......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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Islamabad</th>
<th>Punjab</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Khyber Pakhtunkhwa</td>
<td>Gilgit Baltistan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sindh</td>
<td>AJK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balochistan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

International News

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Countries News</th>
<th>Donors News</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

SDPI Engagements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Webinars News</th>
<th>Researchers Articles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Press Releases/What’s on</td>
<td>Other SDPI Engagements</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Op-Eds/Articles/Editorials

Dangerous cocktail
There are fears, notably in Punjab, that the mixture of smog and the Covid-19 virus could present an extremely dangerous health hazard to people. With winter beginning to set in, there are already signs of smog in Lahore and other major cities. Research has shown that high levels of smog damage the immune system and make it more difficult to resist the virus. In addition, smog contributes to re.....

more >>

The second wave
It appears that nothing has changed with respect to Covid-19 treatment in Pakistan. The pandemic is still raging while people are apparently showing very little consideration, holding and attending public gatherings without wearing masks, and insisting on shaking hands – unwilling to pay heed to appeals for caution, preventive measures and physical distancing. The number of Covid-19 cases ha.....

more >>

Covid-19: in-service training of care providers
Source: Dr Muhammad Zeeshab, *The Express Tribune, Islamabad*, 2020-11-09
Catastrophic in many ways, the Covid-19 pandemic somehow became the silver lining for our public health institutions. When the virus was crippling our healthcare system, exposing our long-standing inefficacies and lack of political will to invest in the health sector, our people and manufacturing sector demonstrated amazing potential: we started making local, high quality protective gears and went.....

more >>

Fresh Covid curbs
Source: Editorial, *The Express Tribune, Islamabad*, 2020-11-08
As the second wave of the coronavirus pandemic keeps taking its toll on major urban centres of the country, the government on Friday slapped major restrictions on the people to stem the proliferating contagion. The government has ordered work-from-home policy for half of the staff in both public and private sector offices and relatively broader smart lockdowns in the cities as part of the second p.....

more >>

The three Ps
Source: Arhma Siddiqa, *The Express Tribune, Islamabad*, 2020-11-08
No one can deny that conflict and instability are constant features of the Middle East regional canvas. Even though the struggle around and within countries such as Syria, Yemen and Libya has ostensibly dichotomised the area along religious lines, in fact conflict is primarily fuelled by regional and international power competition whereby external actors have been opportunistically seeking to exp.....

more >>

From social distancing to ecological distancing
Source: Daud Khan, *The Express Tribune, Islamabad*, 2020-11-07
The bacteria, viruses, fungi and many of the other micro-organisms that live on Earth predate plants, humans and other animals by hundreds of millions of years. They occupy most of the ecological niches including the most inconceivably inhospitable ones such as hot water springs in the deepest oceans where bacteria converts chemicals into energy and sustain a complex life system. They can lie dorm.....

more >>
A virus within us
During this eventful week, defined by the tumult of the presidential election in the United States, it has not been easy to keep your cool. The drama has been long and tense. Finally, Trump's well-earned defeat should revive our faith in democracy. In Pakistan, people are beginning to be worried about the spread of the second wave of Covid-19. The National Command and Operation Centr.....
more >>

Controlling Covid
The NCOC and other organisations across the country are warning that what could become the second wave of the Covid virus in the country is being taken too lightly. In response to the threat, the NCOC has said that mask-wearing will be made compulsory and the model first devised by Gilgit-Baltistan, in which a fine of Rs100 is imposed on every person not wearing the mask, and three masks given out.....
more >>

Contractionary policies not required?
Source: Editorial, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2020-11-09
A Business Recorder exclusive citing high-level sources in the Ministry of Finance maintains that the staff level agreement on the second quarterly review with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), mandatory for the tranche release under the 6 billion dollar Extended Fund Facility programme approved July 2019, remains stalled due to politically challenging 'prior' conditions. The ques.....
more >>

Tighter Restrictions
Source: Editorial, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-11-08
The government knows all too well that another complete lockdown is not a viable economic decision. The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) is emphasising on adhering to preventive measures. But the efforts and suggestions of the body may not prove to be enough to contain the surge in COVID-19 cases. A more prudent approach would be to introduce tighter restrictions and devise a mechanism.....
more >>

