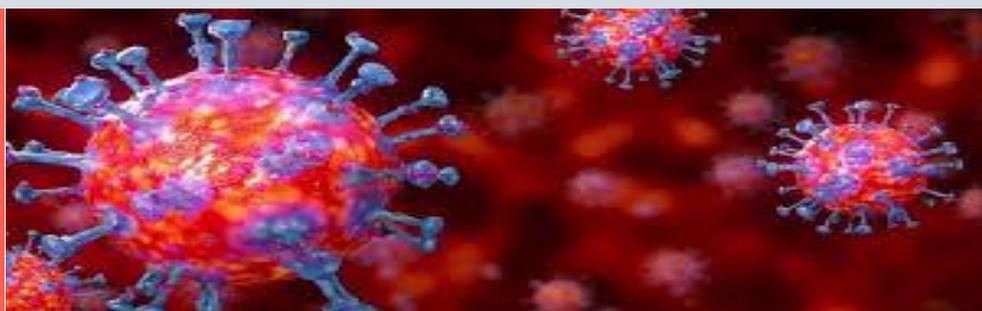


# E-Newsletter on COVID-19



Vol. 01, No, 59-61



Issue: 14-23 November, 2020

## .....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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## Op-Eds/Articles/Editorials

## Op-Eds/Articles/Editorials

**Surgeries put off at NICVD as several healthcare providers contract coronavirus**

Source: [M Waqar Bhatti](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-17

A large number of healthcare providers have become infected with Covid-19 in Karachi within the last few days, compelling some of the leading public and private hospitals to cancel surgeries and procedures. "All the surgeries at the National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases (NICVD) Karachi and its satellite centres in Tando Muhammad Khan and Sukkur have been cancelled for a week .....[more >>](#)

**Covid-19: on the rise again**

Source: [Editorial](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-14

After a few weeks of respite, the number of Covid-19 cases in the country is on the rise again. The number of new cases of the lethal infection and associated deaths are matching the levels which were last seen in July. It seems that this time, the infection curve is rising at a sharper rate than before. The virus is once again claiming the lives of our first responders, including doctors. And the.....[more >>](#)

**Corona care**

Source: [Editorial](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-16

If anyone thought the second surge/wave of the Covid-19 virus was going to in any way be gentle, and that we could get away with the bare minimum precaution, they were very obviously wrong. In Pakistan, the total active Covid-19 cases on Saturday were recorded at 24,938 with 2,165 new cases reported during the last 24 hours. Fatalities are increasing as is the case count. According to a new poll c.....[more >>](#)

**PM's Covid concerns**

Source: [Editorial](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-18

PRIME MINISTER Imran Khan in his address to the nation on Monday made some significant remarks about the growing number of Covid-19 cases in the country. Mr Khan announced restrictions on all public gatherings, which effectively limits political rallies by his own party as well as those of the opposition. This is a welcome decision. Covid-19 cases are spreading at an alarming rate, with the nation.....

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**The real distancing**

Source: [Kurt Jacobsen | Sayeed Hasan Khan](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-18

BE jubilant, but keep it short. Donald Trump clings to the White House but it's a pretty good bet that he will depart, kicking and tweeting, on Jan 20. He nonetheless garnered 72 million votes, so his long-anticipated exit may not be permanent. The Democratic Party failed to cut into his support because they were loath to say one word that smacked of the visionary aspirations of FDR's .....

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**Injecting hope**

Source: [Mahir Ali](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-18

NOTWITHSTANDING the ludicrous antics of the prima donna in the White House, 2020 will go down in history primarily as the year of the pandemic. We cannot at this point be entirely confident that it won't be remembered merely as the first year of the coronavirus catastrophe. After all, millions across Europe have lately been obliged to return to their urban or suburban bunkers after the easi.....

[more >>](#)

### **Covid-19 and education**

Source: [Editorial](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-11-15

We are now at that stage in facing the coronavirus pandemic that states have begun to understand just what types of lasting damage it will leave behind even once a vaccine is developed and the disease is brought under control. And though the most obvious victim of all the uncertainty that has gripped the world right now is the global economy, governments are also realising that while economies wil.....

[more >>](#)

### **Fighting Covid-19 against all odds**

Source: [Haya Fatima Sehgal](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-11-15

Getting a Covid-19 positive result initially astounds you for a few seconds. Even if we know that the entire world that has suffered for months and we read about it daily, it still gives you a jolt. Although we knew people who had passed away of it, until it hits your own home, it is very difficult to actually understand the horror of it all. It's a sinking feeling and nothing that people ca.....

[more >>](#)

### **The vaccine factor**

Source: [Editorial](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-11-16

The wave of optimism generated by news from Pfizer and its German partner BioNTech about the likelihood of a Covid-19 vaccine hitting the market sometime next year didn't take too long to subside. And it's not too difficult to understand why. As details about the magic vaccine began coming out it turned out that it would have to be stored at temperatures around minus-80 degrees Celsius.....

[more >>](#)

### **School education challenges after reopening**

Source: [Kashif Mirza](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-11-16

Covid-19 has posed several unanticipated challenges for the education sector in countries like Pakistan where vast numbers of students are now at risk of falling behind. Pakistan's educational woes however are longstanding. A decade after the right of education was guaranteed by a constitutional amendment, 25-A, Pakistan has the dubious distinction of world's second-highest number of o.....

[more >>](#)

### **Covid resurgence**

Source: [Editorial](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-16

THE worst fears about the second wave of Covid-19 in the country appear to be coming true as daily deaths, hospitalisations and positive cases rise at alarming rates. On a single day, Nov 14, 39,410 people were tested for the virus. Confirmed new cases on the same day were reported to be 2,443 — an indication that the national positivity ratio is a staggering 6pc. The number of those succum.....

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### **Rising Covid-19 cases jeopardize US growth**

Source: [Julie Chabanas](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-15

Covid-19 has come roaring back and is likely to inflict further damage on the American economy, which will take years to recover to its robust pre-pandemic status. And even with promising news on a successful vaccine candidate, that is unlikely to be widely distributed for many months. US coronavirus infections have hit new record levels of more than 150,000 a day, causing authorities in.....

[more >>](#)

### **Incompetence, conspiracy and citizenship**

Source: [Kamila Hyat](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-19

Pakistan received approval from its main regulator on health, the National Institute of Health, to begin a Phase 3 study using the CanSino vaccine developed in China by CanSino Biologics. If the trial proves to be a success it would bring huge benefits to Pakistan, with China as a long established friend of the country promising to give Pakistan large amounts of the vaccine vials at relati.....

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### **SCSW, Shirkat Gah present policy document on impact of Covid-19 on women**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-20

In a collaborative effort, the Sindh Commission on the Status of Women (SCSW) and the Shirkat Gah Women's Resource Centre on Thursday held a launch where a policy document was presented to the Sindh government. The policy document, titled 'Rising to the Challenges: Gender-Responsive Policy Options for COVID-19 & Other Emergencies', focuses on the various impacts of Co.....

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### **Pakistan in 2020 - Part I**

Source: [Dr Ayesha Razzaque](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-21

The writer is an independent education researcher and consultant. She has a PhD in Education from Michigan State University. When I think of the daily circus that is the evening TV political talk show circuit, only a fraction of their airtime is dedicated to issues that have any lasting impact. Almost none of the issues that received breathless coverage a year ago are of any consequence t.....

[more >>](#)

### **A Crucial Stage**

Source: [Editorial](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-21

Back in late May during the deadliest phase of the pandemic, there were a lot of troubling firsts and highs recorded—the first time COVID-19 cases exceeded 10,000, highest recorded cases in a day and so on. As the summers came and smart policies were put in place, these numbers fell and thankfully, some normalcy seemed to ensue. Unfortunately, now in November, these highs and firsts hav.....

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### **Anti-microbial resistance and Covid-19**

Source: [Dr Qadeer Ahsan](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-22

In 1928, Sir Alexander Fleming observed the bacteria-killing effects of penicillin in his laboratory in London. This was the headstart in the discovery of one of the most important pillars of today's medicine: the antibiotics. However, Sir Fleming in 1945, during his acceptance speech for the Nobel Prize warned the entire world that misuse of the drug could also result in bacteria becoming r.....

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### **The second wave is more virulent**

Source: [Amir Malik](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-22

The second wave of novel coronavirus is proving more fatal than the first. The mortality ratio in the Punjab, however, is almost identical to the pandemic's peak in mid-June this year. The mortality rate for the past week was 2.04 percent; it had been 2.15 percent during the peak of the first wave of coronavirus in the Punjab. Between June 10 and June 17, as many as 376 deaths were recorde.....

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**Cases rising again**

Source: [Waqar Gillani](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-22

Pakistan, globally admired not so long ago for its success in controlling the coronavirus pandemic, has seen an alarming increase more recently in the number of fresh infections as well as a worsening of the mortality rate. The phenomenon has been described as a second wave of the pandemic. The number of those testing positive as a fraction of all tests has risen rapidly. This has added to the wo.....

[more >>](#)

**Debt statistics: where does Pakistan stand? Worsened debt levels are largely due to Covid-19 pandemic**

Source: [Tehreem Husain](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-23

NORTHAMPTON: The global economy has witnessed four waves of debt accumulation over the past 50 years. The first three waves resulted in a financial crisis in many emerging and developing economies. According to World Bank report "Global Waves of Debt" published in 2019, the latest global debt wave since 2010 has caused the largest, fastest and most broad-based increase in debt in eme.....

[more >>](#)

**Surviving pandemic in deeply polarised world**

Source: [Faraz Ahmed](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-23

KARACHI: The news of successful late-stage trial of Covid-19 vaccine by pharmaceutical giant Pfizer has raised hope in Western markets as investors see light at the end of the tunnel. Many offbeat cyclical, oil and gas, tourism and travel sectors outperformed last week in the hope that usually springs eternal in human breast. However, sceptical investors took the jubilation in European and US s.....

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**Competent governance**

Source: [Maleeha Lodhi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-23

WITH a second wave of the coronavirus pandemic now surging across the world, two factors have generally been identified as particularly significant for how competently countries have managed the challenge. The first and obvious one is effective governance and the second is national resilience. The global debate about governance has intensified at a time when leaders are still struggling to balanc.....

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## National News

### AJK

#### **AJK going for lockdown from 22nd**

Source: [Tariq Naqash](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-18

MUZAFFARABAD: The Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) government on Tuesday decided to re-impose complete lockdown across the territory for two weeks in the wake of alarming spike in Covid-19 cases. The lockdown will come into effect from 12:01am on Sunday (Nov 22) until 12pm on December 6, almost on the previous pattern with the exception of permission to the public transport to operate with strict adh.....

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### Balochistan

#### **COVID-19 second wave: Sindh cancels winter vacations, Balochistan shuts down schools**

Source: [News Desk](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-17

The Sindh government on Tuesday ruled out winter vacations while the Balochistan government opted for early and extended winter holidays as the country struggles to contain coronavirus spread. Reflecting that students have been given more holidays than usual this year due to the coronavirus pandemic, Sindh Education Minister Saeed Ghani said there was "no question of winter vacations right n.....

