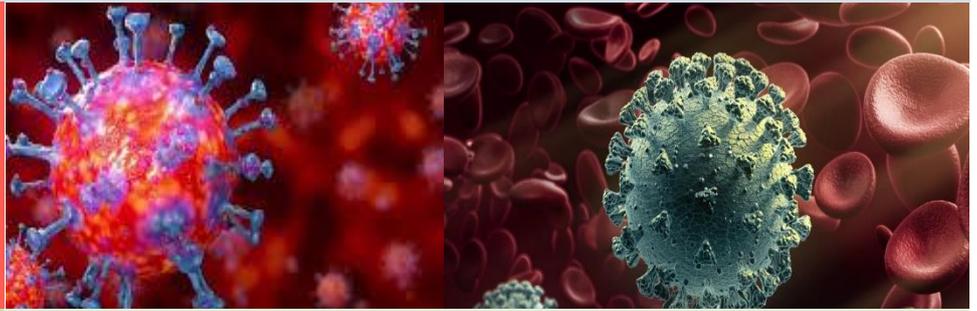


# E-Newsletter on COVID-19



Vol. 02, No, 27



Issue: 30 March to 02 April, 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

#### **Covid-19 vaccines: public health, private interests**

Source: [Zafar Mirza](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

IMMUNISATION against Covid-19 is a public good. The World Health Organisation “recognises the role of extensive immunisation against Covid-19 as a global public good for health in preventing, containing and stopping transmission in order to bring the pandemic to an end...”. Nobody is safe until everybody is safe, which necessitates that the immunisation of the most vulnerable amon.....[more >>](#)

#### **Education system vs entrepreneurship**

Source: [Muhammad Asim Siddique](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-03-30

“Formal education will make you a living; self-education will make you a fortune.” Entrepreneurs are essential for economic growth. Entrepreneurship can change our lifestyle and the way we work. If successful, their disruptive innovations may improve our standard of living, add to national income, create social change, help with community development and in addition to creating wealth.....[more >>](#)

#### **Shaking the pillars Decency and development is farther than it appears**

Source: [Muhammad Hamid Zaman](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

Two of our most important pillars on which development and progress rest — health and education — were undermined last week. This was no grand conspiracy hatched by those who operate in the shadows but thrive in our imagination. It was our own doing. In the midst of a pandemic, in a country where trust of the government stays low and our ability to circumvent the rules remains high, t.....[more >>](#)

#### **Dangerous Third Wave**

Source: [Editorial](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

The government has finally decided to ban public gatherings only after the COVID-19 situation in the country has gotten out of control. It took more than 4700 new infection cases and 57 deaths reported in a day to knock some sense in the authorities to tighten restrictions and counter the third wave. While it is good that the government is showing some action, what is beyond comprehension is .....[more >>](#)

#### **Women during the pandemic**

Source: [Rafia Zakaria](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

ONE year ago, the world ran on different rules. The rhythm of day was different, the management of time was different, people behaved differently and were scared of different things. One custom of that bygone pre-pandemic world was the division of male and female work and space. In Pakistan, where the number of females in the workforce is below 30 per cent, women mostly stayed at home and men wen.....[more >>](#)

#### **Rising wave**

Source: [Editorial](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-03-31

The full horrors of the Covid-19 pandemic, and the impact it can have on countries are now visible to us. Over the last four days, over 4,000 new cases of Covid-19 have been detected each day in the country. During the 24 hours between Monday and Tuesday, there have been 100 deaths, the majority of them in Punjab. The rate of positivity in the country is at over eight percent, deemed by experts to.....[more >>](#)

**Covid-19: opening of schools in a pandemic**

Source: [Dr Rana Jawad Asghar, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

The opening and closing of schools in a raging pandemic has become a political issue globally. What are the benefits and costs of keeping schools open while Covid-19 is still not under control? Our knowledge about SARS-CoV-2 has expanded over the year and we have more information to make good decisions. Keeping children away from schools for the past year has negatively impacted not only children&.....

[more >>](#)

**The vaccination dilemma and untraditional role of CSR to fix it**

Source: [Saeed ul Hassan, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

Year 2020 has been the most unforgiving one. The pandemic ruthlessly shook the world leaving the global community in unending fiascos. The earlier anecdotes imbued with mounting apprehensions, uncertainties, anger and denial turned into real-time personal and collective tragedies in no time. The helplessness compounded with hopelessness and growing fear of impending danger strangled the masses phy.....

[more >>](#)

**Covid-19 – A wake-up call**

Source: [Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

The world is emerging from the biggest social and economic shock in living memory, but it will be a long time before the deep scars of the Covid-19 pandemic on human well-being fully heal. In the Asia-Pacific region, where 60 percent of the world lives, the pandemic revealed chronic development fault lines through its excessively harmful impact on the most vulnerable. The United Nations Economic .....

[more >>](#)

**High Covid numbers**

Source: [EDITORIAL, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

THE picture that is emerging from Covid-19 wards at hospitals in Islamabad, Punjab and KP is deeply distressing. Oxygen beds are filling up fast and some coronavirus patients are being admitted to emergency wards. In the capital, a major hospital is facing serious staff shortage as scores of healthcare workers have tested positive and are either isolating at home or are in quarantine centres. The .....

[more >>](#)

**PWD data**

Source: [EDITORIAL, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

IT emerged during a session of the Sindh Assembly on Monday that the provincial government had done little to collect data for the number of differently abled persons in the province. Although the provincial government has enacted the Sindh Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2018, which was hailed by many as a good step towards the meaningful implementation of the UN Convention on the R.....

[more >>](#)

**Autism and Covid-19**

Source: [Rukhsana Shah, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

THIS year, we are celebrating World Autism Awareness Day (April 2) during the Covid-19 pandemic which has changed our views on existentialism, social interaction and the planet's future. On a less cosmic scale, economic recession, business closures, discontinuation of academic activities, restricted access to health services, curbs on social gatherings, and enforced isolation have drasticall.....

[more >>](#)

### Jumping the queue for vaccines

Source: EDITORIAL, [Daily Times](#), 2021-04-01

The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) is doing the right thing by holding an inquiry into a video clip that has gone viral on social media, which shows family members of federal housing minister, Tariq Bashir Cheema of PML-Q, receiving Covid-19 vaccine shots out of turn. A number of the people shown receiving the vaccine on the video are clearly below 65 years of age and therefore do no.....

[more >>](#)

### Choose to be free

Source: [Asif A Malik](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-04-01

“All my class fellows are well settled. Every other day, someone is throwing a birthday party or another one is getting married, but they usually do not invite me to birthday parties and weddings. Interestingly, I am quite ok with it and happy as well because I know who I am, where I am going, and clear about my targets in life”. Qaisar said it all to me in a normal way during our aft.....

[more >>](#)

### Sense of Déjà vu?

Source: [BR Research](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

As the third coronavirus wave envelopes the country, there is a sense of déjà vu all around. Pakistanis have been here before, starting with the first and perhaps the most stringent of lockdowns a year ago. But it doesn't look like any concrete lessons were learnt from the pandemic experiences last year. Starting with the government, the plateauing of cases in late July and earl.....

[more >>](#)

### The vaccination dilemma and untraditional role of CSR to fix it

Source: [Saeed ul Hassan](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

Year 2020 has been the most unforgiving one. The pandemic ruthlessly shook the world leaving the global community in unending fiascos. The earlier anecdotes imbued with mounting apprehensions, uncertainties, anger and denial turned into real-time personal and collective tragedies in no time. The helplessness compounded with hopelessness and growing fear of impending danger strangled the masses phy.....

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### Third wave and the vaccine

Source: [Faisal Bari](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

HEALTH officials across the world, including Pakistan, keep saying that following the standard operating procedures of handwashing, wearing a mask, social distancing, and not going to crowded places can keep the Covid spread at bay but the only way to return to normality is by carrying out mass vaccinations and/or the development of herd immunity. Most countries, as a result, have started large-s.....

[more >>](#)

### From Cuba with love

Source: [Aasim Sajjad Akhtar](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

THE year was 2005, and the context was the devastating earthquake that took the lives of thousands and destroyed homes and livelihoods of many more in parts of AJK and Balakot, KP. The international aid community had descended upon Islamabad to coordinate relief operations to the devastated areas. The one foreign contingent which wasn't booked into the Marriot — staying in fact at a fa.....

[more >>](#)

**Vaccine nationalism will prolong COVID-19 ramifications!**

Source: [Saad Masood](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-04-02

On 29th January 2021, there was a peculiar and poignant sight at a WHO press conference. A midwife from Uganda and a nurse from Pakistan made the headlines while pleading for vaccine supplies for underdeveloped and developing countries! Michael Ryan, executive director of WHO's Health Emergencies Programme, calls a spade a spade – "They are right at the end of the queue. They see....."

[more >>](#)

**A New Model of Civil Society-Establishment Engagement**

Source: [Foqia Sadiq Khan](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-04-02

Any student of Pakistan's history will tell you that resistance offered to the transgressions of the establishment by the civil society, political parties, thinkers and writers was much more direct in Pakistan in its nature during the 1950s, 1960s, 1970s, and also 1980s. However, from 1990s onwards, a new model of covert cooperation of the civil society-establishment has emerged that is larg.....

[more >>](#)

**Ignorance is bliss**

Source: [Zara Maqbool](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

I remember writing about how we can take care of ourselves during Covid times back in 2020 as the world order changed and we all woke up to a world that to me at least makes no sense. And by care, I meant taking care of our mental health in these crazy times where we are constantly scared and wondering "when's our turn" to catch this highly contagious and deadly virus. Some .....

[more >>](#)

## National News

### Balochistan

#### Coronavirus Section; 144 imposed in Quetta for 15 days

Source: [INP](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

QUETTA: The concerned authorities on Monday imposed section 144 in Quetta for 15 days in the wake of increasing cases of coronavirus. As per the notification issued by the Home and Tribal Affairs Department, the district government has banned the gathering of five or more people across the province. The local health department has directed to strictly follow the Standard Operating Proced.....[more >>](#)

#### Section 144 imposed in Quetta amid rapid increase in corona cases

Source: [Agencies](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

QUETTA - The provincial government on Monday imposed Section-144 in the district and banned all public gatherings for a period of 15 days in the wake of increasing cases of coronavirus. According to a notification issued by the Home and Tribal Affairs Department of Balochistan, the government imposed an immediate ban on gathering of five or more people in the district aiming to ensure public .....[more >>](#)

#### China has produced 17 anti-Covid vaccines: diplomat

Source: [Saleem Shahid](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

QUETTA: Chinese Consul General for Sindh and Balochistan Li Bijian has said that his country has prepared 17 Covid-19 vaccines. Speaking during his visit to Quetta Press Club on Wednesday, he said four of the 17 vaccines had been approved for the commercial purposes by the Chinese scientists and health officials. Chairman of China Overseas Ports Holding Company Zhang Baozhong, Adviser to th.....[more >>](#)

### Islamabad

#### 26 cities record over 8pc positivity rate

Source: [Ikram Junaidi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

ISLAMABAD: With President Dr Arif Alvi and Defence Minister Pervez Khattak joining the list of dignitaries having contracted Covid-19, the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Monday identified 26 cities with over eight per cent positivity ratio. On the other hand, an age and gender distribution chart showed that people in the age group of 20 to 40 years were the most affected by Covid.....[more >>](#)

#### Four-day-old baby tests positive for Covid-19

Source: [Ikram Junaidi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

ISLAMABAD: A four-day-old baby has become a victim of the Covid-19 at Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (Pims). According to media coordinator of Pims Dr Waseem Khuwaja, baby contracted virus from her mother and was put on oxygenated bed. "Mother is in stable condition due to which it was decided not to admit her. We have been facing burden on the oxygen beds as 123 patients are alrea.....[more >>](#)

#### Hospitals in Islamabad asked to increase capacity for Covid-19 patients

Source: [Munawer Azeem](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

ISLAMABAD: The District Health Office on Monday asked private and state-run-hospitals to increase the capacity for Covid-19 patients, including provision of high flow oxygen, after 856 people were diagnosed with the disease on Monday. This is the highest number of cases reported in the capital since the outbreak of the disease in March 2020. The positivity rate in the city climbed to 15.9pc where.....[more >>](#)

### PM sacks Hafeez Shaikh over 'growing inflation'

Source: [news Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-03-30

President Dr Arif Alvi and Minister for Defence Pervaiz Khattak tested positive for Covid-19 on Monday as national positivity ratio soared to 11.2%. "I have tested positive for Covid-19. May Allah have mercy on all Covid affectees. Had 1st dose of vaccine but antibodies start developing after 2nd dose that was due in a week. Please continue to be careful," the president said in a twee.....

[more >>](#)

### Pakistan sees highest Covid death toll since December

Source: [News Desk](#), [The Express Tribune](#), [Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

ISLAMABAD: At least 100 more people lost their lives to COVID-19 during the past 24 hours—the highest since December last year. According to National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), Punjab witnessed the most deaths during the period, totaling 73, followed by 18 in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, four in Sindh, two each in Islamabad and Azad Jammu & Kashmir, and one in Balochistan. As many as 46,5.....

[more >>](#)

### Nationwide anti-polio drive starts under Covid-19 safety protocols

Source: [news Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-03-30

The nationwide anti-polio campaign resumed on Monday amid an uptick in the coronavirus cases with an aim to inoculate more than 40 million children under the age of five. Special Assistant to the PM on Health, Dr Faisal Sultan said that while the pandemic poses a challenge for the anti-polio drive, authorities are committed to ensuring continuity of essential public health services during these d.....

