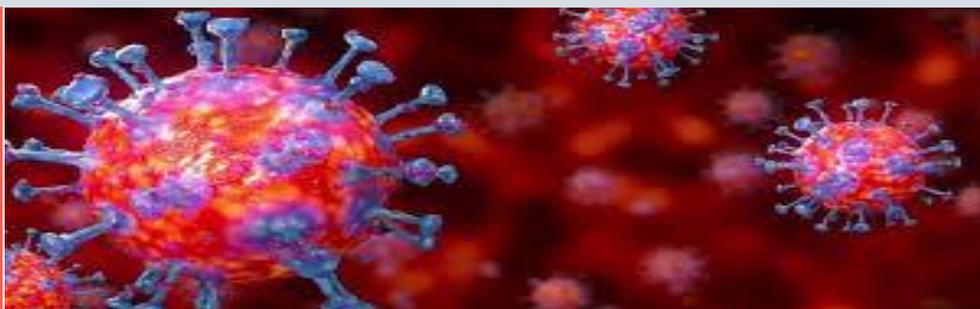


E-Newsletter on COVID-19



Vol. 01, No, 38



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.....About Newsletter

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

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

Newspapers Covered:

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

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Op-Eds/Articles/Editorials

Op-Eds/Articles/Editorials

Benefiting the rich only

Source: [Abdul Sattar](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-09-01

Amidst the ravages of Covid-19 that has claimed more than 842, 014 lives across the world, a tiny minority of the super-rich of the globe continues to thrive. The contagion seems to have destroyed the global economy and is likely to cause a staggering loss of at least \$5.5 trillion in lost output over the next two years, greater than the annual output of Japan. It has impoverished millions.....

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Two pandemics

Source: [Qu Dongyu](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-01

GLOBAL hunger has been on a regrettable rise in recent years, and despite Asia's economic clout, the continent — home to more than half of the world's undernourished — has not been spared. Now Covid-19 is leading to a slowdown of regional economic growth and further threatening food security. South Asia is particularly vulnerable, with the number of chronically underfed pe.....

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Restoring Order

Source: [Editorial](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-01

Epidemic driven crimes, like attacking health workers, sale of defective medicine, hoarding of supplies, spread of misinformation and the like, have become subject to intense punishment in China. Considering that Pakistan faced, and continues to battle, such misdemeanours, taking on a similar approach can set a precedence against such aggression and restore order in a corona-stricken country.

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Covid-19: life of a doctor during a pandemic

Source: [Raja Khalid Shabbir](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-09-03

An air of despair surrounds the world as the Covid-19 death toll continues to rise. Before the virus reached Pakistan, our healthcare system was already under a chronic spell of lack of manpower and resources when a war against an invisible enemy was thrown at us. Almost eight months into this pandemic and we find ourselves in a deeper pit: the limited pre-pandemic manpower has further reduced as

[more >>](#)

Pakistan's early victories against coronavirus

Source: [Dr. Usman W. Chohan](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-03

As with all countries, the coronavirus pandemic has been a foremost concern for governments and societies seeking to strike a balance between preserving both lives and livelihoods. Although many countries continue to suffer exacting tolls, there have been some surprising winners in the battle against Covid-19, and Pakistan is one of those countries that scored early victories that have surprised a.....

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Remembering Covid

Source: [Editorial, The News, International](#), 2020-09-04

It is easy to forget that we continue to live in a time of pandemic – given that in Pakistan at least most people appear to have given up any practices intended to guard against the Covid-19 virus, with masks disappearing from faces and people abandoning social distancing measures in public places across the country. Restaurants, malls and tourism destinations have reopened, giving the econo.....

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COVID-19 — a vista for Pak-India dialogue?

Source: [Dr Salman Ahmad, The News, International](#), 2020-09-04

In all chaos there is a cosmos, in all disorder a secret order. — Carl Jung On August 30, India reports 78,761 new coronavirus cases, the biggest daily figure anywhere in the world since the pandemic began. It also reports 1021 deaths. Pakistan, on the same day, reports 319 new coronavirus cases and one death. The world has turned upside down since early 2020 because of the coronavi.....

