

The Parliamentary election's Observatory – Egypt 2015

Issues the third weekly report on the Observation of violence incidents and terrorism and its relationship with the Elections

Doubling of the incidences of violence with the approaching parliamentary elections

22 cases of targeting civilians and civilian facilities for 14 cases of targeting police facilities

Preamble:

With the approaching parliamentary elections and the beginning of the elections procedures by submitting CSOs applications to follow up the parliamentary elections to the High Elections Committee, coinciding with the anniversary of the 25th of January reevaluation, and calls by the some political powers for demonstrations to confirm what they called "the Egyptian Reevaluation Demands", the incidents of violence and bombing have continued in the different Egyptian provinces and increased on both the targeted provinces and targeted civilians and civilian facilities levels which confirms the insistence of the terrorist groups to carry out their desire to terrorize citizens.

In this Context the Parliamentary elections Observatory of the local - international mission to observe the parliamentary elections - Egypt.2015, continue observing and analyzing the violence incidents and their related significance with the electoral process during the period from 16th to 22nd January 2015.

The most important violence incidents witnessed during the last week:**Friday, January 16;**

- In the morning of the day a bomb exploded making a huge sound on the Faisal Al Azharia University's bridge in Asiout, while another bomb beside the water line linking between east and west of the city has been defused, a security cordon has been imposed around the area and the traffic was closed.
- Car No. 2016 T G T model "Shaheen has exploded during its parking in front of Mary Mina Church and Pope Kyrillos in Helwan without injuries, a security cordon was imposed around the church, and the car was kept for investigation.
- A homemade explosive device has been exploded close to San Stefano police station which resulted in losses and damages in many cars belongs to citizens. Where some unknown assailants have planted a handmade bomb in a car while it was parking in front of San Stefano police station and resulted in its explosion.
- A privet car crashed in the wake of explosion of a sound bomb that was planted below the car while its parking beside the officers housing building near the military police building, in Abdel Salam Aref St., Beni Suef city. The bombing resulted in the car crash and the glass of the windows in the first and second floors of the buildings without any casualties.
- An unknown assailantsthrow a homemade bomb into a stooped public transportation bus ,when its stopped to riding passengers in Mahatet Maser in the middle of Alexandria ,which resulted to burned it . Civil protection forces controlled the fire and turned it down before it moved to the rest of the buses stopped Nearby .

Saturday 17 January;

- An Explosive device exploded on Saturday morning, it was planted by unknown assailants on the railway track in Suez which resulted in the derail of the security and maintenance train when it was combing to the train tracks. The investigations revealed that the explosive device was targeting the passengers train to Ismaieliya, the incident did not cause any casualties.

- In the morning of Saturday, tower number 49 in high voltage power line 66 KV between Makady and south of Hurghada which feeds the Hurghada Airport had been sabotaged and fell down, while the Airport was fed by the tourism center adapter, civil protection forces and explosives experts moved to the incident place, and the early investigations revealed that unknown assailants planted an explosive device in the corners of the electricity tower number (30), (66) voltage which feeding the entire Hurghada governorate and resulted in its fall.
- The civil protection was able to control the fire outbreak in a police car after it was thrown by Molotov cocktails in front of the Media Production City, the police and military forces deployed in front of all gates of the city and they combed the area around the city in preps of find out the suspects.
- An explosive device exploded in a transmission tower medium pressure in Sharkia governorate which caused to damage the tower, its fall down and power outages from the villages of Hehya center, the security agencies and leaders of electricity directorate moved immediately to the explosion site and made a security cordon around it. The explosive device was planted by unknown assailants.
- A Sound bomb exploded, Saturday evening near Mandara check-point -Alexandria – Security forces and explosives experts moved to the incident place which resulted in stopping the traffic movement in Mandara bridge's tunnel, examination revealed that the sound bomb was linked to motorcycle's battery which caused a huge sound at its explosion.
- The explosives experts were able to detonate a homemade bomb was found into Balana check-point on Cairo – Aswan highway, through using water hoses which caused the break of the check-point front, where a number of people reported a strange device inside the check-point, the civil protection forces and explosive experts moved immediately to the site and imposed a security cordon around the check-point which stopped the traffic movement on Cairo – Aswan highway.

