

REPORT NO. 29/2022-23

# SENATE OF PAKISTAN



## REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR

ON

POINT OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE REGARDING INCIDENTS OF  
TARGET KILLINGS IN NORTH AND SOUTH WAZIRISTAN.  
(MATTER RAISED BY SENATOR MUSHTAQ AHMAD KHAN)

PRESENTED BY

SENATOR MOHSIN AZIZ  
CHAIRMAN SSC ON INTERIOR

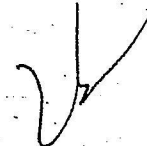
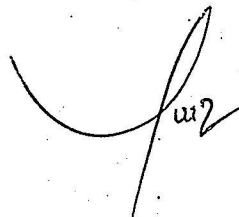
## SENATE SECRETARIAT

**SUBJECT: REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR ON THE POINT OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE REGARDING INCIDENTS OF TARGET KILLINGS IN NORTH AND SOUTH WAZIRISTAN.**

I, Senator Mohsin Aziz, Chairman Senate Standing Committee on Interior, have the honor to present report of the Committee on the point of public importance regarding the incidents of target killings in North and South Waziristan Districts. The matter was raised by Senator Mushtaq Ahmad Khan in the Senate sitting held on 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2022 whereupon, the issue was originally referred to the Senate Standing Committee on SAFRON however, on 6<sup>th</sup> September, 2022, the matter was referred to the Senate Standing Committee on Interior for consideration and report.

2. The composition of the Committee is as under: -

<b>Senator Mohsin Aziz</b>	<b>Chairman</b>
Senator Syed Yousuf Raza Gillani	Member
Senator Azam Nazeer Tarar	Member
Senator Samina Mumtaz Zehri	Member
Senator Moula Bux Chandio	Member
Senator Saifullah Abro	Member
Senator Rana Maqbool Ahmad	Member
Senator Faisal Saleem Rehman	Member
Senator Shahadat Awan	Member
Senator Muhammad Talha Mehmood	Member
Senator Fawzia Arshad	Member
Senator Syed Faisal Ali Subzwari	Member
Senator Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti	Member
Senator Dilawar Khan	Member
<u>Minister for Interior</u>	<u>Ex-Officio Member</u>

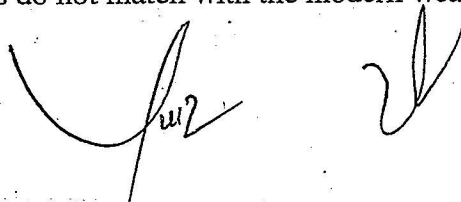


3. The Committee considered the issue in its meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2023. The meeting was attended by the following:-

1. Senator Mohsin Aziz	Chairman
2. Senator Saifullah Abro	Member
3. Senator Rana Maqbool Ahmed	Member
4. Senator Shahadat Awan	Member
5. Senator Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti	Member
6. Senator Fawzia Arshad	Member
7. Senator Faisal Saleem Rehman	Member

4. Syed Waqar Anwar, DIG/Regional Police Officer, Bannu Division and Deputy Secretary (Home & Tribal Affairs Department), Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa appeared before the Committee. The Mover was not present in the meeting despite his confirmation to attend the meeting but due to paucity of time and the fact that the Committee had last day to consider the matter and no further extension could be sought in the matter, the Committee unanimously decided to consider the matter in the absence of the Mover and dispose of the same.

5. Regional Police Officer Bannu submitted before the Committee that an organized gang in the name of "ARYANA GROUP" under the patronage of Hafiz Gull Bahadur of TTP was involved in the incidents of target killings in the North and South Waziristan Districts. The RPO informed the Committee that the said group has now been neutralized and all the group members have been killed by the Law Enforcement Agencies and now there is considerable decrease in such incidents. He reported that in the last three months after the neutralization of the said group there are only three cases of target killings and that too with the background of personal vendetta or family animosities. The RPO further added that due to the fact that the terrorists are now equipped with modern weapons and equipments leftover by US/NATO at the time of their eviction from Afghanistan so the LEAs are facing major problems in dealing with them as the weapons provided to the LEAs do not match with the modern weapons. However, he




informed that now the LEAs are being provided with the Thermal Scope Guns and Night vision goggles so the operations have now become much more effective.

6. The Members expressed their satisfaction on the report submitted by the RPO Bannu and appreciated his efforts to neutralize such elements involved in target killing of elders of the area.

7. A report in writing has also been received from the National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) on the law and order situation in North and South Waziristan Districts; the key takeaways of the report are as under:

- a) Uncertainty in Afghanistan impacts our internal security milieu especially in the border region areas.
- b) Trans-frontier significant presence of Terrorist Organizations with support base offers them liberty of action to plan cross border activities in newly merged districts especially North and South Waziristan Districts.
- c) TTP base is intact in Afghanistan due to inaction of Afghan Taliban. TTP continue to regroup / reorganize to regain the lost space.
- d) During the ongoing peace talks with TTP groups, spoiler/averse to reconciliation have increased their activities in NMDs with focus on North and South Waziristan.
- e) Leftover US/NATO specialized weapons/equipments have been acquired by terrorist organizations; enhancing their operational capabilities/outreach and lethality in attacks.
- f) North and South Waziristan Districts were their erstwhile bases of terrorist outfits. Due to local support network/residents facilitation, NMDs in general and North and South Waziristan Districts in particular remain vulnerable.



- g) Hostile Intelligence Agencies are gaining traction and plan to disturb the internal security matrix of the country through local terrorist organizations.
- h) Border fencing has curtailed the space of terrorist organizations however, arrival of terrorist organizations through NMDs is aimed at gaining influence.
- i) Though most of the activities are taking place in border adjacent and adjoining districts however, terrorist organizations are trying to ingress other settled districts.
- j) Post FATA merger transition is lacking in terms of governance and capacity building of allied LEAs responsible for law and order in the area, thus giving terrorist organizations space to further their agenda.

8. The Committee members appreciated the spirit of the LEAs in fight against terrorism and urged that the Government should provided funds for modern weapons and equipments for the LEAs who are fighting on frontline. The Committee recommended that the LEAs should be equipped with modern day weapons to enhance their operational and intelligence capabilities. The Committee also recommended that the infrastructure in NMDs may be developed on war footings so that the sense of deprivation amongst the residents of the NMDs can be addressed to avoid their exploitation by the terrorist elements.

9. After discussion, the Committee disposed of the matter. Hence, this report is presented to the House.

  
(MUHAMMAD AZAM)  
Secretary Committee

  
(SENATOR MOHSIN AZIZ)  
Chairman Committee