of arguments over the construction of a border gate on the Pak-Afghan border.	<i>Dawn</i> , June 19, 2016 www.dawn.com/news/1265832
July		
Date	Progress	Source
Jul. 2, 2016	Taliban leader called for foreign forces to "quit occupation" of Afghanistan if Kabul wanted to reach any agreement with Taliban.	<i>Dawn</i> , July 3, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1268790
August		
Date	Progress	Source
Aug. 3, 2016	Pakistan, China, Afghanistan and Tajikistan announced their quadrilateral counterterrorism alliance, Quadrilateral Cooperation and Coordination Mechanism (QCCM) at the inaugural meeting in Urumqi, China.	<i>Dawn</i> , August 4, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1275303
September		
Date	Progress	Source
Sept. 2, 2016	Interior Ministry revealed that Pakistan has spent Rs 23 billion to raise a special force, Special Security Division (SSD) to provide security to CPEC's sea routes, Gwadar port and the Chinese workers engaged in various projects all over the country.	<i>The News</i> , September 3, 2016, https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/147475-Pakistan-raises-Special-Security-Division-successfully

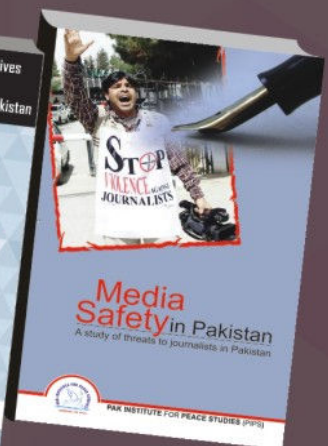
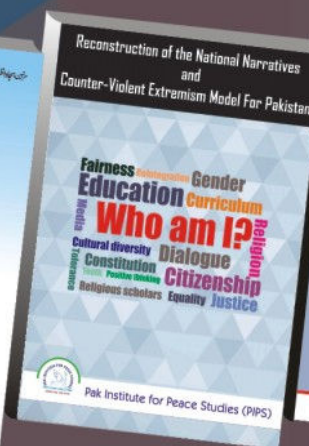
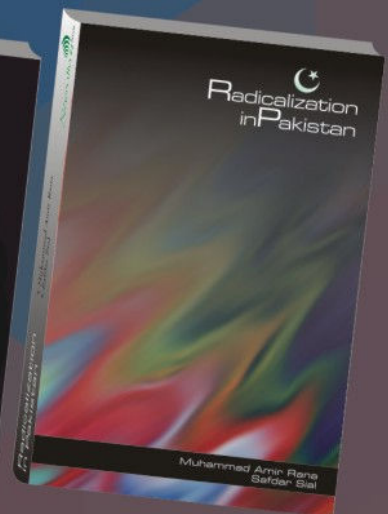
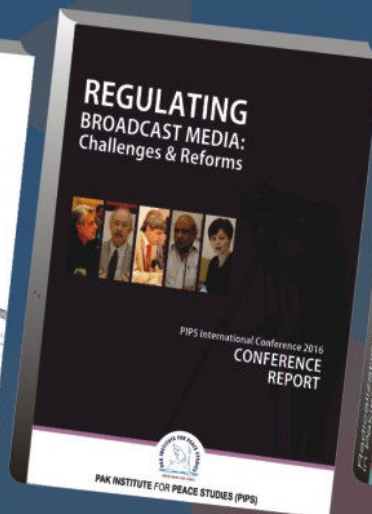
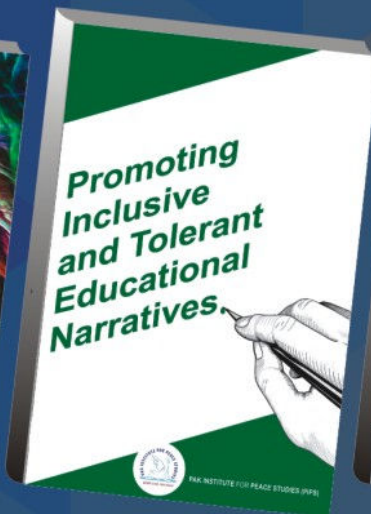
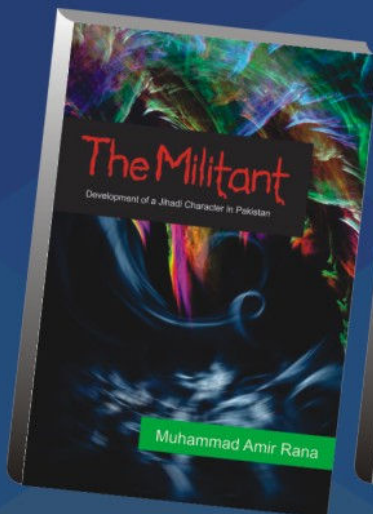
Sept. 18, 2016	Plans to operationalize the Special Security Division (SSD) for CPEC were halted because of civil-military disagreements regarding the extent of military influence over the law enforcement agencies under SSD.	<i>Dawn</i> , September 19, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1284724
October		
Date	Progress	Source
Oct. 7, 2016	India announced that by 2018 it will completely seal off the border with Pakistan and has allowed local residents in Punjab to return home.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 8, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1288801
Oct. 14, 2016	Authorities closed the Pak-Afghan border after a suicide bomber attacked on a checkpoint in Kurram. The closure has brought bilateral trade between the two countries to a standstill.	<i>Dawn</i> , October 17, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1290458
November		
Date	Progress	Source
Nov. 2, 2016	Pakistani media made public, based on a leak, the names of 8 Indian personnel in the high commission, accused of espionage.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 3, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=03_11_2016_001_006
Nov. 3, 2016	The Foreign Office accused India of "promoting" and "financing" terror outfits in Pakistan.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 4, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=04_11_2016_003_008
Nov. 17, 2016	Turkey's President Tayyeb Erdogan, in his address to Pakistani parliament, claimed that FatehullahGullen's group is a serious threat like Al-Qaeda and TTP.	<i>Dawn</i> , November 18, 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=18_11_2016_001_006
December		
Date	Progress	Source
Dec 2, 2016	US defense bill pledged \$450 million to a certification that Pakistan "is committed to fighting all terrorist groups."	<i>Dawn</i> , December 3, 2016, www.dawn.com/news/1300171
Dec 2, 2016	Government released Rs. 1.3 billion for CPEC security	<i>The Express Tribune</i> , December 3, 2016, http://tribune.com.pk/story/1252042/govt-releases-rs1-3-billion-cpec-security/
Dec. 3, 2016	Key suspect who set on fire Baldia factory in 2012 was arrested in Bangkok.	<i>Dawn</i> , 4 December 2016, http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=04_12_2016_001_006
Dec. 3, 2016	Washington said that the Haqqani group poses the greatest threat to US troops in Afghanistan and that it enjoyed sanctuary in Pakistan.	<i>The News</i> , December 4, 2016, https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/169703-Haqqani-Network-enjoys-sanctuary-in-Pakistan-claims-US-commander



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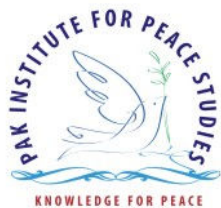
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