[more >>](#)

### 100 more succumb to coronavirus as death toll crosses 14,300 in Pakistan

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-03-30

As the third wave of coronavirus has gripped most parts of the country, around 100 people have died from coronavirus, taking the death tally to 14,256 countrywide. The country last reported 100 deaths on December 23. The NCOC data showed that about 100 people lost their lives to the coronavirus in the last 24 hours, taking the nationwide death toll to 14,300. It also said that 92 patients died i.....

[more >>](#)

### 4,000 corona cases reported for third consecutive day

Source: [Abdul Rasheed Azad](#), [Business Recorder](#), [Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

ISLAMABAD: The country has recorded over 4,000 coronavirus cases for the third consecutive day as 4,525 new cases were reported in the past 24 hours, taking the national tally of the Covid-19 cases to 659,116. Latest coronavirus data released by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) here on Monday said that over the past 24 hours, 41 more coronavirus patients died taking the nation.....

[more >>](#)

### NCOC decides strict lockdowns in corona-hit areas

Source: [Imran Mukhtar](#), [The Nation](#), [Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

ISLAMABAD - As the country's Covid-19 positivity rate jumped to 11.2 percent on Monday, the National Command Operation Center (NCOC) decided to further tighten the lockdowns and restrictions in areas of high positivity rate to control the third wave of coronavirus. The NCOC met under the chair of Planning Minister Asad Umar to discuss the prevailing situation of the coronavirus and diff.....

[more >>](#)

### **EAG urges govt to redirect resources to vaccinate vulnerable, deserving segments**

Source: [Imran Ali Kundi](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

ISLAMABAD - The Economic Advisory Group (EAG) on Monday said that government should redirect its resources towards vaccinating the vulnerable and deserving segments of the population and let the private sector operate in the remaining segments. The EAG, an independent network of individuals drawn from economics, policy and business which deliberates on economic policies regularly and shares i.....

[more >>](#)

### **Traders ignore coronavirus SOPs**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

Islamabad - While the positivity rate of third wave of coronavirus is at an all-time high, traders of rural areas of Islamabad have completely ignored Covid-19 standard operating procedures, whereas, the district administration has also turned a blind eye towards these areas. A survey done by The Nation revealed that many shopkeepers at Tramri, Khanna, Bhara Kahu, Alipur, Thanda Pani, and Koral .....

[more >>](#)

### **Polyclinic starts 3rd isolation ward for COVID-19 patients**

Source: [Rahul Basharat](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

Islamabad - The Federal General Services Polyclinic Hospital (FGSPH) on Monday started the third novel coronavirus (COVID-19) ward as above 180 healthcare workers of the hospital are virus positive. The hospital management shared official details mentioning that currently 182 HCWs of the hospital are COVID-19 positive. The number includes 42 doctors, 72 nurses and 68 paramedics. Spokesperson FGS.....

[more >>](#)

### **100 die in highest single-day toll this year**

Source: [Ikram Junaidi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

ISLAMABAD: As Pakistan reported 100 deaths from coronavirus within just 24 hours, the current year's highest death toll in a single day, the number of critical patients in the country reached an all-time record of 3,749 with over 80pc oxygenated beds occupied in Peshawar, Swat and Gujranwala hospitals on Tuesday. At least 4,084 more people, including the outgoing finance minister Dr Abdul H.....

[more >>](#)

### **NCOC to hold inquiry over video showing minister's family being vaccinated**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

ISLAMABAD: The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Tuesday decided to hold an inquiry over a video clip in which family members of federal Minister for Housing Tariq Bashir Cheema of the Pakistan Muslim League-Quaid (PML-Q), which is an ally of the ruling Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI), are shown being vaccinated. "We have learnt that a number of seg.....

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### **PM has recovered from Covid-19: Senator Faisal**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan has recovered from Covid-19 and formally started official work. This was announced by Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf Senator Faisal Javed Khan on his Twitter account on Tuesday. The prime minister and first lady Bushra Bibi had tested positive for the virus on March 20. "Alhamdulillah, Prime Minister Imran Khan has fully recovered. He has resumed work gradual.....

[more >>](#)

**More Covid-19 casualties in twin cities**

Source: [Amjad Iqbal | Aamir Yasin | Munawer Azeem, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

ISLAMABAD: As many as 935 people in the twin cities of Rawalpindi and Islamabad tested positive for Covid-19 on Tuesday with 11 people losing their lives. Officials of the capital administration said two deaths each were reported in the age group of 60-69 and 70-79 and one death was reported in the age group of 30-39. The deceased were residents of Tarlai, G-10, Khanna, Alipur and Jhangi Syedan.....

[more >>](#)

**Covid-19 getting out of control as 100 lose lives in a single day**

Source: [news Desk, Daily Times](#), 2021-03-31

The national tally of total active Covid-19 cases was recorded at 48,566 on Tuesday as 4,048 more people tested positive for the deadly virus out of 46,269 tests conducted across country. Around 100 coronavirus patients died across country, according to the latest update issued by National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC). The recently removed finance minister Dr Hafeez Shaikh also tested posi.....

[more >>](#)

**Minister under attack for 'jumping the queue' to get family vaccinated**

Source: [news Desk, Daily Times](#), 2021-03-31

Federal Minister for Housing Tariq Bashir Cheema of the Pakistan Muslim League-Quaid (PML-Q), which is an ally of the ruling PTI, came under fire on Tuesday after video clips surfaced on social media allegedly showing several of his family members getting vaccinated for the coronavirus, a private TV channel reported. The video clips, which were originally shared on the Instagram account of one of.....

[more >>](#)

**Transport system remains suspended following stricter lockdown**

Source: [Khalid Iqbal, The News, International](#), 2021-03-31

Rawalpindi : In the wake of the third wave of coronavirus, the public transport system remained suspended in Rawalpindi on Tuesday as Metro Bus Service (MBS) was not operational from Saddar to Faizabad but operating in federal capital Islamabad jurisdiction, while transporters did not ply public service vehicles (PSVs). District Regional Transport Authority (DRTA) Secretary Rashid Ali said.....

[more >>](#)

**Global leaders call for urgent international pandemic treaty**

Source: [Agencies, Daily Times](#), 2021-03-31

The international community should work together "towards a new international treaty for pandemic preparedness and response" to build a more robust global health architecture that will protect future generations. The world leaders said in a commentary published in several newspapers around the world on Tuesday. "There will be other pandemics and other major health emergencies. ....

[more >>](#)

**Pakistan crosses grim mark of 50,000 active Covid-19 cases**

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

ISLAMABAD: As the third Covid-19 wave continues to grip Pakistan, the daily active Covid-19 cases reached 50,397 in the last 24 hours. According to the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), about 4,757 new coronavirus cases were recorded in 24 hours, taking the country's Covid-19 tally to 603,126. Pakistan's Covid-19 death toll climbed to 14,434 after 78 people succumbed to the.....

[more >>](#)

### Fully-recovered PM convenes meeting on Covid

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

ISLAMABAD: Making a full recovery from coronavirus infection, Prime Minister Imran returned to his official engagements on Tuesday and convened an important meeting of the National Coordination Committee on Covid-19 on Wednesday (tomorrow). According to Express News, Imran will chair the NCC meeting at the Prime Minister's Office Wednesday afternoon, which will review the prevailing pandemic .....

[more >>](#)

### CMs asked to ensure adherence to public gathering directives for Covid

Source: [News Desk](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

ISLAMABAD: Chairman of National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) Asad Umar on Tuesday asked chief ministers of all provinces to ensure adherence to the directions of the authority to deal with the third wave of COVID-19. In a letter penned to all chief ministers, Umar said that "violations of NCOC instructions, specifically in political and social gatherings have been observed." The.....

[more >>](#)

### People urged to follow SOPs strictly: SAPM warns of severity in current Covid-19 wave

Source: [Abdul Rasheed Azad](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

ISLAMABAD: Special Assistant to the Prime Minister (SAPM) on National Health Services Faisal Sultan, Tuesday, while urging the people to strictly follow the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to deal with the coronavirus spread, saying the current wave of the Covid-19 potentially can become worse than the first Covid wave in the summer of 2020. Talking to media men here, he said the federal gov.....

[more >>](#)

### Centre directs strict implementation of virus rules as 100 die in a day

Source: [Tahir Niaz](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan on Tuesday morning reported 100 more Covid-19 deaths, more than double the number of deaths recorded a day earlier and marking the first time since December that the country reported single-day fatalities in triple digits. At least 4,084 new cases of COVID-19 were reported across the country during last twenty-four hours. Pakistan had reported 111 deaths due to the Corona.....

[more >>](#)

### Govt left nation on charity vaccine: Abbasi

Source: [M Asad Chaudhry](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

ISLAMABAD - Former prime minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi on Tuesday criticised government's policy to counter Covid-19. He was talking to media outside the Accountability Court in Islamabad where judge Azam Khan heard the LNG reference. The statement of National Accountability Bureau's witness former director of the petroleum division Abdul Rasheed Jokio was recorded. The court or.....

[more >>](#)

### Private sector procuring Sputnik V vaccine at high inflated price, claims TIP

Source: [Rahul Basharat](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

ISLAMABAD - The Transparency International Pakistan (TIP) on Tuesday said that procurement of COVID-19 vaccines by the private sector for commercial sale in the country was at high inflated price. The (TIP) said this in response to secretary Ministry of National Health Services (NHS). The TIP, expressing concerns, said: "Explanation provided in your letter dated 24 March 2021, quoting D.....

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### ICT admin inspects bus stands to ensure Covid-19 SOPs compliance

Source: [Tahir Niaz, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

ISLAMABAD-The Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) administration has sprung into action to ensure compliance of the Standard Operating Procedures issued in view of the pandemic. According to the officials, AC (City) inspected buses and bus stands in city sub-division to enforce compliance on Covid-19 SOPs. Transport is operating at 50 per cent capacity already in the city. The officials said th.....

[more >>](#)

### Annual tableeghi ijtema postponed due to COVID-19 third wave

Source: [Mansoor Ali, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

ISLAMABAD - The annual tableeghi ijtema scheduled from April 2 to 4 in Islamabad has been postponed due to sudden increase in Covid-19 cases. The ijtema was postponed after a meeting in Raiwand Lahore chaired by Maulana Nazr Rehman who is also the head of the Tableghi Jamaat in Pakistan. While talking to The Nation, Mufti Khalid Shareef who is one of the organisers of tableeghi ijtema in Islamabad.....

[more >>](#)

### PM Imran Khan says no to Sindh govt's 'complete lockdown' suggestion

Source: [Web Desk, The News, International](#), 2021-03-31

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan on Wednesday turned down the Sindh government's recommendation to impose a "complete lockdown" across the country for two weeks. Sindh Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah had earlier said the government should impose a "complete lockdown" across the country for two weeks to stem the spread of the virus. Reacting to his comments, the p.....

[more >>](#)

### Pakistan receives 560,000 doses of vaccine from China

Source: [Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

ISLAMABAD: As the number of active cases crossed the 50,000 mark for the third time since the pandemic started in February last year, Pakistan on Wednesday received 560,000 more doses of Covid-19 vaccine from China. Another consignment of 500,000 doses is set to arrive on Thursday (today) after which the number of doses received from China will surpass the figure of 2.5 million. While Prime Mini.....

[more >>](#)

### WB report highlights risks posed by Covid to Pakistan's economy

Source: [Amin Ahmed, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

ISLAMABAD: A new World Bank report released on Wednesday termed new waves of infection, emergence of vaccine-resistant strains coupled with setbacks in mass vaccinations as major risks to the economic outlook of Pakistan. The 'South Asia Economic Focus: South Asia Vaccinates, Spring 2021' warned that more delays in the implementation of critical structural reforms could lead to further .....

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### **Propaganda against vaccination criticised**

Source: [Kalbe Ali](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

ISLAMABAD: Special Representative to the Prime Minister on Religious Harmony Hafiz Mohammad Tahir Mahmood Ashrafi on Wednesday said those spreading propaganda against Covid-19 vaccine were doing injustice to the nation. "The worst part is that these elements are using wrong interpretation of Sharia to spread the incorrect propaganda against vaccination," Hafiz Ashrafi said vaccinatio.....

[more >>](#)

### **Hospitals in Islamabad on verge of saturation**

Source: [Ikram Junaidi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

ISLAMABAD: While hospitals are on the verge of saturation, the Covid-19 situation in the federal capital is worsening with each passing day. The Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (Pims) has exhausted its capacity and patients even have to wait at the emergency centre to get a bed. Pims, which is a tertiary care hospital and gets emergency patients from across the country, has started referr.....

[more >>](#)

### **PM rejects Sindh's suggestion for complete lockdown across country**

Source: [news Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-04-01

Prime Minister Imran Khan on Wednesday rejected the Sindh government's recommendation to impose a 'complete lockdown' across the country for two weeks to stem the spread of coronavirus. The prime minister said Pakistan cannot afford a complete lockdown, adding that the measure would adversely impact daily wage earners across the country. He said, for the time being, the governme.....

[more >>](#)

### **ICT excise urges citizens to avail online facility, avoid visit amid Covid-19**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-04-01

Owing to a recent surge of coronavirus cases across the county, the Excise & Taxation Department (E&TD) Islamabad on Wednesday asked the concerned citizens to avoid visiting their office and instead avail online facility. In a statement, Director E&TD Bilal Azam requested citizens to avoid visit of the office as much as they could in a bid to control the spread of virus. "Approa.....

[more >>](#)

### **Pakistan reports almost 5,000 new Covid-19 cases, 96 deaths in 24 hours**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan recorded 4,974 new coronavirus cases in 24 hours, taking the country's Covid-19 tally to 672,931 According to the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), the country's death toll climbed to 14,530 after 96 people succumbed to the deadly disease during the last 24 hours. Most deaths occurred in Punjab followed by K-P. Meanwhile, 2,148 patients recovered from the dead.....

