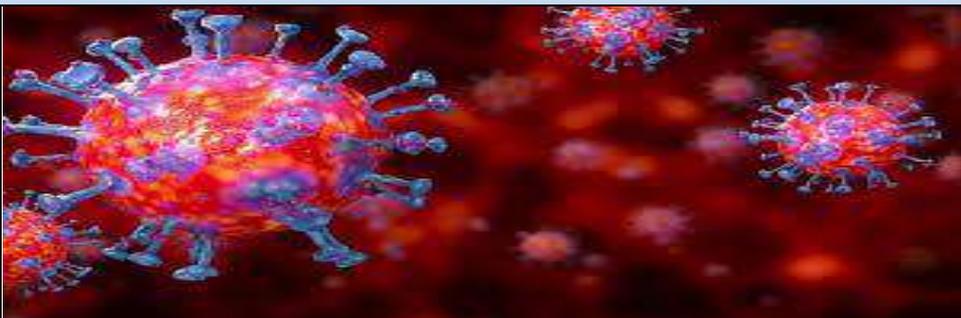


E-Newsletter on COVID-19



Issue: May 30-June 1, 2020
Vol. 01, No, 12



.....About Newsletter

In order to keep abreast of emerging issues at the National/International and local level, the SDPI brings out a Bi-weekly E-Newsletter on “COVID-19”.

It carries reference information's to the News items/Comments/Op-Eds appearing in leading National/International dailies.

Newspapers Covered:

- Dawn
- The News
- The Express Tribune
- The Nation
- Business Recorder
- Daily Times
- Pakistan Observer
- Pakistan Today
- Urdu Point

A Product of ASRC-SDPI

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Op-Eds/Articles/Editorials

Corona comes knocking

Source: Fahd Husain, [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-30

I KNOW someone with Covid. They know someone with Covid. We know someone with Covid. Do you know someone with Covid? First Covid was in the headlines. Now it is on our timelines. First Covid had a name. Now it has a face. The infection has crossed the line of familiarity in Pakistan. And this has happened suddenly in slow motion. Quietly and calmly, the infection has kept the health ministry dashboard scorecard moving upwards without triggering.....[view more](#)

Learning from Japan

Source: Mirza Sameer Baig, [The News, International](#), 2020-05-30

With the world's oldest population and being one of the favorite tourist destinations for the Chinese, conditions seemed to be ripe for a major outbreak of the novel coronavirus in Japan when the pandemic first arrived its shores in January this year. However, the outbreak never happened. Japan dodged a bullet. Recently, the state of emergency that was imposed a few weeks ago has been lifted all across Japan. The WHO has termed Japan's.....[view more](#)

A tale of two horses

Source: Syed Bakhtiyar Kazmi, [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-30

Unfortunately, the exact quote, which by the way succinctly brings out the message, cannot be published – blame it on the censor board. Be that as it may, the more refined version comes out thusly: you cannot ride two horses with one behind. For those who are interested, substitute behind for a synonym of a donkey. Anyways, if any nation on this globe takes the cake for doing the impossible – riding two horses with one don.....[view more](#)

Curbing Domestic Violence

Source: Editorial, [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-30

COVID-19 has not only unleashed a new political challenge and economic meltdown on countries, the pandemic has exacerbated some social issues like domestic violence as well. Since the world has gone into lockdown, many reports and studies from around the globe show a rise in domestic violence cases. And Pakistan is no exception to this social problem. Indeed, there are legal statutes and other sets of protective mechanisms in all four provin.....[view more](#)

Covid-19 and the shift in global supply chain

Source: Umar Ali Awan, [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-30

The coronavirus outbreak has worsened relations between the US and China. The US is heading towards protectionism. Two giant economies with their allies are working emphatically to malign one another. Propagandists are using conspiracy theories to change public opinion. American economists and think tanks are stressing that the current crisis is an opportunity to rearrange a system that has relied on obsolete processes. They believe it has expose.....[view more](#)

Enforcement of SOPs

Source: News Desk, [Daily Times](#), 2020-05-30

Once again the Punjab government was forced into a huddle to decide about the way forward, and once again it found itself paralysed. The indecision is understandable, since going back to the lockdown would simply ruin the

economy and not doing so in light of the number of new infections as well as deaths would also not be right. Yet it's not as if nothing is happening in all the time the government is taking in coming to a decision. And the.....[view more](#)

Infectious stories

Source: [Anjum Altaf](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

Many are having a hard time comprehending the coronavirus in Pakistan. They have not seen it before; it has no distinctive symptoms; there have been very few deaths in most communities; it hasn't yet penetrated rural areas where half the population lives. This lived experience makes it hard to relate to what they are being told by the rest of the world — that they are threatened by a lethal pandemic that calls for extreme constraints[view more](#)

The online class

Source: [Hamid Riaz](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

When Pakistan entered a lockdown in the middle of March to control the spread of coronavirus, nearly all facets of society and economy came to a halt. Educational institutions were no exceptions. Today, even as several segments of the economy and society re-open or are on their way, educational institutions remain shut. The HEC and university administrations have passionately pushed for the continuation of educational activities online. An.....[view more](#)

Confusion and healthcare

Source: [Dr Lubna Naz](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

The whole world is battling with a deadly coronavirus and seeking ways to protect the health workers who are on the forefront of this battle. In Pakistan, however, the political leadership is not on the same page with regard to tackling the pandemic. The federal government has taken many turns and U-turns on the enforcement of strict social distancing, including through a general lockdown. Led by Sindh, the provincial governments have b.....[view more](#)

Epidemics in South Asia — the plague

Source: [Yaqoob Khan Bangash](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

The Bubonic Plague was by far one of the deadliest diseases in South Asia, causing the deaths of over twelve million people between 1896 and 1930. Initially, a port city and then an urban phenomenon, it quickly spread to the rural areas and caused high rates of mortality. The Punjab suffered the most from the dreaded disease with over 3.5 million deaths, followed by the North Western Provinces (later, United Provinces), with 2.9 million deaths a.....[view more](#)

Protection of rights and development

Source: [Iftikhar Ahmad](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

One hundred and ninety three states decided in September 2015 to adopt a set of 17 goals to end poverty and ensure decent work as part of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Each goal has specific targets to be achieved over 15 years. There are 169 targets and 232 indicators listed under these 17 goals. Unlike the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), where full employment and decent work were addressed through the inclusion of a n.....[view more](#)

Living with Covid-19

Source: [Dr Pervez Tahir](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

Over the past two weeks, I have randomly visited websites of public sector entities to get an idea of how, if at all, they are readying themselves to live with and beyond the Covid-19 challenge to deliver their services online. The involuntary outcome of the ongoing pandemic has squeezed into months what would have taken years to work out the threat-opportunity matrices. Of the 20 odd websites, the advances made by the Higher Education Commissio.....[view more](#)

What works

Source: [Dr Farrukh Saleem](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

There's absolutely no empirical evidence that lockdowns actually work. Professor Michael Levitt, professor of structural biology at Stanford University and the winner of 2013 Nobel Prize in Chemistry, says, "Lockdown is a huge mistake" adding that "damage done by lockdowns will exceed any saving of life by a huge factor." According to Dennis Prager, one of America's most respected commentators, "The world.....[view more](#)

Betting on hope

Source: [Salaar Khan](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

With 'Great' wars come the expectation of great endings – decisive moments when pale, sickly people re-emerge, squinting at the sun as it bathes them in forgotten warmth. Grainy war documentaries capture, in these moments, kids on rooftops flashing monochromatic grins – flags aflutter with the crisp gust of reclaimed youth. With the virus, these scenes are unlikely. In the common imagination, our moment will come when he.....[view more](#)

Covid casualties

Source: [Editorial](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

The daily number of new infections of coronavirus in Pakistan is going into thousands. This is not an entirely unforeseen scenario. Experts in medical science and doctors have been crying hoarse for at least the past two months for us to take the disease seriously. They have urged the government to enforce its SOPs and make sure that the spread of the virus is contained. They have also been calling on people not to consider Covid-19 as a drama of.....[view more](#)

Critical care for Covid patients

Source: [Adnan Rafiq](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

The struggle against Covid-19 in Pakistan has entered a new phase. The attention must now switch to ensuring how tailored containment measures and judicious decision-making at the local level can be deployed to ensure that the supply of critical care remains ahead of the rising demand. The state, it seems, has exhausted all means at its disposal to substantially contain the spread of the novel coronavirus across the length and breadth of the cou.....[view more](#)

Periods don't stop for pandemics

Source: [Aida Girma](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-31

Covid-19 has brought the world to a standstill; however, the pandemic could not stop nature. Globally, over 300 million women and girls continue to menstruate daily. The pandemic has worsened the situation of more than 500 million women worldwide, who lacked essentials to safely manage their menstruation even before the outbreak. As the world commemorated Menstrual Hygiene Day (MHD) on May 28, 2020, under the theme: It's Time for Actio.....[view more](#)

Rethinking poverty

Source: Editorial, [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-31

It wasn't perfect, but until this year we had made great strides in reducing poverty across the world. Certainly some countries did it better than others and there were more than a few setbacks along the way. Even so, compared to where most of the world was at the beginning of the previous century, few can argue that more people could enjoy a better standard of living. The novel coronavirus has changed all that. And as the pandemic still ra.....[view more](#)

Doctors fight on

Source: Editorial, [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-31

Medics working tirelessly on the frontline to treat the Covid-19 patients continue to fall prey to the contagion themselves. This is happening worldwide, not in Pakistani alone. Shouldering a burden of care for the infected patients, doctors and paramedical staff, of necessity, come in close contact with the bed-ridden to administer medicine and tend to their other needs. This puts the health providers in grave peril, especially when the protecti.....[view more](#)

Fiscal mess – straighten the priorities

Source: Ali Khizar, [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-31

Budget-making is in the process. This one is a tough budget to make. Covid-19 demands stimulus; but the fiscal deficit is already too high. The government is asking for no new taxes and demanding stimulus for industries and vulnerable. The government wants higher PSDP spending to generate employment. The IMF has its own tax target and is rightly pushing for managing deficit. The Ministry of Finance is trying to create a balance to satisfy al.....[view more](#)

Coronavirus hopes and fears centre on 'immunity'

Source: Paul Ricard, [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-31

Could exposure to the coronaviruses that cause the common cold help protect against COVID-19? Is herd immunity closer than previously thought? As nations lift lockdowns and experts worry about a potential second peak in cases, our ability to ward off infection is one of the hottest topics of scientific debate. Ever since it became apparent that children were less vulnerable to COVID-19 early in the pandemic, scientists have speculated t.....[view more](#)

Fighting the invisible enemy

Source: Editorial, [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-31

Voicing a common concern, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Health Dr Zafar Mirza said, "it feels like the public has assumed that the virus has been eradicated." Expressing the regret that the people are not following the standard operating procedures (SOPs), he said after Eid holidays the government wouldThe number of coronavirus infection cases and deaths has been rising rapidly, yet from the way the shoppers and shop owne.....[view more](#)

Dangerous Conspiracy Theories

Source: Editorial, [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-31

On Friday, when Pakistan saw a record 63 people lose their lives to coronavirus – the highest number of deaths we have had in a single day so far – one of Karachi's hospitals was attacked by assailants reportedly claiming that the pandemic was a hoax. There are numerous cases of doctors or hospitals being attacked by patients or family members, and there is a lot that needs unpacking in this turn of events. The foremost con.....[view more](#)

Navigating an unsettled world

Source: [Maleeha Lodhi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-06-01

IN an unsettled world where strategic tensions between big powers are mounting, Pakistan faces daunting foreign policy challenges in a turbulent global and regional environment. The pandemic has injected greater volatility into an international landscape already afflicted by threats to multilateralism, trade and technology wars between big powers and attempts by regional powers to reshape the rules of the game in their neighbourhood. Understandi.....[view more](#)

Responsibility and norms

Source: [Umair Javed](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-06-01

OVER the past few weeks, healthcare professionals and establishments have come under severe pressure, and in a few cases, actual harm, from relatives and associates of deceased Covid-19 patients. Recently, a hospital in Karachi witnessed significant damage by a crowd of 70 enraged people. What stood out was their insistence that the virus is actually 'nothing', implicitly suggesting that the doctors and the hospital were to blame for[view more](#)

Gender inequalities

Source: [Huma Yusuf](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-06-01

THE coronavirus pandemic is anti-feminist. This seems a strange statement given that evidence suggests that men are worse affected by Covid-19. But in terms of broader social and economic considerations, the pandemic globally is expected to set women back decades. Pakistan's deeply entrenched misogyny means we're unlikely to do enough, if anything at all, to stop this backward slide. The pandemic affects women at multi.....[view more](#)

Why intervene?