Sunday, January 18:

- Terrorist attack by unknown assailants, Sunday morning, in Beni Suef' judges club where the assailants threw an explosive device and three Molotov cocktails from the bridge into the club's garage by the Nile Corniche which set fire in two cars.
- A bomb exploded in front of Al Theghr hospital in Al Galaa street, Victorya area – Alexandria and another one was defused beside Awel Al Montazah police station. Also a strange device was found nearby Al Momntazah police station, the civil protection forces and explosive department moved to the site and during the defusing process the attendants were surprised by another explosion in front of the hospital that resulted in the death of a security member.
- An explosion took place under an electricity tower in Kafr Shehata – Al Ayaat area, the explosives experts moved to the site to reveal the circumstances of the incident, the examination process indicated that the explosion resulted by an explosive device. Also, the explosives experts defused 3 explosive devices were planted under an electricity tower in Kafr Shehata – Al Ayaat area.
- A homemade bomb that was placed by unknown assailants exploded nearby Victorya tunnel in Alexandria Corniche nearby the Martyr Kaled Saeed's home without injuries, where the Security Directorate of Alexandria received a report about bomb explosion.

- Unknown assailants broke into Al Badee Playground in the east club in Tersa – Sanors center – Fayoum, they opened fire randomly, wounded three fans with gun shots and the ran away, the injured were moved to the public hospital in Fayoum , and the prosecution was notified and handled the investigation .
- An Officer and three soldiers injured as a result of an explosive device's explosion nearby an armored car in north Sinai – Al taweel road east of Aresh city during a moving of security crackdown in the area, the explosion was beside Arish's landfill. The injured were transferred to the Military hospital in Arish under heavy guard, and they were retransferred by a plane from Arish Airport to the Military hospital in Cairo.
- Counselor. Mohamed Abo Alhasan head of north Minya prosecutions survived an armed attack by unknown assailants during riding his car on the western desert road nearby Mattay center – Menya during coming back from the Nile Delta to the courts complex in Minya a gunmen opened fire on his car in front of Helwa village in Mattay center, which caused damages to the car.

Monday, January 19;

- The Civil protection forces defused an explosive device after the explosion of another three explosive devices in the electricity high pressure tower in Kafr Al Haser village – Zagazig center, a force of explosives experts and civil protection officers moved to the site where the three explosions caused damages in the tower's three bases and a blackout, after combing the area the security forces found a fourth explosive device and the civil protection was able to defuse it.
- An explosion sound was heard nearby the police center in Kafer Sakr – Sharkia, the explosives experts were notified and moved to the site, the examination pointed out that the explosive device was inside the dustbin beside the police center, and the area was combed by the explosive experts.
- A second explosion took place in Kafer Saker beside the traffic management where the security forces were notified by the police Sheriff of Kafer Saker and the forces moved to the site, a security cordon was imposed in the place.
- A child was injured in a homemade bomb explosion in front of Audi bank in Gamal Abed Al Naser street – the east side of Alexandria, where the civil protection forces and fire department were notified by the police station on the explosion and moved to the site immediately, the examination indicated that it was a homemade bomb. And the injured child was transferred to the hospital.
- An explosion by a homemade bomb took place in the second district – Monatzah police station, eastern Alexandria took place. In front of Maamoura level crossing and caused to shut down Abo Qeer line, the explosives experts were notified and moved to the site for the examination and combing the area.

Tuesday, January 20;

- A planted explosive device by unknown assailants in a private car was exploded in front of Police Officers Club, the security forces in Sohag and the explosive experts were notified and moved to the incident site, a security cordon was imposed, and the cars were prevented to pass the road, the area was combed without finding other explosives, and there were no injuries.

