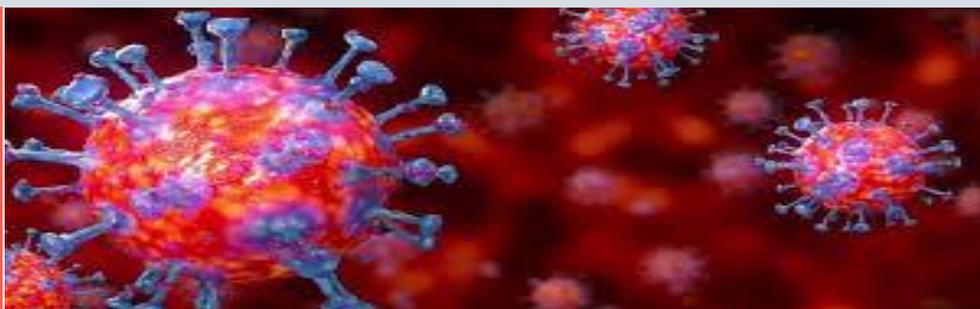


E-Newsletter on COVID-19



Vol. 01, No, 63



Issue: 28-30 November, 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

Suspected North Korean hackers targeted COVID vaccine maker AstraZeneca

Source: [Jack Stubbs](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-28

Suspected North Korean hackers have tried to break into the systems of British drugmaker AstraZeneca in recent weeks, two people with knowledge of the matter told Reuters, as the company races to deploy its vaccine for the COVID-19 virus. The hackers posed as recruiters on networking site LinkedIn and WhatsApp to approach AstraZeneca staff with fake job offers, the sources said. They then sen.....[more >>](#)

The pandemic and the ways forward

Source: [Nazakat Hussain](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-29

Much has been said about the state of preparedness in Pakistan and other regional countries for Covid-19. After the outbreak of the pandemic in Europe and other parts of the world after its initial occurrence in China, Pakistan had at least three months to prepare. The same can be said of other South Asian countries. The virus, however, caused a dire situation in many of the Gulf and Middle Easter.....[more >>](#)

Need for professional, truthful Covid-19 SOPs

Source: [Dr Rana Jawad Asghar](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-29

For those who never considered a possibility of a pandemic disrupting our lives and social order, everything happening now in the coronavirus pandemic is something new and mind-boggling. For a few of us who were working on detecting and controlling ongoing outbreaks and epidemics around the world, this was all preparation for an imminent epic war (aka, a pandemic). Over the years global health exp.....[more >>](#)

The fatal second wave

Source: [Usama Nizamani](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-29

Covid-19 is making a resurgent come back in Pakistan. The toll it's taking, in terms of rising infections and growing fatalities by the day, is no secret by any means. Yet, it has taken a serious toll in Pakistan: in our collective journey from sense and sensibility to reason's decline to senility and insensitivity. Before presenting my central argument, it is important to revisit the

[more >>](#)

Post-Covid world order and geopolitics

Source: [M Ali Hussain Dogar](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-30

The coronavirus pandemic has highlighted the dismal state of the global order. It can be seen that nations have regressed into narrow selfish policies, and the tenet of rule-based international order has been negated completely. The primary focus of the world powers is to acquire hegemony in the post-pandemic world, instead of finding solutions to the universal challenges. With this situation, we.....

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Our Covid response

Source: [Editorial](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-30

In the midst of every crisis lies a great opportunity. The incumbent government, led by Prime Minister Imran Khan, proved it's not just a cliché. Yes, such has been our fight against Covid-19. We not only rode past the first wave of the coronavirus much less scathed – in comparison with the neighbouring India as well as the US and Europe – but we also came out with a bagfu.....

[more >>](#)

Covid: Fatality fears

Source: [BR Research](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-30

There will not be a lockdown. The message is loud and clear from the government. It is crystal clear on what end of the spectrum does the federal government stand on the life vs livelihood debate. Without going into the merits and demerits, that is the stance that the government continues to take. And it has good reasons too, as the first wave proved much less lethal than everybody expected.....

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Need for crisis communication

Source: [BR Research](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-30

The rising number of coronavirus cases is dampening social mood and depressing economic spirit. Anecdotal evidence suggests that mask-wearing is rather patchy or inconsistent in public spaces in major cities. If during this tough winter the collective response of the country - an aggregate of what individuals, businesses and federal and provincial governments do - won't graduate from '.....