Source: [Saad Amir](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-06-01

RECENT interventions made by the Supreme Court in pandemic-related government policy offer a glimpse into the court's understanding of its role in these times; one it may be drawing from a past that does not call for re-enactment. On May 18, a five-member bench of the Supreme Court hearing a suo motu case on measures taken to deal with the coronavirus crisis directed the Sindh government to seek approval for the opening of shopping malls i.....[view more](#)

Spirituality and power

Source: [Muhammad Amir Rana](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-05-31

The pandemic did not affect people's fasting and praying activities much during the holy month of Ramazan. At first, provincial governments were a bit hesitant to ease the lockdowns, but soon gave in to an implied national consensus, and Ramazan was celebrated with full religious zeal across the country. As religious scholars occupied television screens throughout the month, Tariq Jameel, a top religious celebrity in the country, was almos.....[view more](#)

Count the dead

Source: [Anjum Altaf](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-06-01

The relatively low number of Covid-19 deaths reported in South Asia continue to puzzle analysts. While the low numbers might be true for reasons yet to be fully confirmed, there are now serious charges of undercounting. Reports of undercounting have been circulating in India for a while but now an investigative piece in the London Telegraph

has leveled charges of deliberate malfeasance. It claims to have seen written orders to a West Bengal hosp.....[view more](#)

Technology times

Source: Editorial, [The News, International](#), 2020-06-01

While there is speculation around the world on how the coronavirus pandemic may change the pattern of life itself, it is obvious that the problem with the long lockdowns necessitated by it in many countries has brought forward the significance of technology in our age. As a result, people who had never used a laptop or a tablet before have turned to it to meet work or social needs. By the time Covid-19 goes away, if at all, we will have an expand.....[view more](#)

New hardships

Source: Editorial, [The News, International](#), 2020-06-01

Work done over years and even decades to reduce child poverty and hunger could be undone very rapidly by the Covid-19 pandemic, according to Unicef and Save the Children. The agencies warn that the pandemic could push as many as 86 million children into poverty by the end of 2020 according to a new joint study. This would bring the total number of children affected severely by poverty to 672 million, an increase of 15 percent over last year. Near.....[view more](#)

The new normal

Source: Majyd Aziz, [The News, International](#), 2020-06-01

Lockdown. Soft, smart, full. Unlike Wuhan, China or Italy, the lockdown in Pakistan has been a subject of political, social, and public controversy. Those not in favor of any lockdown, talk about the economic impact due to closure of business enterprises. Notwithstanding these concerns, the fact is that lockdown was imperative and essential. It is another story whether Pakistan's Federal and Provincial governments managed lockdown in the real.....[view more](#)

Covid budget

Source: Mehtab Haider, [The News, International](#), 2020-06-01

The devastating COVID-19 pandemic has driven Pakistan's government to table a "COVID Budget" before the Parliament on June 12, 2020 with the focus to resuscitate the economic activities knocked out by the lockdowns imposed to impede the spread of this deadly contagion that seems to be virtually unstoppable all over the world. The situation is still fluid, and the policymakers are clueless how long this lockdown-like situation i.....[view more](#)

Reviving urban economy in hard times

Source: AYESHA SHAHID / Naveed Iftikhar, [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-06-01

ISLAMABAD: The informal economy is the backbone of Pakistan. It took a global pandemic for the country to appreciate its significance, which made possible the supply of fresh fruits, vegetables and other groceries during lockdown. While food supply chains of many rich nations collapsed, Pakistan's informal economy saved people from this catastrophe. As Pakistan is relaxing the lockdown and reviving the economy, efforts should also be[view more](#)

China flexes its muscles

Source: [Shahid Javed Burki](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-06-01

Covid-19 is a respiratory disease that at the time of this writing has taken 367,229 lives and sickened over 6 million people worldwide. It first appeared in Wuhan, a city of 11 million people on the Yangtze River in China's centre. That fact alone could have put the country on the defensive in the international arena. But that did not happen. Rather than being weakened, China came out stronger. It had demonstrated that it had the political.....[view more](#)

UN's truce call

Source: [Editorial](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-06-01

UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres has voiced his disappointment at how his call for a global ceasefire amidst the Covid-19 pandemic has gone unheeded. At a UNSC session on granting protection to civilians in armed conflicts, Guterres said a global ceasefire will help combat the pandemic, facilitate humanitarian aid to vulnerable people and open space for dialogue. In some instances, years of conflict had left many vulnerable to disease, not j.....[view more](#)

Covid-19 in Pakistan: The quintuple whammy

Source: [Hussain H Zaidi](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-06-01

ISLAMABAD: Covid-19 is likely to significantly affect Pakistan's external balance in five ways – reducing exports, foreign investment and remittances, deflating the import bill, and increasing external debt. All these repercussions of the pandemic come from recession in economy – in part supply-induced and in part demand-induced – across the globe. Pakistan's top 10 export markets in descending order are the US.....[view more](#)

Business unusual

Source: [Andleeb Abbas](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-06-01

Like never before. The new norm. Change is permanent. These are the clichés that are being discussed in every nook and corner of the world. As people find their movement restricted, their jobs constrained, their operations limited, the natural tendency is to have tunnel thinking. As they say, every change is painful and the only way to lessen this pain is to envision and prepare for the best and the worst. That is why organizations need to.....[view more](#)

Going Solo

Source: [Editorial](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-06-01

The term 'American exceptionalism' acquired new meaning under President Donald Trump. The latest blow to this idea comes by Mr Trump's announcement of leaving the World Health Organisation (WHO). Trump's move is a severe blow to the WHO – as the COVID-19 has started claiming more lives than before and is yet to reach its peak in many countries. Many people hoped that global pressure would force Mr Trump to review his.....[view more](#)

Shocking numbers

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

Now that the total number of coronavirus cases in Pakistan has almost reached 70,000 and about one-and-a-half-thousand people have already died, perhaps the government should spend some time finding out just why the graph has risen so steeply over the last few weeks and share whatever conclusion it reaches with the public. Transparency is one of its hallmarks, after all, or so it likes to believe. Most likely whoever looks into these things will[view more](#)

A new low for India

Source: [News Desk, Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

The Modi administration in India tried to unveil its novel Pakistan strategy a little before its general election last year. It began with a false flag operation that was blamed squarely on Pakistan, as usual, with the country's belligerent media moving in lockstep with its hawkish government. All this was meant to set a series of events in motion that would take the BJP into the election with the kind of momentum it would have liked. The o.....[view more](#)

Geopolitical and economic impact of Diamer-Bhasha Dam Project in Pakistan; a threat to Climate Change

Source: [Fazila Amber, Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

In response to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, Govt of Pakistan is launching economic recovery measures as the resumption of services and businesses to mitigate unemployment and stabilize core industries. Although it is understandably challenging to contemplate other hazards during this outbreak, it is essential to remember that we face another major crisis that threatens human prosperity-climate change. We are focusing on build.....[view more](#)

Halting the Upsurge of Future Pandemic

Source: [Mohsin Saleem Ullah, Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

It seemed just like last year, perhaps even more recently, that Africa was confronted with the outbreak of the deadly and highly infectious Ebola virus disease. Well, it happened only in 2014, but we still remember, the scale of deaths, and panic of the citizenry. But the incredible heroism of certain front liners to the commendable efforts of the African governments, braving odds and rising to the very occasion keep the virus in check. That coup.....[view more](#)

Khawaja Sara as "Third Gender" are endangered in COVID-19 pandemic in Pakistan

Source: [Alamgir khan, Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

On 26th February 2020, Pakistan reported its first case of Corona Virus in a student who returned from Iran. Within a few weeks after the first case, the cases of COVID-19 patients outreach to all the four provinces including the capital territory of Islamabad and the Gilgit Baltistan region of Pakistan. The latest updates on 28th May 2020, Pakistan has over 61,200 confirmed cases of COVID-19. Out of the total confirmed cases, the Sindh[view more](#)

New Delhi during COVID-19

Source: [Anum A Khan, Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

On 19 April 20, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi wrote in one of his post that: "COVID-19 does not see race, religion, colour, caste, creed, language or border before striking. Our response and conduct thereafter should attach primacy to unity and brotherhood". As the virus proliferates in India, propaganda and violence against Muslims and islamophobia depicts an altogether different situation. Muslims have become convenient scape.....[view more](#)

COVID-19 and global supply chain

Source: [Umar Ali Amjad, Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

The coronavirus outbreak has disrupted political and trade relations between the US and China. America is heading towards protectionism. Two giant economies with their allies are working emphatically to malign one another. Propagandists are doing their best by using conspiracy theories to change public opinion amid pandemic. American economists and think tanks are stressing the current crisis is an opportunity to rearrange a system that has relie.....[view more](#)

Higher education changes for Post — COVID-19 learning

Source: [Dr Sadia shaukat](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

The education system is already struggling to provide physical learning resources. Since the appearance of the Coronavirus-19 in December last year, nearly every aspect of regular life in Pakistan has been transformed. The Education sector has been affected hugely with the closing of classes and calls for efficient education emergencies to overcome the academic loss. Academic institutions are now searching for new learning avenues by going online.....[view more](#)

Living with the new normal

Source: [Dr Awais Saleem](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

With around 1.7 million positive cases in the US, the political administration and public health officials are trying to come up with strategies to deal with the new normal. The world is battling Covid-19 and trying to assess how much this pandemic will affect the global outlook. Nobody has a ready answer. However, one thing everybody agrees on is that the world after Covid-19 will not be[view more](#)

A stressful transition

Source: [Ali Madeeh Hashmi](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

We must now begin to think in a fundamentally different way about how we live and work. On my usual early morning bicycle ride, as I pedalled my way around my neighbourhood, I was surprised by the huge turnout for Eid prayers given that Eid had been announced very late the previous night after a tussle between the Ministry of Science and the hordes of the Ruet-e Hilal committee. What I was not surprised by was the complete lack of precautionary m.....[view more](#)

A game of chance

Source: [Natasha Anwar](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

Choosing therapeutic regimens for the severely sick Covid-19 patients remains a challenge. It now looks like a game of chance with unknown odds: lockdown, partial lockdown, no lockdown and a possible return to lockdown. Meanwhile, we are all holding our breath, waiting and watching as the number of cases rises. For all we know the curve could turn upwards or flatten, even move downwards. For now, Covid-19 is here, and according to the latest s.....[view more](#)

Policing lockdowns

Source: [Ahsan Zia](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

Ensuring compliance with lockdown restrictions is becoming increasingly difficult for authorities. While the government has hinted at re-imposing stiff lockdown restrictions following what it has described as large-scale flouting of the standard operating procedures (SOPs) prescribed in view of the pandemic situation while easing the lockdown in place since March, local administrations and police appear unsure about what is doable and how to go a.....[view more](#)

Healthcare in a fix

Source: Amer Malik, [The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

Following the relaxation of lockdown restrictions on May 9, the number of coronavirus cases in Pakistan has almost doubled. Seeing an exponential growth in transmission and resultant mortalities due to the virus following easing of lockdown restrictions, healthcare professionals fear that the fallout of easing the lockdown may lead to devastating effects. According to Pakistan's National Covid-19 Dashboard, there were a total of 57,705 c.....[view more](#)

Balochistan

Jam Kamal reviews preventive steps for coronavirus, locust attack

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-30

QUETTA - Balochistan Chief Minister Jam Kamal Khan Friday chaired a high-level meeting and reviewed issues related to preventive measures for coronavirus, locust attack and malaria across the province. The meeting was attended by various sectors of officials including the Department of Health, Department of Agriculture, and Balochistan Command and Operations Center where they briefed the meeting on precaution steps against the coronavirus and loc.....[view more](#)

BMC incharge dies of virus

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-30

QUETTA: Bolan Medical Complex Quetta Trauma Centre In-charge Zubair Ahmed Khan died of the coronavirus late on Thursday while working on frontline against the deadly pandemic in Balochistan. Khan was the second doctor to have succumbed to the virus after being infected with it as earlier Dr Naeem Agha had died of the virus, according to Young Doctors Association spokesperson. Khan was under treatment at Fatima Jinnah Hospital after testing.....[view more](#)

Alyani announces package for virus-hit govt employees

Source: [Saleem Shahid](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-06-01

QUETTA: Balochistan Chief Minister Jam Kamal Khan Alyani has announced a Shuhada package for government employees losing their lives to Covid-19. The chief minister was presiding over a meeting on Friday to review the provincial government's efforts against coronavirus and a swarm of locusts. The command and operation centres of agriculture and health departments briefed the chief minister on measures being made to control coronavirus and.....[view more](#)

Rs6bn released by Balochistan govt to mitigate Covid-19 impact on economy

Source: [Correspondent](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-06-01

QUETTA: The Balochistan government has released Rs6 billion to mitigate the impact of coronavirus on provincial economy which has rendered thousands of people jobless. Speaking at a press conference here, Balochistan government spokesman Liaquat Shahwani said the provincial government had released the money from its own resources to provide relief to the people who had lost their jobs, especially daily wage workers, due to coronavirus. He[view more](#)

Gilgit Baltistan

Chitral reports first death due to Covid-19

Source: [Ali Murad, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-31

CHITRAL: Chitral reported the first death in the district due to coronavirus as Pakistan reported a record 88 deaths a day before, taking the death toll to 1,483. According to Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (K-P) health authorities, the deceased was a resident of Chitral Town's Molda area. The victim had travelled to Chitral from Lahore during the month of Ramadan. He had tested negative for the virus in two private laboratories.[view more](#)

Islamabad

64 deaths include doctors: Corona sets new casualty record for a day

Source: [News Report, The News, International](#), 2020-05-30

ISLAMABAD: It was the deadliest day for Pakistan on Friday as 96 people died of coronavirus and 2,363 others were infected, indicating that the situation of the pandemic has entered a critical stage in the country. Out of the new 96 new deaths, including four doctors, 29 were reported from Punjab, 31 from Sindh, 13 from KP, four from Islamabad and 19 from Balochistan. The prime minister's aide on health Dr Zafar Mirza Friday said earlier in[view more](#)

