.....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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Sustainable Development Policy Institute, SDPI

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Tel: +92.51. 2278134, Fax: 2278135,
### New economic ideas
Source: Aqdas Afzal, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2020-10-27
THE secret behind the spectacular success of economists in policymaking lies in the innovative nature of economic ideas. Whenever ground realities have changed, economics has been able to offer an answer. During the Great Depression, John Maynard Keynes made a powerful case for fiscal measures for kick-starting stagnated economies. Later, as developed countries faced stagflation — stagnation.....[more >>](#)

### Spotlight on managers of economy
Source: Editorial, *Daily Times*, 2020-10-27
The country’s economic managers should tighten their belts and prepare for yet another stiff test as the dreaded second wave of the coronavirus is all but confirmed and so-called smart lockdowns have already begun in a number of important cities. Karachi and Islamabad seem to be leading the race for the highest number of new cases, most likely also deaths, but the rest of the country is not .....[more >>](#)

### Covid resurge ‘major risk’ to economy
Source: Shahbaz Rana, *The Express Tribune, Islamabad*, 2020-10-28
ISLAMABAD: The resurgence of coronavirus cases in the country poses a “major risk” to the otherwise near-term “promising economic outlook” and inflation will also remain high because of a double-digit growth in money circulation, the finance ministry said on Tuesday. The ministry has also predicted “subdued” exports while imports are projected to increase to t.....[more >>](#)

### Climate change poses bigger threat than Covid-19
Source: Asif Mehmood, *The Express Tribune, Islamabad*, 2020-10-28
LAHORE: The agriculture sector may have survived the Covid-19 crisis, but it is still vulnerable to the threat of climate change. According to crop production experts, the health crisis had minimum impact on the production of crops. However, it disrupted the supply of fresh fruits and vegetables across the country. Talking exclusively to the Express Tribune, Director General of Agriculture (Ext.....[more >>](#)

### Coronavirus and macroeconomic interventions—part III
Eight months have passed since the first case of coronavirus reported in Pakistan. On June 12 we had 6825 cases, the maximum reported in 24 hours. Daily cases afterwards declined; reached three digits by 31 July and declined further to 196 cases by 10 September. This was the time when schools/colleges/universities started opening as well as restaurants were gearing up to start in-house dining and .....[more >>](#)

### China: Post COIVD19
Source: Osama Rizvi, *Daily Times*, 2020-10-29
COVID-19 is still around and, for a foreseeable future, will be. Economies, that were devastated, now buckle up for a second wave -expect more stimulus packages. The global economic recovery has at its best stalled, plateaued – expect another sell off. Google Mobility Data remains the same over weeks, suggesting no activity as people still opt to stay indoors (which in a way have been a boo.....[more >>](#)
Growing virus concerns
Source: Growing virus concerns, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-10-29
THE feared second wave of Covid-19 cases in Pakistan has arrived, with daily confirmed cases and hospitalisations increasing at an alarming rate. At the time of writing, 14 people in the previous 24 hours had succumbed to the virus and 825 had tested positive, marking a rise in both mortality and positivity rates. On Wednesday, after repeated warnings of rising Covid-19 cases across the country, t.....
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Armchair grief
Source: F.S. Aijazuddin, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-10-29
COVID-19 and politics have made grief an armchair activity. One quarantines us from the present, the other isolates us from the past. Recently the death of another friend in India has made me aware of the impact an incurable Covid-19 and our irreversible history has had on our lives. This time it is the death of Dr Karuna Goswamy. She passed away on Oct 25 from complications accentuated by Covid.....
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Implementing Directives
Source: Editorial, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-10-29
As the country has been witnessing a real surge in COVID-19 cases for some days, the government has heralded the arrival of the second wave of the virus. Our previous experience with the coronavirus tells us how just a few cases can quickly lead to a public health emergency. Given the present lower humidity and temperatures, experts anticipate a sharp increase in the number of positive cases. Ther.....
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Important warnings
As is the case around the world, Covid-19 cases have begun to rise sharply in the country, according to the Prime Minister's Advisor on Health Dr Faisal Sultan as well as Minister for Planning and head of the National Command and Operations Centre Asad Umar. The two men have warned that the new rise in Covid cases means the second surge, which many had feared, is here in Pakistan too. The same.....
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Well healed or well heeled?
Dear All, The pandemic has exposed the bare bones of many countries’ health policies as well as the priorities of their governments. In countries where health is heavily privatised and no proper public health service exists, we have seen huge inequalities in how the virus has affected different sections of society — with the poor and disadvantaged being worst hit. At the beginning of.....
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Have we forgotten?
“The pandemic was brought under control,” said President Dr Arif Alvi, a phrase that has single-handedly contributed to the increase of coronavirus cases in Lahore. Lahore, being the social hub of Pakistan, is one of the most significant reasons why social distancing — a prevention of the virus — has become a problem. After the easing of lockdown, failure of the public to .....
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Are public protests still okay in the Covid-19 era?
Source: Dr Rana Jawad Asghar, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-11-01
Covid-19 cases are rising in Pakistan steadily for the last few weeks. The public was told that Pakistan has successfully defeated the SARS-CoV-2 (the virus which causes Covid-19). We were further told the world is amazed at our success in controlling the pandemic. The government distributed awards and everyone patted each other on the back. The pandemic was over for almost everyone in Pakistan an..... more >>

Covid-19 and climate change
Source: Ali Ashar Jaffri, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2020-11-01
The Novel Coronavirus attacked the global economies when these were already struggling to survive the catastrophic impact of natural environmental degradation and climate change. All over the world, natural resources are depleting at an unprecedented rate and on the other side Greenhouse Gases emissions are accelerating rapidly. Engulfed in pollution, smog and waste, the entire world was suddenly ..... more >>

Protecting against the second wave
Source: Umair Javed, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-11-02
AS Covid-19 cases rise across the country, it seems to be a matter of time before strict public health measures designed to stem the virus’s spread will be implemented. These steps will be accompanied by the same types of issues regarding socioeconomic vulnerability witnessed earlier between March to June. To some extent, the government rightly prides itself over its socioeconomic response ..... more >>

Zero hunger
Source: Minà Dowlatchahi, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-11-02
WORLD Food Day 2020 marked the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the UN. It comes at a time when the world is facing the impacts of Covid-19 amidst multiple natural hazards, shocks and transboundary pests. Despite past achievements, five years into the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, the world is not on track to achieve zero hunger. The number of pe..... more >>

Pandemic-related trade challenges
Source: Aadil Nakhoda, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-11-02
KARACHI: As Covid-19 cases increase, trade uncertainty resurges. The positivity rate in Pakistan, which had fallen close to 2%, is now approximately 3%. According to Worldometers, European countries were witnessing a spike in daily cases in late October, which was significantly greater than the spike in the spring of 2020. For instance, the United Kingdom reported 7,680 new cases on April 10, w..... more >>

Public Caution Needed
Source: Editorial, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-11-02
For the first time since July of this year, Pakistan reported 1078 cases in a single day. Having learnt and recovered from the first wave, the government continues to implement protocols that serve to limit the transmission rates of the country. However, if the public’s apathetic attitude towards the second wave and the pandemic at large doesn’t change, we cannot expect the situation t..... more >>
### National News

#### Balochistan

**11 more coronavirus cases surfaced in Balochistan**
**Source:** APP, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-10-30

QUETTA - About 11 new coronavirus patients were tested positive in Balochistan while number of total confirmed patients surged to 15887 in the province on Thursday. According to media coordinator provincial Health Directorate Cell Balochistan, Dr. Muhammad Wasim Baig, at least 326388 people were screened for the virus till October 29, out of which 11 more were reported positive. As many as 15522 a.....

