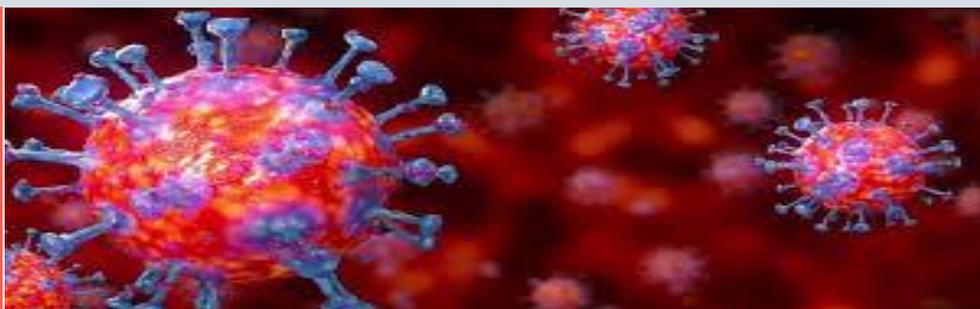


# E-Newsletter on COVID-19



Vol. 01, No, 62



Issue: 24-27 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

#### Our lives matter

Source: [Abdul Sattar](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-24

The recent spike in Covid-19 cases across the country, including AJK and GB, has created great concern among health experts, hospitals workers and various sections of society. The surge in cases seems to be adding to the woes of common Pakistanis who fear that the country's faltering health system would be overwhelmed by the phenomenal increase that has been witnessed in the last four weeks,.....[more >>](#)

#### COVID-19: A mysterious bio misery

Source: [Rehman Malik](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-24

COVID-19 is appearing like a monster and it has become a mystery as to how and from where it descended on our planet. It looks like an invisible force stinging everywhere and continuing to attack the world without discrimination. While we are fighting against it and continue to lose valuable lives, it brings miseries in our lives. Our country is unable to take its non-ending pressure due t.....[more >>](#)

#### Making headlines

Source: [Catherine Rottenberg & Shani Orgad](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-25

We have repeatedly heard about how Covid-19 disproportionately affects women. While men are more likely to die from the virus, in many other respects, women are bearing the brunt of the pandemic's impact. The effects on women have been multiple: violence against women has increased, with incidents of domestic violence soaring. School closures, overburdened healthcare systems and soci.....[more >>](#)

#### Visas of the future

Source: [Rafia Zakaria](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-25

WE are in the darkness before dawn. There is hope: one, two and now three vaccine candidates have been found to be efficacious against the Covid-19 pandemic that has ravaged the world. Alas, the availability of the vaccine, close as it may be, has failed to curb the spread of the disease. Numbers are rising everywhere and the threat of new restrictions locally and globally is very real. Among the.....

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#### Antibiotic awareness week

Source: [Zainab Nazir](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-25

The emergence of a novel and very lethal bacterium coinciding with the Covid-19 pandemic is highly considerable. It could happen. We have lost respect for the weapon. We all take antibiotics for granted. We assume that if we, our loved ones, or even our pets have an infection that we can go to the doctors or vets for medicines to clear that infection. And in most instances, this is the case. Howe.....

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#### Putting all at risk

Source: [Editoril](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-24

THE collective recklessness of our political parties, including the opposition and the ruling PTI, has resulted in an alarming increase in the number of Covid-19 cases in the country. In recent weeks, rallies in major cities, a huge election campaign in Gilgit-Baltistan and a mass funeral for the TLP chief have demonstrated how far removed the coronavirus threat is from the minds of our political .....

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**A deliberate disaster**

Source: [Bruce Lesnick](#), [The News, International](#) , 2020-11-26

With nearly 12 million cases and a quarter million deaths in the US so far (over 55 million cases and 1.3 million deaths world-wide), the COVID 19 pandemic is ravaging civilization. The disease is on track to be the deadliest epidemic since 1918. The economic fallout for the working class has been severe. In the US, unemployment has skyrocketed, with 45.4 million new unemployment claims si.....

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**Covid messaging**

Source: [Editoril](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#) , 2020-11-26

THE repeated Covid-19 warnings from the NCOC point to a dangerous future, yet many politicians, including those in government, and citizens are refusing to take the threat seriously. Planning Minister Asad Umar this week predicted that a failure to take preventive measures may thrust the country towards the situation witnessed in June, when hospitals were overwhelmed with infected patients. With n.....

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**Back to virus peak times**

Source: [Editorial](#), [Daily Times](#) , 2020-11-26

Though the world has seen the birth of a successful vaccine against coronavirus, and its distribution worldwide is a matter of a few months, the world at large, however, needs to pass the wait time with care as the second wave of the virus is showing its toll. Pakistan which waded through the first wave with a huge success, if the death toll and infected cases are compared to other countries, shou.....

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**Covid's real danger is political**

Source: [Harlan Ullman](#), [Daily Times](#) , 2020-11-26

A pandemic is war by different means. Death counts are far greater. The enemy is invisible. But, paradoxically, rallying publics against a pandemic is much more difficult than in wartime. This paradox between the disparity of magnitude of loss and public support is partly what makes a pandemic potentially dangerous to the political and not just the physical health of a nation. Covid-19 is .....

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**Covid-19 and Pakistan's economy; Way forward-II**

Source: [Dr Ashfaq H Khan](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#) , 2020-11-27

Pakistan's fiscal situation has worsened significantly during the second lost decade (2008-18) and the deterioration further accelerated over the last two years (2018-20) owing to the implementation of an IMF programme as well as Covid-19. Tax collection was severely affected during the period of lockdown (April-June) on the one hand and expenditure surged on the other, primarily due to the .....

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## National News

### Balochistan

#### **NCOC 'satisfied with anti-Covid measures'**

Source: [Mohammad Zafar, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-24

QUETTA: The National Command and Operation Centre expressed full satisfaction with the efforts of the Balochistan government to counter the risk factor of the coronavirus during a meeting held in Islamabad on Monday. According to the directorate general public relations (DGPR) Balochistan, the federal ministers attending the meeting appreciated their dedicated efforts of the province in the fight....

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### Islamabad

#### **Covid-19; Hospitalisation of patients doubled in two weeks: NCOC**

Source: [Abdul Rasheed Azad, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-24

ISLAMABAD: Owing to increasing number of Covid-19 cases, the hospitalisation of patients has doubled in the country within the past two weeks, the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) Monday revealed. The NCOC meeting held under the chairmanship of NCOC Chairman Asad Umar, to discuss and review coronavirus situation in the country, was informed by the officials that over the past 24 h....

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#### **Rise in corona cases Indoor restaurants to be closed down**

Source: [APP, The News, International](#), 2020-11-25

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Asad Umar on Tuesday said the government had decided to close indoor restaurants countrywide to prevent the spread of COVID-19 pandemic. Briefing the media about the decisions taken by the National Coordination Committee, which met here with Prime Minister Imran Khan in the chair, he said the ban will not be valid for fo....

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#### **WEF recognises Pakistan's Covid-19 policies: PM Imran Khan to open country strategy dialogue today**

Source: [nill, The News, International](#), 2020-11-25

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan will inaugurate the World Economic Forum (WEF) country strategy dialogue on Pakistan on Wednesday (today). The WEF is organising the event and Imran Khan will participate in an interactive dialogue with the President WEF Børge Brende and chairpersons and Chief Executive Officers of leading global corporations and WEF partner companies. Subsequent....