[more >>](#)

SBP's stress testing protocols

Source: [Editorial, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-04

State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) has evolved as a pro-active and forward-looking regulator in the last two decades. The financial stability of banks has been managed well by SBP after their privatization. This task became more critical after the breakout of COVID-19 as the central bank rightly allowed principal deferment of loans to give businesses the breathing space in unprecedented times. But at th.....

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Nust: The Future Bringing Today

Source: [Ikram Sehgal, Daily Times](#), 2020-09-04

A public research university under the administration of Pakistan's Armed Forces. The National University of Sciences & Technology (NUST) with its main campus in Islamabad, Pakistan was founded in 1991. Initially formed for the need by combining engineering colleges and schools of Pakistan Armed Forces, for the commissioned officers. Later, it was later converted into a public research u.....

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Online teaching

Source: [Faisal Bari, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-04

THE pandemic has forced many teachers to learn more about online teaching, learning and pedagogy. I am one of them. And though all of us are still learning, and the field is still evolving, quite rapidly, it is opening up new ways of thinking about learning and teaching for many of us. Online teaching has many challenges. Unequal access to devices and to the internet, summarised under the notion

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National News

Islamabad

Masks, sanitizers distributed

Source: [Khalid Iqbal, The News, International](#), 2020-09-01

Islamabad: The volunteers of Gilgit-Baltistan distributed masks and hand sanitizers among 'Azaadars' they participated in mourning processions on 'Ashura'. The volunteers not only distributed hand sanitizers and masks among 'Azadaars' but they also participated in cleanliness drive after the processions. The volunteers were yet busy in cleanliness campaign here o.....

[more >>](#)

90pc countries faced disruption to health services amid Covid-19

Source: [Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-01

ISLAMABAD: The World Health Organisation (WHO) has said that people in 90 per cent of the countries faced disruption to essential health services since the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic. In its survey 'Rapid assessment of continuity of essential health services during the Covid-19 pandemic', the WHO said that the low- and middle-income countries had reported the greatest diffic.....

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Covid-19 claims six more lives

Source: [Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-01

ISLAMABAD: The countrywide tally of fatalities from coronavirus has reached 6,294, as six deaths were reported during the last 24 hours due to the deadly virus. The number of positive cases has reached 295,849, according to the latest figures released by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC). The data further revealed that 213 persons had been tested positive for the Covid-19

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2,811 oxygen beds added in country's hospitals: Asad Umar

Source: [APP, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-01

ISLAMABAD - Minister for Planning and Development Asad Umar on Monday said that since mid June this year, the federal government had added 2,811 new oxygen beds in the hospitals across the country to facilitate the COVID-19 patients. "By mid June, the federal government had decided to add at least 2000 oxygen beds in various hospitals across the country," Asad Umar said in his tweet.

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Changing repayment behaviour of small borrowers

Source: [Nasir Jamal, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-01

The gathering storm over the country's microfinance industry that serves about 7.3 million poor households and micro-enterprises with a gross loan portfolio of over Rs300 billion appears to be dissipating slowly. The economy is reopening amid a flattening Covid-19 curve, but not without hurting both borrowers and creditors. The long-term impact of the health crisis on the microfinance secto.....

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Number of Covid patients on ventilator declines below 100 first time since May

Source: [Agencies, Daily Times](#), 2020-09-01

The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Monday was apprised that first time after May the number of Covid-19 patients on ventilators has declined below 100. The NCOC meeting chaired by Federal Minister for

Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Asad Umar discussed Muharram management plan, compliance with standard operating procedures (SOPs) and opening of educational institution.....

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IIUI gives students relaxation in degree completion due to Covid-19

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-09-01

The International Islamic University Islamabad (IIUI) has given all of its final-year students a relaxation of five months in their degree completion. The decision has been made on account of the coronavirus pandemic that had almost paralyzed the education system for the same duration of time. According to a notification, the Academic Council of the IIU has given approval for this relaxation. Stud.....

