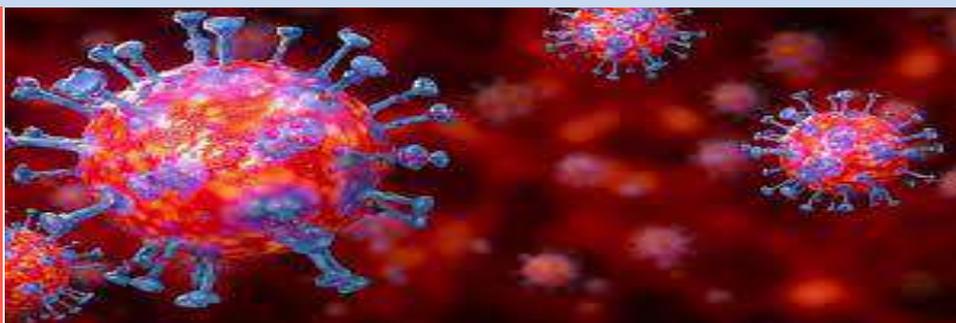


E-Newsletter on COVID-19



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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

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Op-Eds/Articles/Editorials

A new social contract for a new era

Source: [Antonio Guterres](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-21

From the exercise of global power to racism, gender discrimination and income disparities, inequality threatens our wellbeing and our future. We desperately need new thinking to halt and reverse it. We often hear that a rising tide of economic growth lifts all boats. But in reality, a rising tide of inequality sinks all boats. High levels of inequality have helped to create the global fragility that is being exposed and exploited by Covid-19. T.....[view more](#)

World can recover and transform

Source: [Li Yong](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-21

In September 2019, the international community committed to step up its drive toward the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. As a result, the year 2020 is supposed to usher in the beginning of a Decade for Action to enable the acceleration of sustainable solutions to the world's biggest challenges, aligned to the 17 sustainable development goals (SDGs). With the onset of COVID-19, these challenges have been a.....[view more](#)

Avoiding a second wave of Covid-19 infections: appeal to other-regarding preference

Source: [Zehra Aftab/Fareena N Malhi](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-21

While Pakistanis are rejoicing the onset of the downward trend in percentage of positive tests of Covid-19 infection, the threat of a second wave is very real, especially with Eid-ul-Azhajust round the corner. A small miscalculation at this point can revert the apparent success into a complete disaster. United States is a case in point where, despite the initial downward trend, since July the infection rate has again surged; in fact, this time round.....[view more](#)

Population and pandemic

Source: [Editorial](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-21

The world today has a total of 7.8 billion inhabitants, and Asia is its most populous region with 4.6 billion souls, according to the 2020 World Population Data Sheet released by the US Population Reference Bureau, Washington. The Asian population is projected to increase by 15% till 2050 to reach 5.3 billion. The data sheet places South Asia among the fastest growing regions in the world and marks Afghanistan as having the highest annual fertili.....[view more](#)

Disembarking the container

Source: [Mosharraf Zaidi](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-21

There are at least two areas in which this government, despite the odds, seems to have done some stellar work – the first is the diplomatic work by Mohammad Sadiq that is helping forge Pakistan's seriousness as Afghanistan's most reliable partner and neighbour, and the second is the work to contain Covid-19 by Asad Umar and the NCOC that has clearly eased the post Ramazan/Ramadan and Eidul Fitr spike of Covid-19 infections and fata.....[view more](#)

The legacy of the pandemic

Source: [Abdul Sattar](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-21

Pandemics and other natural calamities have left a profound impact on human society, in some cases transforming it completely while also spawning a number of problems that take years or decades to be sorted out. They leave a

deep mark on the psyche of the survivors who witnessed the decimation of their loved ones, the destruction of their towns and annihilation of their villages. Such natural catastrophes also prompt people to adopt a sup.....[view more](#)

CPEC and digitalisation after COVID-19

Source: [ahvesh Mahmud](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-21

The 820-kilometer-long fibre optic cable project at a cost of \$46 million, stretches from China's western Xinjiang region and enters Pakistan through Khunjerab border and then travels through Gilgit Baltistan (GB) to Mansehra, KP to connect to Muzaffarabad, AJK and onwards to Islamabad and Rawalpindi, where it is connected with the existing optical connectivity network of Pakistan. In order to optimise existing and future coordination[view more](#)

When the US sneezes, the world catches a cold. What happens when it has severe Covid-19?

Source: [Howard Schneider](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-21

During a blue-sky moment in 2018 near the end of a decade-long economic expansion, it was the United States that helped pull the world along as the extra cash from tax cuts and government spending flowed through domestic and global markets. But if it was US policy that pushed the world higher then, it is US policy that threatens to pull the world under now as the country's troubled response to the coronavirus pandemic emerges as a chie.....[view more](#)

Pakistan's efforts against COVID-19

Source: [Mohsin Saleem Ullah](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-22

Across the globe, more than 180 countries have been grappling with the coronavirus pandemic, including Pakistan. With the outbreak, countries have begun reporting the economic losses, due to the business shutting down drastically, and continue laying off millions of workers, without any hope to resume their work anytime soon. The healthcare system has been overwhelmed to an alarming level, as people continue to fall sick, making hospitals run out.....[view more](#)

Post-Covid reconstruction of Pakistan

Source: [Atta-Ur-Rahman](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-22

The Covid-19 epidemic has created many challenges but also opened up many opportunities for developing countries such as Pakistan. One of the new opportunities relates to distance education. There is increased awareness of the excellent internationally available courses at school, college and university levels from top institutions of the world, many of which are available freely or at nominal cost. These can dramatically help boost educa.....[view more](#)

Is Pakistan heading towards Covid-19 'herd immunity'?

Source: [M Waqar Bhatti](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-22

KARACHI: Around 40 percent of Karachi's population had already been exposed to coronavirus infection by the third week of July 2020 and by the first week of September 2020, at least 65-70 percent of the city's population would be carrying Covid-19 antibodies, which means that Pakistan is rapidly heading towards achieving herd-immunity in around one and a half months, leading Pakistani health expert Prof. Dr. Tahir Sultan Shamsi claime.....[view more](#)

Bit of hope on Covid-19

Source: [Editorial, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#) , 2020-07-22

There was some rare bright news on the Covid-19 front this week as two separate vaccine trials in the UK and China have shown promising results in human trials. The vaccine candidates are being developed by Oxford University and the Jiangsu Provincial Centre for Disease Control and Prevention. The British trial involved more than a thousand adults and found that the vaccine induced “strong antibody and T cell immune responses” against.....[view more](#)

In pursuit of anti-virus vaccine

Source: [Editorial, Daily Times](#) , 2020-07-22

The only way to eradicate coronavirus is an effective vaccine, which two studies have led to the creation of a potential vaccine for the novel coronavirus – one by the University of Oxford, and another in China. Since its inception in December last in China, the COVID-19 has killed more than 600,000 people worldwide besides infecting millions and damaging economies of almost all countries with shutdowns and other special operating procedure.....[view more](#)

Enduring grace

Source: [Editorial, Dawn, Islamabad](#) , 2020-07-23

WITH the passing of Sister Ruth Lewis, who succumbed to complications caused by Covid-19 on Monday, our country has lost yet another luminary to this unrelenting pandemic. The loss of the septuagenarian nun is all the more acute for some of Karachi’s most marginalised, the community of people with disabilities for whom Darul Sukoon represents a sanctuary from a cruel and unwelcoming world. Since it was founded 51 years ago by the sisters of.....[view more](#)

New heresies

Source: [F.S. Aijazuddin, Dawn, Islamabad](#) , 2020-07-23

COVID-19 is the new heresy. It has no credo, no liturgy, no clergy, no redeeming faith. It has come like some unannounced apocalypse. And, it has a divine power over life and death. There is no one now whom Covid-19 has not touched. There is no family that has not seen or heard of death by Covid-19. Among some buried with frugal mourning is a well-known friend Nadeem Mumtaz. He passed away this week from Covid-19. He had been attending two of hi.....[view more](#)

Gender and Covid-19

Source: [Aimen Akhtar, The News, International](#) , 2020-07-23

While the world is engaged in examining the impact of Covid-19 on the economy and on business relations, little has been said about the devastating effect of this pandemic within the domestic arena in Pakistan. One reason for such ignorance can be attributed to the culture of normalizing the hardships borne by women. It would not be unwise to say that the focus of any horrible event, be it a health emergency crisis, economic disparity, social ma.....[view more](#)

Politicians and experts in the corona crisis

Source: [Atle Hetland, The Nation, Islamabad](#) , 2020-07-23

When I first heard about the virus which turned out to become the corona pandemic, in late January or early February 2020, I thought it was an exaggeration rather than something to worry about. The diplomat who told me disagreed, saying it was going to be bad. Unfortunately, he was right. Had others been as sceptical and sounded the alarm earlier, the epidemic might not have happened. But even the experts in the World Health Organisation (WHO) we.....[view more](#)

India's flawed strategy

Source: [Khalid Bhatti, The News, International](#) , 2020-07-24

The Modi government's strategy to contain the Covid-19 pandemic has failed to stop the spread of the virus in India. The Modi government imposed one of the harshest lockdowns in the country. But it was a flawed strategy. The strict lockdown crippled the already slowing economy at a fast pace. The working people and the poor are paying a heavy price for this flawed policy. India has become a hotspot of hunger, unemployment and poverty. Mill.....[view more](#)

Think tank deliberations

Source: [Editorial, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#) , 2020-07-24

Prime Minister Imran Khan while chairing the Dr Hafeez Sheikh-led think tank directed that a cell be established to review the subsidy system with the objective of improving it and added that the benefits accruing from the Ehsaas programme must also be taken on board when providing subsidy to the poor and vulnerable on gas and electricity tariffs and on products on sale in the outlets of Utility Stores Corporation. The sum total of the budgeted a.....[view more](#)

10 crucial days

Source: [Editorial, Daily Times](#) , 2020-07-24

The way EU (European Union) delegates agreed to their latest \$860 billion stimulus plan the other day to help member states mitigate the downturn, after four days and nights of haggling, is just how all parts of the world will have to behave till there is an end to the pandemic. Now, after the announcement, markets that were beginning to sag are suddenly optimistic again and investors are lining up for another likely bull run even though all fund.....[view more](#)

Developing world under COVID-19

Source: [Humera Malik, Daily Times](#) , 2020-07-24

In most of the developed countries, the COVID-19 curve has flattened but this obscures a tragic reality that the second phase of the crisis has begun. As the virus has spread to the developing world, several developing countries as well as many emerging economies, led by Brazil, India, Russia and Chile, are experiencing largest new confirmed infections. The resulting devastation will likely reverse years if not decades of economic progress.[view more](#)