- An officer and two soldiers were injured in the south of Sheikh Zuid city by a planted explosive device by unknown assailants on the forces way - Toma village's road, the explosive device was exploded by remote control during an armored passage that was participating in combing and raiding processes in the area, the injured were transported to the hospital for treatment.
- Explosive experts of Dakahlya governorate managed, on Tuesday evening, to dismantle a homemade bomb placed by unknown assailants nearby Sherbeen's railway station, the Directorate of Security was notified on founding a strange device by the people, the explosives experts and civil protection forces moved to the site, a security cordon was made around the area, the train movement was suspended before its entry to the station, and by examination the device turned out to be a grenade consisting of 4-inch pipe and 35cm length contained a highly explosive material and connected to a timer, the explosive experts evacuated the area and dealt with the bomb using water cannons and dispersion devices and to dismantle the bomb.

Wednesday, January 21;

- Pastor Beshoy's car - the Shepherd Mary Girgis Church in Wasta - exploded after it was set on fire in front of his house in Tarad ElNil – Wastaa center, north Beni suef governorate, the preliminary investigation indicated that unknown assailants set fire in the car, a police record of the incident was made and the public prosecutor assumed the investigation.
- Explosive experts in Giza defused two explosive devices in Terat Al Sawahel street – Al Waraq area – the combing did not indicate any other explosive materials, and the examination revealed that the devices was two plastic pipes containing gunpowder and ignition fuse but it was defused.
- A homemade bomb exploded in front of one of the stores in Gamal Abdel Naser street – eastern Alex - where Alexandria Security Directorate received a notification about the explosion in Al Asafra area, the explosive experts and the civil protection forces moved to the incident site, the examination revealed that it was a homemade bomb placed by unknown persons which resulted in smashing the glass of a number of cars and shops .
- Two explosive devices exploded and two others were found and defused, the four explosive devices were planted by unknown assailants in under a high pressure tower located in Kateba village - Belbes center – Sharkya, civil protection forces and explosive experts moved to the site after the explosion of the two devices was heard. Then the explosive experts defused the other two devices using water cannons and dispersion devices, the explosion resulted in the fall of the tower and power a blackout, there were no human injures.
- A bag was exploded that was found by the passengers on the Menof- Banha train, they suspected it and threw it outside the train where it exploded in Kafer Shopra Zingy village – Bagour center, where there were no human injures ,the explosive experts moved to the site, and the examination revealed that the bag contained a lot of gunpowder.
- Four gunmen opened fire on a centralized security force in Luxor city - upper Egypt, the police forces opened fire back on them and wounded one of the attackers but they ran away.
- Unknown gunmen opened fire on security checkpoint on the agricultural road in front of Al Tawella village – Abo Homos center - Behira governorate without injures, where the security directorate in Behira received a notification unknown assailants opened fire from

the road neighboring plantations during the passage of police member Mohamad Sameer Ahmed with a battle group from the security directorate department. And the attackers ran away.

