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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SDPI Engagements

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A Product of ASRC-SDPI

Team:
Data Managed by: Shahid Rasul, Abid Rasheed
Compile & Layout Design by: Ali Aamer Javed

Sustainable Development Policy Institute, SDPI
10-D West, 3rd Floor, Taimoor Chamber, Fazl-ul-Haq Road, Blue Area, Islamabad. Pakistan,
Tel: +92.51. 2278134, Fax: 2278135,
**Crucial days**
The coronavirus pandemic has already drastically changed our lives and claimed 5709 lives in the country which has suffered 269,191 infections. Now, ahead of Eidul Azha, Planning Minister Asad Umar who is also the chairman of the National Command and Operations Centre has said the next 10 days could be vital for the country and any negligence on the part of people could result in the spike of Covid-19 cases. Umar on Thursday chaired a meeting of..... view more

**COVID-19 and the educational crisis in Pakistan**
The normal that we wish to return to no longer exists. COVID-19 is here to stay. Pakistan had slowly, but continually, made improvements in its educational structure. COVID-19, however, disrupted the momentum. There was a 14% decrease in the out of school children since 2012-2017 and our educational budget, unlike the general idea, has increased with a growth rate of 17.5% since 2010. However, the pandemic has flipped the paradigm as all educati..... view more

**Who to blame?**
The situation in Punjab, specifically in Lahore, as per the summary given by Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department Secretary Captain (Retd) Usman Younis to the Chief Minister of Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar, 600,000 citizens of Lahore are expected to be affected due to the coronavirus. The Government of Punjab is implementing smart lockdown in cities. Areas where the spread is high are sealed and the movement in those areas is restricted. Des..... view more

**Covid-19 and depression**
The novel coronavirus has brought in its wake depression and anxiety as people are afraid of catching it because of its contagious nature, and the need to avoid social interaction to protect from it. So to ward off the fear and the boredom produced by prolonged isolation from society, one should try to laugh off things. This, however, should be done in a rational way, that is, not by disregarding precautions and throwing all caution to the wind. ..... view more

**Takeaways from Covid-19: reshaping society**
Source: Dr Khadija Malik Bari, *The Express Tribune, Islamabad*, 2020-07-25
Epidemics have ravaged humanity throughout its existence, often having both long-term and short-term effects on the global human population including social, economic and political upheavals. The last pandemic the world faced was the swine flu about a decade ago, time enough for it to fade from our collective memory. History tells us that pandemics can give birth to a slew of changes in the culture and conscience of a country essential for social ..... view more
Is sustainable development too ambitious a goal?
The coronavirus disaster has badly hit the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030. One of the major impacts of the pandemic on the SDGs’ structure is through its differential effect on communities. Marginal groups are more vulnerable now than ever. This includes women, migrants, informal workers, refugees and indigenous tribes. This is in direct conflict with the SDGs’ social-inclusivity sermon of “leaving no one behind” in ......

When will the curtain rise again?
Artistes are once again out on the streets in Lahore, demonstrating against the continued closure of theatres. Theatre - once a flourishing business in the city - has been under a lockdown since March due to Covid-19. This has pushed artistes, staff and producers to the brink of financial ruin. With the resumption of some commercial activities, theatre and music artistes, too, have been demanding that they be allowed to stage plays and holds mus.....

Covid-19: social impact
Two significant reports by Christian Aid and Save the Children on the social impact of Covid have been in the spotlight recently. It is worthwhile to review some commentary on their findings. According to the Christian Aid report, as a result of the pandemic, deep inequalities have been exacerbated around the world leading to unemployment and food insecurity amongst the poorest countries. However, this is just the beginning as the political, eco.....

Concerns voiced over rising domestic violence during COVID-19 pandemic
Any disaster, pandemic or calamity always results in more sufferings for women as while performing the roles of caregivers, breadwinners and homemakers, they continue to be the most vulnerable segment of society who are exposed to violence of all sorts. This was said during an online panel discussion organised by the Uks Research Centre under its series ‘Dialogue for Change’. The talk tried to get an insight into the phenomenon of th.....

‘Insolvency time bomb’
Source: Editorial, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2020-07-26
A report by an international trade insurance firm, suggesting that ‘Covid-19 is creating an insolvency time bomb’ and the number of companies going bust globally could rise by a about a third (35 percent) between 2019 and 2021, raises some important questions and threatens to wipe all the smiles off the faces of investors that have been riding the recent pro-risk sentiment in financial markets. A firm which provides insurance for inte.....

Pakistan’s stunning flattening of Covid-19 curve
Source: M Bilal Lakhani, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-07-26
Sometimes it feels like Imran Khan and Pakistan have been saved from a coronavirus catastrophe by a selector in the heavens. The speed with which Pakistan flattened its Covid-19 curve – defying all local and international projections – is a feat that even aliens cannot deliver. It’s nothing short of a miracle that Pakistan has pivoted from a worst-case scenario trajectory to successfully flattening the curve without any widespre.....
Road to recovery
Source: Editorial, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-07-26
More than 87% of people infected with Covid-19 coronavirus in Pakistan have defeated the deadly disease – in what is indeed a matter of great satisfaction for the whole nation. As of yesterday, 236,596 Covid-19 patients out of a total of 271,887 reported cases in the country – i.e. 87.01% – have recovered from the lethal contagion that has claimed the lives of 5,787 Pakistanis with 1,294 still in critical condition. While there .....view more

Political landscape of GB
Source: Muhammad Amir Rana, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-07-26
FOR the locals, the short summer of Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) may not be as vibrant and promising this year. While on the one hand, the coronavirus pandemic has badly hit tourism in the region, on the other, the upcoming regional assembly election, which many thought would add some exuberance to life, has been postponed. Political parties in GB are not happy with the decision of postponing the election by the GB Election Commission and view the move.....view more

Encouraging data
Source: Editorial, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-07-26
EVEN as the pandemic wreaks havoc in other countries, Pakistan appears to have brought its Covid-19 figures under control and braved the so-called ‘peak’ without the catastrophically high fatalities and hospitalisations seen in Europe, the UK and now Brazil and the US. The data from the National Command and Operations Centre is encouraging: daily deaths and new cases appear to have fallen in the last four weeks and hospitalisations ha.....view more

Record increase in daily cases
Source: Editorial, Daily Times, 2020-07-26
While the situation with regard to the coronavirus in Pakistan seem to be improving, the global trend is fast becoming a serious worry. The World Health Organisation (WHO) reported a record increase in global cases on Friday, with the tally of those 24 hours rising by 284,196. Deaths rose by 9,753, which is the biggest one day increase since the April 30 record of 9,797 deaths. The WHO is now warning of a deadly spike in Europe, just as the conti.....view more

Straight Talk: COVID-19 fatigue revives memories
Source: Hafeez Khan, Daily Times, 2020-07-26
The human mind works in fascinating ways. Confinement frees the mind from the body and the soul wonders. Our memories are selective; they gravitate towards pleasant and fond memories. Recently I wrote on some heavy duty topics. It requires serious research and effort to convert to a readable format. This week I chose to lighten the mood and share my feelings after months of COVID-19 confinement. I returned from Pakistan beginning March, j.....view more

Routine vaccination
Source: Aida Girma, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-07-27
AS the Covid-19 outbreak continues to impact the lives of people across the globe, Pakistan is no exception. The country has witnessed significant increase in confirmed cases. In addition to the risk imposed by the virus to human lives, it has also adversely impacted essential public health services, especially immunisation of children and women against vaccine-preventable diseases. Children and young people are severely affected .....view more
The Analytical Angle: Voluntary compliance with Covid-19 control measures is crucial now
Source: Mishal Khan | Maheen Rashid | Adnan Qadir Khan, Dawn, Islamabad , 2020-07-27
Given the scale of Covid-19 and the degree of uncertainty around it, public attention in Pakistan has rightly focused on how to come up with an effective policy response at the national and provincial levels. However, formulating an optimal policy is only part of the challenge; properly implementing it and making corrections as we go along is as important. Effective implementation cannot be achieved through a centralised and top-down approach by ......