[more >>](#)

### **At least 5,792 children tested positive for Covid-19 in Islamabad**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

ISLAMABAD: At least 5,792 children, of ages up to 10 years have tested positive for Covid-19 in the federal capital since the start of the pandemic last year. According to official statistics, the children who tested positive for coronavirus included newborns. The report added that 5,391 youth between the ages of 11 to 20 years and 11,860 between the ages of 21 to 30 were infected by the virus. ....

[more >>](#)

**Pakistan to step up vaccination to turn tide against Covid-19: Dr Faisal**

Source: [News Desk](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

Special Assistant to Prime Minister on Health Dr Faisal Sultan has said that Pakistan will step up vaccination to turn the tide against Covid-19, saying that 0.8 million doses have already been administered in the country. Talking to the media in Islamabad on Wednesday, he said that the vaccines are part of the strategy against coronavirus which also included the use of face masks and social distan.....

[more >>](#)

**Five die of coronavirus in Islamabad**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

ISLAMABAD/RAWALPINDI: As many as 41,380 frontline healthcare workers and senior citizens in the federal capital have been vaccinated so far against coronavirus as the government paces up its immunisation drive while five people died from the deadly virus in the federal capital on Wednesday. According to official figures, 5,476 people out of 7,732 registered have received vaccine jabs at Capital .....

[more >>](#)

**SOP violations: 80 vehicles seized**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

ISLAMABAD/RAWALPINDI: As the third wave of the novel coronavirus grips the province, the Rawalpindi Regional Transport Authority (RTA) continued its ban on public transport services for a second day on Wednesday. The district administration, on the special directives of Rawalpindi Deputy Commissioner (DC) Anwarul Haq, has accelerated its ongoing campaign to check for violations of SOPs. Accordin.....

[more >>](#)

**23 penalised for SOP violations at IIA**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

ISLAMABAD: TheIslamabad International Airport (IIA)management has started the strict implementation of anti-coronavirus standard operating procedures (SOPs) to curb the spread of the virus and penalised 23 people for violations on Tuesday, a spokesperson said. Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) imposed fines on some 23 visitors to the airport for not wearing a face mask. CAA has begun imposing restr.....

[more >>](#)

**Pakistan reports 4,974 new coronavirus cases in 24 hours**

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

Pakistan has reported 98 deaths in the last 24 hours by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has surged to 672,931. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 14,530 on Thursday. According to the latest figures by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) 4,974 persons tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 24 hours. Punjab remains the worst-hit province in terms .....

[more >>](#)

**Centre provides Sinopham, CanSino COVID vaccines to provinces**

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

The federal government on Thursday has provided more doses of the COVID-19 vaccine to the various parts of the country. Overall 4,52000 COVID-19 vaccine shots of Sinopham and CanSino have been provided to Punjab, Sindh, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan, Islamabad, Azad Jammu and Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan. The vaccine jabs were dispatched to provinces in the cold-chain containers via road a.....

[more >>](#)

### **PM rejects complete lockdown proposal**

Source: [Maqbool Malik](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

ISLAMABAD - Turning down the Sindh government's recommendation seeking imposition of two weeks complete lockdown across the country, Prime Minister Imran Khan on Wednesday directed to start an aggressive awareness campaign for implementation of SOPs to contain third wave of Covid-19 in the country. Addressing a meeting of National Coordination Committee on Covid-19 through video link, t.....

[more >>](#)

### **500,000 vaccine doses arrive Pakistan**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

ISLAMABAD - The government on Wednesday received 500,000 doses of China-based novel coronavirus (COVID-19) CanSino vaccine. Spokesperson Ministry of National Health Services (NHS) Sajid Hussain Shah said that Special Assistant to Prime Minister (SAPM) on Health Dr. Faisal Sultan received the vaccine at the Noor Khan air base here. He said that the consignment of 500,000 doses of Sinopharm an.....

[more >>](#)

### **ICCI urges FBR to defer tax collection from businesses during Covid-19**

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

ISLAMABAD-President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce, and Industry (ICCI) Sardar Yasir Ilyas Khan on Wednesday lauded the decision of Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) for extending the deadline to furnish the taxpayer profile up to June 30. It would reduce pressures on taxpayers by giving them more time for preparation of their profiles, he said in a statement. However, he urged that FBR to simpl.....

[more >>](#)

### **Pakistan reports nearly 5000 coronavirus cases in 24 hours**

Source: [Aisha Mahmood](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

Pakistan's coronavirus positivity ratio jumped to 9.93% on Thursday after the country reported nearly 5000 new infections. During the last 24 hours, 50,055 people were tested for the virus, taking the total number of people tested to 10,247,374. Out of these new tests conducted, 4,974 came out positive, taking the national tally to 672,931. This is the first time this year that the country h.....

[more >>](#)

### **NCOC asks provinces to increase the pace of vaccination to fully utilize available vaccines**

Source: [Aisha Mahmood](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

Minister for Planning and Development Asad Umar announced on Thursday that another batch of 0.5 million coronavirus vaccine doses from China will arrive in Pakistan tonight. On March 30, Pakistan had received the first shipment of the single-dose coronavirus vaccine produced by China's CanSino. Umar who also heads the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), said that Pakistan received.....

[more >>](#)

### **Capital admin changes market closing days once again**

Source: [Aamir Yasin | Munawer Azeem](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

ISLAMABAD: The capital administration once again revised its strategy over the closure of commercial activities under which markets, marakiz and shopping malls would be closed on different days. It is for the third time the local administration has revised the strategy over the closure of markets since March 19, as it failed to prevent the spread of the virus. Besides, some trader unions also sho.....

[more >>](#)

### Children suffering from autism need extra care during pandemic: experts

Source: [Ikram Junaidi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

ISLAMABAD: As World Autism Awareness Day is being observed on April 2 (today), experts have warned that children suffering from Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) are prone to catching infections which is why they need special attention during the Covid-19 pandemic. They have suggested that early diagnosis, intervention and treatment can help improve functional outcomes for children with autism. It .....

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### New Covid variant affecting kids more, data shows

Source: [Ikram Junaidi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

ISLAMABAD: While experts are of mixed opinion about the UK variant of Covid-19 being more transmissible in children, data shows cases have increased in children more rapidly compared to adults and elderly people. However, they say there are fewer chances in children to translate the infection into a disease. A double variant virus has been reported in India which showed that the virus has contin.....

[more >>](#)

### Covid-19 claims 98 lives, infects 4,974 more in 24 hours

Source: [APP](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-04-02

ISLAMABAD/RAWALPINDI: The national tally on Thursday of total active COVID-19 cases was recorded at 53,127 with 4,974 more people testing positive for the deadly virus and 2,148 people recovering from the disease during the last 24 hours. Ninety-eight corona patients have died during the past 24 hours, 88 of whom were under treatment in hospital and 10 out of the hospital in their respective quara.....

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### Islamabad district courts sealed

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-04-02

Islamabad : Director General at Directorate of Health Services MCI/CDA Dr. Hasan Orooj has sealed the premises of Islamabad district courts for a period of 10 days, from April 1 to 10 after finding positive COVID-19 cases and unsatisfactory conditions particularly regarding the poor following of standard operating procedures (SOPs) to contain the spread of the virus on the premises. The DG.....

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### Raids to impose SOPs become common sight in markets

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-04-02

Islamabad : The raids by the local officials have now become a common sight in markets and bazaars where they not only impose fines but also arrest some of the people who are found not wearing face masks in violation of directives issued by the government. The local traders and shopkeepers stated that at least a 'fear factor' is now prevailing because whenever visitors see police.....

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### Pakistan reports highest number of fresh Covid cases in 10 months

Source: [news Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-04-02

The national tally of total active Covid-19 cases was recorded at 53,127 as 4,974 more people tested positive for the deadly virus on Thursday, the highest number of fresh infections in a single day since June last year. Ninety-eight corona patients died on Thursday, 88 of whom were under treatment in hospitals and 10 in their respective quarantines or homes, according to the latest update issued.....

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### **Pakistan sees another peak with more than 5,000 new Covid-19 cases**

Source: [News Desk, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

Pakistan recorded 5,234 new coronavirus cases in 24 hours, taking the country's Covid-19 tally to 678,165. According to the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), the country's death toll climbed to 14,613 after 83 people succumbed to the deadly disease during the last 24 hours. Most deaths occurred in Punjab followed by K-P. Meanwhile, 1,931 patients recovered from the deadly disease i.....

[more >>](#)

### **Pakistan to develop its own coronavirus vaccine, NA told**

Source: [Saqib Virk, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

ISLAMABAD: The National Assembly was informed on Thursday that the government was procuring raw materials to combat the coronavirus pandemic in sufficient quantity and it was expected that Pakistan would develop its own vaccine against the virus. The house, which met here with Deputy Speaker Qasim Suri in the chair, deferred the formation of a parliamentary committee on electoral reforms until t.....

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### **One million Sinopharm vaccines distributed to federating units, NCOC told**

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

ISLAMABAD: The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Friday expressed concerns over non-adherence to Covid-19 SOPs by the masses. "The forum expressed concerns over non-implementation of NCOC instructions on adherence to SOPs on wearing of masks, social distancing and commercial timings," read the statement. The NCOC session headed by its chairman Asad Umar and co-chaired by Na.....

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### **'People in 30 to 45 age bracket most affected by Covid in capital'**

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

ISLAMABAD/RAWALPINDI: People in the age bracket of 30 to 45 years are the most affected by the novel coronavirus in Islamabad as some 16,607 people between the ages of 31 and 45 have been affected by the virus, revealed a report issued on Thursday. Among the victims in the federal capital, those aged between 21 and 30 years followed the first group and those aged between 46 and 60 years are thir.....

[more >>](#)

### **Local firm inks agreement with China to produce and supply COVID-19 vaccine in Pakistan**

Source: [Fahad Zulfikar, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

(Karachi) As demand for COVID-19 vaccine increases, a local pharmaceutical company has inked an agreement with a Chinese company allowing it to produce and supply vaccine shots in Pakistan, local media reported on Thursday. As per details, M/s Searle Company Limited has signed a pact with China's Livzon Mapharm Inc. for manufacturing coronavirus vaccine (V-01) in the country. "Searle.....

[more >>](#)

### **Pakistan to open walk-in registration, vaccination for citizens above 65 from April 3**

Source: [Aisha Mahmood, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

The National Command and Control Centre (NCOC) announced on Friday that walk-in registrations and vaccinations for citizens above 65 will begin from April 3. "Senior citizen above 65 years can now walk in to any designated vaccination center with their CNIC to get on spot registration and vaccination, with effect from 3rd April 21," NCOC announced on Twitter. Th.....

[more >>](#)

**98 more die of Covid-19**

Source: [Abdul Rasheed Azad](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan, Thursday, reported 98 Covid-19 deaths and 4,974 new coronavirus cases taking the death tally to 14,530, and Covid-19 cases tally to 672,931, since the pandemic outbreak in February 2020. According to the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), on Wednesday Pakistan for the first time conducted over 50,000 tests since outbreak of the Covid-19 in the country. Countryw.....

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**Covid-19 vaccine; Half-a-million doses to reach Pakistan today, NA told**

Source: [Naveed Butt](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

ISLAMABAD: Parliamentary Secretary for National Health Services Nausheen Hamid said Covid-19 vaccine is being imported in adequate quantity to successfully carry out vaccination of the people. The parliamentary secretary told this to the National Assembly on Thursday while replying to the question during question hour session of the House. She said the first consignment of purchased vac.....

[more >>](#)

**50pc work-from-home policy adopted in govt offices**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

ISLAMABAD - In pursuance of the decision of National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) decision, the government has issued the instruction that federal government offices shall observe 50 percent work from home policy. The Establishment Division has issued the notification which says, "as a part of the measures to contain spread of coronavirus (Covid19) during the third wave, in pursuance .....

[more >>](#)

**directs speedy vaccination as country reports highest single-day infections**

Source: [Tahir Niaz](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

ISLAMABAD - Federal Minister for Planning and Development Asad Umar said Thursday that the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) had asked the provinces to increase the pace of vaccination to fully utilise the vaccines which have been made available to them. "Received 5 lakh 60 thousand procured vaccines yesterday. Another 5 lakh will arrive tonight. Reviewed .....

[more >>](#)

**Over 5,000 children tested positive for Covid-19 in capital so far**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

ISLAMABAD - As many as 5,792 children, of ages up to 10 years, have tested positive for Covid-19 in the capital since the start of the pandemic last year, reveals the official data. According to the NCOC, 5,391 youth between the ages of 11 to 20 years and 11,860 between the ages of 21 to 30 were infected by the virus. According to the NCOC, some 5,391 youth between the ages of 11 to 20 years .....

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**Coronavirus in Pakistan: Over 5,000 new infections reported in a single day today**

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-04-02

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has reported over 5,000 new coronavirus infections on Friday amid the intensifying third wave of coronavirus. As per the government data, this is the first time when Pakistan recorded more than 5,000 cases in a single day in the last nine months. On June 19, the country had detected 6,604 infections. Photo Courtesy: Covid.gov.pk The country reported a positivity.....

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### **Pakistan to provide walk-in vaccination against COVID-19 for senior citizens from April 3**

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The News, International](#) , 2021-04-02

Senior citizens aged 65 years and above will be able to avail the walk-in coronavirus vaccination facility from April 3 onwards. This was announced by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Friday via a tweet. Senior citizens will be able to get the coronavirus vaccine jab at designated vaccination centres across the country, said a tweet by the NCOC. "Senior citizen above.....

