

July - September, 2021



Human Trafficking & Migrant Smuggling Newsletter

This issue

- P. 2 Project Launch: “Combatting Human Trafficking and Migrants Smuggling in Pakistan,” funded by the Government of Canada
- P. 3 Handing Over the Victim Reception and Facilitation Centre (VRFC)
- P.4 Research Study on Gender and Human Rights in Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling
- P.5 Capacity Building Activities, Training Workshops on Data Collection, Management, Research, and Analytical Skills related to TIP and SOM
- P.6 Training Workshops for Prosecutors in Islamabad, Lahore, and Karachi
- P.7 A coaching session for Women Law Enforcement
- P.7 Session in Police Lines HQ, Islamabad
- P.8 Online Session for Police, Social Welfare, CPB, and DOL
- P.9 United Nation’s World Day against Trafficking in Persons - July 30, 2021
- P.10 Stakeholders Meeting for the development of SOPs related to Victim Identification, Screening, and Referral
- P.10 Awareness-raising on Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling (HTMS)
- P.11 Meetings with Focal Persons of Provincial Police
- P.11 Meeting with Saylani Welfare International Trust for Food Provision at VRFC
- P.12 The Arrest of Human Smugglers
- P.13 Analysis of TIP and SOM Cases

Note: Statistics for this newsletter have been provided by the FIA

“The problem of human trafficking cannot be addressed by a single stakeholder, whether public, private or non-governmental. In order to be effective and to provide a sustainable solution to the issue, engagement must be multi-stakeholder in approach and focused on partnerships”.

*United Nations Office on
Drugs and Crime*



Project Launch: “Combatting Human Trafficking and Migrants Smuggling in Pakistan,” funded by the Government of Canada

UNODC in collaboration with Federal Investigation Agency, the implementing partner, launched a two-year project for “Combatting Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants in Pakistan” on July 27, 2021. This project is financially supported by Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC), the Government of Canada. The initiative is taken to strengthen the capacity of Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) and police to combat TIP and SOM, and raise awareness among various risk groups, public and relevant Pakistani authorities, and NGOs. It will also build the capacity of the national authorities to protect and reintegrate victims of trafficking and vulnerable smuggled migrants, especially women and children.

The Director-General FIA emphasized improving data management, prosecution of traffickers, smugglers, and protecting and supporting victims and witnesses while upholding the rule of law and human rights.

Her Excellency H.E. Ms. Wendy Gilmour, Canadian High Commissioner in Pakistan, Dr. Jeremy Milsom, Representative UNODC Country Office Pakistan, and Ms. Shahida Gillani National Program Officer UNODC also spoke about the event and activities under this project.

The event was followed by a two-days Training Workshop on Data Collection, Management, Research, and Analytical Skills from July 27-28, 2021, the first in the series.



Handing Over the Victim Reception and Facilitation Centre (VRFC)

UNODC completed the Victim Reception and Facilitation Centre (VRFC) funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Justice and Public Security (The Ministry of Justice).

Director Balochistan Zone and Assistant Director Quetta was given the charge of the facility by Director General FIA on August 31st 2021, in Taftan, Balochistan.

VRFC has the following accommodation specifications:

- i. Director’s Office.
- ii. Deputy Director Office.
- iii. Assistant Director Office.
- iv. Reception Room.
- v. Passenger dealing counter hall.
- vi. Waiting area for passengers and the general public.
- vii. Conference Room/ Border Liaison Office.
- viii. Male Accommodation Hall with 10x Bath Rooms.
- ix. Female Accommodation Hall with 3x Bath Rooms.

- x. Staff Room with Bath Room.
- xi. Staff Accommodation with Bath Rooms.
- xii. Kitchen and Dining Hall for staff and victims.

As per the initial MOU between the Federal Investigation Agency and UNODC’s Country Office Pakistan, after its establishment and opening, all recurring and administrative costs of the Victim Reception and Facilitation Centre, will be borne by the FIA and other Government departments. FIA provided land for the project as per the agreement and would appoint 20 officers and necessary staff members for the Victim VRFC, Taftan, Balochistan.