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#### **Strict measures urged to battle 2nd virus wave**

Source: [Mohammad Zafar](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-17

QUETTA: The Balochistan Chief Minister on Monday ordered the provincial government to take strict measures to battle the second wave of coronavirus. The provincial chief executive attended the National Coordination Committee meeting chaired by Prime Minister Imran Khan through a video link from Quetta. Matters related to the second wave of Covid – 19, preventive measures, SOPs and other s.....

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#### **Covid-19 cases increasing in Balochistan, says govt spokesperson**

Source: [Saleem Shahid](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-18

QUETTA: A spokesperson for the Balochistan government has expressed serious concern over an increase in Covid-19 cases in Balochistan, saying the second wave of the pandemic seems to be more fatal and deadly as during the past two weeks five deaths were reported in the province. Speaking at a press conference here on Tuesday, Liaquat Shahwani said that Covid-19 cases were increasing with every pa.....

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#### **Experts warn of deadlier second Covid wave**

Source: [Mohammad Zafar](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-18

QUETTA: Balochistan government spokesperson Liaquat Shahwani on Tuesday said experts have termed the second wave of coronavirus as more fatal and deadly. He was addressing a press conference in Quetta to congratulate the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf candidates of securing a handsome victory in the Gilgit-Baltistan elections. While talking about the number of Covid-19 cases across the entire provinc.....

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## Islamabad

### Coronavirus claims 33 more lives in Pakistan

Source: [News Desk](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-17

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Tuesday reported 33 deaths due to the coronavirus in the last 24 hours, according to the data issued by the National Command and Operations Centre (NCOC). The country's COVID-19 death toll stands at 7,193 — with the last 193 deaths being reported in just eight days. The NCOC data shows Pakistan recorded 14,606 new coronavirus cases in the past seven days, .....

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### Strict adherence to SOPs stressed

Source: [APP](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-17

Islamabad: Health experts have advised that adherence to the health guidelines issued by the government is the sole option for the public to effectively curb the second wave of the coronavirus pandemic. Health professionals and officials, working tirelessly in emergency wards and on the administrative front, have called upon the public to wholeheartedly observe the government's instru.....

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### CDA okays special Covid-19 allowance for staff

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-17

ISLAMABAD: To facilitate its employees during the ongoing pandemic, the apex civic authority has decided to give a special allowance to its staff for three months. The Capital Development Authority (CDA) Chairman and Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) Chief Commissioner Amer Ali Ahmed on Monday announced the special allowance worth Rs1,500 for each employee. He said that the CDA board had approv.....

[more >>](#)

### Collaboration on Coronavirus urged

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-17

ISLAMABAD: With a second wave of the novel coronavirus now sweeping most countries, Islamabad has urged all COMSAT member states to work together to tackle the pandemic and to address the associated socio-economic fallouts. This was urged on Monday by the Federal Science and Technology Minister Fawad Chaudhry as he addressed the fourth ministerial-level consultative committee of the Commission o.....

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### People taking contagion lightly: doctors

Source: [APP](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-16

ISLAMABAD: People are reacting to the second wave of the novel coronavirus disease (Covid-19) very casually, said doctors at the capitals largest public health care facility warning citizens to adopt precautionary measures. Adherence to the health guidelines issued by the government is the sole option for public to effectively curb the second wave of the coronavirus pandemic, doctors at Pakistan.....

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### Pakistan sets aside \$100m to buy Covid vaccine

Source: [Ikram Junaidi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-18

ISLAMABAD: While an estimated cost of the Covid-19 vaccine is not yet available, Prime Minister Imran Khan has approved a \$100 million allocation and allowed advance payment for procurement of the vaccine at the earliest. Moreover, it has been decided that different segments of society, such as senior citizens, health practitioners and people suffering from chronic diseases, will be prioritised f.....

[more >>](#)

### Corona kills 37 more countrywide

Source: [News Report](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-14

ISLAMABAD: The total active COVID-19 cases in Pakistan on Friday rose to 23,641, as 2,304 more people tested positive during the last 24 hours. Thirty-seven corona patients, 32 of whom were under treatment in hospital and five out of hospital, died on Thursday, according to the latest data issued by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC). No COVID affected person was on ventilator in Bal.....

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### Awareness level about corona shows surge

Source: [nill](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-15

ISLAMABAD: A new Ipsos poll on Worsening COVID 19 realities and diminishing threat perceptions has revealed that after remaining stagnant for the last six months, awareness level regarding coronavirus has shown a surge amid increase in new positive cases. Awareness level has increased to 92 percent, while only 9 percent people are shown unaware about the virus. The survey showed that after achiev.....

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### Pakistan self-sufficient in manufacturing Covid-19 related material: Fawad

Source: [Agencies](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-16

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Science and Technology Fawad Chaudhry has stated that Pakistan has become self-sufficient in manufacturing of COVID-19 related material with the efforts of its scientists, engineers and technicians. In a tweet, Fawad Chaudhry said that the country lacked the medical equipment to fight the pandemic when the first phase of COVID-19 appeared in the month of February, but now .....

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### A splendid show of female talent

Source: [Ishrat Hyatt](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-16

Strictly following SOP's, the Behbud Association organized a fashion show cum exhibition at the Serena Hotel titled 'Embroidering Dreams.' The event, which was held to celebrate and benefit Behbud's home based workers and artisans, was well organized and well attended, while the guest of honour was First Lady, Samina Alvi. The show's MC was Nosheen Bokhari. It was a g.....

[more >>](#)

### Islamabad sees highest positivity rate since Covid-19 outbreak

Source: [Munawer Azeem | Aamir Yasin](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-18

ISLAMABAD: The daily positivity rate of Covid-19 cases in the capital reached 11.78pc on Tuesday, the highest since the outbreak of the virus in March, officials of the district administration told Dawn. Besides, five people succumbed to the virus in the twin cities and another 353 were infected on Tuesday. On the other hand, five educational institutions were closed after the virus was detected .....

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### CII to define forced conversions, panel told

Source: [Kalbe Ali](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-17

ISLAMABAD: The Parliamentary Committee to Protect Minorities from Forced Conversions observed on Monday that there must be clear definitions of, and differentiation between, forced and voluntary conversions. Committee chairman Senator Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar informed members during a meeting that the Council of Islamic Ideology (CII) had already been asked to undertake the task of preparing a draft t.....

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### SC puts off hearing in Isa case after lawyer goes into quarantine

Source: [Nasir Iqbal](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-18

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court on Monday postponed the hearing of a set of petitions seeking review of the Justice Qazi Faez Isa judgement since the counsel representing the petitioner judge quarantined himself after his associate tested positive for Covid-19. A six-judge SC bench, headed by Justice Umar Ata Bandial, observed that the court would wait for recovery of the principal counsel, Muneer A.....

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### CDA approves allowance for employees

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-18

Islamabad: The Capital Development Authority (CDA) has approved special allowance of Rs1,500 for the employees working in current situation caused by coronavirus pandemic. According to detail, the employees of CDA will receive Rs1,500 allowance for three months. The CDA board approved this special allowance in recognition of the duties of CDA employees, which they are performing in the current s.....

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### DRAP streamlining process for Covid vaccines registration

Source: [APP](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-18

ISLAMABAD: The Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) is working to streamline the process for fast registration of Covid-19 vaccines in the country, an official said on Tuesday. The official of ministry of national health services said the government showed special interest in ensuring quality vaccine at the earliest for population and in principle, approved specific funding to obtain an .....

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### Four more die from Covid-19 in Islamabad, Rawalpindi

Source: [Munawer Azeem | Mohammad Asghar](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-17

ISLAMABAD: The twin cities of Islamabad and Rawalpindi reported another four deaths on Monday, though Covid-19 tally saw a decrease with 224 positive cases being reported from the capital and 26 from the garrison city. Officials of the capital administration said the reduction in positive cases came after a gap of six days as 249, 322, 333, 357, 411 and 461 positive cases were reported in the cap.....

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### Decision on early winter vacation delayed

Source: [Kashif Abbasi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-17

ISLAMABAD: Education ministers on Monday postponed their decision on early and extended winter vacation for educational institutions in the wake of the rising Covid-19 cases and decided for another huddle next week to take a final decision. According to a statement issued by the education ministry, Federal Education Minister Shafqat Mahmood said: "The final decision will be taken in the nex.....

[more >>](#)

### **49pc parents want schools closed: report**

Source: [Ikram Junaidi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-17

ISLAMABAD: While the threat perception regarding Covid-19 has decreased across the country, 49 per cent of parents do not want to send their children to school, according to a survey. Moreover, income of 83pc of people has decreased due to the pandemic. But half of Pakistanis are optimistic that the Covid-19 vaccine will be available before the end of 2020. The survey, "Worsening Covid-19 .....

[more >>](#)

### **Comsats member states urged to work for dealing with impacts of pandemic**

Source: [staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-17

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Science and Technology Chaudhry Fawad Hussain on Monday urged Comsats member states to work collaboratively to deal with the Covid-19 pandemic and help address the associated socioeconomic challenges. He was speaking at the fourth ministerial-level consultative committee meeting of the Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (Comsats) w.....

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### **Pakistan records over 2,000 cases first time since July**

Source: [Syed Irfan Raza](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-14

• Cabinet Division orders 50pc attendance in offices • People in 31-45 age group emerge as more vulnerable to coronavirus ISLAMABAD: Pakistan saw a significant rise in the number of daily Covid-19 cases on Friday after 2,304 people tested positive during the last 24 hours, the highest tally since July. In a related development, the Cabinet Division issued a notification detailing measu.....

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### **Pakistan calls for fair distribution of Covid vaccine**

Source: [Anwar Iqbal](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-14

UNITED NATIONS: Pakistan has urged the international community to ensure that Covid-19 vaccine is made available to all and is distributed across the globe without any discrimination or favour. At a G-77 ministerial meeting in New York, Pakistan's permanent representative to the United Nations Munir Akram also emphasised the need to rebuild the economies destroyed by this pandemic. Pakista.....

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### **SC unveils steps to contain Covid on its premises**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-14

ISLAMABAD: The rapid increase in Covid-19 cases across the country has forced the top judiciary to take precautionary measures with Supreme Court Chief Justice Gulzar Ahmed issuing a circular for necessary steps to be taken by those visiting the SC premises to contain the spread of the deadly virus. The Supreme Court office had already announced some precautionary measures in the wake of the pand.....

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### **Twin cities see another 12 people dying of Covid-19**

Source: [Munawer Azeem | Aamir Yasin](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-14

ISLAMABAD: The twin cities reported a significant rise in the number of deaths after 12 people lost their lives to Covid-19 and another 450 got infected on Friday. Besides, four education institutions in Islamabad and six in Rawalpindi were closed down after their staff and students were found having the virus. In Rawalpindi, seven patients succumbed to coronavirus while 105 new cases were regis.....

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**Covid-19; FBR cuts staff strength by 50pc to contain infections**

Source: [Sohail Sarfraz](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-14

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) has reduced the working staff strength by 50 percent for Grade 1-15 and its field formations to control the spread of Covid-19 from November 13, 2020. A circular issued by the FBR Friday revealed that the FBR headquarters and all its field formations are advised to reduce the staff strength (BS-1 to 15) by 50 percent on fortnightly rotation basis .....