Reopening schools

Source: [Faisal Bari, Dawn, Islamabad](#) , 2020-07-24

SCHOOLS might be allowed to reopen by mid-September. It is safe to assume that we will not have a vaccine for Covid-19 by then, nor effective medicines that could keep the symptoms and health impacts of the virus at a minimum and ensure quick recovery. So, should schools be allowed to open under these conditions, and what SOPs should be put in place to ensure a certain level of safety for students, teachers and administrators? We do not know if[view more](#)

COVID-19 strategy paying dividends

Source: [Malik Muhammad Ashraf, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-24

According to the figures released by the National Command Operation Centre (NCOC), 38 people died from coronavirus on Tuesday, while the number of new infections was 1013. The trend is very encouraging on both counts as it is constantly on the downward curve, compared to the period after Eid-ul-Fitr when the infection rate crossed six thousand per day and deaths continuously remained above one hundred. It bears testament to the claims of the gove.....[view more](#)

The virus and us

Source: [Ghazala Rahman Rafiq, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-24

Colonialism as a phenomenon and epidemiology as a science were, until recently, the purview of academics. Journalists dabbled in these ideas from some distance, more as social commentators and less as experts. With statues coming down and viruses running rampant, everyone is an 'expert' on these real live events because everyone has a stake. We humans are deeply affected by both; institutional colonialism and the killer virus ruin us,.....[view more](#)

Healthcare system A sickly workforce cannot be an engine of economic growth

Source: [Editorial, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-24

Pakistan's healthcare system was broken well before the Covid-19 pandemic, or even before the PTI began its crushing austerity drive. For that matter, it has been broken since before the PTI was founded. The problems that plague the healthcare system today are endemic — they have been infecting the system since before the country was founded. But unlike some places where improvements, however incremental, have been made, the healthcare[view more](#)

National News

Balochistan

Balochistan govt claims 50% drop in Covid-19 cases

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-22

QUETTA: The Balochistan government spokesperson, Liaquat Shahwani, has said that the number of coronavirus cases in the province this month so far has dropped by 50% as compared to the cases in May and June, but feared that they may increase if standard operating procedures (SOPs) were not followed on Eidul Azha. "The province witnessed a drop in positive cases from July 1 to 20 while 80 per cent of the affected people have recovered from.....[view more](#)

Strict implementation of SOPs during Eid urged

Source: [Ali Raza Rind](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-22

CHAGAI: Rakhshan Division's Commissioner Saeed Ahmed Umrani has urged people to follow the standard operating procedures (SOPs) during Eid days to avoid further spread of Covid-19. During his visit to Dalbandin bazaar and cattle market, the commissioner fined several shopkeepers for not implementing SOPs while dealing with customers. He checked the availability of essential commodities in the Dalbandin bazaar and assured the shopkeepers t.....[view more](#)

Quetta cattle market closed

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-23

QUETTA: Quetta administration has closed the largest cattle market on Wednesday after traders refused to follow coronavirus standard operating procedures (SOPs) and registered a case against rioters who set fire to tents in the market. The provincial health department had checked temperature of the traders as they entered the market set up at the eastern bypass. However, they flouted the SOPs implemented for the safety of people. On inspection,.....[view more](#)

Gilgit Baltistan

103-year-old man overcomes Covid-19 in upper Chitral

Source: [Press Release](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-22

BOONI (Upper Chitral): A 103-year old man has survived coronavirus infection in the remote mountainous region of Upper Chitral in Northern Pakistan. Aziz Abdul Alim was admitted to the newly established Aga Khan Health Services Emergency Response Centre in Booni, Upper Chitral, on 1st July, after testing positive for COVID-19. He was treated immediately and over the course of his almost two-week stay at Centre, he stabilised without requirin.....[view more](#)

Islamabad

HRCP terms govt response to Covid-19 unsatisfactory

Source: [Ikram Junaidi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-21

ISLAMABAD: The Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP) has declared the government's response to Covid-19 unsatisfactory but the latter again claimed that apart from Karachi the situation across the country is under control. While replying to a call attention notice in the National Assembly, Parliamentary Secretary on National Health Services (NHS) Dr Nausheen Hamid said all indicators were showing that the spread of the virus had been[view more](#)

Further drop in Covid-19 cases seen in Islamabad

Source: [Munawer Azeem](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-21

ISLAMABAD: During the last two days, three more Covid-19 patients died and 95 new cases were reported in the capital. Officials said a significant decrease was seen in the confirmed cases as only 23 people were found infected on Monday. However, a resident of I-9 died of the virus. During the last 24 hours, 1,259 tests were conducted out of which 23 were found positive. Three each were reported from I-8, G-10, Chak Shahzad, two each from I-10,.....[view more](#)

Police book 32 persons on charges of murder, violating coronavirus SOPs

Source: [Our Staff Report](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-21

ISLAMABAD-Police have booked as many as 32 persons in two separate cases for allegedly opening fire during a wedding ceremony in village Dhamial Sher while killing a 50-year-old woman, informed a spokesman on Monday. Cases were registered with police stations Lohi Bher and Koral, he said. However, no arrest was made by police so far. Meanwhile, the funeral of deceased woman was offered in Dhoke Nala. According to him, Ashiq Hussain, a villa.....[view more](#)

Online shopping stands new normal in pandemic

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-21

ISLAMABAD-Like rest of the world, novel coronavirus badly impacted the variety of life and stretched a deserted look in busy markets and shopping centres of the twin cities Islamabad and Rawalpindi, said an aged shopkeeper sitting on footpath and waiting for his customers. He said COVID-19 had changed the entire lifestyle of the residents of federal capital and now they were not interested to visit markets as per previous routine. Talking t.....[view more](#)

Covid-19 positive cases rate remains at 1.8pc in Capital

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-21

ISLAMABAD: The Covid-19 positive cases rate on Monday remained at 1.8 percent as only 23 people were tested positive out of 1,215 run on high-risk people in the federal capital. According to official data, the total number of coronavirus cases in the capital city rose to 14,599, of which 11,836 patients have completely recovered since the outbreak of deadly virus. The total number of active cases in the city is 2,763, and the number of[view more](#)

NA informed; Covid-19 cases on state of decline

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-21

ISLAMABAD: The government on Monday informed the National Assembly that coronavirus cases in the country were on a state of decline. Responding a calling attention notice regarding alarming decrease in testing for the Covid-

19 in the country, Parliamentary Secretary on National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination Dr Nausheen Hamid dispelled the impression that there had been an alarming decrease in the testing, saying that the[view more](#)

Number of Covid-19 cases reach 265,636

Source: [Abdul Rasheed Azad](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-21

ISLAMABAD: The number of Covid-19 cases in Pakistan has reached 265,636, with 5,626 deaths and 205,929 recoveries, authorities reported here on Monday. Punjab's coronavirus case tally has now reached 90,191 with emergence of 398 more cases, according to the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) Punjab. The province has confirmed four more deaths due to Covid-19, which is the lowest daily death toll since May 13, when Pun.....[view more](#)

For first time, 1,013 new cases since May 22

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-22

ISLAMABAD - The number of COVID-19 cases in Pakistan reached 266,095 yesterday with only 1,013 new cases reported during the last 24 hours. According to the fresh data released by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), total 5,639 deaths had been reported from the disease with 40 reported during the last 24 hours. On the other hand, 208,030 patients have so far recovered from the disease. About 17,783 tests were conducted during t.....[view more](#)

Smart lockdown policy acknowledged world over: FM

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-22

ISLAMABAD - Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi on Tuesday said the smart lockdown policy of Prime Minister Imran Khan was being acknowledged the world over. The Foreign Minister held in-depth consultations with Education Minister Shafqat Mehmood and Planning Minister Asad Umar to highlight the ongoing worst human rights violations in Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir. The ministers discussed importance of drawing the world's attent.....[view more](#)

WHO, ministry mount 'we care' drive together

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-22

Islamabad : World Health Organisation (WHO) has joined hands with the Ministry of Health Services, Regulation and Coordination (M&NHSRC) and chalked out 'We Care' campaign to protect the frontline healthcare workers and clinicians engaged in the COVID-19 pandemic response. Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Health, Dr Zafar Mirza launched it at a ceremony held at the National Command and Control Centre (NCOC) in Is.....[view more](#)

Pakistan is witnessing a downturn in Covid-19: FM Qureshi

Source: [News Desk](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-22

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan is witnessing a downturn in the coronavirus pandemic cases, with the number of recovered cases outnumbering the tally of confirmed cases, after government efforts and smart lockdowns in various cities, claimed Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi on Wednesday. He said this during a phone call with his counterpart in the United Arab Emirates, Sheikh Abdullah Bin Zayed Al Nahyan. Qureshi thanked Sheikh Abdullah for inquiring[view more](#)

Covid-19 tally reaches 266,647 across country

Source: [Abdul Rasheed Azad](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-22

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's coronavirus tally has reached 266,647 with 5,661 deaths and 208,030 recoveries, federal and provincial authorities latest Covid-19 data released here on Tuesday said. With 253 new cases, total coronavirus cases in Punjab have reached 90,444, Sindh reported 551 new cases, which took the provincial tally to 114,104, the Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (KP) reported 157 new Covid-19 cases, taking the provincial total to 32,243, a.....[view more](#)

Students stranded in Wuhan; Matter mishandled, panel observes

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-22

ISLAMABAD. A parliamentary panel on Tuesday observed that the matter of overseas students stranded in Wuhan during the early days of the pandemic was mishandled and recommended for a policy to avoid such issues in future. The Senate Standing Committee on Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development discussed in detail issues faced by stranded Pakistanis in the wake of COVID -19 and facilities being provided to them. The Committee[view more](#)

Three Covid-19 hotspots identified in Taxila, Wah

Source: [Munawer Azeem | Aamir Yasin](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-22

RAWALPINDI: The district administration has identified two wards of Wah Cantonment and a union council of Taxila as new hotspots for Covid-19, and is planning smart lockdowns in these areas. Recommendations have been sent to the Home Department for permission to lock down these areas from July 25. According to the plan, 35,747 families of the three localities will be restricted to their homes soon after getting a green signal from the government.....[view more](#)

Pandemic necessitates renewed approach to healthcare system: report

Source: [Ikram Junaidi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-22

ISLAMABAD: With Pakistan's healthcare system confronted by chronic challenges of low funding, huge workforce gap, inefficient institutional alignment and governance, the need for a renewed approach towards public health has never been more critical than the present times when Covid-19 pandemic has swept through the entire world. According to a study on 'Shaping 21st Century Public Health in Pakistan — An Actionable Agenda for A.....[view more](#)

