…..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

Contents……

Op-Eds/Articles/Editorials……………………………………. 02

National News

• Islamabad
• Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
• Sindh
• Balochistan
• Punjab
• Gilgit Baltistan
• AJK

International News

• Countries News
• Donors News

SDPI Engagements

• Webinars News
• Press Releases/What’s on
• Researchers Articles
• Other SDPI Engagements

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,
### Returning our children to schools: How and when
Source: Dr Faisal Sultan & Shafqat Mehmood, *The News, International*, 2020-09-05
The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in Pakistan prompted the government to implement a country-wide closing of schools and colleges as a measure to protect children and prevent the spread of disease. The decision was taken after much deliberation. On one hand, school closures have been one of the most effective social distancing measures globally, but these come with serious costs. Learning outcomes.....

### Webinar on global aviation, aerospace in post-coronavirus world
Islamabad: Since COVID-19 has had such a dramatic impact on the aviation and aerospace sectors, and since recovery is not expected for several years, there is a need for governments to develop hybrid models that support these sectors, including through specific interventions and longer term support. These industries face fundamental transformations, and so multi-stakeholder response must b.....

### Epidemics in South Asia
Over the past several weeks, I have narrated how epidemics were dealt with in South Asia during the British period, with a focus on the Punjab. This choice was primarily because we have the best records available from that time, and also since there are several correlations between that period and today. With the recent coronavirus pandemic, issues which we dealt with in the past have be.....

### Political roots of a city
Source: Umair Javed, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2020-09-07
CONVERSATIONS in the aftermath of the recent floods continue to focus on two aspects of Karachi’s problems, often in isolation from each other. The first is a list of prescriptions, most of which are technocratic. These tend to focus on the design of municipal government, decision-making structures, the state of urban governance, and its attendant fragmentation. The problem identified here .....

### Shrinking spaces
Source: Huma Yusuf, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2020-09-07
WHAT will be the fate of Pakistan’s literary, artistic and cultural festivals in the coronavirus era? This may seem a tangential question in light of other pressing concerns. But as space for free speech diminishes across Pakistan, the question takes on urgency. The attitude in Pakistan is that the pandemic is over (though it is not), and it may seem pre-emptive to worry for the fate of Pak.....

### Money Matters Economic sojourn 2014 to 2020
The incumbent government has been facing multiple challenges that include economic revival, job creation, a reforms agenda in public sector entities and the energy sector, controlling the spread of COVID-19, governance and restoring the macroeconomic growth of the country. During the first two years of this government, it has been widely criticised that the country’s debt has increased to a.....
Supporting SMEs during Covid-19
Source: Tehreem Hussain, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-09-07
NORTHAMPTON: Covid-19 has disrupted millions of lives around the world. As governments work towards mitigating the deleterious effects of the pandemic on their respective populations, the private sector has a critical role to play in supporting the country to overcome the crisis through innovative solutions. This crisis, however, has left no stone unturned and the private sector is just as vulne.....

The numbers are in for India and Pakistan
Source: Shahid Javed Burki, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-09-07
The numbers are in for both India and Pakistan. They don’t look good for India and are unbelievably impressive for Pakistan. Why this difference? I will look first at the Indian situation before attempting to answer this question. The information from India paints a troubling picture: the strategy adopted by Narendra Modi, India’s over-confident Prime Minister, to deal with the coronav.....

Not all heroes wear capes
Source: Fahad Hassan Chohan, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-09-07
Alongside fighting the Covid-19 challenge — with success — Pakistan has also been confronting the crises like the locust attack, the recent countrywide floods, and the civic collapse in Karachi due to the torrential rains last month. While the government is utilising all its energies and resources to overcome these challenges, Pakistan Army has been assisting it with all its means, met.....

No room to relax
Source: Editorial, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-09-06
While we seem to have dodged the first bullet despite all odds, the substantial decline in the coronavirus cases in the country has left many confounded as to the reasons behind such a remarkable flattening of the Covid curve. Hosting up to 212 million people, Pakistan maintains a dense urban populace, while cities are rife with “crowded, multi-generational homes or packed apartment building.....
## National News

### Islamabad

**Capital schools, colleges to remain open on Saturdays**

Source: Kashif Abbasi, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2020-09-05

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Directorate of Education (FDE) has decided that Saturday will be a working day for educational institutions until the exams while classes will be held in place of winter vacation to compensate students for the loss of time during the Covid-19 pandemic. The decision taken on the directive of the education ministry will be implemented once schools and colleges reopen, likely .....  

