

TGD Monthly Terrorism Report — Vol. 3

Monthly Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism Assessment

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About Us

The Global Decipher (TGD) provides in-depth, non-partisan analysis and coverage of terrorism, armed conflicts, and global security trends. By leveraging open-source intelligence, expert insights, and continuous monitoring, TGD aims to deliver accurate, timely, and actionable information to researchers, policymakers, and security professionals worldwide.



REPORT COMPILED BY

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The data presented in this report were obtained from open-source materials and through continuous monitoring of the security situation on a daily basis. Efforts have been made to ensure accuracy, and this report does not include unverified or speculative claims.

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SECTION I

***PAKISTAN MONTHLY TERRORISM & COUNTER-
TERRORISM ASSESSMENT***

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The internal security apparatus of Pakistan faced a multifaceted threat landscape in March 2026, characterized by persistent asymmetric engagements across key conflict zones. This report period covers terrorist incidents from March 1st to March 31st based on open-source data. A total of 154 militant-initiated attacks were recorded, indicating a sustained operational tempo by militant groups, particularly in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in the northwest and Balochistan in the southwest, with limited activity in Gilgit-Baltistan. The report observed a decline in high-profile militant attacks, coinciding with Pakistan's Operation Ghazab Lil Haq against militants in Afghanistan, even as the overall number of incidents increased during the month. This suggests a shift toward more frequent but lower-intensity operations. The reporting period also saw coordinated attacks in Balochistan by the proscribed Baloch Liberation Army (BLA) on 29–30 March, which were successfully repulsed by security forces. During the reporting period, 152 militants were killed, 29 were injured, and 19 were arrested in multiple security forces' Intelligence-Based Operations (IBOs) and engagements across the country. Overall, militant violence persisted at a steady pace throughout the reporting period.

II. OPERATIONAL OVERVIEW

Over the course of March 2026, militant incidents in Pakistan were heavily concentrated in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), particularly in southern districts, and in Balochistan, with limited activity in Gilgit-Baltistan (GB). The majority of attacks targeted security forces, law enforcement personnel, and peace committee members. In KP, most attacks were claimed by Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), while in Balochistan, the Baloch Liberation Army (BLA) was responsible for the majority of violent incidents. In GB, attacks were claimed by Ittehadul Mujahideen Pakistan (IMP). Furthermore, joint attacks by TTP, Jumat ul Ahrar (JuA), and IMP were also observed in Bara Tehsil of Khyber district of KP. Early-month activity in Balochistan included ambushes, sabotage, and targeted killings by BLA, including coordinated attacks in late March that were successfully repulsed by security forces.

Militant tactics included ambushes, IED and explosive attacks, targeted killings, drone operations, hostage-taking, and sabotage, demonstrating both tactical innovation and persistence. By mid-month, operational activity shifted toward more frequent but lower-intensity attacks, coinciding with Pakistan's Operation Ghazab Lil Haq against militants in Afghanistan, which contributed to the decline in high-profile attacks while overall incidents remained elevated.

Security forces responded with multiple Intelligence-Based Operations (IBOs) and CTD-led interventions, successfully neutralizing, injuring, or arresting numerous militants in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan, and Sindh.

III. QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS: CASUALTIES

During the reporting period, a total of 269 individuals were affected by militant violence across Pakistan, including 101 fatalities and 168 injuries. Among the affected, security forces personnel suffered 59 deaths and 48 injuries, civilians accounted for 20 fatalities and 98 injuries, law enforcement personnel experienced 17 deaths and 15 injuries, and peace committee members incurred 5 fatalities and 7 injuries. These figures reflect the human cost of ongoing militant activity and illustrate the continued operational risks faced by both state actors and the general population.