Covid-19: Zulfikar Bukhari leaves for UAE to address issues of Pak expats

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-23

ISLAMABAD: Special Assistant to the Prime Minister (SAPM) on Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development (OP&HRD) Sayed Zulfikar Abbas Bukhari on Wednesday left for the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to address and resolve the issue of Pakistani expats stranded in foreign country due to coronavirus. According to the statement issued by the OP&HRD ministry, the SAPM, in his two-day visit, would also meet the UAE Labour Minister for the.....[view more](#)

In rare call to Hasina, Imran urges closer ties with BD

Source: [Baqir Sajjad Syed](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-23

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan on Wednesday expressed his desire for "closer and fraternal" relations with Bangladesh. Mr Khan, in what was his first telephone conversation with his Bangladesh counterpart Hasina Wajed,

said: “Pakistan is committed to deepening fraternal relations with Bangladesh on the basis of mutual trust, mutual respect and sovereign equality.” The telephone contact has come after months of effo.....[view more](#)

Pakistanis risk unproven plasma treatment in virus fight

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-23

ISLAMABAD: Pakistanis with Covid-19 are risking their lives and navigating a shady black market to get blood plasma transfusions, despite scant medical proof about the remedy’s effectiveness. Convalescent plasma treatment, where the antibody-rich part of the blood from a recovered patient is transfused to a coronavirus sufferer, is growing in popularity across Pakistan amid widely circulating claims of success on social media. L.....[view more](#)

President asks provinces to ensure strict compliance with SOPs

Source: [Ikram Junaidi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-23

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi on Wednesday directed the provinces to ensure strict compliance with the standard operating procedures (SOPs) on Eidul Azha and in Muharram-ul-Haram besides encouraging public adherence to safety guidelines about the Covid-19 pandemic. The directive was given during the president’s visit to the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) for Covid-19. According to a statement, the president lauded effort.....[view more](#)

Flagrant SOP violations observed in Taramri Chowk cattle market

Source: [Ikram Junaidi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-23

ISLAMABAD: Teams from the district administration and the National Institute of Health (NIH) visited the Taramri Chowk cattle market on Wednesday and collected samples from 70 cattle vendors to test them for Covid-19. They also observed that most people at the market did not appear to be following public health guidelines, and were not even wearing masks. “We will get the test results by Thursday evening, and in light of those tests we wi.....[view more](#)

Eid packages for virus-hit transgender persons

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-23

ISLAMABAD: The Ministry of Human Rights launched Eid relief packages for Covid-19 affected transgender persons in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme and United Nation Population Fund. The beneficiaries were identified through a preliminary socio-economic rapid need assessment for Covid-19 to cater to the most vulnerable transgender persons, led and driven by the transgender community. A statement issued here said that t.....[view more](#)

Covid-19 cases rise again in Islamabad

Source: [Aamir Yasin | Munawer Azeem](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-23

ISLAMABAD: Another Covid-19 patient died in the capital on Wednesday and 76 people tested positive for the disease. The number of new cases has increased compared to previous days, while 2,527 Covid-19 tests were conducted in the past 24 hours, capital administration officials said. They said that with the most recent death, the total number of Islamabad residents who have died from Covid-19 has reached 162. The patient who died on Wednesday wa.....[view more](#)

President visits NCOC, warns against complacency

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-23

Islamabad : While COVID-19 is on a downward trajectory, complacency needs to be avoided both by the public and the administration. All provinces must ensure strict compliance of SOPs on Eid-ul-Azha and during Muharram-ul-Haram and encourage public adherence to safety guidelines. President Dr. Arif Alvi expressed these views during a visit to the National Command and Operations Centre (NCOC) here Wednesday. He was received by Lieutenant General H.....[view more](#)

Compulsion to wear face mask to hike Trail-V imposed

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-23

Islamabad : The compulsion to wear face mask to hike Trail-V imposed in line with the government policy to prevent spread of coronavirus has drawn mixed reaction from the visitors. Iza Hameed, a visitor, said, "The Trail-V was blocked for visitors few months back after coronavirus pandemic. Now the local administration has allowed us to hike on this track while observing Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to help combat coronaviru.....[view more](#)

MoHR providing Eid relief package for transgenders

Source: [Myra Imran](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-23

Islamabad :The Ministry of Human Rights with the support of United Nations Development Program(UNDP) and United Nation Population Fund (UNFPA) on Wednesday organised a ceremony to launch Eid Relief Packages for COVID-19 affected transgender persons. The beneficiaries for the distribution were identified through a preliminary socio-economic rapid need assessment for COVID-19 to address and cater to the most vulnerable transgender persons, led an.....[view more](#)

Confirmed COVID-19 cases surge to 269,191 in Pakistan

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-23

Pakistan on Thursday has confirmed 32 deaths in a single day by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has surged to 269,191. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 5,709. According to the latest figures by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) 1,763 persons have been tested positive for COVID-19 in 24 hours. Sindh remains the worst-hit province by the pandemic in terms of cases followed by Punjab, Khyber Pak.....[view more](#)

Khan-Hasina discuss COVID-19 challenge

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-23

Islamabad - Prime Minister Imran Khan on Wednesday called his Bangladeshi counterpart Sheikh Hasina and extended condolences on the loss of lives due to COVID-19 in Bangladesh. The Prime Minister commended measures taken by the leadership of Bangladesh to contain the spread of the virus. The two leaders exchanged views on their respective steps to deal with the myriad challenges posed by COVID-19. Imran Khan apprised Sheikh Hasina of his go.....[view more](#)

AIIB approves \$250m loan to assist Pakistan to mitigate impact of COVID-19

Source: [Imran Ali Kundi](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-23

ISLAMABAD-The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank's (AIIB) Board of Directors has approved a loan of \$250 million to help Pakistan strengthen its response to the social and economic fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic. Cofinanced with the World Bank, this development policy financing will help bolster the government's Resilient

Institutions for Sustainable Economy (RISE) Programme. The RISE Programme is proposed to be supported u.....[view more](#)

NDMA dispatches 11th tranche of PPEs

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-23

ISLAMABAD - National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) on Wednesday supplied eleventh tranche of Personal Protective Equipments (PPEs) to the provinces of Pakistan. According to NDMA press release, goods sent to Sindh included 320,426 different types of face masks such as N95, KN95 and surgical masks. Sindh was also given one lakh 46 thousand 972 protective suits, one lakh 85 thousand 447 medical gowns, 2 lakh 20 thousand 9.....[view more](#)

DG Audit seeks health ministry's output report during COVID-19

Source: [Rahul Basharat](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-23

ISLAMABAD - The Directorate General Audit on Wednesday sent a long questionnaire to the ministry of National Health Services (NHS) seeking its performance report during COVID-19 situation. As per the official document available with The Nation, the government's department Directorate General Audit has sent 32 questions to the ministry of NHS and sought details about its response during COVID-19.[view more](#)

Islamabad registers sharp decline in COVID-19 cases

Source: [Tahir Niaz](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-23

ISLAMABAD-Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) has registered decline in the coronavirus positive cases by 95 per cent, according to the officials. The efforts on part of the ICT have done wonders in controlling COVID-19. Meticulous case detection and isolation were the two factors that led to significant reduction in the new coronavirus cases. According to the officials, on 13 June, 4,136 tests were conducted and 771 were found positive and on.....[view more](#)

Mosques, seminaries following corona SOPs

Source: [Mansoor Ali](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-23

ISLAMABAD-The religious seminaries and the mosques around Islamabad are permanently following the SOPs, as a visible drop in cases of COVID-19 was witnessed in the city. According to the members of the local mosque committees formed by the district administration, the mosques proved to be the safest spots during lockdown because the SOPs were followed constantly from the very start of the outbreak. While talking to The Nation, Mufti Khalid,[view more](#)

Capital sees upward trend in Covid-19 cases

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-23

ISLAMABAD: The number of confirmed coronavirus cases witnessed an upward trend on Wednesday in the federal capital following gap of two days as 76 new cases were reported, taking the total number of positive cases to 14,701. The positivity rate of the Covid-19 remained at 3.0 percent against 2,527 tests run on high-risk positive patients. Out of 14,701 total patients, 12,023 have completely recovered, and 161 have died, since the outbreak of.....[view more](#)

PCI hosts webinar to discuss China-Pakistan cooperation post-epidemic era

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-23

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan-China Institute (PCI) on Thursday co-hosted a joint China-Pakistan think tanks webinar on 'New Opportunities and Challenges of China-Pakistan Cooperation in the Post-Epidemic Era'. The webinar brought together government officials, leading experts, and entrepreneurs to discuss the post-pandemic relationship between Pakistan and China. Chinese Ambassador Yao Jing was among the two keynote speakers, the other being.....[view more](#)

Pakistan confirms 38 deaths in a single day by Covid-19

Source: [Sabah](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-23

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has confirmed 38 deaths in a single day by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has surged to 268,767. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 5,701. According to the latest figures issued by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) on Wednesday 1,332 persons have been tested positive for COVID-19 in 24 hours. Sindh remains the worst-hit province by the pandemic in terms of cases followed by Punjab.....[view more](#)

Number of Covid-19 cases reduces in capital

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-24

ISLAMABAD: The number of coronavirus cases in the federal capital has reduced significantly as only 21 confirmed Covid-19 cases were reported on Thursday out of 2,355 tests run on high-risk positive patients. The positivity rate of Covid-19 in the capital city remained 0.89 percent. The total number of coronavirus cases rose to 14,722 after 21 tested positive and 12,023 patients have completely recovered since the outbreak of the deadly virus.....[view more](#)

Pakistan, China hold consultations on wide range of issues

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-24

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and China on Thursday held consultations on a wide range of issues including bilateral ties, regional security situation, deepening co-operation in the wake of Covid-19, the CPEC, and further solidifying bilateral economic cooperation. The Foreign Office said in a statement that Foreign Secretary Sohail Mahmood held second round of Bilateral Political Consultations with Chinese Vice-Foreign Minister Luo Zhaohui via video-.....[view more](#)

FGEHA decision troubles pandemic hit community

Source: [Abdul Mohi Shah](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-24

Islamabad : A decision by the Federal Government Employees Housing Authority (FGEHA) to increase the fine for the delay in construction of houses by over 400 percent has dealt a severe blow to the allottees, already struggling to cope with the financial impacts of COVID-19 pandemic. Many allottees are either retired or have meagre resources to survive in the prevailing situation. But, instead of providing some relief to the former government emp.....[view more](#)

UNODC hands over 25,000 PPE kits for LEAs

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-24

Islamabad : The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), in collaboration with the National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) under the framework of Pakistan's Action to Counter Terrorism (PACT) the project, handed over 25,000 Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) kits to National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA).

