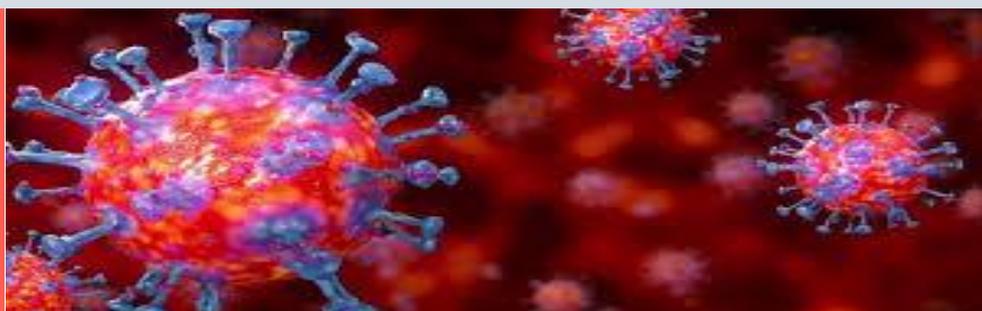


E-Newsletter on COVID-19



Vol. 01, No, 51



Issue: 17-19 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

Unpacking universal health coverage

Source: [Dr Zafar Mirza](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-17

“Nothing is stronger than an idea whose time has come”, said Victor Hugo. Universal Health Coverage (UHC) is such an idea. Covid-19 has drawn an unprecedented public concern to health affairs. The world has learnt how vulnerable it is to a disease outbreak and how a local disease can swiftly turn into a global pandemic. As the world learns to live with the virus and gradually r.....

[more >>](#)

Covid-19: water is already in the house!

Source: [Dr Rana Jawad Asghar](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-17

I lived in Islamabad's I-8 sector for years. In pursuit of squeezing more residential area, the Capital Development Authority levelled many natural waterways to set up its sectors. Until this sector was fully developed excess water was able to absorb in unbuilt areas, but not anymore. My house was on a street which was regularly flooded. I also realised that once the house's water defe.....

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Concerns about food security

Source: [Editorial](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-18

The Asian Development Bank's (ADB's) latest brief, 'Impact of Covid-19 and Locust Swarms on Farm Households in Sindh, Pakistan', could not have come out at a better time since it is the only credible warning that the government has received about the grave threat to food security that lies just ahead. Based on an analysis of data from a cross-sectional survey, ADB has warne.....

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As US battles Covid-19, flu shot misinfo spreads

Source: [Marisha Goldhamer](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-18

US health officials are pushing Americans to get vaccinated against the flu to help prevent hospitals already busy battling Covid-19 from being overwhelmed this winter, but false claims are threatening their efforts. Misinformation on social media, particularly that a flu shot will increase the risk of contracting the coronavirus or cause you to test positive for Covid-19 — it won't.....

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The coronavirus resurgence

Source: [Editorial](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-17

Planning and Development Minister Asad Umar's concern over the rising number of Covid-19 cases in the country, and the government's decision to impose "smart mini-lockdowns" in parts of Islamabad, Karachi and Azad Kashmir, only confirms what was widely expected because the virus has been on something of an uptrend since at least the beginning of October. It turns out that C.....

[more >>](#)

Business as usual

Source: [Rahat Dar](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-18

It's indeed business as usual at Lahore's biggest fruit and vegetable market — Sabzi Mandi, in vernacular — in Badami Bagh area. As labour and merchants mingle with customers in this wholesale food market, all of whom have

clearly turned out in hordes, out go all concerns about the Covid-related SOPs, chiefly the condition of wearing facemasks in public places. Already, the.....

[more >>](#)

A bitter homecoming

Source: [Malaika Raza](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-19

Away from home, unemployed and terrified – this is how Pakistani migrant workers, around the world, faced the terrifying economic onslaught of the coronavirus outbreak earlier this year. Heartbreaking videos of men and women appealing to the government for help flooded our social media timelines. Strapped and stranded, they were on the cusp of being evicted from their shelters for no.....

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Superspreader protests

Source: [Editorial](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-19

IT is the season of protests in Pakistan, but these public gatherings couldn't have come at a more problematic time. Citizens crushed by food inflation, gas and power crises and the general sluggishness of an economic slowdown are seething with anger — so much so that they are prepared to flout prevention protocols and take to the streets even as Covid-19 cases climb. Yesterday, the P.....

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More Iran sanctions

Source: [Editorial](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-18

AS election day in the US draws closer, the Trump administration is tightening the screws on arch-nemesis Iran through more sanctions, apparently to please the American president's right-wing voter base, and his allies in the Middle East. Some days ago, Washington sanctioned 18 Iranian banks, while any foreign parties dealing with these entities will also invite American wrath. This, in effe.....