The Human Toll: March 2026

Total affected: 269 | Fatalities: 101 | Injuries: 168

■ Dark red = Fatalities ■ Teal = Injuries

Law Enforcement Personnel (Total: 32)		TOTAL
17	15	32
Security Forces Personnel (Total: 107)		TOTAL
59	48	107
Civilians (Total: 118)		TOTAL
20	98	118
Peace Committee Members (Total: 12)		TOTAL
5	7	12

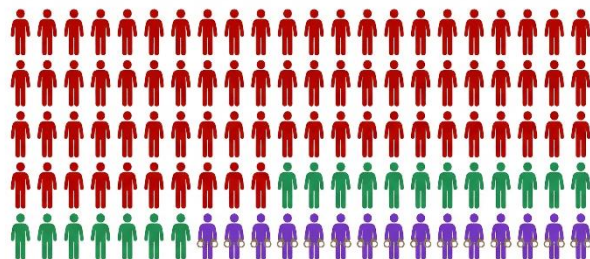
Counterterrorism and Intelligence-Based Operations (IBOs) conducted during the period neutralized 152 militants, injured 29 others, and led to the arrest of 19 suspects across multiple operational areas. Some of those arrested included members of the Baloch Republican Guards (BRG), Sindh Revolutionary Army (SRA), and TTP affiliates, detained during joint operations by the CTD and intelligence agencies in Karachi, Sindh. Furthermore, two Azeri affiliates of

ISKP were arrested in the Orakzai district of KP. These operations combined intelligence-led actions and armed engagements, aiming to dismantle militant networks, disrupt attacks on security and civilian targets, and reduce the overall operational capability of hostile groups.

Militant Losses – March 2026

200

TOTAL MILITANT LOSSES



IV. THREAT ACTORS

In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, the majority of attacks were carried out by Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), which dominated operations across districts, including South Waziristan, Dera Ismail Khan, Lakki Marwat, Tank, Bajaur, Kurram, Bannu, and Khyber. Hafiz Gul Bahadar (HGB)-led Ittehad al Mujahideen Pakistan (IMP) focused primarily on Bannu, North Waziristan, and Khyber, while joint TTP, IMP attacks were also observed in the mentioned

districts. Moreover, the Islamic State Khorasan Province (ISKP) conducted a targeted attack on an individual in Wana, South Waziristan.

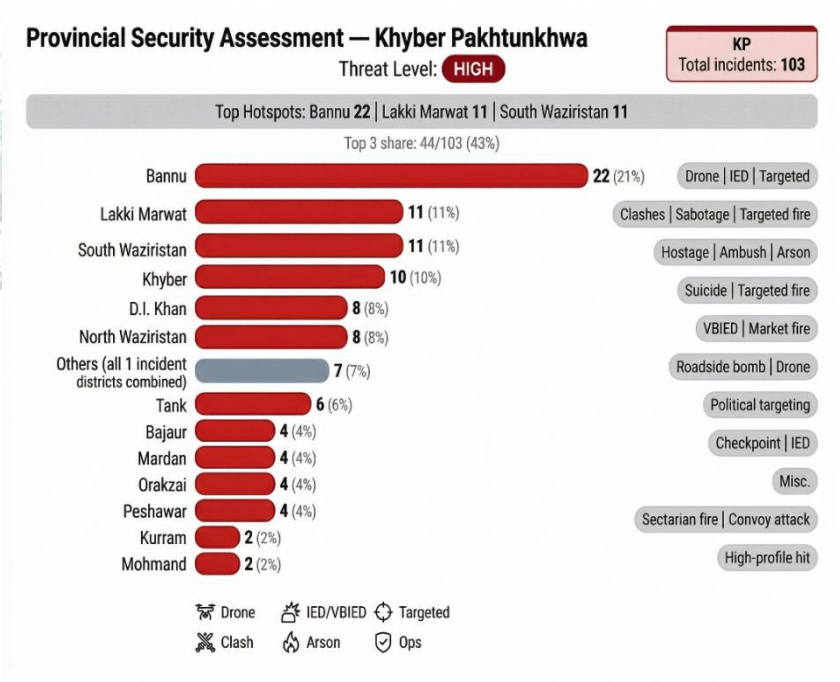
In Balochistan, militant activity was largely carried out by Baloch nationalist groups, including the Baloch Liberation Army (BLA), Balochistan Liberation Front (BLF), and Baloch Republican Guards (BRG). The BLA attempted coordinated attacks in Quetta, Mastung, Nushki, Khara, Panjgur, and Jhal Magsi, including efforts to target transport infrastructure such as the Jaffar Express, though not all attempts were successful. Smaller, isolated contributions were also observed from other Baloch outfits.