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#### Islamabad

**Rs4.84bn Covid fund still unutilised, NA told**
**Source:** Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-10-27

ISLAMABAD: The National Assembly was informed on Monday that an amount of Rs4.84 billion was lying unutilised in the account created for receiving donations and funds from the public and overseas Pakistanis for the fight against Covid-19. The information was provided by the government through a written reply to a question asked by MNA Maulana Abdul Akbar Chitrali of the Muttahida Majlis-i-Amal. ..... 

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**QAU closed over five corona cases**
**Source:** Our Correspondent, The News, International, 2020-10-27

Islamabad:The Quaid-e-Azam University (QAU) was temporarily closed on Monday after the detection of five coronavirus cases among staff members and students. The district health officer issued a notice for the sealing of the departments, where the cases were reported. According to it, measures are being taken in classes and cafes and on campus to prevent the spread of the virus. The SOPs should b.....

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**QAU depts sealed after Covid-19 cases detected**
**Source:** Aamir Yasin | Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-10-27

ISLAMABAD: Three departments in Quaid-i-Azam University (QAU) have been sealed after five Covid-19 cases were reported there on Monday. A total of 91 cases were reported in Islamabad. District Health Officer Dr Zaeem Zia said the chemistry, biochemistry and bachelor of business administration departments have been sealed for at least five days. “According to the standard operating procedur.....

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**707 new Covid-19 cases reported; three more lose lives across country**
**Source:** Agencies, Daily Times, 2020-10-27

The total active Covid-19 cases in Pakistan on Monday were recorded at 10,788 as 707 more people tested positive for the deadly virus across country. Three coronavirus patients, who were under treatment at hospitals, died, according to the latest update issued by the National command and Operation Centre (NCOC). No Covid-affected person is on ventilator in Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK), Gilgit Bal.....

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Covid-19 donations; No funds released to provinces, AJK and G-B, NA told
Source: Ali Hussain/ Zulfiqar Ahmad, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2020-10-27
ISLAMABAD: Despite getting a huge sum of Rs 4.84 billion donations from both national and international donors to combat Covid-19 pandemic, the federal government on Monday informed National Assembly that it did not release a single penny to four provinces including Azad Jammu & Kashmir (AJK) and Gilgit-Baltistan (GB). In a written reply to a question asked by MNA Maulana Abdul Akbar Chit..... more >>

Second virus wave hits Pakistan, other countries: Strict restrictions inevitable to curb Covid-19, says Dr Faisal
ISLAMABAD: Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Health Dr Faisal Sultan told a press conference on Tuesday strict coronavirus restrictions were inevitable, given the rise in COVID-19 deaths and the positivity ratio across the country. The second virus wave is hitting hard various countries, and Pakistan didn't seem an exception. Dr Faisal said a few weeks ago, 400-500 cases were being..... more >>

IIU closed till Thursday
Islamabad: International Islamic University (IIU) will remain closed till Thursday in order to take safety measures to prevent from COVID-19. According to spokesman IIU, Nasir Farid, the university will reopen on Monday (November 2). He said, during this period disinfection shall be carried out in the campus. ..... more >>

COVID positivity ratio at 80% in 11 major cities of Pakistan: NCOC
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-10-28
ISLAMABAD: The National Command and Operations Centre (NCOC) noted on Wednesday that the spread of the virus and the increased positivity ratio is 80 per cent in 11 major cities of Pakistan. The national body has made it mandatory to wear face masks in public places including bazaars, shopping malls, while using public transport and at restaurants. In addition, face masks must be worn in all off..... more >>

Surge in coronavirus cases; SAPM warns govt will impose strict restrictions
Source: Abdul Rasheed Azad, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2020-10-28
ISLAMABAD: Special Assistant to the Prime Minister (SAPM) on Health Dr Faisal Sultan has said that imposing strict restrictions in the country was unavoidable in order to deal with the increasing coronavirus cases and deaths across the country. Talking to media here on Wednesday, Dr Sultan said that a few weeks ago, 400-500 cases were being reported across the country on a daily basis. The ta..... more >>

Pakistan reports 825 coronavirus cases in one day
Pakistan on Wednesday has reported 14 deaths in last 24 hours by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has surged to 330,200. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 6,759. According to the latest figures by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) 825 persons have been tested positive for COVID-19 in 24 hours. Sindh remains the worst-hit province by the pandemic..... more >>
Amid possible COVID-19 second wave, Pakistan fears economic halt
ISLAMABAD - The ministry of finance on Tuesday has noted that fears and risk factors are appearing due to the possible second wave of COVID-19 after economic recovery was seen in first quarter (July to Sep) of the current fiscal year (FY2021). “Economic recovery has been observed from the start of the new fiscal year. Most importantly the decrease in number of coronavirus cases and the re.....
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Govt announces new restrictions for cities with more than 2pc COVID positivity ratio
Source: Agencies, Daily Times, 2020-10-29
The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) has announced new non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPIs) that must be implemented in cities and districts where the COVID-19 positivity rate has exceeded two percent. The measures, effective from today, are: strict enforcement of "compulsory mask-wearing" rule in confined spaces including indoor venues, public transport, bus and train.....
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Pakistan, China discuss healthcare challenges in post-Covid era
Source: News Desk, Daily Times, 2020-10-29
Universities and medical institutions from 11 countries, including China and Pakistan, attended an international online forum and discussed post-Covid healthcare opportunities and challenges. The forum was organised by South and Southeast Asia Medical Education and Service Alliance (SSAMESA), China Economic Net (CEN) reported on Wednesday. The participants exchanged in-depth views on the opportun.....
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Covid-19 second wave begins in Pakistan
Source: News Desk, Daily Times, 2020-10-28
The government has said that strict coronavirus restrictions are inevitable given the rise in COVID-19 deaths and the positivity ratio across Pakistan. This was said by the Prime Minister’s Special Assistant on Health, Dr Faisal Sultan as he addressed a news conference on Tuesday. The premier’s aide said that a few weeks ago, 400-500 cases were being reported across the country on the da.....
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No commercial activities in 11 virus-hit cities after 10pm
Source: Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-10-29
ISLAMABAD: The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Covid-19 on Wednesday announced schedule for commercial and social activities in 11 cities which are most vulnerable to the deadly coronavirus. Since 80 per cent Covid-19 cases are being reported in Karachi, Lahore, Islamabad, Rawalpindi, Multan, Hyderabad, Gilgit, Muzaffarabad, Mirpur, Peshawar and Quetta, commercial activi.....
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Shopping activities to shut at 10pm
Source: Tahir Niaz, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-10-29
ISLAMABAD - Taking strict measures to control the rising number of Covid-19 cases across the country in recent weeks, the government yesterday fixed 10pm the closing time for all markets and shopping centres in all cities and made it compulsory for all citizens to wear face masks when stepping out of their homes. The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) made these decisions during its meet.....
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VCs committee satisfied over measures against COVID-19
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-10-29
ISLAMABAD: The Vice Chancellors (VC) committee on Wednesday expressed satisfaction over the measures taken by universities to control the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) situation. Chairman VCs committee Prof. Dr. Mohammad Ali Shah said that all universities must comply with wearing masks amongst students and staff and institutions should be dis-infected as well. He said that all universities mu.....