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## **Khyber Pakhtunkhwa**

### **Students want O/A level exams cancelled**

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#) , 2021-03-30

PESHAWAR: Students of O and A levels on Monday held a protest demonstration to demand of the government to cancel their examinations scheduled from April 6, arguing that they could not sit the exams due to spike in Covid-19 cases and lack of preparations. They gathered outside the Peshawar Press Club, raising slogans in support of their demands. Talking to mediapersons on the occasion, the students.....

[more >>](#)

### **Children's vaccination against Covid-19 recommended**

Source: [Ashfaq Yusufzai](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#) , 2021-03-30

PESHAWAR: Warning that the children with undetected coronavirus can spread the infection among elderly people, researchers of the Khyber Medical University have recommended the testing and vaccination of minors and teenagers. The Jan-March 2021 data involving children of 5-16 age bracket in Swabi, one of the high-risk districts, shows that the children can be the potential transmitters of the coronavirus.....

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### **43 held in Peshawar for violation of Covid SOPs**

Source: [Javed Aziz Khan](#), [The News, International](#) , 2021-03-30

PESHAWAR: Nineteen cases were registered and 43 people arrested in the provincial capital for violation of lockdown and coronavirus standard operating procedures (SOPs), officials said on Monday. As many as 192 cases were registered and 409 people arrested under various sections for violation of the Covid SOPs during the last one month, statistics said. The restrictions have been tightened after.....

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### **Coronavirus cases increasing in Malakand Division**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#) , 2021-03-30

MINGORA: Malakand Division Commissioner Syed Zaheerul Islam chaired a meeting here on Monday to review situation of the third coronavirus wave in the district. Swat Deputy Commissioner Junaid Khan, District Health Officer Dr. Muhammad Saleem and Medical Superintendent of the Saidu Hospital Dr Naeem Awan and other officials attended the meeting. The participants reviewed the situation emerging.....

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### **21 more test positive for Covid-19 in Nowshera**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#) , 2021-03-30

NOWSHERA: Twenty-one more people reported positive for the Covid-19, raising the number of corona cases to 3,461 in the district on Monday. Deputy Commissioner Mir Raza Ozgen told the media that the number of coronavirus-infected patients were increasing with the passage of time as people were ignoring the standard operating procedures (SOPs) against the viral infection. He said that 21 more suspected.....

[more >>](#)

**76 held, 31 shops sealed over SOPs violation Share:**

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

PESHAWAR - The District administration Peshawar on Monday arrested 76 shopkeepers and sealed 31 shops in crackdown on coronavirus preventive standard operating procedures (SOPs). Similarly, 146 individuals were also fined for not wearing face mask in BRT and local transport. District administration was making efforts for guaranteeing the implementation of the officially announced COVID-19 pr.....

[more >>](#)

**Schools closed in six more KP dists amid corona cases**

Source: [NNI](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

Peshawar - The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Education Department has closed schools in six more districts of the province for surge in COVID-19 cases. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Minister for Elementary and Secondary Education Shahram Khan Tarakai announced that schools in Abbottabad, Haripur, Bajaur, Khyber, Dir-upper and Shangla would remain closed till April 11. He said educational institutions in 16 distri.....

[more >>](#)

**Up to 1,520 fined for Covid-19 SOPs violations**

Source: [Javed Aziz Khan](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-03-31

PESHAWAR: As many as 1,520 people were issued tickets and fined for violating the Covid-19 standard operating procedures (SOPs) in the provincial capital on Tuesday. The action was taken mostly in public transport, as well as bus stands across the provincial capital. A fine of Rs300 and Rs500 each was imposed on those violating the SOPs in public transport, officials said. Wearing facemas.....

[more >>](#)

**ANP suspends political activities as coronavirus cases surge**

Source: [Khalid Khashgi](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-03-31

PESHAWAR: The Awami National Party (ANP) has suspended political activities and party gatherings across the country in wake of increasing cases of coronavirus in its third wave. In a press release issued from Bacha Khan Markaz in Peshawar on Tuesday, ANP central Senior Vice President Ameer Haider Khan Hoti said the third wave of Covid-19 could be more hazardous than the second wave.....

[more >>](#)

**Ulema assure SOPs in Ramazan**

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

PESHAWAR - Commissioner Kohat Syed Abdul Jabbar Shah on Tuesday held a meeting with Divisional Ulema Committee at his office to ensure COVID-19 SOPs during holy month of Ramazan. The meeting was attended by Deputy Commissioners of Kurram, Hangu, Orakzai Kurram, Kohat and Karak, District Police Officer (DPO) Kohat and eminent scholars of the five districts. Speaking on the occasion, the Commi.....

[more >>](#)

**PHC moved for profit restriction on Covid vaccine sale**

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

PESHAWAR: A lawyer on Wednesday moved the Peshawar High Court seeking orders for the government to fix the Covid-19 vaccine rate on a no profit, no loss basis and declare the lawyers, paralegals and their relatives entitled to the immediate free vaccination against the virus. In the petition, Saifullah Muhib Kakakhel said the lawyers and paralegals were highly vulnerable to coronavirus on the hig.....

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### **IJT asks govt to reopen schools under SOPs**

Source: [Correspondent](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

LOWER DIR: Islami Jamiat Tulba (IJT), a student wing of Jamaat-i-Islami, on Wednesday demanded of the government to reopen all the educational institutions under SOPs. The demand was made at a meeting of the IJT local heads from Malakand region held at the Chakdara Fishing Hut. The participants argued that the online classes could not be a substitute for in-person sessions. They said the decisi.....

[more >>](#)

### **KP Sehat card programme to cover COVID-19 treatment, says Health Minister Taimur Jhagra**

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-04-01

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Sehat card programme will cover the treatment cost of coronavirus patients, announced provincial Health Minister Taimur Jhagra on Thursday. "To try to provide maximum relief to those suffering from COVID, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has decided to include COVID treatment in the Sehat Card programme," tweeted the minister. ....

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### **Upsurge in Covid-19 cases: Oxygen cylinders being procured at Mardan hospital**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-04-01

MARDAN The administration of the Medical Teaching Institution (MTI) Mardan on Wednesday decided to procure another oxygen plant and cylinders on emergency basis to meet the increasing demand of the gas due to upsurge in the number of coronavirus patients. Hospital Director Dr Tariq Mahmood said the hospital administration reviewed the situation after the increase in the Covid-19 positivity.....

[more >>](#)

### **Coronavirus kills 21 more people in KP**

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-04-01

PESHAWAR: Twenty-one more people died and 1,044 others tested positive for coronavirus in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Wednesday taking the death toll from the viral infection to 2,363 in the province. Of 21 fatalities, 13 died in Peshawar, three in Mardan, two in Bajaur and one each in Swabi, Abbotabad and Kohat. In KP, Peshawar has suffered more losses from coronavirus than any other place. A.....

[more >>](#)

### **KP schools closed for spring vacation**

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-04-01

PESHAWAR: The KP government has announced a weeklong spring vacation in all the public and private sector educational institutions, which will start from April 1 and last until April 7. Separate notifications were issued to this effect on Wednesday. The educational activities in 16 districts of the province have already been suspended owing to the Covid pandemic. The educational instituti.....

[more >>](#)

### **Mosques to be sealed over SOP violation**

Source: [Correspondent](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

ABBOTTABAD: The district administration has warned that it will seal mosques, which violate anti-coronavirus standard operating procedures during the fasting month of Ramazan. The warning was issued by commissioner of Hazara division Riaz Mehsud during a meeting here on Thursday. The meeting was attended by religious scholars from the entire division, deputy commissioners and district police off.....

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### Card renewal exercise for Afghan refugees postponed

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-04-02

PESHAWAR: The government of Pakistan, together with UNHCR, has decided to temporarily postpone the commencement of the "Documentation Renewal and Information Verification Exercise" (DRIVE) due to the third wave of the Covid-19 pandemic. The card renewal and verification exercise for Afghan refugees was set to formally begin on April 1, 2021, said a press release. The government.....

[more >>](#)

### Traders suspend activities amid third corona wave

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-04-02

PESHAWAR: All Pakistan Anjuman-e-Tajiran has announced suspension of all functions and activities in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa including Peshawar in the wake of the third wave of coronavirus and increasing cases. Speaking at a news conference at Peshawar Press Club on Thursday, provincial organiser Abdullah Saraf, central vice-president Zafar Khattak, general secretary Peshawar Abdur Razaq Chitra.....

[more >>](#)

### Hazara admin issues SOPs ahead of Ramazan

Source: [Syed Kosar Naqvi](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-04-02

ABBOTTABAD: As the holy month of Ramazan is approaching, the divisional administration on Thursday issued the SOPs of Covid-19 to be implemented during the holy month. The official announcement was made by Commissioner Hazara Division Riaz Mehsud at a meeting. RPO Hazara Mirwais Niaz, religious scholars, journalists, deputy commissioners and district police officers of Abbottabad, Haripur,.....

[more >>](#)

### Corona claims 19 more lives in KP

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-04-02

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Thursday claimed 19 more lives, taking the toll from the viral infection to 2382. The virus has also infected 1156 more people that brought the total number of positive cases to 89255 in the province. Peshawar was again leading in terms of fatalities and positive cases in the province, where 14, out of 19, people died of coronavirus. Two others died in Swat.....

[more >>](#)

### Covid-19 kills one, infects 104 in Nowshera

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-04-02

NOWSHERA: A patient died of Covid-19 while 104 more tested positive for viral infection in the district on Thursday. With the new casualty, the fatalities from the coronavirus reached 72 in the district. Said Akbar, 85, a resident of Dag Ismailkhel, who was infected by Covid-19 died while battling for life at a hospital. Sources said that 90 percent of beds at the Qazi Medical Complex were.....

[more >>](#)

### Educational institutions in KP closed for spring vacations

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

Peshawar - All government-run and private schools across Khyber Pakhtunkhwa will remain closed for a week, for spring vacations. The provincial government has announced week-long spring vacations in all public and private sector educational institutions, which started from April 01 (Thursday) and will end on April 07. Official notification in this regard was also issued here. It is to mention.....

[more >>](#)

## Punjab

**Govt flayed for not buying Covid vaccine**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

LAHORE: The Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) has chided the Imran Khan government for its 'failure' to procure Covid-19 vaccine for the masses. "The entire world is buying corona vaccine but our government is only banking on charity in this regard so much so that it could not administer the vaccine gifted by China," PML-N Punjab information secretary Azma Bokhari said .....

[more >>](#)

**229 FIRs over SOPs violations in Lahore**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

LAHORE: The Lahore police registered 229 first information reports (FIRs) against the citizens for violating Covid standard operating procedures (SOPs), including wearing face masks. Following the government's new directions to implement the Covid SOPs, it was the first large scale police action launched against the common citizens in Lahore, which reported over 20pc infection rate since th.....

[more >>](#)

**Districts with 12pc infection rate to be locked down from April 1**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

LAHORE: In the wake of the raging British-variant coronavirus, the Punjab government has decided to enforce 'strict lockdown' in districts with more than 12 per cent infection rate from April 1 to 11. The educational institutions will also remain closed till April 11. The Punjab government has imposed a complete ban on indoor and outdoor wedding events whereas hotels and restaurants w.....

[more >>](#)

**21% Covid positivity sets off alarm bells in Lahore**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

LAHORE: As coronavirus positive test ratio has touched alarmingly high rate of 21% in the provincial capital, the government decided to enforce strict lockdown in Lahore and other districts having positive test ratio of over 12% from April 1. Punjab Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar made this announcement after presiding over the meeting of the Cabinet Committee for the Eradication of Coronavir.....

[more >>](#)

**Eight people face criminal cases for violating SOPs**

Source: [news Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-03-30

The district administration has registered cases against eight persons in a single day for not using face masks and violating Corona SOPs, including three banks, plaza management and 4 persons at public points (General Bus Stand and shopping mall Tandlianwala) while sealed two mobile shops at katchery bazar. In addition, people without face masks present in the Roundabout clock tower were made to.....

[more >>](#)

**Outbreak getting out of control in twin cities**

Source: [Muhammad Qasim](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-03-30

Rawalpindi: The third wave of coronavirus illness, COVID-19 outbreak seems to be getting out of control in Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district as new record for the highest number of cases from the region reported in a day has set for the third time in the last 10 days. In the last 24 hours, as many as 954 new patients have been tested positive from the twin cities, which is the hi.....

[more >>](#)

### DC directs authorities to accelerate raids against SOPs violators

Source: [APP](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-03-30

Rawalpindi:Deputy Commissioner (DC) Rawalpindi Captain (r) Anwar ul Haq on Monday urged the citizens to wear face masks which help stop the spread of coronavirus and also directed the authorities concerned to accelerate raids to check Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) violations. He informed that Rawalpindi district administration officers, under their ongoing campaign launched to check.....

[more >>](#)

### Police officials to follow coronavirus SOPs

Source: [Our crime correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-03-30

Islamabad:Inspector General of Police (IGP) Islamabad Qazi Jamil ur Rehman has directed all police officials to follow Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and precautionary measures during performance of their duties to avoid spread of coronavirus. Islamabad police chief directed SSP (Operations) Dr. Syed Mustafa Tanveer to ensure pursuance of SOPs by the policemen. He said that policemen should.....

[more >>](#)

### 229 FIRs registered over virus SOPs breach

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-03-30

LAHORE:Lahore Police on Monday registered 229 FIRs over corona SOPs violations. Police lodged 124 cases on violation of SOPs, including maintenance of social distance and not following timings of commercial activities whereas 105 FIRs were registered against persons for not following the government directions to wear safety masks in wake of third wave of pandemic. Spokesperson for Lahore Police s.....