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#### **Second round of COVID-19 sero-prevalence study completed**

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-11-25

Islamabad : Pakistan has successfully completed the second round of COVID-19 sero-prevalence study, making it one of the few countries globally that have completed this important exercise. As a follow-up to the first round, the second round of sero-prevalence study was conducted in 10 selected districts of Pakistan in end of October. The Health Services Academy, in collaboration with multi....

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### COVID-19 – a threat to progress on girls’ education in Pakistan

Source: [Myra Imran](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-25

Islamabad: COVID-19 has widened existing educational inequalities in Pakistan, particularly affecting girls in more marginalised areas and poorer households, making girls most at risk of dropping out, particularly in interior districts. These findings made part of a research report, “Girls’ education and COVID-19 in Pakistan” commissioned by Malala Fund with the help of .....

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### Asad says Covid stats worsening, seeks SOPs compliance

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-25

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Planning and Development Asad Umar on Tuesday feared that the country might face the worst coronavirus situation after two weeks if preventive measures were not strictly adhered to. “We experienced a peak in Covid-19 cases in June and if we do not follow the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), we may face the worst situation in the next two weeks,” he said at.....

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### Covid kills 48 more as daily cases near 3,000

Source: [Ikram Junaidi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-25

ISLAMABAD: While as many as 2,954 people tested positive for the novel coronavirus and 48 more patients died during the past 24 hours, a government study has estimated that around 15 million individuals have already been exposed to the virus. The data released by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Tuesday revealed that 10,050 health professionals — 6,285 doctors, 1,189 nurses.....

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### CDA seals restaurants on violation of building by-laws

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-25

Islamabad: The Capital Development Authority (CDA) has sealed restaurants and vehicle service stations over the violation of building code here on Tuesday. According to a press release of CDA, upon the special directions of CDA Chairman Aamir Ali Ahmed, the authority sealed the illegal restaurants and four service stations in sectors G-9 and G-10. The owners of more than 25 illegal buildings.....

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### Covid-19 claims 12 more lives in twin cities

Source: [Munawer Azeem | Aamir Yasin](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-25

ISLAMABAD: With 642 new cases emerging, 12 people died of Covid-19 in the twin cities - six in Islamabad and as many in Rawalpindi - on Tuesday. Moreover, two educational institutions in the capital were sealed after detection of positive cases among students and teachers. Officials of the district administration said the tally of the sealed educational institutions in the capital reached 151. ....

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### Pandemic threatens to roll back progress on girls’ education: report

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-25

ISLAMABAD: The Covid-19 pandemic threatens to roll back progress on girls’ education in Pakistan, said a new report. Malala Fund with the help of Education Champion Network commissioned the report “Girls’ education and Covid-19 in Pakistan”. The report highlights the impact of school closures on students across the country with an emphasis on girls’ experiences. It s.....

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### **Covid compels govt to shut educational institutions again**

Source: [Kashif Abbasi, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-24

ISLAMABAD: Due to the renewed surge in Covid-19 cases, the federal government on Monday announced closure of educational institutions from Nov 26 to Jan 10, postponing the exams scheduled during this period. The decision was taken at an online conference of provincial and federal education ministers, headed by Shafqat Mahmood, after they discussed the wave of Covid-19 and its impact on educationa.....

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### **Pakistan sees highest Covid-19 positivity ratio of this season**

Source: [Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-24

ISLAMABAD: The highest positivity ratio of the current season was recorded on Monday as Pakistan continues to reel under the impact of Covid-19. According to the data released by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), the positivity rate in the country stood at 7.46 per cent with 35 people having died on an average from Covid-19 during the last one week. The NCOC said that out of the .....

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### **WB pauses \$200 million project to tackle Covid**

Source: [Shahbaz Rana, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-25

ISLAMABAD: The World Bank (WB) has paused implementation of the \$200 million coronavirus contagion mitigation project due to failure of the federal and provincial governments to put in place effective mechanisms for strengthening health systems. The Washington-based lender's decision serves a blow to Pakistan's claim of effectively responding to coronavirus contagion. In the latest .....

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### **DRAP okays 20-minute Covid test kit Regulator's CEO says the new tech will cost Rs2,000**

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-25

ISLAMABAD: The Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (Drap) has given the nod to a coronavirus test kit that can make a preliminary diagnosis of the disease in 20 minutes. Confirming the development, Drap CEO Dr Asim Rauf said the rapid test kit had been patented by a company abroad. A foreign pharmaceutical firm would import the kits to Pakistan. "The test will initially cost Rs2,000, &rd.....

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**48 more die as active cases cross 40,000-mark**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad](#) , 2020-11-25

ISLAMABAD - The total active COVID-19 cases in Pakistan on Monday were recorded 40,379 as 2954 more people tested positive for the deadly virus during the last 24 hours. A total 48 corona patients, who were under treatment had lost their lives, out of them 41 in hospitals while seven died out of hospital due to COVID-19 on Monday, according to the latest update issued by the National command .....

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**DRAP approves locally made Rapid Testing Kit for corona detection**

Source: [Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad](#) , 2020-11-25

ISLAMABAD - Drugs Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) has approved the locally manufactured Rapid Testing Kit for immediate detection of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in patients, Tuesday. According to the certificate of enlistment of DRAP, the device named COVID-RAID (COVID-19 Rapid Artificial Intelligence Detection) is a windows based software programme based on python using Tensorflow and K.....

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**Businesses, factories cannot be shut: PM Imran Khan**

Source: [Mumtaz Alvi & News Desk, The News, International](#) , 2020-11-26

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan Wednesday said that after facing various economic challenges, Pakistan's economy was now stable and moving in the right direction and getting stronger with the passage of time. The prime minister said he was convinced that US President-elect Joe Biden would not reverse the Afghan peace process, being the greatest achievement of President Trump, who did a g.....

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**Bilawal tests positive for COVID-19**

Source: [News Desk, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#) , 2020-11-26

Pakistan Peoples Party Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari announced on Thursday that he had tested positive for Covid-19 and was isolating with mild symptoms. The PPP chairman is said to have tested positive following his political secretary, Jameel Soomro, testing positive for the novel coronavirus. Revealing his test result in a tweet,, the PPP chairman urged people to wear masks. He said he will b.....

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**No quick end to economic damage after Covid-19 vaccine: UNCTAD**

Source: [Amin Ahmed, Dawn, Islamabad](#) , 2020-11-26

ISLAMABAD: Despite growing confidence that an end to health pandemic is in sight, a report released by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has warned that a viable Covid-19 vaccine will not contain the economic damage. The report said that the after-effects of the economic damage caused by the pandemic will be felt for a long time in future especially by the poorest an.....

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**PM rules out full lockdown amid second Covid wave**

Source: [Imran Adnan, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#) , 2020-11-26

LAHORE: Prime Minister Imran Khan said on Wednesday the government had decided not to go for a complete lockdown amid the second wave of coronavirus pandemic but warned that it would not allow the opposition to hold public gatherings and risk people's lives. Accompanied by Punjab Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar and provincial cabinet members here, the prime minister told reporters that .....

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### **Another 14 succumb to Covid-19 in Islamabad, Rawalpindi**

Source: [Aamir Yasin | Munawer Azeem, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-26

ISLAMABAD: As many as 14 people lost their lives as the number of cases continued to rise in the twin cities on Wednesday. In another development, Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (Pims) closed its main outpatient department (OPD). The aim of the step is to save doctors from exposure to the virus and also utilise their services in coping with the increasing burden of coronavirus patients, s.....

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### **Capital to have drive-in cinema**

Source: [Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-26

ISLAMABAD: Capital Development Authority (CDA) has decided to open a drive-in cinema in the city so citizens can benefit from a safe outdoor activity amid the pandemic. The outdoor cinema is expected to be opened next month wherein people will be able to watch films whilst sitting in their cars. According to sources in the authority, films will shown on weekends at first but if positive feedback.....