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Pakistan records highest COVID-19 death toll since Sept 1
ISLAMABAD: The total number of cases coronavirus in Pakistan surpassed 332,000 as daily tally crossed the 1,000 mark on Thursday, making it the highest since July 29, 2020. As many as 1,078 new confirmed cases were recorded in the past 24 hours after 32,933 individuals were tested, bringing Pakistan's total to 332,186, according to the data shared by the National Command and Operations Centre.....

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VCs resolve to maintain vigilance to contain COVID-19
Islamabad: In view of the prevailing apprehension of COVID-19 resurgence, the Vice Chancellors of all the public and private universities have requested the government to provide a special COVID package for universities to enable them to implement the required SOPs (Standard Operating Procedures) effectively and prevent any outbreaks of the pandemic on campuses. The university heads met o.....

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Covid-19; Talks on FTA halted owing to pandemic: Indonesia envoy
Source: Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2020-10-30
KARACHI: Consul General of Indonesia Totok Priamamto has said that due to corona virus outbreak deliberation on Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between Pakistan and Indonesia have been halted, it is expected that discussions on the FTA would continue soon. Speaking at a meeting of Korangi Association of Trade and Industry (KATI), he said that business interactions have been directly affected by pa.....

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Over 1,000 Covid cases reported for first time since July as second wave grips Pakistan
Source: News Desk, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-10-30
ISLAMABAD: Pakistan reported over 1,000 coronavirus cases on Friday for the first time since July when the country witnessed a decline in number of Covid-19 cases. With 1,078 cases being reported the total tally of positive cases now stands at 332,186, whereas the death toll has hit 6,795. According to the portal, 889 people also recovered from the virus in a day, taking the tally of recovered.....

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Special COVID package for universities demanded to implement SOPs
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-10-30
ISLAMABAD - The Vice Chancellors of all the public and private universities have requested the government to provide a special COVID package for universities to enable them to implement the required Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) effectively and prevent any outbreaks of the pandemic on campuses in view of the prevailing apprehension of COVID-19 resurgence. The university heads met onlin.....

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Country reports 908 new Covid-19 cases, 16 more deaths
Source: Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-10-30
ISLAMABAD - Pakistan reported 908 new Covid-19 cases and 16 more deaths on Thursday amidst fears of a second wave of the Coronavirus pandemic starting in the country. The authorities have also returned to strict restrictions to curb spread of the disease by ordering wearing face masks when stepping out. According to officials, Punjab reported 273 Covid-19 cases and 5 deaths, taking its provincial ..... more >>

NCOC seeks citizens’ help to curb COVID-19 SOP violations
ISLAMABAD: The National Command and Operations Centre (NCOC) on Saturday sought citizens help to discourage violation of COVID-19 SOPs as the country looks to curb the resurgence in virus cases. "With the arrival of second wave and continued wide scale violation of the SOPs, the NCOC has decided to seek citizens help for SOP compliance," said NCOC chairman and Federal Minister for Pla..... more >>

11, including a doctor, die: Corona intensity worrying, says NCOC
ISLAMABAD: The number of confirmed corona cases in the country on Saturday rose to 332,186 with reporting of 908 new cases. According to the National command and Operation Centre (NCOC), 11 people, including a doctor, died on Saturday. The number of total deaths stood at 6,806. No affected person was on ventilator in Gilgit Baltistan (GB) and Balochistan, while 98 ventilators elsewhere in Pakist..... more >>

Public paying little heed to coronavirus SOPs
Islamabad : The residents, in general, are paying no heed to the directives of the district administration to wear face masks in the public places despite rising cases of coronavirus in the capital city. The district administration is still publicizing its decision using all available media platforms and trying to aware the residents about the intensity of the situation in the face of coro..... more >>

Elderly people less affected by Covid-19: Report
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-11-01
ISLAMABAD: Islamabad District Health Authority (DHA) released its report revealing age-wise data of coronavirus patients in Islamabad on Saturday. People aged between 31 years and 45 years remained hardest hit by the coronavirus while the lowest number of cases were reported among those aged over 80 years. It disclosed that the people aged between 31 and 45 were most vulnerable to the virus. S..... more >>

Covid-19 testing at all airports stepped up a notch
Source: Irshad Ansari, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-11-01
ISLAMABAD: The federal government has decided to make it mandatory for airlines to verify the medical test reports of passengers travelling to other countries, especially Dubai, through the relevant lab portal and PQR code as some passengers have been caught using forged reports. According to sources, the decision has been taken after some airlines accepted the Covid-19 test reports of passenger..... more >>
Covid-19 crisis; WB projects 9pc growth in remittances
Source: Tahir Amin, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2020-11-01
ISLAMABAD: The World Bank (WB) has projected nine percent growth in remittances for Pakistan totaling about $24 billion in 2020. The World Bank in its latest report, “Migration and Development Brief 33, Phase II Covid-19 Crisis through a Migration Lens”, stated that in both Pakistan and Bangladesh, the negative impact of the Covid-19–induced global economic slowdown has been.....

Ali Zaidi says tested positive for Covid-19
Source: APP, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2020-11-01
ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs, Ali Haider Zaidi said on Saturday that he tested positive for the Novel Coronavirus and went into quarantine. In a statement on social media networking site Twitter, he said that “So they just told that I have tested Covid-19 positive, means I have to quarantine and isolate myself,” adding that “Maybe down, but not out.”.....

Resurgence of Covid-19; NCOC to seek citizens' help for SOPs implementation
ISLAMABAD: The National Command and Operations Centre (NCOC) on Saturday decided to seek the help of citizens for SOPs’ compliance to curb the resurgence of Covid-19 cases in the country. Federal Minister for Planning Asad Umar who is also heading the NCOC, said the decision was taken in view of the second wave of pandemic and continued violations of SOPs. The NCOC has launched a W.....

Pakistan reports 977 coronavirus cases in one day
Pakistan has reported 17 deaths in last 24 hours by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has surged to 333,970. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 6,823. According to the latest figures by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) 977 persons have been tested positive for COVID-19 in 24 hours. Sindh remains the worst-hit province by the pandemic in terms of.....

Centre launches WhatsApp number for complaints as infections surge
Source: Tahir Niaz, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-11-01
ISLAMABAD - With the arrival of the 2nd wave and continued 'wide scale violation' of the Covid-19 SOPs, the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) has decided to seek citizens’ help for SOPs compliance by launching a WhatsApp number for registration of Covid-related violations. Federal Minister for Planning and Development, Asad Umar in a tweet on Saturday said, “.....