In Gilgit-Baltistan (GB), IMP claimed two attacks, one in Skardu and another in Darel, indicating the group’s operational reach beyond its traditional Khyber Pakhtunkhwa strongholds.

V. PROVINCIAL SECURITY ASSESSMENT

1. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

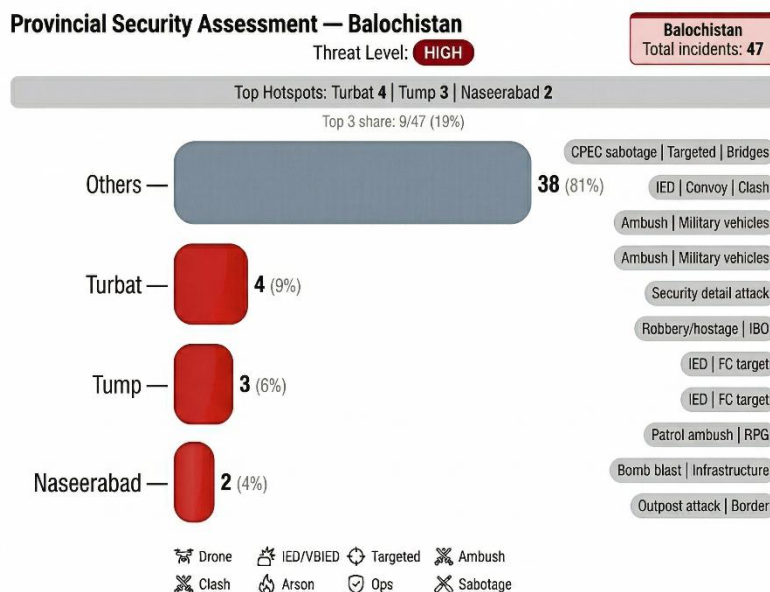
During the reporting period, the southern districts of KP emerged as the most volatile, with Bannu experiencing the densest concentration of militant activity. The district saw repeated quadcopter-delivered explosive strikes on police posts, targeted shootings of officers, ambushes on patrolling units, and several cases where abducted law enforcement members were later executed. Lakki Marwat and the Waziristan region reflected a similar operational tempo, marked by assaults on police stations, attacks on security checkpoints, and targeted killings carried out near the private residences of law enforcement and Peace Committee members. Incidents involving the killing of PC representatives and the abduction of associated individuals underscored militants’ intent to dismantle community-based resistance structures.



II. Balochistan

During the reporting period, several districts across Balochistan experienced a consistent pattern of security-related incidents, with Turbat, Panjgur, Kech, Naseerabad, Khuzdar, Sibi, Kharan, and Dera Bugti showing the most frequent activity. Areas around Turbat and Tump saw repeated occurrences such as ambushes, small-arms fire, targeted shootings, and grenade attacks on security posts. Panjgur and adjoining areas reported similar activity, including sniper fire, attacks on checkpoints, and assaults on mobile patrols. In parts of Naseerabad, Sibi, and

Khuzdar, armed groups engaged in incidents involving attacks on local administrative sites, road blockades, and the temporary disruption of movement along key routes. Kharan, Dhadar, and Dera Bugti recorded events such as explosions, targeted shootings, and attacks on convoys. Occasional incidents involving damage to transport vehicles, gas infrastructure, and checkpoints further illustrate a pattern of attempts to hinder mobility and disrupt routine governance functions. Across these areas, the frequency and distribution of events position the southwestern and central zones of Balochistan as the primary locations where security challenges were most pronounced during this reporting period.