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People flock to UN Habitat's handwashing stations

Source: [APP](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-09-02

Islamabad:United Nations-Habitat Pakistan has joined forces with Pakistan's Ministry of Climate Change to help prevent spread of COVID-19 in urban slums and ease economic impact on the vulnerable residents. A pilot 'Pakistan COVID-19 Urban Slums Response Programme' was launched in two urban slums, Dhok Hassu and Dhok Mangtal, in Rawalpindi, a city adjacent to Islamabad, s.....

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300 new coronavirus cases reported across country

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-09-02

More than 300 cases of the global pandemic coronavirus have reported around the country in the last 24 hours. According to latest statistics of National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) four more people lost their lives in the battling the epidemic. With the latest cases of coronavirus the total number of covid 19 cases have reached 2,96, 149 while 20,882 tests were conducted in the country. As m.....

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COVID-19 affected patients significantly recover: NCOC

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-09-02

The number of COVID patients being recovered has significantly increased as 280,970 people recovered out of the total affected 296,149 so far across Pakistan making it a significant count. The number of new Coronavirus cases reported were 300 showing a declining trend of disease spread as only four had died due to COVID-19 in the past 24 hours across the country. National Command and Op.....

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Four more deaths in 24 hours

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-02

ISLAMABAD: The countrywide tally of fatalities from coronavirus has increased to 6,298, as four more deaths were reported during the last 24 hours by the deadly virus. The number of positive cases has reached 296,149, according to the latest figures released by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC). The data further revealed that 300 persons had been tested positive for the Co.....

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Only 8,881 active COVID-19 cases in country now: NCOC

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-02

ISLAMABAD - National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Coronavirus Tuesday said that so far 8,881 COVID-19 active cases were reported across the country. According to NCOC official, the COVID-19 caseload in

Pakistan had reached 296,149 with only 300 new cases reported during last 24 hours. Sharing the data, he said total 6,298 deaths had been reported from the disease with only four duri.....

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Covid-19; Surge in fatalities witnessed as 18 more die

Source: [Tahir Amin](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-03

ISLAMABAD: The country witnessed a surge in fatalities from coronavirus as the number has increased to 6,318, as 18 more deaths were reported during the last 24 hours. The number of positive cases has reached 296,590, according to the latest figures released by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC). The data further revealed that 441 persons had been tested positive for the Co.....

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NCOC discusses testing strategy ahead of schools' reopening

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-03

ISLAMABAD - The National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) on Wednesday discussed testing strategy for educational institutions after recommencement expected from September 15 to in time detection of disease spread and pandemic hotspots. The NCOC meeting chaired by Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Asad Umar took stock of update on meeting related to opening up o.....

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Pakistan's first Phase-III clinical trial of Covid-19 vaccine from 20th: Nausheen Hamid

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-03

ISLAMABAD - Parliamentary Secretary, National Health Services Regulations and Coordination Nausheen Hamid Wednesday announced that the National Institute of Health (NIH) in collaboration with China would conduct an initial clinical trials of inactivated novel coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccines in the country from September 20. Talking to a private news channel, She said China on September 15 will su.....

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One corona patient dies; 62 new confirmed infections in 24 hours

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-09-04

LAHORE :One COVID-19 patient died and 62 new infections were confirmed across the province during the last 24 hours, according to a report issued by Primary and Secondary Healthcare (P&SH) Department on Thursday. The toll of fatalities stayed at 2,205 in Punjab, while confirmed cases of novel coronavirus reached 96,983 in the province. Out of a total of 96,983 infections in Punjab, 94,203 cit.....

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Fatalities from Covid-19 reach 6,328

Source: [Tahir Amin](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-04

ISLAMABAD: The countrywide fatalities from coronavirus have reached 6,328, after 10 more deaths were reported during the last 24 hours. The number of positive cases has reached 297,014, according to the latest figures released by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC). The data further revealed that 424 persons had been tested positive for the COVID-19 in 24 hours, where 21,744.....