Coronavirus claims another nine lives in twin cities
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-11-02
ISLAMABAD/RAWALPINDI: The novel coronavirus claimed another nine lives in the twin cities of Islamabad and Rawalpindi on Sunday. Some five patients in Islamabad and four in Rawalpindi succumbed to the deadly virus during the past 24 hours. The death toll in the capital territory has reached 224. Besides this, some 224 new cases surfaced in Islamabad along with fatalities, District Health Author.....
Covid-19 testing at all airports stepped up a notch
Source: Irshad Anšari, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-11-02
ISLAMABAD: The federal government has decided to make it mandatory for airlines to verify the medical test reports of passengers travelling to other countries, especially Dubai, through the relevant lab portal and PQR code as some passengers have been caught using forged reports. According to sources, the decision has been taken after some airlines accepted the Covid-19 test reports of passenger.....
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17 more die of Covid-19 across country
Source: Sardar Sikander Shaheen, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2020-11-02
ISLAMABAD: Coronavirus pandemic claimed the lives of 17 more persons in Pakistan (till Sunday evening) with the total number of Covid-19 related deaths having reached 6,823 in the country and the number of active coronavirus cases was recorded at 12,592 . According to data issued by National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), some 977 more people tested positive for COVID 19 after the tests.....
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Despite virus surge, Punjab to keep schools open
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-11-02
ISLAMABAD/LAHORE - As deaths and coronavirus infections rise in the country amid second wave of the pandemic, the Punjab government has rejected reports of schools closure, asking citizens to follow the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) devised by the federal government to contain the virus spread. The total active COVID-19 cases in the country on Sunday recorded 12,592 as 977 more people.....
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Wearing face mask mandatory in Capital: DC
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-11-02
ISLAMABAD - Deputy Commissioner (DC) Hamza Shafqat on Sunday said face mask would be mandatory in public places from today, aimed to combat COVID-19 spread. Talking to media, DC Islamabad said violators would face penalties, adding, in line with a decision taken by the Federal Government, the Islamabad Capital Territory Administration (ICTA) on Sunday declared that all residents had to wear .....
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Corona patients tally reaches 20 in Nowshera
NOWSHERA: The number of corona infected patients reached 20 after the resurgence of fatal virus during the last two weeks. Briefing media on Monday, Deputy Commissioner Mir Raza Ozgan and District Health Officer Dr Gulman Shah said that there were a total 20 patients infected by the fast-spreading Covid-19 during the second wave. They said that 12 suspected patients had tested negative whi.....
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SOPs compliance stressed to combat corona
PESHAWAR: Keeping in view of the re-emerging trend of Covid-19 globally and its the potential rise of 2nd phase in the country, National Command and Operation Centre has desired to take action for strict compliance with Standard Operating Procedures, especially in sectors transport, marriage halls, gathering, congested bazaars and plazas. An official handout said following SOPs/guidelines are to b.....
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Doctor dies of COVID-19 in Peshawar
PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has started suffering a gain from coronavirus as a senior dentist and associate dean of Khyber College of Dentistry (KCD) Dr Sultan Zeb Khan died of the disease while 181 more people tested positive over the last two days. Dr Sultan Zeb Khan was diagnosed with the infectious disease a few days ago and was under treatment at the Hayatabad Medical Complex (HMC). S.....
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Officer fighting crime and Covid-19
Source: Ehtesham Khan, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-11-01
PESHAWAR: Late in March of 2020, when the country started seeing its initial spikes in coronavirus cases, imposing an immediate nationwide lockdown seemed like the only choice. Businesses suspended, schools shut and curfews imposed— this was the ghastly face of what the new-normal appeared to look like. However, when much of Pakistan locked its doors and went into isolation, there were few.....
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Two more die of coronavirus in KP
PESHAWAR: Two more people died of coronavirus and 85 tested positive for the infectious disease on Sunday in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. With the latest two human losses, the death toll from the disease reached 1279 in the province. Both of the patients, who died of coronavirus, belonged to Peshawar. Also, with 85 people having been diagnosed with the viral infection, the number of infected peopl.....
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4 more die of COVID-19, 115 new cases
Rawalpindi: Coronavirus illness, COVID-19 outbreak is hitting the population in the twin cities of Islamabad and Rawalpindi very hard with large spikes in number of patients and deaths particularly for the last four weeks and the number of cases and deaths are on continuous rise. In last 24 hours, the virus claimed another four lives from the twin cities while 115 new patients have been tes.....

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SOPs violations continue
Rawalpindi: The violation of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) in top food brands is on the rise with majority of the customers enjoying meals and other food items without giving importance to the guidelines given by the provincial government. According to the details, most of the staff members in these food outlets are seen without having facemasks that is sheer violation of SOPs in the.....

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198 more Covid cases reported in Punjab
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-10-27
LAHORE: With no death, 198 new confirmed cases of the Covid-19 surfaced in Punjab during the last 24 hours, taking the total number to 102,857 so far. Of the new cases, 87 were reported from Lahore, 27 from Multan, 19 from Rawalpindi and 14 from Faisalabad. Others surfaced in Bahawalpur, Sahiwal, Jhelum, Sialkot, Gujrat, Toba Tek Singh, Mianwali, Jhang, Dera Ghazi Khan, Attock, Muzaffargarh, Sargo.....

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198 new Covid-19 cases reported
Around 198 new Covid-19 cases were confirmed in Punjab during the last 24 hours, according to a report issued by Primary and Secondary Healthcare (P&SH) Department here on Monday. The toll of fatalities stayed at 2,335 in Punjab, while confirmed cases of coronavirus reached 102,875 in the province. Out of a total of 102,875 infections in Punjab, 100,095 citizens contracted the virus through lo.....

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Eight Covid-19 cases reported among students in Faisalabad
Source: Qadeer Sikander, Daily Times, 2020-10-27
The second wave of coronavirus has started hitting the city as four students of the Faisalabad Medical University have tested positive for Covid-19. Separately, three students and one teacher of the Special Education Center, Jinnah Town, were also declared Covid positive on Monday. The confirmation of coronavirus has stirred a panic among the campus community, citizens district administration and.....

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Sinking ship: Cinemas suffering from worst economic crisis due to Covid-19
Source: Rizwan Asif, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-10-27
LAHORE: Cinema owners who were affected by the Covid-19 lockdown have decided to close down their businesses despite resuming operations a couple of weeks ago. According to sources, the decision was taken because the federal and provincial governments did not take cinema owners' demands seriously. Besides, newly released domestic and foreign movies are also not available. Owners of some ci.....

more >>
Global outbreak of Covid-19; PRGMEA urges SBP to stop sending show-cause notices to exporters  
Source: Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2020-10-27  
LAHORE: The Pakistan Readymade Garments Manufacturers and Exporters Association (PRGMEA) regional chairman Adeeb Iqbal has appealed the State Bank of Pakistan to stop sending show cause notices to the exporters for not realizing their exports’ proceeds due to global outbreak of Covid-19. In a statement issued here on Monday, he said that the show cause notices by the SBP have created a ... more >>

3 more deaths, 209 new cases set a disturbing scenario  
Rawalpindi : The number of patients tested positive for coronavirus illness, COVID-19 in last 24 hours from Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district has crossed the figure of 200 on Tuesday at least after 117 days turning the scenario much disturbing while showing that every fourth confirmed patient registered from the country on Tuesday is a resident of the region. COVID-19 has also c..... more >>