Global Covid-19 toll crosses 364,000

Source: [News Report, The News, International](#), 2020-05-30

ISLAMABAD: Coronavirus pandemic has killed at least 364,523 people worldwide since it surfaced in China late last year, according to the international media reports. The United States has recorded the most deaths of any country, with 103,953. It is followed by Britain with 38,161, Italy with 33,229, France with 28,714 and Spain with 27,121. Brazil, the epicentre in Latin America, has recorded 26,899 deaths, while Peru has passed the 4,000 mark.[view more](#)

Coronavirus kills 17 healthcare workers in Pakistan

Source: [Benazir Shah, The News, International](#), 2020-05-30

The novel coronavirus has infected 1,904 healthcare workers in Pakistan and 17 have died since the outbreak first emerged, official data reveals. The new data provides sobering evidence that doctors, nurses, paramedics and other healthcare providers are working in high risk areas without adequate protection gear. In Sindh, 538 healthcare professional have tested positive for the coronavirus, and eight have died, a report by the ministry of nati.....[view more](#)

QAU's research on COVID-19 vaccine recognised internationally

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-05-30

Islamabad : The researchers team, under the supervision of Dr. Syed Sikander Azam from Computational Biology Lab at National Centre for Bioinformatics, Quaid-i-Azam University (QAU) Islamabad have identified novel vaccine candidates against COVID-19. The researchers utilized indigenously developed computational methods to design novel vaccine construct available at the Computational Biology Lab to identify the novel multi-epitope based vaccine c.....[view more](#)

Things to learn from China's fight against COVID-19

Source: [Afshan S. Khan](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-30

Islamabad : Speakers of an international virtual seminar on 'Combating COVID-19: Learning from China' said the government was confused in taking appropriate decisions at the right moment of time. They also urged the people to follow the pre-emptive measures, stay at homes and keep them virus-free by physical distancing and washing their hands. This was the first and only solution adopted by the Chinese to defeat the COVID-19 infections.....[view more](#)

'Coronavirus needs better economic system'

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-30

Islamabad : Senior vice president of FPCCI Business Panel and President Pakistan Businessmen and Intellectuals Forum Mian Zahid Hussain on Friday said the corona crisis has underlined the need for a just economic system which can result in a proper society and lift people out of poverty. A wealthy minority supports the unfair and manipulative economic system which is very damaging for the majority, he said. The business leader said the establish.....[view more](#)

Pandemic could push 86m children into poverty

Source: [Jamila Achakzai](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-30

Islamabad: Without urgent action to protect families from the financial hardships caused by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the number of children living below the national poverty line in low- and middle-income countries could reach 672 million by year-end, reveals new analysis from Save the Children and Unicef. Nearly two-thirds of these children live in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. According to the analysis, the economic fallout of[view more](#)

LIVE: New cases in Sindh pushes Pakistan's COVID-19 tally to 67,651

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-30

ISLAMABAD / KARACHI / PESHAWAR / LAHORE / QUETTA / MUZAFFARABAD: The novel coronavirus emerged in the central China city of Wuhan towards the end of last year and proliferated to almost the whole world within a couple of months. It's not the virulence or fatality, but the infectivity of the new virus – also known as SARS-CoV-2 – that has set off a global frenzy. The Covid-19 respiratory illness caused by this mysterious co.....[view more](#)

Coronavirus positive cases surge to 66,457 in Pakistan

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-30

Pakistan confirmed 78 more deaths from novel coronavirus in one day as the nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 1,395 and positive cases surged to 66,457. According to the latest figures by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC), 2,429 persons have been tested positive for COVID-19 in 24 hours. Sindh remains the worst-hit province by the pandemic followed by Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan. Till now 26,113 coro.....[view more](#)

Shehryar Afridi tests positive for coronavirus

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-30

Minister for SAFRON and Narcotics Control Shehryar Khan Afridi has been tested positive for the coronavirus. In his message on Twitter in wee hours on Saturday, Shehryar Afridi said that I have been tested positive of COVID-19 and have isolated myself at home as per advice by medics. He has also requested the nation pray for his recovery. Shehryar Afridi also prayed that may Allah Almighty help save all my countrymen from the pandemic.[view more](#)

Marriyum Aurangzeb says incompetent govt destroyed health dept

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-30

Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) spokesperson Marriyum Aurangzeb has on Saturday demanded removal of Prime Minister Imran Khan. The PML-N leader said the missing premier is in charge of the health department which has been given on contract by the federal government. "There are more than 2,100 positive cases of coronavirus in Islamabad but the hospitals in the federal capital are in temporary charge along with DG Health and the Dr.....[view more](#)

'Nation left on mercy of Covid-19'

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-30

ISLAMABAD - Information Secretary Pakistan People's Party Parliamentarians Dr. Nafisa Shah said yesterday that prime minister Imran Khan had left the entire nation on the mercy of Covid-19 and locust. Dr Shah said that the Pakistan Tehrik-e-Insaf had come into power as a 'destructive force' in Pakistan. In a statement, she alleged that due to the failed economic policies of this PTI-led government, the country's eco.....[view more](#)

Pakistan lifts ban on international flights

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-05-30

Pakistan has decided to allow international flights to resume, an aviation official said on Friday, after largely closing its airspace to commercial flights since March to curb the spread of the coronavirus pandemic. "Both national and foreign airlines shall be allowed to operate from all international airports of Pakistan with exception of Gwadar and Turbat," said Abdul Sattar Khokhar, Senior Joint Secretary at the Civil Aviation Author.....[view more](#)

Nationwide tally of coronavirus crosses 65,000; 1,359 lives lost

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-05-30

The nationwide tally of Covid-19 patients jumped to 65,059 on Friday, with 22,964 cases reported in Punjab, 26,113 in Sindh, 9,067 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 3,928 in Balochistan, 660 in Gilgit Baltistan, 2,100 in Islamabad and 227 in Azad Jammu and Kashmir. The virus has claimed at least 1,359 lives while about 22,305 coronavirus patients have recovered so far. As many as 31 more patients of coronavirus died during the last 24 hours which is the highest.....[view more](#)

COVID 19: Govt's frivolousness puts people's lives at risk

Source: [Zahid Raza](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-05-30

Non seriousness of the federal and provincial authorities of Pakistan to adequate medical care and protective measures against COVID-19 put the entire nation at stake. And the obligation to uphold access to healthcare and ensure the food provision for everyone, were also remained merely claims from both authorities. As of Friday, nationwide tally of Covid-19 patients stands at 64,028 with 22,964 cases in Punjab, 25,309 in Sindh, 8,483 in Khyber-Pa.....[view more](#)

Asad directs provinces to share COVID-19 information on RMS

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-05-30

Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Asad Umar on Friday directed the provinces to share their latest COVID-19 combating efforts and latest information about the pandemic in their respective areas in the Resource

Management System (RMS) to facilitate people. Chairing a meeting at National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) to review the COVID-19 situation, he said that the RMS was effectively providing latest information reg.....[view more](#)

Pakistan reports most number of COVID-19 cases, deaths over 24 hours

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

Pakistan set a new high for reporting the most number of COVID-19 deaths, 88 and number of cases, 3,039, in a single day on May 30, according to data provided by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Sunday. According to statistics provided by the official government website on the coronavirus situation in Pakistan, Pakistan topped its previous record number of new COVID-19 cases reported over 24 hours, 2,636, on May 28. Pakistan[view more](#)

FBR heading towards flat revenue growth after Covid-19

Source: [Mehtab Haider](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

ISLAMABAD: Lingered COVID-19 pandemic and slowing down of the economic activities all over the country has resulted into dismal performance of the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) as its provisional collection in outgoing month (May 2020) stands at just Rs227 billion. The FBR is heading towards flat growth in last two years under the present government as the Board's collection in 2017-18 stood at Rs3,842 billion under the previous governme.....[view more](#)

Senior doctors in worry for medical fraternity & general public

Source: [Muhammad Qasim](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

Islamabad : The coronavirus illness is continuing its spread not only among general public but also among healthcare workers in this region of the country and a number of senior doctors serving at major public sector healthcare facilities in the twin cities of Islamabad and Rawalpindi have started expressing deep concern over 'casual' attitude of individuals and the federal and provincial governments. Deputy Director at Pakistan Inst.....[view more](#)

PMDC asks employees for COVID-19 testing

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

Islamabad: The Pakistan Medical and Dental Council the administration has directed all staff members of the administration section to undergo coronavirus (COVID-19) test without delay. The development comes as an officer of the registration section tested positive for the virus. According to the PMDC spokespersons, the COVID-19 patient had gone on leave for running temperature even before he was diagnosed with the virus. Now, all employees of[view more](#)

'Business centres violating SOPs be sealed'

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

Islamabad : Founder of Islamabad Chamber for Small Traders and former President ICCI Shahid Rasheed Butt on Saturday said a large number of masses and the businesspersons seem unconcerned about precautionary measures that is resulting in the spread of coronavirus. Expressing grief on the rising number of virus-related cases, he said that carelessness on the part of masses and businesspersons is intolerable, as they have no or little regard for t.....[view more](#)

LIVE: Pakistan witnesses another surge in Covid-19 cases as tally soars to 70,878

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-31

ISLAMABAD / KARACHI / PESHAWAR / LAHORE / QUETTA / MUZAFFARABAD: The novel coronavirus emerged in the central China city of Wuhan towards the end of last year and proliferated to almost the whole world within a couple of months. It's not the virulence or fatality, but the infectivity of the new virus – also known as SARS-CoV-2 – that has set off a global frenzy. The Covid-19 respiratory illness caused by this mysterious co.....[view more](#)

Crowded places May 31, 2020 Govt makes wearing facemasks mandatory

Source: [Abdul Rasheed Azad, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-31

ISLAMABAD: The country on Saturday recorded the highest number of Covid-19 deaths – 78 – while 2,429 patients were tested positive of coronavirus, Special Assistant to Prime Minister (SPAM) on National Health Dr Zafar Mirza said. Addressing a press conference after attending a critical meeting of the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) along with another SAPM Dr Moeed Yusuf, Dr Mirza said wearing masks at crowded places had b.....[view more](#)

NCOC seeks provinces feedback on COVID-19 situation in Pakistan

Source: [Web Desk, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-31

National Command and Operation Centre has sought feedback of provinces to finalise the recommendations for opening some more sectors of the economy halted due to COVID-19 outbreak. In a meeting chaired by Federal Minister for Planning Asad Umar in Islamabad, the long and short term strategy on COVID-19 was analysed. The NCOC recommended that the educational institutions should be kept closed till August and the marriage halls should only be.....[view more](#)

COVID-19 vaccine to be ready by October of next year: Fawad Chaudhry

Source: [Web Desk, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-31

Minister for Science and Technology Chaudhary Fawad Hussain has said preparation of vaccine for the treatment of COVID-19 is in initial stage and its availability is expected by October next year. He advised people to follow the standard operating procedure to contain the virus till a vaccine to deal with the pandemic is manufactured.[view more](#)

78 new deaths, 2,429 new cases

Source: [Imran Mukhtar, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-31

ISLAMABAD - The country on Saturday recorded highest number of deaths in a single day as 78 more virus patients died while death toll from novel coronavirus swelled to 1,395. According to officials, with 2,429 new coronavirus cases the nationwide tally reaches 66,457. These include: 24,104 in Punjab, 26,113 in Sindh, 9,067 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 4,087 in Balochistan, 2192 in Islamabad, 660 in Gilgit Baltistan and 234 in Azad Kashmir. During t.....[view more](#)

Health official tested positive as COVID-19 tally reaches 141 in Attock

Source: [Muhammad Sabrin, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-31

Attock - The number of COVID-19 cases continue to escalate in Attock also as eight patients were tested positive during the last two days and among them isa senior official of health department, raising the tally of the patients to 141, District Health Department confirmed on Saturday. According to District Attockfocalperson for COVID-19, DrAsifArbabNiazi, Deputy District Health Officer (DDHO) HasanabdalDrNaeemAkhter is among newly dete.....[view more](#)

88 deaths, 3,039 new cases in single day: Provinces differ over smart lockdown

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-06-01

ISLAMABAD: Recommending the engagement of market associations in implementing COVID-19 guidelines and standard operating procedures (SOPs), Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Asad Umer called for strict implementation of 'no mask, no service' policy by shopkeepers here on Sunday — a day marked by 88 coronavirus-related deaths and 3,039 new confirmed cases. Chairing a meeting at the National Command and O.....[view more](#)

Criminal cases to be filed against those named in sugar probe: govt

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-05-31

Special Assistant to Prime Minister on Accountability Shahzad Akbar Saturday said criminal cases will be filed against those found guilty in the sugar inquiry commission report. Addressing a press conference here, Shahzad Akbar said the sugar inquiry report is a charge sheet against former prime minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi. "I will prove whatever Shahid Khaqan Abbasi said was a white lie and they [opposition leaders] are misleading the nat.....[view more](#)

Highest number of patients, deaths from ICT in a day

Source: [Muhammad Qasim](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-06-01

