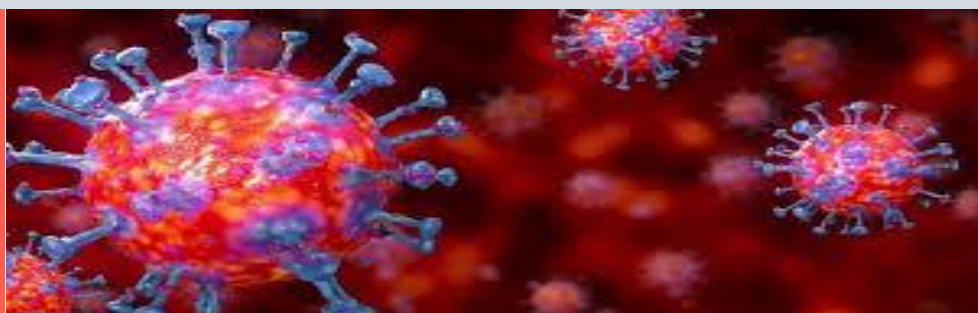


E-Newsletter on COVID-19



Vol. 01, No, 50



Issue: 13-16 October, 2020

.....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

Second wave?

Source: [Editorial](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-13

COVID-19 cases are rising steadily in the country, with the positivity ratio crossing 2pc and daily deaths once again in double digits. Planning Minister and head of the NCOC Asad Umar has said that the rate of those testing positive for the coronavirus has increased after being less than 2pc for six weeks. As a result, the government is rolling out smart lockdowns in areas where transmission rates.....[more >>](#)

Resurgence fears

Source: [Malik Muhammad Ashraf](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-14

The strategy adopted by the PTI government to deal with the coronavirus pandemic – by creating a balance between saving lives and protecting vulnerable sections and the economy undoubtedly has been a tremendous success, acknowledged and endorsed worldwide including by the WHO. The country not only witnessed a dip in Covid-19 cases but also a reversal in downward trend in the economy.[more >>](#)

Wars and pandemics

Source: [Patrick Cockburn](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-14

Watching the antics of Trump and the blunders of Boris Johnson in failing to cope with the virus, I have the same feeling I had repeatedly over the last 20 years when reporting on wars in Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria and Libya. In all cases, arrogant assumptions of competence and strength were brutally exposed by complicated and dangerous realities on the ground. The spectacular ineptitude of

[more >>](#)

As if Covid has gone

Source: [Editorial](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-14

Despite the active coronavirus cases in Pakistan currently numbering in excess of fifteen thousand with an addition of more than five hundred daily cases for a couple of weeks, there has been a near normal activity almost everywhere in the country. Life is generally back to normal in the country – as if the coronavirus has been eliminated from our soil. We, as a nation, tend to take things I.....

[more >>](#)

E&P sector in FY20

Source: [BR Research](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-14

The looming gas crisis this winter is a testament to declining gas production and depleting gas reserves in the country. Production volumes by oil and gas exploration and production sector have been sluggish while the demand has been on the rise, and COVID-19 played its part in pushing them down further. And though the domestic oil and gas exploration and production companies have kept the mse.....

[more >>](#)

Volunteering Strategy

Source: [Editorial](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-14

While the federal government was not quick to act against rising prices of basic commodities like vegetables, pulses and wheat, a new promise was made by PM Imran Khan according to which the Corona Relief Tiger Force (CRTF) will be handed responsibilities to surveil, record and upload information regarding the prices of food items to the national portal. The intent behind this may be sincere but t.....

[more >>](#)

The first line of defence

Source: [Aida Girma](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-15

Global Handwashing Day, celebrated on October 15 every year, is a reminder that human hands are a critical vector for transmitting disease-causing microorganisms. The cross-transmission of these organisms from one person to another occurs when people fail to wash their hands effectively. This year's theme 'Hand Hygiene for All' calls for making hand hygiene a reality for all.

[more >>](#)

Air-pollution-could-worsen-covid-19-outbreak-in-south-asia

Source: [Soumya Sarkar](#) | [Zofeen T. Ebrahim](#) | [Ramesh Bhushal](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-14

The dramatic drop in air pollution after large swathes of South Asia shut down in response to Covid-19 was short-lived. Newly clean skies in cities from Peshawar to Guwahati stirred hope that action on South Asia's lethal air pollution was possible. But as lockdowns eased, pollution levels crept back up. Now experts warn that bad air could worsen the spread and severity of the coronavirus p.....

[more >>](#)

Hello to the other side

Source: [BR Research](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-15

That Pakistan has left Covid-19 behind is simply untrue; it hasn't, but that the country has surpassed all expectations of doomsday scenarios and mass-level fatalities is almost unmistakable. Folks are taking off their masks and going back to work, SOPs be damned. And while increasing consumer confidence is nothing to lament, some restraint and doubt should keep them on their toes, still.

[more >>](#)

FCCU shows the way

Source: [Dr Pervez Tahir](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-16

At a time when the prices of most goods and services have shot through the roof, there is good news from an unlikely source. The education sector, especially private universities, have fees and charges well beyond the reach of the mass of the student population in the relevant age group. Following the IMF prescribed austerity regime, the allocations to the public sector universities also shrank, f.....

[more >>](#)

E-banking during pandemic

Source: [BR Research](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-16

With the latest release of SBP's Apr-Jun quarterly data on alternate delivery channels (ADCs) for banking sector payments, it is time to review how the electronic banking channels had fared during the pandemic. After all, there was an expectation among observers that lockdowns were a godsend for electronic payment channels. Below, four main ADCs in the e-banking universe are analyzed to deci.....