Student tests corona positive  
TOBA TEK SINGH: A nine-year-old student of Government Primary School Chak 691/33-GB Pirmahal tested corona positive here. Swab samples of a number of school students were obtained randomly three day ago by a Health Department team and were sent to Faisalabad Allied Hospital. The report received on Tuesday confirmed that Muhammad Muneeb, a student of fourth class, tested corona positive. T..... more >>

Government inaugurates ‘Covid-19 Heroes wall’  
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-10-28  
LAHORE: President of Pakistan Dr Arif Alvi and Punjab Governor Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar inaugurated Coronavirus Heroes Wall at the Governor House Lahore to pay homage to those on the frontline against the pandemic. Punjab Sardar Chief Minister Usman Bazdar, Punjab Minister for Information Fayyazul Hassan Chauhan and Punjab Minister Dr Akhtar Malik also participated in the event. Speaking to the..... more >>

One death, 159 cases in a day  
Rawalpindi : The number of patients tested positive for coronavirus illness, COVID-19 is on a continuous rise in Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district showing that a second wave of the illness has started hitting population in the region with significant severity as in last 24 hours, the virus has claimed another life in the region while 159 new patients have been tested positive for..... more >>

Covid-19 effects on migrants highlighted  
LAHORE: In the wake of Covid-19 pandemic and its repercussion, around 90 million people are expected to fall into poverty and in reference to South and South East Asian economies, the future of migrant workers does not seem encouraging. Aspiring migrants had to borrow and spend huge amounts to obtain work visas but now they are facing an uncertain future as destination countries have toughe..... more >>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>CII asked govt not to use anti-COVID tagline, LHC told</td>
<td>News Desk, Daily Times</td>
<td>2020-10-29</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Alvi inaugurates Corona Heroes Wall at Governor’s House</td>
<td>Agencies, Daily Times</td>
<td>2020-10-28</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>35 shops, five restaurants sealed for flouting SOPs in Lahore</td>
<td>Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad</td>
<td>2020-10-29</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Covid claims six more lives in Punjab</td>
<td>Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad</td>
<td>2020-10-29</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>CM appeals to citizens to follow corona SOPs</td>
<td>Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad</td>
<td>2020-10-29</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>President Alvi to inaugurate Coronavirus Heroes Wall today</td>
<td>Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad</td>
<td>2020-10-27</td>
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**CII asked govt not to use anti-COVID tagline, LHC told**

Source: News Desk, Daily Times, 2020-10-29

The Council of Islamic Ideology (CII) advised the government against using the anti-COVID-19 slogan “Corona say darna nahi, larna hay” (Don’t be afraid of corona, fight it), the Lahore High Court was informed on Wednesday. The court was hearing a petition filed by a lawyer against the use of these words in national print and electronic media and official sources of communication.

**Alvi inaugurates Corona Heroes Wall at Governor’s House**

Source: Agencies, Daily Times, 2020-10-28

President of Pakistan Dr Arif Alvi and Governor Punjab Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar inaugurated Corona Heroes Wall at Governor House Lahore to pay homage to those who fought on the front line against the Corona Pandemic. Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar, Provincial Ministers and Governors from other provinces also participated in the event. According to details, President of Pakistan Dr. Ari...

**35 shops, five restaurants sealed for flouting SOPs in Lahore**

Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-10-29

LAHORE: In a bid to minimise the impact of “second wave” of the coronavirus in the country, the city administration on Wednesday sealed 35 shops and five restaurants for flouting Covid-19 SOPs in various parts of the metropolis. According to a spokesman, Raiwind assistant commissioner sealed 20 shops, Model Town AC sealed 11 shops, while Cantonment AC sealed four shops and five restau.....

**Covid claims six more lives in Punjab**

Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-10-29

LAHORE: Coronavirus seems to be gradually spreading again in Punjab with every passing day. According to official updates released on Wednesday, Covid-19 claimed six lives, while 232 people tested positive for the virus in the last 24 hours all over the province. Out of the new cases, 121 were reported in Lahore, 43 in Rawalpindi and 10 in Bahawalpur, while others were recorded in Multan, Vehari.....

**CM appeals to citizens to follow corona SOPs**

Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-10-29

LAHORE - Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar has appealed to the citizens to follow SOPs and wear facemasks to remain safe from the second wave of coronavirus. In a statement, the CM said the number of active cases has risen to 3,688, 232 new cases have been detected and six others have died while 11,056 tests were conducted during the last 24 hours. A total of 97,384 patients have been rec.....

**President Alvi to inaugurate Coronavirus Heroes Wall today**

Source: Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-10-27

LAHORE - Governor Punjab Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar called on President Dr Arif Alvi and briefed the President on political and administrative affairs in the province besides the issues at the universities during a meeting at the Governor’s House, on Monday. Earlier, President Arif Alvi arrived in the provincial metropolis on a two-day visit and he was received by Gove.....
Second wave: Pakistan tells travelers from 8 more countries to undergo coronavirus screening
LAHORE: The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) on Friday removed eight countries from the list of nations whose passengers are allowed to enter Pakistan without a COVID-19 test. The latest travel advisory divides international travelers into two categories: Category A will not need a negative COVID-19 test, while those in category B will be required to undergo coronavirus screening 96 hours prior to.....
more >>

4 deaths, 206 COVID-19 new cases
Rawalpindi: Both the morbidity and mortality of coronavirus illness, COVID-19 is extremely high here in Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district as compared to other parts of the country at least for the last four weeks as every fifth death caused by the virus in October in the country is from the twin cities. Similarly every sixth patient reported from the country in October.....
more >>

Five corona patients die, 273 new cases reported
LAHORE: Five Covid-19 patients died and another 273 new infections were confirmed in Punjab during the last 24 hours, according to a report issued by Primary and Secondary Healthcare (P&SH) Department here on Thursday. The toll of fatalities reached 2,347 in Punjab, while confirmed cases of coronavirus reached 103,587 in the province. Out of a total of 103,587 infections in Punjab, 100,.....
more >>

2 deaths, 224 new cases reported
Islamabad: Coronavirus illness, COVID-19 has claimed another two lives in last 24 hours here in Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) taking death toll from the federal capital to 217 while as many as 224 new patients have been tested positive for the disease in a day from ICT showing the outbreak has entered in a much intense phase. Over 200 confirmed cases of the illness in a day have been .....
more >>

3 COVID-19 patients die, 185 new infections reported in 24 hours
LAHORE: As many as 10 COVID-19 patients died and 429 new infections were confirmed in Punjab during the last 48 hours, according to a report issued by Primary and Secondary Healthcare (P&SH) Department on Saturday. Three deaths of COVID-19 patients and 185 new cases of coronavirus in the last 24 hours were reported. The toll of fatalities rose to 2,357 in Punjab while the number of c.....
more >>

21 shops sealed over SOPs violation
LAHORE: The district administration continued to implement the SOPs for prevention of coronavirus and sealed 21 shops on Saturday. Deputy Commissioner Mudassar Riaz Malik said that shops were sealed for not implementing corona SOPs. Shalimar Assistant Commissioner Mehdi Maloff visited Garhi Shahu and sealed a car showroom of a brand, an electronics shop and a tobacco house. A person was a......
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Punjab braces for 2nd Covid-19 peak
Source: Muhammad Ilyas, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-11-01
LAHORE: The authorities in Punjab have started taking steps to cope with the second wave of coronavirus in the province. The business duration has been reduced in three districts where over 2% positive results of diagnostic tests are being reported. Parks will also be closed after 6:00pm. The permitted business timings will be reduced in the districts where the number of patients will increase. ..... 