Islamabad : As many as five more confirmed patients of coronavirus illness, COVID-19 have died of the disease in the twin cities of Islamabad and Rawalpindi in the last 24 hours while another 298 patients tested positive as the highest number of deaths and new patients were reported from Islamabad Capital Territory in a day. Data collected by 'The News' on Sunday reveals that confirmation of another 226 patients for COVID-19 from ICT.....[view more](#)

Chinese company donates PPEs

Source: [Obaid Abrar Khan](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-06-01

Islamabad : Chinese companies working in Pakistan on different projects of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) paying their part in fight against COVID-19. A Chinese company China Gezgouba Group Corporation (CGGC) working on Suki Kinari Hydropower Project, which is located on Kunhar River in the Kaghan Valley of District Mansehra, Khyber Pakhtunkwa who has donate Personal Protective Equipment including surgical masks, hand sanitizers, protec.....[view more](#)

'Progress in S&T crucial for dealing with corona aftermath'

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-06-01

Islamabad : Prof. Dr. Atta-ur-Rahman, Chairman of Prime Minister Task Force on Science and Technology, Sunday said that corona pandemic has seriously affected the national and global development upsetting progress of all sectors in the short and long-run. "Progress in Science & Technology is the key to mitigate the aftermath of this crisis," he expressed these views at a meeting held at COMSATS Secretariat to discuss the future p.....[view more](#)

M&As to pick up pace

Source: [Dilawar Hussain](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

LIFE after Covid-19 for the corporate sector will witness an enormous amount of change from what we know now. While big corporations may wonder if letting much of the staff work from home may really be a good idea to save

exponentially high costs of office building rents, utilities, transportation, staff meals etc, smaller companies that have suffered greatly during the lockdowns as their fixed and variable costs continued to remain high despite.....[view more](#)

Pakistan records 54,000 new cases, 1,100 deaths in May

Source: [Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-06-01

ISLAMABAD:As over 54,000 people contracted the novel coronavirus and more than 1,100 patients died in Pakistan during the month of May, the percentage of tests with positive result has also increased tremendously. The tally of countrywide cases surged to 71,068 from 16,817 cases, which were reported on April 30 by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), with the latest addition of 2,785 cases in a single day. The death toll also jumpe.....[view more](#)

Capital admin to fine people up to Rs3,000 for not wearing masks

Source: [Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-06-01

ISLAMABAD: A day after the federal government announced that it is mandatory to wear masks in public places, the capital administration has decided to fine violators Rs3,000. On May 30, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on National Health Services (NHS) announced that with 92pc of reported Covid-19 cases being of local transmission, the government has made it mandatory for people to wear masks in mosques, markets, malls, on public transpor.....[view more](#)

NCC to decide on easing or extending lockdown today

Source: [Agencies, Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

A meeting of the National Coordination Committee (NCC) will finalise the strategy for tackling the coronavirus pandemic and the lockdown restrictions imposed in the country on Monday.The meeting will be attended by all four chief ministers, federal ministers, chairman National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and the provincial health ministers.The meeting will decide whether to ease the lockdown across the country or to extend it as the numb.....[view more](#)

Pakistan witnesses another surge in COVID-19 cases as tally soars to 70,911

Source: [Agencies, Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

The nationwide tally of COVID-19 patients stands at 70,911, with 25,056 cases in Punjab, 28,245 in Sindh, 10,027 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 4,193 in Balochistan, 711 in Gilgit-Baltistan, 2,418 in Islamabad and 261 in Azad Jammu and Kashmir.The virus has claimed at least 1,519 lives, while about 25,271 coronavirus patients have recovered.Also, Pakistan confirmed 88 more deaths from novel coronavirus during last 24 hours. According to the National Comm.....[view more](#)

NCC meeting to decide on lockdown today as national tally soars to 72,460

Source: [Our Correspondents, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-06-01

ISLAMABAD / KARACHI / PESHAWAR / LAHORE / QUETTA / MUZAFFARABAD / ISLAMABAD / KARACHI / PESHAWAR / LAHORE / QUETTA / MUZAFFARABAD: The novel coronavirus emerged in the central China city of Wuhan towards the end of last year and proliferated to almost the whole world within a couple of months. It's not the virulence or fatality, but the infectivity of the new virus – also known as SARS-CoV-2 – that has set off a global frenzy.....[view more](#)

NCOC seeks market associations' help for implementing SOPs

Source: [news desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Sunday sought to engage market associations for the implementation of COVID -19 guidelines and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) in letter and spirit. Chairing a meeting at National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Asad Umer said that the shopkeepers should strictly implement "no mask, no service," policy. He directed th.....[view more](#)

Progress in science and technology crucial for dealing with COVID-19 aftermath

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

Chairman of Prime Minister Task Force on Science and Technology, Pakistan, Professor Dr. Atta-ur-Rahman termed progress in science and technology (S&T) a key to mitigate the aftermath of the prevailing crisis of corona pandemic. He said corona pandemic has seriously affected the national and global development upsetting progress of all sectors in the short and long-run. Dr. Atta-ur-Rahman expressed these views at a meeting held at COMSATS Secre.....[view more](#)

Virus cases on the rise

Source: [Imran Mukhtar](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-06-01

ISLAMABAD - The country on Sunday recorded highest number of virus infections as at least 3,039 new cases surfaced during the last twenty-four hours, taking the tally to 69,496. Some 25,056 cases have so far been detected in Punjab, 27,360 in Sindh, 9,540 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 4,193 in Balochistan, 2,418 in Islamabad, 678 in Gilgit Baltistan, and 251 in Azad Kashmir. Also, at least 25,271 patients have so far recovered from the virus while[view more](#)

World virus cases top 6.2m as leaders disagree on pandemic response

Source: [News Report](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-06-01

ISLAMABAD: The number of coronavirus cases worldwide topped 6.2 million on Sunday as Brazil registered another record surge in daily infections and divisions deepened on how to deal with the pandemic. Latin American countries are bracing for difficult weeks ahead as the virus spreads rapidly across the region. This contrasts to other parts of the world where the pace has eased and permitted a cautious exit from lockdowns that have wrecked econom.....[view more](#)

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Dir admin reviews steps against virus

Source: [The Newspaper's Correspondent](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-30

TIMERGARA: The Lower Dir administration on Friday announced to adopt a strategy for coping with the increasing number of Covid-19 patients in the district. A meeting in this regard was held here at Balambat with deputy commissioner Saadat Hassan in the chair. DHO Mohammad Nazir, MS Timergara hospital Dr Shaukat Ali, deputy DHO Dr Irshad Roghani and other stakeholders were also present on the occasion. The participants discussed issues related t.....[view more](#)

Over 700 airline passengers tested positive for virus, says Ajmal

Source: [Bureau report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-30

PESHAWAR: Adviser to the chief minister on information Ajmal Khan Wazir on Friday said a total of 727 people had tested positive for coronavirus (Covid-19) after reaching the Bacha Khan International Airport, Peshawar, through special flights during the last one and a half months. "Of those 727 airline passengers, 481 were from KP and the rest from other provinces," the adviser told reporters during a visit to the airport. Mr Wazir[view more](#)

PPP seeks govt steps to tackle pandemic

Source: [Bureau report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-30

PESHAWAR: Pakistan Peoples Party has asked the government to take effective steps to tackle Covid-19 pandemic instead of targeting the opposition parties. Speaking at a press conference at Peshawar Press Club on Friday, PPP women wing provincial president MPA Nighat Orakzai said the government ministers were continuously criticising the Sindh government and PPP leadership, which had caused serious unrest among her party workers. Flanked by PPP[view more](#)

Govt reopens non-Muslim places of worship

Source: [Ali Hazrat Bacha](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-30

PESHAWAR: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government has lifted a ban on prayers and congregations in non-Muslim places of worships. However, worshippers will have to follow safety guidelines in churches, temples and gurdwaras to prevent virus. The relief rehabilitation and settlement department notified the lifting of the ban saying it is subject to revision in light of the Covid-19 situation and advice of health experts. It said under the standard op.....[view more](#)

KTH gets two PCR testing machines

Source: [Bureau report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-30

PESHAWAR: The Khyber Teaching Hospital has started Covid-19 tests after installation of two PCR machines. The public health laboratory began operations on Friday which will enable the suspected patients to get diagnosed the same day, according to a press release. So far, the hospital has been sending samples to the Khyber Medical University which took longer to get the results as the latter is supposed to cater to the whole province. It is the[view more](#)

KP records 13 new virus deaths, 225 cases

Source: [Dawn Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-30

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Friday recorded 13 new deaths from novel coronavirus (Covid-19), which took its tally of the fatalities to 445. Of the new deaths, five were reported in Peshawar, three in Bajaur, two in Swat, and one each in Mardan, Malakand and Battagram. The number of confirmed Covid-19 cases reached 9,067 after 225 more residents were diagnosed with the virus. Recoveries from the infection in the province totalled 2,731 as 3.....[view more](#)

Corona cases on the rise in KP: CM Mahmood Khan

Source: [Bureau report](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-30

PESHAWAR: Chief Minister Mahmood Khan said on Friday cases of Covid-19 were increasing in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and urged the public to strictly follow precautionary measures in order to make themselves and others safe from the virus. In an official handout, the chief minister appealed to the public to realise the sensitivity of the

issue and follow the standard operating procedures (SOPs). He advised the citizens to restrict themselves to their ho.....[view more](#)

Ghulam Bilour, Mian Iftikhar defeat Covid-19

Source: [Mushtaq Paracha](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-30

NOWSHERA: Two senior leaders of the Awami National Party - Haji Ghulam Ahmad Bilour and Mian Iftikhar Hussain - on Friday recovered from coronavirus as both tested negative for the viral infection. Elderly Haji Ghulam Ahmad Bilour, in the late 70s, and Mian Iftikhar Hussain, ANP secretary-general who is in the early 60s, were found suffering from Covid-19 in the recent past. Mian Iftikhar Hussain's elder brother, Mian Muhammad Sarir, had l.....[view more](#)

One more dies of coronavirus in Mardan

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-30

MARDAN: One more person died of coronavirus in the district, raising the tally to 27, Health Department sources said. Also, another 52 people tested positive for coronavirus in district in the last 24 hours, taking the total numbers of patients to 498, the sources added. Around 240 suspected patients were discharged from different isolation centers in the district while 42 patients were still at the isolation centers so far. The sources said t.....[view more](#)

SCCI asks govt to lift lockdown from KP

Source: [Bureau report](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-30

PESHAWAR: The Sarhad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) on Friday asked the government to end lockdown and allow businesses to remain open seven days a week. The demand was made during a conference held through a video link here with SCCI president Engineer Maqsood Anwar Pervaiz in the chair. SCCI senior vice president, Shahid Hussain, vice president Abdul Jalil Jan, former president FPCCI Ghazanfar Bilour, former chamber presidents, Riaz A.....[view more](#)

727 passengers at BKIA tested corona positive: Ajmal Wazir

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-30

PESHAWAR: Advisor to KP CM on Information Ajmal Khan Wazir has stated that 81824 passengers have arrived at Bacha Khan International Airport (BKIA) Peshawar on 478 flights that were regularly screened. The advisor informed that a total of 4675 passenger arrived on 23 special flights during period from April 15 to May 28, 2020. On special flights, 727 people tested positive for Corona virus out of which 246 people were from other provinces w.....[view more](#)

Adviser says enough beds for Covid-19 patients in KP hospitals

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

PESHAWAR: Adviser to Chief Minister on Information and Public Relations Ajmal Wazir has said there is no shortage of beds for the coronavirus patients in hospitals across the province. As per an official handout, he said this while speaking at a press briefing in the Civil Secretariat. Ajmal Wazir said that Medical Teaching Institution (MTI) Lady Reading Hospital (LRH) had a total of 1800 beds and 63 ventilators. The adviser said the total 105 b.....[view more](#)

Two more die of corona in Takhtbhai

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

TAKHTBHAI: Two more died of coronavirus in Lundkhwar area in Takhtbhai tehsil on Saturday. Officials said that Habibullah Khan, vice-president of National Bank of Pakistan, Malakand region, and a resident of Qamargai in Lundkhwar area, had contracted the disease during the last Ramazan. They said the patient was admitted to the hospital where he tested positive for the viral infection. The patient was then taken to Lady Reading Hospital in Peshawar.....[view more](#)

PDMA provides sixth batch of safety equipment to 49 hospitals

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

PESHAWAR: The Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in collaboration with the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) provided sixth batch of safety equipment to 49 hospitals of the province to equip the doctors and paramedics battling the coronavirus pandemic. A press release said that 10500 N-95 masks, 15750 KN-95 masks, 105000 surgical facemasks were provided along with 31,500 protective suits, 21,000 shoe covers.....[view more](#)

3 test positive for corona

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

NOWSHERA: Three more suspected patients tested positive for the coronavirus in the district on Saturday. With the new cases, the number of confirmed Covid-19 patients reached 251 in the district since the outbreak of the viral disease in the country. Similarly, 769 persons reported negative for the viral infection, while 110 recovered from the disease in the district. The district has lost 14 persons to the viral infection so far while 13 other.....[view more](#)

Four more die of Covid-19

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

MINGORA: Another four people have died of coronavirus, taking the death toll from Covid-19 to 44 in Swat district, health officials said on Saturday. The officials said that 55 more people had tested positive for the virus, raising the total number of the corona patients to 880 in the district. About 368 people have recovered from coronavirus.[view more](#)

