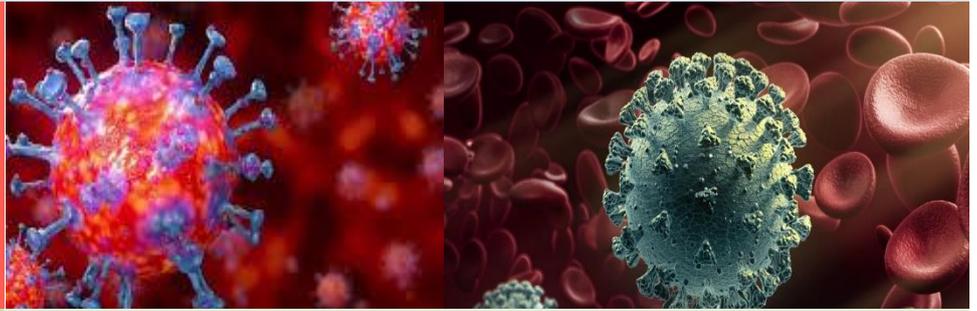


E-Newsletter on COVID-19



Vol. 02, No, 14



Issue: 13-15 February, 2021

.....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

Vaccine hesitancy

Source: EDITORIAL, [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-13

THE less-than-enthusiastic response of registered front-line health workers in KP, as well as the reported reluctance shown by medical staff in Islamabad, to be vaccinated against Covid-19 is troubling. According to a report, the KP health department chalked out a plan to vaccinate 30,000 health workers, but many were hesitant. Earlier in the week, the department had managed to inoculate only a ha.....[more >>](#)

Ten indicators

Source: Dr Farrukh Saleem, [The News, International](#), 2021-02-14

Gross Domestic Product: GDP is the “total value of everything produced in a country.” GDP is the mother of all economic indicators because it “gives information about the size of the economy and how an economy is performing.” According to Nobel laureate Paul Samuelson, GDP is “truly among the great inventions of the 20th century.” GDP growth is the ‘singl.....[more >>](#)

Vaccine rollout

Source: Editorial, [The News, International](#), 2021-02-14

Pakistan has moved a few steps closer to dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic that it seemed had been almost forgotten. The Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan on Friday approved the Convidecia vaccine manufactured by CanSinoBio in China. This is a positive step as the vaccine underwent trials at five centres in Pakistan and as per universal protocol should be more easily available to people in th.....[more >>](#)

Joining forces

Source: Sikander Ahmed Shah | Uzair Kayani, [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-15

COVID-19 is not the first or deadliest health condition to afflict this nation but it is the only disease where the private sector has been deliberately excluded from key aspects of the vaccination programme. This will leave much of the population unvaccinated for at least two reasons: first, not everyone is willing to get vaccinated, and those who are will likely be unable to get it; and second,

[more >>](#)

Divisive language

Source: Steve Miller, [The News, International](#), 2021-02-15

Nearly a year ago when this COVID-19 crisis was taking hold, people across the world expressed outrage at the term ‘China virus’. It was important to condemn such divisive and, some said, racist language. But a year later, after more than 2.3 million people across the world have died from the virus, the global economy has dived and education has been disrupted for an entire gen.....

[more >>](#)

Data points

Source: news Desk, [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-15

Old is gold and in high demand Rock starts are making hundreds of millions of dollars cashing in on their old songs. Bob Dylan, Stevie Nicks and other big-time musicians are selling their catalogues to aggressive new buyers. Mr Dylan was supposed to spend the summer of 2020 on tour. But, stranded at home, he lined up the biggest payday of his career. Music assets are bought and sold all the time

[more >>](#)

Scramble for vaccines

Source: [Editorial, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-15

After a year of uncertainty and gloom, there is some bit of good news — in theory. There are now multiple vaccines to tackle the novel coronavirus in the international market. Their results, from what we know for now, are promising if not perfect. For the first time in what has seemed like eons, there now seems to be light at the end of the tunnel. Now on to the bad news. That light, natura.....

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Vaccine import by private companies

Source: [Editorial, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-15

As Covid-19 pandemic surged last April, an anonymous poem that went viral on social media drew attention to inequities of the healthcare system in these lines: “I heard that we are in the same boat. But it’s not that. We are in the same storm, but not in the same boat.” Federal minister Asad Umar, who heads the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), seemed to be reflecting.....