[more >>](#)

National News

Islamabad

ICT admin seeks Ulema role for compliance of COVID-19 SOPs

Source: [APP](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-28

Islamabad: The capital administration Friday sought Ulema (religious scholars) cooperation for compliance of standard operating procedures (SOPs) against coronavirus at mosques and seminaries amid second wave of pandemic in the city. A meeting in that regard was held here at chief commissioner office with leading Ulema from all sects in Islamabad to ensure implementation of anti-coronavir.....[more >>](#)

Covid-19-Upsurge poses risk to economic recovery: MoF

Source: [Zaheer Abbasi](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-28

ISLAMABAD: The Finance Ministry has termed the upsurge of Covid-19 infections as a major risk to the scenario of economic recovery on a path of external and internal balance as restrictions may be imposed in some sectors to protect the health of the people. Monthly economic update and outlook for November 2020 uploaded by the Finance Ministry on its website noted that a major risk to this sce.....[more >>](#)

Pakistan reports 3,045 new coronavirus cases in one day

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-28

Pakistan has reported 45 deaths in the last 24 hours by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has surged to 392,356. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 7,942 on Saturday. According to the latest figures by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC), 3,045 persons tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 24 hours. Sindh remains the worst-hit province by the pan.....[more >>](#)

Over 2,000 virus patients are in critical condition

Source: [Tahir Niaz](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-28

ISLAMABAD - The country's coronavirus positivity ratio has fallen to 7.2 percent, days after reaching its highest-ever level of 7.4 percent since the pandemic hit the country nine months ago, said National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Friday. A session of the NCOC was apprised about the disease's prevalence and spread in various parts of the country. The meeting was atte.....

[more >>](#)

Health authorities look less prepared to manage COVID-19 patients' influx

Source: [Rahul Basharat](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-28

ISLAMABAD - As novel coronavirus (COVID-19) positivity ratio surged above 05% in the city, the health authorities look less prepared in managing the number of patients on the available number of beds, The Nation learnt on Friday. According to the National Command and Operations Centre (NCOC) data, eight COVID-19 patients died in the city in the previous 24 hours, while 305 were added in the i.....

[more >>](#)

Amid rise in COVID-19 cases, Finance Ministry warns of negative economic impacts

Source: [Imran Ali Kundi](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-28

ISLAMABAD - The ministry of finance has warned that downside economic risks are becoming prominent due to the increase in number of coronavirus cases in the country. "Economic recovery which was started since the start of the new fiscal year, continued in the month of October 2020. However, looking at the impact of the ongoing coronavirus, the downside risks are becoming prominent. Most.....

[more >>](#)

Corona ferocity grows as 45 more die

Source: [APP](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-29

ISLAMABAD: The total active COVID-19 cases in Pakistan on Saturday were recorded 46,861 as 3,045 more people tested positive during the last 24 hours. Forty-five corona patients, of whom 39 were under treatment in hospital, died on Friday, according to the latest update issued by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC). No affected person was on ventilator in Azad Jammu and Kashmir.....

[more >>](#)

Special medical exam for COVID positive candidates on Dec 13

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-29

Islamabad : The Pakistan Medical Council has announced that it will hold a special medical and dental colleges entry exam on December 13 for the candidates, who have contracted novel coronavirus. In a statement, the PMC said the Medical & Dental Council had approved the holding of a special MDCAT examination for COVID-19 positive students. It said in the scenario that a registered stu.....

[more >>](#)

Most export markets hit by virus surge: MoF

Source: [Zaheer Abbasi](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-29

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's most export markets with the exception of China have been hit by the recent upsurge in the Covid-19 infections and hospitalizations, according to the Finance Ministry's economic update. The ministry in its monthly economic update for November 2020 noted that in the Euro area and the UK, fresh lockdown measures have been imposed to flatten the curve. On t.....

[more >>](#)

All provinces bound to implement NCOC decisions: Fawad

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-29

ISLAMABAD - Minister for Science and Technology Chaudhry Fawad Hussain Saturday said all the provincial governments were bound to implement the decisions taken by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) including ban on the large public gatherings. Talking to a private news channel, he said the political gatherings were a major source of coronavirus spread and the Pakistan Democrati.....

