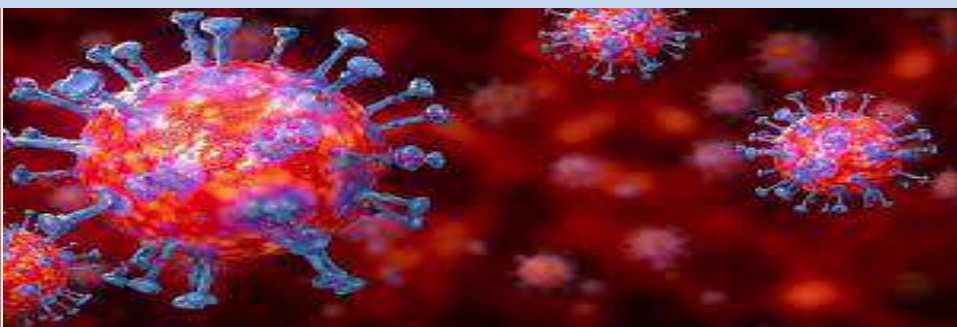


E-Newsletter on COVID-19



Issue: 11-17 July 2020
Vol. 01, No, 24, 25
Double Issue



Subscribe

.....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

Contents.....

[Op-Eds/Articles/Editorials..... 02](#)

[National News](#)

Islamabad	Punjab
Khabar Pakhtunkhwa	Gilgit Baltistan
Sindh	AJK
Balochistan	

[International News](#)

Countries News	Donors News
--------------------------------	-----------------------------

[SDPI Engagements](#)

Webinars	Researchers Articles
Press Releases	What's On

A Product of ASRC-SDPI

Team:

Data Managed by:
Shahid Rasul , Abid Rasheed

Compile & Layout Design by:
Ali Aamer Javed

Sustainable Development Policy Institute, SDPI

10-D West, 3rd Floor, Taimoor Chamber, Fazl-ul-Haq Road,
Blue Area, Islamabad. Pakistan,
Tel: +92.51. 2278134, Fax: 2278135,

Op-Eds/Articles/Editorials

China on the front foot

Source: [China on the front foot](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-11

In the recent situation that emerged from the Covid-19 spread has shown China's capacity to make unanimous, rational, and timely decisions. Perhaps just for a good reason that China is ruled by one party and very sincerely in China's best national interest. Once I asked a Chinese diplomat in Islamabad if they have dissenting voices in their national decision-making process. He nodded Yes, saying: Every person has arguments in[view more](#)

Rethinking Neoliberalism against the backdrop of COVID-19

Source: [Dervaish Khan](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-11

The uncertainties resulting from the interplay of the forces of history unsettle certain 'firmly established' notions of 'normal' human existence, more often than not. A crisis is usually accompanied by (initially) unnoticed opportunities: it ultimately helps us to revisit certain hegemonic thinking and restructure the society accordingly. Though the COVID-19 pandemic seems to be reinforcing certain interrelated democratic[view more](#)

Fighting COVID-19 through smart lockdown

Source: [Col \(R\) Muhammad Hanif](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-11

For about the last three weeks, federal and provincial governments in Pakistan are busy fighting the coronavirus by imposing smart lockdown on the coronavirus-infected areas. After the smart lockdown for about two weeks, a marked reduction in has been noticed in the fresh corona cases in the Punjab provinces and also a reasonable reduction in other provinces. However, as the majority of the people in the country are still ignoring the government&.....[view more](#)

Pricing medicine

Source: [Editoril Desk](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-11

THE drug-pricing issue has once again taken centre stage in the debate on affordable healthcare triggered by the Covid-19 crisis. The government is reported to have approved a proposal to amend the Drug Pricing Policy 2018 to do away with the existing mechanism that allows pharmaceutical manufacturers an automatic, inflation-adjusted increase in their prices. The suggested change may appear innocuous as it doesn't alter the CPI inflation-ba.....[view more](#)

Back to school?

Source: [Editoril Desk](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-11

AFTER a nearly five-month closure due to Covid-19, schools and universities in Pakistan are scheduled to reopen on Sept 15. Education Minister Shafqat Mahmood made the announcement at a press conference, saying that educational institutes will reopen with SOPs in place. Mr Mahmood also said that authorities are mulling several options: scheduling classes on alternate days, conducting classes outdoors, training teachers, recalling students to host.....[view more](#)

Piety & low sugar

Source: [Irfan Husain, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-11

HYPOGLYCAEMIA is a medical condition where the sugar level falls below normal, and its effects can be devastating. It results in poor coordination, problems with concentration, and passing out as the brain doesn't get enough sugar to function normally. Often, it is caused by starvation or fasting. I am not suggesting that the captain of the ill-fated PIA flight 8303 that crashed near Karachi Airport recently, Sajjad Gul, was fasting, but[view more](#)

Digital health

Source: [Zofeen T. Ebrahim, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-11

ON World Population Day as the Covid-19 pandemic rages on, upending lives and lifestyles, there should be a realisation that healthcare providers have had to come up with creative solutions to provide uninterrupted services to the most vulnerable populations, including pregnant women and new mothers. A disruption in family planning services and supplies can lead to untold tragedies. This may result in a spike in unexpect.....[view more](#)

Population & the pandemic

Source: [Zeba Sathar, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-11

TODAY, Pakistan celebrates World Population Day along with the rest of the world. We will proudly commemorate our population of 220 million citizens. The prevalent view is that our fast-growing population, especially its large young workforce, equals gains for the economy, as developed nations face issues of shrinking working-age populations. Influential economists too do not frown at a rapidly expanding working population. They see this demograp.....[view more](#)

Pakistani women and an altered environment

Source: [Dr Zamurrad Awan, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-11

In April 2017, the UN General Secretary in his tweet, pointed towards the mounting evidence of domestic violence after COVID-19 all around the world. Such incidents have not only increased in developing countries, where the domestic violence laws are mostly ineffective but as well in developed societies, where otherwise strict laws are in place. In societies like Pakistan, where people are usually too shy to interfere in the domestic matters of s.....[view more](#)

Pandemics in Unequal Society

Source: [Dr. Usman W. Chohan, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-11

The contrast between those countries which have flattened their COVID-19 curves and those that haven't is becoming ever more stark. Among the victors in the fight against coronavirus (thus far) include South Korea, Vietnam, Japan, New Zealand, Taiwan (Chinese Taipei), and a handful of others. Among the countries still battling, or perhaps increasingly losing the ongoing battle, are the United States, Brazil, Russia and India, which are.....[view more](#)

Plastic bag clampdown out of steam during pandemic

Source: [Jamila Achakzai, The News, International](#), 2020-07-12

Islamabad: The single-use plastic bags have re-emerged in the federal capital despite ban showing the environment has taken a back seat to the coronavirus emergency. The administration had banned the use of bags made from polyethylene in Islamabad on August 14 over extremely slow decomposition and choking of drainage and announced Rs100,000 to Rs500,000 fine for plastic bag manufacturers and wholesalers each, Rs10,000 to Rs 50,000 for shopkeepe.....[view more](#)

Ethical rationing

Source: [Mohammad Akbar Baig](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-12

THE Covid-19 pandemic continues to spread unapologetically, creating acute shortages of essential healthcare resources ranging from simple hand sanitisers and face masks to hospital beds and mechanical ventilators. Presently, exhausted healthcare systems globally are facing the very real prospect of rationing medical goods and services diligently. It is expected that in the face of a healthcare crisis, such as disasters and pandemics, there will.....[view more](#)

Stopping quacks for a healthy society

Source: [Mohammad Javed Pasha](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-12

The World Population Day, observed annually on every 11th of July by UNFPA, spreads awareness about global population and addresses reproductive health needs of vulnerable women and girls. The COVID-19 crisis has impacted individuals, cultures and economies all over the world. However, women who make up the largest share of healthcare staff in the frontline are disproportionately exposed to coronavirus. Supply chains across the globe are being di.....[view more](#)

Learning loss

Source: [Bilal Ahmad](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-12

A recent World Bank report says that 85 percent of students across the globe are unable to go to school due to the Covid-19 pandemic. This is causing learning loss for the children. The education ministries in Pakistan are using remote learning technologies to engage the more than 27 million children enrolled in government schools. But in the endeavour to keep the students engaged, one may wonder if learning is actually taking place. Punjab, for.....[view more](#)

thenews Virulence recedes, threat remains

Source: [Amer Malik](#), [The News, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-12

The downward trajectory of coronavirus has cut down the ratio of active cases (to total recorded infections) by more than half in the Punjab during the last month – a development that has prompted some experts to suggest that the pandemic may just be “past its peak”. Official statistics show that the ratio of coronavirus-positive cases from normal testing declined from 23 percent at the start of previous month to 10 percent by[view more](#)

A never ending vaccine story

Source: [Aamir Jafarey & Natasha Anwar](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-12

If only the Covid-19 vaccine story was a fairy tale with a beginning, a middle and a happily-ever-after ending. Development, testing, manufacturing, and distribution of vaccines is an exact science. Given that we have no effective treatment in sight, and preventive measures such as lockdowns and physical distancing are unsustainable, the world is looking towards a magical vaccine that will confer immunity from the dreaded virus. Even though, no[view more](#)

Social and behavioural response to Covid-19

Source: [Sara Rizvi Jafree](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-12

Human history is riddled with its pandemics. Eventually, these pass and medical treatment protocols for the specific infection become more certain. What remains less deliberated, however, is the exact behavioural response during the pandemic and the socio-psychological consequences on populations after the pandemic is over. Previous research on AIDS and SARS has shown that infectious disease stigma/scare is extremely high when there is little inf.....[view more](#)

We face famine or virus; Syria's displaced alarmed at aid impasse

Source: [Omar Haj Kadour](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-12

After surviving months of bombardment, Nasr Sultan now fears his 10 children may starve or catch coronavirus as a divided UN holds up a renewal of cross-border humanitarian aid to rebel-held northwest Syria. A UN Security Council resolution authorising aid deliveries through the Turkish border expired on Friday as Russia and China vetoed an extension. The world body's failure to agree on a compromise formula has threatened humanit.....[view more](#)

COVID-19 and educational reforms

Source: [Omar Ashraf](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-12

The sheer existence of man is under threat amidst the COVID-19 outbreak. It is not the first time that the world has seen disruption in life on this scale. Stories of diseases sweeping away entire nations are rampant in literature. Justinian's Plague swept off around 36 percent of the world's population, bringing the Byzantine empire on the brink of collapse. Likewise, the Flu pandemic of 1918 took the lives of 50 million people aroun.....[view more](#)

Battling resurgence of COVID-19 at Eidul Aza is a daunting challenge

Source: [Akram Malik](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-12

After battling with the deadly COVID-19 for four months, Pakistan was able to quickly reign in the spreading pandemic as the number of cases started declining in July as compared to June. But the question looming large over the country is whether this trend will not be reversed as another surge is in the offing with the approach of the big festival of Eidul Aza. London Imperial college estimated in its latest comment that the pandemic in[view more](#)

Swimming away from reality

Source: [Haya Fatima Sehgal](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-12

When a certain elite crowd requested funds to be "donated" towards a public community swimming pool area to be developed, one wondered at the sheer stupidity of the request itself at the given time. Were people blind towards the challenging conditions others were facing during the time of a global recession caused by the circumstances of the pandemic? In the line of priorities to be considered in a global crisis, this was one big surp.....[view more](#)

Bleak prognosis

Source: [Editorial](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-12

The novel coronavirus pandemic is the greatest disruption of our times, and one that has challenged almost every facet of routine life. To curb its spread and to prevent healthcare systems from being overrun, most nations have opted for varying degrees of restrictions. Some imposed full lockdowns leaving only essential businesses running, while some others have relied on a more relaxed approach. But even as some countries that acted early and ha.....[view more](#)

Shadow pandemic

Source: [Shahjhan Malik](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-13

It's been said that there are two statistics that will likely rise after we emerge from the lockdown phase of the coronavirus pandemic: divorces and births. Being cooped up with one's spouse can either create a deeper emotional and physical bond, or it can remind you of all the flaws in the relationship. I certainly hope that we will see a lot of baby showers in the coming months. However, there is a far more troubling statistic which.....[view more](#)

Hunger & the virus

Source: [Editoril Desk](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

AS countries tackle the fallout from Covid-19 on the healthcare infrastructure and economy, looming over them is another grim challenge: preventing death by hunger. In a report titled The Hunger Virus, Oxfam International last week drew attention to how rapidly the crisis triggered by Covid-19 and the ensuing shutdown of the economy could fuel hunger in an already nutrition-deprived world. "By the end of the year, 12,000 people per day coul.....[view more](#)

Education and Covid

Source: [Pervez Tahir](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

I HAD just delivered two lectures to my history of economic thought class at the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics when the universities were closed because of Covid-19. The only guideline from the PIDE was to continue online, if I could. For the next two weeks, I tried using a digital link, only to give up after two attempts for three reasons. First, students from remote areas — Gilgit-Baltistan, AJK, KP's merged dist.....[view more](#)

Here we go again

Source: [Kamal Siddiqi](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

This week we crossed 5,000 deaths from the dreaded coronavirus. Barely three months back our Prime Minister had told the nation in a televised speech that it was only a flu and not fatal. We now have the dubious distinction of having overtaken both Italy and China in terms of Covid-infected people. In fact, we are much higher in the scale only that we are not doing enough testing. In the midst of this and with the farce of "smart lockdowns.....[view more](#)

How the United States has handled Covid-19

Source: [Shahid Javed Burki](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

There are important lessons to be learnt from the way the administration headed by President Donald Trump in Washington handled the Covid-19 crisis. The first impulse, of course, was to blame others — a standard way of handling all problems the Trump government needs to deal with. He started by heaping blame on the Chinese government by not letting the world know the country had been hit by a new and extraordinarily dangerous virus. Once Be.....[view more](#)

Dengue forthcoming, Covid-19 concentrated upon

Source: [Dr Muhammad Uzair Mukhtar](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-13

As a public health researcher, I espouse the notion that our goal shall not be the reduction of death rates through clinical interventions but also stop transmission and preventable deaths. That is achievable through stronger public health systems, capacity building and sustained investments to tackle public health issues as a whole. This theme

needs to be conveyed even more urgently than usual amid the COVID-19 pandemic as health departments across.....[view more](#)

Coronavirus and mental health

Source: [Abid Rehman/KinzaTahir, Daily Times](#), 2020-07-13

WHO considered COVID-19 is a public health emergency of international apprehension. About 12,000,792 cases have reported, out of 547,808 died and 6,945,879 recovered. Firstly, it infected China but now whole world is smitten in it. Currently, in Pakistan 250,000 reported and death toll reached to the 4,922 and according to health experts Pakistan will be touching the peak this month. As this virus is contagious so the condition is getting worse day[view more](#)

COVID-19 and herd immunity

Source: [Dr Muhammad Nauman Zahid, Daily Times](#), 2020-07-13

Scientists are working on different strategies to curb COVID-19 pandemic. After drugs and vaccines, experts are now saying that herd immunity also has the potential to control this pandemic. This article will discuss herd immunity; how it can be achieved and different opinions about its potentials. What is Herd Immunity? When a large population of a community (herd) develops immunity against a disease, making the transmission of diseases.....[view more](#)

Beware the 'Ides of July'

Source: [Andleeb Abbas, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

Follow the curve. Spikes. Resurge. Flattening. RO rate. These are probably the most searched and discussed topics globally. The mysterious virus is still baffling but less enigmatic. Research and science are making some sense of the senseless literature that flooded the information highway in the beginning of the year. Articles, papers and models created traffic jam on this highway disabling the net and overloaded human mind. As countries realize.....[view more](#)

How has Covid-19 impacted gender equality in the workforce?

Source: [Rida Hameed, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

In 2015, the United Nations (UN), in order to address social ills including poverty and conflict, aimed to achieve gender equality by the year 2030. Even though significant progress has been made in narrowing the labour force participation rate across genders, the gap still stood to be 27 percentage points in 2019. In the wake of the Covid-19 crisis, the economic downturn has substantial implications for gender equality in terms of employment, with.....[view more](#)

Continuing pandemic

Source: [Editorial, The News, International](#), 2020-07-14

Around eight months after the coronavirus first appeared in China, the world has realized just what it is dealing with. It is clear now that nations which put in place a tough, early lockdown have fared the best in controlling the virus. These nations include Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore and New Zealand. Sweden's attempt to allow herd immunity to save people essentially failed, with other Scandinavian countries that did impose lockdowns are.....[view more](#)

Measuring the impact of Covid-19

Source: [Dr Hafiz A Pasha](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-14

The first case of Covid-19 was recorded in Pakistan on the 26th of February 2020. More than four months have elapsed since then and the pandemic has wreaked havoc on the economy and the people of Pakistan. This is also the case with the vast majority of countries in the world, both developed and developing. The latest Pakistan Economic Survey (PES) of 2019-20 has a special chapter on Covid-19 Advent and Impact Assessment which was prepared b.....[view more](#)

COVID-19 and herd immunity

Source: [Dr Muhammad Nauman Zahid](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-14

Scientists are working on different strategies to curb the COVID-19 pandemic. After drugs and vaccines, experts are saying that herd immunity also has the potential to control this pandemic. When a large population of a community (herd) develops immunity against a disease—making the transmission of disease from person to person unlikely—as a result the whole community becomes secure, not just those who are immune; this is called herd[view more](#)

Killing the virus

Source: [Editoril Desk](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-14

AFTER a considerable lull, polio eradication efforts will once again resume in Pakistan. Before the novel coronavirus pandemic gripped the world and diverted much of its attention and resources, Pakistan had been witnessing a spike in the total number of new polio cases. While the figure had been reduced to eight in 2017, then going up to 12 in 2018, 147 new cases were tallied at the end of 2019, and the health ministry was forced to admit a resu.....[view more](#)

Reduced testing?

Source: [Editoril Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-14

Yet again there is a claim by the opposition that the government has reduced the number of coronavirus tests being conducted to make it look as if the curve is flattening. PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari this time accused the PTI government of putting people's lives in danger by reducing testing capacity "on purpose". Indeed the press too reported of a number of instances, no matter how accidental, during the recent limited[view more](#)

Quality education: a case of reinventing the wheel (Part-I)

Source: [Dr Izza Aftab/Noor UI Islam](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-14

Covid-19 has clearly resurfaced many of our structural imbalances. Few have equally highlighted the need for an 'economic vaccine' in this time aside from the much needed vaccine for the mitigation of the virus. Sadly, our academic situation has been hallmarked with a deep economic scar at this time of the pandemic, which doesn't leave much hope – at a time when it was much needed. When, already, our weakened synergies bet.....[view more](#)

COVID-19 and governance challenges

Source: [Amna Tauhidi](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-14

The COVID-19 pandemic was declared as a pandemic by the World Health Organization (WHO) on March 11. At the time of declaration there were 118,000 confirmed cases in 114 countries with 4,291 lives lost and even today we are no way near to winning it. In the midst of any such crisis, the importance of the quality of governance, decision making and competence of the leaders comes to the fore. Naturally, there is no such thing as a one-size-.....[view more](#)

Testing corona

Source: [Editorial, The News, International](#), 2020-07-15

At a time when the WHO has said it believes most countries in the world will struggle to manage the Covid-19 pandemic and as such there will be no early return to normal life, Pakistan's testing data leaves much to be desired. On Sunday, according to the WHO, 230,000 new cases of Covid-19 were reported from around the world. There is no evidence the pandemic is on its way out and the WHO believes that only following SOPs such as social distan.....[view more](#)

Eid livestock markets

Source: [Editorial Desk, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

ALONG with being a key religious festival and cultural event, the Eidul Azha sacrifice is a major engine of economic activity in Pakistan, with a multibillion-rupee economy of its own. From livestock traders to butchers and the tanning industry, all have major stakes in the sale of sacrificial animals. However, this year — like all other areas of life — routine religious and economic activities related to Eidul Azha will have to adapt.....[view more](#)

Parents wearing the hat of a teacher during COVID-19

Source: [Huma Mir, Daily Times](#), 2020-07-15

Across the world, children are being affected by physical distancing, quarantines and school closures due to the spread of the coronavirus epidemic. Some children and young people may even feel more isolated, worried, bored and uncertain. They may feel fear and grief over the impact of the virus on their families. Undoubtedly, the coronavirus outbreak has changed many things and behaviours about our daily lives. But even during this uncer.....[view more](#)

Global leadership and the Covid 19

Source: [Muhammad Burdbar Khan, Daily Times](#), 2020-07-15

As corona virus cases soar in many countries, the world struggles to cope with it despite six months past now. As on July 10, 2020, according to Johns Hopkins University, number of Covid-19 infections globally surpassed 12.1 million, with the death toll exceeding 551,000. On the same day, it was reported that the Director-general of the World Health Organization (WHO) has appealed for global unity amidst a “lack of leadership” in figh.....[view more](#)

Trump's war on WHO

Source: [Shariq Jamal Khan, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

“How difficult is it for humans to unite to fight a common enemy that's killing people indiscriminately? Can't we understand that the divisions or the cracks between us actually are to the advantage of the virus?” These are the words of the WHO Director-General, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, who was underpinning the importance of international unity and coordination in the fight against Covid-19 in Geneva after President Do.....[view more](#)

Cattle market SOPs

Source: [Editorial, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

This year the government has decided to increase the number of cattle markets for Eidul Azha and shrink their size in view of the coronavirus pandemic. This strategy of dispersal is to prevent the gathering of buyers and sellers in large numbers at one place. The SOPs for the setting up cattle markets have been prepared, in consultation with all

provinces and regions, by the National Command and Operations Centre. The SOPs were finalised in a mee.....[view more](#)

The lockdown surprise

Source: [BR Research](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

June 2020 brought in record monthly home remittance in the country – up by 51 percent year-on-year to \$2.47 billion. This came in as a pleasant occurrence because the last time monthly inflows were close (\$2.3 billion) was in May 2019 when the remittance prospects globally as well as at home were not reeling from the effects of COVID-19. Also, this took the total FY20 tally for remittances to highest ever \$23.12 billion, up by 6.4 percent y.....[view more](#)

Shades of terror amidst coronavirus

Source: [Mubeen Ashraf](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

The outbreak of the novel coronavirus, leaving devastating and disrupting imprints on the world, has besieged the entire globe within a short span. The pandemic that holds around 13.3 million people in more than 213 countries and territories in its claws, also served a glimmer of hope to some actors. These actors, including conflict entrepreneurs, predatory elites, extremists, and terrorist organisations, try to take advantage of the outcomes and.....[view more](#)

Afghanistan: Doha peace deal amid COVID-19

Source: [Humera Niazi](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

The peace deal between the Taliban and the US in Doha, Qatar is a landmark development since this has happened after almost twenty years of conflict, becoming the longest war in the history of the US. This resulted in large-scale bloodshed of the Afghan people. Afghanistan became totally devastated by war. Nonetheless, the deal is seen as a bold step by President Trump, as clearly he did 'get it started,' despite hurdles and criticism.....[view more](#)

Covid-19: Scenario of Pak rural areas

Source: [Tariq Butt](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-16

ISLAMABAD: No hassle of wearing masks, no use of sanitizers, no PCR testing, no quarantine, no social distancing, no hospitalisation is the precise picture prevailing in the rural areas while the urban centres are gripped by the frightening COVID-19 pandemic. Double handshake, triple embrace continues in the rural region as the inhabitants have no fear of catching coronavirus. They are as warm in meeting their relatives and friends as before and.....[view more](#)

'Unexplained decline in COVID-19 cases' in Pakistan puzzles health experts and policymakers

Source: [M Waqar Bhatti](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-16

The presence of a kind of "non-specific immunity" that is unique to the Pakistani people due to multiple exposures to various vaccines, including BCG and Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV), high humidity in the current monsoon season and a low transmission rate in the peak summer season could be some of the factors slowing down the COVID-19 pandemic in Pakistan, health experts and officials told The Newson Tuesday. "There is no dou.....[view more](#)

Where to, Captain?