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Preventative Strategies

Source: [Editorial](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-16

While the G20's decision to extend debt relief for countries like Pakistan for another six months is fortunate news, the accelerating rate of corona transmission across the nation, as highlighted by Asad Umar, should cause alarm. Overall, COVID-19 positivity rates have gone up to 2.37 percent, the highest in more than two months. As public fear and precaution dissipates, the risk of a second.....

[more >>](#)

COVID-19 unfolded opportunities for rural women to act as agents of change: Speakers

Source: nil, [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-16

ISLAMABAD - COVID-19 unfolded immense opportunities for the rural women to act as agents of change to reverse the adverse effects of the climate change that is currently challenging the development and progress of the entire human race as it happened during COVID-19 pandemic that set unprecedented course of human tragedy, speakers said at Annual Conference on International Rural Women Day. Th.....

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National News

AJK

AJK govt decides to impose smart lock down to combat 2nd spell of COVID-19

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-13

MIRPUR- A highlevel meeting, chaired by Chief Secretary of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Dr Shehzad Khan Bangush, reviewed latest situation of Covid-19 in the State. The meeting decided to impose Smart Lockdown and Micro Smart Lockdown in the areas where coronavirus cases were being reported, an official statement of the AJK government issued Monday said. Smart and micro smart Lockdowns will be imp.....

[more >>](#)

Two AJK ministers, CM Balochistan test positive for Covid-19

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-10-15

Two ministers of the Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) have been reported Covid-19 positive with a spike in coronavirus cases in the region on Wednesday. A day earlier, Chief Minister Balochistan Jam Kamal said that he has tested positive for coronavirus, as the country begins imposing lockdowns in COVID-19 hotspots. According to details, Azad Jammu and Kashmir's Minister for Law and Parliame.....

[more >>](#)

Balochistan

Balochistan warned of 2nd Covid wave

Source: [Mohammad Zafar](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-13

QUETTA: The Balochistan health department on Monday warned the provincial authorities of a second coronavirus wave due to a lack of precautionary measures adopted by the masses. "Covid-19 has taken 148 lives in Balochistan up till now. The second wave of this virus will be even more dangerous because the general public is not complying with the precautionary measures," Coronavirus Op.....

[more >>](#)

'Limited' Tablighi ijtima with SOPs on Nov 3

Source: [Qaiser Butt](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-16

QUETTA: The central shura of Tablighi jamaat has decided to organise the three-day annual international Muslims congregation (Tablighi Ijtimia) in Raiwind, close to Lahore, for a very limited number of people because of the fear of the second wave of coronavirus in the country. "In a recent decision taken by the elders at the Tabligh Markaz in Rawind, it has been decided that the government.....

[more >>](#)

Islamabad

Umar says peoples' proactive response key to curbing Covid-19 so far

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-13

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Planning and Development Asad Umar said on Tuesday that people's proactive response had so far been key in controlling the spread of Covid-19 in the country. During a meeting of the National Command and Operation Centre, the federal minister said citizens had shown great maturity and responsibility to not only protect themselves, but also follow guidelines to

[more >>](#)

PM calls for strict implementation of SOPs to avoid Covid-19 spread

Source: [Staff Report, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-13

Prime Minister Imran Khan on Monday stressed that donning of masks and adherence to the standard operating procedures (SOPs) should be ensured at all costs to avoid further spread of the Covid-19 pandemic. He was chairing a meeting of the National Coordination Committee on Covid-19. During the meeting, the prime minister said from the facts and figures ascertained from different countries, it wa.....

[more >>](#)

Covid-19 may spread in winter, cautions PM

Source: [Maqbool Malik, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-13

ISLAMABAD - Prime Minister Imran Khan has emphasised the need for using face masks and adherence to the standard operating procedures (SOPs) should be ensured at all costs to avoid further spread of the COVID-19 pandemic in the country. Chairing a meeting of the National Coordination Committee on COVID-19 here on Monday, the prime minister said that from the facts and figures ascertained from dif.....

[more >>](#)

385 new Covid-19 cases, 10 deaths across country

Source: [News Desk, Daily Times](#), 2020-10-13

The total active COVID-19 cases in Pakistan on Monday were recorded 8,552, as 385 more people tested positive for the deadly virus during the last 24 hours. Ten corona patients, 06 of whom were under treatment died in hospital and four died out of hospital on Sunday, according to the latest update issued by the National command and Operation Centre (NCOC). No COVID affected person was on venti.....

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NPMC blames rains, COVID-19 for higher inflation rate

Source: [Imran Ali Kundi, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-13

ISLAMABAD - National Price Monitoring Committee (NPMC) on Monday has blamed the recent rains and COVID-19 for the higher inflation rate in the country beside other issues. Finance Adviser, Dr Abdul Hafeez Shaikh chaired a meeting of National Price Monitoring Committee (NPMC) to review the prices of essential perishable commodities, which was held at Finance Division. Inflation rate has increa.....

[more >>](#)

Dr Sania Nishtar shares how social protection can enable resilient recovery

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-10-14

Islamabad : The COVID-19 crisis has hit South Asia hard, deepening poverty, exacerbating inequality, and creating new poor. South Asia is expected to have the largest increase in the number of extreme poor due to COVID-19. It was against this backdrop that a discussion with policymakers from South Asia as well as practitioners, scholars and international experts was held as countries devel.....

[more >>](#)

Covid-19, locust swarms raise concerns about food security: ADB

Source: [Tahir Amin, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-14

ISLAMABAD: The compounding impacts of Covid-19 and locust swarms raise grave concerns about agricultural production and food security, says the Asian Development Bank (ADB). The ADB in its latest brief, 'Impact of Covid-19 and Locust Swarms on Farm Households in Sindh, Pakistan: Analysis of Data from a cross-sectional survey,' revealed that Covid-19 outbreak affected various chann.....