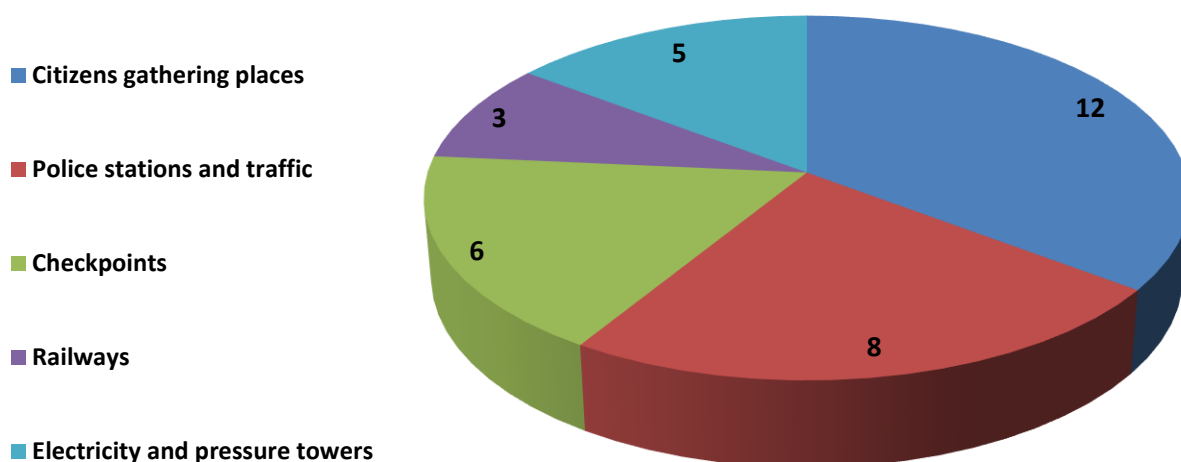
Thursday, January 22;

- Two gunpowder bombs exploded nearby the electricity company in Shopra Al Khema, the first bomb was planted on the top of a tunnel beside the company, and the second bomb was planted on the top of Oraby bridge in the same location and explode after the first one, the two explosions did not cause any injures or death. The explosives experts moved to the site and combed the area but they did not find any explosive devices.
- Explosives management experts were able to explode two explosive devices were planted in the security booth in front of Bank Masr in Helmiet Al zytoun, where the explosives management experts were notified on a strange device in the booth found by the security man during his guard tour around the bank, the explosive experts moved to the location, imposed a security cordon, and exploded the two devices by the repot without any injures, the bank was evacuated and closed and the subway station (Hilmiet Al Zytoun) was closed too.

The quantitative Analysis for bombing and Violence incidents

Distribution of the violence by the target entities

Targets	#of incidents	Governorates
Citizens gathering places	12	Giza, Fayoum, Alexandria. Cairo, Beni Suef, Ismaielia, Qaluoby, Asyout
Police stations and traffic	8	Alexandria, Cairo, Giza, Sohag
Checkpoints	6	Aswan, Cairo, Behira, North Sinai, Luxor
Railways	3	Suez, Dakahlya, Monofia
Electricity and pressure towers	5	Giza, Sharkia, Hurghada
Judges	2	Minya, Beni Suef