Research Study on Gender and Human Rights in Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling

UNODC, in collaboration with FIA, conducted a desk study in the last quarter of 2020 to gauge whether the Government of Pakistan's has an appropriate—gender-sensitive and human rights-based—national response to trafficking in persons (TIP) and smuggling of migrants (SOM). The study also aimed to ensure that in rendering support to the government in the implementation of the national response to trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants, a baseline on gender and human rights issues is provided. This will give policy directions to address gender and human rights gaps and measure impact.

In the next phase, UNODC will be conducting interviews with the key stakeholders from FIA, Police, and UN Agencies (IOM, UNHCR, ILO, and UNICEF).



Capacity Building Activities Training Workshops on Data Collection, Management, Research, and Analytical Skills related to TIP and SOM

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) conducted two workshops on data collection, management, research, and analytical skills, as part of the project "Combating Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants in Pakistan" - a two-year joint initiative, funded by the Government of Canada, through Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) department. The workshop conducted discussion on the following topics:

- Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling
- Difference between TIP and SOM Human Rights Perspective
- Introduction to Data Collection
- Indicators for TIP /SOM data collection
- Group Work and Presentations
- Presentation and Analysis of Data during 2020 and 2021
- The way forward and recommendations

There were 28 participants (19 men, 9 women) in the first workshop comprising officials of FIA and Police from Islamabad, Rawalpindi, and KP (Bannu, Peshawar, DI Khan, Abbottabad). In the second workshop, 24 officials of FIA and Police from Bahawalpur, Multan, Gujranwala, Faisalabad, Sargodha, Lahore, and Rawalpindi, were in attendance.





Training Workshops for Prosecutors in Islamabad, Lahore, and Karachi

FIA, in collaboration with UNODC, conducted three workshops on Trafficking in Persons & Smuggling of Migrants Legislation,” for Provincial Prosecution officials and FIA Prosecutors in Islamabad (August 25-26 2021), Lahore (September 8-9), and Karachi (September 29-30).

The objectives of the workshop were to:

- Engage prosecutors on the application of laws in Pakistan on trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants and recently enacted rules thereto,
- Discuss current practices in prosecution of TIP and SOM cases in the courts using examples from those cases.
- Deliberate emerging legal interpretation and evidential challenges, and discuss possible approaches for addressing these in light of global best practices; and
- Discuss further collaboration with

prosecution in TIP and SOM (e.g., forming a network of prosecutors/legal practitioners on TIP and SOM, collation of TIP and SOM-related judgments towards a Case Note Legal Brief as a resource for prosecutors);

UNODC expert delivered information sessions on the following :

- Overview of the international legal framework on TIP and SOM
- In-depth discussion of Pakistan’s Trafficking in Persons and Migrant Smuggling Principal Legislation & Rules
- Evidential challenges and legal interpretation questions arising from TIP case law
- Standard Operating Procedures: Victim Assistance and Protection



A coaching session for Women Law Enforcement

A second coaching session for women law enforcement officers on investigative techniques related to ‘Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants’ was organized on September 14 and 15, 2021. The session participants included 17 women officials from FIA and 7 officials from police.



Session in Police Lines HQ, Islamabad

A team of UNODC experts delivered lectures during the workshop on “Role of Police in Countering Human Trafficking” and “Importance of Data Sharing of Internal Trafficking Cases, Convictions, Victim Support and Referral to Social Services”. The event was conducted for police officers of CTF, ATS, and

PS Women at the School of Auditorium Hall Police Headquarters, Islamabad. The event was graced by Ms. Nafeesa Inyatullah Khan Khattak, as a Chief Guest, AIG Establishment Dr. Naveed Atif, SSP Logistics Muhammad Omar Khan, and Principal PTS Muhammad Najeeb Shah.

Online Session for Police, Social Welfare, CPB, and DOL

FIA, with technical support from UNODC, continued to conduct sessions for police and other stakeholders. During July and September, six online sessions were organized with an objective of sensitization of district officials on Trafficking in Persons Act, 2018 and related data provision. A total of 52 officials (including 13 women) attended the sessions. The participants included DPOs and SHOs from Punjab, Sindh, KP Police, and officials from the Social Welfare Department of Punjab and Balochistan. The police were sensitized to register cases under the new act, in addition to the sections of PPC.