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10 Pakistanis killed, 424 infected by coronavirus

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-09-04

At least 10 Pakistanis have been killed in last 24 hours by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has reached to 297,014. The nationwide tally of fatalities has reached to 6,328. According to the latest figures by the

National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) 424 persons have been tested positive for COVID-19 in 24 hours. 129,827 coronavirus cases have been confirmed in Sindh, 96,983

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Education ministry issues Covid-19 SOPs for reopening schools

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-04

ISLAMABAD: In light of the probability of reopening of educational institutions by September 15, the Federal Education Ministry has issued guidelines for precautionary measures to be followed by students and school staff. Besides assessing academic loss of children, teachers and heads of school will ensure that the novel coronavirus (Covid-19) does not spread. A circular containing these guid.....

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Pakistan reports 498 coronavirus cases in one day

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-04

Pakistan on Friday has reported seven deaths in the last 24 hours by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has surged to 297,512. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 6,335. According to the latest figures by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) 498 persons have been tested positive for COVID-19 in 24 hours. Till now 130,041 coronavirus cases have been con.....

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Barriers For Reopening

Source: [Editorial](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-04

The Higher Education Commission (HEC) gave universities the greenlight to reopen campuses so long as appropriate measures are taken to contain the transmission of the coronavirus. While this comes as a relief to students nationwide, there are still a few concerns that remain prevalent—threatening the resurgence of high levels of reported cases. The National Command and Operation Centre

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Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

KP govt issues guidelines for hotel workers, customers

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-09-01

PESHAWAR: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government has issued guidelines for the safety of customers and employees of hotels and restaurants. As per the guidelines, the employees were asked to wear masks and gloves. They were asked to take the temperature of the customers at the entrance. The guidelines said that nobody, including children, should be allowed in the hotels without facemasks, while markin.....

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Pervez Khattak says coronavirus pandemic effects on economy minimised

Source: [Mushtaq Paracha](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-09-01

NOWSHERA: Federal Minister for Defence Minister Pervez Khattak on Monday said that Prime Minister Imran Khan's prudent policies and good governance had brought about the turnaround in the economy. "Natural disasters, floods and coronavirus have badly impacted the economic situation, increased inflation, hiked prices and rendered thousands of people jobless. However, the policies of in.....

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Plasma saves 92pc Covid-19 patients from ventilator: report

Source: [Ashfaq Yusufzai](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-01

PESHAWAR: The convalescent plasma immunisation has saved 92 per cent critical Covid-19 patients from being put on ventilators and 80 per cent others have shown prompt recovery after 48 hours, according to a report regarding the usefulness of plasma for coronavirus patients during the ongoing pandemic in the country. It said that that the patients would have gone to ventilator as they were unrespo.....

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AKF launches latest Covid-19 PCR laboratory

Source: [nil](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-09-02

PESHAWAR: Al-Khidmat Foundation Tuesday launched a state - of-the-art PCR laboratory at its hospital here to provide the facility of coronavirus test to the dwellers of the city at their doorsteps. Provincial president of Jamaat-e-Islami Senator Mushtaq Ahmad Khan was the chief guest on the occasion. Former central president of Al-Khodmat Foundation Dr Hafeezur Rahman, provincial president.....

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Khyber Teaching Hospital resumes OPD services with SOPs

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-02

PESHAWAR: The MTI Khyber Teaching Hospital on Tuesday resumed OPD services with SOPs after four months suspension. A decision to this effect was made by the Board of Governors, according to a press release issued here. The management has taken all the steps for resuming the services in accordance with the laid down SOPs to prevent the Covid-19 infections. No one without mask will be allowed to

[more >>](#)

WHO wants hospitals disinfected regularly

Source: [Ashfaq Yusufzai](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-03

PESHAWAR: The World Health Organisation has shown concerns over lack of infection prevention and control measures in hospitals and is urging the health department to disinfect the healthcare facilities continuously to stem the tide of Covid-19 pandemic and other epidemics. "The world health agency has imparted training on infection prevention and control to about 15,000 health workers in ho.....