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Denial, Deceit & Draconian – Yes, you are a Criminal

Source: [Sania Khan](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-10-19

Fellow Pakistanis, if you have been negligent and irresponsible in terms of your attitude, behavior, approach, faith or way of dealing with COVID 19, then you have committed a social crime and you must be ashamed of yourself for being the criminal who is not behind bars. Hue and cry of illiteracy in the country is going on for as long as we can remember but the history which the so called literat.....

[more >>](#)

Executive insights from 2020

Source: [Muhammad Omar Iftikhar](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-10-19

We all want to forget about the year 2020 at the earliest. The Covid-19 and its resulting pandemic have disrupted life, business, and how the world operated. Fortune recently surveyed the CEOs of various organizations that were on the 2020 Fortune 500 list. The results from this survey are a revelation indeed. The questions revolved around the resumption of economic activity, how much has the worl.....

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National News

Islamabad

OC Our Correspondent October 17, 2020 HomeToday's PaperIslamabad Boys college sealed

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-17

Islamabad : The district administration on Friday sealed the Islamabad Model College for Boys, G-10/4, over the detection of two coronavirus cases among staff members. The college will be allowed to resume classes only after the building is disinfected and contacts of the confirmed COVID-19 cases are traced to ensure the safety of other students and school staff. The exposed students and[more >>](#)

Compliance of SOPs monitored

Source: [Khalid Iqbal](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-17

Islamabad : The Deputy Commissioner (DC), Islamabad, Hamza Shafqat and District Health Officer (DHO) Dr Muhammad Zaeem Zia Thursday visited different public and private educational institutions, hotels, restaurants and metro bus stations to check compliance of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). The District Health Officer (DHO) Dr Muhammad Zaeem Zia told 'The News' that they.....[more >>](#)

Handwashing effective tool to prevent COVID-19, other diseases

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-17

Islamabad : Handwashing with soap remains one of our best defences against the coronavirus, along with other public health measures such as maintaining physical distance, avoiding crowded places, practising cough etiquette and wearing a mask wherever recommended, says a statement issued by World Health Organisation on the occasion of Global Handwashing Day. Global Handwashing Day observed

[more >>](#)

Twin cities in grip of 2nd wave of pandemic At least 155 people in Islamabad, 15 in Pindi test positive

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-17

ISLAMABAD/RAWALPINDI: The second wave of coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic has led to an increase in the number of patients in Rawalpindi and Islamabad. At least 155 people were tested positive for the virus on Friday while as many as 15 patients checked in to hospitals in Rawalpindi. Among the 15 patients in Rawalpindi, two have been put on ventilator while three positive cases reported from an e.....

[more >>](#)

New 638 Covid-19 cases reported nationwide

Source: [Abdul Rasheed Azad](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-17

ISLAMABAD: The number of countrywide Covid-19 cases has reached 322,417 with 6,628 deaths and 305,835 recoveries, the authorities reported. While worldwide cases of Covid-19 have reached 39 million, of which over a million have died, and over 27 million have recovered. Authorities in Pakistan over the past 24 hours have reported 638 new cases cases, 442 recoveries and registered 12 death.....

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641 new Covid-19 cases reported

Source: [Tahir Niaz](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-18

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan's Covid-19 tally jumped to 322,452, after the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) reported 641 new cases yesterday. During the last 24 hours, the virus also claimed 13 more lives, taking the death toll to 6,638. At least 306,640 patients have recovered from the deadly disease in the country since the start of the pandemic. Still 567 patients are in critical.....

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Pakistan reports 659 new infections, seven deaths

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-17

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan has reported 659 new Covid-19 infections during the past 24 hours as the country's Covid-19 tally jumped to 321,877. The virus claimed seven lives during the last 24 hours. The country's death toll stands at 6,621, while at least 305,835 patients have recovered from the deadly disease so far, said the officials. Islamabad, Gilgit-Baltistan and Azad Jammu and Kas.....

[more >>](#)

IMCB G-10/4 sealed after confirmation of COVID-19 cases

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-18

ISLAMABAD-The city health authorities on Friday sealed another educational institution after confirmation of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) cases taking the number of closed institutions to 34 so far. The District Health Office (DHO) recommended the Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) administration to close the Islamabad Model College for Boys (IMCB) G-10/4 after confirmation of COVID-19. The l.....