The purpose of the sessions was to sensitize police for their role in dealing with internal trafficking as envisaged in section 3 of the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act, 2018. The police have been designated to investigate offenses of forced/bonded labor, forced beggary, sexual abuse against girls and women, forced marriages, etc.

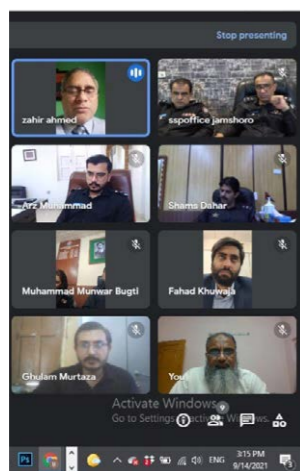
The Director AHS moderated detailed discussions on TIP Law, application of law in addition sections of PPC, differences between

human trafficking and migrants smuggling and support to victims of human trafficking. Consultant UNODC co-facilitated these sessions.

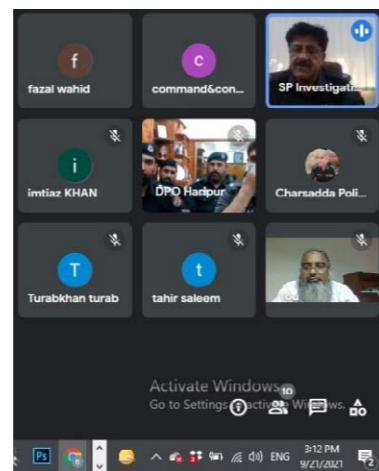
The Social Welfare Department plays a key role in providing protection and assistance to the victims of human trafficking. These sessions also helped officials from the Labour and Child Protection Departments with their role in forced/bonded labor and related crimes.

Officer's role in the provision of—support to victims of human trafficking such as psychosocial and medical support, temporary shelter, link up with family members legal assistance, witness protection, and other related support as per the mandate of the law, SOPs, and Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Rules, 2020—was described.

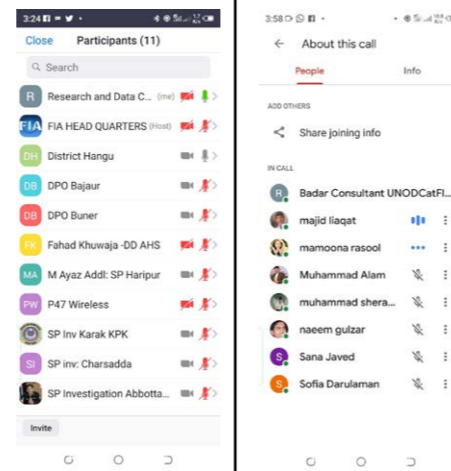
Case management, convictions, and victim support data must strictly follow standardized format for Police, Social Welfare, Labour, and Child Protection Departments.