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Significant decline in coronavirus cases across province

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-09-04

PESHAWAR: The KP government on Thursday reviewed the preparations for reopening educational institutions after consulting the federal ministry of education as the officials noted a significant decline in coronavirus cases across the province. A meeting of the Provincial Task Force on Covid-19 was convened which was chaired by Chief Minister Mahmood Khan, said a handout. Provincial Ministers Taimu.....

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Only 20 coronavirus patients in KP intensive care units

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-04

PESHAWAR: The number of Covid-19 patients has declined and there are only 20 patients in intensive care units throughout the province while the utilisation of ventilators has dropped by 84 per cent compared to the situation a month ago. This was told to a meeting of Provincial Task Force on Covid-19 held here on Thursday with Chief Minister Mahmood Khan in the chair. Provincial ministers Taimur

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Restaurant sealed in Swabi as its workers test positive for virus

Source: [Correspondent](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-04

SWABI: The district administration sealed a restaurant in Swabi after its eight employees tested positive for coronavirus on Thursday. Deputy Commissioner Shahid Mehmood told journalists that it was a surprise for the officials of district administration and health department because the number of coronavirus patients was declining across the country. He said that eight positive cases at a hotel.....

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Punjab

Another 40 test positive for COVID-19 from twin cities

Source: [Muhammad Qasim](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-09-01

Rawalpindi: In the beginning of August, it was being assumed that the coronavirus illness, COVID-19 outbreak had started losing its intensity particularly in Rawalpindi district and the population in the district was ready to say goodbye to the deadly outbreak yet the current situation is a little different from what was expected. In the first 10 days of August, only 39 new patients were tested po.....

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3 virus patients die in Punjab

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-09-01

LAHORE: Three Covid-19 patients died and 70 new infections were confirmed across the province during the last two days, according to a report issued by Primary and Secondary Healthcare (P&SH) Department here on Monday. The toll of fatalities stayed at 2,198 in Punjab, while confirmed cases of novel coronavirus reached 96,769 in the province. Out of a total of 96,769 infections in Punjab.....

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Punjab reports 28 fresh virus cases, 2 deaths

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-01

LAHORE: The novel coronavirus pandemic is continuously decreasing in Punjab as only 28 fresh cases were reported across the province with two deaths in the last 24 hours. With 28 fresh cases out of 5,920 tests during the last 24 hours, the provincial tally has risen to 96,769 while the total number of deaths in the province is 2,198. With recovery of 10 more corona positive victims, the total.....

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No virus case reported in 29 Punjab districts

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-01

PUNJAB: First time since the coronavirus pandemic hit Punjab, as 29 districts reported no new confirmed case across the province during the last 24 hours. With two more Covid-19 deaths, the remaining seven districts of the province reported 28 new confirmed cases of the virus, during the same period, according to the figures released by the health department on Monday. Of them, 12 new patients t.....

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Another 32 test positive for COVID-19, number of cases significantly high

Source: [Muhammad Qasim](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-09-02

Rawalpindi: The number of confirmed patients being tested positive for coronavirus illness, COVID-19 per day from Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district is still high as in last 24 hours, another 32 patients have been tested positive from the region taking tally to 21,696 of which 455 have already lost their lives. In the third week of August, the number of patients being teste.....

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Punjab Home Dept seeks report on illegal plasma transfusions at high prices

Source: [Aamir Yasin | Mohammad Asghar](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-02

RAWALPINDI: The Punjab Home Department has sought a report from division police chiefs across the province on illegal blood plasma transfusions from recovered Covid-19 patients at high prices. Sources said that the provincial government stated there had been reports of involvement in illegal blood transfusions at high prices. They said the Punjab government has directed all city and district pol.....