[more >>](#)

Covid-19 now hitting business of both houses of the Parliament

Source: [Imran Mukhtar](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-29

ISLAMABAD - The second wave of Covid-19 that has set alarm bells ringing with ever-increasing positivity rate of infections and the hospitals are close to reaching their capacity has also hit hard business of the both the houses of the parliament. Unlike the first wave of coronavirus during last summer, the government has so far avoided to impose complete lockdown by closing business activiti.....

[more >>](#)

Country reports 3,045 new Covid-19 cases, 45 deaths Share:

Source: [Tahir Niaz](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-29

ISLAMABAD - As the second wave of Covid-19 resurges in the country, it reported 3,045 new infections and 45 deaths during the last 24 hours. With the new fatalities, the death toll in the country has now reached 7,942. Pakistan reported more than 3,000 coronavirus cases for the fourth straight day on Saturday. According to the data, Sindh reported 1,423 cases, Punjab 738 cases, Khyber-Pakhtu.....

[more >>](#)

447 new corona cases reported in capital: NCOC

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-29

ISLAMABAD- National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) on Coronavirus Saturday said that 447 new COVID-19 cases were reported from the federal capital during the last 24 hours. According to an official of NCOC, as many as 425 cases were reported on Friday while 576 cases were reported on Thursday which was the highest number of cases reported in a day during last two months. He said so far 29,427.....

[more >>](#)

Coronavirus screening begins at 'Panahgahs' for dwellers' safety

Source: [APP](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-30

Islamabad : The management of shelter homes has started screening for the coronavirus at all of six 'Panahgahs' of twin cities of Rawalpindi and Islamabad to ascertain the prevalence of infection in dwellers and service providers. Prime Minister's Focal Person on Shelter Homes Naseem-ur-Rehman told the media about the development on Sunday after visiting the Peshawar Mor f.....

[more >>](#)

Panahgahs screened for coronavirus

Source: [APP](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-30

ISLAMABAD: Shelter homes' management has started screening for novel coronavirus (Covid-19) at all six panahgahs in Rawalpindi and Islamabad to ascertain the prevalence of infection in dwellers and service providers. Prime Minister's Focal Person on Shelter Homes Naseemur Rehman talked about the development on Sunday after visiting the Peshawar Mor facility where the service providers

[more >>](#)

Pakistan, Argentina join hands against Covid

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-30

ISLAMABAD: Health experts of Argentina and Pakistan discussed measures to prevent the spread of novel coronavirus disease (Covid-19). A virtual discussion forum was organised by the Embassy of Pakistan in Argentina in which health experts and authorities of both countries participated. National Institute of Blood Diseases (NIBD) Director Dr Tahir Shamsi also attended the virtual discussion room.....

[more >>](#)

Pakistan reports 2,839 new coronavirus cases in one day

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-30

Pakistan has reported 40 deaths in the last 24 hours by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has surged to 398,024. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 8,025 on Monday. According to the latest figures by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC), 2,839 persons tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 24 hours. Sindh remains the worst-hit province by the pande.....

[more >>](#)

Crowded mosques, markets likely to push capital towards worse condition

Source: [Mansoor Ali](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-30

ISLAMABAD-The crowded mosques and markets including Sunday bazaars across Islamabad without following SOPs are likely to push the capital into a worse state. Despite frequent warnings, thousands of persons with no precautionary measures have been rushing to mosques and markets in federal capital without masks. Meanwhile, many civil society activists and political leaders have raised their re.....

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PNCA postpones Annual Festival 2020 amid COVID-19

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-30

ISLAMABAD- Pakistan National Council of the Arts (PNCA) has postponed its Annual Festival 2020 in regards with the increasing cases of COVID-19 in capital. According to an official announcement on Monday, government's decision of refraining from public gatherings, PNCA had postponed annual festival due to serious health risk as the second wave of the pandemic was on the rise in the countr.....

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2,839 new Coronavirus cases reported; 40 deaths in past 24 hours

Source: [APP](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-30

ISLAMABAD: The total active COVID-19 cases in Pakistan on Monday were recorded 48,576 as 2,839 more people tested positive for the deadly virus during the last 24 hours. Forty corona patients, 37 of whom were under treatment in hospital and three out of hospital died on Saturday, according to the latest update issued by the National command and Operation Centre (NCOC). No COVID affected person w.....