[more >>](#)

### 11 held for not wearing masks

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-03-30

LAHORE:Two people were booked and 11 arrested in different areas of the City for not wearing masks here on Monday. The district administration officers punished many youngsters on roads for not wearing facemasks. Officials said the action was taken on the direction of DC Lahore who asked Assistant Commissioners to strictly implement Corona SOPs in the provincial metropolis. Assistant Commissioner .....

[more >>](#)

### 17 more die in Punjab

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-03-30

LAHORE:Around 17 COVID-19 patients died and 2,309 new infections were confirmed in Punjab during the last 24 hours. According to Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department (P&SHD) report issued on Monday, the toll of fatalities reached 6,244, while confirmed cases became 215,227 in the province. As per the spokesperson for Corona Monitoring Room at P&SHD, 15,780 tests have been conducted.....

[more >>](#)

### 'Country cannot afford complete lockdown'

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-03-30

LAHORE:Governor Ch Muhammad Sarwar has said those not following SOPs are actually welcoming Corona, adding neglecting SOPs would accelerate the cases. Following SOPs can prevent spike in cases. The governor said this during his meeting with Minister for Housing Mian Mahmood-ul-Rasheed at Governor House here on Monday. During the meeting, Naya Pakistan Housing Scheme and other administrative affair.....

[more >>](#)

### **Coronavirus vaccination centres inspected**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-03-30

LAHORE: On the instructions of Commissioner Lahore Capt (Retd) Muhammad Usman, announcements were made in the City for observing Covid-19 SOPs and taking action against the violators. The commissioner visited Vaccination Centres at LDA Complex and Minar-e-Pakistan and checked trial day for vaccination of citizens. He visited registration, screening and vaccination counters and checked pre & po.....

[more >>](#)

### **Punjab cities; Complete lockdown with over 12pc positivity rate from April 1**

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Usman Buzdar on Monday announced that the provincial government will not impose any restrictions on economic activities but lockdown will be imposed in districts with a Covid-19 positivity rate of more than 12 percent from April 1 to 11, to curb the spread of the disease. There will be a complete ban on wedding events and other gatherings in the province and it w.....

[more >>](#)

### **PTI leader urges people to follow corona SOPs**

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

LAHORE: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Central Punjab President Senator Ejaz Ahmad Chaudhry has appealed to the people to wear masks, ensure social distancing and fully support the government measures. "The PTI government is striving hard to deal with the coronavirus pandemic, but the people should also strictly follow the government guidelines in order to stay safe from the virus,&rdqu.....

[more >>](#)

### **Heavy fines, FIRs registered for violating corona SOPs**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

Bahawalpur - Heavy fines have been imposed and FIRs registered in the last 2 days for violating corona SOPs in Bahawalpur region. According to details, various businessmen in the region of Bahawalpur were fined Rs 95,0500 and 16 different business centers were sealed during the last two days for violating the corona SOPs issued by the Punjab government. FIRs were registered at various police.....

[more >>](#)

### **Punjab suspends public transport to curb virus spread**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

LAHORE - The Punjab government on Monday decided to enforce strict lockdowns in districts with more than 12 percent corona positivity rate from April 1st as part of measures to control the spread of COVID-19. The lockdown will continue till April 11 while the Cabinet Committee will take stock of the situation after seven days to take further decisions. Briefing reporters about the decisions.....

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### **Punjab suspends public transport to curb virus spread**

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### Compliance of SOPs can prevent a spike in coronavirus cases, says Governor

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

LAHORE - Punjab Governor Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar has said that those who are not following SOPs are welcoming corona, adding that not wearing masks and neglecting SOPs would accelerate coronavirus resurgence. The compliance of SOPs can prevent a spike in Coronavirus cases. He was talking to Provincial Minister for Housing Mian Mahmood-ul-Rasheed at Governor's House here on Monday. During th.....

[more >>](#)

### SOPs pertaining to Covid 19 to be fully implemented, says CCPO

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

LAHORE - Capital City Police Officer (CCPO) Ghulam Mahmood Dogar on Monday said that SOPs pertaining to corona virus would fully be implemented for controlling the pandemic. He said that all divisional officers had been directed to conduct the visits in fields for checking the arrangements regarding implementation of SOPs, adding that policemen would check markets, hotels, restaurants, public.....

[more >>](#)

### Facemask mandatory for every citizen: Commissioner

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

LAHORE - Commissioner Lahore Division Capt (retired), Muhammad Usman visited COVID-19 vaccination Center LDA Gymnasium Minar-e-Pakistan and checked the trial day for vaccination of citizens. He visited counters set up for registration, screening and vaccination and inspected the pre and post vaccination process. He also got feedback from vaccinated citizens and expressed his satisfaction ove.....

[more >>](#)

### Covid claims 73 more lives in Punjab

Source: [Asif Chaudhry](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

LAHORE: As many as 73 Covid-19 patients died in Punjab during the last 24 hours, taking the tally to 6,317 across the province since the virus began. After June last year, it was the second highest death toll in a day due to the coronavirus in Punjab. In June 2020 when the first wave was at its peak, over 80 deaths were reported in a day in Punjab. Medical experts warn that the deaths may increa.....

[more >>](#)

### Shortage of beds for Corona patients in hospitals: Governor

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-03-31

Punjab Governor Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar has urged the public to take coronavirus seriously because negligence in following Corona SOPs will result in a rapid surge of Covid 19 cases. The public must follow the SOPs to protect themselves and others from Coronavirus. He was talking to the delegation of the Young Consultant Association of Pakistan led by Dr Hamid Butt and Dr Zulqarnain Butt at Gover.....

[more >>](#)

### Eight deaths, 920 cases in a day

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-03-31

Rawalpindi : As many as 920 patients have been tested positive for coronavirus illness, COVID-19 from Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district in the last 24 hours which is the fourth highest number of cases reported in a day from the twin cities since the advent of coronavirus in Pakistan. The increase in the number of cases being reported from the region is alarming as over 90.....

[more >>](#)

### **Dr Yasmin Rashid opens vaccination centre at Minar-i-Pakistan**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-03-31

LAHORE: Health Minister Dr Yasmin Rashid inaugurated the vaccination centre at Minar-i-Pakistan here on Tuesday. The minister reviewed the arrangements at vaccination counter. She took feedback from citizens who shared their views. The minister said, "More and more new vaccination counters are being set up in Punjab. The citizens of the area will have very a vaccination facility near....."

[more >>](#)

### **188 booked for not wearing masks**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-03-31

LAHORE: Lahore police registered 188 FIRs against people for not wearing face masks in the last two days. In the last two days, Lahore police registered total 420 FIRs on violation of corona-related SOPs. Police lodged 232 FIRs on violation of corona SOPs and the schedule for commercial activities and 188 FIRs against people for not wearing safety masks. A spokesperson for the Lahore police said th.....

[more >>](#)

### **73 more die from corona**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-03-31

LAHORE: Around 73 COVID-19 patients died and 2,467 new positive cases were confirmed in Punjab during the last 24 hours. According to P&SHD report issued Tuesday, the death toll reached 6,317, while confirmed cases of coronavirus reached 217,694 in the province. ....

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### **ACs asked to ensure closure of shops in time**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-03-31

LAHORE: Commissioner Capt (Retd) Muhammad Usman said all ACs must be in markets at 4.30 pm daily to ensure complete closure of all shops and markets as per the notification. He said special counters men in each market with mega phones would announce the closure at 6pm sharp. He ordered all officers to pay visits at evening to monitor closure of markets. He said a strict action is necessary .....

[more >>](#)

### **'Public vehicles to ply at half capacity'**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

ISLAMABAD/RAWALPINDI: Islamabad Deputy Commissioner Hamza Shafqaat has announced that the intra-city public service vehicles (PSVs) would run with 50 per cent capacity only. Talking to media on Tuesday, he said route permits for inter-city vans were being reduced to 70 from 100 to curb the coronavirus transmission to other cities from the federal capital. Acknowledging the violations of anti-Cov.....

[more >>](#)

### **3rd highest Punjab Covid death toll in a day**

Source: [Adnan Lodhi](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

LAHORE: Punjab witnessed the third highest death toll in a single day on March 29 since the first coronavirus case emerged. As many as 73 persons succumbed to the virus during the last 24 hours in the province, which is also the highest number of deaths in a day since January 1. The death toll also represents over two-third deaths in the entire country in a day. The number of active virus cases .....

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**21% Covid positivity sets off alarm bells in Lahore**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

LAHORE: As coronavirus positive test ratio has touched alarmingly high rate of 21% in the provincial capital, the government decided to enforce strict lockdown in Lahore and other districts having positive test ratio of over 12% from April 1. Punjab Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar made this announcement after presiding over the meeting of the Cabinet Committee for the Eradication of Coronavir.....

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**Five shops sealed for SOPs breach**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Frontier Post](#), 2021-03-31

SIALKOT - Assistant Commissioner Sonia Sadaf has sealed five shops for violating corona related Standard Operating Procedures. She also imposed fine Rs 61,500 on a local marquee and a restaurant for violating the guideline issued by the government regarding corona SOPs. She said that strict action would be taken against violators. One held with narcotics Police claimed on Tuesday to have a.....

[more >>](#)

**Business activities to end at 6pm: Commissioner**

Source: [Ch Ashraf](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

BAHAWALPUR - Bahawalpur Division Commissioner Captain Muhammad Zafar Iqbal has said that all shops and business centers in Bahawalpur will be closed at 6 pm while complete shutdown will be observed on Friday and Saturday in connection with the implementation of coronavirus SOPs as per government guidelines. He said that only medical stores, grocery shops, bakeries, petrol pumps, tire shops, v.....

[more >>](#)

**73 more deaths, 2,467 new cases of virus in Punjab in a single day**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

LAHORE - As many as 2,467 cases of coronavirus with 73 deaths 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), total coronavirus cases in the province were 217,694, while death toll reached 6,317 and total recoveries were 186,985. The P&SHD confirmed that 1402 new cases of C.....

[more >>](#)

**420 booked for breaching virus rules**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

LAHORE-Lahore Police, in wake of the third wave of pandemic, following the directions of the government, registered as many as 420 FIRs in different areas of the provincial metropolis against violations of corona SOPs as well as wearing face masks during the last two days. Police lodged 232 FIRs against violation of corona SOPs, social distance and commercial activities schedule whereas 188 F.....

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**Yasmin inaugurates vaccination centre at Minar-i-Pakistan**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

LAHORE-Punjab Health Minister Dr Yasmin Rashid inaugurated the vaccination centre at Minar-i-Pakistan here on Tuesday. Present on the occasion were Secretary Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department Sarah Aslam, Commissioner Lahore Captain (retired), Muhammad Usman and senior officials. The Health Minister took feedback from citizens, who shared their views. She said, "More and more.....

[more >>](#)

### **CM seeks report on 'mishandling' of Covid vaccine**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

LAHORE: The chief minister has taken notice of reports about wastage and disappearance of Covid vaccine vials at two hospitals. Reports said 350 vials of the vaccine 'went waste' due to the alleged negligence of the administration at Government Teaching Hospital, Mozang. There were some complaints that the hospital administration did not maintain the required temperature of the storer.....

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### **'Un-Islamic' anti-Covid slogan changed**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

LAHORE: Lahore High Court Chief Justice Muhammad Qasim Khan on Wednesday disposed of a petition against 'un-Islamic' anti-Covid-19 slogan introduced by the government 'Corona say darna nahi, larna hay' (don't have to be afraid of corona, have to fight it). Earlier, a federal law officer submitted a notification issued by the religious affairs and interfaith harmony m.....

[more >>](#)

### **Teens, minors hit hard by UK variant in Punjab**

Source: [Asif Chaudhry](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

LAHORE: A large number of teens and minors in Punjab have contracted the British-variant coronavirus during the last three months. An official data shows a total of 19,367 under-18 children have tested positive for the virus since the outbreak of the infections in Punjab so far. Of them, 8,520 got infected during the first three months of the current year in the province, as per the report. Sim.....

[more >>](#)

### **Governor urges people to follow SOPs to prevent COVID-19:**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-04-01

Punjab Governor Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar has said that thousands of people can be affected with corona virus due to non-compliance with SOPs. It is important for people to stay at home instead of taking to the streets to prevent coronavirus resurgence, otherwise there will be less space for corona patients in hospitals. Corona vaccine is being administered in a completely transparent manner withou.....

[more >>](#)

### **787 businesses sealed for SOP violations**

Source: [news Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-04-01

As many as 787 shopping malls, restaurants, marriage halls, and private schools sealed for violating corona SoPs during the last 16 days. Deputy Commissioner Muhammad Ali informed that Assistant Commissioners of the district were in the field to check implementation on corona SOPs and actions were taken against violators. He informed that during the checking so far 56 private schools were sealed f.....

[more >>](#)

### **12 deaths, 876 COVID-19 cases from twin cities**

Source: [Muhammad Qasim](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-04-01

Rawalpindi : The third wave of coronavirus illness, COVID-19 outbreak is proving itself much severe in terms of both morbidity and mortality as compared to the first two waves of the outbreak in Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district as in the last 24 hours, the virus has claimed another 12 lives while 876 new patients have been tested positive from the region. In the last two.....

[more >>](#)

**Singapore reports only 3 Covid deaths in 6 months**

Source: [Sabir Shah](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-04-01

LAHORE: As 219 countries and territories of the world continue to reel under coronavirus, there are a few blessed countries like Singapore that have been having the lowest fatality count globally since September 2020, courtesy the mandatory provision of locally-made face masks mandatory since April last and prompt awareness displayed at both government and public levels to arrest the frightening t.....

[more >>](#)

**20,000 being vaccinated daily in Punjab: minister**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-04-01

LAHORE:Health Minister Dr Yasmin Rashid said here on Wednesday that the senior citizens who got first dose of the Corona vaccine on March 10 must get second dose in time. The minister said, "The senior citizens must visit the same centre where they got themselves vaccinated for first dose. The centres will remain open on Sunday as well. The second dose will be administered after 21 d.....