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National News

Islamabad

Chinese vaccine: govt issues emergency use authorisation

Source: [Reuters](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-13

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Friday approved China's CanSino Biologics Inc's (CanSinoBIO) COVID-19 vaccine for emergency use, Health Minister Faisal Sultan said, the fourth candidate authorized in the South Asian nation of 220 million. Pakistan, largely reliant on the GAVI/WHO COVAX initiative for poorer nations, has also allowed private companies to import coronavirus vaccines and has agreed.....[more >>](#)

5 COVID-19 deaths, 142 new cases

Source: [Muhammad Qasim](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-02-13

Rawalpindi : The number of patients being tested positive for coronavirus illness, COVID-19 from Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district is on a significant rise for the last four days as another 142 patients have been tested positive for the illness in the last 24 hours from the region showing the spread of the disease is getting faster once again. The virus claimed another five lives.....[more >>](#)

Another Chinese vaccine approved for emergency use in Pakistan

Source: [Ikram Junaidi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-13

• Cansino Bio only company to have conducted clinical trials in Pakistan • Around 20m doses to be available in next six months • Another Chinese firm to conduct clinical trial ISLAMABAD: The Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (Drac) on Friday issued emergency use authorisation to the Chinese company Cansino Biologics Inc's Covid-19 vaccine after which supply of the doses will.....[more >>](#)

Report on cases of violence against women launched

Source: [Myra Imran](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-02-13

Islamabad : From January to December 2020, 2,297 cases of violence against women (VAW) were reported in 25 districts of Pakistan despite a challenge of underreporting due to COVID 19. Month to month analysis of the data shows that at the peak of the pandemic in July, cases of VAW were at highest. Following this, the number of cases dropped again but rose in September due to the resurgence of COVID.....

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Pakistan reports 1,270 new Covid-19 cases, 33 deaths in last 24 hours

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-13

ISLAMABAD - As many as 33 deaths and 1,270 new cases of Coronavirus were reported across the country over the last twenty-four hours. According to the latest statistics, Islamabad, Azad Jammu and Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan collectively reported 153 cases and five deaths. Islamabad reported 122 cases and 2 deaths, AJK 25 cases and 3 deaths while GB reported 6 cases. Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa and Baloch.....

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DRAP approves CanSino vaccine for emergency use

Source: [Rahul Basharat](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-13

ISLAMABAD-The Drugs Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) on Friday approved the emergency use authorisation of CanSino, second Chinese novel coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine. Officials at DRAP said that a private pharmaceutical company A.J.M had applied for the emergency approval of CanSino vaccine. Officials said that Sinopharm, also a Chinese vaccine for COVID-19, was brought in the count.....

[more >>](#)

Sindh reports 371 new coronavirus cases, 16 deaths

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-13

KARACHI - Sindh has recorded 371 new coronavirus cases and 16 additional fatalities, according to Chief Minister (CM) Murad Ali Shah's office. The provincial caseload has risen to 253,089, while the death toll has reached 4,199. A total of 10,679 tests were conducted in the last 24 hours. Karachi recorded 172 cases from the 371 total cases. JMPC professor dies of COVID-19 Former Hea.....

[more >>](#)

Covid-19 claims another 58 lives in Pakistan

Source: [Ikram Junaidi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-14

ISLAMABAD: The latest update issued by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Saturday showed that 1,262 more Covid-19 cases and 58 deaths were reported across the country during 24 hours. It said that 17 per cent of the ventilators allocated for Covid-19 patients were occupied in the country. Moreover, 2,143 patients were in hospitals across the country on Saturday. According to t.....

[more >>](#)

Islamabad school sealed after Covid-19 cases surface

Source: [Aamir Yasin | Munawer Azeem](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-14

ISLAMABAD: The district administration on Saturday sealed Islamabad Model School for Girls (IMSG) G-7/2 after Covid-19 cases surfaced there, making it the first institution in the capital to be closed since their opening on Jan 18. On the other hand, one person died of Covid-19 in Islamabad and 139 tested positive in the twin cities on Saturday. The school was sealed on the directives of Distric.....

[more >>](#)

'70% population to be vaccinated this year'

Source: [DNA](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-02-14

Islamabad: Parliamentary Secretary for National Health Services Dr Nausheen Hamid said the government would endeavour to cover big chunk of population with free-of-cost coronavirus vaccine till end of 2021 and ordered additional doses of coronavirus vaccine. She said Pakistan has approved China's CanSino Biologics Inc's (CanSinoBIO) COVID-19 vaccine for emergency use which is useful a.....

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Pakistan to buy 21 freezers for Pfizer jabs

Source: [Razya Khan](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-13

ISLAMABAD: The federal government has decided to buy 21 ultra-cold freezers for the storage of Pfizer's Covid-19 vaccines. According to sources, the freezers will have the capacity to maintain temperature at -70° Celsius. According to a UN report, the Pfizer jab requires long-term storage at -70°C while Moderna's must be kept at -20 °C long term. Both of them can last for

[more >>](#)

COVID-19 claims 58 lives, infects 1,262 more people

Source: [APP](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-14

ISLAMABAD: The national tally on Saturday of total active COVID-19 cases recorded 25,649 with 1,262 more people tested positive for the deadly virus and 1,481 people recovered from the disease during the last 24 hours. Fifty eight corona patients have died during past 24 hours, 55 of them were under treatment in hospital and three in their respective quarantines and homes on Friday, according.....