[more >>](#)

**Speakers voice concern over UNFPA report on child marriages**

Source: Staff Reporter, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2020-09-05

ISLAMABAD: Speakers at a webinar on Friday expressed concern over a report published by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), which stated that roughly 13 million child marriages can take place over the next decade because of the pandemic, which would not have happened otherwise. The webinar was hosted by Rozan in collaboration with UNFPA. Rozan is an Islamabad-based NGO working towards eli.....  

[more >>](#)

**7 deaths, 498 new COVID-19 cases reported in Pakistan**

Source: News Desk, *Daily Times*, 2020-09-05

Pakistan has reported seven deaths in the last 24 hours by novel corona virus as the nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 6,335 on Friday. According to the statistics issued by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) 498 persons have been tested positive for COVID-19 in 24 hours as the number of positive cases has surged to 297,512. Till now 130,041 coronavirus cases have.....  

[more >>](#)

**Final decision about reopening educational institutions today**

Source: Kashif Abbas | Ikram Junaidi, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2020-09-07

ISLAMABAD: While a little over 6,000 active cases of Covid-19 have been left across the country, federal and the provincial governments will sit together on Monday (today) to decide about reopening of 300,000 educational institutions which have been lying closed for the last six months. “Though it is correct that over 6,000 active cases of the Covid-19 have been left in the country, the big.....  

[more >>](#)

**‘Pakistan managed unprecedented COVID-19 challenge very well’**


Islamabad : EU Ambassador to Pakistan Androulla Kaminara Sunday said the European Union fully backed Pakistan’s efforts to overcome the socioeconomic impacts of the coronavirus pandemic and build back better for a more sustainable future. “The COVID-19 has shaken the world unexpectedly and we will continue to feel the socioeconomic consequences of the virus for quite a long-time. Show.....  

[more >>](#)

**Pindiites visit UN-Habitat’s hand washing stations**


Islamabad: United Nations-Habitat Pakistan has joined forces with Pakistan’s Ministry of Climate Change to help prevent spread of COVID-19 in urban slums and ease economic impact on the vulnerable residents. A pilot Pakistan
COVID-19 Urban Slums Response Programme was launched in two urban slums, Dhoke Hassu and Dhoke Mangtal, in Rawalpindi. Hand washing stations designed according ..... more >>

China extends all-out support to Pakistan to control locust
Source: inp, Daily Times, 2020-09-07
Pakistan believes ‘Iron Brother’ China gave more than 100 percent to Islamabad as Pakistan fought locust amid the coronavirus pandemic, Gwadar Pro reported while quoting top Pakistani leaders. Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi said China exceeds expectations whenever needed. “Even at times when we are relaxed and not facing crisis, China remains just a call away. We are like b..... more >>

Pakistan has managed Covid-19 challenge ‘very well’: EU
Source: APP, Daily Times, 2020-09-07
EU Ambassador to Pakistan Androulla Kaminara Sunday said the European Union fully backed Pakistan’s efforts to overcome the socioeconomic impacts of the coronavirus pandemic and build back better for a more sustainable future. “The Covid-19 has shaken the world unexpectedly – and we will continue to feel the socioeconomic consequences of the virus for quite a long-time. Showing so..... more >>

‘Epidemic can be managed if community disease transmission halted’
Islamabad: Epidemics can be managed only if the disease transmission is checked at community level, said Metropolitan Corporation Islamabad director general (health services) Dr Hasan Urooj. He told ‘The News’ that after novel coronavirus broke out in country early this year, he, in addition to the normal response to the health emergency, introduced three innovative programmes, incl..... more >>

Pakistan among countries to run Phase 3 trials of two Chinese Covid-19 vaccines
Source: Agencies, Daily Times, 2020-09-07
China National Biotec Group (CNBG) and Sinovac Biotech Ltd said on Saturday four more countries have agreed to run late-stage clinical tests of their coronavirus vaccine candidates, as China steps up its efforts in the global race. Serbia and Pakistan are among the new countries agreeing to Phase 3 trials, as the two companies seek more data overseas amid dwindling new cases in China. Serbia will t..... more >>

25 new Covid-19 cases in Islamabad
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-09-06
ISLAMABAD: Just as the government is planning to lift the last restrictions for the prevention of the novel coronavirus (Covid-19) infections, the federal capital is experiencing an increase in new cases. At least 25 fresh cases of Covid-19 were reported on Saturday following a sharp decline in the past month. Islamabad District Health Office (DHO) said that newly infected patients include 17 me..... more >>