Source: [F.S. Aijazuddin, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

PRIME MINISTER Imran Khan talks of 'my way, or highway', meaning 'do it my way, or get out'. His predecessor Nawaz Sharif compressed the slogan to 'my highway'; his name becoming as linked to motorways as the fiddle was once to the Roman emperor Nero. Imran Khan, after flailing for two years in office, is understandably frustrated at the palpable incompetence of his subordinates. He must recall with nostalgia[view more](#)

Does Pakistan COVID19 control strategy is based on a reality?

Source: [Dr Rana Jawad Asghar, Daily Times](#), 2020-07-16

As an epidemiologist who has to oversee hundreds of student's work which is based on numbers, the first thing we learn is how to pick anomalies of data. I have been asked this question many times by my own students. If someone uses fake numbers in a study how you or a scientific journal could pick this out? There are no hundred percent guarantees that a fake study will not pass through the cracks as recently we have seen in the case of a US.....[view more](#)

SDGs in danger

Source: [BR Research, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

Starting 2015, all member states of the UN have been working on achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) agreed upon in the Agenda 2030. However, this year, the overall global progress has been tainted by the unprecedented health, economic, and social crisis – Covid-19 so much that the virus is expected to wipe away gains in many areas accumulated over the years. The world was already off track to end poverty by 2030 before c.....[view more](#)

Nearing a vaccine for corona

Source: [Atle Hetland, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

We all think and dream about life after corona, when they have found some vaccine to protect us and some treatment to cure us if we get sick. Today, that seems far away, or at least, we don't know when it will be, maybe early in 2021 or later in the year. Till now, though, the number of people infected by the disease keeps going up worldwide, but with variations from continent to continent, country to country, even within countries, and in[view more](#)

Making Smart Lockdowns Smarter

Source: [M. Hamza A Khan, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

Smart lockdowns are a viable option for the governments to launch targeted tracking, tracing, testing and quarantine mechanism in coordination with the national security apparatus to halt the spread of COVID-19. The purpose of a smart lockdown is to provide relief to the labour class and the lower strata of the society so that they could survive economically along with fending off the virus. The government has come up with a balancing strat.....[view more](#)

US Covid-19 response

Source: [Editorial Desk, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-17

CONFIRMED Covid-19 cases in the US are reaching record levels, exposing the poor leadership amidst a horrific global pandemic. On July 15, a new peak of 67,400 cases was reported, which followed a week of over 62,000 cases per day — a figure triple the average number of cases from just a month ago. To the apprehension of doctors and scientists, US President Donald Trump remains casual and continues to attribute the increase in cases to &lsq.....[view more](#)

Distressed media

Source: [Asma Humayun, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-17

TV ANCHORS must be trained to remain calm, objective and adept at navigating and defusing tense on-air situations. But in a recent evening talk show, one anchor reacted violently to his panellist. Viewers pointed out the undeniably political and gendered dimensions of his inflammatory outburst. But few saw the behaviour as pathological — irrational agitation is inevitably a signal of poor mental health. Like other front-line responders, med.....[view more](#)

Vietnam's success

Source: [Khalid Bhatti, The News, International](#), 2020-07-17

Pakistan has more than 258,000 confirmed cases and 5,424 deaths from Covid-19 so far. We still don't know where these numbers will end up. But at the moment, the number of new cases is said to be on the decline since the beginning of July. The percentage of people testing positive is also decreasing. In June, nearly 22 percent people were testing positive which has dropped to below 10 percent in July. Government ministers are claimi.....[view more](#)

Demographic change

Source: [Editorial, The News, International](#), 2020-07-17

According to a study published in the journal 'The Lancet', the world may look like a considerably changed place by the year 2100. The study has utilized data from the Global Burden of Disease Study 2017 and applied it to 183 countries to predict future trends based on mortality, fertility and migration. First off, it notes that the current pandemic will have no significant impact on the global population's size. The scientists expect.....[view more](#)

Pakistan's Corona war – not over yet

Source: [BR Research, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-17

The coronavirus trajectory in Pakistan has taken many by surprise. The weekly share of positive cases per test at 11 percent hit a 10-week low at the end of week-18 since 1,000 reported cases. The sharp fall in cases and the infection rate has been met with some usual skepticism, with many in opposition in center (and at the helms in a province) going as far as accusing the government of "lying and fudging with the numbers, while deliberate.....[view more](#)

Is it wise to announce 'Early Victory' against COVID-19?

Source: [Tarik Alam Solangi, Daily Times](#), 2020-07-17

"History never repeats itself. Man always does," rightly said, Voltaire. Man is always condemned to repeat it by forgetting the lessons taught through previous experiences be it in the case of waging deadly wars or more recently not learning from the perilous history of pandemics. The same is the case with Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), which many epidemiologists believe to be progressively similar to the last century's deadly[view more](#)

Pandemic-driven hoarding

Source: [Zahra Kazi, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-17

At the precipice of a global pandemic, the one thing that the world unanimously agreed upon was the socio-economic strife that lay ahead of countries halted in their place for an indefinite period of time. COVID-19 presented itself as a mysterious force that was as unpredictable as it was—and continues to be—lethal. In stark contrast stood market trends, economic growth, production, exports, imports, medicinal development and the like.....[view more](#)

National News

Balochistan

Balochistan political parties voice support for CPEC

Source: [INP](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-12

Pakistani and Chinese leaders agreed that Balochistan is important to both the all-weather friends and the province was a key part of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). Emerging Policymakers' Institute (EPI) – an Islamabad based independent public policy think tank which conducts wide-ranging research & analysis on the issues of governance, security, social development, and regional connectivity – organized a webina.....[view more](#)

Training workshop held on Covid-19 in Khuzdar

Source: [Abdul Wahid Shahwani](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

KHUZDAR: The World Health Organisation (WHO) arranged a training workshop regarding Covid-19 here on Sunday. Doctors from Khuzdar, Lasbella, Awaran, Surab and Kalat attended the workshop. Dr Tariq Marri, a senior official of WHO, gave a lecture about measures to prevent the coronavirus pandemic from spreading in Balochistan. He said: "We're all affected by the coronavirus pandemic, which is an unprecedented health challenge. Our Cl.....[view more](#)

NDMA chief visits Quetta hospitals

Source: [Correspondent](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

QUETTA: Chairman of the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) Lt Gen Mohammad Afzal has said that the capacity of hospitals in Balochistan has been enhanced to cope with the Covid-19 pandemic and the government is utilising all available resources to improve the health sector in the province. The NDMA chief shared these views during a visit to the Fatima Jinnah Chest and General Hospital and the Bolan Medical Complex here on Tuesday.....[view more](#)

'Efforts afoot to uplift health sector'

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

QUETTA: National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) Chairman Lieutenant General Muhammad Afzal has said the capacity of hospitals in Balochistan has been enhanced following the Covid-19 pandemic, adding that all resources are being utilised to uplift the health sector in the province. The NDMA chairman shared these views while visiting Fatima Jinnah Chest Hospital and Bolan Medical Hospital on Tuesday and reviewed the arrangements regarding th.....[view more](#)

Balochistan extends smart lockdown for another 15 days

Source: [APP](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

QUETTA: In view of the spread of Covid-19 cases in the province, the Balochistan government on Wednesday announced to extending the smart lockdown till July 30 with already in place Standard Operating Procedures. According to the notification issued by the Balochistan government, in order to halt the spread of the deadly pandemic, ensure public safety conserve lives and maintain peace and tranquility in the province of Balochistan, the lockd.....[view more](#)

Islamabad

'Kidney-stone patients at higher risk during quarantine'

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-11

Islamabad: Individuals who have a history of kidney stones should be extra careful with the self-quarantined lifestyle, which reportedly causes more anxiety and depression. This, in turn, leads to reduction in exercise, more stress-eating, and increased stockpiling of food. Due to the Covid-19 stay-at-home orders, people purchase packaged and long-life food, rather than fresh food. This leads to weight gain, reduced intake of antioxidants, and i.....[view more](#)

Overcoming higher education challenges stressed

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-11

Islamabad: Dr. Muhammad Ali Shah Vice-Chancellor Quaid-I-Azam University (QAU) Islamabad and Chairman Vice-Chancellors Committee Pakistan has emphasised over collaborative efforts and close university alumni linkages to overcome various challenges confronted by the higher education institutions in Pakistan especially during and after COVID-19. He shared his views during the virtual interactive session organised by Quaid-i-Azam University Alumni[view more](#)

SOPs being strictly enforced in Pindi: DC

Source: [Aamir Yasin | Munawer Azeem](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-11

RAWALPINDI/ISLAMABAD: The number of critical patients are decreasing fast in hospitals. In mid-June, 250 patients were in the critical units and the number has gradually decreased, said Deputy Commissioner (DC) retired Capt Anwarul Haq on Friday. The district administration is strictly implementing SOPs in offices, shops and public places, and teams have been formed to inspect areas as mostly people come out to bazaars for Eid shopping, the DC s.....[view more](#)

Govt plans to export N95 masks after fulfilling local demand

Source: [Jamal Shahid](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-11

ISLAMABAD: A high-level ministerial meeting on Friday asked provinces and the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) to give their assessment report about demand for locally manufactured N95 masks so that the government could export them. Two months ago, the local industry in Faisalabad also started manufacturing the masks. "We are now producing personal protective equipment (PPE) including N95 masks, gloves, face shields, gowns,[view more](#)

Pakistan reports 2,752 COVID-19 cases in one day

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-11

Pakistan on Saturday has confirmed 65 deaths in a single day by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has surged to 246,351. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 5,123. According to the latest figures by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) 2,752 persons have been tested positive for COVID-19 in 24 hours. Sindh has become the worst-hit province by the pandemic in terms of cases followed by Punjab, Khyber[view more](#)

PPE items helping meet export targets, says Razak Dawood

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-11

ISLAMABAD-Advisor to the Prime Minister on Commerce and Investment, Abdul Razak Dawood on Friday said that export of allowed items of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is providing impetus to meet the export targets of the government. He made these remarks while chairing a meeting of the Committee to oversee the exports of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). The meeting was attended by the Federal Minister for Science and Technology, Chau.....[view more](#)

'Lack of awareness on PPEs remains key challenge for HCWs'

Source: [Rahul Basharat](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-11

Islamabad - Increasing number of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) patients and lack of awareness regarding use of personal protection equipment remained a key challenge for healthcare workers (HCW) during the pandemic, said a statement issued on Friday by Ministry of National Health Services (NHS) on country's 'WeCare' programme discussed at the World Bank Conference. World Banks' video conference on the challenges and solutio.....[view more](#)

Out-of-box solutions needed for economic growth: PM

Source: [APP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-12

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan on Saturday emphasised that out-of-the-box solutions were required for economic growth in these crucial times as the Covid-19 had adversely impacted the world's economy, including that of Pakistan. Chairing a meeting of the think tank on finance and economy, he said that from day one, the government had adopted a strategy to maintain a balance between sustaining economic activity and protecting the mass.....[view more](#)

Govt warns against spike in virus cases

Source: [Ikram Junaidi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-12

ISLAMABAD: As over 61 per cent of the patients who contracted novel coronavirus across the country have fully recovered, and there's a decline in the number of tests as well as occupancy of ventilators, the government on Saturday urged the masses to continue taking precautionary measures to avoid a situation similar to the three countries with the highest number of cases, namely the United States, Brazil and India. Of the total 248,135 cas.....[view more](#)

178 police officials have contracted Covid-19 so far

Source: [Staff Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-12

ISLAMABAD: At least 178 police officials have contracted Covid-19 since the outbreak began in the capital, but no one has died from the disease. Senior police officers said that the most cases have been reported in the Security Division, with 50 officials infected so far. A superintendent of police (SP) and personnel stationed at the Presidency and the Supreme Court are among the patients. Another 45 officials, including three deputy superinten.....[view more](#)

76pc of confirmed Covid-19 patients recover in capital

Source: [Munawer Azeem | Aamir Yasin](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-12

ISLAMABAD/RAWALPINDI: As many as 10,645 confirmed Covid-19 patients out of the total 13,927 in the capital have recovered and there are at present 3,130 active cases. During the last 24 hours, 2,048 tests were conducted and 98 of them were found infected, said officials of the capital administration. However, five people died of the virus

on Friday, taking the death toll from the disease to 152. The deceased were residents of G-8, G-7, I-8, F-1.....[view more](#)

Number of Covid-19 patients on ventilators down by 28 per cent

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-12

Minister for Planning, Development and Reforms Asad Umar on Saturday said that the number of Covid-19 patients on ventilators in the country is gradually decreasing and since June 20, the number has decreased by 28 percent. "On June 20, there were 2,969 Corona patients on oxygen out of which 546 were on ventilators, however by the grace of Allah Almighty, the number of patients on oxygen has come down to 1,762 whereas that on ventilators has.....[view more](#)

Wafaqul Madaris Al Arabia starts exams amid SOPs

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-12

Wafaqul Madaris Al Arabia Pakistan Saturday started holding its examinations amid strict standard operating procedures (SOPs) for coronavirus prevention. The examinations administered by the association will continue until July 16. Keeping in view the pandemic, the number of staff and examination centres has been expanded. Around 2,166 examination centres have been utilised, in which more than 1,400 staff members will provide invigilation and rela.....[view more](#)

Airlines say virus test must for Pakistani travellers

Source: [Monitoring Report](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-12

KARACHI: Qatar and UAE airlines made virus test mandatory for passengers from Pakistan three to four days before the scheduled departure, it was learnt on Saturday. Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) already asked its UAE-bound passengers to get their COVID-19 test reports from the designated laboratories four days prior to the scheduled flight, its spokesman told APP. The spokesman said PIA advised all its UAE-bound passengers to get.....[view more](#)

Expert complains of corona plasma therapy hype, state's indifference

Source: [Jamila Achakzai](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-12

Islamabad: Blood transfusion expert Prof Hasan Abbas Zaheer has complained that convalescent plasma therapy is being hyped up as the miracle coronavirus treatment due to the state's indifference. "Thanks to the social media, the perception that COVID-19 Convalescent Plasma (CCP) therapy is the miracle cure for the novel coronavirus is gaining ground. As a physician forum challenges the indiscriminate use of plasma therapy and advoca.....[view more](#)

Expanding 5G to boost regional economies during COVID-19

Source: [Obaid Abrar Khan](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-12

Islamabad: Public and private sector leaders, including Major General (r) Amir Azeem Bajwa, chairman of the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA), discussed accelerating 5G connectivity at recent SAMENA Telecommunication Council Leaders' Summit. A dedicated Huawei 5G Ecosystem Conference was held for the third consecutive year under the theme "Unleash 5G potential, build a better world". Telecommunications leaders and ex.....[view more](#)

Capital sees slight increase in Covid-19 cases

Source: [Fazal Sher, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-12

ISLAMABAD: The number of reported confirmed coronavirus cases registered a slight increase in the capital city on Friday. According to official data, with the arrival of 98 cases, the tally of confirmed cases has reached 13,829. They said after the death of four more people on Friday, the total number of fatalities was now 146. The officials said at present active cases in various hospitals and homes were 3,589 after recovery of 10.....[view more](#)

Razak oversees PPE's exports to ensure no increase in prices

Source: [Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-11

ISLAMABAD: Advisor to the Prime Minister on Commerce and Investment, Abdul Razak Dawood chaired a meeting of the committee to oversee the exports of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) ensuring that prices in domestic market do not increase. The meeting was attended by Federal Minister for Science and Technology, Chaudhry Fawad Hussain, the Federal Minister for Industries and Production, Muhammad Hammad Azhar, and other stakeholders. The pur.....[view more](#)

Qatar Airways makes test mandatory for passengers

Source: [Nuzhat Nazar, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-12

ISLAMABAD: Qatar Airways on Friday announced coronavirus test mandatory for passengers to undergo before boarding their flights. According to a notification, the Qatari airline said the new requirement would come into effect starting July 13, 2020. "To ensure your safety when flying with us from Pakistan, starting 13 July 2020, there will be a new medical requirement to undertake a COVID-19 PCR test before travel," the airli.....[view more](#)

Recoveries overshoot active virus cases across country

Source: [Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-12

LAHORE/ISLAMABAD - A significant improvement has been seen in the number of recoveries from COVID-19 across the country with figure now reaching 153,134. There were 88,094 active virus cases in the country of Saturday. According to officials, at least 2,752 new cases surfaced during the last 24 hours taking the tally to 246,351. These include 85,991 in Punjab, 102,368 in Sindh, 29,775 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 11,128 in Balochistan, 13,927 in I.....[view more](#)

NCOC meeting in Lahore today to discuss virus strategy for Eid

Source: [Staff Report, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

ISLAMABAD: The federal government has decided to hold meetings of the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) in the provincial capitals to devise a strategy to curb the possible spread of Covid-19 during Eidul Azha, and the first meeting in this regard would take place in Lahore on Monday (today). The meeting would be chaired by Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Asad Umar, an official statement said on Sund.....[view more](#)

Covid-19 cases fall by 50pc in Balochistan: Shahwani

Source: [Staff Report, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

ISLAMABAD: Balochistan government spokesperson Liaquat Shahwani has claimed that the number of people affected by coronavirus has decreased in the province by up to 50 per cent over the past two months. Speaking at a

news conference at the National Press Club here on Sunday, he said it was good news that due to the efforts of the provincial authorities the Covid-19 cases were declining, but warned that the number could surge again if the people[view more](#)

MCI to return 1,000 safety kits to donor

Source: [APP](#), [The News, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

Islamabad: Metropolitan Corporation Islamabad (MCI), after failing to convince its sanitary workers for wearing the safety kits, has decided to return the same to the donor Inter-faith League Against Poverty (ILAP), said Director Sanitation Sardar Khan Zimri. "We have conveyed to the ILAP that the IMC is ready to return the personal protective kits as the workers cannot wear it in the current hot weather due to its weather-unfriendly stuff.....[view more](#)

COVID-19 tally crosses 250,000, with 87 deaths, over 2,400 new cases in a day

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-13

Pakistan has confirmed 87 deaths in a single day by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases surged to 250,977 on Sunday. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 5,257. According to the latest figures, more than 2,400 persons have tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 24 hours. Sindh has become the worst-hit province by the pandemic in terms of cases, followed by Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Islamabad. Till now 105,533 coronav.....[view more](#)

Confirmed COVID-19 cases surge to 251,652 in Pakistan

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

Pakistan on Monday has confirmed 69 deaths in a single day by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has surged to 251,625. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 5,266. According to the latest figures by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) 2,769 persons have been tested positive for COVID-19 in 24 hours. Sindh has become the worst-hit province by the pandemic in terms of cases followed by Punjab, Khyber Pa.....[view more](#)