Covid-19 guidelines
Source: Editorial, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-11-08
THERE is no doubt any longer: the second wave is intensifying at an alarming pace. Punjab reported 352 new Covid-19 infections in the 24 hours preceding Saturday morning, the fifth straight day with 300-plus cases in the province. Islamabad reported 335 cases. In Sindh, 620 new Covid-19 cases emerged yesterday, 504 in Karachi alone, the highest number since July 29. Given this situation, it was no.....
more >>
National News

Gilgit Baltistan

PML-N's Safdar, PPP's Kaira contract Covid while on GB campaign trail
Source: Javed Hussain, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-11-09
PML-N Youth Wing President retired Captain Mohammad Safdar and PPP leader Qamar Zaman Kaira have tested positive for the coronavirus while campaigning for their parties in Gilgit-Baltistan, it emerged on Monday. PML-N Youth Wing spokesman Ali Khan Yusufzai said Safdar had complained of flu and fever while campaigning in Skardu. He returned to Islamabad with his wife, PML-N vice president Maryam N....
more >>

Pakistan reports 1,502 COVID-19 cases in one day
Pakistan has reported twenty deaths in the last 24 hours by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has surged to 341,753. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 6,943 on Saturday. According to the latest figures by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC), 1,502 persons tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 24 hours. Sindh remains the worst-hit province by the....
more >>

Work from home, ban on indoor weddings', fresh Covid restrictions issued
Source: Razya Khan, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-11-07
ISLAMABAD: The government has ordered work-from-home policy for half of the staff in both public and private sector offices and relatively broader smart lockdowns in the urban centres of the country as part of the second phase of measures to curb the spread of coronavirus pandemic. The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) is the nerve centre of the government's unified efforts.....
more >>

Corona restrictions: Indoor weddings banned across Pakistan
ISLAMABAD: Indoor weddings have been banned in Pakistan in the latest coronavirus restrictions imposed by the National Command and Operations Centre (NCOC). According to a notification issued on Friday, major cities with "high positivity and higher disease spread potential" have been asked to enforce the ban. "Only outdoor marriages allowed with upper limit of 1,000 persons,.....
more >>

Highest number of COVID-19 patients in a day after June
Rawalpindi : Another four confirmed patients of the disease caused by 2019 novel coronavirus, COVID-19 lost their lives here in the twin cities of Islamabad and Rawalpindi in the last 24 hours while as many as 298 new patients have been tested positive for the illness taking the total number of confirmed patients so far reported from the region to over 28,000. The number of patients tested.....
more >>
**Majority still not interested to follow SOPs**


Rawalpindi: With number of coronavirus cases increasing with each passing day the people, unfortunately, seem to be paying no heed to the government directives to wear face mask and observe social distancing in public places. A willful disregard for safety measures is quite clear by the fact that very few people are still seen wearing a face mask in crowded bazaars and markets of Rawalp....

more >>

**Corona kills 25 countrywide in 24 hours**


ISLAMABAD: The total active Covid-19 cases in Pakistan on Sunday were recorded at 17,804 with 1,436 new cases reported during the last 24 hours. Twenty-five patients lost their life on Saturday out of which 24 were under treatment in hospitals and one was out of hospital, said the latest update issued by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC). No affected person was on ventilator in Az.....

more >>

**Five sub-sectors sealed in Islamabad**


Islamabad: The authorities concerned have ordered to seal five sub-sectors of the federal capital from today (Monday) till further order in view of the increase in COVID-19 cases in these areas. Deputy Commissioner (Islamabad) Hamza Shafqaat on Sunday issued a notification to order sealing sectors I-8/3, I-8/4, G-9/1, G-10/3 and G-6/2 to prevent community spread of disease. The notificat.....

more >>

**125 held over SOPs violations**


Islamabad: The Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) administration has arrested 125 individuals and sealed 77 shops over non-compliance of anti-coronavirus Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) across the city last week. The authorities imposed fine of Rs191,500 to shops by conducting 1,1,62 inspections, an ICT spokesman told this agency on Sunday. ICT has sealed four hotels, three wedding ha.....