Disease-control : Ghost of Covid-19 looms over capital slums
Source: Zulfikar Baig, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-09-07
ISLAMABAD: Covid-19 numbers appear to be slumping across Pakistan, following the government’s prompt response and effective dissemination of guidelines during the virus' peak. The district administrations’ strategy to
start with an immediate lockdown, followed by a relaxation of curfew and issuance of SOPs and safety protocols, seems to have helped in keeping numbers low thus fa.....

more >>

**Covid-19: Fatalities reach 6,340 nationwide**

Source: Tahir Amin, *Business Recorder, Islamabad*, 2020-09-06

ISLAMABAD: The countrywide fatalities from the Covid-19 have reached 6,340, after five more deaths were reported during the last 24 hours. The number of positive cases has reached 298,025 according to the latest figures released by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC). The data further revealed that out of 24,857 nationwide tests conducted, 513 had been found positive in 24 h.....

more >>

**Covid-19: New 498 patients test positive nationwide**

Source: Tahir Amin, *Business Recorder, Islamabad*, 2020-09-05

ISLAMABAD: The countrywide fatalities from Covid-19 have reached 6,335, after seven more deaths were reported during the last 24 hours. The number of positive cases has reached 297,512 according to the latest figures released by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC). The data further revealed that out of 23,218 nationwide tests conducted, 498 had been found positive in 24 hour.....

more >>

**Khyber Pakhtunkhwa**

**KP records 93 new Covid-19 cases**

Source: APP, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2020-09-07

PESHAWAR: The health department reported 93 new cases of Covid-19 from across Khyber Pakhtunkhwa during the last 48 hours, taking the total to 36,591. Official data released on Sunday said no death was reported from any part of the province during the last 48 hours. It said the infection had so far claimed 1,255 lives, and after recovery of 128 more patients till Saturday evening, the total had c.....

more >>

**COVID-19 impact: FAO moot highlights importance of supporting livelihoods of most vulnerable people**


PESHAWAR: The Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations convened the 35TH session of the Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific (APRC-35) virtually from September 1 to 4, 2020 and hosted by the Royal government of Bhutan. A press release stated that the conference focused on regional priorities and pressing issues such as COVID 19, the state of agriculture, natural resources m.....

more >>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Headline</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>COVID-19 claims life after 12 days</strong></td>
<td>Muhammad Qasim, The News, International</td>
<td>2020-09-05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rawalpindi: COVID-19, the disease caused by 2019 novel coronavirus claimed life of another patient here in Rawalpindi district after 12 days taking total number of deaths so far caused by the disease in the district to 281 on Friday while 33 more patients have been tested positive for the illness from the region. It is important that the virus that had claimed a total of 175 lives in the ......&lt;br&gt;more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Students seek approval for low-cost ventilator use</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAHORE: After successful clinical trial on critical Covid-19 patients at Services Hospital, a group of Pakistani students studying abroad has applied to the Drug Regulatory Authority Pakistan (DRAP) for approval of the low-cost portable ventilator to meet the dearth of the life-saving equipment. The breathing device was the brainchild of a group of young and inspiring students from Pakistan study.....&lt;br&gt;more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Fewer Covid-19 cases reported in Rawalpindi</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAWALPINDI: Nine cases of Covid-19 were reported on Sunday in Rawalpindi district while five patients were discharged from hospitals after recovering. The tally of confirmed patients in the district now stands at 6,740 while 281 people have died and 6,271 others discharged after recovery from Rawalpindi’s four main hospitals. As many as 254 patients are waiting for their coronavirus serolog.....&lt;br&gt;more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>13 test positive for coronavirus</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rawalpindi: In last 24 hours, another 13 patients have been tested positive for COVID-19 from Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district including eight patients from ICT and it is for the second time only in last four-and-a-half months that less than 10 patients have been confirmed positive from the federal capital in a day. On August 15, four patients were tested positive for C.....&lt;br&gt;more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>2 virus patients die</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAHORE: Another two COVID-19 patients died and 48 new infections were confirmed across the province during the last 24 hours, according to a report issued by Primary and Secondary Healthcare (P&amp;SH) Department here on Sunday. The toll of fatalities stayed at 2,210 in Punjab, while confirmed cases of novel coronavirus reached 97,166 in the province. Out of a total of 97,166 infections in .....&lt;br&gt;more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>16 more test positive for COVID-19 530 active cases in twin cities</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rawalpindi: Another 16 patients have been tested positive for coronavirus illness, COVID-19 here in Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district in last 24 hours after which the number of active cases in the region has become 530. COVID-19 did not claim any life in the region in the last 24 hours while a total of 29 patients have recovered including 26 from ICT and three from Rawal.....&lt;br&gt;more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Covid-19 tests being conducted free of cost in LGH: PGMI head
Source: Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2020-09-07
LAHORE: Principal Post Graduate Medical Institute Prof Dr Sardar Muhammad Al-freed Zafar has said that the facility of Corona Tests is being available for the patients in LGH. He said that corona tests are being conducted free of cost according to the government's policy. He expressed these views while paying surprise visit to the Central Research Lab of Lahore General Hospital and insp......