KTH formally starts Covid-19 tests amid spike in cases

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

PESHAWAR: Amid an unprecedented rise in the coronavirus cases, the Khyber Teaching Hospital (KTH) on Saturday started the relevant investigations at its Public Health Biosafety level 2 Laboratory. The World Health Organization (WHO) had provided the machine for the PCR laboratory at the KTH. The laboratory formally started operations and has become 3rd Public Health Laboratory in the province. Health Minister Taimur Saleem Jhagra went to the KTH.....[view more](#)

Another doctor succumbs to Covid-19 in K-P

Source: [Shahida Parveen](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-31

Another doctor passed away due to the coronavirus in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (K-P) on Sunday, a few days after being admitted in the hospital. The deceased was a pathologist at the Police Services Hospital in Peshawar and was undergoing treatment at the Hayatabad Medical Complex for three days. Dr Aurangzeb was in the intensive care unit (ICU) for the last three days, according to hospital sources. His first test had co.....[view more](#)

Coronavirus: PPC, KhUJ establish joint fund for media workers

Source: [Bureau report](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-06-01

PESHAWAR: The Peshawar Press Club (PPC) and Khyber Union of Journalists (KhUJ) have decided to establish a fund for the media workers affected by coronavirus. The decision was made after the PPC and KhUJ members arranged Quran Khawani for the departed souls senior photojournalists Gulshan Aziz and Fakhruddin Syed. Gulshan Aziz had died of a heart attack while Fakhruddin Syed lost life to coronavirus, recently. More than 14 media workers, includi.....[view more](#)

Kits shortage: Ayub Teaching Hospital stops Covid-19 tests

Source: [Syed Kosar Naqvi](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-06-01

ABBOTTABAD: The newly established laboratory at the Ayub Teaching Hospital (ATH) here stopped conducting Covid-19 tests for the last one week due to shortage and non-provision of consumables used for the PCR machine, sources said. The sources, while requesting anonymity, told The News that pendency of Covid-19 tests was increasing day by day at the ATH where Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) provided the PCR machine to the public h.....[view more](#)

Public concerned at surge in Covid-19 cases, deaths since Eid

Source: [Javed Aziz Khan](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-06-01

PESHAWAR: A sudden surge in positive cases of Covid-19 and deaths due to the virus has triggered concerns among the public who want the government to take effective measures to cope with the situation before it is too late. Action has been started against violators after wearing facemask has been made mandatory for those coming out of homes. People are testing positive for Covid-19 in large numbers after Eidul Fitr. Thousands of people went for[view more](#)

Covid-19 testing facility stops working over kits shortage in Abbotabad

Source: [Correspondent](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-06-01

ABBOTTABAD: Due to shortage of consumables used in PCR machine for last five days, the newly-established laboratory at Ayub Teaching Hospital has stopped Covid-19 tests, causing pendency of cases. Source on condition of anonymity told Dawn that pendency of Covid-19 tests had been increasing. They said PDMA had provided the machine, but it had not made any agreement with any contractor for repair or maintenance of the machine. The limited consuma.....[view more](#)

Govt has only hollow statements for overseas Pakistanis, says Siraj

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-06-01

PESHAWAR: Jamaat-i-Islami chief Senator Sirajul Haq said here on Sunday that government had nothing but hollow statements to offer the overseas Pakistanis stranded abroad due to the global lockdown in the wake of Covid-19 pandemic. "It (the government) hasn't any practical solution for the suffering and misery of overseas Pakistanis trapped due to the lockdown in countries abroad," he said while addressing JI protesters seeking.....[view more](#)

Two doctors, 20 others die of Covid-19 in KP

Source: [Ashfaq Yusufzai, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-06-01

PESHAWAR: Twenty more persons died of coronavirus on Sunday, taking the overall count of province-wide deaths due to the infection to 473. Two doctors including Dr Mohammad Azam, a Nowshera-based paediatrician, and Dr Aurangzeb Khan, a pathologist of Police Services Hospital Peshawar, also died of Covid-19. Chief Minister Mahmood Khan in a statement appreciated their services and extended sympathies to the families of both the medics. The gover.....[view more](#)

Almost 650 cases registered against violators of COVID-19 SOPs

Source: [Abdul Khaliq Qureshi, Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

Hazara Police while taking action against the violators of spreading coronavirus have registered 550 cases against Traders & shopping malls, 98 cases registered against CNG stations while more than 4000 shopkeepers were issued warnings during Eid holidays . Deputy Inspector General Police Hazara Qazi Jamil-ur-Rehman has directed all the DPOs to take strict action against the violators specially the campaigns “No mask no petrol” and[view more](#)

Punjab

COVID-19 claims 4 more lives in twin cities

Source: [Muhammad Qasim, The News, International](#), 2020-05-30

Rawalpindi : The coronavirus illness, COVID-19 outbreak that is getting more and more intense with every passing day has claimed another four lives here in the twin cities of Islamabad and Rawalpindi in last 24 hours taking the total number of deaths so far caused by coronavirus to 112 in the twin cities while another 134 patients have been tested positive from the region taking the tally to 4,273. Data collected by ‘The News’ on Fri.....[view more](#)

CM Usman Buzdar stresses joint efforts to check virus spread

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-05-30

LAHORE: Provincial Ministers Dr Yasmin Rashid and Mian Mahmood-ur-Rasheed called on Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar at his office here Friday to discuss anti-coronavirus drive and future strategy. The chief minister stated that around 224,000 have been tested in Punjab; 6,338 coronavirus patients have been recovered and 927 new cases have been reported during the last 24 hours. Now, the number of patients is 22,964 in Punjab and around 5,400 h.....[view more](#)

People not ready to take coronavirus seriously: Governor Sarwar

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-05-30

Lahore: Punjab Governor Chaudhry Muhammad Sarwar has said that coronavirus is not disappearing but it is getting intense day by day. Mortality rate is also increasing. Despite increase in the number of coronavirus cases, people are not ready to take it seriously, he said. He warned that if such situation persists, health system of Pakistan will not be able to bear the brunt of the increasing cases. He said, “We are making it clear since day.....[view more](#)

PMA concerned over deaths of doctors

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-05-30

LAHORE: The Pakistan Medical Association (PMA) is concerned over the increasing number of deaths of doctors in the country due to coronavirus. In a press statement on Friday, PMA (Centre) Secretary General Dr SM Qaisar Sajjad said that in the last 24hrs, two doctors, Dr Sana Fatima from Lahore and Dr Zubair Ahmed from Quetta, died of

coronavirus. A few days back Dr Naeem Agha died in Quetta due to coronavirus. He said all the doctors were the fr.....[view more](#)

Notices to 3 labs over serological tests

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-30

LAHORE: The Punjab Healthcare Commission (PHC) on Friday issued notices to three laboratories for conducting serological tests for Covid-19 diagnosis. The PHC got information that the Shaukat Khanum Laboratory, Chughtai Laboratory and Genome Lab were conducting serological tests for diagnosis of Covid-19, which was in contravention to the directions issued earlier by the Punjab Healthcare Commission and Provincial Health Department. The administr.....[view more](#)

Punjab's hospitality industry struggles for survival

Source: [Rizwan Asif](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-30

LAHORE: The financial crisis that unfolded with the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic has disrupted almost all sectors of the economy, and the hospitality industry appears to be on even shakier ground than suspected. In Punjab, a province that is known for its rich cuisine, the restaurant industry is only beginning to feel the shocks of the health crisis and the restrictions that followed. According to one conservative estimate, the sector ha.....[view more](#)

'115 healthcare workers at LGH, Punjab Institute of Neurosciences Covid-19 positive'

Source: [Iqtidar Gilani](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-30

LAHORE - The Young Doctors Association (YDA), Punjab, has claimed that as many as 115 medical personnel at Lahore General Hospital (LGH) and Punjab Institute of Neurosciences have been infected with the coronavirus. "As many as 93 doctors, 12 nurses and 10 paramedics at both these hospitals have been diagnosed with COVID-19," said Dr Ammar Yousaf, President of LGH chapter of YDA Punjab, while holding a press conference here on.....[view more](#)

Usman Buzdar reviews anti-locust steps, discusses future strategy against COVID-19

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-05-30

Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar chaired a meeting at his office here on Friday to review anti-locust steps being taken in the province. Addressing the meeting, he announced to reserve his helicopter for locust surveillance in affected districts and issued necessary directions to the agriculture department and PDMA in this regard. He also directed the line departments to remain vigilant round-the-clock and every possible step be taken to stop th.....[view more](#)

COVID-19: Punjab Assembly session to be convened at hotel

Source: [INP](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-05-30

The Punjab Assembly session slated to get underway on June 5 is likely to take place at a private hotel for the first time in the provincial legislature's history because of the coronavirus pandemic. The reason behind convening the session at a hotel is to ensure strict adherence to the standard operating procedures (SOPs), including social distancing protocols, for the MPAs, which was impossible to implement given the size of the assembly ha.....[view more](#)

Corona claims 3 more lives in twin cities

Source: [Muhammad Qasim, The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

Rawalpindi : Another three patients have died of coronavirus illness, COVID-19 in the twin cities of Islamabad and Rawalpindi in last 24 hours taking total number of deaths so far caused by the disease in the region to 114 while another 156 patients have been tested positive for the disease in last 24 hours taking tally to 4429 on Saturday. Two of the three patients died in the region in last 24 hours were from Rawalpindi district. Both the two[view more](#)

Change norms to ward off virus: CM Usman Buzdar

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

LAHORE : Railways Minister Sheikh Rashid Ahmed called on Punjab Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar here on Saturday. The matters of mutual interest, political situation and overall situation in the country came under discussion during the meeting. Chief Minister Usman Buzdar told Sheikh Rashid Ahmed about the government initiatives being taken to deal with coronavirus pandemic. He said that the Punjab government is utilising all available resour.....[view more](#)

Number of patients exceeds 22,500 in Punjab: Dr Yasmin Rashid

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

LAHORE : Punjab Health Minister Dr Yasmin Rashid has said that the Punjab government is providing best possible treatment to Covid-19 patients in the public sector hospitals while all required resources are available for the purpose and the government is reviewing the situation every 24 hours. Speaking at a press conference at Chief Minister's Secretariat, the health minister said that the data on the number of patients, treatment, tests, m.....[view more](#)

Record casualties in last 24 hours, says Governor Sarwar

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

LAHORE : Punjab Governor Chaudhry Muhammad Sarwar has said that the people are coming on roads in huge numbers as if they are celebrating the end of coronavirus. Due to the non-seriousness of people towards dealing with coronavirus, its cases are increasing in the country day by day, he said while addressing a delegation headed by PTI leader Mian Waheed at Governor's House on Saturday. The Punjab governor said, "We as a nation pay t.....[view more](#)

Economy-based activities to continue

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

LAHORE : The Punjab government has decided that instead of luxury-based, economy-based business activities would be continued in the province to protect people from the pandemic as well as economic problems. It was decided in meeting held here Saturday to devise a new strategy on coronavirus after May 31. An important meeting was held at the Chief Secretary's Camp Office, with provincial Ministers Raja Basharat, Dr Yasmeen Rashid, Mian Aslam[view more](#)

'Smokers more likely to develop severe disease with Covid-19'

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

LAHORE : Dr. Faheem Butt, consultant pulmonologist at Shaukat Khanum Memorial Cancer Hospital and Research Centre, cautioned the public about unproven claims that tobacco or nicotine could reduce the risk of Covid-19. In a statement on Saturday, Dr. Faheem Butt said, "This year on the World No Tobacco Day, we should be especially

cognizant of the fact that tobacco smoking is a known risk factor for many respiratory infections and increases.....[view more](#)

PHC bans private lab from conducting tests

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

LAHORE : The Punjab Healthcare Commission (PHC) on Saturday banned a private laboratory from carrying out all kinds of diagnostic tests, while its branches and collection centres have been stopped from collecting samples for Covid-19 tests. The Islamabad Diagnostic Centre located at the Evercare Hospital in Nespak Society was found doing serological tests for Covid-19 in contravention to the PHC's directions issued earlier. Its four branch.....[view more](#)

Corona emergency management strategy reviewed

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

LAHORE :The district emergency officers (DEOs) conference was held on Saturday to review the corona emergency management strategy during the smart lockdown, morbidity and mortality analysis and performance of the districts. Efficient use of personal protective equipment (PPEs), kits, timely and professional emergency response to corona emergencies, proper disinfection of staff, vehicles and equipment, and burial protocols, smart utilisation of s.....[view more](#)

Another corona patient dies at Nishtar Hospital

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

MULTAN: A corona patient died at the Nishtar Hospital on Saturday. Altaf Hussain, 55, was admitted to the hospital a couple of days back and he was tested positive but he failed to survive and expired at corona ward, the doctors said. The patient belonged to Shujabad. Nishtar Medical Health University spokesperson Dr Irfan Ahmed said that total 1,039 corona suspects had been admitted to the hospital so far while 267 patients had been tested coron.....[view more](#)