Pakistan reports 2,769 new coronavirus cases, 69 deaths in last 24 hours

Source: [Aisha Mahmood](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

Pakistan reported 2,769 new coronavirus cases and 69 deaths during the last 24 hours. The total coronavirus cases in Pakistan have reached 251,625. Sindh has so far reported 105,533 cases, Punjab has 87,043, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) 30,486 and Balochistan has 11,185 infections. Similarly, 14,108 cases were reported in Islamabad, 1,671 in Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) and 1,599 in Azad Kashmir. Pakistan's death toll also climbed to 5,266 after 69 de.....[view more](#)

Malik asks PM to impose limited curfew to ensure SOPs

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

ISLAMABAD - Chairman Senate Standing Committee on Interior Senator Rehman Malik has written a letter to Prime Minister Imran Khan demanding imposition of limited army curfew from July 15th to August for implementation of anti-coronavirus SOPs and other necessary precautionary measures. In his letter, Rehman Malik asked the Prime Minister to call All Parties Conference to work out a collective roadmap to deal with COVID-19 and economy as the[view more](#)

SOPs issued to mitigate COVID-19 during Eid-ul-Azha

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

ISLAMABAD - The Ministry of National Health Services on Sunday issued standard operating procedures (SOPs) for mitigation of spread of person-to-person transmission of COVID-19 to general public including the buyers and sellers of animals during Eid-ul-Azha. According to an official of the ministry, the SOPs were related with the social distancing, preventive measures during slaughtering of animals and during Eid prayers on the occasion of E.....[view more](#)

NCOC meets in Lahore today to review steps against Covid-19

Source: [Tahir Niaz](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

ISLAMABAD - The National Command and Control Centre (NCOC) will be holding its first provincial meeting in Lahore today. This will be the first time that the body constituted in the aftermath of Covid-19, will be holding a meeting at a provincial level. The body plans to hold similar meetings in other provincial capitals of the country as well. Besides appreciating the steps taken by the respective provinces to combat Covid-19, the purpose.....[view more](#)

Sino-Pak Health Corridor plays vital role to fight COVID-19

Source: [INP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

ISLAMABAD - Under the critical situation of COVID-19 outbreak, cooperation between Pakistan and China in healthcare sector plays an important role in providing timely support to the affected people to get recovered, Gwadar Pro reported yesterday. "The health corridor will create a great image of China as till now China has only invested in energy sector in Pakistan and a lot can be done in medical education and medical tourism,&rd.....[view more](#)

'Panahgahs' gets 40 hand washing booths to keep coronavirus at bay

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

ISLAMABAD - The management of shelter homes (panahgah) has installed 40 hand washing booths at its facilities of major cities to keep the coronavirus at bay through promotion of hygiene habits among the dwellers. "With the help of a Strengthening Participatory Organization, we have installed at least three hand-washing booths at each 'Panahgah' of Lahore and the twin cities of Rawalpindi and Islamabad," Prime Mini.....[view more](#)

COVID-19: Vehicle owner asked to pay token tax at e-sahulat centres

Source: [APP](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

ISLAMABAD: The Excise and Taxation department has asked the Islamabad registered vehicle owners to pay their token tax at any National Database and Registration Authority's (Nadra) e-sahulat centres across the country to avoid long queues amid COVID-19. The motorists can avail the opportunity after getting them registered on City Islamabad app, developed by National Information Technology Board (NITB) for the federal capital dwellers t.....[view more](#)

986 bodies of Pakistani expats brought to country so far: OP&HRD

Source: [APP](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

ISLAMABAD: Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development (OP&HRD) Sunday said more than 980 bodies of Pakistanis, who have died in foreign countries due to various ailments, had been brought to the country so far under a special flight operation. The special flight operation was launched by the government in March-end to repatriate its citizens, stuck at the foreign shores due to the worldwide travel restrictions imposed.....[view more](#)

Positive cases declining in Balochistan: Shahwani

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#) , 2020-07-13

ISLAMABAD: Spokesman of Balochistan government Liaquat Shahwani said on Sunday that corona cases in the provinces are declining and only 29 people were tested positive out total conducted on Saturday. Speaking at a news conference here on Sunday, he said that coronavirus emerged as biggest problem for the nation and country and acknowledged National Disaster Management Authority's help provided to deal with the problem. He said th.....[view more](#)

Islamabad Capital Territory; SOPs issued for cattle markets ahead Eidul Azha

Source: [APP](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#) , 2020-07-13

ISLAMABAD: The district magistrate, Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) has issued Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for trading and transportation in cattle markets across the federal capital in wake of COVID-19 pandemic and Congo virus spread. Metropolitan Corporation, Islamabad (MCI), District Administration, health department, Ministry of Health Services Regulation and Coordination, was taking necessary measures to prevent and control spread.....[view more](#)

IEP holds awareness session on ISO's standards

Source: [APP](#), [The News, International](#) , 2020-07-14

Islamabad: Institution of Engineers, Pakistan (Rawalpindi-Islamabad Center) has restarted their professional development activities by strictly following the COVID-19's SOPs. In spite of the COVID-19 spread, the Center decided to continue its educational technical sessions on different aspects of engineering field to upgrade the knowledge of engineers so that they could play effective role in the country's socio-economic development.[view more](#)

Covid-19 cases reach 252,735 with 5,297 deaths: NCOC

Source: [Abdul Rasheed Azad](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#) , 2020-07-14

ISLAMABAD: At the national level coronavirus cases have reached 252,735 with 5,297 deaths and 161,917 recoveries, according to the data released by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) and the provincial health departments. According to the NCOC data, 1,837 Covid-19 patents are in critical condition across the country. The data further revealed, Sindh has 106,622 Covid-19 cases, Punjab 87,043 cases, Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa 30,484.....[view more](#)

Coronavirus cases in Pakistan reach 253,604

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#) , 2020-07-14

170,656 patients have so far recovered from Coronavirus across the country. According to the latest statistics, 1,979 new coronavirus cases were reported in the country during the last 24 hours taking the tally to 253,604. These includes 106,622 in Sindh, 87,492 in Punjab, 30,747 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 11,192 in Balochistan, 14,202 in Islamabad, 1,694 Gilgit-Baltistan and 1,655 in Azad Kashmir. Meanwhile, 50 patients died of the virus duri.....[view more](#)

FAO distributes Kharif crop packages in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Source: [Amin Ahmed](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#) , 2020-07-14

ISLAMABAD: The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations, with support from the US Agency for International Development, has started distributing Kharif crop packages to 16,000 vulnerable households to strengthen agriculture-based livelihoods in the tribal districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The packages consist of 25kg

of certified maize seeds, 1.5kg of sunflower seeds, 5kg of red beans and 10kg of French beans for each househo.....[view more](#)

Five Islamabad sectors still considered hotspots for coronavirus

Source: [Munawer Azeem | Mohammad Asghar](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-14

ISLAMABAD/RAWALPINDI: There are still five areas in the capital considered hotspots for the coronavirus, even though the number of new cases reported every day has stayed below 100 for a few days. Capital administration officials said that G-6, G-7, G-8, I-8 and I-10 are still hotspots for the coronavirus; sub-sectors in most of these areas were previously sealed. I-8/3, I-8/4, I-10/1 and I-10/2 were unsealed on July 1 after a two-week lockdown,.....[view more](#)

NCOC advice needed to open OPDs in capital, NA told

Source: [Staff Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-14

ISLAMABAD: Parliamentary Secretary on Health Dr Nausheen Hamid on Monday said outpatient departments (OPDs) of public sector hospitals in the capital will be opened as per advice of the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Covid-19. Replying to a calling attention notice on the floor of the National Assembly, she said the OPDs were closed as per advice of the World Health Organisation (WHO). She expressed the hope that the NCOC will d.....[view more](#)

161,000 Covid-19 patients recovered; tally hits 253,000

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-14

Pakistan's coronavirus recoveries have crossed 161,000 after 5,217 more people recovered in the last 24 hours. According to the government's Covid-19 portal, the total number of recovered people has risen to 161,917. Karachi registered 312 new coronavirus cases in the last 24 hours, according to a statement issued from the Chief Minister House – the city's lowest single-day total of new infections in over two months. The la.....[view more](#)

Experts say expanding 5G will boost Pakistan and regional economies during COVID-19 recovery

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-14

Telecommunications leaders and experts from Pakistan and across the world recently gathered at the SAMENA Telecommunication Council Leaders' Summit to review plans for unleashing the potential of 5G networks to boost economies and societies in a post COVID-19 environment. Held virtually for the first time due to social-distancing requirements, the Summit was hosted by Huawei for the seventh consecutive year. This year, the SAMENA Telecommuni.....[view more](#)

Covid-19: Pakistan among twelve nations facing education emergency

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-14

British charity Save the Children has bracketed Pakistan among a group of 12 countries where nearly 10 million school going children are most at risk of falling behind or even may never return to school, as a result of increasing poverty and budget cuts incurred by coronavirus pandemic. To address an education emergency, Save the Children, which has 29 national members worldwide, has urged governments and donors to increase funding of education, wi.....[view more](#)

Twin cities' admins emphasise on enforcement of SOPs even as number of new cases declines

Source: [Aamir Yasin, Munawer Azeem, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

ISLAMABAD/RAWALPINDI: The number of confirmed Covid-19 cases in the capital has fallen to 4pc to 4.5pc per every 100 tests, according to data from the last two weeks. District Health Officer Dr Zaeem Zia said that Islamabad has a recovery rate of more than 80 out of 100 cases, while the mortality rate of the disease in the capital is 1pc. There are on average between 2,000 and 2,500 tests conducted in the capital every day. Dr Zia said that are.....[view more](#)

Enforcement of SOPs ordered in cattle markets opening today

Source: [Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

RAWALPINDI: Commissioner Rawalpindi retired Capt Mohammad Mehmood has directed district administrations of the Rawalpindi Division to open cattle markets today and ensure that standard operating procedures (SOPs), issued by the Punjab government to contain Covid-19 and Congo virus, are followed. He gave these directions, during a meeting held to review security and cleanliness arrangements for Eidul Azha. Additional Deputy Commissioner retired C.....[view more](#)

International airlines make Covid-19 test mandatory for Pakistani travellers

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

ISLAMABAD: International airlines have made coronavirus tests mandatory for passengers flying from Pakistan, which the travellers are required to take no earlier than 96 hours before boarding the flight. According to new travel advisories issued by the Qatar Airways, Etihad Airways, and Emirates, a negative Covid-19 test will now be the pre-requisite for passengers travelling from Pakistan. It is specified that the tests will be acceptable onl.....[view more](#)

Nationwide Covid-19 tally crosses 255,000; 170,656 recovered so far

Source: [Agencies, Daily Times](#), 2020-07-15

The nationwide tally of Covid-19 patients soared to 255,056 on Tuesday, with 87,492 cases reported in Punjab, 107,773 in Sindh, 31,001 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 11,239 in Balochistan, 1,694 in Gilgit Baltistan, 14,202 in Islamabad and 1,655 in Azad Jammu and Kashmir. The virus has claimed at least 5,366 lives while around 170,656 coronavirus patients have recovered so far. At least 449 new coronavirus cases were reported in Punjab over the previous 2.....[view more](#)

Archroma begins production of hand sanitizers

Source: [Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

ISLAMABAD: As part of its active engagement in the fight against Covid-19, Archroma, a global leader in colour and specialty chemicals towards sustainable solutions, started bulk production of a new range of hand sanitizers at its Landhi site in Pakistan. The new Kieralon® HS range was developed by the R&D team at the Archroma Centre of Excellence in Karachi, in line with the World Health Organisation (WHO) recommendations. Sanitizer.....[view more](#)

Covid-19 cases touch 254,755 with 5,366 deaths

Source: [Abdul Rasheed Azad, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's Covid-19 cases have reached 254,755 with 5,366 deaths and 170,800 recoveries, data released by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) and the provincial authorities revealed. According to Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) Punjab, the province so far has registered 87,492 individuals

infected with Covid-19. According to PDMA Punjab, the province has detected 449 new coronavirus cases by.....[view more](#)

COVID-19 positive cases reach 253,604 across country: NCOC

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

ISLAMABAD - The COVID-19 caseload in Pakistan had reached 253,604 with 1,979 new cases reported during last 24 hours, an official of National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on coronavirus said on Tuesday. Sharing the data, he said that total 5,320 deaths had been reported from the disease with 50 reported during last 24 hours. He said that 170,656 patients had been recovered. He said total 1,606,190 tests had been conducted while in last 24[view more](#)

NCOC calls for SOPs compliance in cattle markets

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

ISLAMABAD - The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Tuesday directed the provincial governments and district administrations across the country to ensure strict compliance of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and health guidelines devised by the Health Ministry in cattle markets to avoid the outbreak. The NCOC meeting was chaired by Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Asad Umar. Speaking on the o.....[view more](#)

PIMS orders high alert status starting July 20

Source: [Shahina Maqbool](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-16

Islamabad: The Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS) has disallowed long leave for all hospital staff and has ordered that a high alert status be maintained for emergency care and treatment of COVID-19 patients besides other emergency cases reaching PIMS for a period of two months starting July 20. A circular issued by the Joint Executive Director of PIMS Dr. Minhaj us Siraj here on Wednesday attributes the above measures to antic.....[view more](#)

90pc of promised beds provided to hospitals: Asad

Source: [Ikram Junaidi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

ISLAMABAD: The federal government has announced that 1,825 (over 90pc) of the 2,000 promised beds equipped with oxygen facility have been provided to hospitals across the country, while the remaining ones dedicated for coronavirus patients will be provided soon. Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Asad Umar had promised in June that the government would provide 2,000 beds to hospitals by the end of July, after several hosp.....[view more](#)

UN bodies warn of fallout from drop in routine vaccinations

Source: [Staff Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

ISLAMABAD: The World Health Organisation (WHO) and the United Nations International Children's Fund (Unicef) have warned of an alarming decline in the number of children receiving life-saving vaccines around the world. This is due to disruptions in the delivery and uptake of immunisation services caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. Moreover, vaccine coverage has already stalled at 85 per cent for nearly a decade, with 14 million inf.....[view more](#)

PMDC issues 20,254 registration certificates

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-16

Islamabad: The Pakistan Medical and Dental Council (PMDC) has issued more than 20,254 new certificates of registration. In statement, PMDC Registrar Brig Dr. Hafizuddin Ahmad Siddiqui said the council had been working efficiently to clear the backlog despite the COVID-19 challenge. "Until now, approximately 523 cases of experience new cases have been disposed of." He said the PMDC had received 834 cases of faculty registration from wh.....[view more](#)

Covid-19 threatens food security in Pakistan

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has faced numerous challenges in the past and now Covid-19 has severely impacted the economy besides increasing the need for food security, said Minister for National Food Security and Research Fakhar Imam. Speaking during a virtual meeting of the third regional session of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) on Covid-19 and food security, he said that approximately 75% of the country's exports were based on agr.....[view more](#)

Islamabad reports more than 100 new Covid-19 cases after 10 days

Source: [Aamir Yasin | Munawer Azeem](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

ISLAMABAD/RAWALPINDI: After almost a 10-day gap, the capital reported more than 100 Covid-19 cases in a single day as 113 people tested positive for the virus on Wednesday, taking the tally to 14,315, sources told Dawn. Officials of the capital administration said that last time 117 cases were reported on July 5. There are 2,673 active cases in the capital after recovery of 11,486 patients and 156 deaths, they added. A resident of Loi Bher als.....[view more](#)

20,000 registration certificates issued by PMDC in three months

Source: [Staff Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Medical and Dental Council (PMDC) has issued around 20,254 registration certificates in the last three months. According to PMDC Registrar retired Brig Dr Hafizuddin Ahmad Siddiqui, the council has been trying to cover its backlog despite the ongoing coronavirus outbreak. In a statement, he said that approximately 523 new experience cases have been disposed of, and the PMDC has received 834 faculty registration forms of[view more](#)

Senate body seeks briefing on funding to ministry against coronavirus, locust attacks

Source: [Jamal Shahid](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

ISLAMABAD: A Senate committee has invited the Ministry of Finance and the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) for a detailed briefing on distribution and funding, particularly to the Ministry of Science and Technology, to fight the coronavirus pandemic and locust attacks in the country. The Senate Standing Committee on Science and Technology was briefed on Wednesday about the difficulties facing the science and technology ministry when.....[view more](#)

PAKISTAN, TOP STORIES NMU vice chancellor passes away as Covid-19 tally crosses 257,000

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-16

Famed surgeon and vice chancellor of Multan's Nishtar Medical University, Dr Mustafa Kamal Pasha, passed away on Wednesday – a month after contracting the novel coronavirus. Dr Pasha was diagnosed with Covid-19 on June 14

and was under treatment at Ch Pervaiz Elahi Institute of Cardiology, Nishtar Medical University's principal Dr Iftikhar said. He was shifted to a ventilator on July 6, he added. Prime Minister Imran Khan extended.....[view more](#)

Covid-19 (Prevention of Hoarding) Ord, 2020 laid in Senate

Source: [Sardar Sikander Shaheen](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

ISLAMABAD: The federal government on Wednesday laid in the Senate the Covid-19 (Prevention of Hoarding) Ordinance, 2020, which attracted the ire of opposition benches who questioned the rationale behind laying the ordinance when both the Houses of the Parliament are in session. During the session of the Upper House of the Parliament presided over by Deputy Chairman Senate Saleem Mandviwalla, Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Ali Mu.....[view more](#)

Funds shortage; Ministry shows inability to produce PPEs in bulk

Source: [Tahir Amin](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

ISLAMABAD: The Ministry of Science and Technology Wednesday expressed its inability to mass produce Personal Protective Equipments (PPEs) to combat COVID-19 owing to shortage of funds. This was revealed before the Senate Standing Committee on Science and Technology here on Wednesday, which met to discuss in detail the measures that the Ministry of Science and Technology along with its concerned departments have taken to combat COVID-19 in th.....[view more](#)

Number of positive cases slightly increases in capital

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

ISLAMABAD: The number of confirmed Covid-19 cases witnessed a slight increase on Wednesday in the federal capital as 113 new cases emerged, taking the tally to 14,315. According to official data, out of 14,315 cases, 11,327 people have completely recovered in the city. Following recovery of a large number of patients, there are 2,988 active cases in the city, the data says. Of the total active 2,988 cases, 214 are in Sector G-8, 20.....[view more](#)

NCOC directs to ensure compliance with health guidelines in cattle markets

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-16

The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Wednesday asked provinces and other stakeholders for reaching out to masses to ensure standard operating procedures (SOPs) compliance in cattle markets to contain spread of coronavirus. The NCOC meeting chaired by Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Asad Umar discussed matters pertaining to input of Model Cattle Mandis (markets) and SOPs compliance. Speaking on t.....[view more](#)

Confirmed COVID-19 cases surge to 257,914 in Pakistan

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

Pakistan on Thursday has confirmed 40 deaths in a single day by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has surged to 257,914. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 5,426. According to the latest figures by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) 2,145 persons have been tested positive for COVID-19 in 24 hours. Sindh has become the worst-hit province by the pandemic in terms of cases followed by Punjab, Khyber[view more](#)

PIMS hospital likely to maintain 2-month high alert

Source: [Rahul Basharat, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

ISLAMABAD - The Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS) is likely to maintain two-month high alert in the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) emergency in the wake of upcoming Eid-ul-Azha and Muharram, The Nation learnt on Wednesday. According to a circular issued by the PIMS administration, the high alert will remain in existence from July 20 to September 20. The hospital administration decided not to give long leaves to the hospital staff[view more](#)

President urges people to strictly follow anti-COVID-19 SOPs during Eid-ul-Azha

Source: [Maqbool Malik, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

ISLAMABAD-Urging the people to strictly follow the anti-COVID-19 SOPs during Eid-ul-Azha, President Dr. Arif Alvi on Wednesday stressed the need for fast data communication modes. Speaking at a contract signing ceremony of high speed mobile broadband services for Muzaffargarh and Rajanpur here, the President said that Pakistan had immense potential in the field of digital economy and digital education. "Pakistan has high prospects in[view more](#)

Private hospitals earning fortune through COVID-19 treatment

Source: [Kasim Abbasi, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

ISLAMABAD-Private hospitals of Islamabad are earning a fortune through the treatment of patients suffering from coronavirus. A well-known private hospital of Islamabad has charged a patient a total bill of Rs2.9 million for only 20 days. The worrisome heir of the patient shared this tragic story of his father with this correspondent in a hope that in future, other patients could be saved from the horrific treatment which they have gone through.....[view more](#)

300,000 persons infected with Covid-19 in Islamabad: survey

Source: [Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-17

ISLAMABAD: A survey has suggested that around 300,000 persons have been infected with the novel coronavirus in Islamabad after which the city may be inching towards achieving "herd immunity". The study has also shown that a vast majority of the individuals exposed to the virus are asymptomatic, that is they are generally not showing symptoms of Covid-19 even after being infected with the dreaded virus. During the last 24 hours, 2,27.....[view more](#)

COVID-19: Strict action against spread of disinformation, warns interior minister

Source: [Shakeel Anjum, The News, International](#), 2020-07-17

Islamabad: Minister for Interior Brigadier (r) Ijaz Ahmad Shah on Thursday warned the elements involved in spreading disinformation regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19) of strict action, directing the departments concerned to closely monitor their activities and bring them to task. "We will take strict action against the spread of disinformation regarding COVID-19," he said while chairing a meeting on COVID-19 Disinformation Preventio.....[view more](#)

COVID-19 survey: 290,000 individuals in ICT affected by virus

Source: [Shahina Maqbool, The News, International](#), 2020-07-17

Islamabad: Preliminary analysis of a sero-epidemiological survey conducted in Islamabad to determine the extent of COVID-19 infection in the general population shows Covid-19 prevalence of 14.5 per 100 population. As for area-wise distribution of the disease, rural union councils are more affected. Out of all Union Councils, Chattar was found to be most affected, followed by Union Councils Muhrian and Tarlai Khurd. Considering age, the most affe.....[view more](#)

'Strict action to be taken against spread of disinformation'

Source: [Shakeel Anjum](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-17

Islamabad: Minister for Interior Brigadier (r) Ijaz Ahmad Shah on Thursday warned the elements involved in spreading disinformation regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19) of strict action, directing the departments concerned to closely monitor their activities and bring them to task. "We will take strict action against the spread of disinformation regarding COVID-19," he said while chairing a meeting on COVID-19 Disinformation Prevent.....[view more](#)

Ulema should help enforce SOPs on Eid, says minister

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-17

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Interior retired Brig Ijaz Shah on Thursday said the ulema should help enforce standard operating procedures (SOP) issued to limit the spread of the coronavirus on Eidul Azha. Mr Shah was speaking to a delegation of clerics led by Majlis-i-Ulema-i-Pakistan Chairman Maulana Syed Abdul Khabir Azad. Mr Azad, who is also the khateeb of the Badshahi Mosque in Lahore, said that the government's strategy was reducing the[view more](#)

Pims on high alert for two months, expecting 'surge' in Covid-19 cases

Source: [Ikram Junaidi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-17

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (Pims) has been placed on high alert for two months, out of concerns that there could be a surge in Covid-19 cases because of Eidul Azha and then Muharram. The hospital will remain on high alert from July 20 to Sept 20, during which time staff leave will be cancelled and even protests have been banned. An X-ray laboratory has also been established at the Pims filter clinic, where suspected C.....[view more](#)

Capital's Covid-19 tally continues to rise

Source: [Munawer Azeem | Aamir Yasin](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-17

ISLAMABAD: Another Covid-19 patient has died in the capital and 87 more people tested positive for the disease on Thursday. This brings Islamabad's tally to 14,402, with 157 deaths and 11,599 recoveries. There were 2,710 tests carried out in the capital in the last 24 hours. Those tested for Covid-19 include suspected patients, contacts of previously confirmed patients and randomly selected citizens. At least 84 areas in Islamabad have re.....[view more](#)

PM Imran notes 'positive trend' in Covid-19 cases, urges caution on Eid

Source: [news Desk](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-17

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan congratulated the country on Friday for witnessing a reduction in Covid-19 hospitalisations while taking a jibe at neighbouring India, which crossed the one million mark today, joining the ranks of US and Brazil. In a tweet, he credited this 'positive trend' to smart lockdowns across the country and the SOPs prepared by the government. Imran urged people to practice caution on Eidul Az.....[view more](#)

Has the government's Covid-19 strategy failed?