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### **Covid-19 has altered ways societies live, interact: Sherry**

Source: [Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-26

ISLAMABAD: Jinnah Institute's flagship event, the Ideas Conclave, kicked off on Wednesday, with a conversation between Senator Sherry Rehman and notable historian Peter Frankopan. Senator Rehman opened the session, titled "Global Re-Order in the Making" by saying that disruptions caused by the Covid-19 pandemic have altered ways societies live and interact, and further constrain.....

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### **Pakistan reports over 3,000 fresh cases for first time since mid-July**

Source: [News Desk, Daily Times](#), 2020-11-26

The total active COVID-19 cases in Pakistan on Wednesday were recorded at 42,115 as 3,009 more people tested positive for the deadly virus. Fifty-nine corona patients, 54 of whom were under treatment in hospitals and five out of hospital, died, according to the latest update issued by the National command and Operation Centre (NCOC). No Covid-affected person was on ventilator in Azad Jammu and Ka.....

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### **WB to provide \$19.85m to Pakistan for Covid-19 response**

Source: [News Desk, Daily Times](#), 2020-11-26

World Bank will provide \$19.85 million to Pakistan for Covid-19 response, recovery and resilience in education project. An agreement to this effect was signed in the federal capital on Wednesday by Secretary Ministry of Economic Affairs Noor Ahmed and Country Director World Bank Najy Benhassine in presence of Minister for Economic Affairs Makhdum Khusro Bakhtiyar. The project is aimed to strengthe.....

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### **<https://dailytimes.com.pk/693646/hospitals-full-as-second-wave-of-virus-grips-pakistan/>**

Source: [Agencies, Daily Times](#), 2020-11-26

across Pakistan are nearing capacity as a second, deadlier wave of the coronavirus builds momentum and officials struggle to counter public indifference to the pandemic. Several doctors told AFP on Wednesday that hospitals are turning away suspected Covid-19 patients, with the potential for a major health care crisis increasing daily. "The coming two weeks are critical and our situation is goi.....

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**With 59 deaths, daily virus cases cross 3,000**

Source: [Tahir Niaz, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-26

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan reported 59 deaths and more than 3,000 daily coronavirus cases during the last 24 hours — the highest daily total of infections the country has reported since the second week of July. The portal to track the spread of the disease in the country shows that 3,009 infections were reported Wednesday morning, taking the national total to 382,892. Meanwhile, with 59 new d.....

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**PIMS shuts down OPD due to corona patients' influx**

Source: [Rahul Basharat, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-26

ISLAMABAD - The Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS) on Wednesday decided to close the majority of its Outpatients Departments (OPDs) due to an increase in novel coronavirus (COVID-19) patients' influx. The PIMS administration decided to close main OPD, however Children Hospital (CH), Mother and Child Hospital (MCH), Cardiac Centre and Burn Care Centre (BCC) will remain functio.....

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**Pakistanis join final trials for China-made vaccine**

Source: [AFP, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-26

ISLAMABAD: Thousands of volunteers are flocking to research hospitals across the country to join final-stage clinical trials of a Chinese-made vaccine for the coronavirus. It is the first time Pakistan has participated in such a trial, which comes amid a string of positive vaccine announcements by Western pharmaceutical companies this month. The vaccine is being developed by CanSinoBio and the .....

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**DC office closed down**

Source: [Our Crime Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-11-27

Islamabad : The COVID-19 even hit the Deputy Commissioner (DC) office, after finding various case of the coronavirus, the authorities have decided to close the DC Office. The office is playing a major role in fighting against the deadly pandemic, consequently. The DC office confirming the report said that the office has been closed down temporarily, adding that every official of the offic.....

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**Covid-19 deaths top 300 in capital**

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-27

RAWALPINDI/ ISLAMABAD: At least eight people have died of novel coronavirus disease (Covid-19) in Islamabad during the past 24 hours taking the toll of the pandemic to over 300. Islamabad Deputy Commissioner Hamza Shafqaat said in a tweet that at least 200 people among the 300 fatalities were aged 60 and above. He warned that the second wave of the coronavirus was more lethal and asked people t.....

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**Nationwide Covid-19 tally rises to 388,151**

Source: [Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-27

ISLAMABAD: The nationwide Covid-19 cases have reached 388,151 with a total of 7,867 deaths, the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) and the provincial authorities reported. According to data release by the NCOC on Thursday morning, the country reported 40 more deaths owing to Covid-19 and detected 3,306 new cases out 45,999 tests carried out. There are now 43,963 active cases in the .....

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### **Economy in the wake of Covid-19; Pakistan being showcased as model for world: Shibli**

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#) , 2020-11-27

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Shibli Faraz said the world is acknowledging the remarkable resilience shown by Pakistan's economy in the wake of the Covid-19. In a tweet, Shibli said Pakistan is being showcased as a model for the world and has received recognition from World Economic Forum president Børge Brende. He said the address of Prime Minis.....

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### **Pakistan reports 3,113 new coronavirus cases in one day**

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#) , 2020-11-27

Pakistan has reported 54 deaths in the last 24 hours by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has surged to 389,311. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 7,897 on Friday. According to the latest figures by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC), 3,113 persons tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 24 hours. Sindh remains the worst-hit province by the pande.....

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### **Over 3,000 corona cases reported on 2nd straight day**

Source: [Tahir Niaz](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#) , 2020-11-27

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan reported 3,306 coronavirus cases during the last 24 hours on Thursday, a day after it confirmed more than 3,000 daily infections for the first time since July. Forty more people also died of coronavirus in the country over the last 24 hours. According to the latest statistics, 3,306 people tested positive for Covid-19 during the last 24 hours after the tests of 45,999 peo.....

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### **Britain offers support to mitigate impact of COVID-19**

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#) , 2020-11-27

ISLAMABAD - The British High Commissioner, Christian Turner, Thursday offered to provide all possible help from the British government for the people of Pakistan in mitigating the socio-economic impact of COVID-19 pandemic. The ambassador extended this offer during a call on meeting with Adviser to Prime Minister on Finance and Revenue Dr. Abdul Hafeez Shaikh here. During the meeting, the adviser .....

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## Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

### Lack of PPEs exposes doctors to COVID-19

Source: [Syed Kosar Naqvi, The News, International](#), 2020-11-24

ABBOTTABAD: The lack of proper facemasks, sanitizers, personal protective equipment (PPE) and inadequate healthcare facilities have exposed doctors and paramedics working in the public sector hospitals to the coronavirus. "We will face a shortage of staff in hospitals as doctors, paramedics and nurses have been infected by the coronavirus," said Prof Dr Nisar Khan while chairin.....

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### COVID-19: 2 college lecturers test positive in DI Khan

Source: [Qayyum Nawaz Babar & Mushtaq Paracha, The News, International](#), 2020-11-24

DERA ISMAIL KHAN/NOWEHSRA: Two women lecturers of the Government Girls Degree College No. 2, were quarantined after they tested positive for the Covid-19 on Monday. The college administration said that two women lecturers had reported positive for the coronavirus and were sent home to quarantine to stem the spread of the virus in the institution. The officials added that the district admini.....

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### Smart lockdown imposed in Peshawar

Source: [Mushtaq Yusufzai, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-25

PESHAWAR: Panicked by the rising number of positive cases of the coronavirus and subsequent deaths, the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government has finally started smart lockdown in the provincial capital to prevent transmission of the viral infection. In Peshawar, all public and private sector hospitals are flooded with patients suffering from the coronavirus. The management of a well-equipped priv.....