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**2,304 new coronavirus cases in 24 hours**

Source: [Abdul Rasheed Azad](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-14

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan recorded 2,304 new coronavirus cases in the past 24 hours, witnessing a 27 percent jump as 500 more cases were reported on Friday over the previous day, the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) said. According to the NCOC data released on Friday morning, the country after four months registered over 2,000 cases as on July 16, 2020 more than 2,000 cases were reported.....

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**Covid-19: Entry in Court Room No 3 to be through special passes, says SC**

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-14

ISLAMABAD: Supreme Court of Pakistan on Friday announced that due to 'second wave' of the coronavirus, the entry in the Court Room No 3, where review petitions against the Presidential Reference against Justice Qazi Faez will be heard, through special passes. The statement issued by the PRO Supreme Court, however, said the advocates and journalists who regularly come for Supreme C.....

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**Information minister tells media persons; Industrial sector growing despite Covid-19 impact**

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-15

ISLAMABAD: Country's economy is heading in the right direction and all indicators are showing a positive trend, Federal Information Minister Shibli Faraz said while addressing a news conference in Islamabad on Saturday. Shibli said industrial sector was growing despite adverse impact of Covid-19. The prices of petroleum products would be further reduced for the next month, he told. ....

[more >>](#)

**Countrywide corona cases surge to 354,461**

Source: [Fazal Sher](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-15

ISLAMABAD: The number of positive coronavirus cases on Saturday surged to 354,461 after 2,165 more tested positive for Covid-19 across the country. According to the latest figures by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC), 2,165 persons have tested positive for COVID-19 and 17 lost their lives in the fight against coronavirus in the last 24 hours with the national tally of fatalities.....

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**Journalist dies of coronavirus**

Source: [INP](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-15

ISLAMABAD: Renowned journalist and senior vice president of National Press Club Islamabad, Arshad Waheed Chaudhry passed away due to coronavirus on Saturday. Since he was diagnosed with COVID-19, the deceased was undergoing treatment at a hospital here. As his condition worsened, Arshad had been placed on a ventilator. Chaudhry was the host of private TV channel programme "Geo Parl.....

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### Total coronavirus cases jump to 359,987

Source: [Abdul Rasheed Azad](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-17

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's total coronavirus cases on Monday evening jumped to 359,987 as Sindh and Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) jointly reported 931 cases and nine deaths taking death tally to 7,165. According to Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) Punjab, 110,540 individuals have been infected with Covid-19 in Punjab till 10pm. The PDMA Punjab reported 547 new coronavirus .....

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### Closure of educational institutes

Source: [Tahir Amin](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-19

ISLAMABAD: The federal education ministry has forwarded its recommendation regarding closure of educational institutes to the provinces due to the rising coronavirus cases in the educational institutes, it is learnt. Sources revealed that the Ministry of Education had proposed to end the academic session in May instead of March. Ministry has also proposed three options regarding the clos.....

[more >>](#)

### IHC disposes of IMCBA petition challenging NCOC ban on indoor marriages

Source: [Terence J Sigamony](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-19

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court (IHC) said the public functionaries and the entire national leadership were expected to demonstrate extraordinary qualities in view of the second wave of Covid-19. The acts or omissions of those who do not display responsible conduct as citizens inevitably expose others to harm and expose them to the life-threatening risks relating to Covid-19. &ldquo;.....

[more >>](#)

### PAC members leave meeting amid 'corona fears'

Source: [Asim Yasin](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-19

ISLAMABAD: Whether it was a fear of COVID-19 or preventive measure as most of the Public Accounts Committee members left the meeting in the middle Wednesday. During the meeting, Kh Asif told the committee that five of his friends were tested corona positive and all of us should also take precautionary steps. Senator Sherry Rehman and Hina Rabbani Khar also left the meeting in the middle wh.....

[more >>](#)

### School winter break plan ready

Source: [Zaigham Naqvi](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-20

ISLAMABAD: With the volume of new novel coronavirus cases rising sharply, the federal education ministry on Wednesday offered proposals for early and extended winter break in schools. In this regard, the federal education ministry on Wednesday communicated two proposals to the provincial education ministries for closing schools and curbing the spread of the novel coronavirus (Covid-19) amongst c.....

[more >>](#)

### Public rallies ban

Source: [Editorial](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-20

As could be expected, the opposition Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) has rejected the government's desire to ban all public rallies because of the Covid-19 second wave threat. This response, as well as the PDM's rejection of any talks with the government, including on Prime Minister Imran Khan's floating the idea of electoral reforms requiring a constitutional amendment in a t.....

[more >>](#)

**NCOC concerned over surge in Covid-19 positive cases**

Source: [Abdul Rasheed Azad, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-20

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has registered 2,547 coronavirus cases which is the highest number in the past four months by carrying out 36,899 tests, the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) reported on Thursday. According to the NCOC, the country over the past 24 hours lost 18 more lives, taking the death tally to 7,248. Since start of coronavirus pandemic, Pakistan so far has reported 3.....

[more >>](#)

**ECC approves \$150m for Covid-19 vaccines**

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-11-21

ISLAMABAD: The Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) of the cabinet approved \$150 million as a technical supplementary grant for the procurement of Covid-19 vaccines. The ECC took the decision during a meeting presided over by Adviser to the Prime Minister on Finance and Revenue Hafeez Shaikh. Technical supplementary grant to initiate the retrenchment process in Pakistan Steel Mills was al.....

[more >>](#)

**Laxity about mitigating corona cases in capital**

Source: [Shakeel Anjum, The News, International](#), 2020-11-21

Islamabad : In the federal capital, the COVID-19 is disseminating frighteningly because of weedy way of execution of order issued by the government quarters to overcome the growing wave of coronavirus. The people of Islamabad witnessed a three-day Expo being held from November 20 to 22 at an Expo Centre despite stern ban on such activities from the federal and the Punjab governments and Na.....

[more >>](#)

**Traders oppose sealing of businesses**

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-21

ISLAMABAD: The business community has called on the government to end the practice of sealing businesses over violation of standard operating procedures (SOPs) and instead give warnings along with imposition of small fines. In a meeting at the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) on Friday, the businessmen argued that the sealing of businesses was affecting the credibility of trader.....

[more >>](#)

**Pakistan registers more than 2,800 Covid-19 cases**

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-21

The country saw yet another high in the number of coronavirus cases on Saturday, with at least 2,843 cases being recorded in the last 24-hour period as the pandemic's second wave sweeps through Pakistan. At least 42 people also passed away during the same time period, said the National Command and Operations Center (NCOC). Saturday's increase in cases is highest since July. The NCOC adde.....

[more >>](#)

**46 schools, colleges shut in twin cities**

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-21

ISLAMABAD/RAWALPINDI: At least 46 educational institutions have been sealed in Rawalpindi and Islamabad after emergence of novel coronavirus (Covid-19) cases. At least 38 educational institutions have been sealed in Rawalpindi and eight in Islamabad to prevent further spread of Covid-19 among students, faculty and staff. Rawalpindi Commissioner Muhammad Mahmood has said that special attention is.....

[more >>](#)

### **Alarming surge in Covid-19 positive cases**

Source: [Abdul Rasheed Azad](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-21

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's coronavirus cases Friday jumped to 370,046 and Covid-19 deaths to 7,580, following Sindh reporting 1,276 cases and 19 deaths, while Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) detected 105 new cases. According to a statement issued from the Chief Minister Sindh Secretariat, the province has reported 1,276 new cases of the coronavirus, the highest daily jump in infections since Ju.....

[more >>](#)

### **Virus kills 36 more in 24 hours: NCOC**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-21

ISLAMABAD - The total active COVID-19 cases in the country on Friday were recorded 33,562 as 2,738 more people tested positive for the deadly virus during the last 24 hours. A total 36 corona patients died in a single day, officials said on Friday. At least 32 out of them died in hospitals during treatment while four others died out of hospital due to COVID-19. According to the National Commanding Officer.....

[more >>](#)

### **ICT admin seals 21 restaurants in crackdown against SOPs violation**

Source: [Tahir Niaz](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-21

ISLAMABAD- According to the officials, Assistant Commissioner Saddar conducted a massive crackdown against restaurants not following the Sindh Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) administration, in a major crackdown, on Friday sealed 16 restaurants in different areas of the city for violating the COVID-19 Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). SOPs in the areas Tarnol, GT Road and Bhara Kahu and some.....

[more >>](#)

### **Pakistan develops software to detect Covid-19**

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-22

ISLAMABAD: Pakistani scientists have developed a software based on artificial intelligence that can help detect COVID-19 within a minute, Science Diplomacy Pakistan, a division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, tweeted on Saturday. 'COV-RAID' has an accuracy of more than 90% and is a cost-effective and universally accessible diagnostic tool. Science Diplomacy Pakistan congratulated.....

[more >>](#)

### **AI-based device to detect virus in a minute**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-22

ISLAMABAD: To speed up the process of detecting the novel coronavirus in suspected patients in under a minute, an artificial intelligence (AI) based software has been developed by the National Institute of Electronics (NIE). Called Cov-Raid AI Detection, it can detect the novel coronavirus (Covid-19) virus in the lungs in just a minute. The Drug Regulatory Authority Pakistan (DRAP) has already.....

[more >>](#)

### **Disregarding Public Safety**

Source: [Editorial](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-22

The opposition has dug in its heels against the government's move to ban public rallies. PDM is viewing this decision as a means to politically silence its voice, instead of perceiving it as the anti-COVID measure that it is. The government is perfectly justified in wanting the PDM alliance to hold off, considering the second wave looks a lot more ferocious than the first one. And herein lie.....

[more >>](#)

### Opposition defying court orders by holding rally in Peshawar: PM

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-22

ISLAMABAD - Prime Minister Imran Khan and his cabinet members Saturday lambasted the opposition alliance, Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM), for moving ahead with the November 22 Peshawar rally despite the threat of Covid-19. "The same PDM members who had wanted a strict lockdown and criticised me earlier are now playing reckless politics with people's safety," said the pre.....

[more >>](#)

### Murad slams opposition for holding public gatherings despite COVID-19

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-22

ISLAMABAD - Federal Minister for Communications and Postal Services Murad Saeed on Saturday slammed the opposition parties, united under the banner of PDM, for holding public meetings despite the serious threat of Covid-19 pandemic. In a tweet, he said it was strange that these parties made Covid-19 test mandatory for their domestic functions, but when it came to their public gatherings, suddenly .....

[more >>](#)

### DRAP approves locally invented device to detect COVID-19

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-22

ISLAMABAD - Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) has approved registration of locally manufactured device, COVID-19 Rapid Artificial Intelligence Detection (COV-RAID) to detect the corona infection in suspected person's lungs within a minute. A DRAP official on Saturday said the COV-RAID was a window-based software programme based on python using TensorFlow and Keras libraries. ....

[more >>](#)

### 38 shops sealed over corona SOPs violation

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-22

LAHORE - The city district administration Saturday sealed around 38 shops in various parts of the provincial capital for not following the standard operating procedures (SOPs) with regard to COVID-19. According to a spokesperson for the district administration, the team inspected around 298 points, found 34 violation and imposed Rs 38,000 fine on the violators. All shopkeepers and hotel owne.....