Source: [Imad Zafar](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

The number of Covid-19 patients in Pakistan has now crossed the 250,000 mark. For any country, such a big number should be a point of concern as it means that Covid-19 is still spreading at an alarming rate, and due to insufficient

measures taken by the authorities the peak of the virus has still not hit the country according to some experts. The provincial government of Sindh, led by Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah, has put up a good fight against.....[view more](#)

NDMA dispatches PPE to Balochistan

Source: [DNA](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-17

ISLAMABAD: The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has dispatched the 11th consignment of personal protective equipment for doctors and paramedical staff who are fighting the coronavirus pandemic. As per details, 64,000 surgical and N95 masks have been dispatched to Balochistan, while 29,395 protective suits and 37,000 gowns have also been sent.[view more](#)

Coronavirus;Development budget cut by Rs170bn: minister

Source: [Naveed Butt](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-17

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Asad Umar said the federal government had to reduce development budget by Rs170 billion due to coronavirus and this budget deficit would be met next year. The minister expressed these views while inaugurating 132KV grid station in B-17 here on Thursday. He said the residents of this area had problems, especially in the summer, such as low voltage. He said.....[view more](#)

Average daily coronavirus cases in Pakistan down by 39%: Asad

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-17

Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiative Asad Umar on Thursday said that number of new cases of coronavirus in the country have declined by 38.74 percent during the first 15 days of the current month as compared to same period of the last month. In his tweets, the minister stated that from June 1 to 15, average tests conducted stood at 23,403, and from July 1 to 15 the average number of tests remained 22,969, whereas the average n.....[view more](#)

Wearing facemask, compliance with SOPs only measures to contain COVID-19: NCOC

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-17

The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Thursday said wearing masks and compliance of standard operating procedures (SOPs) by the public were only measures to contain COVID-19 outbreak in the country. The NCOC meeting chaired by Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Asad Umar took stock of SOPs through digital analysis and cattle markets' management and emphasized the need to ensure compliance of saf.....[view more](#)

Number of Covid-19 cases declined by 38.74pc, claims Umar

Source: [Abdul Rasheed Azad](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-17

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Planning and Development Asad Umar, while defending the government's policy towards coronavirus, has claimed that the number of Covid-19 cases in the country declined by 38.74 percent during the first 15 days of July as compared with June. Chairing a meeting at the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) here on Thursday, he said necessary steps should be taken for managing the cattle markets during.....[view more](#)

Virus cases down by 39pc

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-17

ISLAMABAD - Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiative Asad Umar on Thursday said that number of new cases of coronavirus in the country had been declined by 38.74 percent during first 15 days of current months when compared to same period of last month. In his tweets, the minister informed that from June 1 to 15, average tests were 23,403 and from July 1 to 15 average tests were 22,969, whereas the average number of COVID-19[view more](#)

COVID-19: Interior Minister warns strict action against fake news

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-17

ISLAMABAD - Minister for Interior Brig (R) Ijaz Ahmad Shah on Thursday warned the elements involved in spreading disinformation regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19) of strict action, directing the departments concerned to closely monitor their activities and bring them to task. "We will take strict action against the spread of disinformation regarding COVID-19," he said while chairing a meeting on COVID-19 Disinformation Preventi.....[view more](#)

'Tourist resorts, picnic points to remain closed during Eid days'

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-17

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) MNA Sadaqat Ali Abbasi on Thursday said tourist resorts and excursion points would remain closed on Eid-ul-Adha to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Talking to a private news channel, he said that people would throng the hill stations and mountainous areas to celebrate this big event, which would certainly increase the risk of coronavirus spread at these tourist destinations. "The govt would revise S.....[view more](#)

ICT administration gives NOC to private companies for online qurbani

Source: [Tahir Niaz](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-17

ISLAMABAD - The Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) administration has given No Objection Certificate (NOC) to various private companies for online booking of orders for qurbani so that the citizens may stay home in view of COVID-19 pandemic. The decision has been taken in view of the fear of the spread of coronavirus on the occasion of upcoming Eid-ul-Azha when people are expected to socialise massively. This year Eid-ul- Azha is likely to fa.....[view more](#)

NIH conducts COVID-19 survey in capital

Source: [Rahul Basharat](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-17

ISLAMABAD - National Institute of Health (NIH) on Thursday conducted a survey in federal capital to determine the extent of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) infection in the general population, age-specific attack rates and the fraction of asymptomatic or subclinical infections. A statement issued by NIH said that enhanced surveillance strategy focusing on population-based methods is mandatory to understand the actual situation and then successf.....[view more](#)

Khabar Pakhtunkhwa

Covid-19 fatality rate on the decline

Source: [Covid-19 fatality rate on the decline](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-11

PESHAWAR: The coronavirus case fatality rate is constantly on the decline in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, especially in Peshawar, which accounted for 20 per cent of the countrywide virus deaths two weeks ago. The CFR in Peshawar is 1.5 per cent compared to Karachi's 5.32 per cent, Islamabad's 4.08 per cent, Quetta's 3.03 per cent, Multan's 2.63, Lahore's 2.62 per cent and Rawalpindi's 1.63 per cent. The fatality rate[view more](#)

Pandemic prompts upgradation of health facilities

Source: [Ashfaq Yusufzai](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-12

PESHAWAR: The coronavirus pandemic has been proving a blessing in disguise for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to upgrade its health facilities for the future needs of critically ill patients. According to officials, the province had 400 ventilators before the outbreak of Covid-19 but only 100 of them were used by the medical teaching institutions of Peshawar and Abbottabad. However, they all have been made functional and relevant staff members have been tr.....[view more](#)

Six Khar prisoners test positive for virus

Source: [Correspondent](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-12

BAJAUR: Six inmates of the Khar prison have tested positive for Covid-19. District health officer Dr Adnan told reporters on Saturday that the prisoners tested positive for coronavirus after the department conducted tests of several suspects a few days ago. He said all the infected prisoners had been admitted to the district headquarters hospital, Khar. Meanwhile, Rescue 1122 on Saturday claimed that it had conducted disinfectant spray in the[view more](#)

'Women domestic workers worst hit by pandemic'

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-12

PESHAWAR: Women domestic workers are most affected financially by the Covid-19 pandemic and there's no law to protect their financial rights as daily-wage workers, says Aurat Foundation that works for the women's rights in the country. During a ration distribution function in Nishtar Hall here, Saima Munir of AF said under Jazba project, her organisation was providing food packages to 1,200 women workers, including transgenders, in aro.....[view more](#)

Corona kills one in Nowshera

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-12

NOWSHERA: A patient of coronavirus lost battle for life while seven more tested positive for the Covid-19 in the district on Saturday. With the new case, the number of persons infected by the viral disease reached 866 in the district since the outbreak of coronavirus pandemic in the country. Health department officials said that Muhammad Iqbal, 67, a resident of Kaka Sahib, was under treatment for Covid-19 at the Qazi Medical Complex, Nowshera,[view more](#)

New burial guidelines for virus victims help reduce fear among people

Source: [Ashfaq Yusufzai](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

PESHAWAR: The implementation of new guidelines about managing dead bodies of suspected or confirmed Covid-19 patients ended the fear that bodies of the people dying of the pandemic can spread the infection. "To date there

is no evidence of persons having become infected due to exposure to the bodies of persons, who died of Covid-19,” say the guidelines issued by World Health Organisation. A month ago, health department notified the[view more](#)

Coronavirus claims 12 more lives in KP

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

PESHAWAR: The Covid-19 claimed 12 more lives, taking the death toll to 1,099 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Sunday. The province also recorded 408 new cases, taking its overall tally of positive patients to 30,486, according to a report released by the health department. It said the number of patients having recovered reached 21,158 with the addition of 387 more in the last 24 hours. Of the new deaths, nine occurred in Peshawar, raising the total nu.....[view more](#)

Small cattle markets to be set up outside cities for Eidul Azha

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

PESHAWAR: Special Assistant to Chief Minister on Information, Public Relations and Local Government Kamran Khan Bangash has said that government has issued standard operating procedures (SOPs) for cattle markets before Eidul Azha to protect people from Covid-19. Briefing journalists at civil secretariat, he said that according to the SOPs, cattle markets would be set up outside the cities. He added that instead of establishing big cattle markets.....[view more](#)

Covid-19 infects 7 more in Nowshera

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-14

NOWSHERA: Seven more persons tested positive for the coronavirus in Nowshera district on Monday. With the new cases, the number of patients suffering from the viral infection reached 873. District Health Officer Dr Gulman Shah and District Coronavirus Control Centre In-charge Dr Saeed Khan told the media seven more patients had tested positive for the viral infection. They said that 14 more patients had recovered from the virus and they were sen.....[view more](#)

Owners, workers protest closure of wedding halls

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-14

PESHAWAR: The owners and workers of wedding halls on Monday demonstrated against the ban on holding of functions, and demanded of the government to lift the restrictions in order to protect their families from starvation. The protesters, who gathered outside the Peshawar Press Club, were led by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Banquet Halls Association representative Khan Gul. Holding banners and placards, the protesters said the marriage halls had been shut.....[view more](#)

Covid-19 kills more men than women in KP: report

Source: [Ashfaq Yusufzai](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-14

PESHAWAR: More men have died of Covid-19 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa than women since the advent of the pandemic, according to a new report. Bajaur and Swabi districts recorded the highest case fatality in the province. The virus infected more than 2,000 health workers of whom 18 died. The recovery rate from the ailment remained about 70 per cent. The report of World Health Organisation said that coronavirus killed 1,099 persons in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.....[view more](#)

Business centres sealed for SOP violation

Source: [Correspondent, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-14

SHANGLA: The tehsil administration of Puran has sealed seven non-essential business centres for violating the government orders and remaining open on the weekend. The assistant commissioner conducted raids on Sunday and found seven non-essential shops open. He sealed all the seven shops. He inspected the entire market and asked people to follow SOPs to save themselves from Covid-19. Meanwhile, main water supply line of Bisham city has been rest.....[view more](#)

Covid-19 could linger in the environment

Source: [Umer Farooq, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-14

PESHAWAR: Facing a threat as mysterious and arcane as the novel coronavirus means that researchers are constantly trying understand the obscure contagion and present latest information as it is revealed. Given the rigorous worldwide research, several theories and predictions pertaining Covid-19 have been released in the last few months, only to be replaced and updated by new findings. In March 2020, when the World Health Organisation (WHO) decla.....[view more](#)

Covid-19 death toll in KP surges to 1,114

Source: [Ashfaq Yusufzai, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

PESHAWAR: Death toll due to Covid-19 swelled to 1,114 with passing away of eight more persons as the province continued to record fewer cases for the past one week with officials attributing the declining trend in positive patients to the smart lockdown enforced in the hotbeds of the virus. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa reported 251 cases, making total number of patients 31,001 as recoveries from the ailment reached 21,607 with 295 new recovered patients o.....[view more](#)

SHOs charged with custodial torture infected by Covid-19

Source: [Bureau Report, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

PESHAWAR: The local police didn't produce two station house officers charged with custodial torture before the judicial inquiry commission as they were diagnosed with coronavirus. SHOs Sheharyar Khan and Imranuddin were called by Justice Lal Jan Khattak of the one-member commission to record statements regarding the alleged stripping and torture of Afghan national Radiullah alias Amirey in the custody of Takkal police last month. They hav.....[view more](#)

Four more test positive for Covid-19

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-07-15

MARDAN: Another four people tested positive for Covid-19 in the district in the last 24 hours, taking the total number of cP-1onfirmed patients of the disease to 1,181. According to the statistics issued by the ADC office on Tuesday, around 60 people had so far died from coronavirus. Up to 5,367 tests were conducted in the district of which the test reports of 4,148 people came back negative while 38 were suspected patients. Around 1,037 patients.....[view more](#)

Three more corona patients die in Swat

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-07-15

MINGORA: Three more patients infected with the coronavirus were killed in Swat district on Tuesday. With the new casualties, the number of fatalities from the viral disease reached 97 in Swat district since the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic in the country. Health Department officials said that Mian Gul Aleem, president of Swat Paramedics

Association had also fallen prey to the infectious disease. They said that the number of infected patients rais.....[view more](#)

Minister applauds DI Khan health officials for battling against Covid-19

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

DERA ISMAIL KHAN - Minister for Health Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Taimur Saleem Jhagra on Tuesday appreciated services of administration and officials of the health department against coronavirus(COVID19), saying their coordinated efforts had borne fruit, mitigating the pandemic's spread in the country. Talking to media during his visit to District Headquarters MTI Teaching Hospital and Zana Teaching Hospital here, the provincial health minist.....[view more](#)

Six more fall prey to coronavirus

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

PESHAWAR: Death toll due to Covid-19 reached 1,120 as six more persons passed away from the infection in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Wednesday. The province also recorded 216 new patients raising tally of confirmed cases to 31,217, according to a report compiled by health department. It said 22,260 persons had so far recovered from the pandemic with the addition of 653 more patients, who were declared recovered. Two persons died each in Peshawar and[view more](#)

Special assistant says 71pc patients recovering from coronavirus in KP

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-17

PESHAWAR: Special Assistant to Chief Minister for Information and Local Government Kamran Bangash has said the recovery rate of coronavirus patients in the province has reached 71 per cent while the positive cases rate has gone down from 25 to 15 percent. He expressed these views while briefing media at the Directorate of Information and Public Relations here on Thursday, said a handout. The special assistant said Covid-19 cases were on the rise[view more](#)

Hospitals to get drug for serious Covid-19 patients

Source: [Ashfaq Yusufzai](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-17

PESHAWAR: The government has decided to provide Remdesivir injection for the treatment of serious Covid-19 patients initially to the hospitals only as Ferozsons Laboratories is ready to start supply of the drug from July 28 to the market, according to officials. Officials at Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) toldDawnthat Remdesivir injection for Covid-19, manufactured by BF Biosciences Lahore under agreement with Gilead sciences USA,[view more](#)

Pandemic stalls construction of Swabi hospital

Source: [Correspondent](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-17

SWABI: The coronavirus pandemic has stalled the construction work on the new building of the district headquarters hospital, thus delaying its completion beyond the stipulated date of next year, sources in the health department and the hospital told Dawn on Thursday. They said costing Rs507 million, the project was opened by then provincial health minister Shahram Khan Tarakai during the previous tenure of the Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf government.....[view more](#)

Punjab

Number of deaths on the rise once again

Source: [Muhammad Qasim](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-11

Rawalpindi : The disease caused by 2019 novel coronavirus, COVID-19 claimed at least 13 more lives here in the twin cities of Islamabad and Rawalpindi in last 48 hours proving itself still much fatal despite the fact that the number of confirmed patients being tested positive for the illness from the region is showing a significant downward trend. Data collected by 'The News' on Friday reveals that the illness claimed four more lives.....[view more](#)

Following COVID-19 SOPs in letter and spirit stressed

Source: [Humayun Aziz Sandeela](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-11

Rawalpindi : The speakers at a ceremony stressed the need of following standard operating procedures (SOPs) devised by federal government against spread of coronavirus besides extending helping hands to assist others in this regard. Addressing masks and sanitisers distribution ceremony, they were of the view that following SOPs is best interest of everybody because it is not a matter of an individual because a single person can infect his entire.....[view more](#)

Three more Covid-19 hotspots in Rawalpindi sealed

Source: [Aamir Yasin](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-11

RAWALPINDI: Three more areas in the garrison city were on Friday locked down till July 24 after the government declared them hotspots for Covid-19. As many as 52 cases have been reported from these areas - 23 from Dhoke Khabba, 16 from Gulistan Colony and 13 from Range Road, Lane No 4, PIA Colony. The movement of 84,470 people residing in these areas has been restricted now. The district administration had recommended sealing the areas on Sunda.....[view more](#)

SOPs being strictly enforced in Pindi: DC

Source: [Aamir Yasin | Munawer Azeem](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-11

RAWALPINDI/ISLAMABAD: The number of critical patients are decreasing fast in hospitals. In mid-June, 250 patients were in the critical units and the number has gradually decreased, said Deputy Commissioner (DC) retired Capt Anwarul Haq on Friday. The district administration is strictly implementing SOPs in offices, shops and public places, and teams have been formed to inspect areas as mostly people come out to bazaars for Eid shopping, the DC s.....[view more](#)

COVID-19 claims 13 lives in last 48 hours,134 test positive in twin cities in a day

Source: [Muhammad Qasim](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-11

Rawalpindi: The disease caused by 2019 novel coronavirus, COVID-19 claimed at least 13 more lives here in the twin cities of Islamabad and Rawalpindi in last 48 hours proving itself still much fatal despite the fact that the number of confirmed patients being tested positive for the illness from the region is showing a significant downward trend. Data collected by 'The News' on Friday reveals that the illness claimed four more lives i.....[view more](#)

Rooster market in Dingi Khoi hit by COVID-19

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-11

Rawalpindi: The COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdowns have severely affected traditional 'Aseel' Roosters Market at Dingi Khoi area that has been a source of livelihood for a large number of people during last so many years.