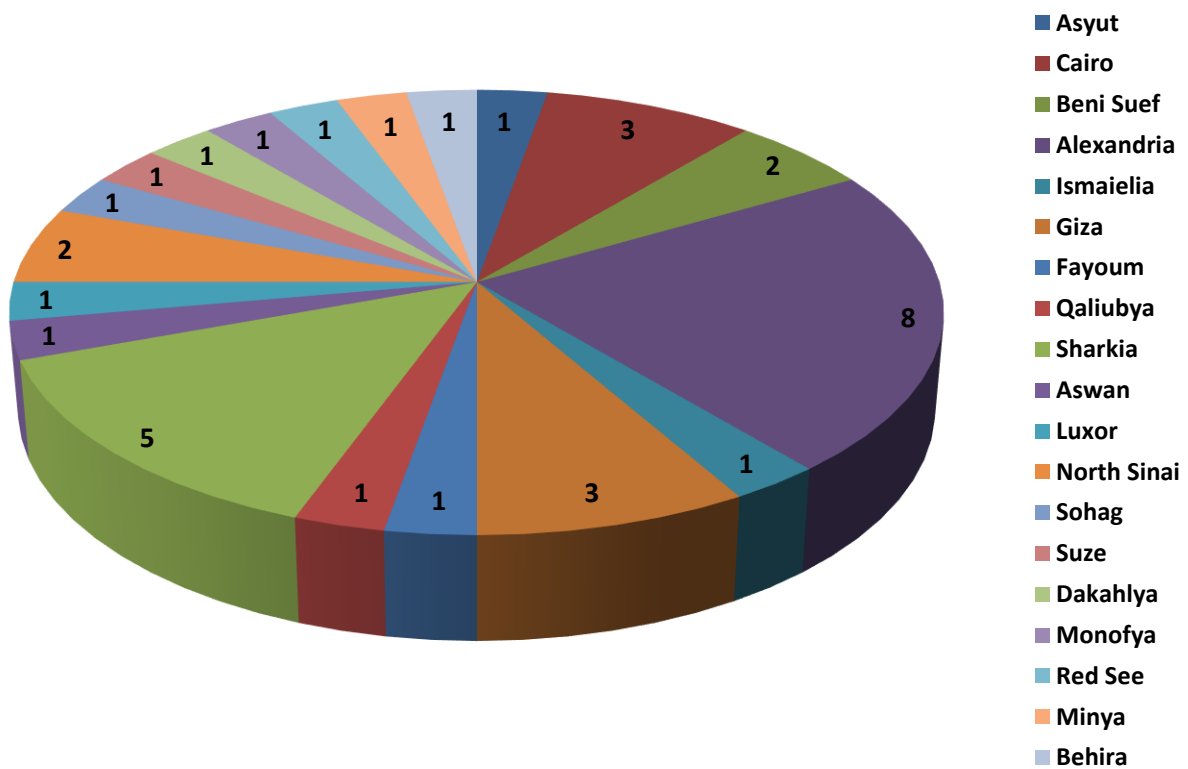


The previous results indicate that targeting civilians and their gathering places had the largest share of the violence incidents and bombings witnessed by the different provinces in the country by 12 incidents out of 36 incidents, targeting the police came in the second place by 8 incidents, checkpoint followed by 6 incidents, 5 incidents targeted the electricity and pressure towers, 3 incidents for targeted railways, and the Egyptian Judges came in the last place with 2 incidents.

Generally, targeting civilians and civilian facilities was estimated by 22 cases out of 36 were observed during the period covered by the report, for 14 for the police facilities and members.

Distribution of the violence incidents by governorates:

Governorates	#of incidents	Governorates	#of incidents
Asyut	1	Luxor	1
Cairo	3	North Sinai	2
Beni Suef	2	Sohag	1
Alexandria	8	Suze	1
Ismailia	1	Dakahlya	1
Giza	3	Monofya	1
Fayoum	1	Red See	1
Qaliubya	1	Minya	1
Sharkia	5	Behira	1
Aswan	1		



Alexandria governorate came in the first place among the governorates which witnessed violence and bombing incidents over the last week with 8 incidents out of 36 incidents, Sharkia came in the second place with 5 incidents, in the third place came Cairo and Giza governorates with 3 incident for each, in the fourth place came North Sinai and Beni Suef with 2 incident for each, finally the following governorates came in the fifth place: Luxor, Sohag, Suze, Dakahlya, Monofya, Minya, Behira, Aswan, Qaliubya, Fayoum, Esmailia, and Asyut with one incident for each.

The indications of the violence and bombing incidents:

The previous numbers on the violence incidents and bombings witnessed by different Egyptian governorates indicate a number of features highlighted as follows:

- 1- Escalated violence incidents and bombings witnessed in the Egyptian provinces over the last week, they were doubled since last week (36 incidents this week for 17 last week).
- 2- Escalated targeting to electricity and pressure towers and railways which highlights the intention to affect the lives of citizens.
- 3- Widening of the bombing and violence incidents to include new provinces such as Luxor and Sohag, with broadening of these incidents in provinces like Sharkia and Alexandria with relative stability in North Sinai governorate.
- 4- Escalated targeting of citizens and civilian facilities over the last period, with continuous targeting for the policemen and police services facilities, and the armed forces members.
- 5- The direct relationship between the violence and bombing incidents on one hand and the approaching parliamentary elections on the other hand is more obvious.