[more >>](#)

### Capital hospitals run short of ventilators as COVID-19 cases spike

Source: [Rahul Basharat](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-22

ISLAMABAD-The federal capital hospitals have run short of ventilators as the number of active novel coronavirus (COVID-19) cases in the city crossed the seven thousand mark, The Nation learnt on Saturday. Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS), the COVID-19 designated hospital by National Disaster Management Authorities (NDMA) and a major private hospital of the city have no more venti.....

[more >>](#)

### 64 restaurants, 22 hotels sealed so far for violating corona SOPs

Source: [Tahir Niaz](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-22

ISLAMABAD-The Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) administration continues its campaign against the violators of the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) as the city has recorded a sharp surge in the COVID-19 cases in the recent days. According to the details, the administration in different raids has so far sealed 64 restaurants and 22 hotels besides sealing six shops for violating the SOPs. I.....

[more >>](#)

### **125 schools sealed in 2 months**

Source: [APP](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-23

Islamabad : The Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) Administration has sealed as many as 125 educational institutes across the city after reporting some 388 COVID-19 positive cases among the students and staff during the last two months. The ICT staff along with health teams was ensuring the implementation of anti-coronavirus standard operating procedures at schools, colleges, and universiti.....

[more >>](#)

### **CDA seals seven illegal asphalt plants**

Source: [APP](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-23

Islamabad: COVID-19 impacts have dramatically reduced the women employment in country's garments industry due to which women were suffering from significant income losses. "Government should evolve a comprehensive strategy in consultation with all the stakeholders including employers and workers to navigate and solution of these unprecedented conditions", said an official M.....

[more >>](#)

### **AI-based device to detect virus in a minute**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-23

ISLAMABAD: To speed up the process of detecting the novel coronavirus in suspected patients in under a minute, an artificial intelligence (AI) based software has been developed by the National Institute of Electronics (NIE). Called Cov-Raid AI Detection, it can detect the novel coronavirus (Covid-19) virus in the lungs in just a minute. The Drug Regulatory Authority Pakistan (DRAP) has already .....

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### **All education institutions to close down from Nov 26 as Covid-19 positivity rises**

Source: [Dawn Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-23

Education Minister Shafqat Mahmood has said that all educational institutions, including schools, colleges and tuition centres, will close down from November 26 (Thursday). Earlier today, the country's education ministers met to review Pakistan's Covid-19 outbreak and to take a final decision on extended winter vacations for school students. Addressing a press conference in Islamabad alo.....

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### **Covid-19 hospitalisations in Pakistan doubled in last two weeks, NCOC told**

Source: [Naveed Siddiqui](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-23

A meeting of the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) was informed on Monday that hospitalisations due to Covid-19 in Pakistan have doubled in the last two weeks while the positivity ratio had increased to 7.46 per cent in the last 24 hours. According to the government's database for tracking the spread of coronavirus in the country, 2,756 cases were confirmed on Nov 22, resulting in .....

[more >>](#)

### **Ministers to take final decision on winter vacations today**

Source: [Kashif Abbasi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-23

ISLAMABAD: The country's education ministers are meeting today (Monday) to take a final decision on extended winter vacation as the number of Covid-19 cases continues to rise. The virtual meeting will be chaired by Federal Education Minister Shafqat Mahmood. Sources in the education ministry said decision would be made after reviewing the situation, adding that the federal ministry would p.....

[more >>](#)

### Imran warns of total lockdown if rallies continue

Source: [Syed Irfan Raza](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-23

• Says opposition will be responsible for consequences • NCOC reports 2,665 new cases, 59 deaths  
ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan on Sunday said the government would be compelled to enforce complete lockdown if the opposition did not desist from holding public gatherings at a time when the country was reeling under the impact of Covid-19. During the last 24 hours, the highest numb.....

[more >>](#)

### Country records highest death toll in 4 months

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-23

ISLAMABAD: Amid Covid-19 spike in the country, Pakistan has reported 59 deaths on Sunday, the highest daily toll in four months. According to the data provided by National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), about 38,983 coronavirus tests were conducted across the country in the last 24 hours out of which 2,665 people were declared Covid-19 positive. With another 59 coronavirus deaths, .....

[more >>](#)

### Pakistan reports 2,756 new coronavirus cases in one day

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-23

Pakistan has reported 34 deaths in the last 24 hours by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has surged to 376,929. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 7,696 on Monday. According to the latest figures by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC), 2,756 persons tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 24 hours. Sindh remains the worst-hit province by the pande.....

[more >>](#)

### Virus kills 59 more amid politics of pandemic

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-23

ISLAMABAD - Censuring the leadership of Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) again on Sunday for holding public meetings amid spike in corona cases, Prime Minister Imran Khan made it clear that they can hold millions of 'jalsas' but will not get any NRO. In a series of tweets, the Prime Minister said opposition is callously destroying people's lives and livelihoods in their de.....

[more >>](#)

### Locally invented COVID-19 detection device to be available soon: DRAP

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-23

ISLAMABAD-The locally made medical device COVID-19 Rapid Artificial Intelligence Detection (COV-RAID) would be available soon throughout the country to easily detect the corona infection in suspected person's lungs within a minute. According to an official of Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan's (DRAP), the device was registered by the authority with the purpose to identify su.....

[more >>](#)

### Strict action against Corona SOPs violators demanded

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-23

ISLAMABAD-Citizens of federal capital on Wednesday asked the quarters concerned to take strict action against violators of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) of COVID-19 to avoid further transmission of the virus. A massive violation of such SOPs has been observed in markets, food establishments and restaurants despite clear direction of the departments concerned. COVID-19 pandemic has str.....

[more >>](#)

## Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

### Soaring COVID-19 cases: KP govt asks opposition to postpone gathering

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-17

PESHAWAR: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government has asked the opposition parties to cancel its public gathering in view of the rising cases of the coronavirus. Provincial Minister for Health and Finance Taimur Saleem Jhagra said that coronavirus cases were on the rise in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. "We have entered the second wave of the corona. Prime Minister Imran Khan has cancelled a large pu.....

[more >>](#)

### Nowshera reports 28 COVID-19 cases in three days

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-17

NOWSHERA: Twenty-eight more suspected patients tested positive for the coronavirus during the last three days in the district on Monday. According to Deputy Commissioner Mir Raza Ozgan and District Health Officer Dr Gulman Shah, the number of patients infected by the fatal Covid-19 were increasing with each passing day since the second wave of the coronavirus pandemic. With the news case, .....

[more >>](#)

### Two more die of corona in KP

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-14

PESHAWAR: Two more people died and 251 tested positive for the coronavirus in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Friday. With the two human losses, the number of fatalities from coronavirus reached 1305 in the province. Officials said the two patients who died of the Covid-19 belonged to Swat and Lower Chitral. Of the positive cases, Peshawar reported 126, Bajaur 32, Abbottabad 30, Torghar 9, Battagram and Up.....

[more >>](#)

### Bajaur reports 47 corona cases in last 10 days

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-15

KHAR: As many as 47 cases of the coronavirus were reported from Bajaur district in the last 10 days, an official said on Saturday. Deputy Commissioner Bajaur Fayyaz Sherpao said that 33 of the 47 cases were reported from educational institutions. Addressing a meeting to take stock of the situation, the deputy commissioner said the district administration was taking steps to ensure implementation .....

[more >>](#)

### Peshawar traders criticise new SOPs for marriage halls

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-18

PESHAWAR: Traders organisations here have expressed reservations about the revised standard operating procedures (SOPs) issued by the government for marriage halls, restricting duration of ceremonies and number of guests, and warned to react in case of any action against them in Peshawar. They warned to take a unified stand against the government in case it announced lockdown for containing Covid.....

[more >>](#)

### Mohmand jirga asks people to observe SOPs

Source: [Correspondent](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-18

MOHMAND: A jirga was held in Mohmand tribal district on Tuesday to urge people to observe the precautionary measures amid the second Covid-19 wave, and to also devise a strategy for the upcoming anti-polio campaign in the tribal district. The jirga chaired by deputy commissioner Ghulam Habib Khan, was also attended by heads of various departments, MNA Mohmand Sajid Khan, additional deputy commiss.....

[more >>](#)

### Doctors in Mansehra ask politicians to follow corona SOPs

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-18

MANSEHRA: The doctors in Mansehra and Upper Kohistan have urged the people and politicians to follow the precautionary measures strictly to avoid getting infected with Covid-19. "The second wave of the coronavirus is more critical than the first one and hospitals could be overwhelmed with the influx of patients if people and politicians don't follow the SOPs," Dr Pirzada, the de.....

[more >>](#)

### Corona claims another 7 lives in KP

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-18

PESHAWAR: The coronavirus has claimed seven more lives, including a prominent television artiste Naji Khan and infected 445 more people in the past two days in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, taking the death toll to 1,318. Four people had died on Monday and three more on Tuesday. About 245 people were diagnosed with the viral infection on Monday and 200 on Tuesday in the province. With the latest positive c.....

[more >>](#)

### Peshawar records highest Covid positivity rate in KP

Source: [Ashfaq Yusufzai](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-14

PESHAWAR: Peshawar on Friday recorded the highest coronavirus positivity rate in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa with 10 per cent of the samples collected testing positive for Covid-19, said the World Health Organisation in a report. According to the health department, two more deaths by the virus and 251 new cases were reported in the province during the last 24 hours. It said the active Covid-19 cases in t.....

[more >>](#)

### Covid-19;Private school sealed in Khyber district

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Belt & Road News](#), 2020-11-17

PESHAWAR: A private school was sealed by local administration in the Shalober area of sub-division of Bara, Khyber district on Monday after the emergence of around 17 cases of coronavirus in the district. Assistant Commissioner, Bara Naik Muhammad Bangash while sharing details that after infecting 17 students of 9th and 10th grades of a private school (Gul School and College Bara), it was suspende.....

[more >>](#)

### Nowshera college shut as students, staff test positive for COVID-19

Source: [Mushtaq Paracha](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-19

NOWSHERA: The Government Girls Degree College in Nowshera was closed on Wednesday after eight students and staff members tested positive, officials said. Deputy Commissioner Mir Raza Ozgan and District Health Officer Dr Gulman Shah told the media among those infected by coronavirus were four college students and two low-paid employees of the college. They said the administration shut down the co.....

[more >>](#)

### COVID-19 SOPs compliance: 5,792 units inspected in Hazara division

Source: [Syed Kosar Naqvi](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-20

ABBOTTABAD: Over 5,792 units have been inspected in the last three days for enforcement of standing operating procedures (SOPs) for COVID-19 in all the eight districts of Hazar Division, said a senior official. The units included shops, markets, bus stands, transport vehicles, restaurants, wedding halls, petrol pumps and schools. "More than 481 units were sealed and a fine of Rs 445,.....

[more >>](#)

### **Covid-19 Helpline workers guide millions out of the worst health crisis**

Source: [Umer Farooq, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-20

PESHAWAR: The coronavirus pandemic has single-handedly disrupted every aspect of life – including the way healthcare services are delivered. While there is praise for the frontline healthcare workers, there is very little said about those who silently performed their duties as unknown warriors. One such trooper in the combat against the Covid-19 health crisis is Dr. Arooj. She took the rol.....