PRGMEA demands zero-rated regime

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-31

LAHORE: The Pakistan Readymade Garments Manufacturers and Exporters Association (PRGMEA) has called for the restoration of zero-rated regime of 'no payment and no refund of sales tax' for export-oriented sectors including textile at least for one year to sustain the industry amidst the liquidity crunch due to the Covid-19 crisis. In its budget proposals sent to Adviser to PM on Commerce Abdul Razak Dawood, PRGMEA Chairman (North.....[view more](#)

No shortage of beds, facilities for Covid-19 patients, PCC told

Source: [Muhammad Saleem](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-31

LAHORE: Punjab Cabinet Committee (PCC) for Covid-19 control decided to follow orders of the federal government in connection with opening of restaurants and cafes. Committee met on Saturday with Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar in the chair and reviewed the situation regarding coronavirus in detail. Te participants presented different proposals to prevent Covid-19. It was decided to send proposals to the federal government for opening of d.....[view more](#)

'New drug being administered to seriously ill patients'

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-31

LAHORE: Punjab Health Minister Dr Yasmin Rashid said on Saturday doctors in Punjab are now eyeing another drug Actemra (tocilizumab) that has the potential to rapidly shorten the recovery period by increasing oxygen levels for the novel coronavirus patients. "Around 10 to 15 patients were administered the drug via an injection, and they recovered 86 percent. However, the drug is very expensive, and a single day's dose costs Rs120.....[view more](#)

With 29 more fatalities, death toll in Punjab from Covid-19 reaches 439

Source: [Iqtidar Gilani](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-31

LAHORE - As many as 29 more COVID-19 patients breathed their last in the province on Saturday, taking the death toll to 439. At the same time as many as 1,140 new cases of novel coronavirus were reported in the province, taking the number of these cases to 24, 104. Out of 115 healthcare workers infected with virus at Lahore General Hospital and Punjab Institute of Neurosciences, 67 have recovered and most of them have resumed their duties. So.....[view more](#)

COVID-19 Vs Climate: Greenhouse Emission Dropped To A Commendable Proportion

Source: [APP](#), [UrduPoint](#), 2020-05-31

LAHORE, (APP - UrduPoint / Pakistan Point News - 31st May, 2020) :The worldwide safety measures to restrict mobility and physical interactions of people to halt the spread of deadly coronavirus have affected the socio-economic landscape of the globe. However, the consistent measures of the world community during the last six months to contain the spread of virus had also helped in dropping the greenhouse gases' emission level to a commendable.....[view more](#)

16 cops test positive in Rawalpindi

Source: [Our crime correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-06-01

Rawalpindi: While playing frontline force role against coronavirus pandemic, as many as 16 police officials of Rawalpindi region have been tested positive for COVID-19. Since Coronavirus pandemic lockdown, police officials in Rawalpindi region have been assigned additional responsibilities at pickets, quarantine centres and sealed areas to contain unnecessary public movement and to ensure implementation on directives of the government against co.....[view more](#)

Overcharging, Covid-19 SOPs violation continue in wholesale markets

Source: [Jawwad Rizvi](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-06-01

LAHORE: The government was unable to establish its writ to control overcharging as holy month of Ramazan also passed but no relief to the general public from overcharging and escalating prices of fruits and vegetables. The situation of overcharging is even out of control in the wholesale markets of Badami Bagh, Singhpura and Gajjumata where the government remained unable to establish its writ. The wholesale price was not implemented in these markets.....[view more](#)

Abrarul Haq catches virus

Source: [INP](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-06-01

PTI politician, Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) President and singer Abrarul Haq confirmed through a tweet on Sunday he had contracted coronavirus. Abrarul Haq said that he tested positive for coronavirus and was in self-isolation at home and will go for tests again in a few days.[view more](#)

Covid-19 researchers get Rs1m grant

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-06-01

A team of researchers at the University of Management and Technology (UMT) recently won a grant of Rs1 million from Future Scientific, Pakistan to check potential herd immunity in high-risk groups; asymptomatic medical doctors and family members of Covid-19 positive individuals who are home quarantine and were not tested for Covid-19. According to a press release, Dr Muhammad Sohail Afzal, who is leading the team, said that it would be the first.....[view more](#)

'600,000 Tiger Force volunteers in province'

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-06-01

LAHORE: More than 600,000 volunteers of Tiger Force are performing duties at quarantine centres, field hospitals, mosques and other places in Punjab to implement SOPs regarding coronavirus epidemic, besides assisting the administrations in price control, and their performance is yielding positive results. These views were expressed by Special Assistant to Prime Minister on Youth Affairs Usman Dar while addressing a meeting at Chief Secretary's office.....[view more](#)

Punjab slashes Rs3bn from police budget

Source: [Asif Chaudhry, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-06-01

LAHORE: Instead of increasing facilities for the police force in acknowledgment of the services being rendered by police personnel as frontline soldiers in the fight against deadly coronavirus, the provincial government has inflicted a huge cut of Rs3 billion on the Punjab police budget. As per an official source, the government has slashed Rs400 million from the funds allocated for fuel, Rs77 million from cost of investigation, Rs41m stationary.....[view more](#)

Punjab govt warns of consequences for schools 'if reopened' from today

Source: [Agencies, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-06-01

The Punjab government on Sunday warned that any school, public or private, if reopened from Monday, will be dealt with strictly and all educational institutes must remain closed till the provincial government's official notification in the matter. Taking to Twitter, Punjab Education Minister Murad Raas stated that no private or public school in the province will open till the Punjab government allows it through a notification. "We will[view more](#)

Punjab sees spike in Covid-19 infections after Eid

Source: [Rameez Khan, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-06-01

LAHORE: Amid easing of lockdown restrictions in Punjab to gradually bring the economy back on its feet, coronavirus cases are rising sharply in the province, according to figures released by the health department. According to the latest figures, of 5,570 people tested on May 30 throughout Punjab, 952 tested positive for the virus, of 5,341 people tested on May 29, 1,140 tested positive, of 5,348 people tested on May 28, 927 tested positive.....[view more](#)

Punjab police personnel bear brunt of pandemic

Source: [Nouman Sheikh, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-06-01

LAHORE: As many as 115 of the more than 1,000 personnel of Lahore police tested for coronavirus have been confirmed as infected so far, while 61 have recovered and resumed their duties. "Coronavirus epidemic has gripped

Lahore police after Eid and the number of patients has begun to increase day by day," Capital City Police Officer (CCPO) Zulfiqar Hameed told The Express Tribune. Reportedly, more than 100 police personnel, incl.....[view more](#)

Governor hails services of KEMCA for coronavirus-hit people

Source: [Staff Report](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

The King Edward Medical College Alumni Association (KEMCA), an organization of Pakistani doctors working in the United Kingdom, in collaboration with a social welfare organization, Akhuwat, distributed ration packs among more than 1,000 deserving people affected by the lockdown situation amid Covid-19 pandemic. The KEMCA has also ensured provision of face masks, safety kits and other safety equipment to the people for protection against coronavirus.....[view more](#)

Opposition wants an end to corruption cases, not COVID-19: Usman Buzdar

Source: [news desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar said that opposition parties are carrying forward their agenda of saving themselves from corruption cases instead of eradicating coronavirus. He lamented that opposition leaders by politicising an important national issue like coronavirus have shown their apathy and also proved their lack of concern. He condemned that opposition parties are indulging into point scoring on an important national issue like cor.....[view more](#)

Rs 6.738bn released so far to fight spread of COVID-19 in Punjab

Source: [Shehzad Yousafzai](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

The Punjab government has so far released Rs 6.738 billion to Primary & Secondary Healthcare (P&SH) Department to fight the spread of COVID-19. As per the information available with Daily Times, the Finance Department of Punjab has released Rs. 236 million in the last week of February for Purchase of Mask, PPEs, Printing etc. The information was shared by the P&SH Department Punjab after the directives of the Punjab Information commissio.....[view more](#)

36 die as Punjab reports highest number of deaths from Covid-19 in a day

Source: [Iqtidar Gilani](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-06-01

LAHORE - As many as 36 more COVID-19 patients breathed their last in Punjab on Sunday, the highest number of casualties in a single day since the pandemic began. So far 475 patients have died in the province so far. Similarly, as many as 952 new cases of novel coronavirus were reported in the province during the last 24 hours, taking the number of these cases to 25, 056. So far 188 casualties have been reported from Lahore, 93 Rawalpindi, 5.....[view more](#)

Sindh

30 die of COVID-19 in Karachi in 24 hours

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-30

As many as 31 more COVID-19 patients died in the past 24 hours in Sindh, of whom 30 were from Karachi, which is the highest death toll figure since March 19 when the first death due to the viral disease was reported. The total number of deaths in Sindh due to COVID-19 has reached 427. Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said this on Friday in his daily statement on the COVID-19 situation in the province. "Today is another sad and unfo.....[view more](#)

30 die of COVID-19 in Karachi in 24 hours

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-30

The Sindh Coronavirus Emergency Fund Committee has sanctioned Rs466 million from the budget of the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) for purchasing 168 ventilators for the health facilities of the province. A meeting of the committee, which was held with Chief Secretary Syed Mumtaz Ali Shah in the chair on Friday, also approved Rs237 million for the procurement of laboratory equipment, and other machinery and medical equipment. Th.....[view more](#)

Private hospitals deny reaching any agreement after govt notifies committee to refer patients to them

Source: [M. Waqar Bhatti](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-30

Despite the fact that no agreement has been reached yet between five private hospitals in Karachi and the Sindh health department for the treatment of 'critically-ill but needy' COVID-19 patients at the provincial government's expense, the Sindh health department on Friday constituted and notified a 'referral committee' and nominated a focal person for referring the COVID-19 patients to the private hospitals for trea.....[view more](#)

Mob attacks Civil Hospital Karachi after coronavirus patient's death

Source: [Sameer Mandhro](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-30

KARACHI: A mob rushed Karachi's Civil Hospital on Friday night after a coronavirus patient died during treatment and attacked the medical staff on duty. At least 70 people entered the hospital and took the body of the deceased from the emergency ward and also harassed and attacked medical personnel on duty, according to the hospital's management. Doctors claim that swabs of the patient were taken according to standard operati.....[view more](#)

31 coronavirus patients die in Sindh

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-30

KARACHI: As many as 31 more patients of the coronavirus died during the last 24 hours in Sindh, the highest figure since March 19 when the first coronavirus death occurred, while 804 new cases emerged. This was disclosed by Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued from the CM House here on Friday. "I am saddened today to see the deaths of 31 patients," he said and prayed for the departed souls and off.....[view more](#)

Coronavirus pushes unemployment, poverty to new heights: PBIF chief

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-30

KARACHI: President Pakistan Businessmen and Intellectuals Forum Mian Zahid Hussain has express concern that coronavirus has pushed unemployment and poverty to new heights making life difficult for millions but the response

of developed nations and international institutions is far from satisfactory. He said that the corona crisis has underlined the need for a just economic system which can result in a proper society and lift people out of p.....[view more](#)

31 patients of coronavirus died, 804 new cases emerged, 1,563 recovered: Sindh CM

Source: [News Desk, Daily Times](#), 2020-05-30

As many as 31 more patients of coronavirus died during the last 24 hours which is the highest figure since March 19 when first death was reported while 804 new cases emerged rising the tally to 26113. This was disclosed by Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued here on Friday from CM House. Syed Murad Ali Shah said that the province of Sindh had the highest number of 31 deaths on Friday which has taken the death toll to 427.....[view more](#)

COVID-19: Malik checks status of Senate body's recommendations

Source: [News Desk, Daily Times](#), 2020-05-30

Senator A Rehman Malik, chairman of the Senate Standing Committee on Interior, has reviewed the status of implementation on the 37-point recommendations of the committee with reference to Anti-Corona National Action Plan to control the spread of coronavirus in Pakistan. The report received on 8th May, 2020, from the Ministry of Interior on the implementation status of Anti-Coronavirus National Action Plan proposed by the Committee was examined and.....[view more](#)

38 more die, Sindh's COVID-19 death toll hits 465

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

Thirty-eight more people lost their lives in the province in a single day due to COVID-19, Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said in his daily message on Saturday. "We have lost 38 more patients during the past 24 hours and 1,247 new cases have emerged, while the death toll has reached 465 and the patients' tally has risen to 13,623," he said. "The situation is going from bad to worse, which can be assessed from t.....[view more](#)

Case registered against over 40 persons for attacking Civil Hospital

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-05-31

Police on Saturday registered a case against over 40 people for vandalising Civil Hospital, Karachi and attacking the hospital staff on Friday night. The case was registered on the request of Dr Hafeezur Rehman at the Eidgah police station. Police said that though no arrests had so far been made, they had obtained CCTV footage from the hospital to help identify people in the mob and arrest them. The mob attacked the hospital and its staff follo.....[view more](#)

Inmate at Karachi Central Jail succumbs to coronavirus

Source: [Raheel Salman, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-31

KARACHI: The Karachi Central Jail reported its first Covid-19 fatality on Saturday night, with an inmate succumbing to the disease. Bahawal Khan, 87, was serving a 25-year-imprisonment sentence after being convicted for murder. He had been ill prior to testing positive for the virus three days ago, and was under treatment at the prison hospital. According to prison sources, Kha.....[view more](#)

'Stress due to coronavirus pandemic can trigger GI conditions'