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### CCPO tests positive for COVID-19

Source: [Bureau Report, The News, International](#), 2020-11-25

PESHAWAR: CCPO Mohammad Ali Gandapur was quarantined at home after he tested positive for Covid-19. A press release said the chief traffic officer Abbas Majeed Marwat would be acting head of the city police in absence of Gandapur. The police officers and other officials are more vulnerable to the Covid-19 and they interact with the people on a daily basis. A number of officials have so far been te.....

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### Judge tests positive for corona

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-11-25

MINGORA: A senior judge tested positive for Covid-19 in Swat on Tuesday. An official of the Health Department said Senior Civil Judge Judicial Hamid Kamal tested positive for the virus and the court was sealed. He said that the blood samples of all the staff of the Senior Civil Judge Judicial Court had been sent to the laboratory for the corona test. — Correspondent .....

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### Schools in KP likely to call students once a week for home tasks

Source: [Mohammad Ashfaq, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-25

PESHAWAR: As access to Internet is not available in most parts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, the elementary and secondary education department has proposed that students go to school for a little time once a week to learn about assignments to be done at home during the pandemic-induced restriction on in-person classes. The proposal has formally been put up to the chief minister as a summary for approval.....

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### **Peshawar traders protest arrests, sealing of shops**

Source: [Ali Hazrat Bacha](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-25

PESHAWAR: Traders took to the streets here on Tuesday against the sealing of shops, business centres and banquet halls over the violation of standard operating procedures enforced to stem the spread of coronavirus. They also decried the arrest of their community members. The district administration sealed hundreds of shops, business centres and banquet halls in the provincial capital over SOP vi.....

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### **Experts fear surge in virus cases after medical colleges admission test**

Source: [Ashfaq Yusufzai](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-25

PESHAWAR: The health experts have asked Pakistan Medical Commission to postpone holding of medical and dental college admission test (MDCAT) for the session 2020-21 to safeguard the candidates from getting infected with Covid-19. However, Special Assistant to Prime Minister on National Health Services Regulations and Coordination Dr Faisal Sultan told Dawn that there was no plan to postpone MDCAT.....

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### **Pandemic-hit people get cash**

Source: [Correspondent](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-25

DERA ISMAIL KHAN: The World Food Programme (WFP) is distributing Rs7,500 per family among the people affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. The distribution of money started on Tuesday at two points in Paharpur tehsil and the Dera city. Assistant commissioner, Paharpur, Rao Hashim Azeem, and DSP Alamgir Khan started cash distribution among the deserving people in the AC office. Assistant commission.....

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### **NEC rejects closure of educational institutions**

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-25

PESHAWAR: National Education Council (NEC), a group of private educational institutions, has rejected the government's decision of closing down all educational institutions in the country from November 26 till January 10 due to the rising number of coronavirus cases and demanded withdrawal of the decision. Addressing a news conference at Peshawar Press Club on Monday, NEC chairman Nazar Hus.....

[more >>](#)

### **Peshawar's Qissa Khwani Bazar sealed over violations of SOPs**

Source: [News Desk](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-25

PESHAWAR: Amid rising number of Covid-19 cases in the country, Peshawar's famous business center Qissa Khwani Bazar was sealed on Tuesday over violation of SOPs. On the directions of Deputy Commissioner Muhammad Ali Asghar, Assistant Commissioner Peshawar Dr Ehtesham-ul-Haq sealed more than 300 shops and dozens of wholesale markets in the area. The situation, however, escalated when a num.....

[more >>](#)

### **Revenue Dept official dies of COVID-19 in Swat**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-26

MINGORA: An official of Revenue Dept died of coronavirus in Swat district. Hospital sources said COVID-10 had infected Shaukat Ali, a sub-registrar of Revenue Dept in Swat, some days ago. He was quarantined at home and medical treatment was being provided but died while struggling for life for last several days. The deceased was laid to rest at his ancestral graveyard in Mingora. He was br.....

[more >>](#)

### **Peshawar, Mansehra hardest hit in KP as Covid cases surge**

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-26

PESHAWAR: An alarming pattern with regard to Covid-19 has been noted as cases and mortalities are surging with Peshawar and Mansehra as the hardest-hit districts in second wave of pandemic in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The pattern of new cases is similar to the previous wave as the same districts are recording more cases which remained epicentres of the virus when the pandemic started early this year. ....

[more >>](#)

### **Educational institutions closed to contain pandemic**

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-26

PESHAWAR: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government on Wednesday notified closure of all educational institutions from Thursday (today) due to second wave of Covid-19 in the light of the decision taken in the inter-provincial education ministers' conference. The educational institutions will remain closed from November 26 till January 10, 2021, and would reopen on January 11 if the situation improv.....

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### **PMA KP chief tested positive for corona**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-26

Peshawar - Pakistan Medical Association (PMA) Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chapter President Dr Hussain Haroon has tested positive for coronavirus and has quarantined himself at his home. In a press release issued here on Wednesday, the PMA Khyber Pakhtunkhwa chapter spokesperson said that the association provincial president Hussain Haroon had been in fever for the last several days. Doctors have pres.....

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### **Commercial plazas sealed as 338 test positive in Hazara**

Source: [APP](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-27

ABBOTABAD: The district administration and health authorities in the Hazara division on Thursday sealed several commercial plazas, hotels and schools as 338 new novel coronavirus (Covid-19) cases were confirmed in the division. The health department of districts in the division said that some 233 people tested positive for Covid-19 in Mansehra, 79 in Haripur, 15 in Battagram and 11 in Upper Kohi.....

[more >>](#)

### **Buddhist conference postponed again**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-27

PESHAWAR: Amidst rising cases of novel coronavirus, the provincial government has decided to put preparations for its grand Buddhist conference - through which it hoped to showcase the province's religious tourism potential - on the backburner once again. The K-P Archaeology and Museums Department Director Dr Abdul Samad Khan told The Express Tribune on Thursday that the first-ever Buddhis.....

[more >>](#)

### **People urged to follow SOPs amid infections surge**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-27

PESHAWAR: With an alarming rise in the novel coronavirus cases amidst the second wave, Special Assistant to Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa chief minister on Information Kamran Bangash has urged the public to strictly observe the novel coronavirus guidelines. Bangash in a statement on Thursday said that as many as 435 new cases of Covid-19 have been confirmed in the province in the past 24 hours. The governm.....

[more >>](#)

### **Virus forces closure of K-P academic institutions**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-26

PESHAWAR: Following a notification from the federal government, the provincial government on Wednesday notified the closure of all educational institutes to contain the spread of the second wave of the novel coronavirus (Covid-19). In the notification issued by the Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (K-P) Elementary and Secondary Education Department (ESED) on Wednesday, all educational institutions will remain.....

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## **Punjab**

### **2 marriage halls, two restaurants sealed for SOPs violations**

Source: [Khalid Iqbal](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-24

Rawalpindi: The local administration, Rawalpindi has sealed two marriage halls and two restaurants for violating the standard operating procedures (SOPs) here on Monday. The administration has also imposed fine of Rs261,000 against 39 restaurants and Rs68,000 against 8 marriage halls. The concerned administration has checked total 237 restaurants and 84 marriage halls in two days. Accordin.....

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### **13 succumb to Covid-19, 498 new cases**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-24

LAHORE: Thirteen Covid-19 patients died and another 498 new infections were confirmed in Punjab during the last 24 hours, according to report issued by Primary and Secondary Healthcare (P&SH) Department on Monday. The toll of fatalities was raised to 2,861 in Punjab, while confirmed cases of coronavirus reached 114,508 in the province. Out of a total of 114,508 infections in Punjab, as .....