[more >>](#)

Asad for SOPs compliance to contain Covid-19

Source: [Tahir Niaz, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-14

ISLAMABAD - Minister for Planning Asad Umar has underlined the need for compliance of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to avoid spread of Covid-19 in coming days. He was chairing a meeting of National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) here on Tuesday. He said risk mitigation is important to check the second wave of corona in the country. He said the people's proactive response ha.....

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COVID-19, locust swarms disrupt food supply chain in Sindh: ADB survey

Source: [Imran Ali Kundi, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-14

ISLAMABAD-The Asian Development Bank (ADB) in its survey of farmers in Sindh has revealed that COVID-19 and locust swarms had a significant impact on the livelihoods they obtained through agricultural products, including wheat, vegetables, fruits, and dairy products. In June 2020, a survey was conducted under ADB technical assistance, using computer-assisted telephone interviewing. The survey.....

[more >>](#)

PIMS, schools receive PPE against COVID-19

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-10-15

Islamabad : While calling upon the Islamabad district management to stringently enforce the SOPs for containment of COVID-19, TheNetwork for Consumer Protection and Oxfam Pakistan Wednesday extended a generous donation of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to doctors, and masks and handwashing soaps to schools. A total of 40 PPE kits were handed over to Pakistan Institute of Medical Scien.....

[more >>](#)

Another college, school sealed

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-10-15

Islamabad : Two more educational institutions were sealed in the Islamabad Capital Territory on Wednesday after detection of coronavirus cases among students and staff members. Twenty-nine schools, colleges and universities have already been sealed in ICT over COVID-19 cases. On Wednesday, the district administration sealed a private college in Chak Shahzad over three coronavirus cases an.....

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'Unmistakable signs': Asad Umar urges caution as Covid-19 positivity rate rises to highest since August

Source: [Dawn.com, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-15

Minister for Planning and Development Asad Umar has urged the nation to take standard operating procedures (SOPs) for curbing the spread of the coronavirus seriously once again in the face of a rising positivity rate. "National positivity of Covid cases was 2.37 per cent. This is the highest positivity rate in more than 50 days. The last time this level was seen was on August 23." Umar.....

[more >>](#)

FDE closed after three staffers test positive for Covid-19

Source: [Aamir Yasin | Munawer Azeem, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-15

ISLAMABAD: Two more educational institutions have been sealed after staff and students tested positive for Covid-19. The Federal Directorate of Education (FDE) has also been closed for two days after three employees were diagnosed with the disease. Capital administration officials said that a government school and a private school were sealed in response to directives issued by the Islamabad dep.....

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Covid-19, locusts affected livelihoods of Sindh's farmers: ADB survey

Source: [Amin Ahmed, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-15

ISLAMABAD: A survey of farmers in Sindh carried out by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) revealed that Covid-19 and locust swarms had a significant impact on the livelihoods they obtained through agricultural products and disrupted food supply chains significantly. The ADB on Tuesday released the results of the survey carried out in June 2020 under the bank's technical assistance and collected.....

[more >>](#)

With two more schools sealed, tally of closed institutes rises to 21 in capital

Source: [Munawer Azeem | Mohammad Asghar, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-15

ISLAMABAD: After two more educational institutions were sealed on Monday following emergence of Covid-19 cases, the tally of school buildings sealed since September 14 has reached 21. Officials of the capital administration said a private school at Tarlai and a government school at F-6/2 were sealed after two or more confirmed cases of the virus were detected there. The buildings have been vacate.....

[more >>](#)

FM calls for talks on debt relief for developing countries

Source: [Iftikhar A. Khan, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-15

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi has asked the Commonwealth to launch a dialogue over deeper and sustained debt relief for developing countries for rapid, stronger and sustained economic recovery of these countries. He was speaking at a virtual meeting of Commonwealth foreign ministers on Wednesday. Mr Qureshi's call follows a similar suggestion by Prime Minister Imran Khanea.....

[more >>](#)

NCOC issues guidelines on public gatherings

Source: [Munawer Azeem, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-14

ISLAMABAD: The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Tuesday asked all the chief secretaries of provinces and the chief commissioner of Islamabad to formulate fresh modalities/SOPs based on guidelines issued by it to contain the spread of Covid-19. The NCOC issued the guidelines for public gathering (to minimise wedding and sports activities) as the number of positive cases kept on incr.....

[more >>](#)

Tigers unleashed

Source: [Editoril, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-14

THE Corona Relief Tiger Force has steadily had the scope of its 'responsibilities' widened to well beyond what its name suggests it was set up for, which was in itself a controversial move. On Sunday, Prime Minister Imran Khan tasked the million-member force of volunteers with checking the prices of food items and posting them on its portal, adding that he would discuss the matter furthe.....

[more >>](#)

Highest in 50 days: Umar urges caution yet again as Covid-19 positivity rate rises

Source: [News Desk, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-15

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Planning and Development Asad Umar revealed on Thursday that the national positivity of Covid-19 cases was 2.37 per cent yesterday, the highest in more than 50 days. In a tweet, the minister noted that the last time this level was seen was on August 23. He further added that the average number of deaths recorded this week so far were 11 per day, the highest since A.....

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Covid-19 causes Rs31.9b loss to PIA

Source: [Zafar Bhutta, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-15

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) has suffered a loss of Rs31.9 billion in the current year because of Covid-19 pandemic, said Chief Executive Officer Arshad Malik while giving a presentation to the cabinet on the progress and strategy to revive the airline. During the meeting, the cabinet was told that PIA's revenue had increased 42.5% in 2019. When Prime Minister Imran Kha.....