III. Gilgit Baltistan:

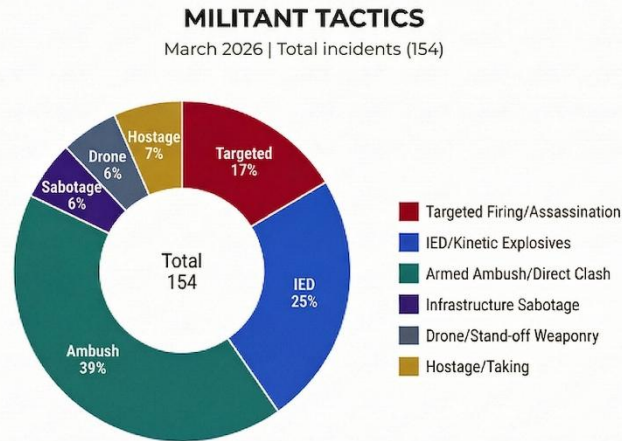
Gilgit-Baltistan remained relatively calm during the reporting period. However, an attack on security forces in Darel was reported and successfully repulsed, claimed by IMP, and another targeted attack was also claimed by the group in Skardu. Taken together, these developments indicate a potential shift of militant attention toward the region

IV. Punjab and Sindh

Punjab and Sindh remained comparatively calm during the reporting period, though isolated activity was reported in Punjab's southern belts. In the D.G. Khan area adjoining KP's D.I. Khan and Tank districts, an incident occurred in which four terrorists were killed, reflecting occasional spillover dynamics from the neighboring conflict-affected zones. In contrast, Sindh reported no security-related incidents; however, intelligence-driven and CTD-led operations resulted in the arrest of militants.

VI. Tactics

Targeted attacks and armed assaults remained the most frequently employed tactics throughout the reporting period, followed by the widespread use of IEDs placed on roads, vehicles, and motorcycles to strike both moving convoys and static security positions. Militants also consistently used low-cost quadcopter drones in KP. Abductions were used across several districts to intimidate local communities and pressure state institutions, often targeting civilians and law enforcement members. In Balochistan, repeated acts of infrastructure sabotage, including attacks on road links and key transit routes, were used to restrict state mobility and disrupt logistics. These methods, combined with ambushes and sniper fire, reflect a diversified tactical approach.

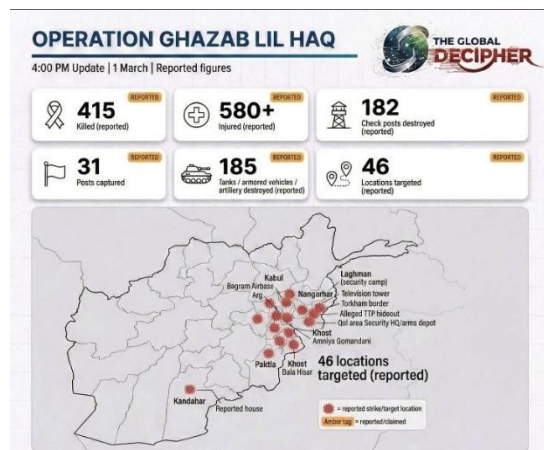


VII. Key Takeaways:

- **Southern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Activity:** Southern KP remained the primary hotspot, with frequent shootings, abductions, IED attacks, and quadcopter-based strikes concentrated in Bannu, Lakki Marwat, D.I. Khan, Khyber, and the Waziristan districts.
- **Balochistan Sustained Militant Pressure:** Balochistan continued to face sustained militant pressure, including ambushes, grenades, and rocket attacks, targeted killings, and infrastructure sabotage across Turbat, Panjgur, Kech, Khuzdar, Sibi, Kharan, and Naseerabad.
- **Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) Developments:** Gilgit-Baltistan remained relatively calm, though an IMP-claimed attack in the wider region and a repulsed attempt in Darel signaled early indications of militant interest extending northward.
- **ISKP Activity:** ISKP activity was present in the reporting period, including a claimed attack in South Waziristan and the arrest of two ISKP-affiliated Azerbaijani nationals in Orakzai, highlighting cross-border linkages and foreign militant involvement.