A ceremony was held at NDMA with the participation of representatives from UNODC, EU, and NACTA. The kits,[view more](#)

Pakistan reports 1,209 COVID-19 cases in one day

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-24

Pakistan on Friday has confirmed 54 deaths in a single day by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has surged to 270,400. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 5,763. According to the latest figures by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) 1,209 persons have been tested positive for COVID-19 in 24 hours. Sindh remains the worst-hit province by the pandemic in terms of cases followed by Punjab, Khyber Pakht.....[view more](#)

Pakistan, China pledge to enhance bilateral coop

Source: [Shafqat Ali](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-24

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan and China yesterday held bilateral discussions pledging to enhance cooperation further. Foreign Secretary Sohail Mahmood held the second round of bilateral political consultations with Chinese Vice-Foreign Minister Luo Zhaohui via video-link. During the consultations, a wide range of issues were discussed including Pakistan-China bilateral ties, regional security situation, deepening co-operation in wake of COVID-19, Ch.....[view more](#)

Doctors, paramedics lauded for handling Covid-19 patients

Source: [INP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-24

ISLAMABAD - Chairman Green Inspire Foundation Chaudry Usman has paid rich tributes to doctors and paramedical staff who are fighting the corona pandemic as frontline health workers without caring for their own lives, saying they are the real heroes of the country and nation. During a monthly meeting of GIF here yesterday, Ch Usman that said that the services of doctors and paramedics staffed for the corona virus pati.....[view more](#)

Coronavirus positive cases fall rapidly in Islamabad

Source: [Tahir Niaz](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-24

ISLAMABAD - Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) recorded only 21 coronavirus positive cases on Thursday, the lowest number since early May, according to the health officials. "RECORD LOWEST: Only 21 positive cases today since early May," said the District Health Officials. They said 2355 tests were run in the Capital and positivity is under 0.89 per cent. "It has fallen under one per cent. Our teams have sampled from Mawesh.....[view more](#)

Rainy season could spike Covid-19 cases

Source: [APP](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-24

ISLAMABAD: Health experts on Wednesday warned the people that they should take extra precautionary measures and care as Covid-19 virus may worsen due to other monsoon rains related ailments. They have advised people to be more careful about the food items they are eating and adopt early precautionary measures owing to current season. The rainy season brings with it ailments like seasonal influenza that has symptoms similar to those of Covid-19.....[view more](#)

SITUATIONER: Virus may have peaked, but danger still lurks

Source: [Fahd Husain](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-24

In the ferocious battle against Covid-19, Pakistan finally has the upper hand. The last four weeks have witnessed a clear trend: cases are down, deaths are down and fear is down. So what really happened? Here's the story of what we know, and what we do not. "One day in the first week of June it seemed the entire system had lost control," says Asad Umar, the federal planning minister who heads the National Command and Operation.....[view more](#)

CPEC projects unaffected by Covid-19, say officials

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-24

ISLAMABAD: China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) projects have not only remained unscathed by the Covid-19 pandemic but Pak-China bilateral cooperation has increased during this period, officials and think tank representatives said on Thursday. They were speaking at a webinar on 'New Opportunities and Challenges of China-Pakistan Cooperation in the Post-Epidemic Era', which was participated in by experts of Chinese and Pakista.....[view more](#)

Fewer new Covid-19 cases reported in twin cities

Source: [Aamir Yasin | Munawer Azeem](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-24

ISLAMABAD: A significant decrease was seen in the new Covid-19 confirmed cases in the capital as 21 people tested positive on Thursday compared to 76 on Wednesday. On June 14, as many as 771 positive cases were reported in the capital and 635 cases on June 15. Out of the total 21 confirmed cases reported on Thursday, six were male. Three of the cases were reported from I-8, two from G-6, one each from Chak Shahzad, Tarlai, Tramri, Iqbal Town, S.....[view more](#)

Germany contributes 6 million euros to mitigate pandemic effects

Source: [Jamal Shahid](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-24

ISLAMABAD: In an act of solidarity with Pakistan amid Covid-19, the German government on Thursday decided to contribute 6.5 million euros for activities that aim to mitigate socio-economic effects of the pandemic. A statement from the German embassy said: "It is more important than ever to focus on the vulnerable parts of society. Therefore, Germany will commit 6 million euros to support Pakistani communities which host Afghan refugees, to.....[view more](#)

Next 10 days crucial in Covid fight as tally crosses 270,000

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-24

Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Asad Umar on Thursday warned that next 10 days are very crucial and any negligence by the people can hamper the declining trend of coronavirus cases in the country. "In meeting of National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) with all the chief secretaries, it was stressed that next 10 days are very crucial," Asad Umar said in a tweet. The minister, who also chairs NCOC meetings.....[view more](#)

Polio vaccination drive in selected areas continues

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-24

Polio immunization drive continued on Thursday in selected districts of the country after a four-month suspension of all polio vaccination activities due to COVID-19 pandemic. Dr Rana Muhammad Safdar, Coordinator National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC), Polio Eradication Programme requested support of all segments of society, particularly parents for success of the campaign. "We are initially aiming to target areas with continuous polio v.....[view more](#)

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Study to ascertain status of coronavirus in KP

Source: [Ashfaq Yusufzai, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-21

PESHAWAR: Khyber Medical University Peshawar in collaboration with Quaid-i-Azam University Islamabad and Chinese Academy of Sciences is conducting a study to ascertain if Covid-19 virus is getting worse, slowing down or dying. "The study is being conducted to determine if the ongoing reduction in number of positive cases in the province is due to the weakness of the virus or public awareness regarding adherence to social distancing precaut.....[view more](#)

Four more test positive for corona in Nowshera

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-07-21

NOWSHERA: Four more persons reported positive for the coronavirus in Nowshera district on Monday. The number of patients suffering from the viral infection jumped to 892 in the district since the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic in the country. District Health Officer Dr Gulman Shah and Corona Control Centre In-charge Dr Saeed Khan said that four more suspected patients of coronavirus tested positive for the viral disease. They said that 13 more pati.....[view more](#)

Pandemic: KP cabinet approves mega relief packages

Source: [Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-22

PESHAWAR/Faisalabad - The provincial cabinet in its meeting chaired by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Chief Minister Mahmood Khan here on Tuesday approved mega relief packages for ensuring food security and uplift of construction sectors in the wake of coronavirus pandemic. Briefing newsmen about the cabinet decisions, Special Assistant to the Chief Minister for Information and Local Government, Kamran Bangash said food department has been directed.....[view more](#)

Coronavirus patients tally in Nowshera now 893

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-07-22

NOWSHERA: The number of coronavirus reached 893 in the Nowshera district as another person tested positive for the viral infection on Tuesday, officials said. District Health Officer Dr Gulman Shah and District Corona Control Centre In-charge Dr Saeed Khan told the media seven more people recovered from Covid-19, taking the tally of the recovered patients to 795. The officials said 3,094 people had been tested for the viral infection so f.....[view more](#)

14 more test positive for Covid-19 in Bannu

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-07-22

BANNU: The Bannu district reported 14 more patients of coronavirus. According to a communique issued from the DC office said that a total of 194 cases of Covid-19 reported since the outbreak of viral disease pandemic in the country. It said that 147 out of 194 had recovered while seven died and 40 were still under treatment at various hospitals of the district for the fast-spreading coronavirus. The people were asked to follow health protocols, S.....[view more](#)

Chitral centenarian recovers from Covid-19

Source: [Correspondent](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-22

CHITRAL: A centenarian man has recovered from coronavirus in a remote mountainous region of Upper Chitral district. Aziz Abdul Alim of Booni village was discharged from hospital after his condition was found to be stable. The regional head of Aga Khan Health Service (AKHS) told Dawn that the 103-year-old was admitted to the Aga Khan Health Services Emergency Response Centre after testing positive for Covid-19. He said during a two-week stay at t.....[view more](#)

Experts fear outbreak of diseases if SOPs not followed on Eid

Source: [Ashfaq Yusufzai](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-22

PESHAWAR: Medical experts have warned that if the people don't follow precautionary measures during the upcoming Eidul Azha festival, not only will the coronavirus crisis bounce back in the country but a couple of major diseases will also break out. "Besides Congo Crimean Haemorrhagic Fever, Covid-19 may bounce back due to the congregation and non-adherence to SOPs. It is therefore important to educate the people about precautions ag.....[view more](#)

Absentee doctors to face action

Source: [Correspondent](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-22

LAKKI MARWAT: Several doctors and paramedics were found absent from duty during surprise inspection visit to the government city hospital by assistant commissioner Nadir Shahzad Khan here on Tuesday. The visit was conducted on the directives of deputy commissioner Abdul Haseeb over public complaints about doctors skipping duty to focus on their private clinics located outside the hospital. The assistant commissioner also raided their clinics, b.....[view more](#)

Govt probing causes of decline in Covid-19 deaths

Source: [Ashfaq Yusufzai](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-23

PESHAWAR: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government is investigating reduction in deaths due to Covid-19 to determine if patients are dying out of hospitals or the virus has really become less infective. Chief Secretary Dr Kazim Niaz has issued directives to local government department to report to the government about all deaths taking place at the community level, according to officials. The directives were issued following a new strategy was devised.....[view more](#)

Six more test positive for Covid-19 in Nowshera

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-23

NOWSHERA: Six more persons tested positive for the coronavirus in Nowshera district on Wednesday. The number of patients suffering from the viral infection reached 899 in the district since the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic in the country. District Health Officer Dr Gulman Shah and Corona Control Centre In-charge Dr Saeed Khan Paracha said that six more suspected patients of coronavirus tested positive for the viral disease. They also said that[view more](#)

Peshawar admin to impose smart lockdown in two areas today

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-23

PESHAWAR - The district administration on Wednesday issued notification of implementing smart lockdown in two more localities of the provincial metropolitan due to fear of Coronavirus spread in the areas. According to media cell

of Deputy Commissioner office, a notification of smart lockdown in Takarkhel Bala Mattani and Canal Road Nasir Bagh has been issued from 4 pm on July 23. The notification says that that all kind of movement to and f.....[view more](#)

DPO for strict implementation of SOPs during Eid-ul-Azha

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-23

PESHAWAR - District Police Officer (DPO) Capt@ Hafiz Wahid Mehmood on Wednesday urged citizens especially traders' community to ensure implementation of Standing Operating Procedures (SOPs) during Eid-ul-Azha to curb spread of coronavirus. He expressed these views during a meeting with a delegation of traders led by president of Markazi Anjuman-e-Tajiran Raja Akhtar Ali. The DPO said that cooperation of traders' community with[view more](#)