[more >>](#)

Largest fiscal stimulus package for Covid-19 relief given, says minister

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-17

ISLAMABAD - Federal Minister for Industries and Production Hammad Azhar on Friday said that the government acted in a timely and well-calibrated manner to lessen the detrimental effects of COVID-19 on economy of the country. "India is facing collapse of its economy due to COVID-19 but Pakistan witnessed industrial growth as compared to last year besides achieving tax collection targets

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PhD scholars seek extension due to COVID-19

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-18

Islamabad : The apathy with which students of advanced MS, M Phil and PhD are treated is unprecedented. All through the year, they keep on knocking at one door or the other to get their cases processed and counter unnecessary delays in award of degrees but no one listens to them. Fort the first time they seek an extension of a year in submission of their theses because COVID-19 had severe.....

[more >>](#)

President urges people to follow SOPs to keep Covid-19 resurgence at bay

Source: [News Desk](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-18

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi urged the nation on Sunday to strictly follow precautionary measures in order to mitigate the risk of an increased number of Covid-19 cases in the country. President Alvi, in a video message said, "we have overcome the pandemic to a significant extent, but will have to follow the SOPs to completely overcome it". The presid.....

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89 more test positive for COVID-19 in a day

Source: [Muhammad Qasim](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-19

Rawalpindi : The number of patients being tested positive for coronavirus illness, COVID-19 in this region of the country is on a continuous rise as in the last 24 hours, another 89 patients have been tested positive from Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district taking the tally to 24,600 of which 494 have so far lost their lives making the mortality rate among patients slightly over tw.....

[more >>](#)

Equal representation of women in upcoming LG polls demanded

Source: [Myra Imran](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-19

Islamabad : On the concluding day of the annual Rural Women Conference, the participants demanded equal representation of women in the upcoming local government (LG) elections and an awareness campaign to educate the communities about the key features of the new local government system. The three-day conference by PODA-Pakistan ended on a consensus demand to pull out the rural women from t.....

[more >>](#)

Pakistan reports 16 new deaths, 567 Covid-19 cases

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-19

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan reported 16 more Covid-19 deaths during the last 24 hours — highest in recent weeks — as the death toll reached 6654, officials said yesterday. On the other hand, with the fresh 567 cases detected in the country during the last 24 hours, the country's tally for confirmed coronavirus cases stood at 323,019 on Sunday, as per the government's Covid-19 port.....

[more >>](#)

Alvi asks people to observe SOPs for some more months

Source: [staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-19

ISLAMABAD: With the number of Covid-19 cases rising in the country, President Dr Arif Alvi on Sunday urged the nation to strictly adhere to the health protocols for the next few months and continue wearing masks, maintaining social distance and washing hands frequently. In a video message, President Alvi said the country had contained the virus to a great extent but had not eliminated it complete.....

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Body formed to ensure implementation of SOPs at airports

Source: [Mohammad Asghar](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-19

RAWALPINDI: The Aviation Division has constituted a seven-member committee, comprising officials from the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), airlines and Airport Security Force (ASF), to ensure implementation of standard operating procedures (SOP) to prevent the spread of Covid-19 at airports. Members of the committee are Mohammad Adnan Khan, chief operating officer (CEO) Islamabad International Air.....

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567 more test positive for coronavirus; 16 lives lost

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-10-19

The total active Covid-19 cases in Pakistan on Sunday were recorded at 9,296 as 567 more people tested positive for the deadly virus across country. At least 16 patients, 15 of whom were under treatment, died at hospitals and one out of hospital, according to the latest update issued by the National command and Operation Centre (NCOC). No Covid-affected person is on ventilator in Azad Jammu and Kas.....

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PM cautions against second Covid-19 wave during winter

Source: [News Desk](#), [The Economist](#), 2020-10-19

Prime Minister Imran Khan has expressed fear that during the winter season a second wave of Covid-19 could hit the country particularly in cities where level of pollution is very high. "I am afraid due to pollution in cities like Lahore, Karachi, Peshawar and other cities where level of pollution can lead to exponential rise and second wave of virus in the country," he said addressing.....

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Capital's Covid cases cross 1,000 mark

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-19

ISLAMABAD/ RAWALPINDI: The coronavirus pandemic is resurrecting in the twin cities as a patient died in Rawalpindi along with 35 new cases while 132 new infections were reported in the capital territory on Sunday. The tally of active Covid-19 cases crossed 1,000 mark in the capital, while the Rawalpindi administration said that a patient succumbed to the disease on Sunday while some 35 people re.....

[more >>](#)

Punjab

2 more die of COVID-19, another 116 test positive

Source: [Muhammad Qasim, The News, International](#), 2020-10-17

Rawalpindi : The spread of coronavirus illness, COVID-19 seems to be uncontrolled at least here in the twin cities of Islamabad and Rawalpindi for the last one-and-a-half weeks as over 1,000 new confirmed cases have been reported from the region in last nine days which means that almost every 7th patient being tested positive for the illness from the country is a resident of the federal capital or.....