[more >>](#)

Another 97 contract Covid-19 in capital

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-14

ISLAMABAD: Amid fears of a second wave, as many as 97 fresh cases were confirmed in the federal capital while another 35 cases were confirmed in the neighbouring Rawalpindi. The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on the novel coronavirus (Covid-19) said that as many as 17,428 cases of the pandemic virus have been confirmed so far from the Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) with 189 asso.....

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Commonwealth virtual meeQureshi seeks utilisation of commonalities in legal, administrative systemsting;

Source: [Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-15

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi has urged the Commonwealth countries to utilise commonalities in legal and administrative systems to overcome protectionism, and maintain free trade as well as launching dialogue for deeper and more sustained debt relief to allow for more sustained economic recovery. Addressing the Commonwealth foreign affairs ministers virtual meeting on Wedne.....

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Pakistan reports 14 Covid-19 deaths, 615 fresh cases: NCOC

Source: [Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-15

ISLAMABAD - Another 14 people died in the country during the past 24 hours due to the Covid-19, raising the death toll in Pakistan to 6,601. The latest figures released by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Wednesday shows that six people each died in Sindh and Punjab while the remaining two deaths were reported from Azad Jammu and Kashmir. The cases of coronavirus infections.....

[more >>](#)

2 more educational institutes sealed in Islamabad

Source: [Rahul Basharat, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-15

Islamabad - The city health authorities on Wednesday sealed two more educational institutions in the city after confirmation of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) cases taking the toll of the sealed educational institutions so far to 29. The District Health Office (DHO) sealed Islamabad Model College for Girls (IMCG) Korang Town and a private school on confirmation of three COVID-19 cases there. M.....

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Unmistakable signs of rise of coronavirus in Pakistan: Asad Umar

Source: [nill](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-16

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Planning Asad Umar Thursday said there are “unmistakable signs of the rise of corona” in the country and the government may have to take “restrictive actions” to curb the spread, which will have “negative effects” on the livelihoods of people. In a series of tweets on Thursday, Asad Umar said the national positivity of COVID-19 ca.....

[more >>](#)

Investment in clean water, hygiene to help prevent spread of COVID-19

Source: [Myra Imran](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-16

Islamabad : On this Global Handwashing Day, which is themed around ‘Hand Hygiene for All’ WaterAid Pakistan joined hands with the government and other stakeholders to mark the day to highlight the fact that frequent handwashing with soap is one of the most effective ways of preventing the spread of COVID-19. Without this frontline defence, the risk of the virus spreading in com.....

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Time to take Covid SOPs seriously again: Asad Umar

Source: [Tahir Niaz](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-16

ISLAMABAD - Federal Minister for Planning and Development, Asad Umar, said yesterday that it's time to take Covid-19 SOPs seriously again. In a tweet, he said that time for all of us to take Covid SOPs seriously again otherwise the government may have to take restrictive actions which have negative effects on people's livelihoods. “Covid positivity is extremely high in Muzaffaraba.....

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Rehman Malik urges govt not to expose Zardari to Covid-19

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-16

ISLAMABAD - Chairman Senate Standing Committee on Interior Senator Rehman Malik on Thursday warned the government not to expose former president Asif Ali Zardari to COVID-19 by arresting him. Expressing his concerns over the issuance of arrest warrants for former president Asif Ali Zardari, he said the National Accountability Bureau should refrain from arresting him because of his serious medic.....

[more >>](#)

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Corona SOPs violations: Peshawar admin seals 400 shops, markets

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-13

PESHAWAR: Continuing action against violators of the standard operating procedures (SOPs) set by the government to contain the spread of the coronavirus, the district administration on Monday sealed 400 shops and a number of markets. Deputy Commissioner Peshawar Mohammad Ali Asghar led the team and inspected various places in the city. He expressed resentment over the failure of the trader.....

[more >>](#)

917 more shops sealed over SOPs violation

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-14

PESHAWAR: The district administration on Tuesday sealed 917 more shops and shopping plazas over the failure to observe the standard operating procedures (SOPs) set up by the government to prevent the transmission of the coronavirus in the province. DC Mohammad Ali Asghar led the team of officials and visited different places in the city. He met traders and shopkeepers and advised them to cooperate.....

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COVID-19: Education Dept of Hazara University sealed

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-14

MANSEHRA: The district administration on Tuesday sealed the Education Department of the Hazara University following students tested positive for the coronavirus. The joint team of the district administration and Health Department led by Assistant Commissioner Baffa-Pakhal, Rabia Abbasi, sealed the block No-2 following students of the Education Department were tested positive for Covid-19.

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Shortage of kits affecting testing capacity of Covid-19 labs in KP

Source: [Ashfaq Yusufzai](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-15

PESHAWAR: Inconsistent supply of kits and non-existence of dedicated staff has adversely been affecting the capacity of the PCR Covid-19 laboratories in the province, according to sources. "If the supply chain of kits is maintained regularly, then the province can conduct up to 7,000 Covid-19 tests per day. Presently, the number of swabs processed in the province is 4,000 only," senior.....

[more >>](#)

Covid-19 affects lesser number of women than men: report

Source: [Ashfaq Yusufzai](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-15

PESHAWAR: Coronavirus has infected lesser number of women and caused lesser deaths among them than men since the outbreak of the pandemic in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, says a report by World Health Organisation. The health experts said that women had less exposure to gatherings than men due to which they didn't contract the infection more than males. The report of WHO, prepared by its Khyber Pakht.....