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Role of Tiger Force vital during COVID-19: Shafqat
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-11-01
LAHORE - Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training Shafqat Mahmood has said that role of Tiger Force was of high importance during present situation, especially in COVID-19 pandemic. Addressing a function held at Aiwan-e-Iqbal here on Saturday, minister hoped that Tiger Force would be helpful to implement the vision of Prime Minister Imran aimed at facilitating people. He appreciated.....

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Number of active corona cases reach to 4,228 in province: CM
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-11-01
LAHORE - Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar has said that the number of active corona cases has reached to 4,228 in the province. While 185 new cases of COVID-19 virus have been surfaced during the last 24 hours, whereas, three others have lost their lives. The death toll in Punjab has reached 2,357 till Saturday. He said that 6,637 tests were conducted for diagnosing corona during the.....

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Jawad Ahmad in self-isolation after contracting COVID-19
Pakistani singer Jawad Ahmad on Sunday quarantined himself after testing positive for COVID-19. The singer has isolated himself after contracting the infectious disease and is taking all precautionary measures. The Dosti hit maker, 50, urged his fans and followers to take precautionary measures to keep themselves safe and to curtail the spread of the disease. He also urged the public to n.....

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Punjab schools to remain open despite increase in coronavirus cases
LAHORE: Schools in Punjab will remain open for now despite a slight increase in coronavirus cases, said Punjab Education Minister Murad Raas on Sunday. Raas said that the Punjab government was keeping a close eye on coronavirus cases in the province’s schools. He said that random testing was being conducted and a slight increase in numbers has been observed. "Situation being anal.....

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<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COVID-19 continues to claim lives in twin cities</td>
<td>Muhammad Qasim, The News, International</td>
<td>2020-11-02</td>
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<td>Rawalpindi: Coronavirus illness, COVID-19 outbreak that has entered</td>
<td>into another intense phase after June here in Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district is continuously claiming a significant number of lives here in the region as in the last 24 hours; the illness has claimed another seven lives taking the death toll from the twin cities to 544. Data collected by ‘The Ne...</td>
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<td>LAHORE: Five Covid-19 patients died and another 255 new infections</td>
<td>were confirmed in Punjab 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 reached 2,362 in Punjab, while confirmed cases of coronavirus reached 104,271 in the province. Out of a total of 104,271 infections in Punjab, 101...</td>
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<td>Some public sector labs charge corona test fee</td>
<td>Amer Malik, The News, International</td>
<td>2020-11-02</td>
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<td>LAHORE: Amid the coronavirus spike, the rates of COVID-19 test have</td>
<td>also spiked in certain designated labs in the public sector in the province. According to office-bearers of the Young Doctors Association (YDA), Pakistan Kidney and Liver Institute is charging Rs6,500 and University of Health Sciences (UHS) Rs5,000 for coronavirus test. “This is particularly a grave injustice to the...</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coronavirus claims another nine lives in twin cities</td>
<td>Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad</td>
<td>2020-11-02</td>
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<td>ISLAMABAD/RAWALPINDI: The novel coronavirus claimed another nine lives in the twin cities of Islamabad and Rawalpindi on Sunday. Some five patients in Islamabad and four in Rawalpindi succumbed to the deadly virus during the past 24 hours. The death toll in the capital territory has reached 224. Besides this, some 224 new cases surfaced in Islamabad along with fatalities, District Health Author...</td>
<td></td>
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<td>District admin takes serious notice of SOPs violations at marriage</td>
<td>APP, The Nation, Islamabad</td>
<td>2020-11-02</td>
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<td>halls</td>
<td>MULTAN - The district administration has taken serious notice of the violation of standard operating procedures (SOPs) regarding coronavirus at marriage halls. Assistant Commissioner (AC) Aabida Fareed went round different marriage halls on Saturday night and issued instructions for proper adherence to SOPs in order to prevent the spread of coronavirus. She instructed owners of marriage halls...</td>
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<tr>
<td>COVID-19 claims 5 more lives in Punjab</td>
<td>Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad</td>
<td>2020-11-02</td>
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<td>LAHORE - The COVID-19 has taken away 5 more lives in the province while 255 new cases of coronavirus were reported on Sunday. A spokesperson for the Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department said the total number of coronavirus cases had reached 104,271 in the province with the total deaths of 2,362 were registered while the recovery stood at 97,456. The P&amp;SHD confirmed that 11...</td>
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Sindh

**Study warns Covid-19 may worsen TB, HIV services**
Source: Staff Reporter, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2020-10-27
KARACHI: A recent survey conducted to measure the impact of Covid-19 outbreak on tuberculosis and HIV services in 64 low- and middle-income countries, including Pakistan, has shown that restrictions on movement seriously impeded access to health facilities not only for patients, but also for healthcare providers needed to deliver services. The survey was carried out by a multinational team, which.....

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**Study warns Covid-19 may worsen TB, HIV services**
Source: Staff Reporter, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2020-10-27
KARACHI: A recent survey conducted to measure the impact of Covid-19 outbreak on tuberculosis and HIV services in 64 low- and middle-income countries, including Pakistan, has shown that restrictions on movement seriously impeded access to health facilities not only for patients, but also for healthcare providers needed to deliver services. The survey was carried out by a multinational team, which.....

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**Despite low mortality rate, children must follow SOPs as they can transfer Covid-19**
Among a total of 11,035 children of less than 10 years who have so far contracted Covid-19 in Pakistan since the first case of the contagious disease was reported in the country on February 26 this year, only 10 died of the viral disease, which constitutes the mortality rate of 0.09 per cent for children under 10 years. Similarly, according to data of the National Command and Operation Centre (NC.....

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**Corona claims one more life in Sindh**
One more person has died from the novel coronavirus and another 278 positive cases have surfaced in Sindh. As many as 8,157 samples were tested for Covid-19 during the last 24 hours, said the Sindh chief minister on Monday. Syed Murad Ali Shah said the province’s death toll from the viral infection has reached 2,599 In his daily Covid-19 situation report, the chief minister said that.....

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**Children can be silent carriers of Covid-19, warns expert**
Source: Our Correspondent, *The Express Tribune, Islamabad*, 2020-10-27
Young children can be silent carriers of the coronavirus as they are often asymptomatic or present systems not as commonly associated with confirmed patients of the virus and cases among them go undetected, according to paediatrician Jamil Akhtar of the Pakistan Paediatric Association. Addressing the media on Monday, Dr Akhtar advised home-schooling for primary school children and maintained that.....