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-31

KARACHI: Health experts shed light on Friday on the relevance of pandemic-induced stress in triggering conditions like irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) and other digestive disorders, underlining that stress and anxiety were the causes of gastrointestinal diseases in 75 per cent of patients. Addressing a webinar held in connection with World Digestive Health Day, observed on May 29 every year, doctors pointed out that poor socio-economic condi.....[view more](#)

K-Electric to resume customer care centres from tomorrow

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-31

KARACHI: K-Electric on Saturday said it will be resuming operations across all spheres - the Customer Care Centers effective from Monday. In a statement, KE spokesperson said the management is cognizant of the fact that the fight against the Covid-19 is still ongoing but as the city and the country gradually ease back towards normal business, the power utility will be resuming operations across all spheres of its functions, effect.....[view more](#)

363 succumb to COVID-19 during May in Sindh after 16 more deaths

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-06-01

A total of 363 people died of COVID-19 in Sindh during May. On May 31, the last day of the month, a total of 16 people lost their lives due to the viral disease in the province. Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said this on Sunday in his daily message about the COVID-19 situation. "With 16 more deaths in the province during the last 24 hours, we have so far lost 481 people due to COVID-19. Of them, 363 died in this month alone,&rdq.....[view more](#)

Experts call for further research on Pakistani strain of coronavirus

Source: [M. Waqar Bhatti](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-06-01

Leading health experts wonder if there's something wrong or something really good in Pakistan concerning the spread of the novel coronavirus — officially, the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome-Coronavirus-2 (SARS-CoV-2) — that is behind the global pandemic, which appears to be less aggressive and transmissible in local population, as is evident from a comparatively low mortality rate and fewer number of cases than expected in th.....[view more](#)

Rehman Malik urges PM to call APC for consensus strategy on coronavirus

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-05-31

Former interior minister and Senate Standing Committee on Interior Chairman Rehman Malik on Saturday urged Prime Minister Imran Khan to call all parties conference at the earliest to devise a joint strategy to counter coronavirus and its effects in the country. While addressing a press conference, Senator Rehman Malik expressed grave concerns over the rapid increase in the number of coronavirus cases in Pakistan and said that he fears its f.....[view more](#)

'Female leaders outperforming male counterparts during pandemic'

Source: [M. Waqar Bhatti](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-06-01

Compared to men, women are not only less prone to dying due to COVID-19 but female leaders and heads of state are also outperforming their male counterparts. These women have been demonstrating decisiveness, resilience and humility during the pandemic, not only saving thousands of precious lives but also steering their economies out of crisis much earlier than the rest of the world. These observations were made by female health experts during a.....[view more](#)

Sindh gov orders registration of cases against people vandalising hospitals

Source: [Staff Report](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

KARACHI: Amid growing number of violent incidents at hospitals and attacks on health workers allegedly by attendants of patients, the Sindh government while ordering an inquiry into a recent similar episode at the Civil Hospital Karachi decided on Sunday to register criminal cases of all violent incidents against those responsible. A key member of the provincial administration said that Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah while taking notice of t.....[view more](#)

Over 500 die in Sindh during May due to coronavirus, plane crash: Murad

Source: [Tahir Siddiqui](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-06-01

KARACHI: Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said on Sunday that in terms of detection of new coronavirus cases, deaths of patients and plane crash tragedy the month of May proved to be the heaviest and worst as far as loss of human life was concerned. In a statement issued from the CM House, he said that deaths stemming from the coronavirus started from March 19 when the first patient died. "The month of March claimed nine lives, April 109.....[view more](#)

No school can resume teaching without govt permission, says minister

Source: [Staff Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-06-01

KARACHI: While imposing a ban on teaching in all education institutions of the province, Sindh Minister for Education Saeed Ghani has allowed all private schools that wanted to reopen from June 1 to go ahead and do so. "We have not stopped private educational institutions from opening from Monday if they want, but we have stopped the teaching process and no school can start teaching without the government's permission," said th.....[view more](#)

Sindh gov orders registration of cases against people vandalising hospitals

Source: [Staff Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-06-01

KARACHI: Amid growing number of violent incidents at hospitals and attacks on health workers allegedly by attendants of patients, the Sindh government while ordering an inquiry into a recent similar episode at the Civil Hospital Karachi decided on Sunday to register criminal cases of all violent incidents against those responsible. A key member of the provincial administration said that Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah while taking notice of t.....[view more](#)

State Bank of Pakistan says extended lockdown poses risks to economy

Source: [Tariq Ahmed Saeedi](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-06-01

KARACHI: The central bank on Sunday said Pakistan's economy faces downside risks, stemming from the virus-induced lockdown due mainly to the country's multidimensional poverty, high consumption rate and informality in job market. The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP), citing the United Nations, said roughly four out of 10 people in Pakistan face multidimensional poverty. "This raises challenges of foods and social security in an ext.....[view more](#)

Three COVID-19 patients receiving intensive care die at CMCH Larkana

Source: [Jamal Dawoodpoto](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

Three patients at the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) established at the Chandka Medical College Hospital (CMCH), Larkana, expired on Sunday morning, Dr Gulzar Ahmed Tunio, Incharge COVID-19 ICU told this scribe.They were suffering from COVID-19 pandemic. Two of them were brought from Jacobabad and belonged to Sarki and Karnani

communities and third belonged to Soomro community of Larkana and was a retired banker, he added. He said out of nine patients.....[view more](#)

Sindh govt takes notice of violence against Civil Hospital's medical staff

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

Sindh Minister for Information, Local Government, Housing & Town Planning, Religious Affairs, Forest and Wildlife Syed Nasir Hussain Shah has said that Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah, while taking notice of the violence against the medical staff of the Civil Hospital, ordered an immediate inquiry into the incident. "Our doctors, nurses and paramedics are risking their lives to save the lives of others. Such violence against them i.....[view more](#)

Sindh CM states May as worst month in terms of deaths

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder](#), [Islamabad](#), 2020-06-01

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has said that the month of May in terms of detection of new coronavirus cases, deaths of patients and plane crash proved to be the heaviest and worst month as far as the loss of human life was concerned. In a statement issued from the CM House on Sunday, the chief minister said that deaths stemming from coronavirus started from March 19 when the first patient died. The month of March claimed.....[view more](#)

Violence against doctors, paramedics not tolerable: minister

Source: [Press Release](#), [Business Recorder](#), [Islamabad](#), 2020-06-01

KARACHI: Sindh information Minister Syed Nasir Hussain Shah has said Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah while taking notice of the violence against the medical staff of the Civil Hospital, ordered an immediate inquiry into the incident. "Our doctors, nurses and paramedics are risking their lives to save the lives of others. Such violence against them is intolerable," the provincial Information Minister said. "If people had.....[view more](#)

NGOs continue to provide rashan packages to under privileged

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The Nation](#), [Islamabad](#), 2020-06-01

Karachi - Serving Hands Organisation and Combined Efforts Organisation continued their ongoing project "Covid-19 Eid Package Rashan Camps" at Pir Bukhsh Goth Ghani Abad and surrounding villages. Serving Hands Organisation President Dr Sikandar Ali Shaikh thanked Mr. Yasir Hashmi and his team of Combined Efforts Organisation for combined support to distribute Rashan, Eid Clothes for poor ladies and Food packets. General Secretary Arsha.....[view more](#)

International News

Countries News

Debt relief plans for world's poor countries inch forward

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-05-30

Plans for debt relief for world's poorest countries inched forward on Thursday as private creditors laid out a blueprint for their involvement, though it received immediate criticism for not going far enough. The proposal shepherded by the Institute of International Finance (IIF) said creditors would grant debt breaks on a case-by-case and voluntary basis this year after concluding a one-size-fits-all approach would have been "practic.....[view more](#)

Equities drop as Trump lines up China response

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-05-30

Equities fell in early trade Friday after Donald Trump called a news conference for later in the day to outline his response to China's plan to crack down on Hong Kong, which many fear could further increase tensions between the superpowers. The losses were being tempered, however, by hopes that parts of the planet are slowly emerging from the coronavirus crisis as governments continue to ease up on lockdown restrictions that have battered[view more](#)

Stick or twist? Investors face coronavirus-induced property dilemma

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-05-30

The coronavirus pandemic has emptied offices and shuttered shops but filled warehouses and highlighted demand for work-from-home spaces, leaving investors wondering if they should flee real estate or double down on their bets. Property has long been a staple of a balanced investment portfolio, favoured by pension funds and insurers seeking assets that combine capital value growth offered by stocks with secure income akin to bonds. But government l.....[view more](#)

Oil falls but remains set for biggest monthly gain in years

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-05-30

Oil prices were dragged sharply lower on Friday by weak US fuel demand, fears of a second wave of coronavirus cases in South Korea and a worsening in US-China relations, but were still on track for a hefty monthly gain. July Brent crude fell \$1.16, or 3.3%, to \$34.13 a barrel by 0927 GMT while the more active August contract fell \$1.11, or 3.1%, to \$34.92. US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude was down \$1.28, or 3.8%, at \$32.43. Both contracts we.....[view more](#)

Peruvian families bury multiple members amid pandemic

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-05-30

The men panted from exertion as they climbed the mist-covered hill carrying a coffin with another body in Peru's largest cemetery, where the dead from the new coronavirus are being buried. It was the third death by COVID-19 in the Juárez family: 50-year-old Flavio. The procession was accompanied by bolero songs recorded by Aníbal, 56, who died in early May, days after the virus claimed the life of older brother Marco, 68. With.....[view more](#)

Latin America's slums facing losing battle against virus spread

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-05-30

As the coronavirus pandemic swept across the globe, Latin America's slum dwellers waited defenseless in its path. Now, with the region becoming the new epicenter of the crisis, the virus is unleashing destruction on its most vulnerable populations. With limited sanitation and little space, millions of people living cheek by jowl in slums cannot take even the most basic hand-washing and social distancing precautions recommended by health auth..... [view more](#)

In Russia, scammers exploit pandemic to launder money using medical goods purchases

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-05-30

The coronavirus pandemic has spawned a new form of financial fraud in Russia, with people using medical goods purchases as a front for money laundering scams, the central bank said on Thursday. Suspicious money transfers out of the country from domestic banks were at a record low last year, said Dmitry Skobelkin, deputy governor of the Bank of Russia, but some fraudulent practices had risen since the onset of the health crisis. Like many countries [view more](#)

Virus misinformation fuels panic in Asia

Source: [AFP](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-05-30

False alerts about a man shot dead at a coronavirus checkpoint, old footage of a supermarket stampede in reports of panic buying, and a 2015 video of a police raid on a brothel recirculated with a misleading claim. A deluge of online misinformation and hoaxes during the coronavirus crisis is stoking fear and confusion across Asia, where violators of lockdown rules can face jail and hefty fines in some countries. AFP has produced more than 150 lockdown..... [view more](#)

Calm before the storm for Japan suicides as coronavirus ravages economy

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-05-30

The phones at the Tokyo suicide hotline start ringing as soon as it opens for its once-weekly overnight session. They don't stop until the lone volunteer fielding calls from hundreds of people yearning to talk signs out early the next morning. Both operating days and volunteer numbers at the volunteer-run Tokyo Befrienders call centre have been cut to avoid coronavirus infection, but the desperate need remains. "There are so many people w..... [view more](#)

Denmark reopens borders for locked-out lovers

Source: [AFP](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-05-30

More than two months after closing its borders, Denmark has loosened restrictions to let couples separated by coronavirus lockdowns finally see each other again — even if the easing applies just to partners from a few nearby countries for now. Parliament agreed a deal last week to speed up the country's reopening, allowing some foreigners to enter Denmark, including those with partners there. But the exceptions, which came into force la..... [view more](#)

Covid-19 vaccine may be ready by October, claims pharma company

Source: [News Report](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-05-31

NEW YORK: Global pharmaceutical major Pfizer believes that a vaccine to prevent COVID-19 could be ready by the end of October, the company's CEO Albert Bourla said. Pfizer is conducting clinical trials in the US and Europe for the BNT162 vaccine programme to prevent COVID-19 in collaboration with German mRNA company BioNTech, foreign media reported on Saturday. Bourla made the comments while participating at a virtual event organised by the..... [view more](#)

Under Modi's despotic rule, minorities quarantined, democracy shrunk

Source: [News Desk, Daily Times](#), 2020-05-31

A renowned Indian journalist has said that being a member of the Bharatiya Janata Party, (the ruling party) and carrying out its political agenda in India, you can advocate violence and even carry it out, spread hatred against religious minorities, humiliate and abuse the poor, without worrying about being asked to render account in a court of law. In New Zealand, an Indian-origin Justice of the Peace was sacked for advocating an economic boycott[view more](#)

Russia plans coronavirus vaccine clinical trials in two weeks: report

Source: [Agencies, Daily Times](#), 2020-05-31

Russian scientists plan to start clinical trials within two weeks on a vaccine to combat the novel coronavirus, the country's health minister was quoted as saying on Saturday. Russia has the world's third-highest toll of coronavirus infections after the United States and Brazil, and Kremlin officials have said the nation's researchers are working on almost 50 different vaccine projects. "The tests are under way and we plan t.....[view more](#)

