



# Human Trafficking & Migrant smuggling Newsletter

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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*



## FIA busts a human smuggling gang

In its commitment to eliminate menace of human trafficking and migrant smuggling, FIA busted a gang in Lahore which had allegedly smuggled at least 100 young girls to the Middle East. During investigation, gang leader Ali Pathan, confessed to have smuggled over 100 young girls to the Middle East during last three years, earning a commission of Rs 20,000 per girl.

Two girls named Hina Basharat and Sunaina Basharat, in their mid twenties, were also arrested on the spot. During investigation it was revealed that these girls visited Middle East three times earlier and were now being forced to visit again. Investigation further revealed that Ali Pathan, a resident of Gujrat, spent over 15 years in Middle East as a waiter in different bars where he developed linkages with bar owners and returned to Lahore 7 years ago. Upon his

return, he established a film production company as a talent promoter, which he used as a platform to exploit young girls who were then forced to work in dance clubs, through coercive measures, resulting in forced labor.

According to Inspector Mian Anwar, who lead the investigation, mentioned that they also recovered 31 passports, (57 introductory video tapes), 180 photograph albums, several DVDs, fake medical certificates, computers, stamp papers and cheque books. Earlier this year, FIA had arrested a similar talent promoter from Allama Iqbal International Airport while he was travelling with two girls. FIA has registered FIR No 296/15 against the accused Ali Pathan, and further investigation is currently under way.



## Suspect involved in case of 10 deported Afghans from UK arrested in Peshawar

In September 2014, 20 Afghan nationals travelled to the United Kingdom via PIA flight PK-785. 10 out of them were deported by the British authorities upon their arrival at Heathrow International Airport. In the aftermath of this occurrence, FIA further strengthened the immigration process and also launched an investigation which led to the arrest of suspect Ijaz Khan in February 2015 from Peshawar with several fake stamps and travel documents including Afghan passports in his possession. During initial investigation conducted by the FIA Peshawar Zone, it was found that Ijaz Khan prepared forged documents for 20 Afghan nationals out of

whom 10 were arrested at Heathrow Airport.

British immigration authorities, in addition to the British High Commission had raised this issue with Ministry of Interior, after which immigration checks were further tightened. Decision was made to install biometric system at arrival and departure sections of all the major international airports in Pakistan, which will be integrated with National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) records, alongside passport and immigration authorities.



## UNODC releases its report on socio-economic impact of HTMS

In February 2015, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime-UNODC in collaboration with the FIA launched a report on "Socio-Economic Impact of Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling". While presenting the report, UNODC representative Mr Cesar Guedes said that there is a constant increase in the profits of criminal networks from USD \$797 million in 2007 to USD \$927 million in 2013. This phenomenal increase in HTMS related profits is linked with sharp increase observed in irregular migration attempts, which is due to political instability, poor economic conditions combined with a high unemployment levels in Pakistan and the region.

Report highlighted upon the major origins of deportation through sea route mostly

from Oman and those deported by air mostly arrived from Spain and Turkey. There is a possibility that these illegal smuggling routes may also be linked to other forms of crime including terrorism, as same routes and networks are susceptible to be used by members of extremist groups and drug traffickers.

The report also indicates that some areas in Pakistan have higher number of HTMS cases, particularly Lahore, Gujranwala, Faisalabad and Peshawar. Figures of illegal migration cases are higher in Punjab than other provinces, especially in cities like Gujrat, Gujranwala, Mandi Bahauddin, Dera Ghazi Khan, Multan, and Sialkot.

The event was co-chaired by the Federal



## FIA arrests the most wanted human smuggler

Investigation Agency, represented by Mr Qudratullah Khan, Additional Director General Immigration, who highlighted that the highest interception at Pakistani borders are being reported in the port of Gwadar followed by Quetta and Turbat.

According to the report, major routes used for human trafficking and migrant smuggling are from Pakistan to United Arab Emirates via Iran and Oman; Pakistan to Greece via Iran and Turkey and Pakistan to Spain via Middle East and West African countries.

FIA maintains a "Red Book" which includes names of most wanted human smugglers. The book is published online on the website "[www.fia.gov.pk](http://www.fia.gov.pk)" and is updated from time to time. FIA arrested Zulfiqar Bhatti from Rawalpindi, whose name was placed at serial number one in the Red Book. Zulfiqar Bhatti was involved in exploiting several people by sending them abroad and was arrested on a tip-off from Murree. Bhatti was also a court absconder who had fled from the courtroom when his bail was cancelled.

In March this year, FIA arrested Nasir Iqbal from Allama Iqbal International Airport Lahore, while trying to flee from Pakistan. Nasir Iqbal, hailing from Azad Kashmir, was wanted by FIA in cases of fraud and human trafficking. His name was also included in the black list by the Ministry of Interior.



## FIA plans to seize unregistered travel agencies

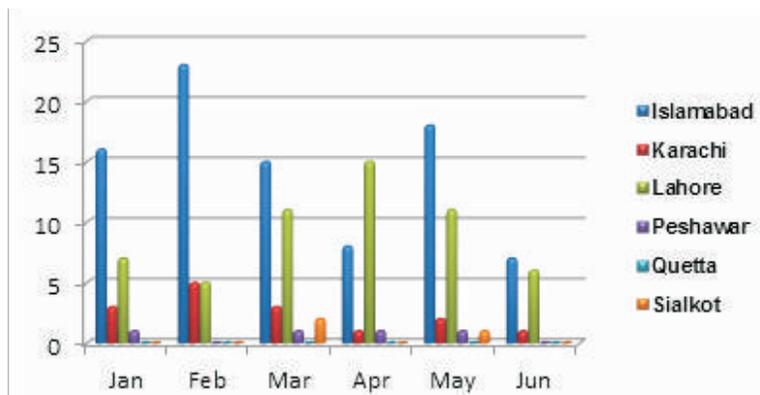
Integration of research and analysis findings into FIA operations has been the desired objective of UNODC and FIA collaboration. FIA has been cognizant of the facts, figures and trends indicated in UNODC's reports and with its capability of on-ground fact verification and information gathering, it has now adopted a proactive approach in its efforts. As higher number of HTMS cases are being reported in Lahore, Gujranwala, Faisalabad, and Peshawar divisions as compared to other parts of the country.