[more >>](#)

Covid mortality analysis show 71 percent male affected, fatality rate 2.02 percent: NCOC

Source: [APP](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-30

ISLAMABAD: The COVID Mortality Analysis on Monday showed the total deaths occurred due to COVID were 8,024 with Covid Fatality Rate (CFR) reaching 2.02 percent against 2.33 percent global CFR as 71 percent of the Coronavirus affected were males. The National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) in the COVID Mortality Analysis mentioned that out of the total 8,024 deceased around 76 percent patient.....

[more >>](#)

Pakistan's major cities witness alarming increase in COVID-19 positivity rate

Source: [Web Desk](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-30

Second wave of coronavirus have been on the upward trend in Pakistan, as positivity rate of the virus goes over 22% in a few cities of the country. As per daily reports by World Health Organisation (WHO), the number of coronavirus laboratory tests which came back positive — reached as high 24.8% in Mirpur, Azad Jammu and Kashmir, on November 29. Meanwhile, the city continued to record a po.....

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Opposition main hurdle to tackling virus spread, says Imran

Source: [Syed Irfan Raza](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-30

ISLAMABAD: A day before the Pakistan Democratic Movement's (PDM) rally in Multan, Prime Minister Imran Khan on Sunday called the opposition the 'main' problem in tackling the spread of Covid-19 cases. "Now, with the new spike, when we again need smart lockdown, they want Jalsas (public gatherings) not caring for the lives and safety of people," the prime minister sai.....

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70pc of cases being reported from five cities, NCOC told

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-30

ISLAMABAD: Five major cities — Lahore, Rawalpindi, Islamabad, Peshawar and Karachi — contribute 70 per cent of coronavirus cases in Pakistan, according to the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) data released on Sunday. A meeting of the NCOC was informed that Mirpur (Azad Jammu and Kashmir), Hyderabad, Karachi, Rawalpindi and Peshawar were among the top cities with persistent.....

[more >>](#)

Islamabad sees drop in Covid-19 cases

Source: [Aamir Yasin | Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-30

Positivity rate falls to 5.29pc Rawalpindi police official falls victim to virus Twin cities report 501 new patients ISLAMABAD: The federal capital saw a reduction in its daily Covid-19 cases on Sunday as 355 people tested positive compared to 447 a day earlier. However, the district administration advised residents to continue following standard operating procedures. "Positivity

[more >>](#)

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

MPA Samar Bilour tests positive for Covid-19

Source: [Bureau Report, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-28

PESHAWAR: Awami National Party (ANP) spokesperson and Member Provincial Assembly (MPA) Samar Haroon Bilour has tested positive for the coronavirus and she has quarantined herself at her home. It may be mentioned that the Bilour family had hosted a lunch for the leaders of the Pakistan Democratic Movement who had come to Peshawar for the protest rally on November 22. Pakistan People's.....

[more >>](#)

5 more test positive for Covid-19 in Nowshera

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-11-29

NOWSHERA: The number of confirmed Covid-19 infected patients reached 1245 after five more tested positive for the coronavirus during on Saturday. According to Deputy Commissioner Mir Raza Ozgan, District Health Officer Dr Gulman Shah and Qazi Medical Complex Deputy Medical Superintendent Dr Zahid Khan said that the number of patients infected by the fatal Covid-19 were increasing with eac.....

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Dr Faisal inaugurates five-day anti-polio drive in KP

Source: [Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-30

PESHAWAR: Special Assistant to Prime Minister on Health Dr Faisal Sultan inaugurated five-day anti-polio campaign by administering polio drops to a child here in Civil Secretariat on Sunday. KP Minister for Health, Taimur Saleem Jhagra, Special Assistant to KP CM on Information, Kamran Bangash, Special Assistant to CM on Excise & Taxation, Ghazan Jamal, MPA Dr Ayesha Bano, Special Secretary H.....

[more >>](#)

Covid affects flow of Chitral labourers to down country

Source: [Correspondent, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-30

CHITRAL: The dreaded Covid-19 has been keeping both skilled and unskilled labourers here from going to southern districts of the country to seek jobs. Retired Prof Shamsun Nizar Fatimi told this correspondent that the pandemic had already unleashed a string of factors to restrict sources of income in Chitral thereby triggering poverty. He said tourism sector remained dormant during th.....