[more >>](#)

### **Three more schools closed in Nowshera over COVID-19**

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-11-21

NOWSHERA: Three more public sector schools were closed in the Nowshera district on Friday as coronavirus continued to infect people, officials said. Deputy Commissioner Mir Raza Ozgan and District Health Officer Dr Gulman Shah told the media 11 people were found infected with Covid-19 in the district in the last two days. The officials said the three government-run schools were closed dow.....

[more >>](#)

### **Corona patients' tally reaches 40 in Khyber**

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-11-21

LANDIKOTAL: Health officials on Friday said that the numbers of corona patients have been on the raise as nine more persons tested positive in Jamrud tehsil, taking the total number of patients to 40 in Khyber district. Health official Shahid Khan Afridi, who has voluntarily conducted 5,000 Corona tests so far in district Khyber, told this scribe that nine more cases emerged on Friday. How.....

[more >>](#)

### **School closed due to corona cases**

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-11-22

LANDIKOTAL: A school in Landikotal subdivision of Khyber district was closed down on Saturday after a teacher and two students tested positive for coronavirus, officials said on Saturday. Assistant Commissioner of Landikotal, Muhammad Imran Yousafzai, told this scribe that they have sealed a Baitul Maal school being run by the federal government. The official said the school would remain .....

[more >>](#)

### **38 schools sealed amid second Covid-19 wave**

Source: [DNA, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-22

PESHAWAR: The provincial government on Saturday sealed at least 38 government schools amidst the second wave of the novel coronavirus. In a statement on Saturday, the Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (K-P) Education Department said that schools had been sealed in Haripur, Abbottabad, Dera Ismail Khan, Lakki Marwat, Kohat, Lower Chitral, Upper Orakzai, Mardan, Mansehra, Battagram and Bannu districts after nove.....

[more >>](#)

### **Peshawar teaching hospitals ordered to enhance Covid beds**

Source: [Ashfaq Yusufzai, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-23

PESHAWAR: The provincial government has ordered the medical teaching institutions to enhance the number of Covid-19 beds on emergency basis as hospitalisation due to coronavirus increased by 100 per cent during the past one week. Health officials said that the number of patients on ventilators had risen by 200 per cent over the last fortnight. "Health minister has instructed the administrat.....

[more >>](#)

## Punjab

### 2,128 corona cases countrywide in last 24 hours

Source: [News Report](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-17

ISLAMABAD: The total active COVID-19 cases in Pakistan on Monday were recorded 28,048, as 2,128 more people tested positive for the deadly virus during the last 24 hours. Nineteen corona patients, who were under treatment in hospital died on Sunday, according to the latest update issued by the National command and Operation Centre (NCOC). No COVID affected person was on ventilator in Azad .....

[more >>](#)

### 4 corona patients die in 24 hours

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-17

LAHORE: Four COVID-19 patients died and 547 new infections were confirmed in Punjab during the last 24 hours, according to report issued by Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department (P&SHD) Monday. The toll of fatalities raised to 2,475 in Punjab, while confirmed cases reached 110,540 in the province. As per the spokesperson for Corona Monitoring Room at P&SHD, 11,361 tests were co.....

[more >>](#)

### LHC CJ appoints focal persons to enforce corona SOPs

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-17

LAHORE: In view of second wave of COVID-19 hitting the country, Lahore High Court Chief Justice Muhammad Qasim Khan nominated the judicial officers as focal persons to ensure compliance of the virus SOPs in respective district courts in Punjab. The focal persons would ensure full implementation and enforcement of the guidelines issued by the LHC and would monitor steps taken to curb the vir.....

[more >>](#)

### Covid claims nine more lives in Punjab

Source: [APP](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-16

LAHORE: Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department (P&SHD) has confirmed that nine people succumbed to coronavirus infection in the province on Sunday. As many as 684 new cases were also reported across Punjab during the last 24 hours, a spokesperson for the Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department said. Reportedly, the total number of coronavirus cases in the province esc.....

[more >>](#)

### Covid-19 claims seven more lives

Source: [APP](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-15

LAHORE: The coronavirus pandemic has claimed seven more lives on Saturday whereas 487 fresh infections were reported in Punjab. According to a spokesperson for Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department (P&SHD), the number of coronavirus cases in the province exceeded 109,300 while so far the total number of deaths in the province had been recorded as 2,462 altogether. The P&SHD.....

[more >>](#)

### Dr Yasmeen Rashid inaugurates Corona Management Centre at RIU

Source: [APP](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-15

Rawalpindi: Punjab Health Minister, Dr. Yasmeen Rashid on Saturday inaugurated 100 beds Corona Management Centre at Rawalpindi Institute of Urology (RIU). Talking to newsmen here at RIU, the minister said that the Corona Center was set up in anticipation of an increase in the number of Corona virus patients to facilitate patients by providing treatment in a safe and secure environment. She said th.....

[more >>](#)

### **Seven Covid-19 patients die in Punjab, 487 new cases reported**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-16

LAHORE: Seven Covid-19 patients died and another 487 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 Saturday. The toll of fatalities rose to 2,462 in Punjab, while confirmed cases of coronavirus reached 109,309 in the province. Out of the total of 109,309 infections in Punjab, 106,529.....

[more >>](#)

### **Seven Covid-19 patients die in Punjab, 487 new cases reported**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-16

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[more >>](#)

### **Seven virus patients die**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-16

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### **MPA, 15 PA employees test positive for Covid-19**

Source: [Correspondent](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-18

SAHIWAL: PML-N MPA Malik Arshad has tested positive for Covid-19. Malik Arshad told Dawn he had quarantined himself at his home. He was tested at the Punjab Assembly on Nov 11 along with other colleagues and he received the report of his test on Tuesday. He said around 15 employees of the Punjab Assembly also tested positive for Covid-19 and all of them had quarantined themselves at their homes.....

[more >>](#)

### **PML-N accuses govt of stopping PDM rallies on Covid pretext**

Source: [staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-18

LAHORE: The PML-N has alleged that the Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaaf government is conspiring to stop the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) rallies on the pretext of Covid-19. "The government is saying it has cancelled its rallies because of coronavirus. Will it tell us where it had planned these public meetings? In fact it is using excuses of Covid-19 to stop the PDM rallies," PML-N Pun.....

[more >>](#)

### **Gender issues discussed**

Source: [staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-18

LAHORE: Gender issues, especially reproductive health, the Covid-19, were discussed in a meeting of the lawmakers, healthcare professionals and civil society activists organised by Shirkat Gah on Tuesday. It urged the Punjab government to take notice of the pandemic on women and asked it to reform the Punjab Women's Parliamentary Caucus in order to continue providing a forum to the women pa.....

[more >>](#)

**Six more corona patients die at Nishtar Hospital**

Source: [Nadeem Shah, The News, International](#) , 2020-11-18

MULTAN: Six more corona patients died at the Nishtar Hospital while the number of corona patients has reached 415 in the district. The deceased were identified as Sarfraz Hussain and Nayyar Sultana of Multan, Dilbar Hussain of Jatoi, Zubair Usman of Shujabad, Shaheena Bibi and Muhammad Shareef of Burewala. The Nishtar Hospital officials said that total 171 corona patients were being treated at the.....

[more >>](#)

**17 corona patients die**

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#) , 2020-11-18

LAHORE: Around 17 COVID-19 patients died and 597 new infections were confirmed in Punjab during the last 24 hours, according to a report issued by Primary and Secondary Healthcare (P&SH) Department Tuesday. The fatalities toll reached 2,492 in Punjab, while confirmed cases reached 111,137 in the province. ....

[more >>](#)

**RIU facing shortage of specialists to manage COVID-19 patients**

Source: [Muhammad Qasim, The News, International](#) , 2020-11-18

Rawalpindi : Corona Management Centre at Rawalpindi Institute of Urology has got once again operational properly on Tuesday to deal with COVID-19 patients in town though it has been facing shortage of specialist doctors to provide healthcare to corona patients. After restoration of arrangements as per directives of Specialized Healthcare and Medical Education Department (SHC&ME Department) at.....

[more >>](#)

**Office closed as DC tests positive**

Source: [Correspondent, Dawn, Islamabad](#) , 2020-11-14

MUZAFFARGARH: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Amjad Shoaib Tareen quarantined himself in the DC House on Friday after he tested positive for coronavirus. The administration also closed the DC office for public dealing. Also, dozens of people were admitted to the Indus Hospital for coronavirus treatment. The district education authority closed four government schools after their teachers tested positive.....

[more >>](#)

**Highest Covid death toll in Punjab since July**

Source: [Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad](#) , 2020-11-14

LAHORE: A persistent resurgence in deaths and number of coronavirus cases has made the health authorities concerned after the virus claimed the lives of 17 people and infected 601 in Punjab during the last 24 hours. The number was the highest since the month of July when the pandemic was at its peak. On July 6, 13 deaths were reported in Punjab while 646 new confirmed cases were registered. Of .....

[more >>](#)

**Covid-19; Punjab reports highest number of deaths since July**

Source: [Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#) , 2020-11-14

LAHORE: Punjab has reported 601 coronavirus fresh cases and 17 deaths during the last 24 hours taking the provincial tally of cases to 108,822 and fatalities to 2455 amid concerns expressed by health professionals. This is the highest death toll recorded in the province since July this year. During the last 24 hours, 12,038 tests were conducted while with recovery of 12 more people and the t.....

[more >>](#)

### **Covid-19 situation; Punjab records 487 new cases, 7 deaths**

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-15

LAHORE: Punjab has reported 487 fresh coronavirus cases and seven more deaths during the last 24 hours taking the provincial tally to 109,309 and deaths to 2,462 across Punjab. 851 more people have recovered from the coronavirus across Pakistan, taking the country's total recoveries to 322,414. As many as 1,316 virus patients are in critical condition. Punjab Education Minister Mur.....

[more >>](#)

### **PHD reopens Corona Management Centre at Rawalpindi Institute of Urology**

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-16

LAHORE: Due to rapidly increasing number of cases, Punjab Health Department (PHD) has reopened the Corona Management Center at the Rawalpindi Institute of Urology to facilitate COVID-19 patients in the Division. After a visit of the Center, the Health Minister said Rawalpindi was facing a strong second wave and seven people have lost their lives in the last 24 hours. She said as many as 48 ca.....

[more >>](#)

### **17 corona patients die in Punjab**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-19

LAHORE : Around 17 COVID19 patients died and another 489 new infections were confirmed in Punjab during the last 24 hours, according to report issued by Primary and Secondary Healthcare (P&SH) Department on Wednesday. The toll of fatalities reached 2,509 in Punjab, while confirmed virus cases reached 111,626 in the province. ....

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### **Corona could not diminish Pindiites shopping craze**

Source: [Ibne Ahmad](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-20

Even the second wave of coronavirus pandemic could not curb the shopping craze of Pindiites. Right from children's garments to branded clothes for men and women, woollen, and footwear, everything is available at discounted prices. "Visit any of the busy markets in Saddar, Raja Bazaar, Commercial Market Satellite Town, Murree Road, Saidpur Road, and Jamia Masjid Road; you will b.....

[more >>](#)

### **10 Covid-19 patients die, 658 new cases reported**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-20

LAHORE: Ten Covid-19 patients died and 658 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 rose to 2,519 in Punjab, while confirmed cases of coronavirus reached 112,284 in the province. Out of a total of 112,284 infections in Punjab, 109,504 citizens con.....