more >>

**Covid positivity ratio increases to 4.5%, virus spreading rapidly in major cities: NCOC**

Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-11-09

ISLAMABAD: As the second wave of the novel coronavirus has gripped Pakistan, the nerve centre of the nation’s fight against the global pandemic has warned that Covid-19 test positivity ratio is “rapidly increasing” in major urban centres of the country. Of the 33,340 lab tests conducted on November 8 across the country, 1,650 came out positive, according to the daily updates re.....

more >>

**Five neighbourhoods go into lockdown Notification issued to seal Sectors I-8/3, I-8/4, G-9/1, G-10/4 and G-6/2**

Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2020-11-09

ISLAMABAD: Five subsectors of the capital city will go under smart lockdown from Monday morning and the city authorities increase efforts to contain the spread of the novel coronavirus disease (Covid-19). Acting on the recommendation of the District Health Office (DHO), Islamabad Deputy Commissioner Hamza Shafqaat has ordered to seal five sub-sectors following emergences of Covid-19 infections. .....
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>97 PIMS staffers contract Covid-19</td>
<td>Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad</td>
<td>2020-11-08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital officials say virus cases rising in second wave</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISLAMABAD: With the country facing the second wave of the novel</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>coronavirus disease (Covid-19), at least 97 health workers at the</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (Pims) have test positive for</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the virus on Saturday. Sources informed The Express Tribune that</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>scores of health workers including doctors and paramedics of Pims</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>have been infected with the pandemic recently. In the latest wave</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of...</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corona becoming more lethal as caution thrown to the wind</td>
<td>News Desk, The News, International</td>
<td>2020-11-08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Saturday reported more than 1,500 fresh</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>coronavirus cases in a new one-day record over the past three</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>months, official data shows. The country recorded 1,502 new cases</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in the last 24 hours -- the highest single-day tally since July</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 -- pushing the total count of coronavirus infections to 341,753.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On Friday, the country recorded 1,376 new coronavirus cases, the</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>previous o...</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor weddings banned in 16 big cities as infections surge</td>
<td>Tahir Niaz, The Nation, Islamabad</td>
<td>2020-11-07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISLAMABAD - The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday issued new restrictions for major cities with high Covid-19</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>positivity under which indoor weddings will be banned starting</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 20 while outdoor weddings will be allowed with a maximum</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of 1,000 people permitted to attend. The new guidelines which will</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>apply to Karachi, Lahore, Islamabad, Rawalpindi, Multan, Hyderabad,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.....</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health authorities recommend IIUI closure after 12 COVID-19 cases</td>
<td>Rahul Basharat, The Nation, Islamabad</td>
<td>2020-11-07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISLAMABAD - City health authorities on Friday recommended closure</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of Islamic International University (IIUI) after confirmation of 12</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>novel coronavirus (COVID-19) cases in different departments of the</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>university. The District Health Office (DHO) has recommended</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>closure of the university to the Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>administration. The letter written by DHO to ICT administration</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.....</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PIMS closes 3 departments for 2 weeks due to COVID-19 cases</td>
<td>Rahul Basharat, The Nation, Islamabad</td>
<td>2020-11-08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISLAMABAD-Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS) on Saturday</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>decided to close three departments of the hospital for two weeks</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>due to novel coronavirus (COVID-19) there. This was decided in a</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>meeting of the clinical heads of the hospital departments. The</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>meeting minutes available with The Nation said that the department</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of Neurology, Nephrology and Orthopaedics will remain closed for</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tw...</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan’s upward trend in new cases continues amid second wave</td>
<td>Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad</td>
<td>2020-11-09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISLAMABAD/LAHORE - With 25 more deaths, at least 1,436 new</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>coronavirus cases were reported across the country in a single day,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>continuing an upward trend in infections amid new restrictions in</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>second wave. The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday reported that 25 more coronavirus patients lost their lives</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(on Saturday). Twenty four among them were under treatment in</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>different.....</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Alarming rise in Covid-19 cases spells fresh curbs on weddings
Source: ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-11-09
- Number of active cases increases threefold as compared to September • Timing of a function restricted to two hours
- Buffet dinner banned ISLAMABAD: While the number of active cases of Covid-19, which was less than 6,000 in September, has increased threefold i.e. 17,804 and 148 ventilators are in use across the country, the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) has iss.....
more >>