Every Friday when shops and business centres at Dingi Khoi observe weekly holiday both Aseel Roosters sellers and buyers start gathering on footpaths and some parts of the main roads where deals are done invo.....[view more](#)

Virtual School of Tomorrow conference begins

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#) , 2020-07-11

LAHORE: Beaconhouse's first fully virtual three-day School of Tomorrow (SOT) Conference: "A World of Tomorrow: Negotiating a Better Future" was inaugurated Friday. The 11th full edition of SOT seeks to understand how COVID-19 is patterning significant global conversations about safer and more balanced futures, as well as pushing educators to re-imagine the future of education at various academic levels. The event was inaugurated.....[view more](#)

13 more corona deaths reported in Punjab

Source: [Staff Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#) , 2020-07-12

LAHORE: Punjab on Saturday reported another 13 deaths, representing a slide in corona toll, and taking the tally to 1,985 in the province. In the last 24 hours, as per the data compiled by primary and secondary health care department, 8,283 tests were conducted, finding out 730 new cases – taking the total number of patients in the province to 85,991. The city of Lahore, already under the smart lockdown, continues leading provincial hotsp.....[view more](#)

People urged to change lifestyle, diet to fight coronavirus

Source: [News Desk](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#) , 2020-07-12

LAHORE: The Postgraduate Medical Institute (PGMI) Principal Prof Dr Sardar Muhammad Al-Freed Zafar says the coronavirus will continue to exist as an infectious disease and the people will have to make changes to their lifestyle and diet to fight with the virus. "Immunity can be improved and the people should make it a part of their lives to take the necessary precautions to prevent the spread Covid-19 so that they can protect themselves as[view more](#)

2 more die of COVID-19, 133 test positive

Source: [Muhammad Qasim](#), [The News, International](#) , 2020-07-12

Rawalpindi : The continuous decrease in number of patients being tested positive for coronavirus illness, COVID-19 is hinting towards a situation becoming normal though the disease is still claiming significant number of lives in the twin cities of Islamabad and Rawalpindi. In last 24 hours, the disease claimed another two lives in the twin cities taking total number of deaths from the region to 411 while another 133 patients have been tested po.....[view more](#)

People urged to change lifestyle to ward off coronavirus

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#) , 2020-07-12

LAHORE : Post Graduate Medical Institute Principal Prof. Dr. Sardar Mohammad Al-freed Zafar said that we have to change our lifestyle to save ourselves from the effects of the coronavirus as we can make appropriate changes in diet. "The physical immunity can be improved, as well as people should make it a part of their lives to take precautions to prevent the spread COVID-19 so that they can protect themselves as well as others from.....[view more](#)

37 shops sealed: 136 vehicles impounded over SOPs violations

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#) , 2020-07-12

LAHORE - The district administration, during an operation in the provincial capital on Saturday, sealed 37 shops and impounded 136 commercial and private vehicles and imposed fines of Rs54,000 over violations of the Standard

Operating Procedures (SOPs). A spokesperson for the city district administration said that violation of SOPs would not be tolerated at any cost and all shops and markets violating the orders in this regard would be sealed. He.....[view more](#)

Angel investors eye Pakistan's health start-up

Source: [Shahram Haq](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-12

LAHORE: The pandemic has brought healthcare sector to the fore in countries across the world and Pakistan's health sector is no different. The coronavirus has exposed strengths and weaknesses in the system, which has caught the attention of angel investors. Since the lockdown was imposed, online businesses enhanced their mark and the country's health system witnessed a similar trend as well where a few large scale pharmacies initiat.....[view more](#)

21 more succumb to virus in Punjab

Source: [Staff Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

LAHORE: As many as 21 more coronavirus-infected patients died on Sunday as compared to 13 such deaths on Saturday, taking the virus death toll in Punjab to 2,006. The primary and secondary healthcare department has reported 565 new coronavirus cases in Punjab, taking the total number of positive patients in the province to 86,556. Of 565 new coronavirus cases, 281 have been reported from Lahore, 52 from Rawalpindi, 34 from Gujrat, 24 from Faisa.....[view more](#)

Small farmers in Asia, Europe agree to save food producers

Source: [Staff Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

LAHORE: Small farmers from Europe and Asia have agreed on building solidarity among small-scale food producers, resisting trans-national food companies and industrial agriculture to elevate human rights for rural people and strengthen agro-ecology. This agreement was reached in a webinar organised by the Asia-Europe People's Forum (AEPF), a network of progressive organisations across the regions. It was titled 'Food Producers Shall N.....[view more](#)

13 Punjab SEZs to create million jobs: CM

Source: [Staff Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

LAHORE: The Punjab government has started work on establishing 13 special economic zones and industrial estates on more than 10,000 acres of land. Chief Minister Usman Buzdar says this government started these projects in just two years, while only three economic zones (SEZs) were established during the last 73 years. He said the Allama Iqbal Industrial City to be established in Faisalabad would be stretched on more than 3,000 acres of land and.....[view more](#)

Covid vaccination

Source: [Staff Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

LAHORE: The Peoples Doctor' Forum has called upon the government to plan free vaccination of each citizen soon after the vaccine is available for Covid-19. The demand was made at a webinar of the Forum conducted by Dr Kareem Khwaja on Sunday. It suggested the government should establish international contacts so that the vaccine is procured soon after it is marketed.[view more](#)

Recoveries outnumber new Covid-19 cases in Rawalpindi

Source: [Aamir Yasin](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

RAWALPINDI: A total of 293 patients of Covid-19 recovered on Sunday in Rawalpindi, while 36 more tested positive for the disease and one person died. So far, 16,363 people have been tested for Covid-19 in Rawalpindi district between March 20 and July 11, of which 10,126 tested negative and 6,240 tested positive. There have been 265 deaths and 4,678 people have recovered. According to the Punjab government's data on Rawalpindi district, mo.....[view more](#)

Carelessness on Eid can make corona uncontrollable: Chaudhry Sarwar

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-13

LAHORE: Punjab Governor Chaudhry Muhammad Sarwar has said that carelessness on Eidul Aza can make coronavirus uncontrollable once again in the country. Talking to party delegations from different districts which called on him here on Sunday, Chaudhry Sarwar said celebrating Eid in a simple manner is the only option to stop the spread of corona. National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) deserves tribute and applause for its historic role again.....[view more](#)

867 patients recover from Covid-19

Source: [APP](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-13

SARGODHA: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Abdullah Nayyar Sheikh Sunday said some 867 out of 1,043 Covid-19 patients have gone to homes after their recovery in the district. Presiding over the district Anti-Dengue and Covid-19 meeting, the DC directed the health officers to take anti-coronavirus and anti-dengue measures. CEO Health Dr Samiullah, DHO Dr Sohail Asghar Qazi, focalperson anti-dengue programme Dr Omar Farooq and officers concerned were als.....[view more](#)

565 new cases of COVID-19 reported in Punjab

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

LAHORE - As many as 21 more lives were lost to COVID-19, while the number of coronavirus cases reached 86,556 in the province after registration of 565 new cases till Sunday morning. According to the spokesperson of the Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department, total number of deaths has reached 2,006 in the province. As many as 281 new cases of COVID-19 were reported in Lahore, 5 in Nankana Sahib, 5 in Kasur, 8 in Sheikhpura, 52 i.....[view more](#)

PML-Q's Tariq Bashir Cheema tests positive for Covid-19

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

LAHORE - Minister for Housing Tariq Bashir Cheema of PML-Q has tested positive for the coronavirus, Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS) spokesperson Dr Waseem Khawaja said. He said that the minister was admitted to the facility after his condition deteriorated and was undergoing further tests.[view more](#)

Doctors' forum stresses need to enhance Covid-19 testing in Pakistan

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

LAHORE - Peoples' Doctors Forum Pakistan has stressed the need to enhance Covid-19 testing in the country. In a webinar titled "situation of Covid-19 pandemic — myths and realities in Pakistan [and] way forward", the medical professionals said that the government's figures of infected people are "not representative of the actual ground situation". They urged the government to meet with doctors and paramed.....[view more](#)

Expo Center Field hospital closed as all virus patients recover

Source: [Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

LAHORE - All three halls of Expo Center Field hospital in Lahore have been closed after COVID-19 patients receiving treatment at temporarily built field hospital were discharged on Sunday. According to the details, all coronavirus patients receiving treatment at the Expo Center Field Hospital discharged after being fully recovered from the deadly virus. The Punjab government had established 990-bed isolation facility and 10-bed High Dependence.....[view more](#)

Covid-19 infections drop by 50% in Punjab

Source: [APP / Yousaf Abbasi, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

LAHORE: In the last 10 days, the number of critically ill coronavirus patients in the provincial capital has dropped by about 50%. Reportedly, with the number of coronavirus patients having begun to decline, most of the beds in the ICUs and high dependency units of the city's major government hospitals are empty of patients. Of the 178 ICU beds and ventilators allocated for coronavirus patients in the city's 16 government hospitals, 11.....[view more](#)

3 deaths, 101 new cases of COVID-19

Source: [Muhammad Qasim, The News, International](#), 2020-07-14

Rawalpindi: Coronavirus illness, COVID-19 claimed another three lives here in the twin cities of Islamabad and Rawalpindi in last 24 hours though the number of patients being tested positive from the region is continuously on the decline as 101 more patients were tested positive for the disease on Monday. It is the second lowest number of confirmed patients reported from the twin cities in a day after May 19 as on July 7, the lowest number of pat.....[view more](#)

'54,658 patients recover'

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-07-14

LAHORE: Punjab has released the data and statistics about facilities, including treatment, high dependency units, isolation wards and ventilators available in all hospitals on directives from Punjab Health Minister Dr Yasmin Rashid here Monday. As per the latest data released by the Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department and the Specialised Healthcare and Medical Education Department, around 54,658 patients have recovered from government hosp.....[view more](#)

Covid-19; Covid-19; Sindh finds 1,089 new cases out of 8,929 tests: CM

Source: [Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-14

KARACHI: Covid-19 has claimed 31 more lives lifting the death toll to 1,826 while found 1,089 new cases out of 8,929 tested samples raising the tally to 106,622, Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah told on Monday. In a statement issued here from the CM House, the chief minister said overnight 1,089 new cases out of 8,929 samples constituted 12 percent current detection rate. He added 584,596 tests have been conducted so far across Sindh.....[view more](#)

NCOC allows more but small cattle markets

Source: [Mansoor Malik, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-14

LAHORE: The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Monday decided to increase the number of cattle markets across the country but shrink their size and implement strict standing operating procedures (SOPs) to curb the spread of Covid-19 during Eidul Azha whose payers will be organised on the pattern of Eidul Fitr ensuring social distancing. At its maiden meeting in Lahore, the NCOC decided that some 700 cattle markets would be establish.....[view more](#)

Virus claims seven more lives in Punjab

Source: [Staff Report, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-14

LAHORE: With seven more deaths in the last 24 hours and 487 new corona cases reported in Punjab on Monday, total number of deaths has reached 2,013, and the patients' figure reached 87,043, says the primary and secondary health care department. Though the number of confirmed cases has dropped substantially, Lahore is still the leading hotspot with 208 cases, with Gujrat following it with 40 cases, Faisalabad 30 and Rawalpindi 26 cases. Ac.....[view more](#)

Marriage hall owners in Lahore demand resumption of business

Source: [Staff Report, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-14

LAHORE: Marriage halls' owners, workers and those associated with allied businesses staged a protest rally against the government for not allowing them reopening of halls in Covid-19 lockdown. Flashing banners inscribed with the slogans 'Save us from hunger', 'Restore our businesses', and 'When our businesses will reopen?', demonstrators first gathered at the Lahore Press Club. "Though the governm.....[view more](#)

Cattle markets to operate from 6am to 7pm ahead of Eid

Source: [Agencies, Daily Times](#), 2020-07-14

The National Command and Control Centre (NCOC) on Monday decided to allow cattle markets to operate only between 6am to 7pm ahead of Eidul Azha. The decision was taken under the chairmanship of Federal Minister for Planning and NCOC chief Asad Umar in the national body's first provincial-level meeting held in Lahore. "The movement of cattle and people between villages and cities increases the risk of the virus spreading," the min.....[view more](#)

'Adequate facilities available for COVID-19 patients'

Source: [Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

LAHORE - Punjab has released the data and statistics of facilities including treatment, High Dependency Units (HDUs), isolation wards and ventilators available in all hospitals on directives from the Health Minister Punjab Dr Yasmin Rashid here on Wednesday. As per the latest data released by the Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department and the Specialised Healthcare and Medical Education Department, as many as 54,658 patients have recove.....[view more](#)

Literary, cultural series with eminent personalities to resume online

Source: [Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

LAHORE: The Lahore Arts Council is set to re-launch the monthly literary and cultural sessions of "Kuch Yaadain, Kuch Baatain" and "Roshan Sitaray" online to entertain and educate the audience. A meeting was held at Alhamra Art Centre on Tuesday to discuss the re-launch of these programmes. On the occasion, Lahore Arts Council Board of Governors Chairperson Moneeza Hashmi said: "From the very beginning, the purpose.....[view more](#)

Second Covid wave inevitable if precautions ignored on Eid

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

LAHORE: Warning against a potential second wave of Covid-19 if people abandoned precautions during Eidul Azha and Muharram, Primary and Secondary Healthcare Secretary Muhammad Usman on Tuesday beseeched people “to be very very careful, otherwise things can quickly spin out of hand”. Addressing a press conference a day after the National Command Operation Centre set the template for animal markets and sale/purchase of animals during t.....[view more](#)

Lockdown extended till 30th

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

LAHORE: The Punjab government on Tuesday extended the general lockdown for another 15 days till July 30. According to a notification of the Punjab government, all businesses like restaurants, marriage halls, cinema houses and educational institutions would stay shut till the end of this month. Similarly, all religious congregations and sport activities would not be allowed in the province. This notification, however, would not affect the smart[view more](#)

Body rejects closure of schools till September

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

LAHORE: The All Pakistan Private Schools Federation (APPSF) has rejected the closure of schools till September. APPSF President Kashif Mirza and others on Tuesday held a press conference to announce protest for the fulfillment of their demands. APPSF office-bearers demanded that the schools should be reopened under standard operating procedures (SOPs) like other departments till Aug 15, otherwise the APPSF would announce the date for reopening[view more](#)

Two die, 109 test positive and 732 recovered in a day

Source: [Muhammad Qasim](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-15

Rawalpindi : Another two patients of coronavirus illness, COVID-19 died of the disease here in the federal capital though the virus did not claim any life in Rawalpindi district in last 24 hours while number of recoveries in both Rawalpindi district and Islamabad Capital Territory in a day remained much higher. In last 24 hours, as many as 109 patients were tested positive for coronavirus illness from the region including only 15 patients from R.....[view more](#)

Wrong impression about coronavirus

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-15

Rawalpindi : A wrong impression about COVID-19 pandemic is fast gripping the minds of the people most of whom are now thinking that they are now quite safe against it on the basis of recent reports that showed tangible success in ongoing fight against this disease. Dr. Asifa Khar said it would be potentially dangerous to think that ‘war is over’ against COVID-19 pandemic because it is still a potential threat that can affect hundreds.....[view more](#)

Minister sees steep decline in virus cases in country

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-15

LAHORE: The Government College University Lahore's Mahbulul Haq Economic Society organised a webinar “Smart Lockdown and its Impact” which was addressed by Federal Minister for Science and Technology Fawad Chaudhry. According to a press release, GCU Vice-Chancellor Prof Dr Asghar Zaidi moderated the webinar which

was attended by a large number of students and faculty members through Zoom application. In his address, Federal Minis.....[view more](#)

COVID-19 cases reducing due to smart lockdown: Buzdar

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-15

The steps taken for overcoming coronavirus are proving useful and virus's spread is decreased due to smart lockdown, Punjab Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar in a statement issued here on Tuesday. "Meanwhile, the holding of the NCOC meeting in Lahore has promoted the passion of national unity and this forum has also strengthened concord among federal and provincial governments." The CM deplored that opposition left the affectees[view more](#)

Punjab extends smart lockdown until July 30

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-15

Smart lockdown imposed to curb the spread of COVID-19 has been extended for another 15 days till July 30 in Punjab, read a notification issued on Tuesday. Educational institutions, wedding halls, restaurants and cinema houses among other public places across the province will remain closed during the lockdown. Meanwhile, the education department and schools in the province will reopen for administrative staff and teachers from today, July 15. The Kh.....[view more](#)

Best treatment being provided in public sector hospitals: Yasmin

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

LAHORE - Punjab Health Minister Dr Yasmin Rashid visited the District Headquarters Hospital Attock on Tuesday and reviewed the status of facilities being provided to the patients. She also talked to patients and their families. Deputy Commissioner Attock, Medical Superintendent DHQ Attock and staff accompanied the minister during her visit. The minister visited the site of under-construction Mother and Child Hospital in Attock and inquired[view more](#)

CM claims COVID-19 cases declining in Punjab

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

LAHORE - Punjab Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar Tuesday claimed that COVID-19 cases were on the decline in Punjab mainly owing to the government's strategy of smart lockdown. "The steps taken for overcoming coronavirus are proving useful and virus's spread has decreased significantly due to smart lockdown", he maintained in a statement. The whole world has appreciated the strategy employed by Prime Minister Imran[view more](#)

PM's action against corona is exemplary, says Governor

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

LAHORE - Governor Punjab Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar met National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Chairman Lieutenant General Mohammad Afzal here on Tuesday. On the occasion Governor said that Chairman NDMA provided assistance to poor families affected by corona in Punjab and provided safety equipment to doctors and medical staff. According to details, Chairman NDMA Lieutenant General Mohammad Afzal called on Governor Punjab Chaudhry Muh.....[view more](#)

Punjab govt extends lockdown till 30th

Source: [Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

LAHORE - The Punjab government has extended lockdown in the province from July 16 to July 30 due to COVID-19 pandemic. According to a notification, issued by Secretary Primary & Secondary Healthcare Department Punjab on Tuesday, educational institutions, marriage halls, restaurants and cinema halls would remain closed. Social and religious gatherings and gatherings for game activities would remain banned and dates for smart lockdown would be[view more](#)

COVID-19 claims four more lives in Rawalpindi

Source: [Muhammad Qasim, The News, International](#), 2020-07-16

Rawalpindi : At least four confirmed patients of COVID-19 lost their lives due to the disease here in Rawalpindi district taking death toll from the district to 271 however no death due to coronavirus illness was reported from Islamabad Capital Territory in last 24 hours though as many as 155 patients have already died of the disease in the federal capital. In last 24 hours, as many as 137 new patients have been tested positive from the r.....[view more](#)

Rotarians donate PPEs, masks to RIU

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-07-16

Rawalpindi : A delegation of Rotary International District 3272, Pakistan, handed over personal protective equipments (PPE), N95 masks and gloves to Punjab Health Minister Dr. Yasmin Rashid for Rawalpindi Institute of Urology (RIU) at a ceremony held at the RIU on Wednesday. The delegation was led by District Governor Nominee (DGN) Adnan Saboor Rohaila and comprised Noshawan Khalil Khan (District Chair Community Service, Coordinator for[view more](#)

Webinar highlights pandemic effects on human lives

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-07-16

LAHORE: Speakers at an international webinar “Gender dynamics in the current Pandemic” have said that gender inequalities will have a profound impact on the human lives, and because of these inequalities, coronavirus will impact men disproportionately to women, and also affect transgender and women’s resilience in mitigating the effects of the outbreak. According to a press release, they were speaking at the webinar organised by.....[view more](#)

Pandemic waning in Pindi, says minister

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

RAWALPINDI: Punjab Health Minister Dr Yasmeen Rashid on Wednesday said that the number of novel coronavirus cases in the city are falling rapidly due to the untiring efforts of medics and paramedics in the city. She said this while inspecting facilities at the Benazir Bhutto Hospital (BBH), Holy Family Hospital (HFH) and the Rawalpindi Institute of Urology and Kidney Transplant (RIUKT) in Rawalpindi on Wednesday. Dr Rashid said the number of p.....[view more](#)

Another doctor succumbs to Covid-19 in Sindh

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

KARACHI: A renowned orthopaedic surgeon, Dr Younis Soomro, succumbed to coronavirus on Wednesday. He had contracted the virus while serving patients and died while receiving treatment at a private hospital. According to the

Pakistan Medical Association general secretary, Dr Soomro was working at Ziauddin Hospital's orthopaedic department and also remained affiliated with several national and international symposiums as well as Dow Universi.....[view more](#)

Multan Road remains blocked for several hours: Covid-19 SOPs make cattle trading troublesome

Source: [Khalid Hasnain](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

LAHORE: Multan Road remained blocked for several hours on Wednesday after the authorities stopped the entrance of trucks carrying sacrificial animals to Shahpur Kanjran Mandi. The situation forced traders to unload their sacrificial animals and enter the cattle market on foot. "We've been standing here by the roadside since midnight as we are not being allowed into Shahpur Kanjran," Safdar from Sahiwal, a trader of sacrificial.....[view more](#)

Oxygen beds intervention being made in hospitals: NDMA chairman

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

LAHORE - National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) Chairman Lt Gen Muhammad Afzal said on Wednesday that as per directions of Prime Minister Imran Khan, intervention of oxygen beds was being made in hospitals all over Pakistan and in Lahore, 330 oxygen beds had already entered into operational phase. Talking to the media here at King Edward Medical University (KEMU), he said that such interventions would also be made in other big cities[view more](#)

PHP expedites anti-corona SOPs, traffic rules

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

FAISALABAD - A PHP mobile education unit headed by IncPunjab Highway Patrolling Police (PHP), Faisalabad intensified awareness campaign regarding traffic rules as well as safety measures against coronavirus. harge Rizwan Bhatti on Wednesday visited general bus stand, New Subhan terminal, City terminal, petrol pumps and different bank branches and held roadside demonstrations. He provided tips to drivers about coronavirus SOPs, traffic rules, road[view more](#)

NMU VC dies after battling against coronavirus for over a month

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

MULTAN - Nishtar Medical University (NMU) VC and one of the finest laparoscopic surgeons of the country, Dr Mustafa Kamal Pasha, died here at Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi Institute of Cardiology (CPEIC) on Wednesday after battling against the coronavirus for over a month. He was 61. Additional Medical Superintendent (Admin) CPEIC Dr Farhan Khan told APP that Dr Mustafa Kamal breathed his last at 4am today (Wednesday) after his condition deteriorated at.....[view more](#)