[more >>](#)

### **Raja Basharat for re-formulating corona action plan**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-20

LAHORE: A meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Covid-19 was held at the Chief Minister's House under the chairmanship of Minister for Law and Social Welfare Raja Basharat. Additional Chief Secretary Home, Secretary Primary Health and relevant officers attended the meeting and reviewed the current situation of Corona pandemic in the province. Raja Basharat said that the appreciation and.....

[more >>](#)

**Three more die of Covid-19**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-20

RAWALPINDI/ ISLAMABAD: At least three more people died of novel coronavirus (Covid-19) in Rawalpindi's Holy Family Hospital (HFH) on Thursday. At least 407 new Covid-19 cases were reported from the federal capital over the past 24 hours, National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) said on Thursday, while 92 people contracted the virus in the garrison city. The latest fatalities in Rawalp.....

[more >>](#)

**Medical college hostels feared to be virus hotbeds**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-20

LAHORE: As soaring cases galvanise the government into action, the much feared second wave of the coronavirus has put medical students across Punjab at an immediate risk of viral transmission. Early November, when Covid-19's second spell began raising concerns within the medical community, some 80 students had already tested positive for the virus. A few weeks later, now almost 300 student.....

[more >>](#)

**Punjab bans indoor weddings**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-21

LAHORE: The Punjab government has imposed a ban on indoor weddings and other ceremonies on Friday implementing National Command and Operation Centre's (NCOC)'s decision to limit the spread of coronavirus. Wedding hall owners had earlier rejected the NCOC decision of banning indoor weddings, saying that they could not shut down their venues as they had collected advance payments for b.....

[more >>](#)

**Four more fall prey to COVID-19**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-21

MULTAN - Another four patients fell prey to coronavirus at Nishtar Hospital within last 24 hours bringing the tally to 231 since March this year. Nishtar focal person for infectious diseases, Dr Irfan Arshad said that Shamim (52), Khursheed (75), Iqbal Bibi (80) and Muhammad Asif (57) passed away at ICU of Nishtar hospital. Shamim, Khursheed and Iqbal Bibi hailed from Multan while Muhammad Asif .....

[more >>](#)

**2 COVID-19 patients die at RIUT due to non-availability of oxygen**

Source: [Israr Ahmad](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-21

Rawalpindi-Two COVID-19 positive patients died in Rawalpindi Institute of Urology and Transplant (RIUT), Corona Management Centre, allegedly due to absence of oxygen supply in the ventilator, informed sources on Friday. The deceased have been identified as Qazi Shabbir and Maimoona (wife of former assistant commissioner Ijaz Mirza), they said. Similarly, the management of RIUT have also eva.....

[more >>](#)

**Covid-19 claims 15 lives, 564 new cases reported in Punjab**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-22

LAHORE : Fifteen Covid-19 patients died and another 564 new infections were confirmed in Punjab during the last 24 hours, according to a report issued by Primary and Secondary Healthcare (P&SH) Department on Saturday. The toll of fatalities rose to 2,826 in Punjab, while confirmed cases of coronavirus reached 113,457 in the province. Out of a total of 113,457 infections in Punjab, 110.....

[more >>](#)

### **Decision on schools' closure linked to corona cases: minister**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-22

LAHORE : Punjab School Education Minister Dr Murad Raas has said any decision to close schools in the province or keep them open will be made on the basis of data related to Covid-19 cases. It is pertinent to mention here that an important meeting of all provincial education ministers is scheduled to take place on Nov. 23 (Monday) to decide future course of action vis-à-vis educatio.....

[more >>](#)

### **Covid-19 claims 15 more lives in Punjab**

Source: [APP](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-22

LAHORE: The coronavirus pandemic claimed 15 more lives in the province on Saturday. As many as 564 fresh infections were reported in Punjab. According to a spokesperson for Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department (P&SHD), the total number of cases in the province exceeded 113,450, while the total number of deaths was recorded at 2,826. The P&SHD spokesperson confirmed that 2.....

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### **Punjab reports 564 corona cases, 15 deaths**

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-22

LAHORE: There is no let up in the spread of Covid-19, as Punjab has recorded 564 fresh coronavirus cases and 15 deaths during the last 24 hours taking the provincial tally of cases to 113,457 and death toll to 2,826. As many as 1,389 coronavirus recoveries were reported during the last 24 hours across the country taking the total number of recoveries to 328,931 showing the recovery rate as 88.....

[more >>](#)

### **'Government's corona' more lethal, says Rana**

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-22

LAHORE: Terming the 'government's corona' as more lethal, Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) Punjab President Rana Sanaullah said on Saturday that the people would die with starvation, if the current government stayed around for further six months. "We are just informing about the Peshawar rally on Sunday; we do not require any permission before running a movement, t.....

[more >>](#)

### **COVID-19 SOPs to be followed during anti-polio drive**

Source: [APP](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-23

Rawalpindi : Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Health Authority Dr Sohail Chaudary has said that COVID-19 Standard Operating Procedure (SOPs) would be followed in letter and spirit during five-day anti-polio drive being commenced from November 30. Talking to this agency, the CEO said that to make the Polio campaign successful, training of Union Council Incharges of mobile polio teams is underw.....

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### **22 corona patients die in Punjab in 24 hours**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-23

LAHORE: Twenty-two COVID19 patients died and 553 new infections were confirmed in Punjab during the last 24 hours, according to report issued by Primary and Secondary Healthcare (P&SH) Department on Sunday. The death toll reached 2,848, while confirmed cases reached 114,010 in the province. As per the spokesperson for Corona Monitoring Room at P&SH Department, 13,865 tests have been.....

[more >>](#)

**Private schools oppose proposed closure**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-23

LAHORE: A number of private schools associations on Sunday urging the government not to close schools observed that any move to close campuses again would be unacceptable. Addressing a press conference, Pakistan Education Council (PEC) president Imran Masood, Serving Schools Alliance President Mian Raza, Chairperson Serving Schools Alliance Qazi Naeem Anjum and others said that educational .....

[more >>](#)

**Temporary residential points pose Covid risk**

Source: [nill](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-23

MULTAN: A lack of implementation of standard operating procedures (SOP) in temporary residential areas and at the entry and exit points of the city for transporters could potentially turn them into coronavirus hotspots. Residents complained that with the advent of the winter season, a large number of vendors had set up stalls of warm clothes, blankets, beds, including charpoy, pillows and other .....

[more >>](#)

**22 deaths, 553 new infections in Punjab**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-23

LAHORE - The COVID-19 claimed another 22 lives while 553 new cases were reported in Punjab during the last 24 hours. A spokesperson for the Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department said the number of coronavirus cases has reached 114,010 in the province while the death toll was recorded 2,848 with the recovery of 97,991 patients. The P&SHD confirmed that 229 new cases of COVID-1.....

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**Sindh****COVID-19 second wave: Sindh cancels winter vacations, Balochistan shuts down schools**

Source: [News Desk](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-17

The Sindh government on Tuesday ruled out winter vacations while the Balochistan government opted for early and extended winter holidays as the country struggles to contain coronavirus spread. Reflecting that students have been given more holidays than usual this year due to the coronavirus pandemic, Sindh Education Minister Saeed Ghani said there was "no question of winter vacations right n.....

[more >>](#)

**CM Murad Ali Shah, commerce minister, secretaries, lawmakers test positive for Covid-19**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-17

Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah and Commerce Minister Jam Ikramullah Khan Dharejo have tested positive for Covid-19, with both of them isolating themselves at home. CM Shah said on Monday that he had felt a bit feverish on Friday, so he got himself tested for Covid-19, and the result showed that he was infected with the novel coronavirus. He said he has isolated himself at home, .....

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**MPA Sharjeel Memon directs officers concerned to ensure SOPs implementation for COVID-19**

Source: [Press Release](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-17

HYDERABAD: The MPA Sharjeel Inaam Memon who is also the focal person for Coronavirus in District Hyderabad has directed the concerned officers to ensure the implementation on SOPs for COVID-19. He directed the concerned officers that shopkeepers and customers who are not wearing mask should be taken to task. He underlined the need of giving awareness to people about importance of SOPs incl.....

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### **Another 942 infections, nine deaths in Sindh**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-16

KARACHI: Sindh reported 942 fresh Covid-19 cases overnight, said provincial chief minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Sunday, adding that the province had detected 155,680 cases since the pandemic broke out in the country. Moreover, according to the statement released by the CM House on the day, the contagious disease claimed nine more lives, taking Sindh's death toll to 2,747. According to the.....[more >>](#)

### **16 perish, another 865 test positive for Covid-19 in Sindh**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-15

Sixteen more people have died due to Covid-19 and another 865 cases have been reported during the past 24 hours in Sindh, with the death toll due to the viral disease reaching 2,738 in the province. Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said in his daily situation report on the health emergency on Saturday that 13,320 samples were tested in the past 24 hours, resulting in 865 people, or seven .....[more >>](#)

### **Sindh reports highest infection rate in current Covid-19 wave**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-16

Nine more people have died due to Covid-19 and another 942 cases have been reported during the past 24 hours in Sindh, with the death toll due to the viral disease reaching 2,747 in the province. Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said in his daily situation report on the health emergency on Sunday that 11,353 samples were tested in the past 24 hours, resulting in 942 people, or 8.3 .....[more >>](#)

### **Nine more die of Covid-19**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-18

KARACHI: As many as nine more patients of coronavirus lost their lives overnight and 904 new cases emerged when 12,430 samples were tested. In a statement issued here from CM House on Tuesday, Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said that 2,760 people had so far died due to Covid-19 constituting 1.8 per cent death rate. Murad Ali Shah, who went into self-isolation after being diagnosed Covid-19 p.....

[more >>](#)

### **Head of surgery at Karachi's NICVD removed after raising alarm over Covid-19 cases**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-18

KARACHI: A key member of the National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases (NICVD) was on Tuesday removed from his assignment just a day after he announced suspension of all surgeries at the health facility and its satellite centres in Tando Mohammad Khan and Sukkur due to prevalence of Covid-19 in many staff members, sources and officials said. "It is notified for information that Dr Asad .....

[more >>](#)

### **Four WHO-funded incinerators to be installed in Larkana health facilities**

Source: [PPI](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-18

KARACHI: Sindh Environmental Protection Agency (Sepa) director general Naeem Ahmad Mughal presided over a meeting here on Tuesday to review environmental pollution and safe disposal of hazardous medical waste in Larkana district. The meeting discussed installation and operation of four incinerators for the safe disposal of medical waste at various hospitals of the district. Experts at the m.....

[more >>](#)

**Ex-Hyderabad JI emir dies of coronavirus**

Source: [Staff Correspondent, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-18

HYDERABAD: A former Hyderabad emir of Jamaat-i-Islami (JI) Shaikh Shaukat Ali, 80, was among three coronavirus patients that died in the city since Monday night. He breathed his last at the Liaquat University Hospital (LUH) on Tuesday. According to the LUH focal person on Covid-19, Dr Aftab Phull, the two other patients were a 75-year-old resident of Fakir Ka Pir, who died at his home on Tuesday,.....