‘Jo Dar Gaya, Woh Bach Gaya’
Islamabad : This is no time to show bravado! Please be afraid and if not afraid at least be careful! Believe what the doctors, not only in Pakistan but all over the world are saying. Believe this pandemic is here and it is not going away any sooner. Believe how deadly this virus is. Believe there is no cure still found to fight or ward off this disease. Social distancing and self-protection is the only remedy against it. Stop cracking jo......

‘Elite’ doing politics on coronavirus pandemic; NCOC manages situation scientifically, says Shibli
ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Shibli Faraz on Sunday lambasted the opponents, particularly Pakistan People’s Party (PPP) for pressing the government for a complete lockdown in the country, saying the federal government adopted a balanced strategy in fight against Covid-19 pandemic that resulted in positive results. Speaking at a news conference along with Prime Minister’s Special Assistant on Digital Pakist......

IMF and the stalled second tranche
Source: Anjum Ibrahim, Business Recorder, Islamabad , 2020-07-27
Questions are being raised as to when the 6 billion dollar International Monetary Fund’s (IMF) Extended Fund Facility programme will resume, suspended post-March 2020 to enable the administration to deal with the onslaught of Covid-19; and whether it would entail fresh negotiations or the same staff level agreement on the second review would be valid with reportedly ‘prior’ conditions that was reached on 27 February 2020. T.....

The essence of sacrifice
Source: Andleeb Abbas, Business Recorder, Islamabad , 2020-07-27
This Eid is special. Its timing is important. A lot is being said about be careful and wise. Everybody is thinking, talking and debating about behavior change on this Eid. Most of the debate is due to the disastrous carelessness shown by public on last Eid. All warnings thus are justified. However, there is a bigger and deeper debate that needs to take place- the debate about what is the true meaning of this Eid? What is purpose of this festival;.....

The importance of a temporary basic income during Covid-19
Source: Rida Hameed, The Express Tribune, Islamabad , 2020-07-26
As the rate of new Covid-19 cases picks up pace across the developing world and further exacerbates the ensuing socio-economic crisis, it is apparent that unprecedented policy measures need to be adopted to help curb the impact of this virus. To date, the virus has infected 16 million individuals and has resulted in more than 644,000 known deaths
worldwide. The virus has exacerbated pre-existing global and national inequalities and has widened dispar.....view more

**Routine vaccination**  
Source: Aida Girma, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2020-07-27  
AS the Covid-19 outbreak continues to impact the lives of people across the globe, Pakistan is no exception. The country has witnessed significant increase in confirmed cases. In addition to the risk imposed by the virus to human lives, it has also adversely impacted essential public health services, especially immunisation of children and women against vaccine-preventable diseases. Children and young people are severely affected .....view more

**Corona virus on Eid**  
Source: Saima Nayyar, *Daily Times*, 2020-07-27  
Covid 19 is an infectious disease caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome. As many as 213 countries and territories have registered covid-19 cases and the entire world is buzzing with uncertainty and questions: How long will the pandemic last? What will peoples’ lives look like once the Pandemic is over? Many countries have declared restrictive measures, such as lock down, shelter in place, or stay at home orders to contain the pandemic.....view more

**Encouraging data**  
Source: *Editorial*, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2020-07-27  
EVEN as the pandemic wreaks havoc in other countries, Pakistan appears to have brought its Covid-19 figures under control and braved the so-called ‘peak’ without the catastrophically high fatalities and hospitalisations seen in Europe, the UK and now Brazil and the US. The data from the National Command and Operations Centre is encouraging: daily deaths and new cases appear to have fallen in the last four weeks and hospitalisations ha.....view more

**Act more responsibly**  
In reference to the worsening situation in Punjab specifically in Lahore government of Punjab is implementing smart lockdown in cities. Areas where infection spread is high are sealed and the movement in those areas is restricted. Despite of all such efforts infection spread is still out of control, who is responsible for this? Government, virus, or its us. Should we blame government for the spread? when the concerned departments are working on s.....view more

**Between Life and Livelihood: COVID-19 Conundrum**  
Source: Muhammad Rafiq, *Daily Times*, 2020-07-27  
During the troubled times of global Covid-19, a painful debate on a choice between ‘life and livelihood’ is widespread. Various questions are being posed. What is more important to a person; staying healthy or being able to feed the family? What is more important to a nation; having a healthy population or ensuring economic growth? In fact, health and economy are not mutually exclusive; rather they are interdependent. Epidemiologists.....view more
National News

Balochistan

**Shahwani warns of Covid-19 resurge**
Source: APP, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-07-27
QUETTA: The Balochistan government spokesperson, Liaquat Shahwani on Sunday said there was a possibility that coronavirus cases could resurge, urging people to celebrate Eidul Azha with simplicity to cope the spread of Covid-19. Addressing a press conference, he said several cattle markets had been set up out of the city with standard operating procedures (SOPs) to quell the challenge of the coronavirus for ensuring safety of the public. He fu.... view more

Islamabad

**Coronavirus ferocity ebbing**
ISLAMABAD: Corona cases in Pakistan are plummeting, with the country reporting 1,209 new cases in the last 24 hours, taking the nationwide tally of cases to 271,517. According to the latest figures released by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC), 54 deaths were reported in last 24 hours. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 5,778. Pakistan has so far conducted 1,821,296 tests and 22,006 in last 24 hours. Around 2..... view more

**UK businesses share top tips on working under COVID-19**
Islamabad: With the coronavirus pandemic far from over, UK businesses GSK and Unilever have spoken about what they are doing to keep their employees safe and their businesses open here in Pakistan. A webinar hosted by British Deputy High Commissioner Karachi and Director for Trade in Pakistan Mike Nithavrianakis was held to share lessons learnt by GSK and Unilever on how to adapt to the changing environment and focus on sustaining oper..... view more

**Covid-19 cases surge to 271,513 across country**
Source: Abdul Rasheed Azad, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2020-07-25
ISLAMABAD: The confirmed nationwide coronavirus cases have surged to 271,513 in Pakistan, with 5,778 deaths and 219,783 recoveries, the federal and provincial authorities have reported. According to data, in Sindh, the total Covid-19 cases have reached 116,800, in Punjab, 91,423, in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (KP) 33,071, Balochistan 11,523, in Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) 2,012, and in Gilgit-Baltistan 1,918. According to the Provincial Disast..... view more

**Lockdown lifted from three Covid-19 hotspots**
Source: Munawer Azeem | Aamir Yasin, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-07-25
RAWALPINDI/ISLAMABAD: The district administration on Friday lifted the lockdown in three Covid-19 hotspots after two weeks while only 10 patients tested positive in the city. Dhoke Khabba, Gullistan Colony and Range Road, Lane No 4, PIA Colony, had been locked down on July 10. “We de-sealed these localities and have recommended two wards of Wah Cantonment and union council Sara-i-Kala for lockdown from July 25 but now it is likely to be en..... view more
Govt considering opening marriage halls, restaurants, says NA speaker
Source: Kalbe Ali, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-07-26
ISLAMABAD: A delegation of restaurant and marriage hall owners called on National Assembly Speaker Asad Qaiser on Friday, apprising him of their economic losses due to continuous closure of their businesses. “Hotels and marriage halls across the country have been closed for the past four months and the closure of this sector has caused severe economic hardship to owners as well as thousands of people associated with it,” they said. view more

Two ‘illegal’ cattle markets closed
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-07-26
ISLAMABAD: The capital administration closed two ‘illegally’ established cattle markets in the city on Friday. The administration had earlier issued standard operating procedures (SOPs) for cattle markets to contain the spread of Covid-19 and Congo virus. Three markets were set up at Siraye Kharbuza Tarnol, Taramri Chowk Tarlai and main bazaar in Rawat. “Due to the spread of Covid-19 and to prevent the spread of Congo virus, t view more

INGOs donate 20,000 medical masks to Pakistan
Source: INP, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-07-25
ISLAMABAD- Three NGOs from China have donated 20,000 medical masks to Pakistan to help the country fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, Gwadar Pro reported on Friday. The masks, donated by Beijing People’s Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (BPAFFC), China NGO Network for International Exchanges (CNIE) and Beijing Minhe Foundation for International Exchanges have been delivered to Pakistan on a chartered flight arranged view more