Pakistan reports 1,650 coronavirus cases in one day
Pakistan on Monday has reported 9 deaths in last 24 hours by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has surged to 344,839. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 6,977. According to the latest figures by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) 1,650 persons have been tested positive for COVID-19 in 24 hours. Sindh remains the worst-hit province by the pandemic i.....
more >>

5 sub-sectors to be sealed today amid rise in COVID-19 cases
Source: Tahir Niaz, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-11-09
ISLAMABAD-The authorities have decided to seal five sub-sectors of the capital city to prevent community spread of the virus as the country crossed the 1,500 mark of daily infections for the first time since July on Saturday. With the second wave of COVID-19 intensifying, the number of Coronavirus cases is increasing in the country that prompted the Deputy Commissioner Islamabad to issue a no.....
more >>

125 persons held over coronavirus SOPs violations in a week
Source: APP, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-11-09
ISLAMABAD-The Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) administration has arrested 125 individuals and sealed 77 shops over non-compliance of coronavirus Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) across the city during the last week. The authorities imposed fine of Rs191,500 to shops by conducting 1,162 inspections, an ICT spokesman told APP on Sunday. ICT has sealed four hotels, three wedding halls and.....
more >>

NCOC bans indoor wedding events
Source: Abdul Rasheed Azad, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2020-11-07
ISLAMABAD: Following surge in the coronavirus cases countrywide the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) has banned indoor weddings events. According to a notification issued on Friday, major cities with "high positivity and higher disease spread potential" have been asked to enforce the ban. "Only outdoor marriages allowed with upper limit of 1,000 persons,".....
more >>

Power sector;Economic team’s worries grow over lesser recoveries
Source: Zaheer Abbasi, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2020-11-08
ISLAMABAD: The government’s economic team is said to have been worried over a lesser amount of recoveries of billed amount due to the Covid-19 as the power sector was unable to collect Rs46 billion from March onwards which contributed to the increase in the circular debt. Sources said that the last fiscal year was closed with less recoveries of Rs136 billion of the billed amount, subseq.....
more >>
### Covid-19 positivity ratio rapidly increasing in major cities: NCOC

**Source:** Naveed Siddiqui, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2020-11-09  
The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Monday observed that the Covid-19 positivity ratio is rapidly increasing in major cities, with the rate exceeding 15 per cent in at least three cities across the country. According to a press release issued by the NCOC, the forum held a morning session and discussed in length the recent surge in the positivity ratio. “The overall nationwid.....

[more >>](#)

### Bracing for lockdown 2.0

**Source:** Afshan Subohi, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2020-11-09  
Prime Minister Imran Khan has ruled out a countrywide lockdown as the second wave of Covid-19 hit Pakistan. In Europe, several countries had to shut down as the surging number of cases and deaths in the absence of a vaccine left them with no option. One hopes Pakistan again manages to dodge the worst but if the mounting number of cases start threatening to overwhelm the health infrastructure, the e.....

[more >>](#)

### Five Islamabad subsectors to go into lockdown today

**Source:** Ikram Junaidi, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2020-11-09  
ISLAMABAD: With nearly 600 new Covid-19 infections reported over the weekend, the capital administration on Sunday decided to seal five residential sub-sectors for at least a week. The order will come into effect at 10am today (Monday). The police have been told to cordon off the sealed areas to limit the spread of the disease. “The decision was made due to continuously increasing cases of.....

[more >>](#)

### Five Islamabad sub-sectors to be sealed today

**Source:** Naveed Butt, *Business Recorder, Islamabad*, 2020-11-09  
ISLAMABAD: Five Islamabad sub-sectors today (Monday) will be sealed (undergo a smart lock-down) amid rise in the coronavirus cases. According to a notification from the Deputy Commissioner Islamabad on Sunday, “Sub-sectors 1-8/3, 1-8/4, G-9/1, G-10/4 and G-6/2 Islamabad are hereby sealed (locked down) w.e.f. 10.00 A.M, 09.11.2020 in larger public interest and until further orders.”

[more >>](#)
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

**Actions taken over SOPs violation**


PESHAWAR: The district administration on Sunday sealed 204 business outlets, including makers, shops and wedding halls and arrested managers of wedding halls and bus stands for not following the standard operating procedures. A press release said the officials inspected different places on University Road, Saddar Road and on GT Road. In Saddar, 20 people were fined for not wearing facemasks. The a.....