[more >>](#)

**Second vaccine lifts global hopes of overcoming deadly pandemic**

Source: [AFP, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-18

WASHINGTON: Global hopes of overcoming the coronavirus pandemic were boosted on Monday after a second vaccine was found to be nearly 95 per cent effective, bringing much-needed optimism to a world facing surging infections and a raft of new restrictions. The news from the US biotech firm Moderna comes after similar results were announced last week for a vaccine candidate developed by pharma giant.....

[more >>](#)

**Nine more die as 904 fresh Covid-19 cases emerge in Sindh**

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-11-18

Nine more people have died due to Covid-19 and another 904 cases have been reported during the past 24 hours in Sindh, with the death toll due to the viral disease reaching 2,760 in the province. Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said in his daily situation report on the health emergency on Tuesday that 12,430 samples were tested in the past 24 hours, resulting in 904 people, or 7.3 per c.....

[more >>](#)

**Virus worries cut PSX's global rebound led rally short**

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-11-18

Stocks on Tuesday started off with a roar clawing on to a global vaccine rally, but ended with a whisper as virus noise started giving investors cold feet, reversing the early gains made in energy, bank, and cement sectors, dealers said. Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) benchmark KSE-100 shares index was up 0.37 percent or 147.92 points to close at 40,652.67 points. Volumes shrank to 150.341 million.....

[more >>](#)

**Challenges, opportunities in wake of Covid-19 highlighted**

Source: [Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-14

KARACHI: Speakers participating in a two-day multidisciplinary international virtual conference highlighted the challenges in the wake of Covid-19 pandemic, suggesting more holistic and cost-efficient strategies in each sector that could cater to the needs of everybody without discrimination. The event was titled 'Diversity, Inclusion and Equity: Synergies and Challenges in the Wake of Covi.....

[more >>](#)

**PPP MPA Jam Madad Ali dies of coronavirus**

Source: [NNI, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-14

KARACHI: A senior politician and Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Member of Sindh Assembly from Sanghar Jam Madad Ali died from coronavirus on Friday. According to details, the MPA was under treatment at Karachi's private hospital where he succumbed to the virus. He was put on a ventilator after his health condition deteriorated, according to reports. Jam Madad Ali had parted ways wi.....

[more >>](#)

### **Marriage hall owners reject new SOPs**

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-15

KARACHI: Karachi Marriage Hall/Lawn/Banquet Owners Association on Saturday rejected the new SOPs of National Command & Operation Centre (NCOC) regarding marriage halls and termed it as 'economic killing' of people associated with it. Association representatives speaking at a press conference at Karachi Press Club stated that new SOPs to prevent the spread of Covid-19 would dam.....

[more >>](#)

### **COVID-19 claims 16 more lives, infects 865 others in Sindh: CM**

Source: [APP](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-15

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Saturday said that 16 more coronavirus patients lost their lives lifting the death toll to 2,738 and 865 new cases emerged when 13,320 tests were conducted raising the tally to 154,738. In a statement issued here from CM House, he said that 16 more patients of COVID-19 lost their lives while struggling against the virus that constituted 1.8.....

[more >>](#)

### **Covid-19 claims 9 more lives, infects 942 others in Sindh**

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-16

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has said that nine more patients died lifting the death toll to 2,747 and 942 new cases emerged when 11,353 tests were conducted. In a statement issued from CM House on Sunday, he said, "nine more patients died last night lifting the death toll to 2,747 that constituted 1.8 percent death rate," Shah said that 11,353 samples were te.....

[more >>](#)

### **Sharjeel for implementation of SOPs for Covid-19**

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-17

HYDERABAD: MPA Sharjeel Inaam Memon, who is also the focal person for Covid-19 in District Hyderabad, has directed the concerned officers to ensure the implementation of SOPs for Covid-19. He directed the concerned officers that shopkeepers and customers who are not wearing mask should be taken to task. He underlined the need of giving awareness to people about importance of SOPs including ma.....

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### **Sindh CM tests positive for coronavirus**

Source: [Mohammad Bilal Tahir](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-17

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has been diagnosed as COVID-19 positive and has gone into home isolation. In a statement issued from CM House here on Monday, the chief minister said that he felt light fever last Friday so he got his PCR test done which declared him as a COVID-19 positive patient. Shah said he had isolated himself at his home. Meanwhile, four more p.....

[more >>](#)

### **1,127 new Covid-19 cases emerge in Sindh as four more dead**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-19

Four more people have died due to Covid-19 and another 1,127 cases have been reported during the past 24 hours in Sindh, with the death toll due to the viral disease reaching 2,764 in the province. Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said in his daily situation report on the health emergency on Wednesday that 11,960 samples were tested in the past 24 hours, resulting in 1,127 people, or 9.4 per ce.....

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### Chief secy discusses pandemic measures with UN delegation

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-19

A five-member United Nations delegation led by Julien Harneis met Sindh Chief Secretary Syed Mumtaz Ali Shah on Wednesday to discuss the measures taken by the provincial government for containing the novel coronavirus. Also present on the occasion were provincial minister for revenue Makhdoom Mehboob Zaman, provincial minister for rehabilitation Faraz Dero, Board of Revenue Senior Member Q.....

[more >>](#)

### Smart, micro lockdowns back as coronavirus rears head again in Karachi

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-20

KARACHI: The local administration of Karachi has decided to impose smart and micro lockdowns in the metropolis' virus hotspots amid significant rise in coronavirus cases during the second wave. The decision was taken in a meeting chaired by Karachi Commissioner Iftikhar Shalwani, attended by all authorities concerned on Friday. The officials have decided to impose smart lo.....

[more >>](#)

### Covid-19 claims 19 more lives, infects 1,276 in Sindh

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-21

Nineteen more patients have died from the novel coronavirus and another 1,276 people have been declared positive in Sindh. As many as 12,975 samples were tested in a span of 24 hours, said the Sindh chief minister on Friday. With the new 19 deaths, the total number of confirmed deaths from Covid-19 had reached 2,799, said Syed Murad Ali Shah. In his daily Covid-19 situation report, he said.....

[more >>](#)

### Smart and micro lockdowns to be imposed in Karachi today

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-21

To deal with rising cases of Covid-19, smart lockdown and micro lockdown will be imposed in Karachi from today (Saturday) onwards while only marriage halls without roofs will be allowed to hold wedding ceremonies. This was decided in a meeting held on Friday with Karachi Commissioner Iftikhar Shallwani in chair. The meeting was attended by deputy commissioners, district health officers, He.....

[more >>](#)

### Sindh decides against early closure of schools

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-21

KARACHI: The Sindh Education Department on Saturday decided against the early closure of educational institutions in the province as the second wave of the pandemic sweeps across the country. Chairing a meeting of the provincial education steering committee, members were informed by Education Minister Saeed Ghani of recommendations regarding early school closure. The meeting was attended by Sin.....

[more >>](#)

### Pakistan registers more than 2,800 Covid-19 cases

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-21

The country saw yet another high in the number of coronavirus cases on Saturday, with at least 2,843 cases being recorded in the last 24-hour period as the pandemic's second wave sweeps through Pakistan. At least 42 people also passed away during the same time period, said the National Command and Operations Center (NCOC). Saturday's increase in cases is highest since July. The NCOC adde.....

[more >>](#)

### **Hospital for Covid-19 lags in development**

Source: [Rija Fatima, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-21

A few months into the coronavirus pandemic, amid the multitude of measures the Sindh government had announced to tackle the contagion, came the much-vaunted establishment of the Sindh Infectious Diseases Hospital and Research Centre. Initially set up as a 54-bed facility in July, primarily to treat Covid-19 patients, the government had aimed to expand its capacity to 200 beds within the next six .....

[more >>](#)

### **19 more succumb to Covid-19, 1,276 new cases emerge**

Source: [Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-21

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has said that the Covid-19 has hit new highs in Sindh by claiming 19 more lives overnight lifting the death toll to 2,799 and 1,276 new cases emerged when 12,975 samples were tested. In a statement issued here from CM House, he said that 19 more patients lost their lives lifting the death toll to 2,799 that constituted 1.8 percent. Shah s.....

[more >>](#)

### **Colgate lab tests show toothpaste, mouthwash inactivate 99.9pc of virus that causes Covid-19**

Source: [Press Release, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-21

KARACHI-Laboratory studies show that toothpastes containing zinc or stannous and mouthwash formulas with cetylpyridinium chloride (CPC) neutralize the virus that causes COVID-19 by 99.9%. The studies are part of a Colgate research program that includes clinical studies among infected people to assess the efficacy of oral care products in reducing the amount of the virus in the mouth, potentially s.....

[more >>](#)

### **FBR notifies tax exemption for 61 items used in COVID-19 vaccines**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-21

KARACHI - The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) on Friday issued a notification for tax exemption on imports of 61 items used in the preparation of COVID-19 vaccines. The federal cabinet had earlier given approval to exempt imports of 61 items used in the preparation of COVID-19 vaccine from taxes and duties on November 17. Sources said that the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) took three days to.....

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### **dd0xsec**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-21

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### **Corona patients fill half of Karachi hospitals: Corona wave claims most victims in a day**

Source: [M Waqar Bhatti, The News, International](#), 2020-11-22

ISLAMABAD/KARACHI: The total active COVID-19 cases in Pakistan on Saturday were recorded 34,974, as 2,843 more people tested positive during the last 24 hours. A total of 42 corona patients lost their lives out of whom 34 died in hospitals on Friday, according to the latest update issued by the National command and Operation Centre (NCO) on Saturday. No COVID affected person was on ventilator i.....

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### **Sindh reports highest Covid-19 infection rate yet as 17 more die**

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-11-22

Seventeen more people have died due to Covid-19 and another 1,199 cases have been reported during the past 24 hours in Sindh, with the death toll due to the viral disease reaching 2,816 in the province. Chief Minister Syed Murad

Ali Shah said in his daily situation report on the health emergency on Saturday that 11,537 samples were tested in the past 24 hours, resulting in 1,199 people, or.....

[more >>](#)

### **To close schools or not**

Source: [Editorial, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-22

Provincial governments in the country are hoping they can ride out the second wave of Covid-19 by keeping educational institutions open this winter so that students can make up for the time they lost by not being able to attend classes physically. However, this decision has met with scepticism from parents who are concerned about the health of their children amidst a resurgence in the pandemic. Last .....

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### **Virus drug trial shows encouraging results**

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-15

The clinical trials of anti-Covid-19 intravenous immunoglobulin (C-IVIG), developed by the Dow University of Health Sciences (DUHS) for treating the novel coronavirus, has shown encouraging results, claimed the varsity on Saturday. According to a DUHS statement, the administration of C-IVIG to patients with severe infection has led to a 100 per cent recovery rate while a 60 percent recovery rate .....

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### **City hotspots go under lockdown**

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-22

Different areas of Karachi went under smart and micro-lockdowns on Saturday, as Covid-19 claimed another 17 lives in Sindh and 1,199 more infections, including 859 from Karachi, were reported in the province. Karachi commissioner Iftikhar Shallwani had issued the directives to impose lockdowns in areas affected by the pandemic during a meeting on Friday. A day later, deputy commissioners (DCs) is.....