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Wedding cards to bear anti-Covid SOPs

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-17

RAWALPINDI: People have been directed to print anti-Covid SOPs on wedding cards. The provincial government of Punjab in a bid to encourage citizens to fight the second wave of coronavirus has made it mandatory that invitations to public gatherings, particularly the wedding cards, will bear information regarding the standard operating procedures (SOPs) for the prevention of Covid-19 spread. Besid.....

[more >>](#)

Region seeing large spikes in COVID-19 cases

Source: [Muhammad Qasim, The News, International](#), 2020-10-18

Rawalpindi : Twin cities of Islamabad and Rawalpindi are seeing large spikes in number of coronavirus illness, COVID-19 cases and Islamabad Capital Territory is the hardest hit yet neither people nor the politicians from both the ruling party and opposition are following SOPs religiously to avoid spread of the disease. Data collected by 'The News' reveals that second wave of co.....

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Four more corona suspects admitted to Allied Hospital

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-10-18

FAISALABAD: Four more corona suspects, including a doctor of Muslim Town, were admitted to the Isolation Ward of the Allied Hospital here on Saturday. Meanwhile, some local philanthropists donated Rs 5 million for the construction of a 5-bed Ultra-Modern Corona Isolation Ward at the General Hospital, Ghulam Muhammadabad, which had become functional.

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Covid-19 SOPs hit thalassemia patients

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-18

RAWALPINDI: The ban on blood donation drives at the educational institutions due to the coronavirus pandemic has left young thalassemia patients in a dilemma. The prohibition on blood donation campaigns in educational institutions due to coronavirus Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) has created a dearth of stocks for children suffering from thalassemia disease which requires regular transfusi.....

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10 more COVID-19 patients die

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-19

LAHORE: Ten more COVID-19 patients died and 134 new infections were confirmed in Punjab during the last 24 hours, according to a report issued by the Primary and Secondary Healthcare (P&SH) Department on Sunday. The fatalities toll raised to 2,298 in Punjab, while confirmed cases of corona reached 101,559 in the province. As per the spokesperson for the Corona Monitoring Room at the Primary and Secondary....

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Coronavirus claims 10 more lives in Punjab

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-19

LAHORE - Another ten people lost their lives to coronavirus in Punjab while 134 new cases were reported during the last 24 hours. A spokesperson for the Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department said on Sunday the number of coronavirus cases in the province reached 101,559 while the total deaths 2,298 and the total number of recoveries is 97,219. The P&SHD confirmed that 77 new cases of....

[more >>](#)

Punjab reports 10 more deaths from Covid-19

Source: [staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-19

LAHORE: Coronavirus claimed the lives of 10 people during the last 24 hours in Punjab. Most deaths were reported in Lahore, while the others were from Multan, Faisalabad and Rawalpindi, according to official figures. Meanwhile, 134 more people tested positive for Covid-19 during the same period all over the province. According to the latest figures, Lahore reported 69 new cases and Multan and Rawal....

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Sindh

Covid-19 claims six more lives in Sindh

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-17

Six more people died of the coronavirus in Sindh over the past 24 hours, taking the death toll to 2,574, which constituted a 1.8 per cent mortality rate. A total of 8,429 tests were conducted and 225 more cases of Covid-19 emerged, raising the number of patients in the province to 141,474 and showing a 2.6 per cent detection rate, said Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Friday. In his

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Renowned doctor succumbs to Covid-19 in Karachi

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-17

KARACHI: Former head of Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre's (JPMC) ENT department Dr Usman, who was earlier diagnosed with Covid-19, succumbed to the contagion during the course of treatment in the early hours of Saturday. Confirming the news, JPMC executive director Dr Seemin Jamali said Dr Usman was admitted to a private hospital after he tested positive of coronavirus. He was laid to rest.....

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'Rural women on frontline of pandemic, calamities'

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-17

HYDERABAD: Rural women are on the frontline of natural disasters and afflictions such as the Covid-19 pandemic, with these adversities directly affecting them in more ways than one, observed speakers during a session held in relevance to the International Day of Rural Women on Thursday. In line with this year's theme of 'Building Rural Women's Resilience in the Wake of Covid-19.....

[more >>](#)

Virus claims five more lives, says CM

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-18

KARACHI - As many as five more patients of coronavirus died lifting the death toll to 2579 and 239 more cases emerged when 9094 PCR tests were conducted raising the tally to 141,713. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued here from CM House on Saturday. Mr Shah said that five more patients died while struggling against coronavirus lifting the death toll.....