[more >>]

**Smart lockdown imposed in several Nowshera localities**


NOWSHERA: The local administration imposed smart lockdown in several localities after more positive cases of coronavirus reported in the district on Sunday. Deputy Commissioner Mir Raza Ozgan and District Health Officer Dr Gulman Shah said that a total of 21 patients had tested positive in Nowshera district since the second outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic in the country. They said that a smart lock.....

[more >>]

**SWU closed for 15 days after spike in corona cases**

Source: Our Staff Reporter, *The Nation, Islamabad*, 2020-11-08

Swabi - The Swabi Women University (SWU) has been closed for 15 days owing to the fears of spread of coronavirus as death toll in second wave of the virus is already increasing in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and rest of the country. According to a notification issued by the university administration, the students were asked to take online classes. The notification said the faculty and administrative s.....

[more >>]

**Govt pursuing strategy of lockdown in Covid hotspots**

Source: Ashfaq Yusufzai, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2020-11-09

PESHAWAR: National Command and Operation Centre has accelerated efforts after spike in Covid-19 cases with increase in weekly meetings with the provinces as Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is grappling to deal with high positivity rate of swabs in Mansehra, Chitral and Peshawar. “NCOC has been holding one meeting a week with chief secretaries of all the provinces, Azad Jammu and Kashmir and Gilgit-Balti.....

[more >>]
### Punjab

**After ICT, cases from Pindi on the rise**

Rawalpindi: The number of patients being tested positive for coronavirus illness, COVID-19 from Islamabad Capital Territory has been on a continuous rise for the last one-and-a-half month and it is alarming that the same trend is being witnessed in Rawalpindi from where as many as 72 new patients have been tested positive in the last 24 hours. From August 1 to October 24 (in 85 days), a t.....

[more >>]

**Eight corona patients die in Punjab**

LAHORE: Eight Covid-19 patients died and another 369 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 Sunday. The toll of fatalities rose to 2,407 in Punjab, while confirmed cases of coronavirus reached 106,577 in the province. Out of a total of 106,577 infections in Punjab, 103,.....

[more >>]

**Covid-19 patient stopped at IIA The passenger was prevented from taking the flight**
Source: Our Correspondent, *The Express Tribune, Islamabad*, 2020-11-09

RAWALPINDI: Airport authorities stopped a passenger from traveling because his test reports showed him to be infected with Covid-19. Islamabad International Airport (IIA) officials informed that a passenger named Tariq Iqbal reached the counter during a briefing of an Istanbul-bound private airliner flight was underway. The counter officials called a doctor from the health department of the Civi.....

[more >>]

**Three dists declared sensitive for Covid-19**
Source: Muhammad Ilyas, *The Express Tribune, Islamabad*, 2020-11-09

LAHORE: The Punjab government has declared the Lahore, Rawalpindi and Multan districts as sensitive to the second wave of the novel coronavirus pandemic. A significant increase in the number of Covid-19 patients has been observed in the three districts. Under initial steps taken by the government to prevent the spread of the pandemic, parks are being closed at 6pm and restaurants and business c.....

[more >>]

**Four more Covid-19 deaths in Nishtar Hospital**
Source: APP, *The Express Tribune, Islamabad*, 2020-11-09

MULTAN: Four patients including two elderly men lost their battle against coronavirus at Nishtar Hospital within the last 24 hours bringing the tally to 190 since March this year. Nishtar Hospital Focal Person for Infectious Diseases Dr Irfan Arshad said that Haider Abbas (72) Ghulam Abbas (57) Humayun Iqbal (36) and Muhammad Imran (35) passed away in the intensive care unit of the hospital. Ha.....

[more >>]

**RMU VC tests positive for COVID-19**
Source: Our Staff Reporter, *The Nation, Islamabad*, 2020-11-07

RAWALPINDI - Vice Chancellor (VC) Rawalpindi Medical University (RMU) tested positive for COVID-19, informed sources on Friday. Dr Muhammad Umar has been admitted in a ward for medical treatment, they said. According to details, VC RMU Prof Dr Muhammad Umar was moved to hospital with symptoms of headache, cough and high fever. The doctors have taken his samples and sent for serology, they s.....