6 persons succumb to COVID-19 in Rawalpindi

Source: [Israr Ahmad](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

Rawalpindi-As many as six persons died of novel coronavirus in the city on Wednesday while 95 recovered from the virus and 30 more patients tested positive of COVID-19. They said as many as four patients belonged to Rawalpindi district while two are from other districts but were under-treatment at Rawalpindi Institute of Urology (RIU). The death of four more patients in the garrison city took the tally to 271 in the district. According to d.....[view more](#)

Another 2 deaths due to COVID-19

Source: [Muhammad Qasim](#), [The News, International](#) , 2020-07-17

Rawalpindi : In last 24 hours, as many as 104 new patients have been tested positive for coronavirus illness, COVID-19 from the federal capital and Rawalpindi district taking total number of patients so far confirmed for the disease from the region to 20,117 however the virus continued to claim lives as another two patients died of the illness in the region. A downward trend in number of patients being tested positive for coronavirus illness is[view more](#)

Bakarmandi app launched for cattle sale, purchase

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#) , 2020-07-17

LAHORE: A mobile app Bakarmandi has been launched in Punjab for online buying and selling of cattle for Eidul Aza. Officials said the mobile app was launched on the directive of Punjab government and Lahore commissioner. They said the app has been developed with the collaboration of Punjab Information Technology Board (PITB) and Lahore Cattle Marketing Company. Through this app, citizens of Punjab will be able to buy their desired sacrifici.....[view more](#)

427 cops affected by corona

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#) , 2020-07-17

LAHORE: CCPO Lahore Zulfiqar Hameed said that 427 police officials were affected by the corona pandemic, out of them 92 were quarantined. He told that 330 personnel recovered and resumed their duties. Five officials lost their lives to the pandemic, he added. rewarded: The CCPO Lahore distributed certificates of appreciation and cash prizes among 186 officials who performed well in the Security Division. The CCPO awarded certificatesto Inspector[view more](#)

Doctors on frontline in battle against pandemic

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#) , 2020-07-17

LAHORE: Health Minister Dr Yasmin Rashid on Thursday visited the residence of late Nishter Medical University Vice Chancellor Professor Mustafa Kamal Pasha in Multan. Secretary Primary and Secondary Healthcare Usman Younis, Special Secretary Specialized Healthcare and Medical Education Department Silwat Saeed and Additional Secretary Omer Farooq accompanied the minister. The minister condoled with the family of late professor and prayed f.....[view more](#)

Corona infected people tally reaches 881 in Nowshera

Source: [Mushtaq Paracha](#), [The News, International](#) , 2020-07-17

NOWSEHRA: Another eight persons tested positive for coronavirus on Thursday which put the number of such patients in the district at 881, officials said. District Health Officer Dr Gulman Shah and District Coronavirus Control Centre In-charge Dr Saeed Khan told the media eight more people recovered from the viral infection and this took the tally of those defeating Covid-19 to 754. The officials said 3,038 people were tested for the viral infecti.....[view more](#)

Eight more succumb to coronavirus

Source: [APP](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-17

LAHORE: Covid-19 has taken away eight more lives in the province, while the number of coronavirus cases in the province reached 88,539 after registration of 494 new patients till Thursday morning. According to the spokesperson of the Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department, the total number of deaths in the province has reached 2,051. As many as 228 new cases of Covid-19 were reported in Lahore, one in Nankana Sahib, five in Sheikhu.....[view more](#)

Covid-19;COAS offers full assistance to Italy

Source: [NNI](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-17

RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javed Bajwa has offered all possible cooperation and assistance to Italy in dealing with the coronavirus pandemic. According to Inter Services Public Relations, COAS General Qamar Javed Bajwa met with Italian Ambassador to Pakistan Andreas Ferrarese at General Headquarters Rawalpindi Thursday. During the meeting, issues of mutual interest, regional security and promotion of mutual coope.....[view more](#)

CCPO praises Lahore police for sacrifices in fighting against Covid-19

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-17

LAHORE - CCPO Lahore Zulfiqar Hameed has said that Lahore Police is the frontline soldier in fight against the coronavirus pandemic since it has played a tremendous role during the crisis. Lahore Police were ensuring the safety and security of the citizens by putting aside all kinds of problems and difficulties, Zulfiqar Hameed said, and added that a total of 427 personnel were affected by the coronavirus, of whom 92 personnel and officers w.....[view more](#)

Average 23,403 COVID-19 tests being conducted

Source: [News Desk](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-17

LAHORE - Federal Planning Minister Asad Umar while sharing data of the coronavirus tests and cases said that at least 23,403 average COVID-19 tests were conducted from June 1 to 15 while the number of tests from July 1 to 15 was 22,969. He said average Coronavirus cases from June 1 to 15 were 5056 while their number in the corresponding period in July was 3097. The Minister said the number of COVID-19 cases declined due to people's better a.....[view more](#)

Sindh

36 more coronavirus patients died: CM

Source: [Staff Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-11

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Friday said that overnight 36 more patients of coronavirus died and 1,468 people contracted the virus lifting the death toll to 1,231 and tally of the cases to 102,368. In a statement issued from CM House, he said that 36 Covid-19 patients lost their lives during the past 24 hours lifting the death toll to 1,713. "As many as 1,468 new cases of coronavirus have emerged when 10,276 samples.....[view more](#)

Lockdown, anti-locust, price-control and rain plans reviewed

Source: [Staff Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-11

KARACHI: The Sindh government has decided to launch 'wear a mask' drive across the province in an attempt to contain the spread of coronavirus. The decision was made during a meeting chaired by Chief Secretary Syed Mumtaz

Ali Shah held to review the situation about implementation of smart lockdown, anti-locust operation, price-control and monsoon contingency plans. A statement issued from the chief secretary office said that additio.....[view more](#)

CM Murad Ali Shah opens Ziauddin Hospital's 50-bed COVID-19 facility

Source: [M Waqar Bhatti](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-11

Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Friday inaugurated the 50-bed COVID-19 isolation ward of the Dr Ziauddin Hospital's Keamari campus. Meanwhile, 36 more people perished due to the novel coronavirus in the province during the last 24 hours, raising the death toll to 1,713 in Sindh. Accompanied by Ziauddin Hospital Chairman Dr Asim Hussain, the chief minister appreciated the establishment of the COVID-19 isolation and treatment fac.....[view more](#)

36 more people lose lives to virus in Sindh, says CM Murad

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-11

KARACHI - Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah said on Friday that 36 more patients of the coronavirus died in the province during the last 24 hours while 1,468 persons contracted the virus. In a statement issued here from the CM's House, he said that with 36 more deaths overnight, the number of people dying from the disease so far has reached 1,713, while 1,468 new cases of the coronavirus were also reported when 10,276 sampl.....[view more](#)

HABIBMETRO Bank, EFU Life launch 'COVID-19 Cover'

Source: [Press Release](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-11

KARACHI-HABIBMETRO Bank and EFU Life have strengthened their partnership by taking the initiative to launch "COVID - 19 Cover" - a first-of-its-kind product that aims to provide a financial solution to HABIBMETRO customers who are financially and medically impacted during the ongoing pandemic. A digital signing ceremony was conducted, where Mohsin Ali Nathani, President & CEO, and Ahmed Shah Durrani, Head - Retail Banking at.....[view more](#)

CM opens COVID-19 Isolation Ward at Ziauddin Hospital

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-11

KARACHI - Dr Ziauddin Hospital said on Friday that it has established a 50 bed Covid-19 Isolation Ward at its Keamari campus. Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Friday inaugurated a 50 bed COVID-19 isolation ward and appreciated the hospital for establishing a dedicated ward for the corona patients at its Keamari campus. "We have established a 50 bed COVID-19 Isolation Ward because there is no Covid-19 hospital in this area.[view more](#)

'34 Covid-19 patients died overnight'

Source: [Staff Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-12

KARACHI: As many as 1,452 new cases of coronavirus emerged overnight when 10,815 samples were tested raising the tally to 103,820 cases while 34 more patients died lifting the death toll to 1,747. This was stated by Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued here from CM House on Saturday. He said that 10,815 samples were tested which detected 1,452 new cases that constituted 13 per cent detection. He added that so far 564,491 sa.....[view more](#)

Covid-19 ward at Ziauddin

Source: [Staff Report, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-12

KARACHI: Dr Ziauddin Hospital has established a 50-bed Covid-19 isolation ward at its Keamari campus, says a press release. Chief Minister of Sindh Syed Murad Ali Shah inaugurated the isolation ward on Friday. "We have established 50-Beds Covid-19 Isolation Ward because there is no Covid-19 hospital in this area. We have proper ICU, HDUs and isolation ward including ventilators. We already have Covid-19 wards in both North and Clifton camp.....[view more](#)

COVID-19 claims 34 more lives in Sindh, 743 in critical condition

Source: [M. Waqar Bhatti, The News, International](#), 2020-07-12

COVID-19 has claimed 34 more lives in the province during the last 24 hours, Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said on Saturday, adding that most of the deaths occurred at hospitals and health facilities in Karachi, raising the death toll to 1,747 in the province. "We have lost 34 lives due to COVID-19 in the province during the last 24 hours and most of these deaths took place at hospitals and health facilities in Karachi. Now the[view more](#)

34 more coronavirus patients die in Sindh

Source: [Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-12

KARACHI: As many as 1,452 new cases of coronavirus emerged when 10,815 samples were tested raising the tally to 103,820 cases while 34 more patients died lifting the death toll to 1,747. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued here from the CM House on Saturday. He said that 10,815 samples were tested which detected 1,452 new cases that constituted a detection rate of 13 percent. He added that s.....[view more](#)

36 more die of Covid-19: Murad

Source: [Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-12

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has said 36 more patients of coronavirus died and 1468 persons contracted with the virus lifting the death toll to 1231 and tally of the cases to 102,368. This he said on Friday in a statement issued from the CM House. According to the CM, overnight 36 patients lost their lives after struggling against the virus. The number of patients died so far has reached to 1713, he said and added 1.....[view more](#)

Ziauddin Hospital establishes Covid-19 isolation ward at Keamari campus

Source: [Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-11

KARACHI: Dr Ziauddin Hospital has established 50-Bed Covid-19 isolation ward at its Keamari campus, here on Friday. Chief Minister of Sindh, Syed Murad Ali Shah inaugurated the isolation ward and appreciated Dr Ziauddin Hospital and its efforts to establish a dedicated ward for corona patients. "We have established 50-Bed Covid-19 isolation ward because there is no Covid-19 hospital in this area. We have proper ICU, HDUs and isolation[view more](#)

Passengers for UAE bound flights to ensure COVID-19 tests: PIA

Source: [Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-12

KARACHI - Pakistan International Airlines has advised all its UAE bound passengers to get themselves tested for COVID-19 tests, within 96 hours time from designated laboratories/centers duly approved by the governments of the emirates, prior to the departure of their flights to Dubai or Sharja or Abu Dhabi or Al-Ain respectively. According to the spokesman of the national flag carrier, the airline has already resumed its flights to the above ment.....[view more](#)

With 1,452 fresh cases reported, Sindh's tally reaches 103820

Source: [Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-12

KARACHI - As many as 1,452 new cases of the coronavirus were reported in Sindh during the last 24 hours, raising the tally to 103820 while at the same time 34 more patients died, lifting the death toll to 1,747. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued here from the CM House on Saturday. He said that 10815 samples were tested which led to the detection of 1,452 fresh cases that showed 13 percent.....[view more](#)

Over two thousand policemen infected with COVID-19

Source: [Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-12

KARACHI - As many as 171 new cases of COVID-19 positive reported in last two days, around 2096 personnel and officers of Sindh Police have been infected with coronavirus so far, a spokesperson of Sindh Police said on Saturday. He said currently, 1584 officers and personnel were under treatment while 496 had returned to their homes after recovering from the disease. The spokesman said as many as 16 officers and personnel lost their battle ag.....[view more](#)

Fighting Covid-19: The curve is flattening

Source: [Hammad Sarfraz, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-12

KARACHI: As countries around the world juggle with strategies to flatten the Covid-19 curve, Pakistan's decision to impose smart or selective lockdowns in hotspot areas is yielding desired results. According to data collected byThe Express Tribune, a significant reduction in the number of positive cases has emerged as the country crossed the 100-day mark in its fight against the respiratory disease which has claimed more than 5,000 lives.[view more](#)

Corona deaths, cases decline

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-07-13

ISLAMABAD/LAHORE/KARACHI: Pakistan saw a 28 percent reduction in critical coronavirus cases due to smart lockdown and the implementation of standard operating procedures (SOPs), the National Command and Control Centre said on Sunday as the country witnessed significant reduction in corona deaths and infections. Latest data shows that 156,700 patients have recovered from the disease in Pakistan, there are 86,795 active cases out of whom 2,118 are.....[view more](#)

48 die, 1,713 new Covid-19 cases emerge overnight in Sindh

Source: [Staff Report, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Sunday said that 48 more patients of the novel coronavirus lost their lives overnight, lifting the death toll to 1,795 while the virus infected 1,713 others, raising the tally to 105,533. This he said in a statement issued here from CM House. He said that 48 more deaths had constituted 1.7 per cent death rate. "Overnight 1,519 more patients recovered," he said and added that the n.....[view more](#)

Speakers warn against Covid-19 upcoming challenges

Source: [Staff Report, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

KARACHI: Underscoring the need for a sustained preventive strategy against Covid-19, speakers at a webinar held on Saturday said the public health challenges posed by the coronavirus were not yet over and the situation might

deteriorate if people didn't show caution during the upcoming religious events. The event titled 'Covid-19 pandemic: myths and realities in Pakistan and the way forward' was organised by the Peoples Doctors.....[view more](#)

COVID-19 claims 48 more lives, infects another 1,713 in Sindh

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-13

As many as 48 more people lost their lives due to COVID-19 in the province during the last 24 hours, raising the death toll to 1,795, said Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Sunday. Most coronavirus patients passed away while being treated at health facilities in Karachi, the CM added. "On an average," he said, "two persons lost their lives in an hour due to COVID-19 in Sindh during the last 24 hours. Now the death tol.....[view more](#)

No ventilator functional at LUH Covid-19 ICU'

Source: [Staff Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

HYDERABAD: No ventilator in Covid-19 intensive care unit at the Liaquat University Hospital (LUH) is functioning, discloses a professor of Liaquat University of Medical and Health Sciences (LUMHS) in a letter to the hospital's medical superintendent. The letter written by chairperson of the department of anaesthesiology and ICU LUMHS on July 10 said that there was also acute shortage of nurses and technicians at the Covid-19 ICU. The lett.....[view more](#)

Abbasi Shaheed Hospital has so far conducted 320 COVID-19 tests, meeting told

Source: [APP](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-13

The Abbasi Shaheed Hospital under the administrative control of the Karachi Metropolitan Corporation (KMC) has started providing free COVID-19 testing facility to the people of Karachi. This was told in a meeting on the affairs of the hospital held on Sunday, which was chaired by KMC Metropolitan Commissioner Dr Syed Saifur Rehman. According to a statement, the meeting was told that around 320 tests for COVID-19 had been conducted at the hospita.....[view more](#)

Key immunisation programme suspended in Sindh due to vaccinators' strike

Source: [Imran Ayub](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

KARACHI: Amid growing challenge of the coronavirus pandemic, the Sindh healthcare system suffered another blow when its Expanded Programme on Immunisation (EPI) was suspended due to a province-wide strike of thousands of vaccinators, putting hundreds of thousands of children at risk of 11 serious diseases, it emerged on Sunday. Some 5,000 vaccinators are scheduled to stage a sit-in outside the Karachi Press Club (KPC) on Monday (today) seeking t.....[view more](#)

Sindh warns against declaring 'early victory' in Covid-19 fight

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-13

Sindh Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah on Sunday warned against declaring an "early victory" on the country's efforts to battle the coronavirus pandemic and urged citizens to get tested. Talking to the media in Karachi, the chief minister said that the provincial government had started taking steps to combat the disease since February. "Today we are in control of the situation to a certain extent [but] I don't think we ar.....[view more](#)

Death toll from virus in Sindh reaches 1,795: CM

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

KARACHI - Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah said on Sunday that 48 more patients of the coronavirus lost their lives in the province during the last 24 hours, lifting the death toll to 1,795 while the virus infected 1,713 others, raising the tally of patients to 105,533. In a statement issued here from the CM House, Murad Shah said that with 48 more deaths from the COVID-19, the death toll had reached 1,795 that showed 1.7pc death rate. &.....[view more](#)

Doctor dies due to coronavirus

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-14

UMERKOT - Dr Abdul Razzaq, a prominent cardiologist of Umerkot city, died due to coronavirus on Sunday. He was constantly at home isolation since the last 12 days after his coronavirus test came positive. Today, his health deteriorated after which he was brought to Karachi where he succumbed to the virus, sending shock among the doctors and paramedical staff. According to the health department sources, 365 cases of coronavirus have emerged i.....[view more](#)

NDMA to provide 525 beds to six Karachi hospitals to help fight COVID-19

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-14

The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) will increase the treatment capacity of six public sector hospitals of Karachi with an addition of 525 beds in order to help them treat COVID-19 patients. This was stated by National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) Chairman Lt General Muhammad Afzal as he met Sindh Governor Imran Ismail at the Governor House on Monday. The NDMA chairman said on the occasion that they would extend cooperatio.....[view more](#)

Coronavirus death toll hits 1,826 as 31 more lose battle for life in Sindh

Source: [M Waqar Bhatti](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-14

The novel coronavirus claimed more 31 lives during the last 24 hours, raising the death toll to 1,826 in the province, said Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said on Monday. Out of the total 31 deaths, 29 occurred at various health facilities and homes in Karachi, he added. "We have lost 31 more people in the province, of whom 29 are from Karachi, during the last 24 hours," the CM said in his daily situation report on C.....[view more](#)

Bilawal questions claim of slowing virus cases by PTI govt

Source: [Monitoring Desk](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-14

KARACHI: PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari on Monday accused the PTI government of putting the lives of people in danger by lowering Covid-19 testing capacity "on purpose" while refuting the claim that coronavirus cases in the country were going down. Addressing a press conference in Karachi, the PPP chairman said Prime Minister Imran Khan and his ministers were "making a mockery" of themselves when they claimed tha.....[view more](#)

Virus-hit Haj cuts deep for pilgrims and businesses

Source: [Reuters](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-14

KARACHI: Quran tutor Mohammad Asim should have been packing to leave his Karachi home for Makkah next week to perform one of the most sacred, once-in-a-lifetime obligations for Muslims, the Haj pilgrimage. But that was before the coronavirus hit. Asim, 30, is one of 2.5 million Muslims globally, almost 180,000 from Pakistan, whose plans were upended when Saudi Arabia restricted this year's event to only 1,000 local residents, savaging Paki.....[view more](#)

31 more Covid-19 patients die, 1,089 new cases emerge in Sindh

Source: [Staff Report, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-14

KARACHI: Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Monday said the coronavirus claimed 31 more lives, lifting the death toll to 1,826 while infecting 1,089 others, raising the tally to 106,622. In a statement issued here from the CM House, he said that overnight 8,929 samples were tested which detected 1,089 cases, constituting a 12 per cent detection rate. He added that so far 584,596 tests had been conducted all over Sindh, against which 106,622 c.....[view more](#)

Wedding hall owners, other stakeholders protest for permission to resume business under SOPsh

Source: [Correspondent, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-14

HYDERABAD: Owners of wedding halls, decorators, caterers, waiters, video film makers, photographers and others associated with marriage-related business staged a joint protest outside the local press club on Monday and demanded permission to resume functions as per standard operating procedures (SOPs) like other businesses. Carrying placards and banners, they gathered outside the press club and chanted slogans in support of their demands. The pr.....[view more](#)

Sindh COVID-19 testing capacity higher than other provinces: Murtaza Wahab

Source: [Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-14

KARACHI - Sindh government spokesperson Murtaza Wahab has said the coronavirus testing capacity of Sindh is higher than other provinces in the country with 12,004 tests conducted per million throughout Sindh on Monday. Wahab, while presenting a provincial comparison in a tweet, said there were 5,427 tests carried out per million in Punjab, 4,952 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and 4,348 in Balochistan. He added the Sindh government was working hard t.....[view more](#)

'75% Pakistani adults facing stress during pandemic'

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-14

KARACHI: Three out of four Pakistani adults are suffering from moderate or high levels of stress during Covid-19 pandemic while nearly one in three are experiencing moderate or severe anxiety, according to the preliminary findings of a mental health study conducted by Aga Khan University (AKU). Raising alarm over the findings, academics and researchers at AKU called for devising policies to limit the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on mental.....[view more](#)

Over Rs3bn generated under CEF being spent on isolation centres, PPE for health workers

Source: [staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

KARACHI: The Sindh government has generated more than Rs3 billion under the Coronavirus Emergency Fund (CEF) that was helping the provincial authorities in setting up field isolation centres, acquiring personal protective equipment for health workers and building capacity of the health system in different districts, said a statement on Tuesday. It said the contribution to CEF had been made from both public and private sectors, with the Sindh gov.....[view more](#)

Need stressed for setting up institutions to look into interests of workers, industry

Source: [Shazia Hasan](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

KARACHI: Speakers at a webinar organised by the Democracy Reporting International (DRI) on Tuesday looked at the Generalised Scheme of Preferences-Plus (GSP-Plus) and its 'Prospects and challenges in Pakistan' and how it can be retained in times of the global crisis of Covid-19. The moderator of the event, Zulfiqar Shah, who is the joint director at the Pakistan Institute of Labour Education and Research (Piler), started the discussi.....[view more](#)