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### **50pc staff of offices to work from home**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-24

LAHORE: The Punjab government on Monday ordered all public and private offices to follow the policy of 'work from home for 50pc of the staff' in view of Covid-19 resurgence. In this regard, Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department (P&SHD), Punjab under Punjab Infectious Diseases (Prevention and Control) Act 2020 and with the approval of the chief minister, directed that all publi.....

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### **Two more die of COVID-19 in Faisalabad**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-24

FAISALABAD: Two more coronavirus patients died on Monday. Fehmida Bibi of Dastgirpura and Nasir Ahmad of Chak 31/JB tested positive for COVID-19 and were admitted to the isolation ward of the Allied Hospital, Faisalabad, where they died on November 23, 2020. Total coronavirus death toll in the district has reached 80. According to a source of local health department, the numbers of coronavirus pat.....

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### **Authorities urged to impose smart lockdown**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-24

MULTAN: The Multan District Health Authorities Monday asked the district administration to impose smart lockdown at four new places in the city in the wake of fast spike in coronavirus cases. The smart lockdown is recommended at News Multan Colony D-block, Shah Rukin Alam H-Street, Officers Colony and Mumtazabad. Eleven cases of coronavirus virus have been reported at various places on Nov.....

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**186 booked for SOPs violations in Multan**

Source: [APP](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-24

MULTAN: District police registered 186 cases against violators of coronavirus Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) during the ongoing month across the district. According to officials, the police were taking strict action against violations of coronavirus SOPs in order to play their role in stopping the virus from spreading. Reportedly, the police officials were also cooperating with the district....

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**13 more people test positive for coronavirus in a day**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-24

FAISALABAD - Around 13 more people tested positive for the coronavirus in the city on Monday. According to Deputy District Health Officer (DDHO) Dr Asif Shahzad, a total of 819 tests were conducted in one day, out of which reports of 13 were positive. He said that the district health department had made arrangements for collecting samples of suspected patients by visiting people's homes. H.....

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**Police registered 186 cases over violations of SOPs during November**

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-24

MULTAN - Police registered 186 cases against the violators of coronavirus-related Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) during the ongoing month across the district. According to police sources, the department is taking strict action against those found not complying with the SOPs in order to play its role in controlling virus from spreading. The police officials are also sealing shops and ho.....

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**Corona devours 13 more lives**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-24

LAHORE - As many as 13 COVID-19 patients died in Punjab on Monday, taking the death toll to 2,861. Another 498 new infections were reported in Punjab during the last 24 hours, taking number of confirmed cases to 114,508. According to Primary and Secondary Healthcare (P&SH) Department, out of a total of 114,508 infections in Punjab, as many as 111,728 citizens contracted the virus through local.....

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**Corona-related deaths increase due to carelessness: CM Usman Buzdar**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-25

LAHORE: Chief Minister Usman Buzdar has said necessary steps have been taken to overcome the spread of corona virus, adding that the decisions made in consultation with the federal government will be strictly implemented. In a statement, the chief minister appealed to the citizens to wear face masks in the public. The government is monitoring the situation daily as the number of patients an.....

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**18 corona patients die in Punjab**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-25

LAHORE: Eighteen Covid-19 patients died and another 630 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 Tuesday. The toll of fatalities rose to 2,879 in Punjab, while confirmed cases of coronavirus reached 115,138 in the province.

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### **18 more Covid deaths, 630 new cases**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-25

LAHORE: As many as 18 more Covid-19 patients died, while 630 other people tested positive for the virus during the last 24 hours in Punjab, as per the official data released on Tuesday. Of the new cases, 241 were reported in Lahore, 100 in Rawalpindi, 42 in Multan, 36 in Bahawalpur, while the remaining ones surfaced in Layyah, Mandi Bahauddin, Jehlum, Chiniot, Sialkot, Pakpattan, Sargodha, Attock.....

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### **Nadra officials, visitors disregard corona SOPs**

Source: [Abid Mahmood](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-25

NAROWAL: Officials at various places have failed to ensure implementation of coronavirus SOPs which is quite evident from the instance of mismanagement at the National Database and Registration Authority (Nadra) office. Scores of people daily visit the office on Circular Road to apply for CNICs or B Form or collect these on due date but a visit to it showed people throwing caution to the wind by .....

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### **Cuts, curbs and Covid-19: journalists speak in first person**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-25

LAHORE: Journalists at a meeting organised by the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan said there was exploitation and discrimination towards working journalists in mainstream media. Moderated by journalist Alefiah T Hussain, the meeting dilated upon the future of print in times of other media, job insecurities and other issues. Maheen Pracha from HRCP said the pressure on freedom of expression (.....

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### **18 more Covid deaths, 630 new cases**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-25

LAHORE: As many as 18 more Covid-19 patients died, while 630 other people tested positive for the virus during the last 24 hours in Punjab, as per the official data released on Tuesday. Of the new cases, 241 were reported in Lahore, 100 in Rawalpindi, 42 in Multan, 36 in Bahawalpur, while the remaining ones surfaced in Layyah, Mandi Bahauddin, Jehlum, Chiniot, Sialkot, Pakpattan, Sargodha, Attock.....

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### **Punjab records 630 fresh Covid-19 cases, 18 deaths in 24 hours**

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-25

LAHORE: While there is no let up in the spread of Covid-19 cases, the Punjab government is considering different proposals to stop virus spread. Sources claimed that proposals such as closing down major business centres, gymnasiums, sports facilities, cinema houses, theatres are under consideration. A proposal is also under consideration to keep the markets and businesses open from 8am to 8pm .....

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### **COVID-19: Death-rate increasing due to carelessness: CM**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-25

LAHORE - Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar has said necessary steps have been taken to overcome the spread of coronavirus adding that the decisions made in consultation with the federal government will be strictly implemented. In a statement issued here on Tuesday, the CM urged the citizens to wear facemasks in the public. He said that the government is monitoring the situation daily .....

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### Opp's non-seriousness in corona can be disastrous for country, warns Governor

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-25

LAHORE - Punjab Governor Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar on Tuesday said that even if the opposition completes a century of rallies, even then government would not go anywhere. Talking to media persons after an event at the Governor House, Lahore, he said that the non-seriousness of the opposition in corona can be disastrous for the country, adding that the opposition should reconsider their politic.....

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### 25 corona patients die, 648 new cases in Punjab

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-26

LAHORE: Twenty-five Covid-19 patients died and 648 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 Wednesday. The toll of fatalities rose to 2,904 in Punjab, while confirmed cases of coronavirus reached 115,786 in the province. Out of a total of 115,786 infections in Punjab, 113,.....

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### Educational institutes closed from today

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-26

LAHORE: The Punjab Higher Education Department (HED) and the School Education Department (SED) on Wednesday announced closure of the public and private schools, colleges and universities in the province due to Covid-19 pandemic. The HED notification available with Dawn states, "In pursuance of the directions of National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), on campus teaching in all public u.....

[more >>](#)

### PU, UET announce policies for campus closure period

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-26

LAHORE: The Punjab University and the University of Engineering and Technology (UET), Lahore, on Wednesday issued their policies regarding the Covid-19 control. The PU administration decided to begin online classes from Nov 26 till Dec 24 for BS and master's level students. The university also announced winter vacation from Dec 25 to Jan 10. PU spokesman Khurram Shahzad said the Deans Comm.....