During information gathering and verification of reports, FIA has found that under the name of fake travel agencies, migrant smugglers have been deceiving people by collecting large sums of money in the name of Umrah, education promotion

and tourism. In Gujranwala and surroundings, 500 unregistered travel agencies have been identified which are involved in migrant smuggling. According to verified reports, these fake travel agencies facilitate irregular migration attempts, especially to Europe, USA, UK, Australia, Ireland, Spain, Switzerland, Korea, and Dubai. Most of these 500 illegal and unregistered travel agencies are located in Sialkot, Narowal, Shakargarh, Pasrur, Daska, Wazirabad, Gujrat, Kharian, Lala Musa, Jalalpur Jattan, Kunjah, Mandi Bahauddin, Malikwal, Dinga, Hafizabad, Pindi Bhattian, Alipur Chatta, and Gujranwala city.

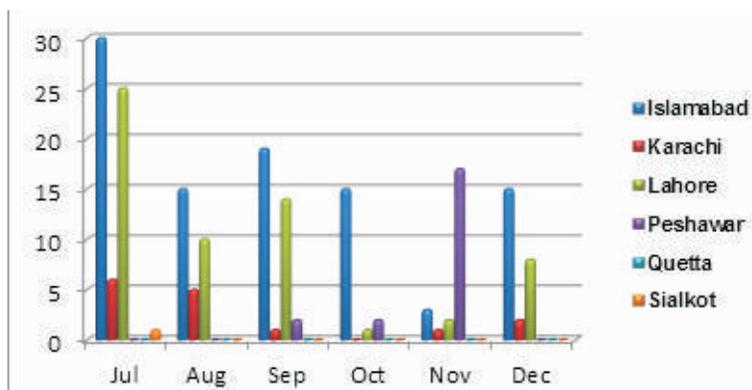
## Quarterly Data Analysis

Offloaded on Forged Documents							
Station	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	Total
Islamabad	16	23	15	8	18	7	80
Karachi	3	5	3	1	2	1	14
Lahore	7	5	11	15	11	6	49
Peshawar	1	0	1	1	1	0	4
Quetta	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sialkot	0	0	2	0	1	0	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>150</b>



## Data Trends from July - Dec 2014

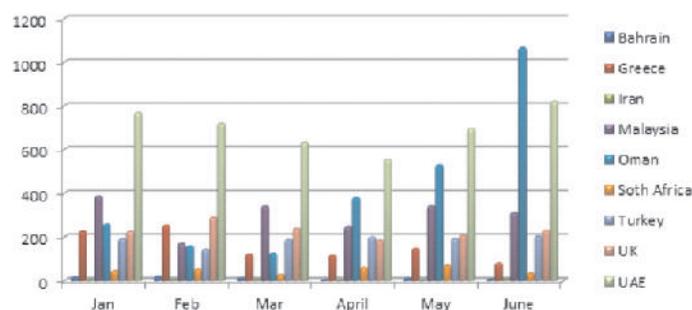
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Station	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Islamabad	30	15	19	15	3	15	97
Karachi	6	5	1	0	1	2	15
Lahore	25	10	14	1	2	8	60
Peshawar	0	0	2	2	17	0	21
Quetta	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sialkot	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>194</b>



## Trend analysis

- ❖ The number of OFDs at BBIAP Islamabad and AIIP Lahore is higher in comparison with other airports in the country, due to following reasons:
  - ♦ Most of the Afghan nationals living in and around Islamabad travel from BBIAP Islamabad,
  - ♦ Due to close proximity, AJ&K population is also dependent and using BBIAP Islamabad.
  - ♦ The numbers for AIIP Lahore are higher to social trends and demographic reasons. People from upper Punjab region are mostly inclined towards external migration and also become victims of human trafficking. Closer proximity and cost factors make AIIP their choice for departure and thus results in higher number of OFDs from AIIP.

General Deportees from Jan - June 2015								
S.No	Country	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	Total
1	Bahrain	16	19	13	2	11	7	68
2	Greece	226	252	122	115	147	79	942
3	Iran	3	4	4	0	1	8	12
4	Malaysia	387	171	341	247	343	312	1801
5	Oman	257	158	126	380	529	1066	2516
7	South Africa	45	52	28	60	69	34	288
8	Turkey	192	144	188	199	193	203	1119
9	U.K.	225	290	239	185	207	230	1376
10	UAE	769	720	633	554	696	820	4192
	Total	2120	1810	1694	1743	2196	2759	12322



- ❖ There has been a significant increase in number of general deportees from Malaysia, placing it at 3<sup>rd</sup> position after UAE and Oman. This indicates emergence of a new migration trend towards East Asia. Previously, the eastward migration from Pakistan was mostly destined for Australia via Malaysia and Indonesia, using these countries as transit route due to their geographic location. In recent past, growth rate and improved economic conditions in Malaysia have created a lucrative employment market, making it a destination for migrants and human traffickers. The influx of migrants from economically underdeveloped countries, including Pakistan, has prompted tighter immigration checks in Malaysia and Australia both. Therefore, the higher general deportees figures from Malaysia are more likely to be the result of this new migration trend as now a much larger number of people are travelling to Malaysia to work there and they get deported when they are found overstaying after expiry of their visas/work permits.