[more >>](#)

### **Smart, micro lockdowns imposed in various Karachi areas**

Source: [Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-22

KARACHI: The district administrations of the city - South, East, West, Central and Korangi have imposed micro, smart lockdowns in different areas of Karachi to control the spread of the coronavirus. The district south has imposed lockdown in the following areas: 5th Street, Khayaban-e-Momin (five active cases) 6th Street, Khayaban-e-Badban (four active cases) 12th Street, Bath .....

[more >>](#)

### **COVID-19: Sindh has 17 more deaths, 1,199 new cases**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-22

KARACHI - As many as 17 more patients of coronavirus died lifting the death toll to 2,816 and 1,199 new cases emerged when 11,537 tests were conducted. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued on Saturday. He added that 17 more patients of COVID-19 lost their lives lifting the death toll to 2,816 that constituted 1.8 percent death rate. Syed Mura.....

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### **Holding of events not permissible at indoor premises due to increasing COVID-19 cases: Shallwani**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-22

KARACHI - Administrator and Commissioner Karachi Iftikhar Ali Shallwani on Saturday observed that holding of events were not permissible at indoor marriage halls, restaurants and auditoriums due to increasing cases of COVID-

19. The decision of imposing smart lockdown in four districts and micro lockdown in other two districts was taken in larger interest of the people, the administrator passe.....

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### **DUHS clinical trials of anti-COVID-19 showed promising results**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-22

KARACHI - Clinical trials of anti-COVID-19 intravenous immunoglobulin (C-IVIG) developed by Dow University of Health Sciences (DUHS) showed promising results. C-IVIG has shown 100% recovery rate in severe patients, and more than 60% recovery rate in critical patients admitted in ICU or on ventilators, with more than 50% of the recovered patients being discharged from hospital within 5 days. ....

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### **Covid-19 claims 13 lives, infects 1,102 others in Sindh**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-23

Thirteen more patients have died from the novel coronavirus and another 1,102 people have tested positive for Covid-19 in Sindh. As many as 11,439 samples were tested for Covid-19 in the last 24 hours, said the Sindh chief minister on Sunday. With 13 new deaths, the total number of deaths from the viral disease have reached 2,829 in the province, said Syed Murad Ali Shah. Overall, 163,329 positiv.....

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### **IPEMC to take decision on closure of schools today**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-23

KARACHI: The Inter-Provincial Education Ministers Conference (IPEMC) will be held today (Monday) virtually to take the decision regarding closure of schools in the country in the wake of the second Covid-19 wave. The meeting, which will be headed by Federal Education Minister Shafqat Mahmood and attended by all provincial education ministers, will discuss the spike in coronavirus cases in the co.....

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### **KSE-100 tumbles 872 points as lockdown fears dampen sentiment**

Source: [Fayaz Hussain](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-23

The benchmark KSE-100 index tumbled as much as 872.15 points or 2.17 per cent on Monday as fears of a complete lockdown, spurred by a sharp spike in Covid-19 positivity rate, dampened overall market sentiment. Commercial banks, cement and oil & gas marketing companies were the top losers during intra-day trade whereas Hascol, Unity Foods and TRG Pakistan led the volume charts. "Fears o.....

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### **Sindh govt in state of indecision on tough SOPs to contain second Covid-19 wave**

Source: [Imran Ayub](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-23

KARACHI: The Sindh government finds itself in a fix after its own task force on coronavirus has strongly recommended immediately taking all possible measures that had been taken during the first wave of the pandemic. However, after almost a week since the recommendations were made, the government is yet to move at the same pace with which it had acted hours after the first case was reported in Feb.....

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### **COVID claims 13 more lives, infects 1,102 others**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-23

KARACHI - Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah said that 13 more patients of COVID-19 died overnight lifting the death toll to 2,829 and 1,102 new cases emerged when 11,439 samples were tested raising the tally to

163,329. In a statement issued from CM House, he said that 13 more patients of coronavirus lost their lives while struggling against the virus lifting the death toll to 2,8.....

[more >>](#)

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**17 more patients tested COVID-19 positive in Tharparkar**

Source: [Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-23

MITHI - Tally of corona affected patients reached at 43 in district Tharparkar as 17 more people tested positive for COVID-19 on Saturday. Medical Superintendent (MS) Taluka Hospital Nangarparkar Dr Shankar Laal informed that new cases of contagion were diagnosed in Nangarparkar and Islamkot towns and Kasbo, Pethapur, Veerawah, Sadoras, Bhodesar, Chuncha, Rarrako and other villages of the distri.....

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## International News

### Countries News

#### **Oil moves higher on latest Covid-19 vaccine progress**

Source: [Reuters](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-16

LONDON: Oil prices climbed on Monday, recouping some losses from the previous session after US company Moderna Inc said its experimental vaccine was 94.5% effective in preventing Covid-19. Brent crude futures for January LCOc1 were up \$1.48, or 3.5%, to \$44.26 a barrel by 1215 GMT, while US West Texas Intermediate crude for December CLc1 was at \$41.63, up \$1.5 or 3.7%. Prices were also buoyed b.....

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#### **Skills shortage hits UK as Covid splits job market**

Source: [Reuters](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-17

LONDON: Britain will face a growing skills shortage over the next decade if it does not start retraining and reskilling workers for the shift to a digital-based economy, which has been sped up by the Covid-19 pandemic, a McKinsey report said on Monday. The consultants said their analysis showed 94% of the workforce lacked skills they will require in 2030. The pandemic had polarised the job marke.....

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#### **'Trafficking of counterfeit medicines poses biggest challenge to sustainable development'**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-15

New York: Trafficking of medicinal products poses one of the biggest challenges to sustainable development amid the coronavirus pandemic, Ambassador Munir Akram said on Saturday. "Some of the largest current threats to sustainable development emanate from crimes against the environment and, [one] in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, is the trafficking of counterfeit medical products,&rd.....

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#### **Over 2,000 migrants cleared from Paris camp amid Covid fears**

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-18

SAINT DENIS: French police on Tuesday cleared a migrant street camp outside the Stade de France stadium north of Paris where around 2,000 people, mainly Afghan and African, had been living in cramped tents. Dozens of police were deployed to carry out the operation, which took place in the midst of a nationwide coronavirus lockdown. The occupants of the camp, which had mushroomed in size in recen.....

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#### **US company says its vaccine candidate is 95pc effective**

Source: [News Report](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-17

WASHINGTON: American company Moderna has claimed that its coronavirus vaccine is nearly 95 percent effective in protecting people from the potentially-deadly infection, BBC News reported. Last week, pharmaceutical companies Pfizer/BioNTech had announced that they have managed to create a vaccine which is 90 percent effective in combating the coronavirus. According to the report, both compa.....

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#### **Can first Covid vaccines bring herd immunity? Experts have doubts**

Source: [Reuters](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-18

FRANKFURT/ LONDON: Governments and officials are voicing hopes that Covid-19 vaccines could bring "herd immunity", with some calculating that immunising just two-thirds of a population could halt the pandemic disease and

help protect whole communities or nations. But the concept comes with caveats and big demands of what vaccines might be capable of preventing. Some experts say such .....

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### **Poorer nations 'forced' to wait for vaccine**

Source: [AFP](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-19

Paris: Hailed this week as a pandemic game-changer, the new Covid-19 vaccine offered countries that had pre-ordered doses a potential escape from a cycle of lockdowns and new waves of sickness and death. But while richer nations plan their vaccination programmes through the end of 2021, experts warn that poorer and developing countries face hurdles that could deny billions the first proven.....

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### **G20 to discuss post-pandemic world**

Source: [Reuters](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-22

BRUSSELS: Leaders of the 20 biggest world economies (G20) are debating this weekend how to deal with the unprecedented Covid-19 pandemic that has caused a global recession and how to manage the recovery once the coronavirus is under control. High on the agenda are purchases and global distribution of vaccines, drugs and tests for low-income countries that cannot afford such expenses themselves. ....

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### **Saudi-hosted G20 summit to tackle Covid-19, recession**

Source: [AFP](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-22

RIYADH: Saudi King Salman opened the G20 summit Saturday in a first for an Arab nation, with the virtual forum dominated by efforts to tackle the coronavirus crisis and the worst global recession in decades. G20 leaders, including US President Donald Trump who is refusing to concede a bitter election, popped up in multiple windows across a flickering screen, in a high-stakes webinar held amid.....

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### **US gives go-ahead to Covid antibody therapy**

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-23

WASHINGTON: US drug regulators gave emergency approval to a Covid-19 antibody therapy on Saturday and G20 nations pushed for global access to vaccines as the pandemic led to further closures in parts of the world. With cases surpassing 12 million in the United States, the highest in the world, many Americans were nonetheless heading to airports to travel for next week's Thank.....

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## Donors News

### **Trust in vaccines vital to halting pandemic: WHO**

Source: [AFP](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-15

GENEVA: As the world celebrates advances in vaccines against the novel coronavirus, a top WHO expert warned in an interview with AFP that public distrust risked rendering even the most effective treatments useless against the pandemic. "A vaccine that sits in a freezer or in a refrigerator or on a shelf and doesn't get used is doing nothing to help shorten this pandemic," said K.....

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### **China provides Rs17m emergency grant to PRCS**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-21

ISLAMABAD-China on Friday provided an emergency grant of Rs17 million to the Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) for medical and livelihood assistance of the people severely hit by the COVID-19. A statement released by PRCS said that MoU in this regard was signed between PRCS and the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Islamabad here on Friday. PRCS Secretary General Khalid b.....

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### **WHO Covid envoy fears third wave, calls Europe response 'incomplete'**

Source: [Reuters](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-22

ZURICH: A World Health Organization (WHO) special COVID-19 envoy predicted a third wave of the pandemic in Europe in early 2021, if governments repeat what he said was a failure to do what was needed to prevent the second wave of infections. "They missed building up the necessary infrastructure during the summer months, after they brought the first wave under the control," the WHO&rs.....

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## SDPI Engagements

### Webinars News

#### Subgroup of PC Advisory Committee express satisfaction over Govt's measure to tackle COVID-19

Source: [DNA](#), [Daily Islamabad Post](#), 2020-11-19

ISLAMABAD – The Leading representatives of industry and enterprises showed their confidence in Government of Pakistan's timely interventions to insulate the industry from getting hurt due to COVID19. Appreciating State Bank of Pakistan's deferment of loan and temporary economic relief facilities, they suggested that government should do more to protect micro small and small ente.....[more >>](#)

#### Subgroup of Planning Commission Advisory Committee on Industry & Enterprises happy with Govt's measure during first wave of COVID-19 but want it to do more for continued economic recovery amidst second wave of COVID

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Spokesman](#), 2020-11-19

Islamabad: The Leading representatives of industry and enterprises showed their confidence in Government of Pakistan's timely interventions to insulate the industry from getting hurt due to COVID19. Appreciating State Bank of Pakistan's deferment of loan and temporary economic relief facilities, they suggested that government should do more to protect micro small and small enterprises .....[more >>](#)

#### SDPI holds virtual meeting

Source: [Rasheed Khalid](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-21

Islamabad: The government is trying to reach out to the private sector stakeholders to understand and address their needs during Covid-19 pandemic, said Planning Minister's Advisory Committee Convener Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri. Dr Suleri was speaking here at a virtual meeting of high powered 'Industry and Enterprise' sub-group of the Advisory Committee. Dr Suleri, who is als.....[more >>](#)

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