[more >>](#)

Peshawar may not have high Covid death rate as projected

Source: [Ashfaq Yusufzai, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-30

PESHAWAR: The provincial metropolis, which recorded eight of the total nine deaths in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Sunday, has in fact lesser mortality from Covid-19 than projected in the health department's daily reports. "Of 313 new cases in the province Peshawar recorded 174, but less than 30 per cent of these patients are domiciled here and the rest came from other districts and get test.....

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Punjab

22 corona patients die in Punjab

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-28

LAHORE: Around 22 corona patients died across Punjab during the last 24 hours taking the total number of corona-related deaths to 2,945 in the province. According to daily situation report issued by the Primary & Secondary Healthcare (P&SH) Department Punjab, 654 new cases have been reported during the last 24 hours bringing the number of total confirmed cases to 117,160 in the prov.....

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Various businesses sealed for corona SOPs violations

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-28

LAHORE: The district administration continued implementation of corona SOPs in the provincial capital till late at night on Friday. Deputy Commissioner Mudassar Riaz Malik said that Model Town Assistant Commissioner Zeeshan Nasrullah Ranjha visited Gulberg, Gaddafi Stadium and inspected the implementation of the corona SOPs and sealed Farah Talib Boutique, Outfitters, Cardholders, House of

[more >>](#)

Covid-19 deaths top 300 in capital

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-28

RAWALPINDI/ ISLAMABAD: At least eight people have died of novel coronavirus disease (Covid-19) in Islamabad during the past 24 hours taking the toll of the pandemic to over 300. Islamabad Deputy Commissioner Hamza Shafqaat said in a tweet that at least 200 people among the 300 fatalities were aged 60 and above. He warned that the second wave of the coronavirus was more lethal and asked people t.....

[more >>](#)

CM accuses Opp of dividing nation on pandemic

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-28

LAHORE - Punjab Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar Friday accused the Opposition parties of dividing the nation on the corona issue saying that history will not remember them in good words. "The coronavirus is a collective issue of all the nations in the world but opposition is engaged in doing politics over it. On the other side, the PTI fully understands the pain of the poor",.....

[more >>](#)

Govt to overcome second wave of Covid-19: CM Usman Buzdar

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-29

LAHORE: Chief Minister Usman Buzdar has expressed confidence that the government will overcome the recent wave of the Covid-19 epidemic with people's support. In a statement here on Saturday, the CM said the rulers of previous regimes ignored the health sector as the same had never been in their priorities. Usman Buzdar termed the attitude of opposition a big disappointment and said that.....

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Seven Pindi schools sealed for staying open

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-29

RAWALPINDI/ ISLAMABAD: The Rawalpindi district administration on Saturday sealed seven schools found open despite closure orders. On the strict instructions of Deputy Commissioner Anwarul Haq, the Civil Defence Department

(CDD) teams surveyed various areas to check schools defying the extended winter holidays announced by the government. CDD District Officer Talib Hussain supervised the operati.....

[more >>](#)

Covid-19 claims 15 more lives in Punjab 367 new cases reported in Lahore

Source: [APP](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-29

LAHORE: The second wave of Covid-19 pandemic claimed 15 more lives on Saturday and 738 new cases were reported in Punjab. A spokesperson for the Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department (PP&SHD) said the number of coronavirus cases in the province reached 117,898 while number of deaths has reached 2,960. The PP&SHD confirmed that 367 new cases were reported in Lahore, four in S.....

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Government will overcome pandemic

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-29

LAHORE - Punjab Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar has said that the government will overcome the recent wave of the Covid-17 pandemic with the people's support. In a statement, the Chief Minister said that rulers of previous regimes ignored the health sector as the same had never been in their priorities. Usman Buzdar termed the attitude of opposition a big disappointment and said that.....

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15 deaths, 738 new cases of COVID-19 reported in Punjab

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-29

LAHORE-The second wave of COVID-19 claimed 15 more lives on Saturday and 738 new cases were reported in Punjab. According to the spokesperson of the Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department (PP&SHD), the number of coronavirus cases in the province reached 117,898 while a number of deaths have been recorded 2,960. The PP&SHD confirmed that 367 new cases were reported in Laho.....

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Several Punjab neighbourhoods put under smart lockdown

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-30

LAHORE: Several Punjab neighbourhoods were put under smart lockdowns on Sunday in view of the persistently rising coronavirus cases in the province. Punjab's coronavirus cases have, as of reporting time, shot up to almost 118,000, with close to 3,000 deaths reported from the deadly disease. According to a notification issued by retired Captain Muhammad Usman, the secretary of Punjab&#.....