[more >>](#)

College, school sealed in Balakot, Baffa over corona cases

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-15

MANSEHRA: The district administration on Wednesday sealed Government Degree College Balakot and the Government Higher Secondary School Baffa-Pakhal after a number of students and teachers of both the institutions tested positive for coronavirus. Assistant Commissioners of Balakot and Baffa-Pakhal tehsils sealed the Government Degree College Balakot and the Government Higher Secondary School.....

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Corona claims another life

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-16

PESHAWAR: Coronavirus on Thursday claimed another life in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, taking the toll to 1265. Up to 20 more people tested positive for the viral infection in KP, bringing the total number of infected patients to 38,521 in the province. The government is worried about education institutions as 418 positive cases have been reported from schools and colleges in the province so far.

[more >>](#)

Punjab

3 more deaths, another 49 test positive

Source: [Muhammad Qasim](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-13

Rawalpindi: Coronavirus illness, COVID-19 is continuously claiming significant number of lives here in Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district at least for the last five days. In last 24 hours, another three confirmed patients of the disease lost their lives in the region while 49 new patients were tested positive. In last five days, as many as 14 patients have died of the disease....

[more >>](#)

One more virus patient dies

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-13

LAHORE: One more COVID-19 patient died and other 77 new infections were confirmed in Punjab during the last 24 hours, according to report issued by Primary and Secondary Healthcare (P&SH) Department on Monday. The toll of fatalities was raised to 2,258 in Punjab, while confirmed cases of coronavirus reached 100,764 in the province. Out of a total of 100,764 infections in Punjab, 97,984

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Marriage halls demand relief in taxes

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-13

LAHORE: Marriage Halls and Caterers Association asked the government to consult with its members and keep them on board while evolving the Covid-19 SOPs for the industry. In a meeting with Minister for Industries and Trade Mian Aslam Iqbal here at Committee Room of Board of Punjab Investment and Trade on Monday, the association also demanded relief in the taxes as the industry was passing thr.....

[more >>](#)

77 new corona cases come to surface in Punjab

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-13

LAHORE - Punjab Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar Monday informed the citizens that one corona patient has died while 77 new cases have been reported during the last 24 hours in Punjab. In a statement, the CM has disclosed that the number of active corona cases stood at 1,561 while 11,082 persons were tested during the last 24 hours. He said as many as 2,258 patients have died while 21 were

[more >>](#)

111 more test positive for COVID-19

Source: [Muhammad Qasim](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-14

Rawalpindi : The disease caused by 2019 novel coronavirus, COVID-19 continues to hit population in the twin cities of Islamabad and Rawalpindi hard for the last one week though the virus claimed no life in the region in last 24 hours

however another 111 patients have been tested positive for the disease. In last one week, COVID-19 has claimed at least 14 lives in Islamabad Capital Territory.....

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Six corona patients die in 24 hours

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-14

LAHORE: Six Covid-19 patients died and another 128 new infections were confirmed in Punjab during the last 24 hours, according to a report issued by Primary and Secondary Healthcare (P&SH) Department here on Tuesday. The toll of fatalities reached 2,258 in Punjab, while confirmed cases of coronavirus reached 100,892 in the province. Out of a total of 100,892 infections in Punjab, 98,112.....

[more >>](#)

PCMEA cancels carpet exhibition due to Covid-19

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-14

LAHORE: The Pakistan Carpet Manufacturers and Exporters Association (PCMEA) on Tuesday disclosed that the international carpet exhibition is not going to be held this year due to Covid-19 pandemic. PCMEA Senior Vice Chairman told Business Recorder that now the Association has decided to arrange virtual exhibition and a meeting of stakeholders. The cargo airlines have increased six-time fare f.....

[more >>](#)

Punjab reports 128 fresh corona cases, six deaths

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Belt & Road News](#), 2020-10-14

LAHORE: Punjab has reported 128 fresh corona cases and six deaths taking the provincial tally to 100,892 and 2258, respectively. With recovery of 14 more patients, the total number of recovered patients has reached 96,959. During the last 24 hours, 10,453 tests were conducted. UHS Vice Chancellor Dr Javed Akram has feared rise in coronavirus cases during winter amid transmission of all v.....

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Covid-19: Punjab issues SOPs for public meetings, gatherings

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-15

LAHORE: The Punjab government has issued SOPs for holding mass/public gatherings in the wake of Covid-19 pandemic. Through a notification on the recommendation by a technical working group, the government has issued SOPs to prevent Covid-19 while organising/dealing with public gatherings. The notification addressed all administrative secretaries, commissioners, deputy commissioners, heads.....

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Another 121 test positive in twin cities

Source: [Muhammad Qasim](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-15

Rawalpindi : The coronavirus illness, COVID-19 outbreak that is getting more and more intense with every passing day at least here in the twin cities of Islamabad and Rawalpindi has taken shape almost similar to that in May as in last 24 hours, another 121 patients have been tested positive from the region taking tally to 24,056. Data collected by 'The News' on Wednesday has re.....

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Over 400 opposition workers held for 'flouting Covid SOPs'

Source: [Zulqernain Tahir](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-15

LAHORE: Violation of Covid-19 standard operating procedures (SOPs) provided a 'good justification' to the Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf government to book over 400 workers of opposition parties, mainly the PML-N, in different parts of

Punjab on Wednesday ahead of the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) first public show on Oct 16 in Gujranwala. The PML-N alleged on Wednesday that Punjab polic.....

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New corona SOPs for gatherings in Punjab

Source: [Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-15

LAHORE: The Punjab government has issued new standard guidelines (standard operating procedures) for public and official meetings in wake of expected second wave of coronavirus pandemic. The SOPs issued by the primary & secondary healthcare department on Wednesday categorised four types of gatherings. The department said concentration of people at a specific location for a specific purpose

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Corona funds spent in transparent manner

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-10-15

LAHORE: Chief Secretary Jawad Rafique Malik presented a cheque worth Rs120 crore to Chief Minister Usman Buzdar on Thursday for CM Fund for Corona Control. The CM appreciated the philanthropic passion of the government employees as they have set an example of sacrifice for the ailing humanity. The government has spent the donations in a transparent manner to rehabilitate the corona affectee.....