more >>

Sindh

Sindh plans to open educational institutions in phases from 15th
Source: Shazia Hasan, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-09-05
KARACHI: Sindh Education Minister Saeed Ghani said on Friday that the sub-committee of the steering committee for education had recommended to him that all educational institutions in the province should not be opened simultaneously on Sept 15. Presiding over the meeting of the steering committee, he explained that the sub-committee proposed that children of higher classes should be sent to schoo.....

more >>

The harder part begins now
Source: Nasir Jamal, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-09-07
The downturn in the country's exports during the last month should go a long way in tampering the government's exceedingly optimistic view of a more-than-expected quicker economic recovery based on early signs of improved indicators in June and July. The 'indications' of an economy recovering from the losses inflicted by the Covid-19 health crisis had also prompted Prime M.....

more >>

'Empowering those who suffer from creative destruction'
Source: Jawaid Bokhari, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-09-07
A key issue facing Pakistan and many other countries is how to redesign the state structure in order to unleash the potential of public goods and citizens’ welfare. The two traditional schools of thought that dominate the national and international debate are about less government or more government. Given the state of governance, generally, one group advocates a trimmed and agile state whi.....

more >>

Senior doctor succumbs to COVID-19 as 188 new cases emerge
Another doctor has died due to COVID-19 and 188 more cases have been reported during the past 24 hours in Sindh, with the death toll due to the viral disease reaching 2,432 in the province. A health department official said on Sunday that 57-year-old Dr Moinuddin Shaikh, a senior doctor from Nawabshah who was associated with the Indus Health Network, lost his battle against COVID-19 at the.....

more >>

No Covid-19 death in Sindh first time since March 19
KARACHI: As an encouraging development, not a single COVID-19 related death was reported in Sindh due in the last 24 hours or the first time since the onset of the lethal dreaded disease, Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah
said on Saturday, but cautioned that 230 more people have tested positive for the infectious disease. “Not a single death was reported in the province due to COVID-.....

### Sindh reports 188 new Covid-19 cases, one death
**Source:** Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2020-09-07  
**KARACHI:** As many as 188 new cases of Covid-19 emerged out of 8,999 tested samples lifting the tally to 130,671 while one patient lost his life overnight lifting the death toll to 2,432. This was stated by the Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah here on Sunday. The chief minister said new 188 cases constituted two percent current detection rate. So far 1,055,050 samples have bee.....

### PM praised for achieving success against Covid-19
**Source:** Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2020-09-06  
**KARACHI:** Various delegations of business community met with Prime Minister Imran Khan and congratulated him for his successful strategy against Covid–19 in the country. The businessmen delegations included Asif Ikram, Najeeb Balgomola, Azam Farooq, Bashir Ali Muhammad, Faisal Maqbool Shaikh, Tariq Shafi and Muhammad Ali Taba. A delegation pf businessmen which met the premier includ.....

### DELL ‘NoteBook’ sale increases by 30-40pc during COVID-19
**Source:** Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2020-09-06  
**KARACHI:** The sale of DELL ‘NoteBook’ has gone up by 30 to 40 percent during COVID-19 pandemic in Pakistan. Speaking to the media on the sidelines of an event organized by DELL Pakistan, Naveen Siraj, Country manager DELL Pakistan said that the sales of DELL ‘NoteBook’ went up by 30 to 40 percent during COVID-19 pandemic in Pakistan. The DELL Pakistan is going to b.....