PRCS, Telenor hand over 25,600 low and high-exposure PPE to Benazir Bhutto Shaheed Hospital
Source: Our Staff Report, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-07-25
ISLAMABAD- The Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) on Friday, in collaboration with the Telenor Pakistan, handed over 25,600 low and high-exposure Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) to the Benazir Bhutto Shaheed Hospital. The low-exposure kits included 6,000 non-woven disposable gowns, latex hand gloves and shoe covers each, and 400 medicated goggles and N-95 masks each totaling up to 18,800. The high-exposure kits included 3,000 pairs of latex view more

Over 81% Covid-19 patients in Pakistan recover
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-07-25
ISLAMABAD: The coronavirus curve is flattening in Pakistan as more that 81% of Covid-19 patient have recovered in the country. The rate of recovery in Sindh – which also has the greatest number of coronavirus patients – is 86%. According to the latest data on the pandemic issued by National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Friday, 270,400 people have so far got infected by disease in the country and 219,783 of them have alre view more

Covid-19: UAE to prefer Pakistanis for jobs, says Zulfi Bukhari
ISLAMABAD: Special Assistant to the PM for Overseas Pakistanis Sayed Zulfikar Bukhari said on Saturday that once the coronavirus pandemic subsides, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) will give preference to Pakistanis in terms of
employment opportunities. The Ministry for Overseas Pakistanis in a statement said that the UAE officials have given Bukhari a reassurance in this regard. Quoting Bukhari, the statement said the Pakistan government and UAE.....view more

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<th>Capital reports 55 new Covid-19 cases</th>
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<td>Source: Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad</td>
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<td>ISLAMABAD: On Saturday 55 new coronavirus cases were reported in the federal capital, the official data revealed. According to official data, the tally of confirmed Covid-19 cases surged to 14,821 after 55 more tested positive. Out of 55, 18 patients were male and 37 were female. It said that so far 12,139 have completely recovered and 162 people have died since the outbreak of the Covid-19. The total number of active cases in......view more</td>
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<th>Avoiding gatherings on Eid can control Covid-19: Asad</th>
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<td>Source: Tahir Niaz, The Nation, Islamabad</td>
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<td>ISLAMABAD - Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives and Chairman National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) Asad Umar has urged the people to follow the Prime Minister’s directions and celebrate Eid-ul-Azha with simplicity by avoiding crowded places. The NCOC meeting was held here on Saturday under the chairmanship Asad Umar. The forum was briefed on the implementation and violations regarding the preventive measur.....view more</td>
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<th>country sees 16,813 recoveries in single day</th>
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<td>Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad</td>
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<td>ISLAMABAD/LAHORE - As many as 16,813 recoveries were recorded in Pakistan in the past 24 hours, the government’s Covid-19 portal said on Saturday. This is the highest number of recoveries recorded in the country in one day. The total number of recovered patients in the country is now 236,596, which makes 87 per cent of the confirmed cases in the country. Meanwhile, The COVID-19 took away 8 more lives in the province, while the number .....view more</td>
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<th>Smart lockdown policy worked successfully</th>
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<td>Source: APP, The Nation, Islamabad</td>
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<td>ISLAMABAD - The internationally acknowledged smart lockdown policy adopted in a developing country like Pakistan has served substantially to reduce COVID-19 cases and prevent its economy from turmoil along with protecting a big chunk of population living below poverty mostly daily wages workers and their families from the drastic consequence of hunger. Since the outbreak of COVID-19 in the country, the Prime Minister Imran Khan’s stan.....view more</td>
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<th>FO rubbishes allegations of 'covert' Wuhan Lab operations in Pakistan</th>
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<td>Source: News Desk, The Express Tribune, Islamabad</td>
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<td>ISLAMABAD: The Foreign Office has denied allegations that China’s Wuhan Lab is conducting covert operations in Pakistan as claimed byThe Klaxon. “There is nothing secret about the Bio-Safety Level-3 (BSL-3) Laboratory of Pakistan referred to in the report,” read the statement issued by the FO on Sunday. “It is a politically motivated and fake story, composed of distortion of facts and fabrications that quote anonymous sources.....view more</td>
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Minister hails Covid figures, warns of spread over Eid
Source: Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-07-26
ISLAMABAD: While over 86 per cent of novel coronavirus patients have recovered in Pakistan, federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Asad Umar on Saturday asked people to follow social distancing and avoid visiting public places during Eid. While chairing a meeting of the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Covid-19, the minister also directed relevant authorities to ensure implementation of safety measures..

Engagement key to safe tourism revival
Source: DNA, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-07-26
ISLAMABAD: With the novel coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic bringing the tourism sector across the world to a screeching halt, Pakistan must strategise to safely, responsibly and effectively reopen its tourism sector. This was stressed by speakers during a webinar on “Harnessing Sustainable Tourism Potential in the New Normal” on Saturday. The webinar had been organised by the Development Communications Network (Devcom-Pakistan) and D.

Capital admin taking measures to enforce SOPs in cattle markets
Source: Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-07-26
ISLAMABAD: The capital administration has taken a series of measures to enforce standard operating procedures (SOP) in cattle markets, after the National Command and Operations Centre on Covid-19 warned that the cattle markets could become a hub for the coronavirus. The administration tested 70 cattle vendors at the market in Taramri Chowk recently, of whom 68 have tested negative for Covid-19 and the results of two are awaited. However, people.....

Covid-19 tally, death toll increase in Islamabad
Source: Amir Wasim | Munawer Azeem, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-07-26
ISLAMABAD: One person died of Covid-19 in the capital on Saturday and 55 more were diagnosed with the disease. Capital administration officials said the capital’s death toll has now reached 163. The deceased was a resident of Tarnol. Of the new patients reported on Saturday, 12 are between the ages of 20 and 29, 11 are aged between 30 and 39, nine are aged between 40 and 49, there are five patients each from the zero to nine, 50 to 59 and.....

Pakistan reports 1,176 COVID-19 cases in one day
Pakistan on Monday has confirmed 20 deaths in a single day by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has risen to 274,289. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 5,842. According to the latest figures by the
National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) 1,176 persons have been tested positive for COVID-19 in 24 hours. Sindh remains the worst-hit province by the pandemic in terms of cases followed by Punjab and Khyber Pak.....view more

**Effective strategy adopted to combat COVID-19: Dr Faisal**
Source: APP, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-07-27
ISLAMABAD - Prime Minister's Focal Person on Coronavirus Dr Faisal Sultan on Sunday said the government had adopted an effective strategy to combat COVID-19 that resulted in reduction of Corona cases in the country. Addressing a news conference, Dr Faisal said present facts and figures of the disease showed a declining trend of Coronavirus at all levels due to prompt response of the government on the directions of Prime Minister Im.....view more

**India continues IOJK oppression under garb of Covid-19: Moeed**
Source: APP, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-07-27
ISLAMABAD - Special Assistant to Prime Minister (SAPM) on National Security and Strategic Policy Planning Dr Moeed Yusuf on Sunday said India was continuing the military siege of Occupied Jammu and Kashmir under the grab of COVID-19 pandemic and discrimination against Muslims reached the point of apartheid. In a tweet, Moeed urged the international rights and relief groups to get access to IOJK. While criticizing India for its nefario.....view more

**Only 2,400 Covid-19 patients in Islamabad**
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-07-27
ISLAMABAD: The number of people infected by coronavirus in Islamabad has dropped to 2,400 only, said Deputy Commissioner (DC) Hamza Shafqaat on Sunday He said that the cases dropped drastically after proper implementation on smart lockdown strategy. The DC said that of 1,915 coronavirus tests conducted on Sunday, only 20 resulted back positive. He added that until now, the Islamabad administration has carried out some 178,421 tests. “We.....view more