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Three shops sealed over corona SOPs violation

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-10-15

LAHORE :The district administration Wednesday sealed three shops in DHA for not implementation of coronavirus SOPs. Cantt Assistant Commissioner Marzia Saleem visited DHA Phase I and sealed three stores due to non-implementation of the SOPs. A grocery store, Hafiz Super Store and Today Salon were sealed. The SPOs relating to face masks, hand sanitizer and social distancing were not being implement.....

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Governor Sarwar announces Shaan Pakistan Award for corona heroes

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-10-15

LAHORE: Corona Heroes, who have shown outstanding performance during the corona crisis, will be given 'Shaan-e-Pakistan Award' in a ceremony to be held in Governor House at the end of this month. President Dr Arif Alvi, Punjab Governor Ch Muhammad Sarwar, provincial governors, Punjab chief minister and President Azad Kashmir will be present on the occasion. Governor Ch Sarwar w.....

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Cabinet Committee reviews steps to deal with COVID-19 2nd wave

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-10-15

LAHORE: On the instructions of Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar an important meeting of cabinet committee for corona was held at CM Office Wednesday. Provincial Ministers Raja Basharat, Dr Yasmin Rashid, Murad Raas, Yasir Humayun, Chief Secretary, SMBR, Additional Chief Secretary (Home), secretaries of departments concerned and high ranking officers attended the meeting. The meeting rev.....

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Covid-19 claims six more lives in Punjab

Source: [APP, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-15

LAHORE: The coronavirus pandemic claimed six more lives in the province over the last 24 hours. As per details, the total number of Covid-19 cases in the province exceeded 101,010 after registration of 122 new cases. According

to the spokesperson for Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department, the total number of deaths was 2,270 in the province. The health department confirmed that 71

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Danger of spike in coronavirus cases not over, warns Governor

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-15

LAHORE - Governor Punjab Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar on Wednesday said that the services of all those who fought against coronavirus pandemic valiantly would be recognized through 'Shaan-e-Pakistan Award' during a special ceremony at the Governor's House in the last week of October. Talking to the mediemen here, he said President Dr Arif Alvi, Provincial Governors, Chief Minist.....

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Punjab cabinet body for ban on public gatherings, processions

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-15

Lahore - The Cabinet Committee on Coronavirus which met here Wednesday recommended a ban on the public gatherings and processions as they could cause further spread of the deadly virus. The meeting reviewed measures taken by the government to cope with the second wave of COVID-19 and stressed the need for implementing the SOPs. Provincial Ministers Raja Basharat, Dr Yasmin Rashid, Murad Raa.....

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Corona hits population of Islamabad hard

Source: [Muhammad Qasim](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-16

Rawalpindi : The number of patients being tested positive for coronavirus illness, COVID-19, and deaths caused by the disease have started showing a sharp upward trend once again in the twin cities of Islamabad and Rawalpindi after June and this time too, the population in Islamabad Capital Territory is being hit hard by the virus. In the last 24 hours, the virus claimed another two lives

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CM Usman Buzdar, health dept differ over corona deaths

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-16

LAHORE: Chief Minister Usman Buzdar has said 11 corona patients have died in Punjab during the last 24 hours and 223 tested positive out of 11,607 tested during this period. In a statement, the CM advised people to remain careful as the number of patients is increasing. Observance of SOPs should continue and people should avoid unnecessarily visiting populous places, he said. Meanwhile, th.....

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CM warns of Covid-19 spike in rally

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-16

LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar on Thursday warned that there was a threat of spread of coronavirus in the public meeting being organised by the opposition parties and the government would not want its efforts made to contain the pandemic go waste. The CM made these remarks while presiding over a meeting to review law and order situation and strategy to counter the opposition r.....

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Two ministers among 223 new victims of COVID-19

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-16

LAHORE - Two provincial ministers were amongst 223 new COVID-19 patients reported from across Punjab on Thursday, taking the number of confirmed cases to 101,237. Seven patients breathed their last on Thursday, taking

the number of deaths to 2276. Minister for Commerce and Trade Mian Aslam Iqbal and Minister for Agriculture Hussain Jahanian Gardezi have been tested positive for the Covid-19. Mian

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11 corona patients die in last 24 hours, 223 test positive: Buzdar

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-16

LAHORE - Punjab Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar has said that 11 corona patients have died in Punjab during the last 24 hours and 223 were tested positive out of a total of 11,607 tested during this period. In a statement, the CM advised the people to remain careful as the number of patients was on the rise. Observance of SOPs should be continued and people should avoid unnecessarily visiting p.....

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Sindh

'Pandemic may hit new highs if SOPs ignored'

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-13

If standard operating procedures (SOPs) are not properly implemented, the coronavirus pandemic could reach new highs in the country, warned Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah on Monday. Addressing a meeting of the National Coordination Committee, chaired by Prime Minister Imran Khan, the CM opined that the recent rise in coronavirus cases in Pakistan was likely a result of the reopening.....

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Spike in Covid-19 cases can be controlled through SOPs: Murad

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-13

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has said that Coronavirus cases were increasing in the province which might be the result of major events such as Eids, Ashura, Chelum and opening of all business and educational activities. "We can contain spikes in the cases through strict implementation of SOPs, otherwise it would hit new highs in the country." This he said.....