[more >>](#)

Corona claims 58 more lives in 24 hours

Source: [Tahir Niaz](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-14

ISLAMABAD - As many as 58 deaths and 1,262 new cases of coronavirus were reported across the country over the last 24 hours. With 58 new deaths, the country's death toll Saturday morning reached 12,276 while 1,262 new Covid-19 cases took the country's tally to 561,625 in the country. According to the latest statistics, there are now 25,649 active cases in the country while 523,7.....

[more >>](#)

17 million doses of AstraZeneca vaccine due to arrive in Pakistan 'before April'

Source: [Zarghon Shah & Web Desk](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-02-14

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan can expect 17 million doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine against the coronavirus "before April", according to a statement by the British High Commission. According to the statement, an "additional 10 million doses" will be provided before June. With the vaccine, more than eight million people will receive protection from coronavirus, it added. The chief of

[more >>](#)

Among the first: Pakistan to market Covid shots privately by 'next week'

Source: [Reuters](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-14

ISLAMABAD: A Pakistani lab will soon receive Russia's Sputnik V Covid-19 vaccine for commercial sale, a company official said on Sunday, making Pakistan one of the first countries to market shots privately as it scrambles to secure supplies. Despite concerns over fairness and higher prices, Islamabad agreed this week to allow the commercial import and sale of vaccines without price caps, in

[more >>](#)

Active Covid cases drop by 50pc since second peak

Source: [Ikram Junaidi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-15

ISLAMABAD: While 1,404 more people tested positive for coronavirus and 31 lost their lives over the past 24 hours, the number of active cases in the country has reduced by half in two-and-a-half months. The number of active cases had surpassed the 50,000 mark in December 2020. It started decreasing the following month and came down to 25,635 (51.27pc) on Sunday. This is the second time that acti.....

[more >>](#)

Commercial sale of Russian Covid vaccine expected soon

Source: [Reuters](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-15

ISLAMABAD: A Pakistani lab will soon receive Russia's Sputnik V Covid-19 vaccine for commercial sale, a company official said on Sunday, making Pakistan one of the first countries to market shots privately as it scrambles to secure supplies. Despite concerns over fairness and higher prices, Islamabad agreed this week to allow the commercial import and sale of vaccines without price cap.....

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Another 2 COVID-19 deaths, 99 test positive

Source: [Muhammad Qasim](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-02-15

Islamabad : Another two deaths due to coronavirus illness, COVID-19 have been registered from Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district in the last 24 hours taking the death toll to 1,099 while 99 new patients have been confirmed positive from the region taking the tally to 55,333 on Sunday. It is important that an increase in the number of confirmed patients reported from the tw.....

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Pakistan to get 7m coronavirus vaccine doses by April

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-02-15

Islamabad : The United Kingdom has announced that Pakistan will receive seven million doses of the AstraZeneca coronavirus vaccine within two months. "Through the COVAX facility, Pakistan will take the delivery of 17 million doses of the UK-developed Oxford University-AstraZeneca vaccine shortly with the first seven million expected before April," the British High Commission sa.....

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Covid-19 cases rising since educational institutions opened

Source: [Ikram Junaidi | Aamir Yasin](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-15

ISLAMABAD: All indicators show that the number of Covid-19 cases has been increasing since the opening of educational institutions in the capital as Sunday saw 77 new patients. However, no casualty was reported. According to District Health Officer Dr Zaeem Zia, whenever a case was reported, efforts were made to break the chain of the virus. He said three educational institutions had so far been.....

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China's third vaccine enters Pakistan

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-02-15

Pakistan has become the first country in the world to be the recipient of the third Chinese vaccine 'ZF2001' to boost up its Covid-19 vaccination drive, Gwadar Pro reported on Sunday. Earlier, Pakistan has already welcomed CanSino and Sinopharm. The third Chinese Vaccine is being co-developed by Anhui Zhifei Longcom Biologic Pharmacy Co. Ltd, and the Institute of Microbiology of the C.....

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Govt provides assistance to 15 million Covid-19 affected laborers: Dr Sania Nishtar

Source: [APP](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-02-15

Special Assistant to the Prime Minister (SAPM) on Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Dr Sania Nishtar expressed her satisfaction over successful efforts of government to cope with Covid-19 situation and reaching out to the homes of 15 million labor class people affected by the pandemic. In her visit to Provincial Election Commission Office Peshawar for submitting her documents for forthcoming

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NCOC approached for 'Panahgah' frontline workers' vaccination

Source: [APP](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-02-15

As part of the strategy to make 'Panahgahs' safe and secure and promoting healthy lives at the premises, Prime Minister's Focal Person for Shelter Homes, Naseem ur Rehman has sought the National Command and Operation Center's (NCOC) support for the inclusion of its service providers in the priority list for Covid-19 vaccination, it emerged on Sunday. According to the focal.....