**PM’s policies brought turnaround in Covid-19 situation: aides**
Source: Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-07-27
ISLAMABAD: Federal government representatives on Sunday claimed that Prime Minister Imran Khan’s decision to go for a smart lockdown instead of complete closure served as a turning point as it not only limited the spread of Covid-19 but also saved the country from an irreversible economic loss. Two separate press conferences were held — one by Minister for Information and Broadcasting Shibli Faraz and the other by Special Assistant t.....view more

**Covid-19 curve can unflatten if SOPs flouted on Eid: govt**
Source: Staff Reporter, Daily Times, 2020-07-27
The federal government on Sunday warned that the prospect of a second wave of coronavirus infections across country will no longer be a distant theory if the government-devised standard operating procedures (SOPs) are violated on Eid ul Azha and Muharram. “The virus had peaked in the country in mid-June and cases have been declining since then. The experience of other countries has shown that there could be a spike in cases again. We saw th.....view more
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<td>Pakistan, China trash story about biological weapons as ‘fabricated’</td>
<td>News Desk, Daily Times</td>
<td>2020-07-27</td>
<td>The Foreign Office spokesperson Sunday trashed a news story appearing in ‘Klaxon’, an Australian news website, about China’s Wuhan Laboratory conducting alleged covert operations in Pakistan as ‘a politically motivated and fake story, composed of distortion of facts and fabrications that quote anonymous sources’. In response to a media question about the Klaxon story, the spokesperson in a press release said ..... view more</td>
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<td>Covid-19 kills another 35 as nationwide tally crosses 274,000</td>
<td>Agencies, Daily Times</td>
<td>2020-07-27</td>
<td>Pakistan on Sunday confirmed 35 more deaths by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases surged to 274,003. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 5,840. According to the latest figures by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC), 1,226 persons were tested positive for Covid-19 in 24 hours. Sindh remains the worst-hit province by the pandemic in terms of cases followed by Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Islamabad ..... view more</td>
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<td>500 illegal cattle markets shut down across country</td>
<td>News Desk, Daily Times</td>
<td>2020-07-27</td>
<td>Planning Minister Asad Umar has said that more than 500 illegal cattle markets across country have been shut down over the last few days. In a tweet, he said, “A few days ago, the chief secretaries were instructed to take action against illegal cattle markets in a meeting of the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC). Law enforcement agencies are are doing this (shutting down illegal cattle markets) for our protection.” Meanwhil ..... view more</td>
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<td>PRCS donates 25,600 PPEs to BBH</td>
<td>Staff Report, Daily Times</td>
<td>2020-07-27</td>
<td>The Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) in collaboration with the Telenor Pakistan handed over 25,600 low and high-exposure Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) to the Benazir Bhutto Hospital (BBH). The low-exposure kits included 6,000 non-woven disposable gowns, latex hand gloves and shoe covers each, and 400 medicated goggles and N-95 masks each totaling up to 18,800. The high-exposure kits included 3,000 pairs of latex hand gloves and shoe ..... view more</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pakistan reports lowest deaths due to novel coronavirus in two months</td>
<td>News Desk, Daily Times</td>
<td>2020-07-27</td>
<td>Pakistan on Saturday confirmed 24 deaths in a single day by coronavirus as the number of positive cases surged to 272,658. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 5,812. The situation of coronavirus pandemic is improving in the country as Pakistan on Saturday reported lowest daily deaths in two months. According to the latest figures by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) 1,487 persons were tested positive for Covid-19 in 24 ..... view more</td>
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Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Lockdown violation: Hotels & guest-houses sealed in Galiyat
ABBOTTABAD: The Abbottabad district administration with the collaboration of Galiyat Development Authority (GDA) on Friday sealed at least 15 hotels and guest-houses in Galiyat for violating the lockdown. The lockdown had been imposed to protect the people from the fast-travelling coronavirus. Deputy Commissioner Mughees Sanaullah told The News that the KP government had strictly banned the tourists from entering the Galiyat due to the lockdown.....view more

One more dies of corona
MARDAN: Another victim died of coronavirus in the district on Friday, raising the total number of casualties to 61. Also, four more people tested positive for coronavirus, taking the total number of confirmed patients to 1,214, according to the statistics issued by the additional deputy commissioner (ADC)'s office on Friday. The latest death was reported of Israr Shah, a resident of Sector-F, Sheikh Maltoon Town (SMT). A total of 5,727 tes.....view more

Lakki ulema to help stop spread of coronavirus
Source: Correspondent, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-07-25
LAKKI MARWAT: Prominent ulema here have assured the district administration of playing an effective role in implementation of the standard operating procedures (SOPs) and augmenting the government efforts to stop the spread of coronavirus during Eidul Azha. The assurance was given at a meeting held in the Commissioner's Office on Friday with Bannu Commissioner Shaukat Ali Yousafzai in the chair.Bannu deputy commissioner Mohammad Zubair Kha.....view more

Only one death from Covid-19 in 24 hours
Source: Bureau Report, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-07-25
PESHAWAR: Death toll from novel coronavirus in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa reached 1,170 on Friday after a Covid-19 patient died in Abbottabad district. The province recorded 173 new virus cases, which took the province’s overall tally of infected people to 33,071. The Covid-19 recoveries in the province totalled 26,869 as 262 more patients tested negative for the virus. Fatalities from coronavirus in Abbottabad reached 76 after the death of a pa.....view more

Sacrificial animals’ sale yet to pick up in Peshawar
Source: Ali Hazrat Bacha, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-07-25
PESHAWAR: With the festival of Eidul Azha just a week away the business of sacrificial animals is yet to pick up momentum here in the provincial metropolis. During a visit to the main cattle market on the Ring Road this correspondent noted that most of the enclosures meant for display of sacrificial animals were empty while a few people were roaming around with their animals to attract customers. Most of the buyers were seen only asking questio.....view more

Ghulam Ishaq Khan Institute manages Covid-19 pandemic
Source: Our Staff Report, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-07-25
Peshawar-The Ghulam Ishaq Khan Institute of Engineering Sciences and Technology Topi, district Swabi has been very proactive from the very beginning in taking all precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19 on campus, said
Engr. Jehangir Bashar, Rector of the Institute on Friday. Briefing media, he said that the advice of the federal and provincial governments and health authorities, including World Health Organisation (WHO), is being foll.....view more

Fighting the endless battle against Covid-19
Source: Wisal Yousafzai/Muhammad Ilyas/Zulfikar Baig/Tufail Ahmad, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-07-25
PESHAWAR/ LAHORE/ KARACHI: In every crisis, there are always some people who stand on the front line for the sake of protecting others. In the Covid-19 health crisis, the medical workers have come to our aid. Five months and counting, health workers across Pakistan refuse to give up. They stand united against the pandemic, which has claimed over 630,000 lives worldwide, and more than 5,700 in Pakistan. While the fight is far from over, and the.....view more

Corona infects one more in Nowshera
NOWSHERA: Another patient tested positive for the coronavirus in the district on Saturday. District Health Officer Dr Gulman Shah and Corona Control Centre In-charge Dr Saeed Khan Paracha said that one more suspected patient of coronavirus reported positive for the viral disease, raising the number of infected patients to 901 in the district since the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic in the country. They also said that seven more patients had recover.....view more

GIK Institute following anti-corona SOPs
SWABI: Ghulam Ishaq Khan Institute of Engineering Sciences and Technology has been proactive from the very beginning in taking all precautions to prevent the spread of covid-19 on campus, an official said on Saturday. Briefing media persons, Rector of the Institute Jehangir Bashar said that the advice of the federal and provincial governments and health authorities, including World Health Organisation (WHO), is being followed. Flanked by academi.....view more

Private cattle markets not allowed in Swabi, Mansehra
Source: Dawn Report, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-07-26
MANSEHRA/SWABI: Cattle dealers in Mansehra and Swabi have been warned to avoid selling sacrificial animals outside the designated cattle markets. The administration in both the districts has issued clear directives that no private cattle market would be allowed to function in order to contain spread of coronavirus. In Mansehra, the district administration relocated all cattle markets being run privately at various places in the city and its subu.....view more