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**Doctors point to increase in paralysis since Covid-19**
Source: Our Correspondent, *The Express Tribune, Islamabad*, 2020-10-28
The Pakistan Stroke Society (PSS) called for a special hospital for the treatment of paralysis patients and highlighted notable increase in cases since the pandemic on Tuesday, ahead of World Stroke Day tomorrow (Thursday). Addressing a press conference at the Karachi Press Club, doctors associated with the PSS maintained that nearly a 1,000 people suffer from a paralysis stroke in Pakistan per d.....

more >>
COVID-19 infects 335 other, claims five more life in Sindh: CM
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-10-28
Karachi - Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah said that five more patients of coronavirus died lifting the death toll to 2,604 and 335 new cases emerged when 8,860 tests were conducted. This he said in a statement issued on Tuesday. Mr Shah said that five more patients lost their lives while struggling against the virus lifting the death toll to 2,604 that constituted 1.8 percent d..... more >>

Payment delays, Covid-19 push KE into Rs 2.96 bn loss
Source: News Desk, Daily Times, 2020-10-29
The Board of Directors of K-Electric Limited in its meeting held on October 27, 2020, approved the Company's financial results for the year ended June 30, 2020. In the results issued to the PSX, KE declared a loss of PKR 2.96 billion in glaring contrast to a profit of PKR 17.274 billion during the same period last year. This is primarily on the back of accumulated government receivables and ..... more >>

Six Malir schools closed as principals test positive for coronavirus
The Sindh School Education & Literacy Department on Wednesday announced the closure of six public schools situated in the Malir district due to the spread of Covid-19. The schools ordered to close have been identified as Government Boys Higher Secondary School, Konkar; Government Boys Secondary School, Model Haqqani Campus; Government Girls Secondary School, Haji Saeen Rakhio Campus; G..... more >>

Seven more die from Covid-19 in Sindh
Seven more people have died due to Covid-19 and another 316 cases have been reported during the past 24 hours in Sindh, with the death toll due to the viral disease reaching 2,611 in the province. Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said in his daily situation report on the health emergency on Wednesday that 9,150 samples were tested in the past 24 hours, resulting in 316 people, or four pe..... more >>

AKU study to test if hydroxychloroquine can prevent spread of Covid-19 among frontline healthcare staff
As the world waits impatiently for a Covid-19 vaccine, the Pakistani arm of the largest global study to test if hydroxychloroquine or chloroquine can prevent the coronavirus in vital healthcare workers has begun enrolling participants at the Aga Khan University in Karachi. The study, COPCOV, is a double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled trial which is considered to be the most robust m..... more >>

PIA issues list of authorised laboratories for COVID-19 tests
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-10-29
KARACHI - Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) on Wednesday issued a list of laboratories for facilitating passengers to undergo mandatory COVID-19 screening tests before departing to foreign countries. It has been declared mandatory for passengers to undergo COVID-19 tests from the authorised laboratories before their departure to the foreign countries. According to the guidelines, the pas..... more >>
COVID-19 claims 7 more lives, infects 316 others: CM Sindh
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-10-29
KARACHI - Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah said that seven more patients of coronavirus died lifting the death toll to 2,611 and 316 new cases emerged when 9,150 samples were tested. In a statement issued from CM House on Wednesday, he said that seven more patients lost their lives while struggling against the virus lifting the death toll to 2,611 that constituted 1.8 percent dea.....
more >>

COVID-19 infects 278, claims one more life in Sindh: CM
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-10-27
KARACHI - Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah said here on Monday that 278 new cases of the coronavirus were reported during the last 24 hours when 8,157 samples were tested, raising the tally to 144,114 while one more patient died overnight, lifting the death toll to 2,599. In a statement issued from CM House on Monday, Murad Shah said that 8,157 samples were tested against which 2.....
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Ghani warns of indefinite closure of schools due to Covid-19's second wave
Sindh’s education minister has warned that even though schools are open right now, nobody knows when and for how long they may be closed again across the country in view of the Covid-19 emergency. Saeed Ghani, who also holds the labour portfolio, announced this on Thursday at the historical NJV Government Higher Secondary School, where he distributed free tablet computers among 135 b.....
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Sindh reports nine deaths from coronavirus in 24 hours
The novel coronavirus has killed nine more patients and infected 473 people in Sindh. Of the 473 new cases in Sindh, 293 were from Karachi, said the chief minister on Thursday. The province’s death toll from the viral infection had reached 2,620, said Syed Murad Ali Shah, adding that 11,504 samples had been tested in the last 24 hours. The last time the province had reported nine dea.....
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Shallwani gives approval to Covid-19 awareness campaign
Source: Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2020-10-30
KARACHI: Administrator Karachi Iftikhar Ali Shallwani on Thursday gave approval to resolution seeking awareness campaign for Covid-19. As per approved resolution, Karachi Metropolitan Corporation's different departments including Media Management, Culture & Sports, Medical and Health would jointly run the campaign. The campaign would be run under Sindh Local Government Act acco.....
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Covid-19 prevention
Source: Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2020-10-29
KARACHI: As the world waits impatiently for a Covid-19 vaccine, the Pakistani arm of the largest global study to test if hydroxychloroquine or chloroquine can prevent Covid-19 in vital healthcare workers has begun enrolling participants at Aga Khan University Wednesday. The study, COPCOV, is a double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled trial which is considered to be the most robust method .....
Another two fall prey to Covid-19 in Sindh  

Two more people lost their lives due to Covid-19 in Sindh during last 24 hours, raising the death toll due to the contagious disease to 2,627 in the province, said Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Saturday. He added that 376 new cases of the coronavirus infection had emerged during last 24 hours in the province. He explained that 7,479 samples were tested, against which the 376.....

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Hospitals facing difficulty finding volunteers for clinical trials of Chinese vaccine  

Well before the development and availability of a Covid-19 vaccine, resistance has started emerging in Pakistan where five tertiary-care health facilities approached to conduct Phase 3 trials of a Chinese vaccine are facing difficulties in recruiting volunteers for the trials. Phase 3 trials for the Chinese vaccine, CanSino Biological, have started at the Shifa International Hospital, Isla.....

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Rising Covid cases push stocks in red  
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-11-01

The Pakistan stock market took a beating in the outgoing week as the surging coronavirus cases triggered a sell-off, pushing the index 1,378 points or 3.3% in the red to close at 39,888 points. Despite winning yet another reprieve from the Financial Action Task Force ( FATF), which decided to retain the country in its grey list for four more months, the heightening regional political tensions and .....

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EFP vows to promote OSH to combat Post Covid-19 challenges  

KARACHI: World faces the toughest challenge after the COVID-19 crisis which reminds us in a cruel way that OSH is imperative and essential at the workplace. It is time for a new value proposition and EFP needs to revive its enthusiasm to promote OSH. This was stated by “Ravindra Peiris” Senior Specialist ACTEMP, ILO while inaugurating the international OSH Conference and 15th EFP Best ..... 

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Sindh reports 376 new COVID-19 cases, two deaths in 24 hours  
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-11-01

KARACHI - Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah on Saturday said that 376 cases of COVID-19 detected in last 24 hours in the province. “Two people also lost their lives owing to COVID-19,” the CM said during a routine daily briefing on the virus as the overall death toll in the province had reached up to 2,627. Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah said that 7,479 samples were te.....

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Covid-19 has increased importance of technology, says Dr Iraqi  

The Covid-19 pandemic has increased the importance of technology, said Prof Dr Khalid Mahmood Iraqi, adding that any society not using technology is unable to progress. Addressing a workshop titled ‘Contextual Probability: Concepts, Implementations and Applications’, the acting vice chancellor of the University of Karachi said we are living in a century where technology is supe.....
Four more lose battle to Covid-19 in Sindh
Four more patients have died from the novel coronavirus and another 480 cases have surfaced in Sindh. As many as 11,313 samples were tested for Covid-19 in the last 24 hours, said Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Sunday. "The province’s death toll from the infectious disease has reached 2,631.” So far 1,654,763 samples have been tested which diagnosed 146,331.....