Coronavirus sinks US consumer spending; savings hit record high

Source: [Agencies, Daily Times](#), 2020-05-31

US consumers cut spending by the most on record for the second straight month in April while boosting savings to an all-time high, and the growing frugality reinforced expectations the economy could take years to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. The report from the Commerce Department on Friday also showed an economy highly reliant on the government, with financial aid checks from a historic fiscal package worth nearly \$3 trillion drivin.....[view more](#)

Robomedic is the droid Antwerp hospital was looking for

Source: [Agencies, Daily Times](#), 2020-05-31

When Belgian patients fear they have caught coronavirus and head to Antwerp University Hospital, the first face they see isn't a masked triage nurse — but a one-eyed vaguely humanoid robot. The device, built by Belgian-firm Zorabots, greets arrivals and reads a QR code — a digital signature — provided after the patients fill out a questionnaire, online or at a kiosk. It takes their temperature and makes sure they are wearing.....[view more](#)

Russia struggles to keep up in race for virus vaccine

Source: [Agencies, Daily Times](#), 2020-05-31

When Russian scientists boasted that they had tested a coronavirus vaccine on themselves, reactions ranged from praise of their commitment, to outrage over their methods. Their actions hint at a difficult reality for Russian policymakers — the country is no longer the vaccine developer it was in Soviet times and it is struggling to match virus research being carried out elsewhere. Alexander Gintsburg of Moscow's Gamaleya research instit.....[view more](#)

Little fear, lots of love as Madrid medics do home rounds amid pandemic

Source: [Agencies, Daily Times](#), 2020-05-31

With air kisses and palms clasped, elderly patients in Madrid greet medics who come to check them at home during the coronavirus pandemic despite the risks involved. "I don't know if it's right to say it but I've had little fear," primary

care nurse Ana Arenal told Reuters after she and a doctor did the rounds in a taxi with plentiful gear to protect both themselves and their patients. The people they attend are usually.....[view more](#)

Masks on Leatherneck Square: Virus changes Marine training

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-05-31

The booming shouts of the rain-soaked Marine recruits echo across Leatherneck Square training field, barely muffled by their masks. And as they jog by, belting out responses to drill instructors in a rhythmic cadence, the white fabric across their faces is the only telltale sign of the coronavirus' effects on their quest to become Marines. But in ways big and small, the virus is impacting training at the Marine Corps' Parris Island Rec.....[view more](#)

Papal ping-pong? Vatican opens summer camp amid virus

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-05-31

The Vatican is getting into the summer camp business, with ping pong tables taking over the Vatican auditorium, a giant pool in the Vatican Gardens and team sports on the Vatican helipad. The Holy See is offering a month of tennis, swimming, games and sports for the children of Vatican employees to help compensate for the lack of normal camp and travel options as a result of the coronavirus. The Salesian religious order is teaming up with an outfit.....[view more](#)

Communion unchanged in Greek Orthodox Church despite virus

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-05-31

One by one, the children and adults line up for the centuries-old ritual of Holy Communion, trying to keep a proper social distance. The priest dips a spoon into the chalice of bread and wine, which the faithful believe is the body and blood of Christ, and puts it into the mouth of the first person in line. Then, with a move that would alarm an epidemiologist, he dips the spoon back into the chalice and then into the next person's mouth. Again.....[view more](#)

First post-lockdown flight departs Europe for China

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-05-31

A first charter flight carrying Europeans to China following weeks of lockdown departed Germany's biggest hub Frankfurt late Friday, carrying around 200 workers and their families. On arrival, "we expect we'll have very long checks, fever measurements, corona tests, antibody tests, and then we'll have to go into a 14-day quarantine," said Bernd Poth. The quality control worker for Volkswagen subsidiary Audi was one of[view more](#)

South Africa has virus testing backlog of nearly 100,000

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-05-31

South Africa says it has a backlog of nearly 100,000 unprocessed tests for the coronavirus, a striking example of the painful shortage of testing kits and reagents across Africa as cases steadily rise. "This challenge is caused by the limited availability of test kits globally," the health ministry said in a statement overnight, putting the backlog at 96,480 as of Monday. Priority is given to processing tests from patients admitted to[view more](#)

Coronavirus hopes and fears centre on 'immunity'

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-05-31

Could exposure to the coronaviruses that cause the common cold help protect against COVID-19? Is herd immunity closer than previously thought? As nations lift lockdowns and experts worry about a potential second peak in cases,

our ability to ward off infection is one of the hottest topics of scientific debate. Ever since it became apparent that children were less vulnerable to COVID-19 early in the pandemic, scientists have speculated that the regu.....[view more](#)

Quarantine bottlenecks add to woes of returning Filipinos

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-05-31

When his cruise ship sailed into Manila Bay after weeks of voyaging like a castaway amid port closures set off by the global pandemic, Erick Arenas felt he was finally home. But the 34-year-old dance performer of the Ovation of the Seas saw an ominous sign even before he can set foot on homeland. An array of the world's best-known cruise ships was waiting at anchor off the Philippine capital to drop off thousands of Filipino crew members lik.....[view more](#)

China factory activity slows as global slump drags on growth

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

Factory activity in China expanded at a slower pace in May as the country attempts to get back on track after the coronavirus, official data showed Sunday, with the global economic slump making the sector's recovery difficult. China's factories have stirred back to life after the lifting of strict lockdown measures imposed when the deadly pathogen surfaced in the central city of Wuhan, but the spread of the virus worldwide has dragged[view more](#)

US food prices see historic jump and are likely to stay high

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

As if trips to the grocery store weren't nerve-wracking enough, US shoppers lately have seen the costs of meat, eggs and even potatoes soar as the coronavirus has disrupted processing plants and distribution networks. Overall, the cost of food bought to eat at home skyrocketed by the most in 46 years, and analysts caution that meat prices in particular could remain high as slaughterhouses struggle to maintain production levels while implementi.....[view more](#)

'Business is restarting' – German executives fly back to China

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

Scores of German business executives were due to return to China on Friday evening, beneficiaries of an accelerated entry procedure offered by Beijing as both countries seek to reignite their economies after months of lockdown. Under a deal brokered by the German Chamber of Commerce in China, staff from hundreds of German companies with units there can return without undergoing two weeks' quarantine if they can show a certified negative coro.....[view more](#)

Latin America's stricken airlines facing long haul to recovery

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

Latin America's beleaguered airlines will take up to three years to recover losses due to the coronavirus pandemic, and in the meantime desperately need government help, according to experts surveying the damage to the industry. The International Air Transport Association (IATA) estimates it will take at least that time for the region's airlines to inch back to their pre-pandemic level for domestic and regional flights. Long-haul serv.....[view more](#)

Thousands protest mass Renault job cuts

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

Thousands of workers rallied Saturday outside the Renault factory in northern France to protest the automaker's decision to cut 15,000 jobs worldwide, including 4,600 in France. Unions said 8,000 people took part in the protest at the Maubeuge subsidiary over the cuts designed to help Renault steer out of a cash crunch exacerbated by the coronavirus pandemic. The plant, which employs around 2,100 people, has been stopped since Friday. Under[view more](#)

Russian small businesses reopen to uncertain future

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

When Moscow authorities closed non-essential businesses to stop the spread of the coronavirus, Boris Kupriyanov began to personally deliver books to his customers. This, he said, has helped him and his indie bookstore survive over the past two months. "In many ways this has become our salvation," Kupriyanov, co-founder of Falanster, one of the country's most famous independent bookshops, told AFP. "We've kept going on.....[view more](#)

Some Old Order Mennonites feel called to return to church

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

For the first time in weeks, kids played in the church cemetery. Nearby, a group of men in their 20s reflected on what it meant to gather again during the pandemic. "Human health is important," one of them said. "But ultimately, spiritual health is more important." Their order – one that shuns technology, cars and electricity – never missed Sunday services in more than 100 years, when the deadly 1918 flu pandemic.....[view more](#)

A year later, motive of Virginia mass shooting still unclear

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

The rampage at a Virginia Beach city government building was the latest in a string of high-profile mass shootings nationwide, between the high school killings in Parkland, Florida, and the Walmart massacre in El Paso, Texas. As the tragedy nears its one-year anniversary Sunday, some victims' family members feel it has effectively been forgotten after the national spotlight moved on to other mass killings, and more recently has been all but[view more](#)

Schools nationwide brace for cuts from new financial crisis

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

It was during the Great Recession when Catoosa County first shortened its school year, from 180 to 175 instructional days, as it began years of furloughs due to budget cuts. As a result of the coronavirus pandemic, the next school year will be shorter still, with only 170 classroom days. The 10,000-student system in northern Georgia will also be sending its 1,700 employees home for 10 unpaid days to help make up a projected \$12.6 million budget[view more](#)

Virus protection adds new wrinkle to Southwest heat relief

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

Trying to stay safe during a global pandemic is hard enough, but people in Southwest desert cities like Phoenix and Las Vegas where temperatures can soar into the triple digits are also trying to protect themselves from the brutal heat. A 48,000-square-foot (4,459-square-meters) hall of the Phoenix Convention Center was being transformed Friday into a daytime heat relief center for homeless people, with city officials offering free transportation[view more](#)

World virus cases top 6 mn as leaders disagree on pandemic response

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

The number of coronavirus cases worldwide topped six million Sunday, with Brazil registering another record surge in daily infections as divisions deepened on how to deal with the pandemic. Latin American countries are bracing for difficult weeks ahead as the disease spreads rapidly across the region, even as much of the world exits lockdowns that have wrecked economies and stripped millions of their jobs. In Brazil — the epicentre.....[view more](#)

In virus-hit South Korea, AI monitors lonely elders

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

In a cramped office in eastern Seoul, Hwang Seungwon points a remote control toward a huge NASA-like overhead screen stretching across one of the walls. With each flick of the control, a colorful array of pie charts, graphs and maps reveals the search habits of thousands of South Korean senior citizens being monitored by voice-enabled “smart” speakers, an experimental remote care service the company says is increasingly needed during t.....[view more](#)

Mosques reopen in Saudi Arabia and Jerusalem amid virus woes

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

Tens of thousands of mosques across Saudi Arabia reopened Sunday for the first time in more than two months, but worshipers have been ordered to follow strict guidelines to prevent the spread of the coronavirus as Islam’s holiest site in Mecca remained closed to the public. The Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem, the third holiest site for Muslims after Saudi Arabia’s Mecca and Medina, also reopened for prayers for the first time since it was c.....[view more](#)

US cities fear protests may fuel new wave of virus outbreaks

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-06-01

The massive protests sweeping across US cities following the police killing of a black man in Minnesota have sent shudders through the health community and elevated fears that the huge crowds will lead to a new surge in cases of the coronavirus. Some leaders appealing for calm in places where crowds smashed storefronts and destroyed police cars in recent nights have been handing out masks and warning demonstrators they were putting themselves at r.....[view more](#)

Donors News

Surge in child poverty feared due to COVID-19 crisis

Source: [Jamila Achakzai](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-05-30

Islamabad : Without urgent action to protect families from the financial hardships caused by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the number of children living below the national poverty line in low- and middle-income countries could reach 672 million by year-end, reveals new analysis from Save the Children and Unicef. Nearly two-thirds of these children live in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. According to the analysis, the economic fallout[view more](#)

UK providing £4.39m aid for fighting coronavirus

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder](#), [Islamabad](#), 2020-05-30

ISLAMABAD: The United Kingdom (UK) announced further assistance of £4.39 million to Pakistan in the fight against the coronavirus and to mitigate its impacts by providing aid for the most vulnerable, and boosting wider public health

communications, the British High Commission said here Friday. The latest £4.39 million package of support, it stated, will contribute to Pakistan's Humanitarian Pooled Fund (PHPF) to help provi.....[view more](#)

UK provides £4.39m more to help Pakistan fight against coronavirus

Source: [staf reporter](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-05-30

The United Kingdom is providing assistance to Pakistan in fight to stop spread of coronavirus and mitigate its impacts, by helping the most vulnerable and boosting wider public health communications. This latest £4.39m package of support will help provide comprehensive support to fight the coronavirus and help those impacted indirectly by the crisis. This includes supporting emergency response systems and providing assistance towards food se.....[view more](#)

UN chief warns leaders pandemic may cause historic famine

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-05-30

The U.N. chief on Thursday warned the largest gathering of world leaders since the coronavirus pandemic began that it will cause "unimaginable devastation and suffering around the world," with historic levels of hunger and famine and up to 1.6 billion people unable to earn a living unless action is taken now. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres also told the high-level meeting on measures to help low- and middle-income countries cope wi.....[view more](#)

WHO, 37 countries launch alliance to share tools to battle COVID-19

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-05-30

Thirty-seven countries and the World Health Organization (WHO) appealed on Friday for common ownership of vaccines, medicines and diagnostic tools to tackle the global coronavirus pandemic, taking aim at patent laws they fear could become a barrier to sharing crucial supplies. While the push by mostly developing nations, called the COVID-19 Technology Access Pool, won praise from groups including Doctors Without Borders, a drug industry alliance[view more](#)

Trump takes aim at WHO as US economic outlooks worsens

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-05-31

With new US economic numbers highlighting the rough road ahead for a hoped-for rebound, President Donald Trump on Friday took aim at the World Health Organization and China, blaming both for their roles in the pandemic's devastation. Trump announced that the United States will end support for WHO, charging it didn't respond adequately to the health crisis because of China's "total control" over the global organization.....[view more](#)