1. Impact of “Operation Ghazab Lil Haq” on Terrorism Incidents



During the reporting period, Pakistan observed a decline in high-profile militant attacks, coinciding with the launch of Operation Ghazab Lil Haq against militant groups in Afghanistan. While the overall number of incidents increased, with 155 attacks reported in March compared to 83 in February, overall casualties declined by approximately 68%, dropping from 839 in February to 269 in March. This sharp reduction reflects a significant decrease in both fatalities and injuries, indicating an improved but still fragile

security environment, and suggests a shift toward more frequent but lower-intensity operations.

In response to these strikes, militant organizations, including Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), Jamaatul Ahrar, and Ittihadul Mujahideen—an umbrella alliance comprising the Hafiz Gul Bahadur Group, Lashkar-i-Islam, and Inquilab-i-Islami Pakistan—announced an escalation in attacks against Pakistan, contributing to increased low-intensity conflicts. Meanwhile, TTP launched its spring offensive, “Operation Khyber 2026,” signaling the group’s intent to escalate violent activities. If current trends persist, the number of low-intensity terrorist incidents is likely to rise, highlighting the continued need for proactive counterterrorism measures.



In the wake of Operation Ghazab Lil Haq, factions of the TTP, including the Hafiz Gul Bahadar (HGB) group, have framed attacks in support of the so-called Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan (IEA). The TTP’s so-called wali of Kurram described a recent assault on the Jabo police station as a “defense of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan,” explicitly invoking the IEA. Similarly, the HGB faction publicly announced the observance of Eid in North Waziristan in alignment with the IEA, signaling continued ideological and operational coordination with Afghanistan-based militant structures.

The observed changes in attack patterns, including a shift from high-profile strikes to frequent low-intensity operations, demonstrate the adaptive strategies of militant groups in response to cross-border military pressure. The decline in casualties during this period may have been influenced by Operation Ghazab Lil Haq and the heavy military deployment along the border, which likely disrupted cross-border militant support infrastructure and contributed to reducing the intensity of attacks against security forces and civilians.

2. Use of Women Suicide Bombers (BLA and TTP)

During the reporting period, the use of women for recruitment and suicide attacks was intercepted, highlighting a growing operational trend among militant groups. The involvement of women in suicide bombing has become increasingly notable among the Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) and the Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP). In March 2026, security forces apprehended a female suspect in Khuzdar, who was allegedly preparing a suicide attack and had links to TTP facilitators. Earlier, on February 21, 2026, the Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) foiled a planned terrorist attack and arrested another suspected female suicide bomber in Dera Ismail Khan. These cases underscore the groups' continued reliance on women for operational and support roles, including recruitment and execution of suicide missions.



Similarly, the BLA has employed female suicide bombers during operations such as “Operation Haroof”, reflecting a broader tactical shift toward deploying women in high-impact attacks. This trend complicates detection and response measures for security forces and highlights the evolving strategies of militant networks in Pakistan.

3. Increased Use of Quadcopter Drones by Militants:



The use of quadcopter drones has become an increasingly prominent tactic in militant operations across Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Between October 2025 and March 2026, numerous drone-assisted attacks were documented across South Waziristan, North Waziristan, Bajaur, Khyber, Lakki Marwat, Bannu, and Tank, targeting security forces and critical infrastructure. Militants are increasingly

exploiting commercially available drones, often modified for surveillance or carrying small explosive payloads, enabling them to monitor troop movements, identify vulnerable targets, and coordinate subsequent assaults while minimizing direct exposure. This trend reflects a broader shift toward low-cost, high-impact methods that expand operational reach and tactical flexibility.

The evolving use of drones presents significant challenges for security forces in conflict zones, complicating detection, mitigation, and rapid response measures. In response, security forces have deployed an anti-drone system, but only in limited numbers and not across the entire conflict zone. Nevertheless, drone-assisted attacks continue to pose security challenges.



This report is based on open-source data, and every effort has been made to ensure accuracy; however, information may be subject to revision. For feedback or inquiries, please contact The Global Decipher (TGD) through its official channels.





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