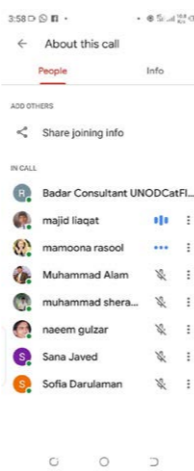
14.09.2021 DPOs of Sindh



21.09.2021 SHOs of KP Police



15.09.2021 DPOs, KP Police



16.09.2021 District officials of Social Welfare Department Punjab



United Nation's World Day against Trafficking in Persons - July 30, 2021

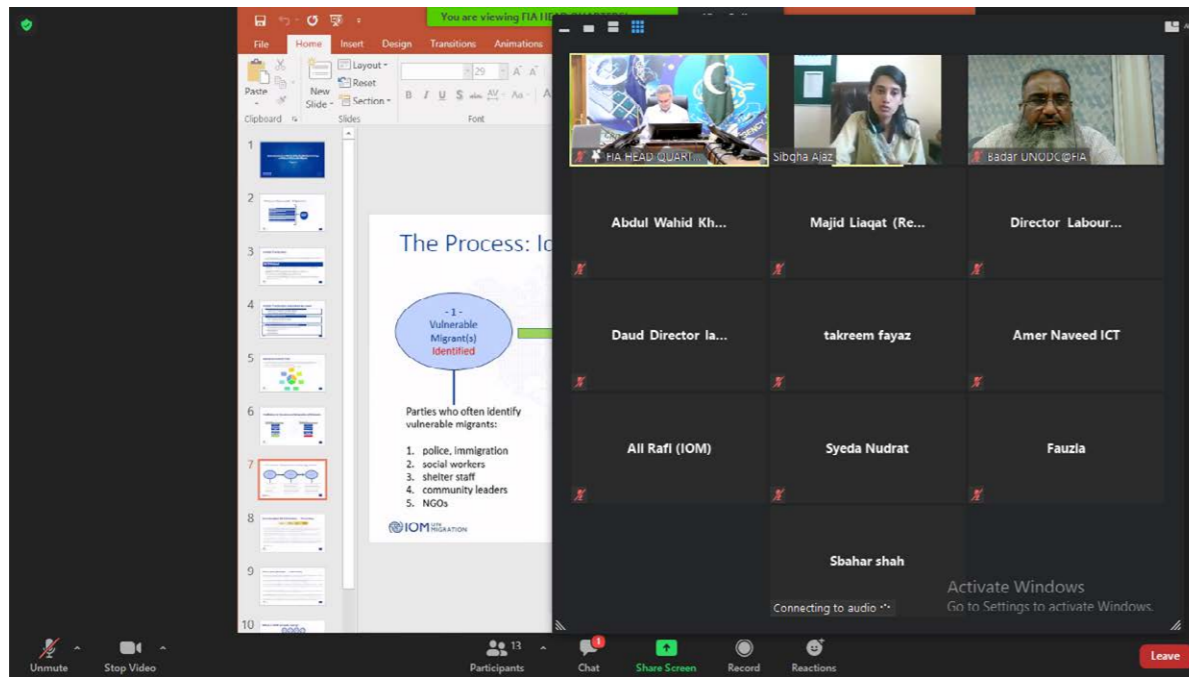
Under the EU funded Global Action to Address Trafficking in Persons and the Smuggling of Migrants (GLO.ACT – Asia and the Middle East), UNODC, commemorated the World Day against Trafficking in Persons (TIP) in collaboration with the FIA in a seminar held on Friday 30th July 2021, in Islamabad.

The theme of the event was "Victim's Voices Lead the Way". During the commemoration seminar, survivors of trafficking and other relevant stakeholders made keynote speeches. The National Action Plan to combat human trafficking and migrant smuggling (2021-2025),

adopted by the Government of Pakistan, was also presented.

The event was attended by two victims of human trafficking and migrant smuggling and over 60 officials of federal and provincial departments including Secretaries of Social Welfare, Labour and Child protection, Provincial Police Officers, officials from MOFA, MOI, MoHR, MoL&J, Federal Judicial Academy, Police Training Colleges, UN Agencies including IOM, UNHCR, ILO, UNICEF, civil society organization and media.





Stakeholders Meeting for the development of SOPs related to Victim Identification, Screening, and Referral

FIA, in collaboration with IOM, organized an online meeting on Aug 17th, 2021, to introduce an upcoming needs-assessment exercise on SOPs related to victim identification, screening, and referral. The exercise will focus on protection and assistance for victims of TIP and SOM in Pakistan as stipulated in recent legislation and FIA's National Action Plan.

The meeting featured 14 online participants (nine men and five women) of officials from FIA, UNODC, Social Welfare Departments, Labor Departments, and Child Protection Departments from all provinces of Pakistan.

Awareness-raising on Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling (HTMS)

FIA, in collaboration with UNODC, organized awareness sessions for police, academia, civil society, and media on human trafficking and migrant smuggling on 14-15 July 2021, in Karachi. The objective was to educate, raise awareness, and build up the capacity of police and the community on HTMS. These workshops helped coordinate efforts with the police and bridge the communication gap between key stakeholders.

On the first day, there were 30 participants from Police including five women. Whereas on the second day, 30 participants including seven women took part in the proceedings. These hailed from civil society organizations, academia, media, and the community.