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Coronavirus kills 31, infects 1,404 in a day: NCOC

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-02-15

The coronavirus claimed 31 more lives while another 1,404 people tested positive for the deadly disease during the past 24 hours across the country, said the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Sunday. According to the NCOC, 1,404 new infections surfaced after 34,475 samples were tested during this period. The positivity ratio of Covid-19 cases was recorded at 4.07 percent. The count.....

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Govt provides help to 15 million Covid-19 affected laborers: Nishtar

Source: [APP](#), [Daily Spokesman](#), 2021-02-15

Special Assistant to the Prime Minister (SAPM) on Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Dr Sania Nishtar expressed her satisfaction over successful efforts of government to cope with COVID19 situation and reaching out to the homes of 15 million labor class people affected by the pandemic. In her visit to Provincial Election Commission Office Peshawar for submitting her documents for forthcoming S.....

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Vaccination registration for citizens aged 65 and above now open: Asad Umar

Source: [News Desk](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-15

ISLAMABAD: The National Command and Operations Centre (NCOC) chief Asad Umar announced on Monday that the vaccination registration for citizens aged 65 and above had now begun in Pakistan. In a tweet, the federal minister further added that citizens who wanted to register for the vaccination should SMS their CNIC number to 1166 for registration. The inoculation itself will be carried out in Marc.....

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Vaccination registration for citizens aged 65 and above now open: Asad Umar

Source: [News Desk](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-15

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680 health workers get anti-Covid jabs

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-15

ISLAMABAD: At least 680 front line health workers have been administered coronavirus vaccine in Islamabad so far, according to documents seen by The Express Tribune on Sunday. According to the document, 1,759 public healthcare workers have been registered for vaccination against the novelcoronavirus disease(Covid-19) while at present 1,628 are waiting for the anti-virus shots. As per the docume.....

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Pakistan to get 17m doses of AstraZeneca vaccine before April: British High Commission

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-15

On Sunday, theBritish High Commissionannounced that Pakistan will soon receive doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine. According to a statement from the Commission, the country will receive "17 million doses of the vaccine before April." Thereafter, "before June," Pakistan will receive an additional 10 million" doses, said the statement. With the vaccine, more than eight millio.....

[more >>](#)

UK confirms 17 million Astra-Zeneca vaccine doses for Pakistan

Source: [Shafqat Ali](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-15

ISLAMABAD - The United Kingdom's world-leading support to the global COVID-19 vaccines facility Covax will help millions of Pakistanis protect themselves against coronavirus. So far, the UK has committed £548 million to the global Covax initiative, making the UK the largest single donor. The Covax initiative is the key way that more than 180 countries will have fair, early access

[more >>](#)

Country reports 31 virus deaths, 1,404 infections in a day

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-15

ISLAMABAD - The vaccination of front line healthcare workers was underway across the country where national tally on Sunday of total active COVID-19 cases recorded 25,635 with 1,404 more people tested positive for the deadly virus and 1,387 people recovered from the disease during the last 24 hours. Thirty one corona patients have died during past 24 hours, 26 of them were under treatment in

[more >>](#)

Sindh to get second COVID-19 vaccine consignment within next two days

Source: [Khawar Khan](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-02-15

Sindh will receive the second Sinopharm COVID-19 vaccine consignment from the federal government in the next 24-36 hours, Geo News reported Monday, citing sources. According to the publication, Pakistan expects to receive the next vaccine tranche within a day. The Centre is set to provide 84,000 jabs to Sindh. The frontline healthcare workers will be informed of their next vaccine jab through SMS f.....

[more >>](#)

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Covid vaccination made easier for health workers in KP

Source: [Ashfaq Yusufzai](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-13

PESHAWAR: As Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's death toll from Covid-19 reached 1,987 with the passing away of six more patients on Friday, the health authorities are making it easier for the health workers to get vaccinated against coronavirus while the demand for immunisation hasn't been up to the desired level. The health department is concerned at the lukewarm response of the workers to Covid-.....

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KMC holds symposium on corona vaccination

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-02-13

PESHAWAR: A one-day symposium was organised by the Department of Medicine at Khyber Medical College on Covid-19 vaccines. A press release said that the moot was meant to explain to people that development of a vaccine has a long process and it is approved by the drug regulatory authorities. The vaccination administration process was started in different countries and on February 3, Pakistan has.....

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Khyber Pakhtunkhwa plans three more industrial estates

Source: [Manzoor Ali](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-14

PESHAWAR: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government is planning to launch three industrial estates in Chitral, Ghazi (Swabi) and Bannu under its revised Industrial Policy 2020-30. Though initially conceived under the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Industrial Policy 2016, these projects are now in final stages and would witness groundbreaking soon, according to officials. An official of the Khyber Pak.....