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Pakistan baffles health experts as virus cases drop

Source: [AFP](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-02

LAHORE: Six months after the coronavirus arrived in Pakistan, the country appears to have dodged the worst of the pandemic, baffling health experts and dampening fears its crowded urban areas and ramshackle hospitals will be overrun. Following an initial surge, the number of infections has plummeted in recent weeks, with COVID-19 deaths hovering in the single digits each day, while neighbouring

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In Punjab, rescuers left waiting for Covid-19 allowance

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-02

RAWALPINDI: The undaunted frontline workers of Rescue 1122 who performed the risky duties of shifting coronavirus patients to the healthcare facilities are still holding on for the promised special allowances, The Express Tribune learned. At the peak of the pandemic, Punjab Chief Minister Usman Buzdar had approved special allowances for Rescue-1122 staff equal to their basic pay and martyr-packer.....

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Coronavirus claims no life in last 11 days in twin cities

Source: [Muhammad Qasim](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-09-03

Rawalpindi : Another 21 patients have been tested positive for coronavirus illness, COVID-19 here in the twin cities of Islamabad and Rawalpindi in last 24 hours taking tally to 21,717 however no death due to the disease has been reported from the region in last 11 days. Data collected by 'The News' on Wednesday reveals that from Rawalpindi district, only four new patients have.....

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CAA amends SOPs for flights till Oct 31

Source: [Mohammad Asghar](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-03

RAWALPINDI: The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) has amended its standard operating procedures (SOPs) meant to curb the spread of Covid-19 for passengers from Sept 2 to Oct 31. The authority directed all scheduled and chartered airline operators, ground handling agents and private operators to ensure strict compliance with the revised SOPs. Earlier, the CAA had issued SOPs for chartered and privat.....

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Health experts puzzled by decline in Pakistan's Covid cases

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-03

LAHORE: Six months after the coronavirus arrived in Pakistan, the country appears to have dodged the worst of the pandemic, baffling health experts and dampening fears its crowded urban areas and ramshackle hospitals will be overrun. Following an initial surge, the number of infections has plummeted in recent weeks, with Covid-19 deaths hovering in the single digits each day, while neighbouring I.....

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Another 25 test positive for COVID-19

Source: [Muhammad Qasim](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-09-04

Rawalpindi : The confirmation of another 25 patients positive from Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district for coronavirus illness, COVID-19 in last 24 hours took the total number of patients so far confirmed positive from the region to 21,742 while no death was reported in the region due to the disease. Data collected by 'The News' on Thursday reveals that so far,

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CM Usman Buzdar thanks people for cooperation during lockdown

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-09-04

LAHORE: Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar has thanked the people for their cooperation during COVID-19 lockdown adding that situation in Punjab is better than other provinces. The smart lockdown yielded positive results but care should be observed as the virus has not ended yet. The use of the face mask is helpful in saving the people from the virus and the citizens should make a habit of

[more >>](#)

Sindh

Three die of COVID-19, 80 more test positive

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-09-01

Three more people died of COVID-19 in Sindh during the past 24 hours, while another 80 people tested positive for the disease, said a health official on Monday. "Six people lost their lives due to COVID-19 in Pakistan, three of whom died at different health facilities in Sindh. The death toll due to the coronavirus infection has reached 6,294 in the country and 2,401 in the province,"

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SOPs for reopening schools to be set in coming days, says Ghani

Source: [Sameer Mandhro](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-01

KARACHI: Sindh Education and Labour Minister Saeed Ghani said on Tuesday that standard operating procedures (SOPs), regarding reopening educational institutions will be finalised in the next two, three days. He said the steering committee of the health department will be consulted before any decision is taken. While presiding over a meeting of the education department, the provincial minister re.....