[more >>](#)

School teacher dies of COVID-19

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-18

HYDERABAD - A high school teacher, under treatment for an intestinal disease, lost her life after being infected by the coronavirus. The District Education Officer (DEO) Hyderabad, Pir Mohiyuddin Shah Jeelani, confirmed the death of 50 years old Syeda Shaheen Shah here on Saturday. According to him, the deceased taught at Government Girls High School Hameeda Shahnawaz II, Qasimabad. He apprised

[more >>](#)

Virus claims 6 more lives, infects 225 others: CM

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-17

KARACHI - Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Friday said six more patients of coronavirus lost their lives lifting the death toll to 2,574 with 1.8 percent death rate. He, in a statement, said 225 more cases emerged when 8,429 tests were conducted raising the tally to 141,474 with 2.6 percent current detection rate. The Chief Minister said so far 1,519,134 tests had been conducted.....

[more >>](#)

Covid-19 claims life of teacher in Hyderabad

Source: [Z Ali](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#) , 2020-10-18

HYDERABAD: The novel coronavirus has reportedly claimed the life of a schoolteacher who was scheduled to undergo surgery in the coming days. Fifty-year-old Syeda Shaheen Shah, who taught at Government Girls High School Hameeda Shahnawaz II, Qasimabad, passed away late on Friday night, confirmed district education officer (DEO) Pir Mohiyuddin Shah Jeelani. The deceased teacher, who hailed from Ma.....

[more >>](#)

Covid-19 kills two more patients in Sindh

Source: [News Desk](#), [The News, International](#) , 2020-10-19

Two more people have died due to COVID-19 and another 135 cases have been reported during the past 24 hours in Sindh, with the death toll due to the viral disease reaching 2,581 in the province. Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said in his daily situation report on the health emergency on Sunday that 3,837 samples were tested in the past 24 hours, resulting in 135 people, or four per cent.....

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Three Covid-19 patients, among them a teacher, die in Hyderabad

Source: [Staff Correspondent](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#) , 2020-10-19

HYDERABAD: Three patients of coronavirus, including a female schoolteacher who suffered from other ailments as well, died over the past two days in the city. The teacher Shaheen Bibi, who served in a government school in Qasimabad, tested positive a week ago after one of her colleagues contracted the virus and the school was closed subsequently. District Health Officer Dr Lala Jaffar said that t.....

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International News

Countries News

Rahul believes Pakistan handled corona better than India

Source: [nill](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-10-17

NEW DELHI: In a jibe directed at the Narendra Modi-led government in New Delhi, India's main opposition leader, Rahul Gandhi, on Friday praised Pakistan for handling the coronavirus better than his own country's government managed to do. "Another solid achievement by the BJP government. Even Pakistan and Afghanistan handled COVID better than India," Gandhi said while

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India's coronavirus infections rise to 7.43 million

Source: [Reuters](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-17

MUMBAI: India's cumulative tally of coronavirus infections stood at 7.43 million on Saturday, having risen by 62,212 in the last 24 hours, health ministry data showed. But the number of active infections slipped below 800,000 for the first time in 1.5 months, which the ministry called a significant achievement. India has recorded the world's second-largest number of cases after the

[more >>](#)

Coronavirus remains active on human skin for nine hours, say Japanese experts

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-19

TOKYO: The coronavirus remains active on human skin for nine hours, Japanese researchers have found, in a discovery they said showed the need for frequent hand washing to combat the Covid-19 pandemic. The pathogen that causes the flu survives on human skin for about 1.8 hours by comparison, said the study published this month in the Clinical Infectious Diseases journal. "The nine-hour surv.....

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PLO official in Israeli hospital after Covid-19 condition worsens

Source: [Reuters](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-19

JERICHO: Chief Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat was taken by ambulance to a hospital in Israel on Sunday for treatment of a worsening case of Covid-19, the Palestine Liberation Organisation said. Witnesses said Erekat, 65, was on a stretcher when he was placed inside an Israeli ambulance outside his home in Jericho, in the occupied West Bank. Erekat, who is also secretary general of the PLO, di.....

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Europe surges past 250,000 virus deaths as Israel lifts lockdown

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-10-19

PARIS: Europe passed the milestone of 250,000 deaths from coronavirus on Sunday, as Israel and Australia's second-largest city of Melbourne began to gradually ease their strict lockdowns. European nations have ratcheted up restrictions on daily life to tackle soaring infections, with a 44 percent increase in cases this week. Night-time curfews on millions came into force in France this wee.....

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