37 more Covid-19 patients died, says CM

Source: [staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

KARACHI: Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Tuesday said that 1,151 new cases of coronavirus emerged when 9,972 samples were tested while 37 more patients died and 1,591 patients recovered and returned to normal life during the past 24 hours. In a statement issued here from CM House, he said the detection rate came to 12 per cent. "So far 593,668 tests have been conducted which detected 107,773 cases that constituted 18 per cent overall.....[view more](#)

Marriage halls' owners told govt cannot risk opening venues

Source: [App](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

KARACHI: Sindh Minister for Local Government Syed Nasir Hussain Shah has said that the provincial government was fully aware of the issues being confronted by marriage halls' owners as all sectors have been badly affected by the pandemic outbreak, but there would be no compromise on human lives. In a meeting with marriage halls' owners at the Commissioner House in the presence of Karachi Commissioner Iftikhar Shallwani and the Sindh[view more](#)

LUH Covid-19 ICU's staff to be increased

Source: [Correspondent](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

HYDERABAD: A meeting has decided to expedite the hiring process of nursing/intensive care unit (ICU) staff to strengthen the ICU for Covid-19 patients at the Liaquat University Hospital (LUH). The meeting was held on Monday night presided over by Hyderabad Deputy Commissioner Fuad Ghaffar Soomro in the medical superintendent (MS) office and attended by LUH MS Syed Zawar Shah, Liaquat University of Medical and Health Sciences Pro-vice Chancellor[view more](#)

Large wedding gatherings won't be allowed at home or anywhere else, says info minister

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-15

Sindh's information and local government minister has said that the Sindh government will make sure that there is no violation of the ban on weddings anywhere in the province so as to avoid large gatherings as part of the lockdown against the spread of the novel coronavirus. "The only exception to this ban are the gatherings held on a limited scale inside homes to solemnise marriages, but the government will ensure implementation of[view more](#)

With 37 new deaths, coronavirus death toll rises to 1,863 in Sindh

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-15

The novel coronavirus yet again became the reason of 37 more deaths in the last 24 hours after which the total number of deaths due to the viral disease reached 1,863 in the province, said Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said on Tuesday "It is another unfortunate day as we have lost 37 more lives due to COVID-19 in the last 24 hours in Sindh. Most of these deaths occurred at health facilities in Karachi. Now the death toll due to[view more](#)

Three out of four Pakistani adults suffering from pandemic stress, says study

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-15

Three out of four Pakistani adults are suffering from moderate or high levels of stress during this COVID-19 pandemic while nearly one in three are experiencing moderate or severe anxiety, according to the preliminary findings of a mental health study conducted by the Aga Khan University (AKU). Researchers from the AKU's Department of Community Health Sciences (CHS) conducted an online survey of 373 respondents between April and May, the s.....[view more](#)

Marriage hall opening;indh to take decision as per centre's guidelines: minister

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

KARACHI: Sindh Minister for Information and Local Government Syed Nasir Hussain Shah on Tuesday said the provincial government will take decision regarding the marriage hall opening as per guidelines from the federation. The Information Minister said that the Sindh government is bound to abide by the policy formulated by the federal government on the issue of Coronavirus. He was holding a meeting with marriage hall owners, and associati.....[view more](#)

EFU Life, HabibMetro Bank collaborate to offer Covid-19 cover

Source: [Press Release](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

KARACHI: HabibMetro Bank and EFU Life strengthened their partnership by taking the initiative to launch "COVID – 19 Cover" - a first-of-its-kind product that aims to provide a financial solution to HabibMetro customers who are financially and medically impacted during the ongoing pandemic. A digital signing ceremony was conducted, where Mohsin Ali Nathani, President & CEO and Ahmed Shah Durrani, Head - Retail Banking at.....[view more](#)

1151 new cases of corona emerge in Sindh, says Murad

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

KARACHI - Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has said that 1151 new cases of coronavirus emerged when 9972 samples were tested while 37 more patients died and 1591 patients recovered and returned to normal life. This he said on Tuesday in a statement issued here from CM House. He said that overnight 9972 samples were tested against which 1151 new cases emerged that constituted 12 per cent detection rate. So far 593,668 tests have been[view more](#)

COVID-19 spread declining in Sindh, says CM Murad Ali Shah

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-16

As many as 25 more people have lost their lives in Sindh due to COVID-19 during last 24, Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said on Tuesday adding that the death toll due to the contagious disease in the province had reached 1,888. "We have lost 25 more lives due to COVID-19 overnight in Sindh while 1,116 are still under treatment at various hospitals in the province. The condition of 763 COVID-19 patients is critical, of whom 106 ar.....[view more](#)

Employers, unions, civil society ask govt for steps to recover from COVID-19 crisis

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-16

At a webinar on Tuesday, a group of industrialists, exporters, human rights, labour rights and civil society activists and government functionaries underlined the need for close coordination among all stakeholders to implement all 27

international conventions required to be implemented for the continuation of Generalised Scheme of Preferences Plus (GSP+) for Pakistan. The COVID-19 situation also necessitated that Pakistan should benefit m.....[view more](#)

Covid-19 puts Pakistan at risk of mental health crisis, study suggests

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

KARACHI: Seventy-five per cent Pakistani adults are experiencing stress and anxiety during the Covid-19 pandemic, preliminary findings of a recent Aga Khan University (AKU) study show, suggesting that the country is at risk of a mental health crisis. High levels of stress and anxiety, the research found, were borne out of fears of contracting the life-threatening virus, losing a loved one to the virus or financial losses during the pandemic. Th.....[view more](#)

37 more Covid-19 patients die, says Murad

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

KARACHI: Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has said that 1,151 new cases of coronavirus emerged and 37 more patients died during the past 24 hours. In a statement issued here from CM House on Wednesday, he said that overnight 9,972 samples were tested against which 1,151 new cases emerged constituting 12 per cent detection rate. "So far 593,668 tests have been conducted which detected 107,773 cases," he added.[view more](#)

CM allows holding of sacrificial animal markets

Source: [App](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

KARACHI: Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah, keeping in view the upcoming Eidul Azha, has allowed setting up of sacrificial animal markets at approved/designated locations under strict standard operating procedures (SOPs) to be issued by the home department. He took the decision while presiding over a meeting at CM House here on Wednesday, says a handout. The meeting was attended by Minister for Health Dr Azra Fazal Pechuho, Minister for Labour.....[view more](#)

Egyptian journalist dies of virus in pretrial detention

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

KARACHI: An Egyptian journalist has died after contracting Covid-19 during pretrial detention, according to the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ). "We are extremely disturbed by journalist Mohamed Monir's death today after he spent more than two weeks unnecessarily held in pretrial detention at Cairo's notorious Tora Prison," said CPJ Middle East and North Africa Programme Coordinator Sherif Mansour. "Egyptian.....[view more](#)

Cattle markets allowed at designated locations under SOPs

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah, keeping in view upcoming Eidul Azha, has allowed setting up of cattle mandis at approved/designated locations under strict SOPs to be issued by the home department. He took this decision while presiding over a meeting here at CM House. The meeting was attended by Minister Health Dr Azra Pechuho, Minister Labour Saeed Ghani, Minister Local Government Nasir Shah, Chief Secretary Mumtaz Shah, P.....[view more](#)

Sindh govt decides to increase testing in virus hotspots

Source: [News Desk, Daily Times](#), 2020-07-16

Sindh Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah has said that the provincial government has decided to increase testing in virus hotspots. In a meeting, Shah said that the Sindh government is offering free tests and encouraged people having symptoms to get themselves tested. He directed the provincial disaster management authority to send messages to people on their phones as to how they could get tested if they were showing symptoms of the virus. The chief mi.....[view more](#)

Bilawal says PPP will launch agitation while observing pandemic precautions

Source: [Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

KARACHI - Chairman Pakistan People's Party Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has asked party workers to observe social distancing for not only combating corona virus but also as a rehearsal to launch a movement against the government when he will give a call for it at the appropriate time. He said this while addressing a Zoom meeting of the senior party leadership on Wednesday evening in Karachi while other participants were located in different[view more](#)

Record 4,872 patients recover in Sindh in one day: CM Murad

Source: [Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

Karachi - Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah said here on Wednesday that for the first time since the pandemic began, 4,872 patients had recovered in the province during the last 24 hours, taking the tally of patients recovering so far to 70,292 that constituted 65 percent of the total number of patients. In a statement issued here, he said that 25 more patients had died during the last one day, increasing the death toll to 1,888[view more](#)

Govt finalises policy to check Covid-19 disinformation

Source: [Ramsha Jahangir, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-17

KARACHI: The government has finalised a framework to closely monitor both mainstream and social media for Covid-19 disinformation and directed media regulatory bodies to take strict action against individuals propagating 'fake news'. Last week, the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) had formed a committee under the chairmanship of Interior Minister retired Brig Ijaz Shah to prepare a legal framework to counter the.....[view more](#)

'Smart lockdown' in parts of Sindh extended for another month

Source: [Dawn Report, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-17

KARACHI: The Sindh government on Thursday extended for another month the 'smart lockdown' in different districts of the province, including a number of areas in Karachi, warning that the curbs could stay in place until the spread of the coronavirus was "completely" contained. The fresh announcement came through a notification issued by the Sindh home department, which referred to detailed discussions with the National Com.....[view more](#)

16 ombudsman staffers test positive for Covid-19 in Hyderabad

Source: [Staff Correspondent, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-17

HYDERABAD: The regional director (RD) was among 16 employees of the federal ombudsman's regional office who tested positive for the coronavirus during a random sampling by health officials here on Thursday. According to Kohsar Government Hospital Latifabad Medical Superintendent (MS) Dr Suresh Kumar, the sampling was done on the request of the RD. He said that of the 26 samples collected on Wednesday, 16 staff members tested positive in th.....[view more](#)

COVID-19 claims 34 more lives, infects another 1,155 in Sindh

Source: [M Waqar Bhatti](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-17

As many as 34 more people lost their lives due to COVID-19 in the province, mostly in Karachi, during the last 24 hours, said Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said on Thursday. Now, he added, the coronavirus death toll had hit reached 1,922 in the province. "We have lost 34 more lives due to COVID-19 in the province, of whom the majority died at health facilities and at homes in Karachi. Now, the death toll stands at 1,922 i.....[view more](#)

Health workers to be tested for virus in Sindh Covid-19 tests to be conducted every 15 days

Source: [APP](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-17

HYDERABAD: All healthcare workers at hospitals across Sindh are to be tested for Covid-19 every 15 days, directed Sindh health director-general Dr Irshad Ahmed Memon on Thursday. According to the directive, Memon instructed all district health officers to ensure strict compliance with the order with immediate effect.[view more](#)

1,155 new cases detected in Sindh, says CM Murad

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-17

KARACHI - Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah on Thursday said that 1,155 new cases of the coronavirus were reported from the province during the past 24 hours. In a statement issued here from the CM House, the CM Sindh said that so far 615302 tests had been conducted which helped detect 110068 cases of COVID-19 that showed 18 percent detection rate. Syed Murad Ali Shah said that 34 more patients died during the last one day, lift.....[view more](#)

International News

Countries News

Premier of Australia's Victoria defends hard COVID-19 lockdown

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-13

The premier of Australia's second-most populous state, Victoria, defended on Sunday his decision to put nine public housing towers in a complete lockdown as coronavirus cases continue to rise in Melbourne's suburbs. The state recorded 74 new cases on Sunday, after Saturday's 108 cases prompted Premier Daniel Andrews to order about 3,000 people not to leave their homes for at least five days and to place police to guard the[view more](#)

Scientists focus on how immune system T cells fight coronavirus

Source: [Reuters](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-11

Los Angeles: As scientists question whether the presence, or absence, of antibodies to the novel coronavirus can reliably determine immunity, some are looking to a different component of the immune system, known as T cells, for their role in protecting people in the pandemic. Recent studies show that some recovered patients who tested negative for coronavirus antibodies did develop T cells in response to their Covid-19 infection. While the studi.....[view more](#)

China, US in fresh spat over Uighur crackdown

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-11

BEIJING: China said on Friday it will impose tit-for-tat measures after the United States slapped sanctions on Chinese officials for their involvement in a crackdown on Muslim minorities, raising tensions between the superpowers. The two countries have traded barbs and sanctions on a slew of issues since President Donald Trump took office, from trade to more recent spats over the coronavirus pandemic, a security law in Hong Kong, and Chinese pol.....[view more](#)

Amitabh, son Abhishek hospitalised with Covid-19

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-12

MUMBAI: Bollywood megastar Amitabh Bachchan, 77, tested positive for Covid-19 on Saturday and was admitted to hospital in Mumbai, with his actor son Abhishek — who also announced he had the virus — saying both cases were mild. "I have tested Covid positive .. shifted to Hospital," Amitabh Bachchan told his 43 million Twitter followers. "All that have been in close proximity to me in the last 10 days are req.....[view more](#)

Iran says cannot shut down economy despite worsening virus outbreak

Source: [Agencies](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-12

TEHRAN: Iran said on Saturday that it cannot afford to shut down its sanctions-hit economy, even as the country's novel coronavirus outbreak worsens with record-high death tolls and rising infections. Iran must continue "economic, social and cultural activities while observing health protocols", President Hassan Rouhani said during a televised virus taskforce meeting. "The simplest solution is to close down all activitie.....[view more](#)

US warns of 'arbitrary detention' risk in China

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-12

BEIJING: The United States on Saturday warned citizens of "heightened risk of arbitrary detention" in China as tensions between Beijing and Washington soared over issues including Hong Kong, Xinjiang and Tibet. US citizens

in China “may be subjected to prolonged interrogations and extended detention for reasons related to ‘state security’”, the State Department warned in a security alert. The State Depart.....[view more](#)

Why coronavirus sparked massive protests in Serbia

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-12

For many Serbs, it was the last straw: when the president announced the resumption of a weekend curfew to fight the coronavirus pandemic, thousands took to the streets in anger. Who are these protesters and what caused the outrage? And could the demonstrations, which have degenerated into violence, endanger the rule of President Aleksandar Vucic, who critics accuse of growing authoritarianism? Why are people protesting? Frustration has been built.....[view more](#)

Austria Greens minister gears up for new virus test after initial praise

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-12

Popular for keeping the pandemic at bay in Austria, Health Minister Rudolf Anschober is preparing for a “major challenge” in an anticipated second coronavirus wave in the autumn. If all goes well, he will consolidate the Green Party’s place in the Conservative-led government and prove it is an indispensable ally that can also advance some of its own interests on the environment. The Green minister has seen his profile rise rapidly[view more](#)

Pandemic-hit nations urged to hold nerve on climate finance for the poor

Source: [Agencies](#), [Dawn](#), [Islamabad](#), 2020-07-12

East African nation Rwanda was one of the first countries to submit a stronger climate action plan to the United Nations this year – and it hopes that can serve as a basis for a “better, green COVID recovery”, its environment minister said this week. The plan itself, published in May, does not mention the coronavirus pandemic. But Jeanne d’Arc Mujawamariya said the country was betting the measures it contains to drive a low.....[view more](#)

‘This is real’: COVID-19 long-hauler’s months of agony

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-12

Child psychiatrist Scott Krakower tested positive for COVID-19 back in mid-April, but three months on there are still days he feels overwhelmingly tired, short of breath, and unable to speak because of a hoarse throat. The 40-year-old New Yorker is among a wave of patients being referred to as “long-haulers,” whose recovery period extends far beyond the two or so weeks that are the average length of the illness. He told AFP there are da.....[view more](#)

Rising virus cases could mean return to lockdowns, WHO warns

Source: [Agencies](#), [The Nation](#), [Islamabad](#), 2020-07-12

UNITED NATIONS - The World Health Organization (WHO) has said that countries may have to lockdown again as coronavirus cases continue to spike worldwide, with over 12 million now reported — more than double the amount reported six weeks ago. “We all want to avoid whole countries going back into total lockdown, that is not a desire that anybody has,” Dr. Michael Ryan, executive director of WHO’s Health Emergencies Prog.....[view more](#)

Virus leaves tourism places in Cordoba deserted

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

CORDOBA: The Santos Bar, across from Cordoba's celebrated mosque, would normally be groaning with tourists tucking into its trademark Spanish tortillas. But with the coronavirus pandemic, "everything's dead", the owner says. The mosque, known as the Mezquita, situated in Spain's southern region of Andalusia was the holiest site of Muslim worship in the West during the Umayyad caliphate of the 10th and 11th centuries.....[view more](#)

Trump finally dons mask as global infections gather pace

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

BETHESDA: President Donald Trump finally yielded to pressure and wore a face mask in public for the first time, as new figures on Sunday showed the pace of the global spread of the coronavirus has accelerated. Since the start of July, nearly 2.5 million new infections have been reported, a record level since the first outbreak of the disease in China last year, according to a tally based on official data. And in just a month and a half the numbe.....[view more](#)

Coronavirus surge in eastern Europe prompts new restrictions

Source: [Ap](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

BUDAPEST: Countries in Eastern Europe are facing rising waves of coronavirus infections, leading to riots in Serbia, mandatory face masks in Croatia and travel bans or quarantines imposed by Hungary. The new restrictions come as the World Health Organisation reports that daily global infections hit over 228,000 last week, and the US confirmed over 66,600 new cases on Friday, another record, according to Johns Hopkins University. Virus deaths ar.....[view more](#)

Disney World reopens despite Covid-19 cases rise in Florida

Source: [Reuters](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

Orlando: As Florida posts the biggest surge of coronavirus cases in the country, Walt Disney World in Orlando opened to the public for the first time in four months and anti-mask activists held a rally at a nearby restaurant. Walt Disney Co welcomed a limited number of guests to its two most popular parks in Orlando on Saturday with a host of safety measures including masks and temperature checks. Coronavirus infections are rising in about 40 s.....[view more](#)

Superstar Aishwarya Rai tests positive for coronavirus

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-13

MUMBAI: Bollywood superstar Aishwarya Rai has tested positive for the coronavirus, her actor husband Abhishek Bachchan said on Sunday just a day after he and his father, screen legend Amitabh Bachchan, were admitted to hospital with the infectious disease. Their eight-year old daughter Aaradhya was also Covid-19 positive, he tweeted, adding that they were recovering at their home in Mumbai. "Aishwarya and Aaradhya have also tested Covid-1.....[view more](#)

China economy rebounds in Q2 after virus hit: AFP poll

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-13

China returned to growth in the second quarter after the coronavirus pandemic handed the world's second largest economy its first contraction in decades, according to an AFP poll of analysts. The survey of analysts from 11 institutions pegged China's growth at 1.3 percent — a far cry from the 6.1 percent expansion posted last year but in better shape than other countries still grappling with the contagion. The coronavirus, which f.....[view more](#)

Video calls, separate bedrooms: Bolsonaro's first COVID week

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-13

After months in which Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro downplayed COVID-19 by flouting social distancing recommendations and mostly shunning masks, both coronavirus precautions became part of his cloistered life this week at the official residence in capital Brasilia. Bolsonaro, 65, announced on Tuesday that he tested positive for the virus and had experienced fever, aches and malaise. He scrapped a trip he had planned to northeastern Piau&iacut.....[view more](#)

Pandemic, racism compound worries about Black suicide rate

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-13

Jasmin Pierre was 18 when she tried to end her life, overdosing on whatever pills she could find. Diagnosed with depression and anxiety, she survived two more attempts at suicide, which felt like the only way to stop her pain. Years of therapy brought progress, but the 31-year-old Black woman's journey is now complicated by a combination of stressors hitting simultaneously: isolation during the pandemic, a shortage of mental health care prov.....[view more](#)

Coronavirus deaths take a long-expected turn for the worse

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-13

A long-expected upturn in US coronavirus deaths has begun, driven by fatalities in states in the South and West, according to data on the pandemic. The number of deaths per day from the virus had been falling for months, and even remained down as states like Florida and Texas saw explosions in cases and hospitalizations – and reported daily US infections broke records several times in recent days. Scientists warned it wouldn't last. A c.....[view more](#)

Lebanon records new coronavirus infection high with more than 100 cases

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-13

Lebanon has recorded more than 100 new coronavirus infections in the last day, its highest daily increase yet, with most of the cases among workers of a cleaning company, the health minister said on Sunday. "To reassure people, the source is known," health minister Hamad Hassan told broadcaster LBC. He added that up to 75% of the cases were linked to what he described as a big cleaning company, were symptom-free and non-Lebanese. Hass.....[view more](#)

With masks and gel, Spaniards vote amid new coronavirus outbreaks

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-13

Voters in northern Spain protected themselves with face masks and hand sanitizer before voting on Sunday as Galicia and the Basque Country held regional elections despite new localised outbreaks of COVID-19. The extra health measures meant there were long lines outside polling stations for the votes, which were postponed from April due to the pandemic and are the first since one of Europe's strictest lockdown was relaxed. Bilbao, the Basque r.....[view more](#)

Virus claims 20,000 lives across ME

Source: [AFP](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-13

PARIS: PARIS: The novel coronavirus pandemic has killed more than 20,000 people across the Middle East, half of them in Iran, according to an AFP tally at 1000 GMT Sunday based on official tolls. But despite having 907,736

reported infections and 20,005 deaths from the Covid-19 illness, the Middle East has been relatively lightly hit by the virus which has killed over half a million people across the globe. Iran, which has been struggling to con.....[view more](#)