[more >>](#)

**Plea against corona slogan disposed of**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-04-01

LAHORE:Lahore High Court Chief Justice Muhammad Qasim Khan on Wednesday disposed of a petition against the 'un-Islamic' anti-COVID-19 slogan "corona sy darna nahi, larna hy" (don't have to be afraid of corona, have to fight it). Earlier, a federal law officer submitted a notification issued by the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony about the ch.....

[more >>](#)

**46 more die from corona in Punjab**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-04-02

LAHORE:Around 46 COVID-19 patients died and 2,698 new positive cases were confirmed in Punjab during the last 24 hours. According to P&SHD report issued on Wednesday, the death toll reached 6,363 in Punjab, while confirmed cases became 220,392 in the province. As per the spokesperson for Corona Monitoring Room at P&SHD, 20,983 tests have been conducted in the last 24 hours, which r.....

[more >>](#)

**627 cases registered over SOPs breach**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-04-01

LAHORE:Lahore police registered 627 FIRs in different areas of the City on violations of corona related SOPs. Following the directions of the government, police registered 312 FIRs on violation of corona SOPs, including the violation of social distancing and schedule for commercial activities. As many 315 FIRs were lodged against the persons not wearing face masks. A spokesperson for Lahor.....

[more >>](#)

**PHC warns hospitals against extra charges**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-04-01

LAHORE:The Punjab Healthcare Commission on Wednesday directed all private hospitals to charge treatment rates from the Covid-19 patients as per the rates fixed in February 2020. In a letter issued to the private hospitals treating Covid-19 patients, their admins have been directed to receive charges including all but not limited to per day charges of a bed/room of isolation area, high-dependency u.....

[more >>](#)

### **Minister asks people to follow SOPs**

Source: [APP](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-04-01

LAHORE: Punjab Minister for Zakat and Ushr Shaukat Ali Lalika on Wednesday appealed to people to follow the corona-related standard operating procedures (SOPs) as the rate of positive cases had increased alarmingly in the past week. In a statement issued here, he said that the Punjab government, under the leadership of Punjab Chief Minister Usman Bazardar, was utilising all available resources to ke.....

[more >>](#)

### **PHC orders hospitals not to hike rates for Covid-19 patients**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

LAHORE - The Punjab Healthcare Commission (PHC) on Wednesday has directed all private hospitals of the province to charge treatment rates from the Covid-19 patients, which have already been frozen as per February 2020. In a letter issued to the private hospitals treating Covid-19 patients, their administrations have been directed to receive charges including all but not limited to per day cha.....

[more >>](#)

### **LHC disposes of plea against use of slogan “Corona se darna nahi larna hai”**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

LAHORE - The Lahore High Court (LHC) on Wednesday disposed of a petition, challenging use of slogan “Corona se darna nahi larna hai” in public service messages by TV channels, newspapers and social media in fight against coronavirus, after being withdrawn. LHC Chief Justice Muhammad Qasim Khan heard the petition filed by Advocate Salman Idrees. During Wednesday proceedings, a law .....

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### **16 more ventilators for LGH**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

LAHORE - The Punjab government has provided 16 more ventilators to the Lahore General Hospital (LGH) for the convenience of coronavirus patients. This was informed by Post-graduate Medical Institute Principal Prof Dr Sardar Muhammad Al-freed Zafar while talking to the media here on Wednesday. He said that the step had been taken to provide relief to the victims of the third wave of coronavir.....

[more >>](#)

### **Pandemic claims 46 more lives 2,698 new corona cases in Punjab**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

LAHORE - As many as 2,698 cases of coronavirus were reported in Punjab on Wednesday while the pandemic claimed 46 precious lives in the last 24 hours, pushing the death toll to 6,363 in the province so far. 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 have reached 220,392.....

[more >>](#)

**627 more booked over corona SOPs violations**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

LAHORE - The Lahore police registered 627 cases in different areas of the city over violation of the corona-related Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) including not wearing of face-masks. The police registered 312 FIRs [first information reports] over violation of the corona-related SOPs, social distancing and commercial activities schedule whereas 315 FIRs were lodged against persons for n.....

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**Yasmin asks people to get second dose in time**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

LAHORE - Punjab Health Minister Dr Yasmin Rashid said here on Wednesday that senior citizens who got first dose of corona vaccine on 10th March must get second dose in time. She said, "The senior citizens must visit the same center where they got themselves vaccinated for first dose. The centres will be open on Sunday as well. The second dose will be administered after 21 days of the fi.....

[more >>](#)

**Dist admin seals 787 shopping malls, schools over SOPs violation**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

FAISALABAD - The district administration has sealed 787 shopping malls, restaurants, marriage halls and private schools on charge of violation of anti-coronavirus SOPs and lockdown during past 16 days in the district. Deputy Commissioner, Muhammad Ali said on Wednesday that anti-coronavirus SOPs were being implemented in true spirit in the district by taking strict action against violators. He.....

[more >>](#)

**16 shopkeepers booked over SOPs violation**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

SIALKOT - Assistant Commissioner Daska Bilal-bin-Abdul Hafeez paid a surprise visit to Daska city and got registered cases against 16 shopkeepers over violation of corona-related Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). Cases were registered against Muhammad Sharif, Niaz, Naseer Ahmed, Tahir Javed, Abdul Rehman, Abdul Jabbar, Sheikh Ahmed, Kashif, Farar Ahmed, Sheraz, Rana Waqas, Ali Raza, Kashif, Au.....

[more >>](#)

**7 persons die of Covid-19 in Pindi**

Source: [Israr Ahmad](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

Rawalpindi-As many as 7 people died of coronavirus on Wednesday in different hospitals of the city. According to details, Waqar Ahmed, 33, resident of Kallar Syedan, was brought to District Headquarters Hospital on March 30 and he died on Wednesday. Haji Nasir, 65, resident of Mohallah Imambarghah, died on Wednesday at Rawalpindi Institute of Urology where he was brought on March 30. Muh.....

[more >>](#)

**24,068 persons inoculated against COVID-19 in Rawalpindi**

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

RAWALPINDI - The COVID-19 vaccines have been administered to 24,068 recipients in the district since the inoculation started on March 10. District Health Coordinator for COVID-19 Dr Jawad Khalid told APP that 11631 health workers and 12437 other people including senior citizens have received their first dose of Chinese Sinopharm vaccine so far. ....

[more >>](#)

### **Alkhidmat Foundation offers assistance in Covid-19's vaccination drive**

Source: [Press Release](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

LAHORE-President Alkhidmat Foundation Pakistan, Muhammad Abdus Shakoor has said that the vaccination campaign launched by the government against corona virus is highly appreciated, as it is the need of the hour. He said it is very alarming that the number of COVID cases and subsequently mortality rate is sharply raising calling for prompt action to be taken for the inclusion of the most credible N.....

[more >>](#)

### **64 more Covid deaths, 2,789 new cases in Punjab**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

LAHORE: The Covid-19 death toll in Punjab reached 6,427 after 64 more critical patients succumbed to the virus across the province during the last 24 hours. As per the figures released by the provincial government on Thursday, the province reported 2,789 new infections during the same period, taking the number of total positive cases to 223,181 in Punjab so far. Among the total 36 Punjab district.....

[more >>](#)

### **Covid vaccine 'scams' brew at three hospitals in Lahore**

Source: [Asif Chaudhry](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

LAHORE: Covid-19 vaccine 'scams' brew at three state-run hospitals in the provincial capital as they allegedly 'administered vaccine to unauthorised persons or wasted many vials', causing embarrassment for the provincial government. So far, such complaints have surfaced at Services, Jinnah and Mozang hospitals. According to the initial information so far, nearly 1,400 doses.....

[more >>](#)

### **'Pandemic exposed vitamin D deficiency in 85pc of Pakistanis'**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

LAHORE: Severe deficiency of vitamin D was a serious health challenge for Pakistan as, according to some estimates, around 85 percent of the country's population was deficient in this respect. Governor Chaudhry Sarwar said this on Thursday while speaking at a ceremony held to sign a Memorandum of Understanding for establishment of Vitamin-D Academy at the University of Health Sciences (UHS).....

[more >>](#)

### **Punjab allocates Rs1.5bn for 1m vaccine doses**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

LAHORE: Chief Minister Usman Buzdar says the Punjab government will procure one million corona vaccine doses worth Rs1.5 billion. He was speaking at a press conference during a visit to the newly-established vaccination centre at the LDA Sport Complex near Minar-i-Pakistan which is the 127th such facility across the province. Buzdar said this allocation was in addition to the jabs being provided.....

[more >>](#)

### **Twin cities register new record for highest number of patients**

Source: [Muhammad Qasim](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-04-02

Rawalpindi : Another record has been set for the highest number of coronavirus illness, COVID-19 cases reported in a day from Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district since the disease hit Pakistan as in the last 24 hours, as many as 986 new patients have been tested positive from the region taking the tally to 75,424. The severity of COVID-19 outbreak in the twin cities can be .....

[more >>](#)

**Rs1.5b allocated for vaccine: CM**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-04-02

LAHORE:Chief Minister Usman Buzdar has announced earmarking Rs1.5 billion for the purchase of one million doses of corona vaccine. Talking to the media at a vaccination centre established at Greater Iqbal Park LDA Sports Complex, the CM announced that funds have been allocated to procure over one million doses. He expressed satisfaction over the arrangements and complimented the health dep.....

[more >>](#)

**Pervaiz for LG polls preparation observing SOPs**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-04-02

LAHORE:Political personalities from Nankana Sahib Mian Zulfiqar and Rai Shajjar Abbas advocates called on Punjab Assembly Speaker Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi at his residence here on Thursday and announced joining Pakistan Muslim League-Q (PML-Q) along with colleagues. Welcoming them into the fold of the party, Ch Pervaiz Elahi said that the party's first priority was to solve peoples&rsq.....

[more >>](#)

**64 more die from corona**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-04-02

LAHORE:Around 64 COVID-19 patients died and 2,789 new positive cases were confirmed in Punjab during the last 24 hours. According to Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department (P&SHD) report issued on Thursday, the death toll reached 6,427 in Punjab, while confirmed cases became 223,181 in the province. As per the spokesperson for Corona Monitoring Room at P&SHD, 22,624 tests have been c.....

[more >>](#)

**407 FIRs registered for not wearing face masks**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-04-02

LAHORE:Lahore Police registered 407 FIRs against the people for not wearing face masks. Police registered total 845 FIRs against the people on not wearing face masks and violating other corona related SOPs. Following the directions of the government, police registered 438 FIRs on violation of corona SOPs, social distancing and commercial activities schedule. A spokesperson for Lahore Polic.....

[more >>](#)

**Rise in corona deaths matter of concern: governor**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-04-02

LAHORE:Governor Ch Sarwar said more than 6,000 deaths due to Corona in Punjab and continuous rise in Corona deaths is a matter of concern for all. The governor said this while talking Commissioner Lahore Division Capt (retd) Muhammad Usman who called on him at Governor House here on Thursday. He said negligence in following SOPs cannot be tolerated and those violating the SOPs will be dealt with s.....

[more >>](#)

**History's largest vaccine rollout and Punjab preparations —II**

Source: [Dr Yasmin Rashid](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-04-02

The pandemic helped us achieve interesting feats as well. The expediency of the pandemic pushed us towards developing the 'Core Capacities' in our healthcare system we hitherto lacked. These Core Capacities i.e. 'prevent, detect and respond' are part of International Health Regulations and are envisaged in Punjab Health Sector Strategy 2019-2029 as well. It was unfo.....

[more >>](#)

### **In Punjab, Rs1.5b earmarked for purchase of Covid vaccine**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

LAHORE: The Punjab government has earmarked Rs1.5 billion for procurement of one million doses of coronavirus vaccine. Punjab Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar made this announcement while speaking to the media here at the newly established coronavirus vaccination centre at Greater Iqbal Park on Thursday. He said funds have been allocated for procurement of coronavirus vaccine and expressed his s.....

[more >>](#)

### **Corona positivity rate in Punjab drops slightly**

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

LAHORE: The positivity rate of coronavirus in the province has slightly declined from 12.85 percent to 12.32 percent, as out of 22,624 Covid-19 tests conducted during the last 24 hours, as many as 2789 fresh virus cases and 64 fatalities were reported across Punjab taking the provincial tally of cases to 223,181 and death toll to 6427. The Punjab government has approved a fund of Rs 1.5 billi.....

[more >>](#)

### **Another 845 booked over violations of SOPs**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

LAHORE - Lahore Police registered as many as 845 FIRs in different areas of the city against violations of Standard Operating Procedure (SOPs) as well as wearing face masks in wake of the third wave of corona pandemic. Following the directions of government, police registered 438 FIRs against violation of corona SOPs, social distance and commercial activities schedule whereas 407 FIRs were lo.....

[more >>](#)

### **Commissioner lauds doctors, paramedical staff for serving people during pandemic**

Source: [Ch Ashraf](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

Bahawalpur - Commissioner Bahawalpur Capt (Retd) Muhammad Zafar Iqbal on Thursday said that during corona pandemic, people associated with the medical profession bravely served the people. Doctors and paramedical staff served the people with devotion, he said. We must acknowledge their services for the people, he added. Commissioner gave certificates of appreciation and commemorative shields to.....

[more >>](#)

### **More than 8,000 Punjab children test positive for coronavirus in third wave**

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-04-02

A rapid rise in COVID-19 cases among children in Punjab has sent alarm bells ringing. According to Punjab Health Department, about 8,520 children have tested positive in Punjab during the third coronavirus wave. The third wave is said to be more lethal and hazardous than the previous two, prompting health experts to urge people to religiously follow all the government mandated safety precautions.....