[more >>](#)

CM warns opposition of corona spread

Source: [APP](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-30

LAHORE: Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar on Sunday said that second wave of COVID-19 had become dangerous with having non-traditional symptoms; therefore preventive measures were utmost necessary. In a media statement issued here, the chief minister said that coronavirus was about to be eradicated from the country but highly irresponsible attitude of the opposition parties gave this viru.....

[more >>](#)

Call off rallies until corona is over, Yasmin tells Opp

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-30

LAHORE : Punjab Health Minister Dr Yasmin Rashid has warned of a strong and severe second wave of corona pandemic in Punjab urging utmost caution until the introduction of new vaccine. Speaking at a press conference at

Chief Minister Secretariat on Sunday, the health minister said that cases that were reduced to less than 100 a day around mid-September, have now increased manifolds. She sa.....

[more >>](#)

19 corona patients die in 24 hours

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-30

LAHORE : Around 19 corona patients died and 613 new infections were confirmed in Punjab during the last 24 hours, according to report issued by Primary and Secondary Healthcare (P&SH) Department on Sunday. The death toll reached 2,979 in Punjab, while confirmed cases became 118,511 in the province.

[more >>](#)

PMA for steps to contain spread of coronavirus

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-30

LAHORE : The Pakistan Medical Association (PMA), Punjab, urged the government to take urgent measures to contain the spread of second wave of coronavirus as admissions with new infections in hospitals are increasing day by day. This was observed during a meeting of PMA, Punjab chapter, held under the chairmanship of Dr Tanveer Anwar and attended by General Secretary Dr Rana Sohail, Dr Shah.....

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Covid tightens noose: 19 dead in a day

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-30

LAHORE: Punjab Minister for Health Dr Yasmeen Rashid has confirmed that the second wave of coronavirus is far more dangerous than the first hit as 19 more lives were lost to the disease on Sunday. "As many as 613 new cases were reported from various parts of Punjab within 24 hours." "The situation with regard to Covid was better in September but we had warned the people that t.....

[more >>](#)

8 marriage halls, 4 shops sealed for failing to comply with corona guidelines

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-30

MULTAN - District administration on Sunday started a crackdown against violations of Standard Operating Procedure (SOPs) and sealed eightmarriage hallsbesides four shops. The monitoring team was headed by Assistant Commissioner City Abida Fareed and checked 28marriage halls. Eightmarriage hallswere sealed violations of SOPs and lodged case against six Hall owners while warning was issued to 1.....

[more >>](#)

Health minister paints dreadful picture of Covid-19

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-30

LAHORE - Punjab Health Minister Dr Yasmin Rashid has warned of a strong and severe second wave of Corona Pandemic in Punjab urging utmost caution till the introduction of new vaccine. Speaking at a press conference at the Chief Minister Secretariat on Sunday, the Health Minister said that cases that were reduced to less than 100 a day around mid September, had now increased man.....

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Sindh

12 more fall prey to Covid-19, 1,423 test positive in Sindh

Source: [M Waqar Bhatti, The News, International](#), 2020-11-28

The coronavirus has claimed 12 more lives in Sindh, taking the death toll to 2,897, and infected another 1,423 people in the province over the past 24 hours, the chief minister said on Friday. "We have lost 12 more lives due to the coronavirus infection in Sindh overnight and the death toll is 2,897, while 1423 new cases have emerged when 12,226 samples were tested," said Syed

[more >>](#)

Sindh allows shopping centres, markets to do business six days a week

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-11-28

The Sindh Home Department issued a fresh amendment notification on Friday revising the business hours of the retail shops and markets in the province during the ongoing coronavirus emergency. According to the new notification, business, commercial centres, and markets in the province have been allowed to do business six days a week, and all retail shops and markets have been allowed to sta.....

[more >>](#)

Covid-19 tests hit delays as KU lab awaits funds

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-28

KARACHI: Weeks into the second wave of the pandemic, a laboratory of the University of Karachi, which has the capacity to test 3,500 Covid-19 samples daily, remains dysfunctional due to financial issues. The lab, that had offered its services to reduce the testing burden during the first wave, had been allocated a financial grant by the provincial government on the directives of Sindh Chief Mini.....