Six more die of coronavirus
Source: Bureau Report, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-07-26
PESHAWAR: The death toll due to coronavirus swelled to 1,176 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa with the passing away of six more persons from the virus on Saturday. The province also recorded 149 new patients, raising the number of total cases to 33, 220, according to a report released by health department. It said that 148 persons were recovered from the ailment that made the total count of the recovered patients 2701 in the province. Two each died in Pe.....view more
4 test positive for corona in Mardan
MARDAN: Four new patients tested positive for coronavirus in the district during the last 24 hours here on Sunday. Officials said around 5,891 tests have been conducted so far, out of which 4,479 were declared negative while the results of 182 suspected patients are still awaited. Currently, 15 suspected patients are at different isolation centres. Meanwhile, Assistant Commissioner Gul Bano sealed Khan Mobile Plaza at Malakand Chowk over.....view more

KP govt likely to stop admitting Covid-19 patients to MTIs
Source: Ashfaq Yusufzai, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-07-27
PESHAWAR: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government is considering a plan to stop admission of Covid-19 patients to the medical teaching institutions and send the people affected with the coronavirus to the two dedicated hospitals, which are ready to accept the patients. Officials said that implementation of the plan was, however, linked to the people's behaviour on Eidul Azha. If they adhered to social distancing measures, then the medical teachi.....view more

KP sees over 19pc drop in new virus cases
Source: Bureau Report, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-07-27
PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa recorded only two deaths and 177 new cases on Sunday, as the downward trend in new patients and deaths due to Covid-19 continues in the province. The province recorded 19.8 per cent reduction in new cases as the last week and 16 per cent decline in deaths due to the Covid-19 over the same period. A total of 43 persons died of Covid-19 last week (from July 13 to19), the number of which came down to 36 this week (fr.....view more

Another day without death due to COVID-19
Rawalpindi : Population in Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district witnessed another day without a report of any death due to coronavirus illness, COVID-19 though another 53 patients have been tested positive for the illness from the region taking the tally to 20600 of which 436 patients have already lost their lives due to the disease. The majority of people have already started thinking that the COVID-19 outbreak has lost its sever.....view more

BBH gets 25,600 PPE kits
Islamabad : The Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS), in collaboration with Telenor Pakistan, handed over 25,600 low and high-exposure Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) kits to the Benazir Bhutto Hospital. The low-exposure kits included 6,000 non-woven disposable gowns, latex hand gloves and shoe covers each, and 400 medicated goggles and N-95 masks each totaling up to 18,800. The high-exposure kits included 3,000 pairs of latex hand g.....view more

Emirates offers free global cover for virus-related costs
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-07-25
RAWALPINDI: Emirates has offered free global cover (medical bills for travellers) for coronavirus-related costs, saying it will cover medical and quarantine costs of its customers regardless of their class of travel or destination.
This cover is immediately effective for customers flying on Emirates until Oct 31, 2020 (first flight to be completed on or before Oct 31). It is valid for 31 days from the moment they fly the first sector of their jo.....view more

10 Chinese nationals hospitalised with Covid-19 in Bahawalpur
Source: Correspondent, Dawn, Islamabad , 2020-07-25
BAHAWALPUR: Ten Chinese engineers and workers were admitted to hospital after they tested positive for coronavirus here on Friday. Dawn learnt that the Chinese nationals were working on a power project near Khairpur Tamewali about 45 kilometres from here on Hasilpur Road where they contracted the virus and were taken to the city. They were shifted to hospital under strict security measures by personnel of law-enforcement agencies (LEAs). Dr Hami.....view more

294 new Covid cases, five deaths
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad , 2020-07-25
LAHORE: Up to 294 new cases of coronavirus were reported in Punjab on Friday, taking the total number to 91,423. Similarly, deaths reached 2,105 across the province after the virus claimed the lives of five more patients. According to the health department, of the new cases, 100 were reported from Lahore where the total number of the cases reached 30,229. From the new deaths, one each was reported from Lahore, Multan, Gujrat, Dera Ghazi Khan a.....view more

Fighting the endless battle against Covid-19
Source: Wisal Yousafzai/Muhammad Ilyas/Zulfikar Baig/Tufail Ahmad, The Express Tribune, Islamabad , 2020-07-25
PESHAWAR/ LAHORE/ KARACHI: In every crisis, there are always some people who stand on the front line for the sake of protecting others. In the Covid-19 health crisis, the medical workers have come to our aid. Five months and counting, health workers across Pakistan refuse to give up. They stand united against the pandemic, which has claimed over 630,000 lives worldwide, and more than 5,700 in Pakistan. While the fight is far from over, and the.....view more

Another 77 test positive for COVID-19 from twin cities
Rawalpindi: COVID-19, the disease caused by 2019 novel coronavirus did not claim any life in last 24 hours from the twin cities of Islamabad and Rawalpindi though another 77 patients have been tested positive for the disease taking total number of patients so far reported from the twin cities to 20677. After a significant fall in number of patients being tested positive for the illness, there are least chances of imposing ‘smart’ lo.....view more

Pindiites must be grateful to all doctors
Rawalpindi city residents are not aware of the difficulties the doctors face. Even though their own child might be suffering from fever, they have to leave their child to relatives as they have to go to treat hospital patients while their own child suffers. “When treating viral fever the doctor gets exposed to the virus. During surgery the doctor gets cuts and pricks that may transmit disease from patient to doctor. While dressing the diab.....view more
Death of 8 virus patients raises toll to 2,113 in Punjab
LAHORE: The deaths of eight more COVID-19 patients raised the death toll to 2,113 in Punjab, while the confirmed number of cases of novel coronavirus reached 91,691 with the addition of 268 new infections in the province, according to report issued by Primary and Secondary Healthcare (P&SH) Department on Saturday. Out of total of 91,691 infections in Punjab, as many as 88,911 people contracted the virus through local transmission. The remai.....view more

234 shops sealed in province
LAHORE: As many as 3,647 shops were inspected across the province and 234 shops were sealed on violation of the SOPs for protection from coronavirus on July 24. Likewise, 6,848 motorcycles, 1,889 vehicles and 1,151 public transport vehicles were checked and the civil administration imposed fines on 1,485 vehicles, motorcycles and public transport vehicles. Collectively, 4,871 citizens were checked and 5,153 were fined by civil administration o.....view more

10 Chinese nationals with coronavirus hospitalised
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-07-26
BAHAWALPUR - Ten Chinese engineers and workers were admitted to hospital after they tested positive for coronavirus here on Friday. The Chinese nationals were working on a power project near Khairpur Tamewali about 45 kilometres from here on Hasilpur Road where they contracted the virus and were taken to the city. They were shifted to hospital under strict security measures by personnel of law-enforcement agencies (LEAs). Dr Hamid, focal pe.....view more

Judge dies of cardiac arrest
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-07-26
Rawalpindi - A judge of an anti-terrorism court on Saturday smashed his car into an electricity pole after suffering cardiac arrest while driving at Shamasabad. The judge was rushed to hospital where doctors declared him dead. The deceased was identified as Naeem Arshad, who is serving as judge in ATC Bahawalpur, resident of House Number 123, Magistrate Colony, Sadiqabad. According to details, ATC Bahawalpur Judge Naheem Arshad was travellin.....view more

Covid-19 claims eight more lives in Punjab
Source: APP, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-07-26
LAHORE: The coronavirus disease claimed eight more lives in the province over the last 24 hours. As per details, the total number of Covid-19 cases in the province exceeded 91,690 after registration of 268 new patients in the last 24 hours. According to the spokesperson of Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department on Saturday, the total number of deaths from the disease was 2,113 in the province. The health department confirmed that 1.....view more

Eight deaths, 268 new Covid-19 cases in Punjab
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-07-26
LAHORE: Eight more people died of coronavirus in Punjab on Saturday, taking the death toll to 2,113 across the province. Similarly, the number of confirmed patients of the virus reached 91,691 after 268 more tested positive.
According to the official figures of the Punjab government, five died in Lahore while one each in Bahawalpur, Gujranwala, and Multan. Most of the new positive cases of coronavirus also appeared in Lahore, the official figure.