[more >>](#)

## Sindh

**Sindh MPAs get earful for flouting SOPs**

Source: [Hafeez Tunio, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

KARACHI: Lawmakers earned the speaker's ire over violations of coronavirus-mandated standard operating procedures (SOPs) during the Sindh Assembly session on Monday. As Pakistan continues to grapple with the third wave of the pandemic, members of assembly, who are supposed to be role models for the public, have been blatantly violating Covid SOPs. As many lawmakers gossip and communicate wit.....

[more >>](#)

**KSE-100: Stocks slump as Covid, inflation fears weigh on sentiments: index plummet nearly 1,100 points**

Source: [Equities Correspondent, Daily Times](#), 2021-03-30

Bears trampled the sentiments at Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) on the first trading day of the week, as benchmark KSE-100 lost 1,089.83 points by the closing bell breaching 45,000 level to clock at 44,431.80 points. On Monday, the market reacted to series of negative economic indicators and succumbed to heavy selling pressure. Pessimism over the economic situation and renewed lockdown restriction.....

[more >>](#)

**Covid kills four more as another 269 test positive**

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2021-03-30

Four more people have died due to Covid-19 and 269 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 4,495 in the province. Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said in his daily situation report on the health emergency on Monday that 9,030 samples were tested in the past 24 hours, resulting in 269 peop.....

[more >>](#)

**COVID-19 vaccination; Careem introduces new service**

Source: [Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

KARACHI: Careem has released a new feature in its super app, which enables users to book a ride to any Covid-19 vaccination centre in the country with just two taps. The new "get vaccinated" tool includes detailed information from official government sources on the vaccines being offered in the country, its eligibility, and the timings and locations of all centers across the country. T.....

[more >>](#)

**COVID-19 claims 4 more patients**

Source: [Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

KARACHI - As many as four more patients of coronavirus died in Sindh overnight, lifting the death toll to 4,495 and 269 new cases emerged when 9,030 tests were conducted. This was stated by Sindh Chief (CM) Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued on Monday. He added that four more patients of COVID-19 lost their lives lifting the death toll to 4,495 that constituted 1.7 percent death rat.....

[more >>](#)

**COVID vaccination certificates can be received from NADRA mega centres**

Source: [Staff Report, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

KARACHI - The National Database Registration Authority (NADRA) said that the COVID-19 vaccination certificates can be received from all three mega centres of NADRA in Karachi. The Director General (DG) of NADRA, Sindh Ajam Durrani has said that the facility has been provided at the authority's mega centres in Karachi. "The certificate can also be accessed at our website with the nation.....

[more >>](#)

### **Sindh allocates Rs500m to import single-dose Covid vaccine from China**

Source: [Faiza Ilyas, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

KARACHI: Sindh Health Minister Dr Azra Fazal Pechuho said on Tuesday that no case of UK Covid-19 variant — causing public health crises in parts of the country, particularly Punjab — was reported in Sindh so far this year. She said that the Sindh government had begun monitoring of commuters to minimise chances of virus transmission and postponed a Pakistan Peoples Party rally as well .....

[more >>](#)

### **Notices issued on plea for fair distribution of Covid-19 vaccines**

Source: [Ishaq Tanoli, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

KARACHI: The Sindh High Court on Tuesday issued notices to the federal and Sindh health authorities on a petition seeking fair distribution and vaccination of Covid-19 vaccines. The petitioners also sought directives of the SHC to respondents for the legislation to establish a proper mechanism for import and distribution of vaccines. They submitted that the private sector had been authorised to .....

[more >>](#)

### **60,000 Chinese Convidecia vaccine doses arrive**

Source: [M Waqar Bhatti, The News, International](#), 2021-03-31

KARACHI: The first shipment of 60,000 doses of single-dose Chinese vaccine Convidecia, developed by the CanSino Biologics Inc, arrived in Islamabad Tuesday night, officials of the National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination (NHSR&C) said, adding that its distribution to provinces and other federating units would commence from Wednesday. “A commercial flight carrying 60.....

[more >>](#)

### **Pakistan’s Covid-19 challenge: Busting vaccine myths**

Source: [Oonib Azam, The News, International](#), 2021-03-31

The extent to which Pakistanis are reluctant to get Covid-19 jabs can be gauged from Sindh Health Minister Dr Azra Fazal Pechuho’s recent admonition to none other than the provincial health workers, many of whom aren’t getting themselves vaccinated, with some citing conspiracy theories about the vaccine that are often shared via WhatsApp groups. Dr Pechuho said in a video relea.....

[more >>](#)

### **Micro smart lockdown ordered in more areas**

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2021-03-31

Due to an increase in Covid-19 cases, the District Central and District West authorities ordered micro smart lockdowns in more areas on Tuesday. Last week, the district administration had ordered micro smart lockdowns in nine union councils of North Karachi, North Nazimabad and Gulberg until March 31. On Tuesday, the District Central administration ordered lockdowns in three subdivisions i.....

[more >>](#)

### **Sindh to import Cansino jabs directly**

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

KARACHI: The Sindh government will be procuring the Cansino Biologics Covid-19 vaccine directly from China as it is available in the market and the Centre has permitted the province to import the jabs independently, said Sindh Health Minister Dr Azra Pechuho on Tuesday. Addressing a press conference at the Sindh Assembly building, Dr Pechuho said that the provincial government has allocated a budg.....

[more >>](#)

**Pakistan reports 4757 new COVID-19 infections, 78 deaths in 24 hours**

Source: [Fahad Zulfikar](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

(Karachi) Pakistan has recorded 78 deaths due to the COVID-19 while 4,757 new cases have been reported in the last 24 hours across the country, National Command and Operating Centre (NCOC) reported on Wednesday. With more fatalities, the total death toll due to the deadly disease has reached 14,434. As per details, 4,757 fresh coronavirus cases were reported in the last 24 hours while 3,197 pati.....

[more >>](#)

**SHC directs govt to fix price of COVID-19 vaccine**

Source: [Fahad Zulfikar](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

(Karachi) The Sindh High Court (SHC) has directed the federal government to fix the price of the coronavirus vaccine imported by the private sector in a week, local media reported Wednesday. As per details, a two-member bench comprising Justice Muhammad Ali Mazhar and Justice Amjad Ali Sahito disposed of an appeal of the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) that challenged a single bench&.....

[more >>](#)

**Judge given 10 days to decide plea seeking allowing import of Covid vaccine**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

KARACHI: A division bench of Sindh High Court on Wednesday directed a single-judge bench to decide a matter regarding an interim stay order against withdrawal of exemption notification issued by the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (Drap) about Covid-19 vaccine import by a company. The federal authorities have filed an appeal before a division bench of SHC against an interim order of a singl.....

[more >>](#)

**Covid-19 impact on economy: 54pc upset with income reduction, changed work timings**

Source: [Gallup Survey](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-04-01

KARACHI: The corona pandemic continues to batter the economy after striking the country almost one year ago, leaving 54 percent Pakistanis upset with drastic reduction in their incomes and change of working hours, the Gallup Pakistan opinion survey found. The Gallup Pakistan released the findings of its new opinion poll eliciting the viewpoint of 2,000 people across the country from Februa.....

[more >>](#)

**SHC orders single bench to decide on withdrawal of exemption in 10 days**

Source: [Jamal Khurshid](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-04-01

The Sindh High Court's (SHC) appellate bench on Wednesday directed a single bench of the high court to decide the application on the drug regulatory authority's notification with regard to withdrawal of exemption in Covid-19 vaccines' import to the extent of one million life-saving doses of Sputnik-V within 10 days. The order came on a high court appeal filed by the feder.....

[more >>](#)

**96 passengers travelling to Karachi from abroad tested positive for Covid in the past four months**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

KARACHI: As many as 98 passengers arriving from abroad at the Jinnah International Airport, Karachi, tested positive for coronavirus disease (Covid-19) in the past four months. These figures were released by the Sindh health department in a four-month report on Thursday. The health department report, dated December 22, 2020, to March 30, 2021, further revealed that around 11 passengers who arriv.....

[more >>](#)

### **Sindh High Court orders govt to fix price of privately imported vaccine**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

KARACHI - The Sindh High Court (SHC) directed on Wednesday the federal government to fix the price of a COVID-19 vaccine imported by the private sector in a week. A two-member bench comprising Justice Muhammad Ali Mazhar and Justice Amjad Ali Sahito disposed of an appeal moved by the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) that challenged a single bench's March 18 verdict. On Marc.....

[more >>](#)

### **Smart lockdown imposed in Karachi West district**

Source: [Staff Report](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

KARACHI -Government of Sindh has imposed micro smart lockdown in Karachi West district till April 9 in a bid to deal with third wave of coronavirus and a notification has been issued in this regard by the authorities. As per details, restrictions have been imposed in areas of Mominabad, Islamnagar and Orangi Town Sector XI and wearing face mask is made mandatory in the affected places. Unnecessary.....

[more >>](#)

### **Federal govt provides additional doses of COVID vaccine to provinces The vaccine jabs were trans**

Source: [Fahad Zulfikar](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

(Karachi) In a bid to immunize the people against COVID-19 infection, the federal government has provided additional doses of coronavirus to the provinces, local media reported on Thursday. As per details, at least 452000 shots of Sinopharm and CanSino vaccine have been provided to Punjab, Sindh, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan, Islamabad, Azad Jammu and Kashmir, and Gilgit-Baltistan. The vaccin.....

[more >>](#)

### **COVID-19 vaccination: Govt begins registration of people above 50 years**

Source: [Fahad Zulfikar](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

(Karachi) The government has commenced the registration process for vaccination against the COVID-19 for people aged 50 years and above, local media reported on Thursday. As per details, people above 50 years of age can now get themselves registered at 1166 to receive the code for vaccination. The person will be informed about the vaccination center after receiving the registration code. Earlier.....

[more >>](#)

### **Searle, Chinese firm strike deal to make Covid vaccine in Pakistan**

Source: [Imran Ayub](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

KARACHI: A local pharmaceutical company has signed a deal with a Chinese giant that allowed it to supply and produce an upcoming Covid-19 vaccine in Pakistan, an official announcement said on Thursday. This has emerged in a letter written by M/s Searle Company Limited to the Pakistan Stock Exchange, saying it had concluded an agreement with China's Livzon Mapharm Inc. for manufacturing nove.....

[more >>](#)

### **Private firm allowed to sell Covid vaccine temporarily**

Source: [Ishaq Tanoli](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

KARACHI: While temporarily allowing a private firm to sell Covid-19 vaccine, the Sindh High Court on Thursday observed that any restriction on the sale of Covid-19 vaccine at this stage would be against public interest since it was an urgent need due to the crisis being currently faced by the country. The single-judge bench headed by Justice Nadeem Akhtar also extended its earlier interim stay or.....

[more >>](#)

### **Murad renews call for inter-city bus ban to stem Covid-19 spread**

Source: [Tahir Siddiqui, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said on Thursday that he had proposed to the federal government to ban inter-city transport to break the Covid-19 chain, and Asad Umar, the minister concerned, had promised to consider the proposal at the next NCOC meeting. "I am not advocating a lockdown, just ... a ban on inter-city bus transport service; the goods transport would keep fun.....

[more >>](#)

### **Two more fall prey to Covid-19 in Sindh**

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2021-04-02

Covid-19 claimed two more lives in Sindh during the previous 24 hours, raising the death toll due to the contagious disease in the province to 4,504. Meanwhile, 276 patients infected by the novel coronavirus remained under treatment at different hospitals of Sindh, of whom the condition of 253 was stated to be critical and 32 of them were shifted onto life support. In addition to two more .....

[more >>](#)

### **Drap asks SHC not to allow sale of imported vaccine before price is fixed**

Source: [Jamal Khurshid, The News, International](#), 2021-04-02

The Sindh High Court (SHC) on Thursday issued notices to a pharmaceutical company, which has been engaged in the import of one million doses of life-saving Covid-19 vaccine Sputnik-V, on an application of the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (Drap) against the sale of vaccine in the country prior to the fixing of the vaccine price by the federal government. Hearing the lawsuit of the .....

[more >>](#)

### **SHC allows commercial sale of imported vaccine**

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

KARACHI: The Sindh High Court (SHC) issued a four-page interim written order on Thursday regarding release and sale of coronavirus vaccine on spot consignments basis, ordering that a batch of Covid-19 vaccine imported by a private company be immediately made available to the public. A single bench, comprising Justice Nadeem Akhtar, rejected a request from the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan .....

[more >>](#)

### **Sindh will impose inter-city transport ban if Centre doesn't, says Murad**

Source: [Hafeez Tunio, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

KARACHI: Amid a rapid rise in coronavirus cases — fuelled by the more contagious and potentially deadlier UK variant — Sindh Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah has said the provincial government will impose a ban on inter-city transport movement "if the federal government did not consider the request". "I am not advocating a lockdown, I just want a ban on inter-city bus transport.....

[more >>](#)

### **Over 200 fresh Covid infections, two deaths reported in 24 hours**

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

KARACHI: Two more coronavirus-related deaths were reported in Sindh on Thursday, when 237 new cases were detected in the province against 8,913 tests, said Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued on the day. The CM said following these developments, the Covid-19 death toll in the province had climbed to 4,504, and the infection tally to 265,916. Of the new cases, 119 were d.....

[more >>](#)

### **Sindh imposes COVID restrictions, intercity public transport to ply at half capacity**

Source: [Fahad Zulfikar](#) , [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#) , 2021-04-02

(Karachi) Amid a drastic increase in coronavirus cases across the country, the Sindh government has announced that the intercity public transport in the province will operate at half capacity, local media reported on Friday. The decision will come into force with immediate effect and is binding on all passenger vehicles being used for intercity transport in the province. The provincial government.....