[more >>](#)

Covid-19 claims 12 more lives: Sindh CM

Source: [Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-28

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said that the coronavirus claimed 12 more lives, and 1,423 new cases emerged. In a statement issued here from the CM House, he said that 12 more patients died overnight, taking the death toll to 2,897 that constituted 1.8 percent death rate. Murad Ali Shah said that 12,226 samples were tested which diagnosed 1423 cases that came to 11.6 p.....

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COVID-19 claims 12 more lives, infects 2,897 others: CM

Source: [Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-28

KARACHI - Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah has said that coronavirus has claimed 12 more lives lifting the death toll to 2,897 and 1,423 new cases emerged when 12,226 samples were tested. In a statement issued from CM House, he said that 12 more patients died overnight lifting the death toll to 2,897 that constituted 1.8 percent death rate. Syed Murad Ali Shah said that 12,226 sa.....

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Sindh govt issues fresh Covid-19 restrictions

Source: [Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-28

KARACHI - The Sindh government on Friday issued modified restrictions in exercise of powers under section 3(1) of the Sindh Epidemic Diseases Act 2014 (Act VIII of 2015) throughout the province. According to the modified order, the business timings shall be six days per week with one day off on Friday or Sunday as applicable to that area concerned. The business or market timings will be from 6am t.....

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24-hour infection rate reaches new high as 14 die

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-29

Fourteen more people have died due to Covid-19 and another 1,389 cases have been reported during the past 24 hours in Sindh, with the death toll due to the viral disease reaching 2,911 in the province. Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said in his daily situation report on the health emergency on Saturday that 9,072 samples were tested in the past 24 hours, resulting in 1,389 people, or 1.....

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14 more succumb to Covid-19, 1,389 new cases emerge

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-29

KARACHI: As many as 14 more patients of Covid-19 lost their lives lifting the death toll to 2,911 and 1,389 new cases emerged when 9,072 samples were tested raising the tally to 171,595. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued here from CM House on Saturday. He added that 14 more patients of coronavirus died overnight lifting the death toll to 2,911 t.....

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Sindh reports 1,389 new coronavirus cases, 14 deaths

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-29

KARACHI - As many as 14 more patients of COVID-19 lost their lives lifting the death toll to 2,911 and 1,389 new cases emerged when 9,072 samples were tested raising the tally to 171,595. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued here from CM House on Saturday. He added that 14 more patients of coronavirus died overnight lifting the death toll to 2,911 tha.....

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Another 13 patients succumb to coronavirus in Sindh

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-30

A meeting of the National Command & Operation Centre in Islamabad was informed on Sunday that the highest rate of Covid-19 test positivity in Sindh was recorded at 22.18 per cent in Hyderabad, followed by 18.96 per cent in Karachi. Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said in his daily situation report on the health emergency that 13 more people have died due to Covid-19 and another 1,41.....

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Four more cops test positive for Covid-19

Source: [AFP](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-30

Four more police officials working for the Sindh police have tested positive for the novel coronavirus in the past 24 hours, according to the spokesman for the provincial law enforcement department. The spokesman said on Sunday that 3,562 officials working for the Sindh police have been infected with the novel coronavirus to date. He said that 20 police officials had already lost their liv.....

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School education department issues guidelines for home based learning during schools' closure

Source: [Arshad Yousafzai](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-30

The school education and literacy department on Friday issued guidelines on home-based learning through homework assignments, online classes and tele-learning. As per the guidelines that would be adopted at all the state-run and private schools, the headmasters and teachers would continue to attend their institutions till January 10, 2021, for facilitating home-based learning. They would a.....

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1,419 new Covid cases emerge in Sindh

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-30

KARACHI: Sindh saw another 1,419 Covid-19 cases on Sunday, while 13 persons lost lives battling the contagion, said Sindh Chief Minister Syed Muard Ali Shah in a statement issued on the day. Of the new cases, 1,132 have been detected in Karachi, 100 in Hyderabad, 31 in Shaheed Benazirabad, 27 in Tando Muhammad Khan, 17 in Jamshoro, 15 in Matiari, 11 in Ghotki and as many in Sukkur, 10 each in Mi.....

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Several shops, markets sealed for violating COVID-19 SOPs

Source: [Our Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-30

HYDERABAD - Following the rapid increase in COVID-19 cases, the district administration on Sunday sealed several shops and markets for violating standard operating procedures (SOPs). According to the official statement, the Assistant Commissioner (AC) City, Muhammad Ibrahim Arbab, has sealed two shopping plazas consisting of 300 shops in cloth market for not implementing timing.....