**Four more Chinese test positive for coronavirus**
*Source: Correspondent, [Dawn, Islamabad](https://dawn.com), 2020-07-26*

BAHAWALPUR: Four Chinese workers who tested positive for coronavirus were admitted to the Bahawal Victoria Hospital on Saturday. With these four cases, the number of Chinese engineers admitted to hospital raised to 14. Earlier, 10 Chinese were hospitalised on Friday. Medical Superintendent Dr Rana Muhammad Yousa of BVH-2 told Dawn that all Chinese patients were feeling stable here. They were shifted to hospital from a power project near Khair.

**Situation becoming normal in Rawalpindi**

Rawalpindi: The situation regarding morbidity and mortality of Coronavirus illness, COVID-19 is getting well under control at least in Rawalpindi district from where only six new cases have been confirmed positive in last 24 hours while no death has been reported from the district in last four days. It is worth mentioning here that in last 10 days, only 132 new cases of COVID-19 have been reported from Rawalpindi district from where a total of....

**PML-Q to distribute face masks**

LAHORE: Following the directions of its senior leader Moonis Elahi, Pakistan Muslim League-Q (PML-Q) will distribute free high quality reusable face masks before Eidul Aza among the masses visiting Punjab’s busy cattle markets and shopping centres. Similar masks will be donated to Rescue 1122 service jawans throughout Punjab immediately after Eid. This was stated on Sunday by Rizwan Mumtaz Ali, adviser to PML-Q and the national team leader....

**Eidul Azha: Strict implementation of SOPs ordered in cattle markets**

LAHORE: The Punjab government has decided to enforce ‘smart lockdown’ on Eidul Azha in the light of federal govt’s directives to contain the spread of Covid-19. Keeping in view the experience of Eidul Fitr, it has been decided in the larger public interest to enforce smart lockdown on the upcoming religious festival. Shopping activities in the markets before Eidul Azha can cause the spread of Covid-19. In this regard,....

**210 new corona cases, 3 deaths reported in Punjab**
*Source: Agencies, [The Nation, Islamabad](https://thenation.com.pk), 2020-07-27*

Lahore/karachi - Lahore/karachi - The COVID-19 claimed three more lives in Punjab, while 210 new Corona cases were registered on Sunday in the province taking the tally to 91,901. According to the spokesperson of the Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department, total number of deaths had exceeded 2116 in the province. As many as 91 new COVID-19 cases were reported in Lahore, 1 in Nankana Sahib, 1 in Kasur, 1 in Sheikhupura, 23 in R....
**Pre-Eid lockdown in markets planned**
Source: Our Correspondent, *The Express Tribune, Islamabad*, 2020-07-27
LAHORE: After the experience of Eidul Fitr shopping leading to a sharp rise in coronavirus cases in the province, the Punjab government has decided to enforce a lockdown prior to Eidul Azha to contain the spread of the pandemic. During a meeting presided over by Chief Secretary Punjab Jawwad Rafique Malik to review arrangements for the enforcement of the smart lockdown and standard operating procedures (SOPs) in cattle markets, it was decided that.....

**Punjab to impose ‘smart lockdown’ ahead of Eid**
Source: Staff Reporter, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2020-07-27
LAHORE: The Punjab government has decided to enforce “smart lockdown” in the province in a couple of days to curtail spread of the coronavirus pandemic on the occasion of Eidul Azha in the light of the federal government’s directives. Presiding over a meeting held here on Sunday to review the arrangements for the enforcement of the “smart lockdown” and the standard operating procedures (SOPs) in the cattle markets, .....**view more**

**Rawalpindi registers lowest ever new Covid-19 cases**
RAWALPINDI: The district of Rawalpindi on Sunday reported the lowest ever confirmed Covid-19 cases as only eight patients admitted to government hospitals tested positive. Two of the new cases also belonged to other districts. However, 130 suspected patients at Benazir Bhutto Hospital (BBH), Holy Family Hospital (HFH), District Headquarters Hospital and the Rawalpindi Institute of Urology (RIU) are waiting for their test results. “S.....**view more**

**Govt providing facilities to buyers in cattle markets: minister**
Source: Correspondent, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2020-07-27
TAXILA: Provincial Minister for Livestock Sardar Hasnain Bahadar Dreshak on Sunday said facilities are being provided to people for the first time and no tax had been imposed on the purchase of sacrificial animals. He expressed these views during his visit to the cattle markets in Hassanabdal and Attock and reviewed the facilities being extended to buyers. Deputy Commissioner Attock Ali Anan Qamar, Additional Deputy Commissioner Ch Abdul Majid, .....**view more**

**Sindh**

**Sindh’s coronavirus death toll rises to 2,110 as 14 more die**
As many as 14 people have lost their lives to COVID-19 in Sindh during last 24 hours, Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said on Friday, adding that the death toll stood at 2,110 in the province. “As many as 917 new cases of the coronavirus emerged when 11,812 samples were tested,” he said in his daily situation report on Friday. The chief minister said that 11,812 samples were tested over the past 24 hours, and tests resulted in 917.....**view more**

**Iranian CG donates COVID-19 safety kits**
Ahmad Mohammadi, consul general of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Karachi, in a meeting with Shahnaz Hameed, chairperson of the Pakistan Red Crescent Society in Sindh, exchanged views on cooperation between the Red Crescent Organisation of Iran and the Pakistan Red Crescent Society. During this meeting, which was held at the
head office of the Sindh Red Crescent Society, the two sides got informed about the latest situation of the corona.....view more

**Prof Haider Soomro remembered**
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-07-25
KARACHI: Speakers paid tributes to Prof Younis Haider Soomro, prominent orthopaedic surgeon of the city who recently passed away from Covid-19, at gatherings held in his memory at the Dow University of Health Sciences (DUHS) and the Sindh Institute of Urology and Transplantation (SIUT) on Thursday. "Prof Soomro was one of the founding members of the Civil Hospital Karachi’s orthopaedic department. He was a competent surgeon and an ex.....view more

**LUH seeks adequate trained staff**
Source: Correspondent, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-07-25
HYDERABAD: Medical Superintendent (MS) Zawar Shah of Liaquat University Hospital (LUH) Hyderabad has requested the Sindh health secretary to ask the Liaquat University of Medical and Health Sciences (LUMHS) vice chancellor to extend support for the management of Covid-19 intensive care unit at this crucial time. In his July 23 letter, he stated that the ICU was functional, but without enough trained staff and with thin support from the universit.....view more

**Partnership to boost quality of care for Covid-19 patients launched**
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-07-25
KARACHI: The Dawood Foundation (DF) — the charitable arm of the Dawood Hercules Group — has announced a collaborative project with the Aga Khan University (AKU) to build the capacity of front-line healthcare professionals to manage Covid-19 patients across Pakistan. The foundation will be contributing Rs79.5 million to the project to be executed in two phases in coordination with the ministry of national health services, regulation a.....view more

**Dawood Foundation, AKU to boost services for Covid-19 patients**
KARACHI: The Dawood Foundation, the charitable arm of the Dawood Hercules Group, has announced a collaborative project with Aga Khan University (AKU) to build the capacity of frontline healthcare professionals to manage Covid-19 patients across Pakistan. As cases continue to rise across the country, healthcare institutions across Pakistan are setting up dedicated services to treat coronavirus patients, from wards to intensive care units. To .....view more

**Coronavirus claims 14 lives, infects 917, says CM Sindh**
Source: APP, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-07-25
KARACHI - As many as 917 new cases of coronavirus has emerged when 11,812 samples were tested while 14 other patients died lifting the death toll to 2110. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued here from CM House. He said that overnight 11,812 samples were tested which detected 917 new cases that constituted eight percent current detection rate. He added that so far 688,317 samples have been tested .....view more
Covid-19 turns Honda into loss-making company
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-07-25
The automobile sector remained under the shadow of Covid-19 as Honda Atlas Cars (HCAR) reported a loss of Rs511 million in the quarter ended June 30, 2020 against profit of Rs241.7 million in the corresponding period of previous year. Loss per share (LPS) of the company came in at Rs3.58 in the April-June 2020 quarter compared to earnings per share (EPS) of Rs1.69 in the corresponding period of last year, revealed a notice sent by the company to.....view more