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### PM rules out 'complete lockdown' in Pakistan

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-11-26

Prime Minister Imran Khan on Wednesday said with Pakistan like other parts of the world hit by the second wave of Covid-19, it is not going for a complete lockdown but would only shut the non-essential sectors, including public gatherings, to save its poor people as well as economy from the severe consequences. "With the high level of poverty and the lessons learnt from the first wave of Co.....

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### Punjab notifies closure of schools, seminaries, tuition centres

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Spokesman](#), 2020-11-26

Punjab Education Minister Dr Murad Raas on Wednesday notified the closure of schools in the province announcing that academies, tuition centres and seminaries will also be shut down in a bid to control the coronavirus pandemic. "All Public and Private Schools, Academies, Tuition Centers & Madrasas to be closed starting tomorrow 26th November 2020. No exceptions," said the minister.....

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### **Collective efforts a must to tackle COVID-19: Humayun**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-26

LAHORE - Minister for Higher Education Raja Yasir Humayun on Wednesday said that collective efforts are direly needed to tackle the issue of second wave of COVID-19. He was speaking at launching of Annual Report of Burki Institute of Public Policy at the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry. LCCI President Mian Tariq Misbah, Senior Vice President Nasir Hameed Khan, Vice President Tahir .....

[more >>](#)

### **Over 130 coronavirus patients detected in last 24 hours in the city**

Source: [Israr Ahmad](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-26

Rawalpindi - As many as eight persons died of novel coronavirus in Rawalpindi Institute of Urology (RIU) and other areas of city, informed a spokesman of district government on Wednesday. The deceased have been identified as Noor Fatima (56), Haji Nawab (75), Niaz (50), Danial, Sakina Bibi (79), Mahiri (54), Sabir Khan (74) and Shamim Akhter (64), he added. He also informed some 132 new coro.....

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### **Punjab records 720 Covid-19 cases, 19 deaths**

Source: [Recorder Green](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-27

LAHORE: For the first time since July 10 this year, Punjab has reported 720 fresh cases of COVID-19 and 19 deaths during the last 24 hours taking the provincial tally of cases to 116,506 and deaths to 2,923. With 1,418 more recoveries from coronavirus across the country, the country's total recoveries have reached to 334,392. Sources claimed that 1,968 COVID-19 patients are in crit.....

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### **Ali Musa Gilani gets bail in SOPs violation case**

Source: [INP](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-27

MULTAN: The local court on Thursday granted bail to Ali Musa Gilani, the son of former Prime Minister Yousaf Raza Gilani in a case related to violation of COVID-19 SOPs. He along with 70 Pakistan Peoples Party activists were booked by the police over holding a protest demonstration outside Chehlyak police station in Multan. Speaking to media persons after getting bail, Ali Musa Gilani sa.....

[more >>](#)

### **6 more COVID-19 patients die in Multan**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-27

MULTAN - Another six patients lost battle of life against coronavirus at Nishtar Hopsital within last 24 hours bringing the tally to 256 since March this year. Nishtar focal person for infectious diseases, Dr Irfan Arshad said that Syed Javid (56) Maqsood Begum (65) Khaliq Uz Zaman (68) Muhammad Hanif (67) Syed Asif Ali (50) and Muhammad Arshad (48) passed away at ICU of Nishtar hospital. Fiv.....

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### **7 commercial units sealed over violations of SOPs**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-27

MULTAN - District administration has sealed seven commercial units over violations of coronavirus SOPs during a crackdown launched here on Thursday across the district. In line with special directives of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Aamir Khattak, Price Control Magistrates Tariq Wali and Naoman Abid visited different markets of the city including Vehari Chowk, General Bus Stand, Shah Rukan-E-Alam, Gul.....

[more >>](#)

**6 persons die of coronavirus in Rawalpindi**

Source: [Israr Ahmad, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-27

Rawalpindi - Six people including two women died of COVID-19 in different hospitals of city in last 24 hours, informed district government spokesperson on Thursday. Those who died have been identified as Sonia (37), Farzana (53), Javed (63), Muhammad Bashir (80), Ghulam Muhammad (75) and Mehroof (56), she said. Moreover, a total of 166 coronavirus confirmed patients have landed in Rawalpindi.....

[more >>](#)

**Sindh****Sindh's Covid-19 infection rate climbs further as 16 more perish**

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-11-24

Sixteen more people have died due to Covid-19 and another 1,322 cases have been reported during the past 24 hours in Sindh, with the death toll due to the viral disease reaching 2,845 in the province. Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said in his daily situation report on the health emergency on Monday that 10,837 samples were tested in the past 24 hours, resulting in 1,322 people, or 12.....

[more >>](#)

**Commissioner bans indoor dining at restaurants**

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-11-24

Karachi Administrator and Commissioner Iftikhar Ali Shallwani has banned indoor dining across the city given a surge in the coronavirus cases. According to a press statement issued by the commissioner office on Monday, all deputy commissioners of the six districts, as well as the assistant commissioners, have been directed to strictly implement the order. "Restaurants will only be a.....

[more >>](#)

**Sindh imposes fresh Covid restrictions, limits business timings from 6am to 6pm**

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-24

KARACHI: The Sindh government has imposed more restrictions to curb the spread of novel coronavirus amid second wave which include mandatory face masks wearing, ban on indoor weddings, and work from home policy among others. The provincial authorities said in a notification issued late Monday that fresh measures have been taken in line with the National Command and Control (NCO) November 11 mee.....

[more >>](#)

**Sindh mandates face masks in public places, bans indoor wedding ceremonies**

Source: [Hafeez Tunio, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-24

KARACHI: As the second wave of Covid-19 hits the country, the Sindh home department on Tuesday issued a new order mandating the use of face masks in all offices and public places. Failure to wear face masks will result in a penalty, the notification said. The order also banned wedding ceremonies in closed places, adding that only 200 people will be allowed to attend open-air events. "The w.....

[more >>](#)

**Smart lockdown imposed in six UCs of Hyderabad**

Source: [Z Ali, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-24

HYDERABAD: With the second wave of the pandemic causing a sudden surge in coronavirus infections in Hyderabad, the district administration enforced a smart lockdown in certain areas from Monday. The lockdown, which will remain in place for 13 days, until December 5, will affect all commercial activities excluding pharmacies, general stores, dairies and bakeries. All markets in three union council.....

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### **Covid-19; Sindh records 1322 new cases**

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-24

KARACHI: With an increasing trend each day, Sindh recorded 1,322 new cases of Covid-19 while 16 more patients died lifting the death toll 2,845, Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah told on Monday. In a statement issued here from the CM House, the chief minister said with 16 more fatalities, the death rate constituted 1.8 percent. Murad Shah told that 10,837 samples were tested which diagn.....

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### **COVID-19 claims 16 more lives, infects 1322 others**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-24

KARACHI - Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah said that 16 more patients of coronavirus died lifting the death toll 2,845 and 1,322 new cases emerged when 10,837 tests were conducted raising the tally to 164,651. In a statement issued from CM House, he said that 16 more patients of COVID-19 died lifting the death toll to 2,845 that constituted 1.8 percent death rate. Shah said that.....

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### **Karachi hospitals run out of space after surge in coronavirus cases**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-24

KARACHI - An alarming situation is developing in Karachi as hospitals run out of space. Indus Hospital is denying admission to patients after becoming saturated by coronavirus cases. As many as 1,000 cases have been reported in the city in the last 24 hours. The corona wards at Jinnah Hospital have become overwhelmed with Covid-19 patients. Executive director Jinnah Post Graduate Medical Cent.....