Corona affected police personnel get compensation

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-23

LAHORE - CCPO Zulfiqar Hameed and SSP Admin Capt (Retd) Liaquat Ali Malik distributed checks of corona compensation among 25 police personnel. Zulfiqar Hameed distributed checks among 25 officials including traffic wardens Kashif Inayat, Umar Jamil, Inamul Haq Zaheer, Muhammad Irfan, Muhammad Waqas, Muhammad Saeed, Irfan Sajjad, Hussain Raza and Traffic Assistant Muhammad Waqas. Zulfiqar Hameed said that the policemen were performing their duties.....[view more](#)

Nowshera hits 900 mark after one more corona case

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-24

NOWSHERA: The Nowshera district hit the 900 mark after another patient tested positive for the coronavirus on Thursday. District Health Officer Dr Gulman Shah and Corona Control Centre In-charge Dr Saeed Khan Paracha said that one more suspected patient of coronavirus tested positive for the viral disease. They said that number of corona positive cases reached 900 in the district since the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic in the country. They also.....[view more](#)

A new trend: Sales of coffins see an upsurge in K-P

Source: [Ahtisham Khan](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-24

PESHAWAR: Coffins are of paramount importance for the burial of people who have died of Covid-19. Ever since the government made it mandatory to use proper coffins for such burial, the demand for coffins has rapidly surged. As per the standard operating procedures (SOPs) laid out for coronavirus-related burials, the deceased should be taken to cemeteries under the supervision of a special team. According to coffin makers, the demand for coffins.....[view more](#)

11 more die of coronavirus

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-24

PESHAWAR: Death toll from coronavirus reached 1,169 as 11 more patients passed away from the pandemic in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Thursday. The province recorded 145 fresh patients, taking the overall tally of the people infected with the virus to 32,898, according to a report compiled by the health department. It said that the province also reported 894 new recovered patients which took the total count of recovered people to 26,607. Peshawar rep.....[view more](#)

Punjab

Four more die from Covid in Punjab

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-21

LAHORE: At least four more patients died from coronavirus across Punjab during the last 24 hours, taking the death toll in the province to 2,083. Of them, two patients died in Rawalpindi and one each in Lahore and Jhang, according to the figures released by the provincial health authorities on Monday. So far most of the virus deaths have been reported in three districts of Punjab. The highest death toll of 793 was reported in Lahore, while 351[view more](#)

Study claims hydroxychloroquine is safe, effective to cure Covid-19

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-21

LAHORE: The preliminary results of the country's largest drug trial on the coronavirus — Pakistan Randomized and Observational Trial to Evaluate Coronavirus Treatment (PROTECT) — has not only established the safety of hydroxychloroquine, a drug generally used for malaria, in terms of mortality but has also shown significant recovery rates in Covid-19 patients when used in combination with two other drugs- azithromycin and oselta.....[view more](#)

Drug lost trust of WHO, Europe researchers

Source: [Dawn Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-21

LAHORE: Unlike Pakistan health authorities, the whole world, especially Europe, has stopped hydroxychloroquine trials as they did not find evidence that medicine can treat the coronavirus. Hydroxychloroquine is anti-malarial drug and is used to cure lupus and rheumatoid arthritis. The study released on Monday at the University of Health Sciences by its VC Dr Javed Akram claimed that the drug was not only safe but it had shown 86pc recovery rate.....[view more](#)

Services at allied hospitals being restored

Source: [Muhammad Qasim](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-21

Rawalpindi: The extraordinary burden of COVID-19 patients that made Benazir Bhutto Hospital and a number of departments at the allied hospitals as specialized healthcare facilities to deal with cases of coronavirus illness has started diminishing after which the services at the teaching hospitals in town are returning to normalcy. Benazir Bhutto Hospital that was designated as the specialized healthcare facility by the Punjab government to deal w.....[view more](#)

2 more tested COVID-19 positive in Attock Share:

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-21

Attock - Two more were tested positive of novel coronavirus COVID-19 during last 24 hours in district Attock raising the tally to 546, health department officials told on Monday. The district focal person for Covid-19, Dr Asif Arbab Niazi has informed that two new positive patients, belongs to Attock city while other to Hazro. He said number of active patients in the district also raises to 154. According to district health authorities, a pe.....[view more](#)

UHS study shows safety and efficacy of malarial drug against coronavirus

Source: [Our Staff Report](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-21

LAHORE - The preliminary results of country's largest drug trial on Covid-19 "Pakistan Randomized and Observational Trial to Evaluate Coronavirus Treatment (PROTECT)", has not only established the safety of hydroxychloroquine, a drug generally used for treating malaria, in terms of mortality but has also shown significant recovery rates in Covid-19 patients when used in combination with two other drugs- azithromycin and oseltami.....[view more](#)

Govt steps helped control coronavirus: Yasmin

Source: [Iqtidar Gilani](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-21

LAHORE -Punjab government will enact law to reign in private schools to save parents from paying exorbitant fee, Education Minister Dr Murad Rass told the Punjab Assembly during question hour on Monday. During general discussion on Health, Dr Yasmin Rashid claimed that good steps of the government have helped in controlling coronavirus. The session started in one hour and 35 minutes behind the scheduled time with Panel of Chairman Mian Muha.....[view more](#)

Pakistan's global image improves due to efforts of PM: Governor

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-21

LAHORE - Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar met with Governor Punjab Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar on Monday. Both leaders reaffirmed their commitment to curtail opposition's anti-government agendas and suggested that opposition should patiently wait for General Elections rather than resorting to protests and mayhem. They also pledged to ensure the strict implementation of the government SOPs to prevent coronavirus spread on Eid-ul-A.....[view more](#)

Pak apparel sector adopts digital mode to explore world market in post-corona restrictions

Source: [Our Staff Report](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-21

LAHORE-As the worldwide economy has been facing slowdown in the post-Corona scenario and all international textile exhibitions have been cancelled the Pakistan Readymade Garments Manufacturers and Exporters Association has taken the initiative to participate in the Digital Global Apparel Sourcing Expo, adopting the latest trend to explore world market for Pakistani apparel goods through virtual mode. The one-month long digital apparel show,[view more](#)

328 new cases of COVID-19 reported in Punjab

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-21

LAHORE - The COVID-19 has taken away 12 more lives in the province while the number of corona virus cases in the province reached to 89,793 after registration of 328 new cases till Sunday morning. According to the spokesperson of the Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department, total number of deaths has reached to 2079 in the province. The health department confirmed that 133 new cases of COVID-19 were reported in Lahore, 3 in Nanka.....[view more](#)

Four new cases of coronavirus reported in Attock

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-22

ATTOCK - The number of patients of COVID-19 surged to 550 in Attock as four new cases have surfaced on Tuesday, according to district health authorities. District Focal person for COVID-19 Dr Asif Arbab Niazi informed that all four new patients belonged to Hazro. Responding to a question, he said there were 153 active patients across the district. He said the number of suspected cases had also been raised in the district to 3,930 while scree.....[view more](#)

Govt likely to open marriage halls under SOPs after Eid ul Azha: Basharat

Source: [Iqtidar Gilani](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-22

LAHORE - Punjab Assembly on Tuesday witnessed rare scene of pending entire question hour due to absence of Secretary Food in the official's gallery. The PA was told that the government was considering opening marriage halls with Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) after Eidul Azha. The session started one hour and 50 minutes behind the scheduled time with Panel of Chairman Mian Muhammad Shafi in the chair. Minister for Food Aleem Khan w.....[view more](#)

Adequate facilities available for COVID-19 patients in Punjab

Source: [Our Staff Report](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-22

LAHORE - Punjab on Tuesday released the data and statistics of available facilities including treatment, high dependency units, isolation wards and ventilators in all hospitals. As per the latest data released by the Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department and the Specialized Healthcare and Medical Education Department, as many as 62,771 patients have recovered from government hospitals and returned to their homes whereas in the last 24[view more](#)

COVID-19 taking death toll to 433

Source: [Muhammad Qasim](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-22

Rawalpindi : COVID-19, the disease caused by 2019 novel coronavirus has claimed another life here in the federal capital in last 24 hours taking total number of coronavirus related deaths so far reported from Islamabad Capital Territory to 160 while 273 patients have already lost their lives due to the disease in Rawalpindi district. In last 24 hours, another 43 patients were tested positive for COVID-19 taking total number of patients so far re.....[view more](#)

62,771 corona patients recover in Punjab

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-22

LAHORE: The Punjab government released data and statistics of available facilities including treatment, high dependency units, isolation wards and ventilators in all hospitals on the directives of Health Minister Dr Yasmin Rashid here on Tuesday. As per the latest data released by the Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department and the Specialized Healthcare and Medical Education Department, 62,771 patients have recovered from government[view more](#)

386 cops recover from virus

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-22

LAHORE: Around 386 officers and officials of Lahore police have recovered from coronavirus and assumed their duty. The capital city police officer (CCPO) said 431 officers and officials had so far tested positive for coronavirus. Forty officials are quarantined and five embraced martyrdom. Only one official was tested positive for coronavirus during the last 10 days, he added. performance: DIG Operations Lahore Ashfaq Ahmed Khan reviewed performa.....[view more](#)

One more dies from COVID-19 taking death toll to 433 in twin cities

Source: [Muhammad Qasim](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-22

Rawalpindi: COVID-19, the disease caused by 2019 novel coronavirus has claimed another life here in the federal capital in last 24 hours taking total number of coronavirus related deaths so far reported from Islamabad Capital Territory to 160 while 273 patients have already lost their lives due to the disease in Rawalpindi district. In last 24

hours, another 43 patients were tested positive for COVID-19 taking total number of patients so far repo.....[view more](#)

Seven more succumb to virus in Punjab

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-22

LAHORE: Seven more patients died from coronavirus in Punjab during the last 24 hours, taking the death toll to 2,090. Similarly, the total number of the confirmed virus cases reached 90,444 after 253 more tested positive during the last 24 hours in the province. According to the official figures of the Punjab government, the latest deaths were reported in Lahore, Multan and Khushab, while most of the new cases also surfaced in the provincial ca.....[view more](#)

'Shaheed Package' for NMU late VC Dr Pasha

Source: [Correspondent](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-22

MULTAN: The provincial government declared Nishtar Medical University late vice chancellor Dr Mustafa Kamal Pasha and its senior demonstrator late Dr Ghazala Shaheen as 'Shaheed' (martyrs), announcing Rs8 million compensation packages each for legal heirs of the deceased doctors who lost their lives fighting the coronavirus pandemic. "In pursuance to the government of the Punjab's approved financial assistance package vid.....[view more](#)