World hunger worsening as coronavirus weighs and obesity rises: UN

Source: [Agencies](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-14

Rome - Nearly one in nine people in the world are going hungry, with the coronavirus pandemic exacerbating already worsening trends this year, according to a United Nations report published Monday. Economic slowdowns and climate-related shocks are pushing more people into hunger, while nutritious foods remain too expensive for many, contributing not only to undernourishment, but to growing rates of obesity in adults and children. "Afte.....[view more](#)

World hunger worsening as coronavirus weighs and obesity rises: UN

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-14

ROME: Nearly one in nine people in the world are going hungry, with the coronavirus pandemic exacerbating already worsening trends this year, according to a United Nations report published on Monday. Economic slowdowns and climate-related shocks are pushing more people into hunger, while nutritious foods remain too expensive for many, contributing not only to undernourishment, but to growing rates of obesity in adults and children. "After.....[view more](#)

Coronavirus masks, gloves polluting Europe's rivers

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-14

Europe's major rivers are littered with surgical masks and medical gloves discarded by people protecting themselves against coronavirus, scientists have reported. The rubbish adds to plastic pollution already clogging the continent's major waterways, research organisation Tara Ocean Foundation told France Inter radio on Sunday. During the month of June, researchers "systematically found gloves and masks" along the banks and[view more](#)

Ten million kids 'may never return to school' after virus

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-14

The coronavirus pandemic has caused an "unprecedented education emergency" with up to 9.7 million children affected by school closures at risk of never going back to class, Save the Children warned Monday. The British charity cited UNESCO data showing that in April, 1.6 billion young people were shut out of school and university due to measures to contain COVID-19 — about 90 percent of the world's entire student population.....[view more](#)

Mexico surpasses Italy to post world's fourth-highest coronavirus death toll

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-14

Deaths in Mexico from the coronavirus pandemic rose above 35,000 on Sunday, with the Latin American country overtaking Italy for the world's fourth-highest death total, according to Reuters data. But leftist President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador said on Sunday that the pandemic was "losing intensity" in Mexico, and blamed what he called "conservative media" for causing alarm. Mexico on Sunday recorded 276 additional fa.....[view more](#)

Polarised North Macedonia votes amid virus surge

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-14

North Macedonia heads to the polls Wednesday to elect a government in the midst of a resurgence of coronavirus cases, which has fuelled a bitter blame-game between rival camps. The pandemic has heightened divides in a Balkan

state whose acrimonious political scene has lurched from crisis to crisis in recent years. On one side are the Social Democrats led by former prime minister Zoran Zaev, who is touting his success in ushering the country into NA.....[view more](#)

Florida sets one-day record with over 15,000 new COVID cases, more than most countries

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-14

Florida reported a record increase of more than 15,000 new cases of COVID-19 in 24 hours on Sunday, as the Trump administration renewed its push for schools to reopen and anti-mask protests were planned in Michigan and Missouri. If Florida were a country, it would rank fourth in the world for the newest cases in a day behind the United States, Brazil and India, according to a Reuters analysis. Florida's daily increases in cases have area.....[view more](#)

Dengue prevention efforts stifled by coronavirus pandemic

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-14

To slow the spread of the coronavirus, governments issued lockdowns to keep people at home. They curtailed activities that affected services like trash collection. They tried to shield hospitals from a surge of patients. But the cascading effects of these restrictions also are hampering efforts to cope with seasonal outbreaks of dengue, an incurable, mosquito-borne disease that is also known as "breakbone fever" for its severely painful.....[view more](#)

Global coronavirus cases rise above 13 million

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-14

Global coronavirus infections passed 13 million on Monday, according to a Reuters tally, marking another milestone in the spread of the disease which has killed more than half a million people in seven months. The first case was reported in China in early January and it took three months to reach one million cases. It has taken just five days to climb to 13 million cases from 12 million recorded on July 8. The number of cases is around triple the.....[view more](#)

Coronavirus cases in India surpass 900,000

Source: [Anadolu Agency](#), [The Express Tribune](#), [Islamabad](#), 2020-07-14

NEW DELHI: India on Tuesday recorded over 28,000 cases for the second consecutive day, taking the tally to 906,752, according to the country's health ministry. The country witnessed a spike of 28,498 fresh cases, with 553 fatalities over the last 24 hours, raising the death toll to 23,727, said the ministry data. It took just three days for India to cross 900,000 from 800,000 cases. India had crossed 800,000 cases on July 11. A total of.....[view more](#)

Coronavirus-related syndrome surfaces in older adults; stillbirths cause worry

Source: [Reuters](#), [The Express Tribune](#), [Islamabad](#), 2020-07-14

The following is a brief roundup of some of the latest scientific studies on the novel coronavirus and efforts to find treatments and vaccines for Covid-19, the illness caused by the virus. Covid-19 inflammatory syndrome is now seen in adults. A rare and life-threatening condition seen in some children and young adults after exposure to the novel coronavirus is being reported in older adults now as well. The condition, known as Multisystem Infl.....[view more](#)

Asia ramps up coronavirus curbs as new clusters erupt

Source: [Reuters](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-14

SYDNEY/ TOKYO: Australian states tightened borders and restricted pub visits on Tuesday, while Disney prepared to close its Hong Kong theme park and Japan stepped up tracing as a jump in novel coronavirus cases across Asia fanned fears of a second wave of infections. Many parts of Asia, the region first hit by the coronavirus that emerged in central China late last year, are finding cause to pause the reopening of their economies, some after wi.....[view more](#)

India locks down IT hub as virus cases top 900,000

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

BANGALORE: India's IT hub Bangalore went into a new weeklong lockdown on Tuesday as the number of coronavirus cases surged, while economic data from Singapore to Britain revealed the shocking extent of the damage wrought by the global pandemic. India joins a raft of countries and cities across the globe to re-impose restrictions in the face of new outbreaks of the disease. After imposing one of the world's strictest lockdowns in lat.....[view more](#)

Baby infected with Covid-19 in womb: study

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

PARIS: Doctors in France have described what they said was the first confirmed case of a newborn infected in the womb with Covid-19 by the mother. The baby boy, born in March, suffered brain swelling and neurological symptoms linked to Covid-19 in adults, but has since recovered, they reported on Tuesday in the journal Nature Communications. Earlier research had pointed to the likely transmission of the virus from mother to foetus, but the stud.....[view more](#)

Body's immune defence against virus may be short-lived: experts

Source: [Reuters](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-15

LONDON: Emerging evidence that the body's immune defence against Covid-19 may be short-lived makes it even harder for vaccine developers to come up with shots fully able to protect people in future waves of infection, scientists said on Tuesday. Preliminary studies in China, Germany, Britain and elsewhere have found that patients infected with the novel coronavirus make protective antibodies as part of their immune system's defences,.....[view more](#)

Macron wants face masks mandatory indoors as virus picks up

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-15

French President Emmanuel Macron said Tuesday that face masks could soon be required in public indoor spaces to curtail the coronavirus outbreak, acknowledging that infections were again on the rise. His comments, in a television interview marking Bastille Day, came after he oversaw the traditional military ceremony that was drastically downsized because of the pandemic. "I would like to make masks mandatory in all enclosed public spaces,&rdq.....[view more](#)

Brazil's Bolsonaro fed up with quarantine, to take new virus test

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-15

Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro, who has been in quarantine nearly a week after testing positive for the new coronavirus, announced Monday he plans to take another test as he "can't stand" being in isolation. The result of the test, which is scheduled for Tuesday, "should be out in a few hours, and I will wait quite anxiously because I can't stand this routine of staying at home. It's horrible," Bolsona.....[view more](#)

Pandemic has silver lining for Iraq: food self-sufficiency

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-15

Unlike in years past, Iraqi farmer Ahmed Mohsen now walks past his local market with a smile on his face. The pale green melons he harvested are selling fast, thanks to the coronavirus pandemic. Iraq, in a bid to prevent the spread of the deadly COVID-19 pandemic, shut its 32 border crossings to goods and people coming from Iran, Turkey, Syria, Jordan and Saudi Arabia in mid-March. That helped Iraq's agriculture ministry accelerate a campaign.....[view more](#)

Virus spread, not politics should guide schools, doctors say

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-15

As the Trump administration pushes full steam ahead to force schools to resume in-person education, public health experts warn that a one-size-fits-all reopening could drive infection and death rates even higher. They're urging a more cautious approach, which many local governments and school districts are already pursuing. But U.S. Education Secretary Betsy DeVos doubled down on President Donald Trump's insistence that kids can safely[view more](#)

'Worst-case' UK winter could see 120,000 COVID deaths in second wave

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-15

Britain faces a potentially more deadly second wave of COVID-19 in the coming winter that could kill up to 120,000 people over nine months in a worst-case scenario, health experts said on Tuesday. With COVID-19 more likely to spread in winter as people spend more time together in enclosed spaces, a second wave of the pandemic "could be more serious than the one we've just been through," said Stephen Holgate, a professor and co-le.....[view more](#)

California again shuts indoor restaurants, bars, movie theaters over virus

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-15

California Governor Gavin Newsom on Monday ordered all indoor restaurants, bars and movie theaters to close again as coronavirus cases soar across the state. Churches as well as businesses including gyms, shopping malls, hair salons and non-essential offices must also close indoor operations in 30 of the state's worst-hit counties including Los Angeles, he said. "We're moving back into a modification mode of our original 'st.....[view more](#)

Oil prices drop on demand recovery fears amid US virus surge

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-15

Oil prices fell around 2% in early trade on Tuesday on worries that new clampdowns on businesses to stem surging coronavirus cases in California and other US states could threaten the nascent recovery in fuel demand. US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude futures slid 84 cents, or 2.1%, to \$39.26 a barrel at 0138 GMT, while Brent crude futures fell 77 cents, or 1.8% to \$41.95 a barrel. Both benchmark contracts lost just over 1% on Monday. California.....[view more](#)

Millions face new virus curbs, but hope rises for US vaccine

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn](#), [Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

WASHINGTON: Millions of people faced new coronavirus restrictions on Wednesday as infections surged, but in one sign of hope, a US firm said it would soon start final-stage human trials for a possible vaccine. Countries around the world reimposed lockdowns and curbs to contain new outbreaks, as global cases surged past 13.2 million with more than 578,000 deaths reported since the pandemic emerged late last year in China. Parts of the Asia-Pacif.....[view more](#)

Moderna Phase 1 results show coronavirus vaccine safe, induces immune response

Source: [Reuters](#), [Business Recorder](#), [Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

CHICAGO: Moderna Inc's experimental vaccine for COVID-19 showed it was safe and provoked immune responses in all 45 healthy volunteers in an ongoing early-stage study, U.S. researchers reported on Tuesday. Volunteers who got two doses of the vaccine had high levels of virus-killing antibodies that exceeded the average levels seen in people who had recovered from COVID-19, the team reported in the New England Journal of Medicine. N.....[view more](#)

Care home refused free tests. Now, nearly everyone has virus

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-16

It was meant to be a last line of defense to protect the most vulnerable as the coronavirus spread across the United States: Montana officials offered free testing in May for staff and residents at assisted living and long-term care facilities. But not all of them followed through, according to state data, including a facility in Billings, Montana's largest city, that cares for people with dementia and other memory problems. The virus has in.....[view more](#)

Migrants in Yemen are blamed for virus, stranded, abused: UN

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-16

Over the course of Yemen's civil war, African migrants determined to reach oil-rich Saudi Arabia have endured unspeakable cruelties – torture, rape, detention, extortion – often perilously close to front lines. Now, the coronavirus pandemic has dealt yet another blow to vulnerable migrants caught in Yemen's war zone. Stigmatized as carriers of COVID-19, over 14,500 migrants, mostly Ethiopian, have been relentlessly hounded,[view more](#)

India locks down 125m as Spain honours virus victims

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn](#), [Islamabad](#), 2020-07-17

PATNA: More than 125 million people in India were put under a new lockdown on Thursday, as international dignitaries gathered in Spain to honour coronavirus victims while infections surged across the world. Governments in many countries have been forced to re-impose restrictions as Covid-19 refuses to fade, having officially infected nearly 13.6 million people, killed more than 584,000 and crippled the global economy since it emerged late last y.....[view more](#)

China's economy bounces back from pandemic contraction

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-17

China's economy returned to growth in the second quarter, rebounding more strongly than expected from a historic contraction caused by the coronavirus outbreak, official data showed Thursday. Gross domestic product expanded a surprise 3.2 percent in April-June, the National Bureau of Statistics said, as workers, factories and firms cautiously returned to normality after harsh lockdowns brought the virus under control. However, retail sales & m.....[view more](#)

Colombia: Illegal groups using violence to enforce lockdowns

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-17

Illegal armed groups are imposing strict COVID-19 quarantines in parts of Colombia where the state has a weak presence, threatening and even killing those who don't comply, Human Rights Watch warned Wednesday. At least nine people have been assassinated in recent months for either refusing to abide by the restrictions or actively

opposing them. One man, community leader Edison León, was killed in June after sending a letter alerting lo.....[view more](#)

Donors News

China to provide 1,000 more ventilators to Pakistan: Yao Jing

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-11

ISLAMABAD - Chinese ambassador to Pakistan Yao Jing on Friday said that his country would provide 1,000 more ventilators to Pakistan during the current month so that it could fight against the deadly COVID-19 in a more efficient way. "We [China] have so far provided seven million Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and 600 ventilators along with other equipment to help Pakistan combat the pandemic," he said while addressing[view more](#)

Newly built hospital to help Pakistan fight against COVID-19 effectively: China

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-11

BEIJING - China on Friday reiterated a continued support to Pakistan's fight against COVID-19 pandemic and said the newly inaugurated Isolation Hospital and Infections Treatment Centre (IHITC) would enhance the country's capability to combat the coronavirus and other infectious diseases. "China will not forget the valuable support Pakistan offered at our most difficult time. We will continue to support Pakistan's.....[view more](#)

Infinix donates 40,000 masks to DOW

Source: [Press Release](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-11

KARACHI-Taking the lead in ensuring the safety of the masses with their CSR initiative, Infinix, a globally acclaimed smartphone brand, has joined hands with DOW, one of the leading health institutes in the country fighting on the frontlines against COVID-19. In an activity that took place at DOW, the smartphone manufacturer has announced a donation of 40,000 masks to DOW medical institute to play its part with small steps that will help reach th.....[view more](#)

WHO urges aggressive virus measures as flare-ups spark new closures

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-12

GENEVA: The World Health Organisation has urged countries grappling with coronavirus to step up control measures, saying it is still possible to rein it in, as some nations clamp fresh restrictions on citizens. With case numbers worldwide more than doubling in the past six weeks, Uzbekistan has returned to lockdown and Hong Kong said schools would close from Monday after the city recorded "exponential growth" in locally transmitted i.....[view more](#)

No return to normal life soon, says WHO

Source: [Agencies](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-14

GENEVA: The World Health Organization (WHO) Monday warned that too many countries were bungling their response to the coronavirus pandemic, meaning there could be no return to normality any time soon. After a daily record of 230,000 new COVID-19 cases reported on Sunday, the UN health agency said the pandemic was only going to get worse unless people stuck to the basics of physical distancing, handwashing, wearing masks and staying home if sick.....[view more](#)

Colgate launches Covid relief campaign in Peshawar

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-17

PESHAWAR: Renowned multinational company Colgate Palmolive has launched a Covid-19 relief campaign in Peshawar to prevent coronavirus. The campaign will distribute hand wash samples to 30,000 homes across the city and raise awareness about the prevailing virus. During the campaign, citizens will be informed about which safety measures need to be adopted against Corona. On the occasion, Deputy Commissioner Peshawar Muhammad Ali Asghar said that.....[view more](#)

WHO 'concerned' about pneumonia cases in Turkmenistan

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-17

The World Health Organization said Wednesday it was "concerned" about reports of pneumonia in Turkmenistan, a closed Central Asian country that has yet to declare any coronavirus cases. At a press conference after a delayed, 10-day mission in Turkmenistan, WHO's Senior Emergency Officer for Europe Catherine Smallwood recommended the government adopt measures including contact tracing "as if COVID-19 were already circulating.....[view more](#)

SDPI Engagements

Researchers Articles

Double jeopardy

Source: [Sana Malik](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#) , 2020-07-14

Although there have been efforts to contain the spread of Covid-19, as prescribed by the World Health Organization (WHO), global cases continue to increase. Transcending national boundaries, the virus has proven that we are equal in our fight against the pandemic. With nearly all countries affected, it appears that the economic consequences in particular are enormous and felt most by those already marginalised. It is evident that the implications.....[view more](#)

COVID-19: the future of work from home

Source: [Brigadier \(Retd\) Mohammad Yasin](#), [Daily Times](#) , 2020-07-17

Over the years, a significant number of employees have preferred flexible work hours. During the 1980s, when cubicles were adopted in offices, a large number of office workers had been asking for flexible working- hours. This demand, especially by the women, was common even before the outbreak of a prevailing pandemic. The virus has not only acted as a catalyst to the demand, the resulting situation has forced even the employers to ask employees[view more](#)

Plastic bag clampdown out of steam during pandemic

Source: [Jamila Achakzai](#), [The News, International](#) , 2020-07-12

Islamabad: The single-use plastic bags have re-emerged in the federal capital despite ban showing the environment has taken a back seat to the coronavirus emergency. The administration had banned the use of bags made from polyethylene in Islamabad on August 14 over extremely slow decomposition and choking of drainage and announced Rs100,000 to Rs500,000 fine for plastic bag manufacturers and wholesalers each, Rs10,000 to Rs 50,000 for shopkeeps.....[view more](#)

Webinars News

Sino-Pak cooperation entails huge potential for agriculture sector's growth

Source: [Jamila Achakzai](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-11

Islamabad: The agricultural cooperation between China and Pakistan have a huge role in agricultural up-gradation and technological transfer to Pakistan, said Muhammad Mudassir Tipu, Director-General (China) at Ministry of Foreign Affairs, on Friday. "The memorandum of understanding (MoUs) between the two countries have provided the right kind of framework that needs to be vigorously pursued the goals of collaboration and cooperation in agr.....[view more](#)

Harnessing the power of e-commerce to help small businesses bounce back

Source: [Mohanish Agni](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-16

The coronavirus (Covid-19) has impacted countries, economies, business and individuals alike. With even global governments and giant corporations dealing with new challenges, it's clear no one could have anticipated such disruption – least of all small businesses. The small and medium enterprises (SME) sector has been among the hardest hit by the pandemic and especially so in emerging economies. However, we must recognise that SM.....[view more](#)

Experts urge steps to tap potential of services sector

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-17

LAHORE: The services sector has a critical importance for any vibrant economy. However, several steps are required to tap the real potential of the sector especially in Punjab. This was stated by experts on economy and investment while sharing their views with the participants in an online consultative dialogue "Better Business Regulation for Services Sector in Punjab" organised by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (.....[view more](#)

Services sector growth faces hurdles

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-17

LAHORE: Experts have agreed that the services sector has critical importance for any vibrant economy, however, several steps are needed to tap true potential of the sector in Pakistan, especially in Punjab. In a dialogue titled "Better Business Regulation for Services Sector in Punjab," Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) Joint Executive Director Dr Vaqar Ahmed shared findings of an institute's survey and said the[view more](#)

Experts highlight key measures as facilitation to boost services sector in Punjab

Source: [Tariq Ullah Wardak](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-16

ISLAMABAD: The services sector has a critical importance for any vibrant economy. However, several steps are required to tap the real potential of sector, especially in Punjab. The experts on economy and investment said this while sharing their views with the participants at online consultative dialogue 'Better Business Regulation for Services Sector in Punjab' organized by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) here on.....[view more](#)

Experts Urge Better Business Regulation For Services Sector In Punjab

Source: [Raja Hamid](#), [Technology Times](#), 2020-07-17

In a dialogue titled "Better Business Regulation for Services Sector in Punjab," Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) Joint Executive Director Dr Vaqar Ahmed shared findings of an institute's survey and said the services

sector of Punjab was facing hurdles to growth due to difficult access to business premises. Besides rental spaces, the fragmented tax regime demanding compliance with over three dozen taxes coupled w.....[view more](#)

Experts highlight key measures to boost Services Sector in Punjab

Source: Saifullah, [Daily Islamabad Post](#), 2020-07-16

ISLAMABAD: The services sector has a critical importance for any vibrant economy. However, several steps are required to tap the real potential of sector, especially in Punjab. The experts on economy and investment said this while sharing their views with the participants at online consultative dialogue 'Better Business Regulation for Services Sector in Punjab' organized by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) here on Thu.....[view more](#)

Sino-Pak agricultural cooperation stressed

Source: News Desk, [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-11

Even as the two brotherly countries enhance economic and cultural cooperation, cooperation between China and Pakistan in the agricultural sector has a huge potential for growth with agreements already setting up the right kind of framework for gainful collaboration. This was stated by Mudassir Tipu, the director-general for China at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, during an online dialogue on 'China-Pakistan Agriculture Cooperation'.....[view more](#)

© 2013 - 2020 All rights reserved

Designed & Developed by NK-MIS Web Team, [SDPI](#)

Newsletter generate and disseminate by AS RC Team SDPI

SUBSCRIBE

to our E - Newsletter on

"COVID - 19"

[Send Mail](#)