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2 die, 33 more test positive for Covid-19 in Nowshera

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-02-14

NOWSHERA: Two patients died of Covid-19 while 33 more tested positive for the viral infection in the district on Saturday. With the new casualties, the fatalities from the coronavirus reached 67 in the district. Briefing media, Deputy Commissioner Mir Reza Ozgen, District Health Officer Dr Gulman Shah and Dr Yaseen Khan said that 72-year old Saeed and Salim Khan were infected by the fatal v.....

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BRT woes : Volume of riders makes boarding a hassle Commuters abandon Covid-19 protocols during their commutes

Source: [Umer Farooq, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#) , 2021-02-15

PESHAWAR: The Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has been a blessing for commuters since it first opened its doors. However, for any public transport service to work efficiently, its passengers must follow certain protocols. Unfortunately, authorities have not been able to implement orderly boarding at the many stops that dot the 27-kilometer-long route between Chamkani and Ka.....

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Govt provides assistance to 15m Covid-19-hit labourers: Sania

Source: [Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#) , 2021-02-15

PESHAWAR: Special Assistant to the Prime Minister (SAPM) on Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Dr Sania Nishtar expressed her satisfaction over successful efforts of government to cope with Covid-19 situation and reaching out to the homes of 15 million labour class people affected by the pandemic. In her visit to Provincial Election Commission office Peshawar for submitting her documents f.....

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Source: [Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad](#) , 2021-02-15

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Punjab

12 more succumb to novel coronavirus

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#) , 2021-02-13

LAHORE: The coronavirus pandemic claimed another 12 precious lives, whereas 484 new cases were reported throughout the province on Friday, as per official sources. The total death toll of the province tipped to 4,994. According to the data shared by the spokesperson for the Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department (P&SHD), the number of coronavirus cases in the province escalated to

[more >>](#)

Punjab reports 484 corona cases, 12 deaths

Source: [Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#) , 2021-02-13

LAHORE: The coronavirus positivity rate in Punjab remained 3.73%, as out of 12,955 tests conducted across the province during the last 24 hours, 484 people were tested positive with 12 more fatalities taking the provincial tally of cases to 162,875, the second highest in the country and death toll to 4,994. With recovery of 651 more people, the number of recovered patients has reached 150,638.....

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UHS asked to decide Kashmiri student's case in Covid context

Source: [Wajih Ahmad Sheikh, Dawn, Islamabad](#) , 2021-02-13

LAHORE: The Lahore High Court (LHC) has directed the University of Health Sciences (UHS) to decide a matter of a student, hailing from India-held Kashmir, who could not return to Pakistan due to the border closure during the first

wave of the Covid-19 and the university had declared her 'failed' in the examination of her first professional MBBS. Ms Tahniah, a resident of Srinagar, Jamm.....

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Four more lives lost to Covid-19

Source: [Munawer Azeem | Aamir Yasin, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-13

RAWALPINDI: Four people died of Covid-19 on Friday while 144 others were diagnosed with the disease in the twin cities. Around 15 people were discharged from hospitals after recovering. The deceased were identified as Azmat Ali, 71, resident of Dheri Hasanabad, who was brought to Rawalpindi Institute of Urology (RIU) on Jan 16; Khadija Bibi, 50, resident of Adiala Road, brought to Pakistan Instit.....

[more >>](#)

12 more die from corona

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2021-02-13

Around 12 patients died from corona while 484 new infections were confirmed in Punjab province during the last 24 hours. According to report issued by Primary and Secondary Healthcare (P&SH) Department Punjab on Friday, the death toll reached 4,994, while confirmed cases reached 162,875 in the province. As per the spokesperson for Corona Monitoring Room at P&SHD, 12,955 tests have been con.....

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19 shops, restaurants sealed for corona SOPs breach

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2021-02-13

LAHORE: The district administration continued its campaign against the violations of corona SOPs and sealed 19 shops, restaurants and stores here on Friday. DC Mudassar Riaz said a total of 19 shops, stores and restaurants were sealed and Rs 60,000 fine was imposed. Cantt Assistant Commissioner Sakhi Shakir sealed two hotels, 12 shops and stores and imposed Rs 20,000 fine on overcharging an.....

[more >>](#)

59 new coronavirus cases in Faisalabad

Source: [Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-13

FAISALABAD - The district tally of total active COVID-19 cases in Faisalabad on Friday reached 1,023 with 59 more people testing positive for the deadly virus during the last 24 hours. A spokesperson for the Health Department said that 867 tests for coronavirus were conducted in public and private sector labs during the same period. He said that so far 7,398 corona patients had recovered, while 4.....