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Decision to reopen schools next week

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-02

KARACHI: The decision to reopen schools will be taken after revisiting all the aspects that may cause issues during the still ongoing Covid-19 pandemic in order to avoid any risk to the health of students. This was decided by Sindh Education Minister Saeed Ghani during a meeting held here on Tuesday. Education Secretary Ahmed Bux Narejo and other officials from the health department were also in

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Six more die of Covid-19 in Sindh

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-02

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has said that coronavirus has claimed six more lives lifting the death toll to 2409 and infected 146 others raising the tally to 129615. This he said in a statement issued here on Tuesday. Shah said that Covid-19 claimed six more lives lifting the death toll to 2409 that constituted 1.8 percent death rate. He added that 310 more patients

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COVID-19 claims six more lives, infects 146 others, says CM

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-02

KARACH - Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has said that coronavirus has claimed six more lives lifting the death toll to 2409 and infected 146 others raising the tally to 129615. This he said in a statement issued here on Tuesday. Syed Murad Ali Shah said that COVID-19 claimed six more lives lifting the death toll to 2409 that constituted 1.8 percent death rate. He added that 310 mor.....

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Coronavirus kills six more, infects another 212 in Sindh

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-09-03

Six more patients have died from the novel coronavirus and 212 fresh cases have emerged in Sindh. The death toll from the deadly viral disease has hit 2,415, according to the Sindh chief minister. In his daily COVID-19 situation report issued on Wednesday, Syed Murad Ali Shah said 6,351 tests for the detection of coronavirus were conducted in a day. So far, he added, 1,018,013 samples had been te.....

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IBA denies relaxation in attendance for students with Covid-19

Source: [Safdar Rizvi](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-04

KARACHI: Drawing criticism on social media, the Institute of Business Administration (IBA) has notified its students that they would not be provided any relaxation in attendance if they contract coronavirus in the coming semester, starting from September 15. In an advisory issued to students, the varsity's administration informed them they would not be allowed any additional leaves on medica.....

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Pakistan's new power capacity plan neither sustainable nor affordable, says new study

Source: [Dunya News](#), [Dunya News](#), 2020-09-04

KARACHI (Dunya News) – A study launched on Thursday has revealed that Pakistan's new long-term power capacity plan has failed to live up to the government's stated principles of sustainability and affordability. Power demand growth forecasts made under Integrated Generation Capacity Enhancement Plan-2047 (IGCEP-2047) are too high and do not take into account the impact of COVID-.....

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International News

Countries News

Indian economy shrinks 24pc

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-01

MUMBAI: India's economic growth suffered a historic 23.9 per cent decline between April and June, official figures showed on Monday, as manufacturing and productivity were battered by a strict coronavirus lockdown. The contraction was the biggest since New Delhi started publishing quarterly statistics in 1996, and the latest figures came as the country's coronavirus cases surged past

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No cramming as new COVID rules take hold in South Korean capital

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-09-01

Private tuition centres shut for the first time and traffic was lighter in South Korea's capital on Monday, the first working day of tighter social-distancing rules designed to halt a second wave of coronavirus outbreaks. South Korea took the unprecedented step on Friday to restrict the operation of restaurants, coffee shops and so-called cram schools in the Seoul metropolitan area, with chu.....

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Coronavirus worries force election officials to get creative

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-09-01

The coronavirus has upended everyday life in ways big and small. What happens when those disruptions overlap with voting? Thousands of state and local election officials across the U.S are sharing ideas and making accommodations to try to ensure that voters and polling places are safe amid an unprecedented pandemic. Some are finding ways to expand access to voter registration and ballot re.....

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Locked out by COVID, refugees' lives on hold

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-09-01

When Michelle Alfaro left her office at the United Nations in Geneva on March 13, her job finding homes for the world's most vulnerable refugees was under control. Four days later, the new coronavirus had knocked it into chaos. Governments across the world announced border closures, lockdowns and flight cancellations. The United Nations was forced to suspend the programme. "Everything c.....