Fighting the endless battle against Covid-19
Source: Wisal Yousafzai/Muhammad Ilyas/Zulfikar Baig/Tufail Ahmad, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-07-25
PESHAWAR/ LAHORE/ KARACHI: In every crisis, there are always some people who stand on the front line for the sake of protecting others. In the Covid-19 health crisis, the medical workers have come to our aid. Five months and counting, health workers across Pakistan refuse to give up. They stand united against the pandemic, which has claimed over 630,000 lives worldwide, and more than 5,700 in Pakistan. While the fight is far from over, and the.....view more

The Dawood Foundation & AKU partner to boost quality of care for hospitalized COVID-19
The Dawood Foundation, the charitable arm of the Dawood Hercules Group, has announced a collaborative project with Aga Khan University (AKU) to build the capacity of frontline healthcare professionals to manage COVID-19 patients across Pakistan. As cases continue to rise across the country, healthcare institutions across Pakistan are setting up dedicated services to treat coronavirus patients, from wards to intensive care units. To staff .....view more

Coronavirus claims 25 more lives in Sindh
As many as 25 more people lost their lives due to COVID-19 in Sindh during last 24 hours, Sindh CM Syed Murad Ali Shah said on Saturday in his daily statement on the situation of the COVID-19 pandemic in the province. After the recent deaths, the death toll due to the viral disease in the province stood at 2,135, he added. “Around 798 new cases of coronavirus have also emerged when 11,009 samples were tested in the last 24 hours, raising .....view more

Viral hepatitis is several times more lethal than COVID-19, warn experts
Viral hepatitis is three to four times more lethal than the coronavirus infection as it is resulting in around 300 deaths daily in Pakistan, health experts and gastroenterologists said on Saturday. They said that at the moment, around 15 million were infected with hepatitis B and C in the country, but unfortunately, the majority of them were unaware that they were carrying these viruses silently and transmitting to others unknowingly. &l.....view more

Sindh sees 789 new Covid-19 cases, 25 deaths: CM
Source: Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2020-07-26
KARACHI: As many as 798 new cases of coronavirus emerged when 11,009 samples were tested raising the tally to 117,598 while 25 more patients lost their lives lifting the death toll to 2,135. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued here on Saturday. He said that 11,009 samples were tested against
which 798 new cases were diagnosed that constituted 7 percent current detection rate. He added that so far.....view more

COVID-19 claims 25 more lives in Sindh: CM
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-07-26
KARACHI - As many as 798 new cases of coronavirus emerged when 11,099 samples were tested in Sindh, raising the tally to 117598 while 25 more patients lost their lives lifting the death toll to 2135 in the province. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued here on Saturday. He said that 11009 samples were tested against which 798 new cases were diagnosed that constituted 7 percent current detection r......view more

Commissioner visits cattle market, monitors SOPs
Source: Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-07-26
SUHKUR - Commissioner Sukkur Shafique Mahesar has directed the management of the cattle market for sacrificial animals in Sukkur, Khairpur and Ghotki districts on Saturday to strictly follow the timings of 6am till 7pm for trading of sacrificial animals. The commissioner told market administration that until the government increased the hours of trading, buyers must not be allowed to enter the market after 7pm. From 6am till 7pm, the timings of t......view more

‘Gradual fall in Covid-19 cases could be reversed if SOPs flouted’
Source: Anadolu Agency, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-07-26
KARACHI: A gradual fall in coronavirus cases across country could be reversed in the near future if people do not follow health precautions during, and ahead of Eidul Azha, the Muslim Festival of Sacrifice, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Health (SAPM) Dr Zafar Mirza warned on Sunday. "We will certainly be facing challenges on Eidul Azha, and Ashura, which may lead to another spike in coronavirus outbreak," said Mirza while......view more

Experts warn of alarming rise in poverty caused by Covid-19
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-07-26
KARACHI: Expressing concern over the state of economy and growing poverty in the country, speakers participating in a discussion held as part of the e-launch of a book on Friday suggested a number of policy measures that could help poor households cope with the Covid-19 shock which, they feared, may push 45.5 million additional individuals below the poverty line. The event was organised by the department of economics of Institute of Business Adm.....view more

EDUCATION: ENGAGING STUDENTS ONLINE
Source: Sameen Motahhir, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-07-26
In the past five months, faculty and educational administrations have been in a state of panic. Amidst an almost-apocalyptic scenario has emerged a dire need for innovative teaching techniques, whereby higher educational institutions can continue to deliver their course programmes online. I have been an academic as long as I have been a gamer. At University of Melbourne’s Trinity College, where I last taught, I spent time helping students ......view more
Another 16 die of COVID-19 as 3,384 recover from illness
The novel coronavirus has claimed 16 more lives in Sindh during last 24 hours, Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said on Sunday in his daily statement on the pandemic situation, adding that 713 more people had tested positive for the viral disease, raising the number of the total cases so far to 118,311. He said the new 713 cases were diagnosed after 10,480 samples were tested, which diagnosed 713 more cases that constituted a seven per c.... view more

Sindh reports 713 new Covid-19 cases
KARACHI: The Sindh province found 713 new Covid-19 positive cases out of 10,480 tested samples overnight while 16 more died lifting the death toll to 2,151 and tally of the infected cases to 118,311. The Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah stated on Sunday from the CM House. The chief minister said 713 new cases out of 10,480 samples constituted seven percent current detection rate. He added that so far 709,806 samples have been t..... view more

210 new corona cases, 3 deaths reported in Punjab
Source: Agencies, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-07-27
Lahore/karachi - Lahore/karachi - The COVID-19 claimed three more lives in Punjab, while 210 new Corona cases were registered on Sunday in the province taking the tally to 91,901. According to the spokesperson of the Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department, total number of deaths had exceeded 2116 in the province. As many as 91 new COVID-19 cases were reported in Lahore, 1 in Nankana Sahib, 1 in Kasur, 1 in Sheikhupura, 23 in R..... view more

Four die of coronavirus at Hyderabad hospital
Source: Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-07-27
DADU - Four people died of COVID-19 at the isolation ward of Liaquat University Hospital, Hyderabad during the last 24 hours. Of these four patients, two belonged to district Jamshoro while one each from district Umerkot and district Sanghar. Haji Saleem, 52, of Jamshoro, and 61-year-old Muhammad Nasir died of COID-19 on Saturday. They were admitted to isolation ward of the hospital on July 17 and July 20, 2020, respectively, read the de..... view more

16 more die of Covid-19
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-07-27
KARACHI: The coronavirus claimed 16 more lives and infected 713 other people overnight, lifting the death toll to 2,151 and the tally of the cases to 118,311. This was stated by Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Sunday. He said that 10,480 samples were tested for Covid-19, which diagnosed 713 more cases that constituted a seven per cent detection rate. ..... view more

Normality of the ‘new normal’ discussed
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-07-27
KARACHI: Any disaster, pandemic or a calamity has always women suffering more as they are the ones who are most vulnerable and exposed to violence of all sorts. And Covid-19 is no different. Speaking at a panel discussion on ‘Covid-19: What is the ‘new normal’ for you?’ Dr Asha Bedar, clinical psychologist, said that she saw rise in violence against women, especially domestic violence, as soon as the pandemic broke out....... view more
International News

Masks becoming mandatory amid Europe’s virus uptick
Source: AP, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-07-25
ROME: New rules on wearing masks in England came into effect on Friday, with people entering shops, banks and supermarkets now required to wear face coverings, while Romania reported a record for daily infections and new cases nearly doubled in France. People in England can be fined as much as 100 pounds ($127) by police if they refuse. The British government had given mixed signals for weeks before deciding on the policy. Places like restaurant..... view more