### Covid-19; Sindh reports no death in last 24 hours
**Source:** NNI, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2020-09-06  
**KARACHI:** Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Saturday announced that no death was reported from Covid-19 in the province during the past 24-hours. Giving a daily briefing on the Covid-19 situation, the chief minister said that they have conducted 9,738 tests for the virus which resulted in 230 positive cases during the past 24 hours. “We have so far performed 1,036,313 test.....
International News

Countries News

**Lockdown protesters clash with police in Australia**
Source: Reuters, [Dawn, Islamabad](https://www.dawn.com), 2020-09-06

MELBOURNE: Protesters against a Covid-19 lockdown defied police in Australia’s hotspot on Saturday, prompting 15 arrests, even as the state of Victoria continued its gradual improvement in stemming new cases due to the nearly five weeks of restrictions. Around 200 protesters in the state capital Melbourne rallied with chants of “freedom” and “human rights ma.....

[more >>](#)

**Russian coronavirus vaccine passes early tests: report**
Source: AFP, [Dawn, Islamabad](https://www.dawn.com), 2020-09-05

LONDON: Patients involved in early tests of a Russian coronavirus vaccine developed antibodies with “no serious adverse events”, according to research published in The Lancet on Friday, but experts said the trials were too small to prove safety and effectiveness. Russia announced last month that its vaccine, named “Sputnik V” after the Soviet-era satellite that was the first.....

[more >>](#)

**Pakistan among countries to run Phase 3 trials of two Chinese firms’ Covid-19 vaccines**
Source: Reuters, [Dawn, Islamabad](https://www.dawn.com), 2020-09-05

China National Biotec Group (CNBG) and Sinovac Biotech Ltd said on Saturday four more countries have agreed to run late-stage clinical tests of their coronavirus vaccine candidates, as China steps up its efforts in the global race. Serbia and Pakistan are among the new countries agreeing to Phase 3 trials, as the two companies seek more data overseas amid dwindling new cases in China. Serbia wil.....

[more >>](#)

**In midst of pandemic, Mexicans resume searches for the disappeared**
Source: Agencies, [Daily Times](https://www.dailytimes.com.pk), 2020-09-05

Using drones, shovels and picks, desperate Mexicans resumed searching for disappeared family members across remote parts of the country, restarting a torturous process that was largely halted when the COVID-19 pandemic hit in March. More than 73,000 people are classified as missing in Mexico, most of whom are believed to be victims of drug cartel warfare since Mexico launched its so-called ‘.....

[more >>](#)

**South Korean doctors expected to end strike amid COVID cases surge**
Source: Agencies, [Daily Times](https://www.dailytimes.com.pk), 2020-09-05

South Korean doctors agreed on Friday to end a two-week strike which has complicated efforts to curb a new wave of coronavirus infections, after overnight talks over the government’s medical reform plans. About 16,000 intern and resident doctors have been on strike since Aug. 21. Trainee doctors are the backbone of healthcare services in emergency rooms and intensive care units, and volunte.....

[more >>](#)

**New Zealand to retain coronavirus measures across country until mid-Sept**
Source: Agencies, [Daily Times](https://www.dailytimes.com.pk), 2020-09-05

New Zealand’s Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern said on Friday current restrictions to beat the spread of the coronavirus would be in place until at least mid-September. Auckland, the country’s largest city and the centre of a fresh outbreak,
will remain on alert level 2.5 that limits gatherings to no more than 10 people. “The best economic response remains a strong health response. ..... 

**World ‘falling behind’ on goal to cut chronic disease deaths**

Source: Agencies, Daily Times, 2020-09-05

Only six high-income countries are doing enough to tackle deaths from chronic illnesses such as diabetes and heart disease, a global report said Friday, warning the coronavirus pandemic exposes the urgent need to combat underlying conditions. In its stocktake of global efforts to stop people dying prematurely from largely preventable and treatable non-communicable diseases, the report by groups i.....

**Pandemic politicking: Democrats at laptops. GOP at your door**

Source: Agencies, Daily Times, 2020-09-05

At a family dining table in tiny Reedsburg, Wisconsin, Arlene Ketchpaw chatted with a half-dozen Sauk County Democrats about how to win over voters, her fellow volunteers staring out from a now familiar Zoom screen.A day later, many Republicans found seats around tables in a strip mall campaign office in nearby Baraboo for training that included an element missing from the Democrats’ agenda:.....

**The Covid-19 testing**


On August 20, the Trump regime prohibited the FDA from regulating Covid-19 tests. This could cause bad tests and false results, as was possibly the purpose of the order. What better way to undermine faith in tests or to disappear Covid than to have everyone test negative for it? If this sounds too conspiratorial to you, remember we have a president who says if we don’t test for this plague, .....