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COVID-19 claims 13 more lives, infects 1,419 others

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-30

KARACHI - Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah has said that 13 more patients of COVID-19 died overnight lifting the death toll to 2,924 and 1,419 more cases emerged when 10,081 tests were conducted raising the tally to 173,014. In a statement issued on Sunday, he said that 13 more patients lost their lives while struggling against the virus lifting the death toll to 2,924 that const.....

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Four policemen diagnosed positive for coronavirus in 24 hours

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-30

KARACHI - With four new cases reported in last 24 hours, around 3,562 personnel and officers of Sindh police had been infected with coronavirus so far, informed spokesperson to Sindh police on Monday. He said 20 policemen lost their battle against COVID-19. He told that currently 157 officers and personnel were under treatment, while 3,475 had returned to their homes after recovering from the dise.....

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One COVID-19 patient dies, 100 more cases reported in Hyderabad

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-30

HYDERABAD - One more patient has died of COVID-19 on Sunday, taking the death tally in Hyderabad district to 122, while 100 more cases have been reported positive. According to health authorities, after changing weather conditions and non-observance of standard operating procedures (SOPs), the number of coronavirus patients had increased in Hyderabad and other adjoining districts. Mohammad Ilyas s.....

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NCOC finalizes recommendations for procurement of COVID-19 vaccine, says Umar

Source: [Fahad Zulfikar](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-30

(Karachi) Planning Minister Asad Umar said that the National Command and Operating Centre (NCOC) has finalized its recommendations for procurement of coronavirus vaccine. In a tweet on Monday, Umar said that the recommendations will be presented to the cabinet on December 1 (tomorrow) for approval. He stated, "The taskforce of experts headed by SAPM health Dr. Faisal Sultan had developed the.....

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Curbing COVID-19: Govt has imposed smart lockdown in 5,082 places across country: NCOC

Source: [Fahad Zulfikar](#) , [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#) , 2020-11-30

(Karachi) The government has imposed 5,082 smart lockdowns in various paces across the country to check the spread of COVID-19, Radio Pakistan reported on Sunday. As per the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC), 1,459 smart lockdowns are in place in Punjab, 206 in Sindh, 182 in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, 3,205 in Islamabad and 30 in Gilgit-Baltistan. The NCOC stated that a complete lockdown has b.....

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13 Covid-19 patients die overnight

Source: [Staff Reporter](#) , [Dawn, Islamabad](#) , 2020-11-30

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Sunday said that 13 patients of Covid-19 died overnight and 1,419 more cases emerged when 10,081 tests were conducted, raising the tally to 173,014. In a statement issued from CM House, he said that the death of 13 more patients during the past 24 hours lifted the death toll to 2,924 constituting 1.7 per cent death rate. Mr Shah said that 10,0.....

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International News

Countries News

Seventh Pak cricketer positive for Covid-19

Source: [AFP](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-29

CHRISTCHURCH, (New Zealand): A seventh Pakistan cricketer tested positive for Covid-19 as the team remained confined to their hotel in Christchurch on Saturday, unable to train and with a question mark over their New Zealand tour. The Pakistanis, who only arrived four days ago, are already on a “final warning” for breaching New Zealand’s tight quarantine restrictions, with t.....

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Americans told to brace for Covid ‘surge upon a surge’

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-30

WASHINGTON: America should prepare for a “surge upon a surge” in coronavirus cases as millions of travelers return home after the Thanksgiving holiday, top US scientist Anthony Fauci warned on Sunday. The United States is the worst-affected country, with 266,074 Covid-19 deaths, and President Donald Trump’s administration has issued conflicting messages on mask-wearing, travel a.....

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SDPI Engagements

Researchers Articles

Wearing masks are new normal

Source: [Aneela Nazir](#), [Daily Spokesman](#), 2020-11-30

Coronavirus (COVID-19) has left many countries fighting high rates of infection. Wearing a mask to protect the coronavirus has become a part of everyday life. As the world gradually shifts to a more cautious lifestyle, many governments are advising citizens to adhere to some of the COVID-19 protection measures. These include wearing face masks, maintaining public hygiene, keeping the right hand a.....

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