The global march of face masks: a mirror on humanity
Source: AP, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-07-25
SAINT LAYE: House keys, wallet or purse, mobile phone and .... oh, yes: face mask. Reluctantly for many, but also inexorably in the face of a deadly invisible enemy, small rectangles of flimsy yet live-saving tissue have in mere months joined the list of don’t-leave-home-without-them items for billions around the world. Not since humans invented shoes or underwear has a single item of dress caught on so widely and quickly from Melbourne t..... view more

Global coronavirus death toll tops 638,000
Source: Sputnik, The Frontier Post, 2020-07-25
The global death toll from the coronavirus infection has topped 638,000; over 15.6 million cases of infection were detected, and over 8.9 million of those patients have recovered, according to Baltimore, Maryland's Johns Hopkins University, which tracks and compiles data from national and local authorities, the media and other sources. The past 24 hours have seen the global cumulative coronavirus tally increase by a record high of 284,19..... view more

Record number of new virus cases as public loses faith in govts
Source: AFP, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2020-07-26
PARIS: The world has set a new record for the highest daily increase in coronavirus infections, as a survey released Saturday showed governments are fast losing support for their handling of the pandemic. There were more than 280,000 new cases recorded globally on both Thursday and Friday, the highest daily rises since the virus emerged in China late last year. Friday’s tally of 282,042 was marginally down on Thursday’s sing..... view more

Record number of new virus cases detected
Source: AFP, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-07-26
PARIS: The world has set a new record for the highest daily increase in coronavirus infections, as a survey released on Saturday showed governments are fast losing support for their handling of the pandemic. There were more than 280,000 new cases recorded globally on both Thursday and Friday, the highest daily rises since the virus emerged in China late last year. Friday’s tally of 282,042 was marginally down on Thursday’s single-da..... view more
North Korea reports first suspected infection as global cases top 16m
Source: AFP, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-07-27
SEOLUL: North Korea declared its first suspected coronavirus case on Sunday, becoming one of the last countries to do so as the number of people infected worldwide passed 16 million. The isolated, impoverished state had until now insisted it had not detected a single Covid-19 case — even as the pandemic swept the planet, overwhelming health systems and trashing the global economy. At least 645,000 people around the world have succumbed to ..... view more

US agency vows steps to address Covid-19 inequalities
Source: Agencies, Daily Times, 2020-07-27
If Black, Hispanic and Native Americans are hospitalized and killed by the coronavirus at far higher rates than others, shouldn’t the government count them as high risk for serious illness? That seemingly simple question has been mulled by federal health officials for months. And so far the answer is no. But federal public health officials have released a new strategy that vows to improve data collection and take steps to address stark inequa..... view more

A troubling pandemic thought: Are THESE the good old days?
Source: Agencies, Daily Times, 2020-07-27
News articles don’t carry Hollywood-style viewer ratings or trigger warnings. Maybe this one should. But consider this: What if THESE are the good old days? Depressing as that might seem after the coronavirus pandemic has claimed well over 630,000 lives worldwide, cost tens of millions their jobs and inflicted untold misery across the planet, it’s entirely possible – increasingly likely, some say – that things will get wor..... view more

N Korea declares emergency after ‘runaway’ virus defector returns
Source: Agencies, Daily Times, 2020-07-27
North Korean authorities have imposed a lockdown on the border city of Kaesong after discovering what they called the country’s first suspected case of the novel coronavirus, state media reported Sunday. Leader Kim Jong Un convened an emergency politburo meeting on Saturday to implement a “maximum emergency system and issue a top-class alert” to contain the virus, official news agency KCNA said. If confirmed, it would be the first..... view more

Pregnant women at risk of death in Kenya’s COVID-19 curfew
Source: Agencies, Daily Times, 2020-07-27
Veronica Atieno remembers feeling her way through the dark alleys between the shacks that make up Nairobi’s slums, picking her way past raw sewage and rusty, razor-sharp metal roofing with trepidation. Her labor pains had crescendooed during Kenya’s coronavirus dusk-to-dawn curfew, and there were no public or private means of transport to the hospital where she had planned to give birth. Fears of heavy-handed police enforcement of the c..... view more

Brazil COVID crisis big, complicated as country itself
Source: Agencies, Daily Times, 2020-07-27
Brazil is being battered by the coronavirus crisis, but the damage is uneven across the sprawling South American country, where experts say chaotic policy-making has only made a complicated situation worse. Like the United States — the only country that has recorded more infections and deaths in the pandemic — Brazil is a continent-sized giant with myriad regions and sub-regions, held together by a federal system that can breed a confu..... view more
US records 1,000 coronavirus deaths for 4th day, some progress seen
Source: Agencies, Daily Times, 2020-07-27
The United States recorded more than 1,000 deaths from COVID-19 for the fourth straight day on Friday but a top White House advisor on the pandemic said she saw signs that the worst could be past in hard-hit southern and western states. At least 1,019 fatalities due to COVID-19 were confirmed nationwide on Friday, following 1,140 on Thursday, 1,135 on Wednesday and 1,141 on Tuesday. Total cases across the United States rose by at least 68,800 on F.....view more

Virus surges worldwide as public loses faith in authorities
Source: Agencies, Daily Times, 2020-07-27
A surge in coronavirus cases across the United States and Europe has forced governments to strengthen containment measures as a survey released Saturday showed support for the handling of their pandemics has slipped. The disease has now killed almost 635,000 people around the world and infected more than 15.5 million, according to an AFP tally, with America the hardest-hit nation. For the second straight day on Friday the US reported more than 70,.....view more

Thousands of stranded Filipinos crammed into baseball stadium amid coronavirus risks
Source: Agencies, Daily Times, 2020-07-27
Thousands of Filipinos were crammed into a baseball stadium in Manila on Saturday, breaking social distancing rules despite coronavirus risks, after people wanting to return to their home provinces flooded a government transportation program. Officials had reserved the stadium as a place to test people before transporting them back to their home provinces under a program to help people who had lost their jobs in the capital return to their famili.....view more
WHO says no return to ‘old normal’ as virus cases top 15 million
Source: Agencies, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-07-25
UNITED NATIONS - Warning that there will be no return to “the old normal”, the World Health Organization (WHO) has urged people everywhere to play a part in preventing further spread of coronavirus as global cases have surpassed 15 million, with nearly 620,000 deaths. Most cases, or 10 million, were in just 10 countries, with the United States, Brazil and India accounting for nearly half, WHO, the Geneva-based UN agency, said. On..... view more

Korea to grant $0.8m to Pakistan to fight corona Share:
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-07-26
ISLAMABAD - Korean government on Saturday handed over a note verbale of Korean grant of 800,000 dollar for Pakistan to fight against COVID-19. Kwak Sang Kyu, Ambassador of Republic of Korea to Pakistan, on Saturday called on Secretary Economic Affairs Division Noor Ahmed and lauded Pakistan’s effort to contain COVID-19 pandemic and steps taken to combat Locust swarms. The ambassador assured government of Korea’s cooperation to ..... view more

South Korea to provide $800,000 aid for fight against Covid-19
Source: Amin Ahmed, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-07-27
ISLAMABAD: The South Korean government will provide $800,000 assistance to Pakistan to help the country fight Covid-19. South Korean Ambassador Kwak Sang Jyu informed Economic Affairs Division Secretary Noor Ahmed on Saturday that the Korean grant in shape of cash and equipment will be provided through the World Health Organisation (WHO) to support mitigation measures against Covid-19 in Pakistan. The Korean International Coope-ra..... view more
SDPI Engagements

Researcher Articles

Caring for persons with disabilities
To understand Pakistan's status in terms of the provision of a dignified and decent basic health and financial care for people with disabilities (PWDs) in accordance with its commitment at various international forums, one needs to analyse the availability of data and the prevalent laws and practices and their implementation. Besides explaining the paucity of data, this exercise should explore the amount of effort made towards improving th... view more

Webinars News

Value addition emphasised to boost horticulture exports
Islamabad: Support from the government to the horticulture sector could lead to the opening of new global markets for Pakistan in this important sector of the economy. This was the consensus opinion of the experts from economy and agricultural sector during an online public-private dialogue organised by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute on 'value addition and exports in horticulture sector' (SDPI) in coordination with Paki... view more

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