Meetings with Focal Persons of Provincial Police

A meeting with focal persons from Provincial Police was held on September 13th 2021. Police Focal Persons from Islamabad, Sindh, Balochistan, Punjab, KP, and AJK participated. They discussed

ways to improve data sharing by provinces and the registration of TIP cases along with sections of PPC. It was made clear that victim referral and support data should also be reported.

Meeting with Saylani Welfare International Trust for Food Provision at VRFC

UNODC, FIA, and Selani Foundation officials met on September 24, 2021, to gather information on victim support activities at VRFC. FIA management shared the context of VRFC and made some recommendations for victim support activities. The meeting was attended by Shahida Gillani (CO UNODC), Zahir Ahmed (Director AHS, HQ, FIA), Arshad Mehmood (Selani Welfare), Ehsan Hassan Gillani (CO UNODC), Jawad Ahmed (Dy Director, FIA, Balochistan), and Badar Munir (UNODC).

FIA Balochistan shared the process of victim handling and the support required for victims received at AHTC Taftaan, Balochistan.



The Arrest of Human Smugglers

FIA Karachi arrested a notorious human smuggler under the Prevention of Smuggling of Migrants Act 2018. The accused was involved in facilitating illegal border crossing, sending intending immigrants to Turkey without any travel documents, and receiving huge amounts for this purpose. He was wanted by FIA under two cases including PSOM Act, 2018. Inquiry is under process.

FIA Balochistan Arrests a Human Smuggler from Punjab

Balochistan Zone arrested a human smuggler from Sialkot, Punjab. The human smuggler had sent a father and son on the journey to Greece. The human smugglers kidnapped the father and son and later released them after receiving the ransom. The kidnappers had sent videos of the father and son and forced the family members to pay the ransom amount.

When the victims returned from Turkey and Iran, FIA Balochistan anti-human trafficking officers thoroughly interrogated them. After investigation from the irregular immigrants, an FIA team was dispatched to Sialkot, Punjab, that successfully picked up the accused human smuggler.

Initial investigation showed the accused had taken PKR 340,000 from the victims in March 2020 for sending them to European countries.

They reached the Turkish border illegally using unfrequented routes of Iran and Turkey. However, armed men kidnapped them at the Turkish border and subjected them to the worst type of torture for many days. The captors sent videos of torture to their family members forcing them to pay the ransom amount. The family paid PKR 500,000 to the captors for the release of both the victims.

Analysis of TIP and SOM Cases

AHTCs registered 19 cases under the Prevention of Smuggling of Migrants (SOM) Act, 2018 and 1 case under the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Act, 2018. The following tabulation shows the zone-wise categorization of TIP and SOM cases.

TIP and SOM Cases during July-September, 2021		
Zone	TIP Cases	SOM Cases
Balochistan	-	3
Punjab	-	8
Punjab II	1	4
Sindh	-	2
ISB	-	1
KP	-	1
Total	1	19

A brief analysis of these cases is as follows:

- FIA Punjab Zone-I registered a case under the PSOM Act, 2018 against seven human smugglers and facilitator agents for allegedly receiving Rs. 3,000,000 on the pretext of sending an individual to Canada. However, the intending migrant was sent to Cambodia via Dubai. He was kidnapped, tortured, and left alone in Cambodia. His family arranged for his recovery to Pakistan. The investigation is in progress.
- FIA Immigration Lahore detected forged visas for Italy, South Africa, and a forged French passport from different immigrants during routine checking. FIA, after necessary verifications, registered cases against the accused under the Passport Act, SOM Act, and other sections of PPC. The investigation is in progress.
- Punjab Zone also registered two cases against human smugglers and facilitators under PSOM Act, 2018, for providing fake documents to travel to Sweden and Italy. The intending immigrants traveled on legal documents to Doha (Qatar) and Dubai (UAE) but got

deported due to fake visas for the journey onwards.