[more >>]
Ch Shujaat tested negative for coronavirus
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-11-08
LAHORE - Pakistan Muslim League-Quaid (PML-Q) President Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain tested negative for coronavirus at Services Hospital on Saturday. Hospital sources confirmed that the veteran politician was recovering. The PML-Q president was brought to the hospital on Friday. Several top government officials and opposition leaders inquired about his health and prayed for his well-being and wi.....

more >>

Attock reports 5 more COVID-19 cases
Source: Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-11-08
Attock - Another five COVID-19 positive cases were reported from Attock district on Saturday lifting the total tally of patients to 675. According to the report issued by the local health department, it is second highest tally of the patients during the second spell of the virus in the district. Focal person district Attock for Covid-19, Dr Saeed Akhter said among these five new cases, three patie.....

more >>

Coronavirus 2nd wave may be much severe, warns Dr Yasmin
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-11-08
LAHORE - Punjab Health Minister Dr Yasmin Rashid has said that the second wave of coronavirus may be much severe than the first one. She was speaking at the inaugural ceremony of a Water Testing Laboratory at Rivaz Garden Chaubari and a tree plantation campaign at Sanda Road, separately here on Saturday. The Minister said that provision of clean drinking water by Wasa was an excellent proje.....

more >>

Coronavirus claims 9 more lives in Punjab
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-11-08
LAHORE - The COVID-19 took away 9 more lives in the province while 352 new cases of coronavirus were reported on Saturday. According to the spokesperson of Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department, the number of coronavirus cases in the province reached 106,208 while the total number of deaths in the province were recorded as 2,399 altogether. The P&SHD confirmed that 158 new cases o.....

more >>

New inter-linked data collection system for corona cases soon
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-11-08
LAHORE - Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare department has decided to introduce a well organised system of coronavirus testing cases in the province. It was decided in a meeting of the Technical Working Group chaired by P&SHD Secretary Captain (retired) M Usman Younis here on Saturday to introduce a uniform "data entry system" of coronavirus testing for all public and pri.....

more >>

People not taking second COVID-19 wave seriously: CM
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-11-09
LAHORE - Public apathy towards second wave of COVID-19 is a cause of serious concern for the Punjab Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar who has warned of strict decisions if the people did not take precautionary measures for their safety. “Citizens are not taking the second wave of coronavirus seriously. Precautionary measures are utmost necessary as corona is increasing gradually and th.....

more >>
COVID-19 cases reported in 3 days in Attock
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2020-11-09

ATTOCK :: Second wave of COVID-19 could be fatal and people must be more careful and must follow the SOPs and wear masks while going to public places, schools or colleges. Dr Asif Niazi said this while talking to this journalist. He said that during the last three days, 19 fresh positive cases of coronavirus have been reported from different areas of Attock which is alarming, taking the toll to 32.....

Political activist Gardezi dies of coronavirus
Source: Staff Correspondent, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-11-08

MULTAN: Progressive political activist Syed Haider Abbas Gardezi died of the coronavirus here on Saturday. He was 72. According to the family sources, Gardezi’s wife is also getting treatment in the hospital for the virus. Funeral prayers for the deceased were held at Imam Bargah Shah Yousaf Gardezi. Haider Gardezi was the only son of poet Hassan Raza Gardezi and son-in-law of left-wing l.....

Punjab reports 352 fresh corona cases, nine deaths
Source: Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2020-11-08

LAHORE: Punjab has reported over 300 Covid-19 cases for the fifth consecutive day, as during the last 24 hours, 352 fresh cases and nine deaths were reported taking the provincial tally of cases to 106,208 and deaths to 2399. During the last 24 hours, 35 more people recovered from the virus taking the tally of recovered patients to 97,584. During the last 24 hours, 12,194 tests were conducted.....

Sindh

CM Murad Ali Shah orders strict action against violators of Covid-19 SOPs as cases rise alarmingly

Keeping in view the worsening COVID-19 situation in the province, Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has directed the authorities to strictly implement the standard operating procedures (SOPs) in the province, including at businesses, social gatherings, religious congregations and educational institutions, and take strict action against the violators. “COVID-19 positivity rate .....

Anybody not wearing mask to be fined Rs500 in Karachi

A person outside home without a mask will be liable to a fine of Rs500 in Karachi, according to an order issued by city commissioner Itlikhar Ali Shallwani on Friday. As per a press statement from the commissioner office, due to the fear of a second wave of the novel coronavirus, the wearing of masks has been made compulsory in Karachi. The commissioner has directed all six deputy commissi.....