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Coronavirus claims 12 lives in Punjab

Source: [Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-13

LAHORE - The pandemic Noval Coronavirus claimed another 12 precious lives whereas 484 new cases were reported on Friday in the province which turned the death toll to 4,994. According to data shared by the spokesperson for the Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department (PP&SHD), the number of coronavirus cases in the province reached 162,875. The PP&SHD confirmed that 222 ne.....

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Cubs may have died of Covid, says zoo official

Source: [Shoaib Ahmed, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-14

LAHORE: The two white tiger cubs that died a fortnight ago in Lahore Zoo were suspected of having coronavirus, said a senior zoo official on Saturday while referring to their autopsy report. However, the official told Dawn that the

report did not confirm the presence of the virus, as it was just a suspicion based on the confirmation of severe multisystem infection. Also, 31 doctors and veterinarians.....

[more >>](#)

32 more succumb to Covid-19 in Punjab

Source: [Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-14

LAHORE: The Covid-19 claimed 32 more lives across the province during the last 24 hours while 492 more people tested positive for the virus. Of them, 15 occurred in the provincial capital where the total number of deaths due to the coronavirus, so far, has reached 1995. The death toll caused by the virus in the province has crossed the figure of 5,000. According to the figures released by the go.....

[more >>](#)

One more dies of COVID-19, 127 test positive

Source: [Muhammad Qasim, The News, International](#), 2021-02-14

Rawalpindi : Coronavirus illness, COVID-19 has claimed another life from Islamabad Capital Territory in the last 24 hours taking the death toll from ICT to 484 though no death due to the illness has been reported from Rawalpindi district from where a total of 613 patients have already died of COVID-19. Data collected by 'The News' on Saturday reveals that another 127 patients have been.....

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Vaccination of health workers intensified, says Dr Yasmin

Source: [APP, The News, International](#), 2021-02-14

LAHORE: Punjab Health Minister Dr Yasmin Rashid Saturday said that the Punjab had intensified vaccination process of healthcare workers and over 70,000 staff would be vaccinated within 21 days. She was addressing a video conference of the National Command and Control Center (NCOC). She said the process of vaccination had been paced up in the province and over 70,000 frontline healthcare workers.....

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32 corona patients die, 492 new cases

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2021-02-14

LAHORE : As many as 32 COVID-19 patients died and 492 new infections were confirmed in Punjab during the last 24 hours. According to Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department (P&SHD) report issued on Saturday, the toll of fatalities was raised to 5,026 in Punjab, while confirmed cases of coronavirus reached 163,367 in the province. As per the spokesperson of Corona Monitoring Room at Primary.....

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Coronavirus death toll soars past 5,000 in Punjab

Source: [APP, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-14

LAHORE: The coronavirus pandemic has claimed 32 more lives in Punjab, infecting at least 492 more people across the province during the last 24 hours. According to Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department (P&SHD) officials on Saturday, the number of infections in the province exceeded 163,360 after detection of new cases. According to a spokesperson for P&SHD, so far the total

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Positivity rate remains 3.74pc; ; Punjab intensifies vaccination process of healthcare workers

Source: [Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-14

LAHORE: The positivity rate of coronavirus cases remained 3.74 percent in Punjab, as out of 13,142 tests conducted during the last 24 hours, 492 fresh virus cases and 32 deaths were reported taking the provincial tally of cases to

163,367 and fatalities to 5026. With recovery of 346 more people, the number of recovered patients has reached to 150,984 in the province. As per break up of v.....

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Pakistan ready for corona vaccination if made mandatory for this year's Hajj

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-02-14

OKARA - Federal Minister for Religious Affairs Noorul Haq Qadri said Saturday that the Saudi government is yet to make it clear whether this year Hajj will be held according to normal circumstances or under the coronavirus standard operating procedures. Talking to reporters at Jamia Ashraful Madaris Okara, he said if the Hajj was linked to corona vaccination, Pakistan was ready for it. Saudi gov.....

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Coronavirus claims another 32 lives

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-14

LAHORE - Coronavirus claimed another 32 lives while 492 new cases were reported in Punjab during the last 24 hours. According to the data shared by the spokesperson of Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department (P&SHD), the death toll due to coronavirus rose to 5,026 while the total cases of corona-virus reached 163,367 and recoveries 150,984 in the province. The P&SHD confirm.....

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Frontline workers get vaccinated in DG Khan

Source: [Correspondent](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-15

DERA GHAZI KHAN: Vaccination of first dose of Sinopharm against Covid-19 began here. Chief Executive Officer Health Dr Khalil Sikhani presented himself for vaccination to create confidence among the front line health workers of the district. He told Dawn that 1,200 doses of the vaccination had been received by the health department and 500 front line workers had been administered the first dose.