- Punjab II Zone registered two cases under PSOM Act, 2018, against human smugglers for receiving huge amounts from intending migrants for overseas employment and later sending them to Iraq for illegal border crossing onward. The migrants were later handed over to Pakistan.
- Punjab II Zone registered a case against a human smuggler (under PSOM Act, 2018) who received a huge amount from intending migrants to help him cross the Iran-Turkish border. The intending migrant was tortured by Human Smugglers in Iran and left on the border. He was later handed over to Pakistan by the Iranian authorities.
- Karachi zone registered two cases against a human smuggler (under PSOM Act, 2018) for providing a forged Turkish visa to an intending immigrant of Gujranwala. The immigrant had paid an amount of 270,000 to the accused.
- Islamabad Zone arrested one of five accused of sending passengers of 11 individuals to Italy via Dubai-Kenya. A case has been registered under the PSOM Act, 2018, and related sections

of PPC. The accused received amounts of 200,000 to 300,000 from intending migrants.

- From Balochistan Zone, a pax of 16 irregular migrants including 7 Afghan nationals were intercepted at Turkuman check post bordering Mastung and Quetta. The intending irregular migrants were traveling through Iran to Turkey. They had agreed to pay 160,000

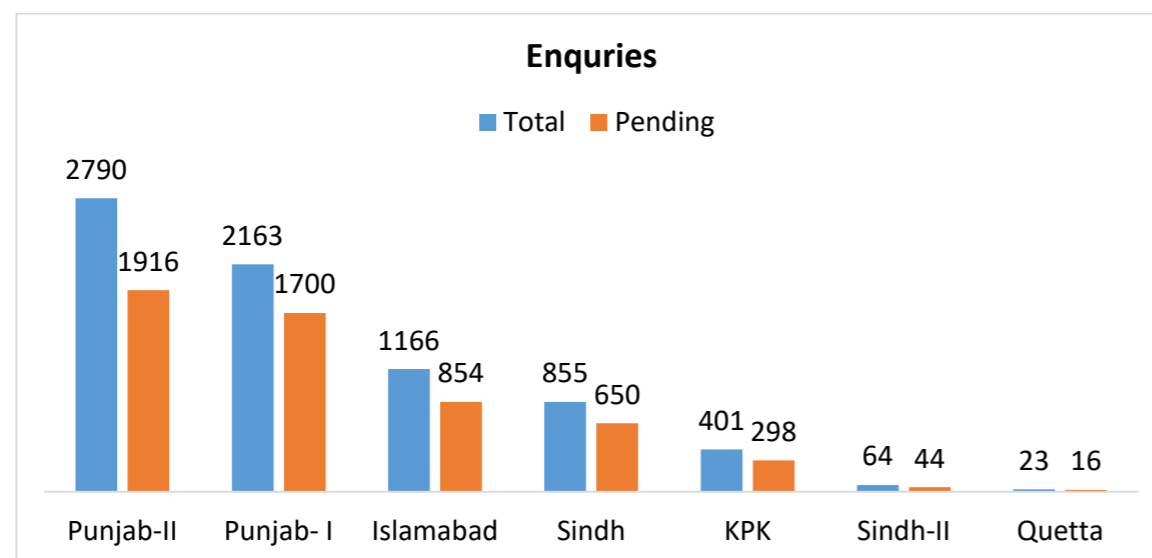
to 240,000 to the facilitators after reaching their destination. The accused facilitators belonged to Yek Mach (Chaghi/Dalbandin) and Peshawar. Two Afghan nationals and one Pakistani human smuggler have been arrested. In addition, seven Afghan irregular migrants are also under arrest. Investigation of the case is in progress.

Zone-wise Enquires

The Anti Human Trafficking Circles (AHTCs) Punjab Zone I and Islamabad. Overall, 73% of reported 1490 inquiries during the period July to September 30th, 2021, resulting in a total of 7462 inquiries. The highest number of inquiries were handled by Punjab Zone II followed by

Punjab Zone I and Islamabad. Overall, 73% of inquiries remained pending. The tabulation shows zone-wise details and the graph below shows the total vs. pending enquires.