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Doctors, nurses condemn withdrawal of corona health allowance

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-13

KARACHI- OPDs in different public sector hospitals in Karachi were closed for two hours (10 am to 12 noon) on Monday as part of token strike against provincial government's decision to stop, with immediate effect the Covid health allowance for doctors, nurses and paramedics. The protestors taking exception to the announcement made by Sindh government said it was beyond their comprehension.....

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Currently 38 COVID-19 infected cops under treatment: Sindh police

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-13

KARACHI - As many as 38 COVID-19 infected officers and personnel of Sindh police are currently under treatment while 3,378 have returned to their homes after recovering from the disease, said the spokesperson to Sindh police on Monday. He said that a total of 3,435 policemen had contracted the coronavirus so far. The spokesperson added that 19 policemen lost their battle against COVID-19. All due.....

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Six more die from Covid-19 in Sindh

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-14

The novel coronavirus has claimed six more lives in Sindh during the last 24 hours, said Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Tuesday. The overnight deaths brought the death toll to 2,562 and showed the mortality rate at 1.8 per cent, he said in his daily Covid-19 situation report. The chief minister said 8,448 tests were conducted, and 222 people tested positive. So far, 1,491,784 sample.....

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COVID-19 situation claims 6 lives, infects 222 others

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Frontier Post](#), 2020-10-14

KARACHI - Sindh Chief Minister (CM), Syed Murad Ali Shah on Tuesday said that six more patients of coronavirus died overnight lifting the death toll to 2,562 and 222 new cases emerged when 8,448 samples were tested in the province. In a statement issued here, he said that six more patients lost their lives while struggling against the virus lifting the death toll to 2,562 that constituted 1.8.....

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Covid-19 toll in Sindh rises to 2,566 as four more die

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-15

Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has said the coronavirus has claimed four more lives in the province, taking the death toll to 2,566. In his daily COVID-19 situation report on Wednesday, he said that with four more patients losing their lives overnight, the mortality rate stood at 1.8 per cent. He added that 177 more patients recovered over the past 24 hours, bringing the number o.....

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City administrator proposes Rs1,000 fine for not wearing a mask

Source: [M Waqar Bhatti](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-15

Keeping in view the growing number of Covid-19 cases in the current month, Karachi's administrator has proposed a fine of Rs1,000 for those who do not wear a mask in public places. "Covid-19 cases have started rising in the country, especially in Karachi, so in order to contain the infectious disease, we have once again proposed a Rs1,000 fine for all those would don't we.....

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Agha Siraj Durrani's indictment deferred as two co-accused contract coronavirus

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-15

An accountability court on Wednesday adjourned the indictment of Sindh Assembly Speaker Agha Siraj Durrani and 18 others in a graft reference as it was told that two co-accused had caught coronavirus and could not make it to the hearing. The National Accountability Bureau (NAB) had in May 2019 filed a reference against the Sindh Assembly speaker, his spouse, children, brother and others fo.....

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G-20 suspends poor nations' debt payments for six more months

Source: [Monitoring Desk](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-15

KARACHI: The G20 has decided to extend its debt relief to help poor countries fight the Covid-19 pandemic by another six months. Originally approved in May 2020, the Debt Service Suspension Initiative (DSSI) was supposed to run till December 2020. Pakistan was approved under the initiative and \$1.8 billion of its external debt service payments falling due till December were rescheduled under it.

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COVID-19 claims 4 more lives, infects 241 others: CM

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-15

KARACHI - Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah on Wednesday said that coronavirus had claimed four more lives lifting the death toll to 2,566 and infected 241 others raising the tally to 140,997. This he said in a statement issued from CM House. Syed Murad Ali Shah said that four more patients lost their lives overnight lifting the death toll to 2,566 that constituted 1.8 percent dea.....

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Pakistan's first death due to Covid-19 re-infection reported

Source: [M Waqar Bhatti](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-16

KARACHI: The first death has been reported in Pakistan due to 'COVID-19 re-infection' when a senior leader of Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Rashid Rabbani died due to complications of coronavirus infection at the Ziauddin Hospital Karachi on Thursday, officials said. "Rashid Rabbani, 68, had been brought to the Ziauddin Hospital with COVID-19 re-infection last week

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Shallwani proposes face mask fine

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-16

A fine of Rs1,000 was proposed to be levied on people not wearing face masks by Karachi Administrator Iftikhar Ali Shallwani on Thursday, as the coronavirus continues to threaten the country. Addressing the inauguration of Dr Essa Physiotherapy and Rehabilitation Centre, Shallwani said the pandemic was not yet over and discarding precautionary measures would have serious consequences. Appreciating.....

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PPP leader Rashid Rabbani succumbs to coronavirus in Karachi

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-16

KARACHI: Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) senior leader and Sindh Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah's special assistant Rashid Rabbani passed away in Karachi on Thursday, after a struggle against Covid-19 that lasted for several months. According to his family, Rabbani had been admitted to a private hospital in Clifton, where he was on the ventilator at the time of his death. He had tested positive

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Covid-19 RT-PCR test; Requirement withdrawn for passengers from 30 countries

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-16

KARACHI: The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) has done away with the condition of Covid-19 RT-PCR test for passengers from 30 countries. According to the revised standard operating procedure (SOP) for international passengers effective for the duration from October 19 to December 31, 2020, the CAA has updated a list of countries for categories A and B along with reviewed health declaration form.....

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COVID claims two more lives in Sindh

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-16

KARACHI - Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has said that 252 news cases of coronavirus emerged while two more patients died overnight in Sindh. In a statement issued from CM House on Thursday, Shah said that 9,687 tests were conducted against which 252 new cases emerged which constituted 2.6 percent current detection rate. He added that so far 1,510,705 samples had been detested which.....