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Corona dulls Valentine's Day

Source: [Shahab Ansari](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-02-15

LAHORE : The year 2021's St. Valentine's Day may have remained the most colourless Valentine's Day throughout the world, including Pakistan, due to the sufferings and hardships faced by the entire world due to the cruel hands of COVID-19 pandemic. It may not be inappropriate to term this year's Valentine's Day as the "disappointing day" which dampened the

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24 shops sealed

Source: [APP](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-02-15

LAHORE: The city district administration sealed 24 shops, stores, marriage halls and imposed Rs60,000 fine on violation of coronavirus SOPs here Sunday. According to a spokesperson for the district administration, AC Cantt Zoha Shakir sealed 12 shops, two restaurants and imposed Rs20,000 fine for overcharging and Rs10,000 on SOPs violations.

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11 more die from corona in Punjab

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-02-15

LAHORE : Around 11 patients died from corona and 466 new infections were confirmed in Punjab during the last 24 hours. According to report issued by Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department (P&SHD) on Sunday, the death

toll reached 5,037, while confirmed cases reached 163,833 in the province. As per the spokesperson for Corona Monitoring Room at Primary and Secondary Healthcare Depa.....

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Punjab education minister tests positive for coronavirus

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-15

Punjab Education Minister Murad Raason Monday has tested positive for coronavirus. According to details, the minister has quarantined himself at his residence and requested the people who have met him to undergo covid-19 test. On the other hand, Pakistan has reported 26 deaths in the last 24 hours by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has surged to 564,077. The nationwide tally.....

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Chughtai Lab to sell Russian vaccine in Pakistan

Source: [News Desk](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-15

LAHORE - A private lab will soon receive Russia's Sputnik V Covid-19 vaccine for commercial sale, a company official said on Sunday, making Pakistan one of the first countries to market shots privately as it scrambles to secure supplies. Despite concerns over fairness and higher prices, Islamabad agreed this week to allow the commercial import and sale of vaccines without price caps, in.....

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11 more deaths, 466 new virus cases reported in Punjab

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-15

LAHORE - The novel coronavirus claimed another 11 lives in the last 24 hours while 466 new virus cases were reported across Punjab on Sunday, taking the death toll to 5,037 in the province. According to the data shared by a spokesperson for the Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department (P&SHD), the number of coronavirus cases in the province had reached 163,833. The P&SHD c.....

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Sindh

Sindh sees 371 new Covid-19 cases, 16 more deaths

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-13

KARACHI: Sindh reported 16 more coronavirus-related deaths and 371 fresh Covid-19 cases on Friday, according to a statement issued by the Chief Minister's House. In the statement, Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said following these developments, the infection tally in the province had climbed to 253,089 and the death toll to 4,199. According to the CM, of the new cases, Karachi re.....

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Over 27,800 healthcare personnel vaccinated against Covid-19 in Sindh

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-13

KARACHI: A total of 27,842 healthcare providers have been vaccinated against Covid-19 across the province since Feb 3, when the drive was launched, according to sources in the health department. The vaccination drive is continuing at 12 centres set up for the purpose. According to the department, the total strength of healthcare personnel in the province is 175,000 out of whom the department has.....

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Covid-19 claims 16 more lives, infects 371 others

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-02-13

The novel coronavirus has claimed 16 more lives in Sindh during the past 24 hours, bringing the death toll in the province to 4,199. The condition of was stated to be critical, and 63 of them were on ventilator. In addition to 16 more deaths overnight, 371 new cases emerged when 10,679 tests were conducted, said Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah in his daily Covid-19 situation report on Friday.

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13 more succumb to Covid-19 in Sindh

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-02-14

Covid-19 has claimed 13 more lives in Sindh during the previous 24 hours, raising the death toll due to the viral disease in the province to 4,212. In the meantime, 515 patients of Covid-19 remained under treatment at different hospitals, of whom the condition of 471 was stated to be critical and 63 of them were on life support. This was stated by Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Saturda.....

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Gender-based violence increased in Sindh during lockdown: SHRC

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-02-14

The Sindh Human Rights Commission (SHRC) has found in its initial assessment that cases of gender-based violence and other human rights abuses increased across the province during the lockdown imposed to restrict the spread of Covid-19. The SHRC held a stakeholders' meeting to discuss the findings of the initial assessment report. The heads and representatives of different institutions and

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COVID-19 claims 13 more patients, infects 421 others

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-14

KARACHI - As many as 13 more patients of coronavirus died overnight lifting the death toll to 4,212 and 421 new cases emerged when 10,584 tests were conducted. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued on Saturday. He added that 13 more patients of COVID-19 lost their lives lifting the death toll to 4,212 that constituted 1.6 percent death rate. S.....