**Pandemic tests shopper loyalty for clothing brands**

Source: AP, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-09-07

When Archie Jafree heard that Lord & Taylor filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy in early August, he was sad about the fate of the storied retailer with roots dating back to 1824. Still, the 36-year-old northern Virginia resident acknowledged he hadn’t shopped there in months, preferring instead to go to Nordstrom and Zara, where he feels the customer service is better. “It had good q.....

**90pc of China’s Sinovac employees, families took virus vaccine**

Source: Reuters, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-09-07

BEIJING: About 90 percent of Sinovac Biotech Ltd employees and their families have taken an experimental coronavirus vaccine developed by the Chinese firm under the country’s emergency use programme, its chief executive said on Sunday. The extent of inoculations under the emergency programme, which China launched in July but has released few details about, points to how actively it is using.....

**Australia’s Covid-19 epicentre extends hard lockdown till late Sept**

Source: Reuters, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-09-07

MELBOURNE: Australia’s coronavirus hot spot state of Victoria on Sunday extended a hard lockdown in its capital Melbourne until Sept. 28, as the infection rate has declined more slowly than hoped. “We cannot open up at this time.
If we were to we would lose control very quickly,” State Premier Daniel Andrews told a televised media conference on Sunday. The hard lockdown was orde.....

Mexico says 122,765 extra people died during pandemic in ‘excess deaths’ study
Source: Agencies, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-09-07
Mexico has recorded 122,765 deaths more than would be expected during the pandemic up to August, the health ministry said on Saturday in a report on excess mortality rates, suggesting Mexico’s true coronavirus toll could be much higher. Mexico has recorded 67,326 confirmed coronavirus deaths and 629,409 cases, the world’s fourth highest death toll from the virus that has infected more.....

Pope: Gossipiagonal is “plague worse than COVID”
Source: Agencies, Daily Times, 2020-09-07
Pope Francis said Sunday that gossiping is a “plague worse than COVID” that is seeking to divide the Catholic Church. Francis strayed from his prepared text to double down on his frequent complaint about gossiping within church communities and even within the Vatican bureaucracy. Francis didn’t give specifics during his weekly blessing, but went on at some length to say the devil.....

Pandemic put Algeria’s protests on pause — will they now resume?
Source: Agencies, Daily Times, 2020-09-07
For over a year Algeria’s defiant anti-government “Hirak” protestors seemed unstoppable, but weekly demonstrations skidded to a halt due to restrictions to end the coronavirus crisis. With two months to go before a key referendum on constitutional reform — a vote the government hopes will meet their demands — many expect the protests to soon return. “The will t.....

Coronavirus: Global death toll could triple in next four months
LONDON: An influential model for predicting the future impact of the coronavirus has suggested global COVID-19 related deaths could triple by the end of the year to 1.9 million – with Europe, Central Asia and the US most at risk, foreign media reported. The model from the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME) at the University of Washington’s School of Medicine proved inf.....

Philippine police draw flak for plan to monitor social media on quarantine
Source: Agencies, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-09-07
Philippine police drew criticism from netizens and activists on Sunday for a plan to monitor social media to enforce quarantine rules, with critics accusing the authorities of authoritarianism and double standards.National Police Lieutenant General Guillermo Eleazar, head of a task force enforcing quarantine protocols, warned of fines and penalties of community service for people violating precaut.....

India tops four million virus cases; Australia arrests protestors
Source: AFP, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2020-09-06
NEW DELHI: India has become the third country to pass four million coronavirus infections, setting a new record daily surge in cases on Saturday as the pandemic shows no sign of peaking. The 86,432 new cases took India to
4,023,179 infections, third behind the United States which has more than 6.3 million and just trailing Brazil on 4.1 million. The growing caseload comes after the World Hea.....

### Donors News

**David Beckham helps Pak businessman for One Million Meals campaign**


LONDON: British Pakistani entrepreneur Suleman Raza has thanked his celebrated footballer friend David Beckham for helping him to feed thousands of National Health Service (NHS) workers during the height of Covid-19 pandemic through the One Million Meals campaign. Raja Suleman Raza, who launched the One Million Meals campaign at the height of Covid-19 pandemic in the UK to feed hot meals to the N.....
The politics of performance
Source: Dr Sajid Amin Javed, The News, International, 2020-09-06
In recent years, efforts to measure the performance of governments have expanded across the world. These efforts are more systematic in developed countries. A government's performance is assessed mostly against standard outcome indicators through robust methods. In developing countries, such as Pakistan, these efforts begin and end with politics of performance. Government claims to have done.....
more >>