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Covid-19 and the US

Source: [Juan Cole](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-09-02

The US reported its sixth million coronavirus case, and deaths are headed toward 200,000. It is hard to explain just how bad the US death rate under Trump from the novel coronavirus is. It isn't only that it is worse than other industrialized democracies. It certainly is that. In South Korea, 324 persons have died, according to Johns Hopkins. The US is a little over six times more po.....

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India leads world in new weekly Covid-19 cases

Source: [Reuters](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-02

GENEVA: India reported the most new Covid-19 cases of any country in the past week, its nearly half a million fresh infections pushing the global tally up by 1 per cent, the World Health Organisation (WHO) said on Tuesday. Overall

global new deaths in the past seven days fell by 3 per cent compared to the previous week, the WHO reported, adding that overall new infections around the world rose by.....

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Virus despair forces girls across Asia into child marriage

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-09-02

Tens of thousands of girls across Asia are being forced into marriage by desperate families plunged into poverty because of the coronavirus pandemic, as campaigners warn years of progress tackling the practice is being undone. Child marriage has long been common in traditional communities from the Indonesian archipelago to India, Pakistan and Vietnam, but numbers had been decreasing as charities ma.....

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In Indonesia, coronavirus floods Cisadane River with extra hazard: medical waste

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-09-02

For the residents along Indonesia's Cisadane River, the coronavirus has brought not just deadly disease, but also a deluge of medical waste: a constant stream of syringes, face masks and hazmat suits floating by. The double threat for those who depend on the 138-kilometre-long river to bathe and wash their clothes comes as Indonesia has struggled to contain COVID-19, now with the highest death.....

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At military academies, COVID-19 is the enemy to be defeated

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-09-02

As eight Navy midshipmen file into their economics class, instructor Kurtis Swope points to the antibacterial wipes on the desk. "Did you grab wipes?" he asks, then tells each one to take two, wipe down the desk when they arrive and again when they leave. "That should be your process." As chairman of US Naval Academy's economics department, Swope broke his class i.....

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UN chief: Virus reversed fragile progress on gender equality

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-09-02

The COVID-19 pandemic has deepened inequality between men and women and reversed "decades of limited and fragile progress on gender equality and women's rights," the United Nations chief said Monday. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres warned young women from civil society organizations at a virtual town hall meeting that "without a concerned response, we risk losing a gener.....

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Asia's virus death toll tops 100,000

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn](#), [Islamabad](#), 2020-09-04

PARIS: Asia has registered more than 100,000 deaths linked to the new coronavirus since it first emerged in December, according to a tally based on official sources. A total of 100,667 deaths have been attributed to the coronavirus in the region out of 5.42 million officially declared cases, with 4.25m people considered to have recovered. In terms of fatalities, India is the most affected countr.....

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Donors News

EU offers 400m euros to WHO-led Covid-19 vaccine initiative

Source: [Reuters](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-01

BRUSSELS: The European Commission said it would contribute 400 million euros (\$476 million) to an initiative led by the World Health Organization to buy Covid-19 vaccines, but did not clarify whether EU states would acquire shots through the WHO scheme. The initiative, dubbed COVAX, aims to purchase for all countries in the world 2 billion doses of potential Covid-19 shots from several vaccin.....

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WHO hands over medical supplies, boats to NDMA

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-03

ISLAMABAD - The World Health Organisation (WHO) on Wednesday handed over medical supplies and water boats to the National Disaster Management Authority for devastated and displaced Karachiites. On the Occasion of handing over, WHO Country Representative Dr Palitha Mahipala applauded the Pakistan government for comprehensive COVID-19 response efforts. I.....

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SDPI Engagements

Other SDPI Engagements

REAP seeks zero-rated status for rice exports

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-09-02

LAHORE: Around one million small-scale farmers will adopt climate-smart sustainable agricultural practices across the globe by the year 2023, said Sustainable Rice Platform Executive Director Wyn Ellis. Speaking at a webinar organised by the Pakistan Basmati Heritage Foundation, Ellis highlighted the impact and gave details of the adoption rate of sustainable rice production standards. Federal

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