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### **17 areas in Hyderabad sealed due to surge in Covid-19 cases**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-24

HYDERABAD - Smart lockdown on Monday has been imposed in Hyderabad due to surge in coronavirus cases. According to details, as many as 17 areas including Baldia Colony, Mubarik Colony, Airport Road and others have been locked down from Monday till December 5. On the other hand, Pakistan has reported 34 deaths in the last 24 hours by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has surged to.....

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### **Hospitalisation increasing across Sindh as 13 more killed by Covid-19**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-25

The number of people who are being hospitalised in Sindh because of Covid-19 as well as of those who are being declared critically ill have been constantly on the rise. The number of patients under treatment across the province has increased from 15,440 to 16,218 in the past 24 hours, with the number of those in self-isolation rising from 14,818 to 15,535. The number of people who have be.....

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### **403 shops sealed, mall fined Rs500,000 over SOP violations**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-11-25

The district administrations of Karachi have sealed 403 shops in different parts of the city over non-compliance with the standard operating procedures (SOPs) devised by the Sindh government to limit the spread of the novel coronavirus. The shopping centres that have been sealed include the Dolmen Mall and the Saima Paari Mall, while outlets of J. (Junaid Jamshed) and Almirah as well as ot.....

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### Drive to fine people without masks not yielding positive results in Karachi

Source: [Imran Ayub](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-25

KARACHI: A government decision to impose a Rs500 fine for not wearing a face mask at public places has failed to make any impact as in more than two weeks officials of the municipal and district administration have managed to penalise only 54 people for violating the notified standard operating procedures (SOPs), forcing them to conclude that the move is impracticable and almost impossible to fetc.....

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### 120-bedded coronavirus research centre made functional at Abbasi Hospital

Source: [Tahir Siddiqui](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-25

KARACHI: Administrator and Commissioner of Karachi Iftikhar Ali Shallwani on Tuesday said that Covid-19 Infectious Disease and Research Centre was now functional at the Abbasi Shaheed Hospital (ASH). "A 120-bedded centre has been equipped with isolation ward, high dependency units (HDUs), having experienced doctors, professors and experts," he said while addressing a ceremony held at .....

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### Sindh govt's stance on schools' closure not taken into account, says Saeed Ghani

Source: [Staff Correspondent](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-25

HYDERABAD: Sindh Minister for Education and Labour Saeed Ghani has said that the provincial government had proposed closure of primary schools in the first phase of a national strategy to contain the second wave of Covid-19 but the proposal was not accepted by the federal authorities. He was speaking at a reception organised by the Sindh Khanzada Ittehad and later speaking to reporters here on Tu.....

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### Over 1,300 new covid infections emerge in Sindh

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-25

Sindh reported 1,382 more Covid-19 infections and 13 coronavirus-related deaths on Tuesday, said Sindh Chief Minister in a statement issued on the day. Following this development, the CM said, the province's Covid-19 death toll has climbed to 2,858 and the cumulative infection tally to 166,033. Giving a breakdown of the newly emerged cases, he said 1,091 of the cases were reported from Karac.....

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### Former railways minister Jadam Mangrio succumbs to Covid-19

Source: [Hafeez Tunio](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-25

KARACHI: Former state minister for railways and senior leader of Pakistan Muslim League-Functional (PML-F) Jadam Mangrio passed away in Karachi on Tuesday, several days after contracting Covid-19. The former railways minister was placed on a ventilator at a private hospital in Karachi, due to complications caused by the virus. He was 63 at the time of his passing. "He had tested positive a.....

[more >>](#)

### Sindh posts 1,382 new cases of Covid-19

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-25

KARACHI: As many as 13 more patients of Covid-19 lost their lives lifting the death toll to 2,858 and 1,382 new cases emerged when 11,738 tests were conducted. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued here on Tuesday. He added that death rate constituted 1.8 percent. Shah said that 11,738 tests were conducted against which 1,382 cases were diagnos.....

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### **Sindh govt bans entry of aged people into vegetable markets**

Source: [APP](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#) , 2020-11-25

KARACHI: The Sindh government on Tuesday banned the entry of the aged people to the all vegetable markets of the province and made it mandatory for all to wear masks while visiting the markets. Sindh Minister for Agriculture Ismail Raho had said that the older people had been banned to enter any vegetable market as they were easily vulnerable to Covid-19. He said that the wearing of mask.....

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### **Steps taken at Karachi airport to curb virus spread**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#) , 2020-11-25

KARACHI - The management on Tuesday has adopted further measures to curb the spread of COVID-19 among staff during the second wave by covering the immigration counters with glasses at Jinnah International Airport Karachi. As preventive measures, more than 15 immigration counters of the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) staff members have been covered with glasses for reducing their interaction wi.....

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### **13 dead, 1,382 infected in Sindh**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#) , 2020-11-25

KARACHI - As many as 13 more patients of COVID-19 lost their lives lifting the death toll to 2,858 and 1,382 new cases emerged when 11,738 tests were conducted. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued on Tuesday. He added that 13 more patients died overnight lifting the death toll to 2,858 that constituted 1.8 percent death rate. Murad Ali Shah s.....

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### **Nine cops diagnosed positive for coronavirus in 24 hours**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#) , 2020-11-25

KARACHI - With nine new cases reported in last 24 hours, around 3,561 personnel and officers of Sindh police had been infected with coronavirus so far, informed spokesperson to Sindh police. He said 20 policemen lost their battle against COVID-19. He told that currently 74 officers and personnel were under treatment while 3,467 had return to their homes after recovering from the disease. The spo.....

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### **Shrines to remain closed till January 31**

Source: [Staff Reporterst](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#) , 2020-11-25

KARACHI - The Government of Sindh through a circular issued on Tuesday announced that due to rapid spread of COVID-19 across the country, all the dargahs and shrines, under its administrative control, would remain closed till January 31, 2021. As per announcement no public gathering and event would be allowed at the holy sites that fall under the jurisdiction of Provincial Auqaf Department till J.....

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### **Business community urged to adhere to SOPs against COVID-19**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#) , 2020-11-25

HYDERABAD - The President Hyderabad Chamber of Small Traders and Small Industry (HCSTSI) Saleem-ud-Din Qureshi has appealed the traders and industrialists to strictly compliance the standard operating procedures (SOPs) set by the government against COVID-19. The traders and industrialists must use face masks and hand sanitiser and also ask their employees to follow the same practices in lette.....

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### Implementation reviewed as govt announces COVID restrictions

Source: [Abdullah Zafar, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-25

KARACHI - The Sindh government's announcement to implement strict COVID-19 restrictions in business hub of the country, Karachi, saw a partial implementation on first day after traders announced to defy and put up resistance to any such order. In a late night decision, the provincial government issued a notification to ban business activities in Karachi after 6:00 pm besides also imposi.....

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### Welfare centre for Covid-19 patients revived at SSU

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-11-26

The deputy inspector general (DIG) of the Sindh police's Security and Emergency Division has revived the welfare centre for coronavirus patients at tge Special Security Unit (SSU) headquarters. DIG Maqsood Memon said on Wednesday he had presided over a meeting at the SSU Headquarters to review measures to be adopted to counter the current wave of the coronavirus. He said steps would .....

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### PML-F's Mangrio dies after battling with Covid-19

Source: [Correspondent, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-26

UMERKOT: Pakistan Muslim league-Functional leader Faqir Jadam Mangrio died on Wednesday after battling Covid-19 at a private hospital in Karachi for two weeks. He was laid to rest at his ancestral graveyard in Debo village amid hundreds of relatives and supporters. Mangrio had started his political career in 1987 as chairman of Dhoronaro town committee and quickly moved to general election the f.....