[more >>](#)

### **Sindh govt all set to procure 10 million doses of CanSino Bio COVID vaccine**

Source: [Fahad Zulfikar](#) , [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#) , 2021-04-02

(Karachi) As part of efforts to immunize the people against coronavirus disease, the Sindh government has written a letter to a local firm for booking of CanSino Bio's 10 million doses of COVID vaccine, local media reported on Friday. As per details, the provincial government has written a letter to AJM Pharma (Pvt) Ltd which is officially authorized to distribute the COVID vaccine in Pakista.....

[more >>](#)

### **IHC postpones hearing of cases amid spike in COVID infections**

Source: [Fahad Zulfikar](#) , [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#) , 2021-04-02

(Karachi) In wake of rising COVID-19 infections, the Islamabad High Court (IHC) has postponed hearing of routine cases, local media reported on Friday. A notification issued by the IHC registrar stated that the court will only take up important cases, including pre-arrest and post-arrest bails, habeas corpus petitions or detention matters, urgent petitions seeking stay orders, and any matter of g.....

[more >>](#)

### **Arts Council postpones programmes in wake of Covid-19**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#) , [The Nation, Islamabad](#) , 2021-04-02

KARACHI - Arts Council of Pakistan (ACP) Karachi on Thursday announced postponement of all its scheduled programmes including 'Humour Laughter Festival' due to surging of Covid-19 cases. The ACP has announced postponement of all its small and big events after the issuance of protective measures in the wake of Covid-19 spread by the provincial government, according to a communique. The .....

[more >>](#)

### **COVID-19 claims two more patients, infects 237 others**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#) , [The Nation, Islamabad](#) , 2021-04-02

KARACHI - As many as two more patients of coronavirus died overnight lifting the death toll to 4,504 and 237 new cases emerged when 8,913 tests were conducted. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued here on Thursday. He added that two more patients of COVID-19 lost their lives lifting the death toll to 4,504 that constituted 1.7 percent death rate. Shah s.....

[more >>](#)

### **SHC allows pharma company to sell Sputnik-V coronavirus vaccine**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#) , [The Nation, Islamabad](#) , 2021-04-02

KARACHI - The Sindh High Court (SHC) on Thursday allowed the pharma company to sell Sputnik-V coronavirus vaccine which it imported from Russia. A two-judge bench headed by Justice Nadeem Akhtar heard the contempt petition against DRAP. The Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) submitted its reply over a contempt petition in the court and stated that the vaccine was released on March 31. Th.....

[more >>](#)

**Sindh approaches CanSino vaccine's distributor for advance booking**

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The News, International](#) , 2021-04-02

Sindh has approached the official distributor of CanSino Biologic's coronavirus vaccine to make an advance booking of 10 million doses. "Please take note that this letter of intent is not the final agreement, but rather it serves as a letter for advanced booking. The final Purchase Agreement will be signed between the Health Department and Official Distributor of CanSino Biologics, Chin.....

[more >>](#)

## International News

### Countries News

#### **Pandemic surge dampens Holi fever in India**

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-30

MUMBAI: Indian authorities clamped down on one of the country's biggest Hindu festivals on Monday as the country passed 12 million coronavirus cases with financial hub Mumbai recording its highest-ever rise in daily infections. Public celebrations to mark Holi — a popular festival where people smear colour on each other — were banned in some states and territories, including the.....[more >>](#)

#### **SEARCH World leaders push for pandemic preparedness treaty**

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

GENEVA: World leaders pushed on Tuesday for a new international treaty to prepare for the next global pandemic — and avoid the unseemly scramble for vaccines hampering the Covid-19 response. Leaders from 25 countries, the European Union and the World Health Organisation (WHO) sought to get the ground rules down in writing to streamline and speed up the reaction to future global outbreaks. ....[more >>](#)

#### **One-third of vaccines made for poor nations stay in India**

Source: [Reuters](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

NEW DELHI: India itself has received more than a third of the nearly 28 million Indian-made AstraZeneca Covid-19 vaccine doses delivered so far by the global programme for poor countries, according to data from Umicef and a source. The revelation that the largest allocation of doses India has supplied to the Covax programme never actually left the country could add to criticism of India and Covax.....[more >>](#)

#### **UN report explores how cities can reduce impact of future pandemics**

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-03-31

A new report on pandemics and cities from UN-Habitat, points the way to how hard-hit urban centres can reduce the impact of future outbreaks and become more equitable, healthy and environmentally friendly. 'Cities and Pandemics: Towards a more just, green and healthy future', launched on Tuesday, describes how urban areas have been at the forefront of the Covid-19 crisis. "95 p.....[more >>](#)

#### **One virus, one stuck ship spark global trade rethink**

Source: [Eve Szeftel](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

A virus visible through only the most powerful microscopes and a huge container ship stuck in the Suez Canal visible from space highlight how fragile the "just-in-time" global trade system can be. Businesses no longer hold large stocks of materials and parts at great expense, instead they rely on regular and even daily shipments of what they need. Japanese auto giant Toyota developed.....[more >>](#)

#### **Huawei posts record profit, but US pressure, pandemic hit revenue**

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

SHANGHAI: Chinese telecom giant Huawei said on Wednesday it achieved the latest in a string of record profits last year, but revenue growth slowed sharply because of the pandemic and tightening US pressure that has pushed it into new business lines to survive. Unlisted Huawei said net profit rose 3.2 percent to 64.6 billion yuan (\$9.9 billion) last year, while revenue inched 3.8 percent higher to.....[more >>](#)

**Global rainforest loss 'relentless' in 2020, but S.E. Asia offers hope: study**

Source: [Reuters](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

KUALA LUMPUR: Tropical forest losses hit their third-highest level in almost two decades last year, despite improved conservation in parts of Southeast Asia, researchers said on Wednesday, warning of rising deforestation risks as nations restart pandemic-hit economies. The loss in 2020 of 4.2 million hectares (10.4 million acres) of primary forest — intact areas of old-growth trees — .....

[more >>](#)

**India opens up immunisation to more people, vaccine exports to dwindle**

Source: [Reuters](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

NEW DELHI: India opened up its coronavirus inoculation programme to people above 45 on Thursday as infections surge, which will delay vaccine exports from the world's biggest maker of the drug. The country, with the most number of reported Covid-19 cases after the United States and Brazil, has so far injected 64 million doses and exported nearly as many. This has raised criticism at home a.....

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**UK regulator found total of 30 cases of blood clot events after AstraZeneca vaccine use**

Source: [Reuters](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

British regulators on Thursday said they have identified 30 cases of rare blood clot events after the use of the AstraZeneca Covid-19 vaccine, 25 more than the agency previously reported. The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency said it had received no such reports of clotting events following use of the vaccine made by BioNTech SE and Pfizer Inc. The health officials said they st.....

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**UK adds Pakistan to its travel ban 'red list'**

Source: [Web Desk](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-02

On Friday, the United Kingdom's Foreign Office announced that it was adding Pakistan to the Red List of travel ban countries, with measures coming into force from April 9th. In a video statement from British High Commissioner Christian Turner, "Red Listing means that only UK and Irish nationals and those with residency rights in the UK will be allowed to travel to the UK if they have been .....

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### **WHO experts give nod to two Chinese vaccines**

Source: [AFP](#) , [Dawn, Islamabad](#) , 2021-04-01

GENEVA: Two Chinese coronavirus vaccines are safe and effective, WHO experts said on Wednesday after reviewing partial data, providing a potential boost to countries from Australia to Europe struggling to roll out vaccines fast enough. Fewer than 600 million jabs have been given out across the world, three months after vaccination programmes began in earnest in Western countries and leaders hail.....

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### **WHO blasts Europe's slow vaccine rollout**

Source: [AFP](#) , [Dawn, Islamabad](#) , 2021-04-02

COPENHAGEN: The WHO on Thursday slammed Europe's "unacceptably slow" vaccine rollout, warning of a worrying surge in cases as France became the latest country to impose new restrictions to combat mounting infections. As European nations scrambled to contain third waves across the continent, Brazil marked a grim milestone with more than 66,000 deaths in March — by far the h.....

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### **World Bank okays US \$120 million for PM's Green Stimulus initiative**

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#) , 2021-04-02

The World Bank has announced all-out financial and technical support to Prime Minister Imran Khan's various green initiatives launched for environmental conservation and protection as well as achieving enhanced disaster resilience, particularly Green Stimulus initiative, the Bank's country director Mr. Najy Benhassine told Prime Minister's Special Assistant on Climate Change. A .....

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## SDPI Engagements

### Webinars News

#### **Green Recovery is the Key to Respond to Future Challenges in Energy Sector of Pakistan: Experts**

Source: [Pro PK Staff, ProPakistani.com](#), 2021-03-31

Chairman National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA), Tauseef H. Farooqui, has said that the government is eyeing to increase Hydropower projects to 30 percent from the current 3-5 percent under the umbrella of Renewable Energy (RE). Therefore, the target is to increase the share of renewable energy in the country to 60 percent in the next ten years. He said this while sharing his view wi.....[more >>](#)

#### **Experts stress need for green energy**

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-04-01

ISLAMABAD: The government is planning to increase the number of hydroelectric power projects in order to take the share of renewable energy to higher levels, said National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (Neptra) Chairman Tauseef H Farooqui. Sharing his views at a webinar titled "Impact of Covid on Energy Sector of Pakistan: Opportunities and Challenges", organised by the Sustainabl.....[more >>](#)

#### **GREEN RECOVERY KEY TO RESPOND FUTURE CHALLENGES IN ENERGY SECTOR OF PAKISTAN: EXPERTS**

Source: [DNA, DNA News](#), 2021-03-31

ISLAMABAD, MAR 31 – Chairman NEPRA, Tauseef H. Farooqui has said that the government is eyeing to increase Hydropower projects, under the umbrella of Renewable Energy in the to 30% from current 3-5% under the umbrella of Renewable Energy (RE). Therefore, the target is increasing the share of renewable energy in the country to 60% in the next 10 years. He said this while sharing his view wi.....[more >>](#)

#### **'Structural changes in tariff expected to make energy expensive'**

Source: [Rasheed Khalid, The News, International](#), 2021-04-02

Islamabad: Chairperson National Electric Power Regulatory Authority Tauseef H Farooqui has said that the government is vying to increase hydropower projects under the umbrella of renewable energy from 3.5 per cent to 30%. Mr Farooqui was speaking at a webinar on 'Impact of Covid-19 on energy sector of Pakistan: opportunities and challenges,' organised by Sustainable Developmen.....[more >>](#)

#### **Experts Termed Innovative Method Vital To Meet Emerging Challenges In Education Sector**

Source: [APP, Urdu Point](#), 2021-04-02

ISLAMABAD, (APP – Urdu Point / Pakistan Point News - 2nd Apr, 2021 ) :The education systems and educational institutions after Covid-19 are on serious threat. The educational situations therefore need to revisit their policies and efforts should be made to rebuild the role of academic institutions and teachers to be better equipped in the new virtual world, improved learning process through innovative.....[more >>](#)

#### **Experts termed innovative method vital to meet emerging challenges in education sector**

Source: [News Desk, Daily Spokesman](#), 2021-04-02

Islamabad: (April 02, 2021). The education systems and educational institutions after Covid-19 are on serious threat. The educational situations therefore need to revisit their policies and efforts should be made to rebuild the role of academic institutions and teachers to be better equipped in the new virtual world, improved learning process through innovative capacity building programs and leade.....[more >>](#)

## Other SDPI Engagements

### SDPI's Related News

#### **China's world agenda based on cooperation, peace: moot**

Source: [INP](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-03-31

At present, the agenda provided by China for the world is based on peace, cooperation, and security, said Prof Dr Iram Khalid, Chairperson, Department of Political Science, University of Punjab, Lahore. According to Gwadar Pro, she said the steering of the changing world is in the hands of China. Irum was speaking at the Focus Group Discussion on "Dialogue of Civilizations" held on Ma.....[more >>](#)

#### **Speakers say China's world agenda based on peace, coop and security**

Source: [INP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-03-31

ISLAMABAD - Speakers at a discussion have stressed the importance of international communication and international cultural exchange and said that in order to achieve sustainable prosperity and security, a peaceful inter-civilization co-existence is required. The virtual discussion focus group discussion on "Dialogue of Civilizations" was jointly organized by Communication Universers.....[more >>](#)

#### **CGSS Organises Online Conference on 'Evolving Global Security Challenges in the Post-COVID World'**

Source: [Mati Ullah](#), [DND](#), 2021-03-31

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan: An Online International Conference on "Evolving Global Security Challenges in the Post-COVID World" was organized by the Center for Global & Strategic Studies (CGSS) in Islamabad on Wednesday. In his remarks at the Conference, the Member Board of Experts at CGSS and Regional Geopolitical Analyst Dr. Mehmood UI Hassan Khan said that the COVID-19 pandemic has fu.....[more >>](#)

#### **Development Policy Finance: Critical concerns surrounding accountability and outcomes for people and the climate**

Source: [Minutes](#), [Bretton Woods Observer, London](#), 2021-03-31

This virtual Civil Society Policy Forum session on 26 March 2021 was sponsored by Urgewald, Sustainable Development Policy Institute; Eurodad; Arab Watch Coalition; Recourse; Bretton Woods Project; Gender Action; Friends of the Earth US; Heinrich Boell Stiftung, Reality of Aid. Panellists Koen Davidse, Executive Director for the Netherlands Constituency, World Bank Group (moderator) Heike M.....[more >>](#)

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