…..About Newsletter

In order to keep abreast of emerging issues at the National/International and local level, the SDPI brings out a Daily E-Newsletter on “COVID-19”. It carries reference information’s to the News items/Comments/Op-Eds appearing in leading National/International dailies.

Diseases

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In Karachi, a city of around 20 million people, there are only 76 ventilators or intensive care unit (ICU) beds at the seven public and private hospitals for serious patients who require life-support after contracting the coronavirus, The
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Risks in pursuing a unilateral agenda
Source: Talat Masood, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-05-06

As the government struggles to cope with the novel coronavirus and comes out with its responses to minimise its impact and bring it under control, it would be rewarding to analyse the chances of its success. Closely linked to it is how the country is being steered through its deep economic and political crises. And above all to assess whether the PTI is holding up to its primary goal of building a..... more >>
Pims seals MCH, operating theatre after 15 staffers test positive
Source: Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, 2020-05-06

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (Pims) Mother and Child Hospital (MCH) and the operating theatre in the Children's Hospital were sealed on Tuesday after 15 people from both facilities were diagnosed with Covid-19. Around 30 patients admitted to the Mother and Child Hospital have also been discharged with directions to visit other hospitals in case of emergencies and th......

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Twin cities witness record rise in virus cases
Source: Munawer Azeem | Aamir Yasin, Dawn, 2020-05-06

RAWALPINDI/ISLAMABAD: The twin cities saw a record rise in Covid-19 cases on Tuesday. Islamabad witnessed a spike in the number of patients as 49 new cases were reported in a single day, taking the tally to 464. The number of suspected patients also increased from 1,820 to 1,874 in the capital, officials said. In Rawalpindi, another 47 people were diagnosed with Covid-19, most of them from the .....

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These days there is this pointless war of words going on in the political arena and also, to some extent, in the civil society. A segment of some pseudo socialist writers and opinion-makers are accusing the government of not enforcing the lockdown the way it should have been done and for allowing key businesses to operate. They claim that this is just because the government wants to support the co.....

more >>

Number of Covid-19 cases increasing in KP: PPP
Source: Naveed Butt, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2020-05-06

ISLAMABAD: Senior leaders of the Pakistan People’s Party (PPP) Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (KP) have said that due to low testing capacity in the province, the number of the Covid-19 patients is increasing. “The whole of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, except Peshawar, cannot be tested for coronavirus. The whole world is praising the Sindh government for taking precautionary measures against the coro.....

more >>

Smart way to relax lockdown
Source: Editorial, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2020-05-06

Planning and Development Minister Asad Umar was right when he observed that many thousands of people had died so far in Europe and the US yet they were ‘relaxing their lockdowns to run their economies’, implying that the same should be done in Pakistan despite all the risks, but he missed a few rather important points. While for some unexplained reasons, the coronavirus has hit parts o.....

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Source: Dr Sajjad Akhtar, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2020-05-06

Just as Covid-19 may have killed the tech backlash (as reported in The Economist), it may have also killed the IMF backlash (on-going since August’19) in this country. The politicians, media, gurus, businessman and speculators are
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more >>

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While the world suffers through a global pandemic, Pakistan's Foreign Office and diplomatic strategies continue to handle existing challenges, as well as take on new initiatives. One of these initiatives is the plan to spearhead a global effort to achieve lenient economic terms for developing countries, which are already suffering due to the pandemic. This plan has demonstrated Prime Mi.....

more >>

Country records highest virus infections in single day
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-05-06

LAHORE - As authorities are preparing to announce more relaxation in the lockdown, the cases of coronavirus infections are rising to an alarming level across the country. According to figures released by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), twenty-four deaths caused by coronavirus and 1,315 new infections were reported in country during the past 24 hours. The total confirmed cas.....

more >>

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Nationalisation of hospitals?
Source: Editorial, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-05-06

The Sindh chapter of the Young Doctors Association has demanded of the federal and provincial governments to nationalise private hospitals during the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, claiming that private hospitals were focusing more on making money than on treating patients. Undoubtedly, the demand is driven by humanitarian concerns. The idea appears to be noble, but before deciding to nationalise p.....

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Coronavirus: a simulator to sensitize climate crisis
Source: Fayaz A Soomro, Daily Times, 2020-05-06

Countries around the world are fixed around one particular question that how to have immediate recovery from the pandemic. Recovery from the pandemic is more of an enigma. It is one of the biggest challenges of 21st century to solve this mystery and put the genie of corona virus back into the bottle. The tiny virus made all human agendas stand still, under one roof. It sealed the borders, distance.....

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The COVID-19 Pandemic
Source: Fahad Hassan Chohan, Daily Times, 2020-05-06

The world is facing a global pandemic called the novel coronavirus or COVID-19. What started off as a disease spread by, reportedly, bats in Wuhan, China, has now become, unarguably, one of the greatest threats to the world. The disease was first identified in December 2019 in Wuhan, capital of China’s Hubei province, and resulted in the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. As of April 29, 2020.....
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Working Together
Source: Editorial, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-05-06

That 105 Pakistanis flown back to the country on a repatriation flight from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) tested positive for the coronavirus shows the lack of a comprehensive global strategy to curtail the spread of the virus. If things carry on like this, neither any state nor a so-called collective response will succeed in bringing down the number of infections anywhere. Since the governm.....

Coronavirus: NCC to decide about relaxation in lockdown today

A meeting of the National Coordination Committee (NCC) will be held in Islamabad on Wednesday to take decision regarding relaxation in lockdown after Saturday. This was stated by Information Minister Shibli Faraz while briefing media in Islamabad about decisions made in the cabinet meeting. He said all four chief ministers will attend the meeting to deliberate on next strategy. Shibli Faraz .....
The hunt for the vaccine
Source: News Desk, Daily Times, 2020-05-06

Finally, leaders of some of the world’s richest nations have pledged billions of dollars not for some fancy weapons to be used in an artificially cooked up, politically correct war against a poor country with starving people, as usual, but rather for research to find a vaccine for the coronavirus pandemic. In the early days of the outbreak most people thought, quite naturally, that it would .....