Payment delays: Covid-19 pushes KE into Rs2.96bn loss
Source: Press Release, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2020-11-02
KARACHI: The Board of Directors of K-Electric Limited in its meeting held, approved the Company’s financial results for the year ended June 30, 2020. In the results issued to the PSX, KE declared a loss of PKR 2.96 billion in glaring contrast to a profit of PKR 17.274 billion during the same period last year. This is primarily on the back of accumulated government receivables and delaye.....

COVID-19 claims 4 more lives, infects 480 others
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-11-02
KARACHI - Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah on Sunday sharing coronavirus situation report with the media said that four more patients had died lifting the death toll to 2,631 and 480 new cases emerged when 11,313 tests were conducted raising the tally to 146,331. He said that four more patients died overnight lifting the death toll to 2,631 that constituted 1.8 percent death rate.....
International News

Wary of angering public, Iran has few ways to contain virus
Source: Agencies, Daily Times, 2020-10-27
As coronavirus infections reached new heights in Iran this month, overwhelming its hospitals and driving up its death toll, the country’s health minister gave a rare speech criticizing his own government’s refusal to enforce basic health measures. “We asked for fines to be collected from anyone who doesn’t wear a mask,” Saeed Namaki said last week, referring to the g....
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WHO chief warns against ‘vaccine nationalism’
Source: Agencies, Daily Times, 2020-10-27
The head of the World Health Organization (WHO) on Sunday called for global solidarity in the rollout of any future coronavirus vaccine, as the number of cases soared across the world. In a video address at the opening of the three-day World Health Summit in Berlin, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said the only way to recover from the pandemic was together and by making sure poorer countries had fair ac.....
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A pandemic pivot
If the current pandemic is a test of the global emergency response system, the international community is flunking big time. It has done just about everything wrong, from the failure to contain the virus early on to the lack of effective coordination thereafter. As the predicted second wave begins to build – the world is now adding over 400,000 new cases per day – it is truly d.....
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Almost half a million Americans contract COVID-19 in past week as infections surge
Source: Agencies, Daily Times, 2020-10-29
Nearly half a million people in the United States have contracted the novel coronavirus in the last seven days, according to a Reuters tally, as cases and hospitalizations set fresh records in hot spots in the Midwest. More than 5,600 people died from the virus nationwide in the last week, with hospitalizations shooting up 13%, a Reuters analysis showed. Illinois, which has emerged as a hot spot in ..... more >>

Europe faces tougher virus curbs as global cases hit daily record
Source: Agencies, Daily Times, 2020-10-29
People in France and Germany were bracing Wednesday for tough new curbs on their daily lives as Europe struggled to contain an alarming surge in coronavirus cases. More than 500,000 new infections were reported worldwide on Tuesday in a new daily record, according to an AFP tally. The deepening gloom across Europe and other parts of the world contrasted with the jubilation in Australia’s secon..... more >>

France sees highest number of COVID-19 patients going into hospital since April
Source: Agencies, Daily Times, 2020-10-28
French hospitals registered 1,307 new coronavirus patients on Monday in the highest one-day increase since April 2, which saw 1,607 new patients, as the health system comes under increasing stress from a runaway infection rate.
French health ministry data showed that France now has a total of 17,784 coronavirus patients in its hospitals, compared with a record 32,292 on April 14, at the height of .....  

**UK study finds evidence of waning antibody immunity to COVID-19 over time**  
Source: Agencies, *Daily Times*, 2020-10-28  
Antibodies against the novel coronavirus declined rapidly in the British population during the summer, a study found on Tuesday, suggesting protection after infection may not be long lasting and raising the prospect of waning immunity in the community. Scientists at Imperial College London have tracked antibody levels in the British population following the first wave of COVID-19 infections in Marc.....  

**Heathrow loses European crown during pandemic**  
Source: *Reuters, Dawn, Islamabad*, 2020-10-29  
LONDON: London’s Heathrow is no longer Europe’s busiest airport, ceding its long-held crown to Paris during the pandemic and blaming government inaction for its passenger numbers plunging even more than rivals. Heathrow said Paris Charles de Gaulle had overtaken it as Europe’s busiest airport, dealing a blow to Britain’s global trade ambitions as the country’s curren.....  

**Germany sets new virus curbs as global cases rise**  
Source: *AFP, Dawn, Islamabad*, 2020-10-29  
PARIS: Germany on Wednesday imposed drastic curbs on people’s daily lives to contain a surge in coronavirus cases and France was set to follow suit as more than 500,000 infections were reported worldwide in a new daily record. The deepening gloom across the continent and other parts of the world contrasted with the jubilation in Australia’s second city of Melbourne where champagne cor.....  

**Stage set for Umra by foreign pilgrims**  
Source: *Monitoring Desk, Dawn, Islamabad*, 2020-11-02  
MAKKAH: After a seven-month hiatus, some 10,000 pilgrims were scheduled to arrive in Saudi Arabia from abroad to perform Umra and visit Masjid-i-Nabawi in Madina on Sunday, the first day of the third stage of the resumption of Umra. The 10,000 international pilgrims will first have to obtain a permit and upon their arrival in Saudi Arabia they will be kept in isolation for three days before being.....  

**Lockdown in England could be extended, UK minister warns**  
Source: *Reuters, The Express Tribune, Islamabad*, 2020-11-02  
LONDON: The one-month lockdown for England announced by Prime Minister Boris Johnson this weekend could be extended as Britain struggles to contain a second wave of the Covid-19 pandemic, a senior cabinet member said on Sunday. After resisting the prospect of a new national lockdown for most of last month, Johnson announced on Saturday that new restrictions across England would kick in after mid.....
Pakistan lauds ADB support for fight against Covid-19

Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-10-29

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan on Wednesday appreciated the strong support extended by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for fight against Covid-19. Adviser to the Prime Minister on Finance, Dr Abdul Hafeez Shaikh held a virtual meeting with Shixin Chen, Vice President of the Asian Development Bank yesterday. Federal Minister for Economic Affairs Division, Khusro Bakhtiar, Country Director ADB, Ms Xiaohang Y.....

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SDPI Engagements

Webinar News

'Look at the sources, terms and conditions before borrowing'
Source: Niaz Mahmud, Dhaka Tribune, 2020-10-28
External borrowing will continue to play an important role in Bangladesh’s fiscal framework and development activities. Since external finance will play an important role in Bangladesh's fiscal framework regarding post Covid-19 recovery, the country had to prioritize the sources of borrowing, as well as its repayment terms and conditions, said Debapriya Bhattacharya, distinguished fe.....
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Bangladesh lacks in capacity to utilise foreign funds: CPD
Bangladesh has lower utilisation capacity of foreign resources than lack of their disbursement, said Professor Rehman Sobhan, chairman of the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD). He said remittance is the largest part of the foreign financing in Bangladesh which should be utilised to a toll of investment rather than consumption financing. He made the remark at a virtual discussion titled “The.....
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