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### Many establishments sealed in Hyderabad for violation of Covid-19 SOPs

Source: [Correspondent, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-26

HYDERABAD: The administration sealed a famous market, a gym, three offices of car rental, a restaurant, two shops, a service station and an estate agency office in the city, Latifabad and Qasimabad talukas on Wednesday for violating the standard operating procedures (SOPs) while one more coronavirus patient died in the city. Hyderabad Deputy Commissioner Fuad Ghaffar Soomro monitored administrati.....

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### Sindh sees 1,348 new Covid cases, 8 deaths

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-26

As many as 1,348 new coronavirus cases were reported in Sindh on Wednesday along with eight more virus-related deaths, bringing the virus tally to 167,381 and the provincial death toll to 2,864. According to a statement issued by Sindh Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah, 12,159 samples were tested on the day, with an 11 per cent positivity rate. He added that 607 more patients had recovered from the v.....

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### Sindh reports 1384 Covid-19 cases, eight deaths in a day: CM

Source: [News Desk, Daily Times](#), 2020-11-26

Sindh on Wednesday recorded more than 1,300 Covid-19 cases in a day for the second consecutive day, with 933 cases from Karachi. "We have reported 1,348 virus cases within the last 24 hours after performing 12,159 tests," Chief Minister Sindh Syed Murad Ali Shah said during a routine briefing on Covid-19. "Eight Covid-19 patients lost their lives during the past 24 hours, rai.....

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### **Eight die, 1,348 new cases emerge in Sindh: CM**

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#) , 2020-11-26

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has said that eight more corona patients died lifting the death toll to 2,864 and 1,348 new cases emerged when 12,159 samples were tested raising the tally to 167,381. He said this in a statement issued here on Wednesday. He added that eight more patients died overnight lifting the death toll to 2,864 that constituted 1.8 percent de.....

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### **NAB officers, staff members contract COVID-19 in Karachi**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#) , 2020-11-26

KARACHI - The officers and staff members of the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) Karachi chapter were diagnosed with novel coronavirus on Wednesday amid the second wave of the pandemic hit the country. A deputy director, two assistant directors and a staff member have been diagnosed with the COVID-19 at NAB Karachi's office. The persons have isolated themselves after being detected .....

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### **Eight died, 1,348 infected overnight: CM**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#) , 2020-11-26

Karachi - Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah has said that eight more patients died lifting the death toll to 2,864 and 1,348 new cases emerged when 12,159 samples were tested raising the tally to 167,381. This was stated by Sindh CM Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued on Wednesday. He added that eight more patients died overnight lifting the death toll to 2,864 that constituted 1.....

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### **One COVID-19 patient dies, 106 more cases reported in Hyderabad**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#) , 2020-11-26

HYDERABAD - One more patient has died of COVID-19 on Wednesday, taking the death tally in Hyderabad district to 111, while 106 more cases have been reported positive. According to health authorities, after changing weather conditions and non-observance of standard operating procedures (SOPs), the number of coronavirus patients had increased in Hyderabad and other adjoining districts. Hakimuddin s/.....

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### **'Covid-19's spread being checked across world through LG system'**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#) , 2020-11-27

Pak Sarzameen Party Chairman Syed Mustafa Kamal said on Thursday the coronavirus was spreading like a wildfire across the country, mainly due to the absence of the local government system. In these grim circumstances, in the face of the second deadly wave of Covid-19, the so-called democratic rulers had staged "a democratic coup" against democracy in the country, he said while .....

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### **Sindh relaxes pandemic SOPs**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#) , 2020-11-27

Just days after the Sindh government imposed a new set of lockdown restrictions in the province, it has begun to relax the curbs, even as the second wave of the pandemic shows little signs of abating. Sindh government spokesperson Murtaza Wahab took to Twitter on Thursday to announce that shop timings in Sindh had been increased by two hours, allowing traders to continue business until 8pm. Besid.....

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**Clerics to support govt's anti-Covid efforts**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-27

PESHAWAR: Religious scholars from across the province have vowed to support the provincial government's efforts to tackle the second wave of the novel coronavirus pandemic. Religious scholars, from different schools of thought, expressed these views during a meeting with Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (K-P) Chief Secretary Dr Kazim Niaz on Thursday. Scholars pledged to ensure the implementation of no.....

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**19 more patients of Covid-19 die: Sindh CM**

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-27

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said that 19 more patients of Covid-19 lost their lives, taking the death toll to 2,885. He said that 1,402 new cases also emerged. In a statement issued here on Thursday, Shah said that 10,585 samples were tested which diagnosed 1,402 cases that constituted 13.2 percent detection rate. The CM said that currently 17,585 patients were.....

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**Covid-19 lockdown;MQM-P assures traders' community of support**

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-27

KARACHI: Muttahida Qaumi Movement–Pakistan (MQM-P) on Thursday extended its support to business and trading community of Karachi and criticised Sindh Government for its anti-Karachi and anti-business policies. MQM-P Convener Dr Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui declared that his party stood by business community of the city while talking to a delegation of business community of the city headed by.....

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**COVID-19 claims 19 more lives, infects 1,402 others**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-27

KARACHI - Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah has said that 19 patients of COVID-19 lost their lives lifting the death toll to 2,885 and 1,402 new cases emerged when 10,585 tests were conducted. In a statement issued on Thursday, he said that unfortunately 19 more patients died lifting the death toll to 2,885 that constituted 1.8 percent death rate. Mr Shah said that 10,585 samples.....

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## International News

### Countries News

#### **Tokyo governor pledges to hold Olympics despite virus spike**

Source: [Agencies](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-25

TOKYO: Tokyo Governor Yuriko Koike remains firm about being able to safely hold the Olympics next year despite growing concerns about Japan's recent resurgence of coronavirus (Covid-19) infections. Japan has experienced an uptick of the infections this month with a nationwide daily total exceeding 2,000 as the government tries to balance preventive measures and business activity without fur.....

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#### **British drug-maker claims Covid-19 vaccine can be 90pc effective**

Source: [Reuters](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-11-24

LONDON: AstraZeneca said on Monday its Covid-19 vaccine could be as much as 90 per cent effective, giving the world's fight against the global pandemic a new weapon, cheaper to make, easier to distribute and faster to scale-up than rivals. The British drug-maker said it will have as many as 200 million doses by the end of 2020, around four times as many as US competitor Pfizer. Seven hundre.....

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#### **Swiss on way to halving COVID-19 infections every two weeks**

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-11-26

Switzerland is on its way towards halving the number of new COVID-19 infections every two weeks thanks to strict measures in the country's west that was particularly hard hit by the second wave of the virus, officials said on Tuesday. Martin Ackermann, head of the COVID-19 science task force, told a media briefing a national reproduction rate at 0.7 to 0.8 meant the number of new infections .....

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#### **From a free coffee to a virus test, Naples helps its own**

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-11-26

Naples is proud of its tradition of "caffè sospeso", where a customer pays twice for a coffee so that someone less fortunate can have one for free. Now this act of charity is being extended to coronavirus tests in the southern Italian city, where the health service is struggling to deal with a surge in new cases. At San Severo Fuori Le Mura church, in one of the most densely packed are.....

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#### **Pandemic leaves Mexican transplant patients in limbo**

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-11-26

Ruben Vazquez lives in fear of dying before he gets a new kidney — just one of thousands of organ transplant operations put on hold in Mexico due to the pandemic. The 60-year-old retired accountant hopes that mass immunization against the coronavirus will enable him to finally undergo the surgery that he had been preparing for when the outbreak began in February. "I live in constant angu.....

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No items on COVID-19

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