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Retail sector: department stores wrest control from corporate giants

Source: [Afshan Subohi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-15

House brands are gaining popularity in a thoroughly complex, fragmented and unorganised retail universe of Pakistan as stores expand their merchandising mix. Unmarked packs occupy shelves next to recognised labels in many segments of consumer products in big department stores and small shops. Market watchers noted that the house brands' share is still a small fraction of the market pie but

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Seven Covid-19 patients die overnight

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-02-15

KARACHI: Seven more patients of coronavirus died overnight and 251 new cases emerged when 9,252 tests were conducted. This was stated by Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued here on Sunday. He said that the death of seven more Covid-19 patients during the past 24 hours lifted the death toll to 4,219 that constituted 1.6 per cent death rate. Murad Ali Shah said that 9,252 sam.....

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Covid kills seven more as another 251 test positive

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-02-15

Seven more people have died due to Covid-19 and 251 others have tested positive for the disease during the past 24 hours in Sindh, with the death toll due to the viral coronavirus infection reaching 4,219 in the province. Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said in his daily situation report on the health emergency on Sunday that 9,252 samples were tested in the past 24 hours, resulting in

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'Pandemic has proved e-learning critical vehicle to deliver education

Source: [Arshad Yousafzai](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-02-15

The disruption in education due to the Covid-19 pandemic has turned Pakistan into one of the top 10 markets in the Asia-Pacific region for Coursera, according to the chief enterprise officer of the international massive open online course (MooC) provider. "Since mid-March 2020 we have had over 429,000 new learners and 1.2 million enrolments on the Coursera platform from Pakistan,&rdq.....

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Sindh reports 251 fresh cases

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-15

KARACHI: Over 250 new Covid-19 cases and seven contagion-related fatalities were reported in Sindh on Sunday, according to a statement issued by the Chief Minister's House on the day. Elaborating further on these developments, Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said in the statement that the results of 9,252 Covid-19 tests were released on the day, and 251 samples were found infected. A

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7 more die, 251 infected in Sindh due to COVID-19

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-15

KARACHI - As many as 7 more patients of coronavirus died overnight lifting the death toll to 4,219 and 251 new cases emerged when 9252 tests were conducted. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued here on Sunday. He added that 7 more patients of COVID-19 lost their lives lifting the death toll to 4,219 that constituted 1.6 percent death rate. Murad A.....

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International News

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Oil drops after strong rally as new Covid-19 variants weigh

Source: [Reuters](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-13

LONDON: Oil prices fell on Thursday, paring recent gains, as renewed lockdowns and the emergence of new coronavirus variants weighed on prospects for a swift demand recovery. Brent crude fell \$0.52, or 0.9%, to \$60.95 a barrel by 1122 GMT and US West Texas Intermediate crude lost \$0.48, or 0.8%, to \$58.20. The Brent benchmark had risen in the previous nine sessions, its longest sustained period.....[more >>](#)

Virus expected to last for long time despite vaccine rollout

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-14

STOCKHOLM: The head of the EU's disease control agency has warned that the novel coronavirus could last indefinitely even as global infections slowed by nearly half in the last month and vaccine rollouts gathered pace in parts of the world. In an interview, ECDC chief Andrea Ammon urged European countries in particular not to drop their guard against a virus that "seems very well adap.....[more >>](#)

US has 'concerns' on Covid info from China

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-14

WASHINGTON: The United States has 'deep concerns' about China's response to the Covid-19 crisis and wants Beijing to "make available its data from the earliest days of the outbreak," national security adviser Jake Sullivan said. The statement came days after a World Health Organisation team of inquiry returned from Wuhan, China, the epicenter of the pandemic with no

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Oxford University to test vaccine response among children

Source: [Reuters](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-14

LONDON: The University of Oxford has launched a study to assess the safety and immune response of the Covid-19 vaccine it has developed with AstraZeneca Plc in children for the first time, it said on Saturday. The new mid-stage trial will determine whether the vaccine is effective on people between the ages of 6 and 17, according to an emailed statement from the university. Around 300 volunteers.....

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US has 'concerns' on Covid info from China after WHO probe

Source: [Agencies](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-14

Washington - The United States has 'deep concerns' about China's response to the Covid-19 crisis and wants Beijing to "make available its data from the earliest days of the outbreak," national security advisor Jake Sullivan said Sunday. The statement came days after a World Health Organization team of inquiry returned from Wuhan, China, the epicenter of the pandemic with.....

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Quarantine difficulties

Source: [News Desk](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-15

About three-in-ten Americans say they would find it at least somewhat difficult to quarantine for two weeks if told they had Covid-19 because of too many obligations, says survey by the Pew Research Centre.

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NZ's largest city put under snap lockdown

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-02-15

WELLINGTON: New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern ordered the country's biggest city Auckland into a snap lockdown for the first time in nearly six months on Sunday after three coronavirus cases emerged in the community. The Pacific island nation has been widely praised for its handling of the pandemic, with just 25 deaths in a population of five million. But almost two million residen.....

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