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International News

Countries News

China to test whole city of 9m; Europe rolls out new virus rules

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-13

BEIJING: All nine million people in a major Chinese port city will be tested for Covid-19 following a tiny outbreak, health officials said on Monday, as surging infection numbers in Europe force another round of containment efforts. The virus has been largely brought under control in China — where it first emerged last year — in stark contrast to many parts of the world still afflicted.....

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Four of pope's security team test positive for virus

Source: [Agencies](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-13

VATICAN CITY: Four members of the Vatican Swiss Guards, the elite and colourfully dressed corps that protects the pope, have tested positive for Covid-19, the Vatican said on Monday. The results came in over the weekend and added to three other residents or citizens of the tiny Vatican city-state who have tested positive in recent weeks, according to a statement. They are believed to be the first.....

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India's coronavirus infections rise to 7.12 million

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-10-13

India's total coronavirus cases rose by 66,732 in the last 24 hours to 7.12 million on Monday morning, data from the health ministry showed. Deaths from COVID-19 infections rose by 816 to 109,150, the ministry said. India's coronavirus case load topped 7 million on Sunday and the country has added a million cases in just 13 days. It has the second-highest number of infections, behind t.....

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Novel coronavirus can last 28 days on glass, currency, Australian study finds

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-10-13

The virus that causes COVID-19 can survive on banknotes, glass and stainless steel for up to 28 days, much longer than the flu virus, Australian researchers said on Monday, highlighting the need for cleaning and handwashing to combat the virus. Findings from the study done by Australia's national science agency, CSIRO, appear to show that in a very controlled environment the virus remain.....

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Asia-Pacific countries begin to ease pandemic-related travel bans, but hurdles remain

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-10-13

Asia-Pacific countries including Singapore, Australia and Japan are gradually easing some international travel restrictions as coronavirus cases slow, in hopes of helping to revive their economies. International travel in Asia has collapsed during the pandemic due to border closures, with passenger numbers down 97% in August, according to the Association of Asia Pacific Airlines. Although Europe.....

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Countries turn to rapid antigen tests to contain second wave of Covid-19

Source: [Reuters](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-15

ZURICH: Countries straining to contain a second wave of Covid-19 are turning to faster, cheaper but less accurate tests to avoid the delays and shortages that have plagued efforts to diagnose and trace those infected quickly.

Germany, where infections jumped by 4,122 on Tuesday to 329,453 total, has secured 9 million so-called antigen tests per month that can deliver a result in minutes and cost

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Johnson & Johnson's Covid-19 vaccine trial paused over unexplained illness

Source: [Ap](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-13

A late-stage study of Johnson & Johnson's Covid-19 vaccine candidate has been paused while the company investigates whether a study participant's "unexplained illness" is related to the shot. The company said in a statement on Monday evening that illnesses, accidents and other so-called adverse events "are an expected part of any clinical study, especially large s.....

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Europe tightens curbs as Covid cases surge out of control

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-14

LONDON: European governments are battling to curb coronavirus surges with new controls and increased testing, while trying to avoid the devastating nationwide lockdowns of March and April. Cases climbed rapidly in Britain, France, Germany, Poland, and the Czech Republic on Tuesday, raising fears that the death rate could rise. Hospitals in Paris will have most of their intensive care beds packed.....

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Climate change means more weather disasters every year: UN

Source: [ap](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-14

GENEVA: In the wake of heat waves, global warming, forest fires, storms, droughts and a rising number of hurricanes, the UN weather agency warned on Tuesday that the number of people who need international humanitarian help could rise 50pc by 2030 compared to the 108 million who needed it worldwide in 2018. In a new report released with partners, the World Meteorological Agency says more disaster.....

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World Bank approves \$12 bln for Covid-19 vaccines

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-10-15

The World Bank said Tuesday that it approved \$12 billion for developing countries to finance the purchase and distribution of Covid-19 vaccines, tests and treatment. The financing "aims to support vaccination of up to a billion people," the bank said in a statement. The money is part of an overall World Bank Group (WBG) package of up to \$160 billion through June 2021 designed to help d.....

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Vaccine reluctance linked to belief in virus hoaxes: study

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-10-15

Up to a third of people in certain countries may believe coronavirus misinformation and in turn be less open to immunisation, scientists said Wednesday, warning that development of a vaccine "might not be enough". Researchers in Britain and the Netherlands conducted surveys in the UK, United States, Ireland, Mexico and Spain and found that while most people rejected Covid-19 conspirac.....

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Panicked Europe battens down against COVID second wave

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-10-15

European countries have begun to close schools and cancel surgeries, going well beyond curbs on social life, as overwhelmed authorities face their nightmare scenario of a COVID-19 resurgence right before the onset of winter.

Most European nations eased lockdowns over the summer to start reviving economies already heading for unprecedented downturns and job losses from the pandemic's first wa.....

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Donors News

Covid-19 infections among health workers declining: WHO

Source: [Agencies](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-14

Geneva- Health workers have since the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic been disproportionately affected by the crisis, but the WHO said Tuesday their high infection levels had finally begun to subside. While the coronavirus crisis has taken a heavy toll overall, data from many countries and regions show that healthcare workers have been infected at a far higher rate than the general populatio.....

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WB approves \$12bn for Covid-19 vaccines

Source: [AFP](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-15

WASHINGTON: The World Bank said Tuesday that it approved \$12 billion for developing countries to finance the purchase and distribution of Covid-19 vaccines, tests and treatment. The financing "aims to support vaccination of up to a billion people," the bank said in a statement. The money is part of an overall World Bank Group (WBG) package of up to \$160 billion through June 2021 designed.....

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