Three Covid-19 hotspots identified in Taxila, Wah

Source: [Munawer Azeem | Aamir Yasin](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-22

RAWALPINDI: The district administration has identified two wards of Wah Cantonment and a union council of Taxila as new hotspots for Covid-19, and is planning smart lockdowns in these areas. Recommendations have been sent to the Home Department for permission to lock down these areas from July 25. According to the plan, 35,747 families of the three localities will be restricted to their homes soon after getting a green signal from the government.....[view more](#)

36 markets set up in Pindi division

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-22

RAWALPINDI: The livestock department has established 36 sacrificial animal markets in Rawalpindi division. Check posts and medical camps have also been set up at the eight inter-provincial entrance points under the Covid-19 standard operating procedures (SOPs) where inspection of cattle health will be carried out along with spraying anti-tick chemicals on them. This was stated by Livestock Director Dr Syed Nadeem Badar in a departmental briefin.....[view more](#)

Traffic plan devised for cattle markets

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-22

RAWALPINDI: The City Traffic Police have chalked out a plan to maintain traffic to and from the 10 cattle markets set up in different parts of the district. The police said more than 70 officials have been deployed to regulate movement of vehicles. People have been asked to avoid bringing elderly people and children to the cattle markets in view of the coronavirus pandemic. A spokesman for the traffic police said six deputy superintendents of[view more](#)

375 test positive, seven fall prey to Covid-19 in Punjab

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-23

LAHORE: Around 375 new cases of coronavirus were reported in Punjab in the last 24 hours, taking the total number of confirmed cases in the province to 90,816. Meanwhile, the death toll from the virus in the province reached 2,095 after it claimed seven more lives during the last 24 hours. According to official figures released by the health department on Wednesday, among the new cases, 182 were reported from Lahore, while others were in Sheikh.....[view more](#)

Academics look at ways to navigate life in pandemic

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-23

LAHORE: University of Management and Technology's (UMT) Institute of Clinical Psychology on Wednesday organised an international e-conference on 'The Changing Horizons' to explore various dimensions on the prevailing Covid-19 scenario. Regional and global experts, including UMT President Ibrahim Hassan Murad, Rector Dr Muhammad Aslam, Punjab University Institute of Applied Psychology Director Dr Rafia Rafique, University of the.....[view more](#)

2 die of COVID-19

Source: [Muhammad Qasim](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-23

Rawalpindi : Another two patients died of coronavirus illness, COVID-19 here in the twin cities of Islamabad and Rawalpindi in last 24 hours taking death toll to 435 in the region while another 89 patients have been tested positive for the illness taking tally to 20,512. The trend of reduction in number of patients and deaths due to the disease is prevailing for the last three weeks or so but still it is alarming as the existing trend is[view more](#)

Moot on Covid-19

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-23

LAHORE: Institute of Clinical Psychology of the University of Management and Technology (UMT) Wednesday organised its first international e-conference on Covid-19 "The Changing Horizons". According to a press release, keynote speakers and resource persons included UMT rector Dr Muhammad Aslam, Dr Marshaley J Baquiano from University of the Philippines, Dr Rebecca K Fox from George Mason University (USA), Dr Anya (USA), Prof Dr Zahid Ma.....[view more](#)

Various food points sealed for violating SOPs

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-23

LAHORE - The district administration on Wednesday sealed various food points for violating Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) regarding COVID-19 pandemic. According to official sources, Assistant Commissioner (City) Tabriz Murree and Assistant Commissioner (Shalimar) Mehdi Maroof took action against food points for violating the SOPs. Moreover, three "Tandoor" in UC-10, Haji Rafiq 'Sri Paye' and Kozi Haleem were sealed i.....[view more](#)

One death, 35 new corona cases from twin cities

Source: [Muhammad Qasim](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-24

Rawalpindi : Another confirmed patient of coronavirus illness, COVID-19 died here in the federal capital in last 24 hours taking the death toll from Islamabad Capital Territory to 162 while no death due to the illness was reported from Rawalpindi district on Thursday though the virus has already claimed as many as 274 lives in the district. In the last 24 hours, a total of 35 patients have been tested positive from ICT and Rawalpindi dist.....[view more](#)

32-bedded ICU inaugurated

Source: [APP](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#) , 2020-07-24

MULTAN: A 32-bed new Intensive Care Unit (ICU) dedicated for coronavirus patients and set up within five weeks' record time was inaugurated at Nishtar Hospital on Thursday. Acting Vice Chancellor Dr Ahmad Ijaz Masood along with Nishtar Medical College Principal Dr Iftikhar Hussain and others inaugurated the ICU. The unit was named after Hussain Dawar whose group extended financial assistance of Rs12 million for its establishment. The.....[view more](#)

Corona claims five more lives in Punjab

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#) , 2020-07-24

LAHORE: As many as 313 more new confirmed cases of coronavirus were reported in Punjab during the last 24 hours, taking the total number to 91,129 so far. Similarly, the total number of deaths reached to 2,100 all over the province after the virus claimed the lives of five more patients during the last 24 hours. According to official figures released by the health department on Wednesday, out of the total new confirmed cases, 101 were reported[view more](#)

First art exhibition during pandemic

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#) , 2020-07-24

LAHORE: An exhibition of artworks titled 'Art Influx' by some 90 or so artists opened at the Ejaz Art Gallery on Thursday. It is the first exhibition held at the gallery since the outbreak of Covid pandemic. According to organisers, the exhibition is aimed at encouraging the art community to stay focused, inspired, and not to stop their art practice because of the pandemic. The exhibition has been curated by Hira Siddiqui, Mahaa As.....[view more](#)

UAF interns take part in locust control

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#) , 2020-07-24

FAISALABAD: Twenty-five internees of the University of Agriculture Faisalabad (UAF) have joined the National Disaster Management Authority and the Federal Plant Protection Department to work on locust control in Cholistan and Thar areas. UAF Vice Chancellor Dr Muhammad Ashraf appreciated the Department of Entomology UAF for training internees to tackle the issue of locust. He said 38 per cent of the country was breeding grounds for the desert l.....[view more](#)

At least 52 doctors resign from teaching hospitals in Punjab

Source: [inp](#), [Daily Times](#) , 2020-07-24

The Punjab specialised healthcare and medical education department has accepted resignations of four more doctors working at various Punjab teaching hospitals. According to a notice by SHCME, overall 52 doctors from teaching hospitals in Punjab have resigned from their posts so far. Of the 52 who have resigned, 11 had handed in their resignation letters before Pakistan reported its first coronavirus case on February 26, 2020, according to a notific.....[view more](#)

Sindh

Murad okays two special economic zones in Nooriabad and Bholari

Source: [Tahir Siddiqui, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-21

KARACHI: Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has approved establishment of two special economic zones — in Nooriabad and Bholari — and decided to hand over the possession for formally launching the Dhabeji Special Economic Zone, near Karachi. He made these decisions while presiding over two different meetings on Monday. The meeting was attended by Chief Secretary Mumtaz Shah, and others. Presiding over the third board meeting of the[view more](#)

Karachi mayor opens Covid-19 facility at ASH

Source: [Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-21

KARACHI: Mayor Wasim Akhtar on Monday inaugurated a Covid-19 Infection Disease and Research Centre established at Abbasi Shaheed Hospital (ASH) having capacity for treating 120 patients at a time. The 120-bedded centre has isolation ward, high dependency units, intensive care units and a team of well-reputed doctors, professors and experts. A free-of-cost testing facility for the coronavirus is also being provided at the hospital. Metropolitan[view more](#)

Coronavirus kills 26 more patients but burden on hospitals lessening, says CM Murad Ali Shah

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-07-21

Twenty-six more people lost their lives in Sindh due to COVID-19 in the past 24 hours, but the situation at hospitals across the province is improving, said the chief minister on Monday. CM Syed Murad Ali Shah said in his daily situation report on the health emergency that 7,069 samples were tested in the past 24 hours, resulting in 546 people, or 7.7 per cent of those who were screened, being diagnosed with COVID-19. He said the provincial gov.....[view more](#)

COVID-19 Research Centre opens at ASH

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-07-21

Karachi Mayor Wasim Akhtar on Monday inaugurated the COVID-19 Infection Disease and Research Centre, having a capacity of treating 120 patients at a time, at Abbasi Shaheed Hospital. The 120-bed centre has facilities of an isolation ward, high-dependency units (HDUs), incentive case units (ICUs) and a team of well-reputed doctors, professors and experts. Free coronavirus testing facility is also being provided at the hospital. Metropolitan Comm.....[view more](#)

Mayor stresses implementation of SOPs during Eid

Source: [APP, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-21

SUKKUR - Mayor Sukkur Barristor Arslan Shaikh on Monday has said that public cooperation is highly significant to mitigate the spread of Novel coronavirus COVID-19. He called upon the masses to continuously implement SOPs in the backdrop of pandemic coronavirus. The Mayor Sukkur stressed that maintenance of social distance policy will ensure public safety. He asserted that violation of SOPs on Eid ul Azha will not be tolerated at any cost.[view more](#)

26 more killed by corona in Sindh, says Murad

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-21

KARACHI - Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has said that the coronavirus has claimed 26 more lives and infected 546 others in the province during the last 24 hours. In a statement issued here from the CM House on Monday, he said that with 26 more deaths, the death toll had reached 2019 that constituted 1.8 per cent death rate. He added that overnight 897 patients recovered. "The number of patients recovering from the virus so.....[view more](#)

Abbasi Shaheed Hospital gets Covid-19 ward

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-21

Karachi - Mayor Karachi Wasim Akhtar on Monday inaugurated COVID-19 Infectious Diseases and Research Centre established at Abbasi Shaheed Hospital having capacity of treating 120 patients at a time. A 120-bed centre has facilities of isolation ward, HDUs, ICUs and a team of well-reputed doctors, professors and experts. Free-of-cost coronavirus testing facility is also being provided at the hospital. Metropolitan Commissioner Dr Syed Saifur R.....[view more](#)

Mayor opens Covid-19 Infection Disease and Research Centre at ASH

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-21

KARACHI: Mayor Karachi Wasim Akhtar on Monday inaugurated Covid-19 Infection Disease and Research Centre established Abbasi Shaheed Hospital having capacity of treating 120 patients at a time. A 120-bedded centre has facilities of isolation ward, HDUs, ICUs and a team of reputed doctors, professors and experts. Free of cost coronavirus testing facility is also being provided at the hospital. Metropolitan Commissioner Dr Syed Saif ur Reh.....[view more](#)