Zone	BF	Added	Total	Converted	Closed	Transferred	Pending
Punjab-II	2272	518	2790	391	289	194	1916
Punjab- I	1753	410	2163	45	411	7	1700
Islamabad	984	182	1166	104	187	21	854
Sindh	634	221	855	45	154	6	650
KPK	256	145	401	39	45	19	298
Sindh-II	54	10	64	7	12	1	44
Quetta	19	4	23	3	4	0	16
Total	5972	1490	7462	634	1102	248	5478

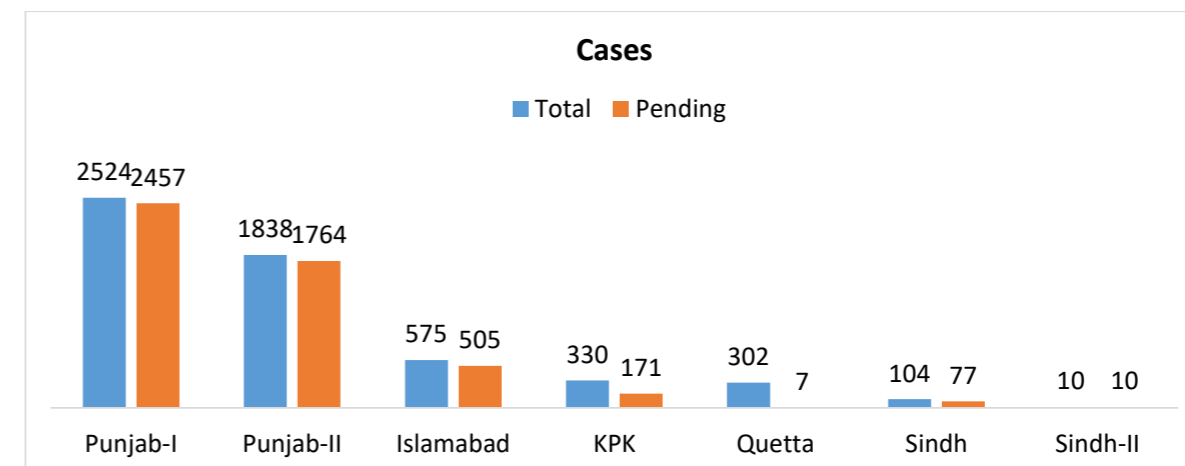


Zone-wise Cases

The FIA zones reported 5683 cases from January to September, and 1076 cases were added during the 3rd quarter i.e. July to September 2021. There were no pending cases in Balochistan to be brought forwarded in 2021. Punjab registered a higher number of cases followed by Balochistan. The number

of cases challaned in court was the highest in Balochistan followed by KP Zone. The overall pending cases were 4991 comprising 87% of the total cases. The table below illustrates the details, while the following graph shows the comparison of total vs. pending cases.

Zone	BF	Added	Total	Challaned in Court	Closed	Transferred	Pending
KPK	197	133	330	159	0	0	171
Quetta	0	302	302	295	0	0	7
Punjab-I	2419	105	2524	66	1	0	2457
Punjab-II	1431	407	1838	33	4	37	1764
Sindh	51	53	104	27	0	0	77
Sindh-II	3	7	10	0	0	0	10
Islamabad	506	69	575	70	0	0	505
Grand Total	4607	1076	5683	650	5	37	4991



Zone-wise Court Work

The zones reported 691 cases under court work during the present quarter totaling 8498 cases under court work from Jan to September 30, 2021. Balochistan zone has the lowest number of cases pending court work as only 12 cases

were brought forward from the previous year. The conviction rate in Balochistan is the highest as 289 out of 307 cases were convicted. Most of the convictions were recorded as a result of fines under the Passport Act.

Court Work by AHTCs							
Zone	BF	Added	Total	Convicted	Acquitted	CRR	Pending
Punjab-I	3930	66	3996	53	33	221	3689
Punjab-II	1564	72	1636	5	13	69	1549
KPK	1315	159	1474	110	12	2	1350
Islamabad	651	70	721	17	16	40	648
Sindh	296	27	323	23	12	9	279
Quetta	12	295	307	289	2	0	16
Sindh-II	39	2	41	1	0	0	40
Total	7807	691	8498	498	88	341	7571

Irregular Migrations – Taftaan

AHTC Taftaan received 8461 irregular migrants from Iran from July to September 2021. The trend of irregular migrants received at Taftaan shows the rising trend from Jan to April while in May there was a decline due to multiple factors including the month of fasting, Eid

holidays, and COVID-19 pandemic situation. The migration trend remained high from June to September. Irregular migrations are low in October and expected to decline further during the next quarter in winters.