Five more lose battle to corona in Sindh

Five more patients have died from the novel coronavirus and another 627 cases have surfaced in Sindh. As many as 14,343 tests were conducted in the last 24 hours, said the Sindh chief minister on Sunday. The province’s death toll from the infectious disease had reached 2,684, said Syed Murad Ali Shah. In total, 1,728,156 tests have been conducted in Sindh which diagnosed 150,167 cas.....
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COVID-19 orders drastic action against delinquents as COVID-19 on rise; claims 3 lives, infects 579 overnight</td>
<td>Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad</td>
<td>2020-11-07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>216 students, teachers test positive for COVID-19 in Karachi’s district East</td>
<td>Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad</td>
<td>2020-11-07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COVID-19 claims 12 more lives, infects 620 others overnight</td>
<td>Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad</td>
<td>2020-11-08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hyderabad admin decides to impose ‘smart lockdown’ in 16 UCs</td>
<td>Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad</td>
<td>2020-11-08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Five more Covid-19 patients die in city overnight</td>
<td>Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad</td>
<td>2020-11-09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COVID-19 claims five lives, infects 627, including 507 in Karachi: CM</td>
<td>Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad</td>
<td>2020-11-09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article Title</td>
<td>Source</td>
<td>Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Covid-19; Murad calls for strict implementation of SOPs</td>
<td>Mohammad Bilal Tahir, Business Recorder, Islamabad</td>
<td>2020-11-07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresh Covid-19 cases; Smart lockdown to be imposed in Hyderabad’s 16 UCs</td>
<td>NNI, Business Recorder, Islamabad</td>
<td>2020-11-08</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah, keeping in view the worsening situation of Covid-19 in the province, has called for strict implementation of Standard Operational Procedures (SOPs) in all the institutions, including business, social, religious, educational and others and in case of non-compliance he has ordered strict action against the delinquents. “We can’t con....

more >>

HYDERABAD: Keeping in view the rising number of new Covid-19 cases, the Hyderabad district administration on Saturday decided to place 16 union councils under smart lockdown. According to sources, the city district administration all set to enforce smart lockdown in the Covid-19 hotspots. The decision has been taken as part of precautionary measures to contain the spread of the novel coronavi.....

more >>
International News

Countries News

‘Watershed’ Covid-19 vaccine by Pfizer and BioNTech proves 90pc effective
Source: AFP, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-11-09
A vaccine jointly developed by Pfizer and BioNTech was 90 per cent effective in preventing Covid-19 infections in ongoing Phase 3 trials, the companies announced on Monday. The news came as soaring coronavirus cases across the world have forced millions of people back into lockdown, causing further damage to ravaged economies. European stock markets and oil prices jumped on the announcement. Ou.....
more >>

Mahmudullah out of PSL after failing virus test
Source: Agencies, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-11-09
DHAKA: Bangladesh Twenty20 skipper Mahmudullah has been ruled out of the Pakistan Super League playoffs after testing positive for the coronavirus (Covid-19), he said on Sunday. Mahmudullah was set to play in the franchise-based T20 event, which restarts on next Saturday after a break since March because of the Covid-19 pandemic. “I was surprised by a positive result from my Covid-19 test,.....
more >>

US sets daily record, crosses 126,000 coronavirus cases
Source: AP, Dawn, Islamabad, 2020-11-08
BALTIMORE: The United States set a record of more than 126,400 confirmed cases in a single day on Friday. The seven-day rolling average of new daily cases in the country approached 100,000 for the first time, according to data from Johns Hopkins University. Total US cases since the start of the pandemic neared 10 million and confirmed cases globally approached 50 million. Worldwide infection nu.....
more >>

Global coronavirus cases exceed 50m after 30-day spike
Source: Reuters, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2020-11-09
NEW YORK: Global coronavirus infections exceeded 50 million on Sunday, according to a Reuters tally, with a second wave of the virus in the past 30 days accounting for a quarter of the total. October was the worst month for the pandemic so far, with the United States becoming the first country to report more than 100,000 daily cases. A surge in Europe contributed to the rise. The latest .....
more >>
SDPI Engagements

No news in the week