Covid-19 claims 26 more lives in Sindh: Murad

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-21

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has said that coronavirus claimed 26 more lives and infected 546 others, lifting the death toll to 2019 and tally of the cases to 113,553. This he said in a statement issued here from CM House on Monday. Shah said that 26 more patients died lifting the death toll to 2019 that constituted 1.8 percent death ratio. He added that overnight 897 patients recovered. The number of patients recov.....[view more](#)

10th tele session on COVID-19 held

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-22

SUKKUR - The Impact, a UK-based nonprofit organisation, has organized 10th Tele-training Session on Covid-19 with a large scale institutional participation across the region. The session discussed the interpretation of medical data having its impact on clinical management of Covid-19 and how to critically evaluate emerging evidence of the pandemic. The session was facilitated by the Sindh government as the health department and DG health s.....[view more](#)

Sister Ruth Lewis loses COVID-19 battle

Source: [Our Staff Report](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-22

KARACHI - In-charge of Darul Sakoon organisation in Karachi, Sister Ruth Lewis died due to coronavirus on Tuesday. The administration at Darul Sakoon Karachi informed that Lewis was diagnosed positive for COVID-19 on 08 July 2020 and was under treatment in a private hospital of Karachi where she died at age of 77. She was

among the founder members of Darul Sakoon and she served the institution for 50 years. Tariq Samuel, Human Resource Ma.....[view more](#)

Do not assume COVID-19 is over and done with, warns Murtaza Wahab

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-22

Barrister Murtaza Wahab said on Tuesday that with the cooperation of the people, the Sindh government had been successful in preventing the spread of COVID-19 in the province, but he warned that it would be wrong to assume that the disease had been defeated. Wahab, who is the spokesman for the Government of Sindh and an adviser to the chief minister of the province, made these remarks while addressing a news conference. He said that until Tuesda.....[view more](#)

COVID-19 claims 22 more lives, infects another 551 in Sindh

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-22

Twenty-two more people have died due to COVID-19 and another 551 cases have been reported during the past 24 hours in Sindh, with the death toll due to the viral disease reaching 2,041 in the province. Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said in his daily situation report on the health emergency on Tuesday that 6,676 samples were tested in the past 24 hours, resulting in 551 people, or 8.3 per cent of those who were screened, being d.....[view more](#)

No school will be allowed to open from Aug 15, declares Sindh govt

Source: [Imtiaz Ali](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-22

KARACHI: The Sindh government on Tuesday said that the number of Covid-19 patients was decreasing in the province but advised the people not to abandon precautionary measures and made it clear that schools would not be allowed to open from Aug 15. Chief Minister's Law Adviser and Sindh government spokesperson Barrister Murtaza Wahab said that the spread of coronavirus was being controlled with the cooperation of the people of Sindh and thi.....[view more](#)

19 more fall prey to coronavirus

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-23

As many as 19 more people fell prey to COVID-19 in Sindh during last 24 hours, raising the death toll due to the infectious disease to 2,060 in the province, Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said on Wednesday in his daily statement on the situation of the pandemic in Sindh. He added that another 1,109 people had tested positive for the viral ailment during the last 24 hours in the province. "We have lost 19 more lives in Sin.....[view more](#)

SOPs being finalized for Eidul Azha: Nasir

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-23

KARACHI: Minister of Information and Municipality Sindh Syed Nasir Hussain Shah has said that the SoPs pertaining to the forthcoming Eidul Azha have been given final shape. The provincial minister said the federal government has now formulated a policy to promote mass sacrifices of animals, which will apply to all provinces including Sindh. In Sindh, we have also taken steps to organize mass sacrifices at specific places under the guide.....[view more](#)

Blatant SOP violations continue at NADRA centres in Karachi

Source: [Shakir Sultan](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-24

KARACHI: Following a three-month lockdown imposed in a bid to stem the spread of Covid-19, the federal and provincial governments decided to ease the lockdown last month, granting conditional permission to public and private offices, traders, shopkeepers, and people belonging to different professions to continue their necessary activities. One of the conditions was to strictly follow the standard operating procedures (SOPs) that the government[view more](#)

Covid-19;670 new cases in Sindh, says Murad

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-24

KARACHI: Covid-19 has claimed 36 more lives lifting the death toll to 2,096 and tested 670 positive overnight raising the tally to 115,883 in Sindh, Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah confirmed. In a statement issued here from the CM House, the chief minister said overnight 36 patients died lifting the death toll to 2,096 that constituted 1.8 percent death rate. He added that overnight 3,176 more patients recovered. The number of patients re.....[view more](#)

Death toll hits 2,096 in Sindh as 36 more die from coronavirus

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-24

As many as 36 more people fell prey to COVID-19 during the last 24 hours, raising the death toll due to the infectious disease to 2,096 in the province, said Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said on Thursday in his daily statement on the situation of the pandemic in Sindh. He said most deaths occurred at hospitals in Karachi. "At the moment, 685 patients are under treatment at various health facilities in the province, of whom 440[view more](#)

COVID-19 claims 36 lives, infects 670 others : CM Sindh

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-24

KARACHI - Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has said that Coronavirus claimed 36 more lives climbing the death toll to 2096 and infected 670 others raising the tally to 115,883. In a statement issued here from the CM House on Thursday, the chief minister said that overnight 36 patients died climbing the death toll to 2096 that constituted 1.8 percent death rate. He added that overnight 3176 more patients recovered. The number of pati.....[view more](#)

Corona testing facility being provided at Bahria Town Hospital at very affordable cost

Source: [nil](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-24

KARACHI - Corona Virus PCR testing facility is being provided at Bahria Town International Hospital Karachi at a very affordable cost with the approval of Sindh Healthcare Commission and in collaboration with National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA). Due to the good initiative of Chairman Bahria Town Malik Riaz Hussain, this test is being conducted at a cost of Rs. 3,000. Corona testing is underway at Molecular Lab Bahria International[view more](#)

Covid-19 report

Source: [Covid-19 report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-24

KARACHI: Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Thursday said that coronavirus claimed 36 more lives overnight lifting the death toll to 2,096 and infected 670 others raising the tally to 115,883. He said 3,176 more patients recovered overnight taking the number of recovered patients so far to 99,402, constituting 86 per cent recovery rate. The chief minister said that out of 670 cases, 305 cases were detected in Karachi.[view more](#)

International News

Countries News

UK's Johnson says reluctant to use national lockdown again

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-21

UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson has said he will only impose another nationwide coronavirus lockdown as a last resort, comparing the tool to “a nuclear deterrent” in a Sunday newspaper interview. Johnson, who is hoping Britain can return to “normality” by Christmas despite fears of a second wave of cases over winter, insisted the country was getting better at tackling the virus. The UK has been among the worst-h.....[view more](#)

Two studies offer hope for Covid-19 vaccine

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-21

LONDON: Two studies offered new hope of a potential vaccine for the novel coronavirus on Monday, seven months after the disease was first identified in China and spread rapidly across the globe. The positive news came as alarm grows over fresh outbreaks of the disease that has killed more than 600,000 people worldwide and battered economies with months of shutdowns meant to stop its spread. Divided EU leaders struggled at a summit on Monday to[view more](#)

Afghan all-girls robotics team designs low-cost ventilator to treat coronavirus patients

Source: [Reuters](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-21

HERAT, AFGHANISTAN: In the eastern Afghan city of Herat, 18-year-old high school student Somaya Faruqi adjusts a suction cap as she puts the finishing touches before unveiling a low-cost, lightweight ventilator created by her and six other young women. The all-female Afghan Robotics Team, which has won international awards for its robots, started work in March on an open-source, low-cost ventilator as the coronavirus pandemic hit the war-torn n.....[view more](#)

Two studies offer hope for Covid-19 vaccine

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-21

LONDON: Two studies offered new hope of a potential vaccine for the novel coronavirus on Monday, seven months after the disease was first identified in China and spread rapidly across the globe. The positive news came as alarm grows over fresh outbreaks of the disease that has killed more than 600,000 people worldwide and battered economies with months of shutdowns meant to stop its spread. Divided EU leaders struggled at a summit on Monday to[view more](#)

Pandemic could widen economic gender gap, IMF warns

Source: [AFP](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-22

WASHINGTON: The coronavirus pandemic could jeopardize progress made by women over the last three decades in narrowing the economic gap between themselves and their male counterparts, the International Monetary Fund said Tuesday. The health crisis, which will lead to a 4.9 percent contraction in global GDP, affects women more than men because they hold more jobs in the hardest-hit sectors, such as the service industry, retail and hotels.[view more](#)

Fractious EU agrees upon massive virus aid package

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-22

BRUSSELS: European leaders on Tuesday agreed a massive aid package for their pandemic-ravaged economies, as US President Donald Trump finally came out in favour of face masks as a tool against the coronavirus. The virus has infected more than 14.7 million people and killed over 610,000 of them since emerging in China late last year, with fresh alarm being sounded over its accelerating spread in Africa. After a fractious, 90-hour summit, Europea.....[view more](#)

AIIB approves \$250m loan to fight Covid-19 impact

Source: [Reuters](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-23

BEIJING: The Beijing-backed Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) said on Wednesday it would lend \$250 million to Pakistan to help the country deal with the effects of Covid-19 pandemic. The project will be co-financed by the World Bank and will bolster a Pakistan government programme to strengthen health infrastructure, social safety nets, investment in human capital and economic growth, the AIIB said in a statement. The AIIB previously[view more](#)

Scientists report airborne coronavirus is probably infectious

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-23

WASHINGTON: Scientists have known for several months the new coronavirus can become suspended in microdroplets expelled by patients when they speak and breathe, but until now there was no proof that these tiny particles are infectious. A new study by scientists at the University of Nebraska that was uploaded to a medical preprint site this week has shown for the first time that SARS-CoV-2 taken from microdroplets, defined as under five micr.....[view more](#)

US urges India to reduce dependence on China

Source: [Agencies](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-23

NEW DELHI/COPENHAGEN: US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo urged India on Wednesday to focus on domestic supply chains and reduce its dependence on China for telecommunications and medical supplies, as Washington's ties with Beijing deteriorate dramatically. India had a chance to move "supply chains away from China and reduce its reliance on Chinese companies in areas like telecommunications, medical supplies and others," Pompeo s.....[view more](#)

India cancels Amarnath Yatra amid mounting virus cases

Source: [Agencies](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-23

SRINAGAR: Indian-held Kashmir on Wednesday imposed a strict lockdown for a week as authorities warned of rising coronavirus cases, one day after cancelling a major annual Hindu pilgrimage. India, which has recorded almost 1.2 million infections and is the world's third-most infected nation, had significantly eased a months-long shutdown to revive its shattered economy. But numerous states across the nation of 1.3 billion people have reimp.....[view more](#)

Trump, sinking in polls, shifts tone on coronavirus

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-23

Reeling from polls predicting defeat in November's election, President Donald Trump struck a newly serious tone on the coronavirus crisis Tuesday, acknowledging that a disease he has frequently played down would "get worse."

“Some areas of our country are doing very well,” Trump said at his first formal White House briefing on the pandemic in almost three months. “Others are doing less well,” the presid.....[view more](#)

Post-COVID care unit helps hard-hit patients in Brazil

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-23

Her voice temporarily silenced by a nearly three-month battle with COVID-19, Elenice da Silva “talks” by mouthing her words in a Brazilian care unit created to help hard-hit patients recover their health and their lives. “I’m doing great,” the 63-year-old tells her physical therapists with her lips in the post-coronavirus treatment center at the Pedro Ernesto University Hospital (HUPE) in Rio de Janeiro. The unit.....[view more](#)

Melbourne residents ordered to wear masks as Australia coronavirus cases rise

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-23

Residents of Australia’s second most populous city Melbourne must wear masks when leaving home from Wednesday, as tougher border restrictions were put in place with neighbouring New South Wales state to prevent the spread of coronavirus. Cross-border travel between Victoria and New South Wales (NSW) will now only be permitted for work, education or medical care, after the border was closed earlier this month for the first time in 100 years. S.....[view more](#)

Silent spread of virus keeps scientists grasping for clues

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-23

One of the great mysteries of the coronavirus is how quickly it rocketed around the world. It first flared in central China and, within three months, was on every continent but Antarctica, shutting down daily life for millions. Behind the rapid spread was something that initially caught scientists off guard, baffled health authorities and undermined early containment efforts – the virus could be spread by seemingly healthy people. As worker.....[view more](#)

China: Covid-19 vaccine could be ready by year’s end

Source: [Anadolu Agency](#), [The Express Tribune](#), [Islamabad](#), 2020-07-23

ANKARA: The China National Pharmaceutical Group (SinoPharm) said Thursday a coronavirus vaccine could be ready by the end of 2020, according to official media. Chinese pharmaceutical companies completed early trials and are preparing for market entry by the end of the year, ahead of schedule, the Global Times reported. The SinoPharm, which entered domestic phase I and II trials in April, said results from both phases were positive and without se.....[view more](#)

Bill Gates warns multiple doses of any corona vaccine necessary

Source: [News Report](#), [The News](#), [International](#), 2020-07-24

NEW YORK: Bill Gates has warned that any vaccine against coronavirus could take several doses to be effective, as he described ‘serious mistakes’ made by the Trump administration and said some schools may not be back to normal until the fall of 2021, foreign media reported. The Microsoft founder, who now directs much of his time and energy to his global health foundation, said that the closure of schools was, after deaths, the[view more](#)

Italian market;Pakistan registers growth despite Covid-19, lockdown: Jauhar

Source: [Press Release](#), [Business Recorder](#), [Islamabad](#) , 2020-07-24

ROME: “Despite the Covid-19 propelled lockdown and supply chain disruptions, Pakistan has fared quite well by registering visible growth in Italian market in FY 2019-20,” said the Ambassador of Pakistan to Italy Jauhar Saleem while addressing to Pakistani and Italian media. Italy is the 8th largest economy of the world with \$ 2 trillion GDP. It is the 3rd largest economy in the EU after Germany and France. It is Pakistan’s 9th t.....[view more](#)

Virus infections soar past three million in Europe

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn](#), [Islamabad](#) , 2020-07-24

BRUSSELS: Europe crossed more than three million coronavirus cases on Thursday as EU lawmakers examined a massive aid package for their pandemic-ravaged economies and the UN called for a basic income for the poorest to help slow the spread. The continent now accounts for a fifth of the world’s total cases of more than 15 million and remains the hardest hit in terms of deaths, with 206,633 out of 627,307 worldwide. The European Parliament[view more](#)

Scientists examine whether wearable devices can detect Covid-19 signs

Source: [Reuters](#), [Dawn](#), [Islamabad](#) , 2020-07-24

NEW YORK: Fitbit and other wearable devices typically linked to exercise are being studied as ways to identify people who are potentially infected with Covid-19 before symptoms appear, when they can unknowingly spread the disease. Changes in heart rate, respiratory rate, and other biometrics measured constantly by the devices may flag the early stages of virus infection, so an otherwise healthy-looking person knows to self-isolate and seek a Cov.....[view more](#)

China launches its first mission to Mars

Source: [Reuters](#), [Dawn](#), [Islamabad](#) , 2020-07-24

WENCHANG: China successfully launched an unmanned probe to Mars on Thursday in its first independent mission to another planet, in a display of its technological prowess and ambition to join an elite club of space-faring nations. China’s largest carrier rocket, the Long March 5 Y-4, blasted off with the probe at 0441 GMT from Wenchang launch centre, on the southern island of Hainan. This year, Mars is at its closest to Earth, at a distanc.....[view more](#)

Lockdowns soothe Earth’s seismic shakes

Source: [Reuters](#), [Dawn](#), [Islamabad](#) , 2020-07-24

LONDON: Lockdowns worldwide led to the longest and most pronounced reduction in human-linked seismic vibrations ever recorded, sharpening scientists’ ability to hear earth’s natural signals and detect earthquakes, a study found on Thursday. Vibrations travel through the earth like waves, creating seismic noise from earthquakes, volcanoes, wind and rivers as well as human actions such as travel and industry. In the study, published i.....[view more](#)

Pakistan registers growth in Italian market despite COVID-19 crisis

Source: [Staff Report](#), [Daily Times](#) , 2020-07-24

Despite COVID-19 propelled lockdown and supply chain disruptions, Pakistan has fared quite well by registering visible growth in Italian market in FY 2019-20, said the Ambassador of Pakistan to Italy His Excellency Jauhar Saleem while addressing Pakistani and Italian media. Italy is the 8th largest economy of the world with a \$2 trillion GDP and 3rdlargest in the European Union (EU) after Germany and France. It’s also Pakistan` s 9thtop expo.....[view more](#)

Italy detains migrant rescue ship over safety concerns

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-24

The migrant rescue ship Ocean Viking was detained on Wednesday over technical irregularities, Italy's coastguard said, a move blasted as "harassment" by the charity that runs the vessel. The ship had been allowed to disembark at a Sicilian port on July 7, with 180 rescued migrants onboard transferred to another boat for a two-week coronavirus quarantine. Those two weeks ended on Tuesday — but the next day the Ocean Viking wa.....[view more](#)

Latin America tops four million coronavirus cases

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-24

More than four million coronavirus cases have been recorded in Latin America and the Caribbean, half of them in Brazil, according to an AFP tally based on official figures. The region passed the bleak milestone as Brazil reported a daily record of 67,860 new coronavirus cases Wednesday. Latin America is one of the hardest-hit regions in the world, with 4,040,925 recorded cases and 172,886 people killed by COVID-19. That is the highest caseload of an.....[view more](#)

Donor News

EU to provide Rs.3.6b grant to Pakistan amid Covid-19 crisis

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-22

ISLAMABAD - The European Union will provide grant assistance worth Euro Twenty (€ 20) million (Rs.3.6 billion) for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and its newly merged districts (EX-FATA), as well as Balochistan. Noor Ahmed, Secretary Ministry of Economic Affairs (EAD), and Ms. Anne Marchal, Chargé d'Affaires of the European Union, welcomed the signing of a new EU Financing Agreement on "Rule of Law Support to Pakistan (RoL)".....[view more](#)

SDPI Engagements

Webinars News

Dialogue on textile & garment sector

Source: [Dr Kamal Monnoo](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-22

Last week SDPI (the Sustainable Development Policy Institute) organised a “Consultative Dialogue on Textile & Garment Sector Outlook Amid Covid-19” through webinar, between the government, the World Bank (WB) and industry stakeholders. One must compliment Dr Vaqar Ahmed on his timely efforts and the way he successfully managed the whole event. The WB presentation and recommendations were well-researched, the private sector came pr.....[view more](#)

Value Addition improves COVID-hit horticulture exports of Pakistan

Source: [Raja Hamid](#), [Technology Times](#), 2020-07-24

The experts from the economy and Agri-sector said this while sharing their views with the participants during the public-private dialogue ‘Value addition and exports in horticulture sector’ organized by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), in collaboration with Pakistan Business Council (PBC) here on Thursday. General Manager, Pakistan Horticulture Development and Export Company, Ministry of Commerce, Mr Sarfraz Iqbal,[view more](#)

Value addition could lead to huge boost to exports in horticulture sector: experts

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-24

The support from the government to horticulture sector could lead to opening of new global markets for Pakistan in this important sector of economy. The experts from economy and Agri-sector said this while sharing their views with the participants during online public-private dialogue ‘Value addition and exports in horticulture sector’ organized by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), in coordination with Pakistan Busi.....[view more](#)

Govt support to open new horticulture export markets

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-24

ISLAMABAD: Economic and agricultural experts have agreed that timely government support to the horticulture sector can open new export markets for Pakistan. They were sharing their views with the participants of a dialogue titled “Value addition and exports in horticulture sector”, organised by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) on Thursday. Pakistan Horticulture Development and Export Company General Manager Sarfr.....[view more](#)

Other SDPI Engagements

Unity, cooperation two pillars of Pak-China relations in post-coronavirus era: webinar

Source: [INP](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-07-24

Chinese Ambassador Yao Jing and Senator Mushahid Hussain Syed have agreed that unity and cooperation are two pillars of China-Pakistan friendship, which has been demonstrated through their joint fight against the Covid-19 pandemic and solid support for each other on major issues of the international community. According to Gwadar Pro, they made these remarks while attending a webinar on New Opportunities and Challenges of China-Pakistan Cooperat.....[view more](#)

PCI hosts webinar to discuss China-Pakistan cooperation post-epidemic era

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-07-23

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan-China Institute (PCI) on Thursday co-hosted a joint China-Pakistan think tanks webinar on 'New Opportunities and Challenges of China-Pakistan Cooperation in the Post-Epidemic Era'. The webinar brought together government officials, leading experts, and entrepreneurs to discuss the post-pandemic relationship between Pakistan and China. Chinese Ambassador Yao Jing was among the two keynote speakers, the other bein.....[view more](#)

No Pakistani labour working on CPEC projects laid off, webinar told

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-07-23

ISLAMABAD/BEIJING: No Pakistani worker has been laid off by the Chinese companies working on the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), an official of a major Chinese firm working on projects in Gwadar told a webinar in Islamabad today. Zhang Baozhong, chief of China Overseas Ports Holding Company Limited, said that neither did any Pakistani employee in any CPEC project lose their job during the coronavirus pandemic nor seen any cut in[view more](#)

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