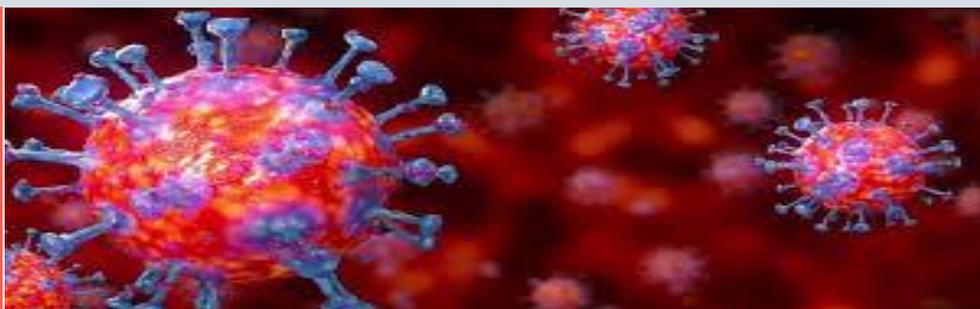


# E-Newsletter on COVID-19



Vol. 01, No, 66



Issue: 8-11 December, 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

## Contents.....

[Subscribe](#)

["Sustainable Development in the Times of COVID-19". ....02](#)  
[Op-Eds/Articles/Editorials.....03](#)

### National News

• <a href="#">Islamabad</a>	• <a href="#">Punjab</a>
• <a href="#">Khyber Pakhtunkhwa</a>	• Gilgit Baltistan
• <a href="#">Sindh</a>	• AJK
• Balochistan	•

### International News

• <a href="#">Countries News</a>	• <a href="#">Donors News</a>
----------------------------------	-------------------------------

### SDPI Engagements

• Webinars News	• Researchers Articles
• Press Releases/What's on	• <a href="#">SDPI SDC 2020 NEWS</a>

A Product of ASRC-SDPI

### Team:

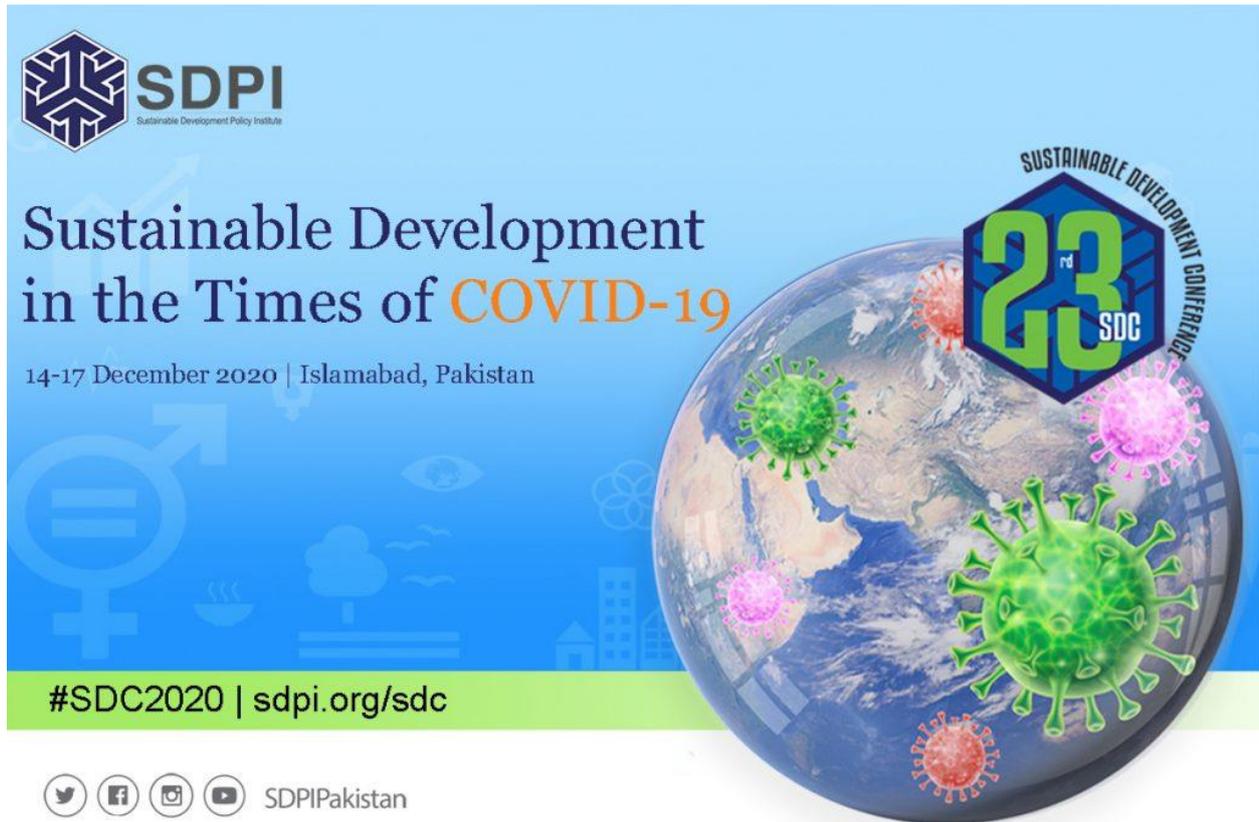
**Data Managed by:**  
Shahid Rasul , Abid Rasheed

**Compile & Layout Design by:**  
Ali Aamer Javed

## Sustainable Development Policy Institute, SDPI

10-D West, 3rd Floor, Taimoor Chamber, Fazl-ul-Haq Road,  
Blue Area, Islamabad. Pakistan,

Tel: +92.51. 2278134, Fax: 2278135,



#SDC2020 | sdpi.org/sdc

Sustainable Development Policy Institute  
3rd Floor, Taimur Chambers, Block D (West), Fazal-ul-Haq Road, Blue Area, Islamabad, Pakistan.  
Telephone: +(92-51) 2278134 URL: www.sdpi.org

## Dear All

Greetings from the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), Islamabad, Pakistan.

SDPI is pleased to announce its Twenty-third (23rd) Sustainable Development Conference (SDC) from 14 - 17 December 2020 in Islamabad, Pakistan. The overarching theme of this year's Conference is "**Sustainable Development in the Times of COVID-19**".

We invite you to participate in the online interactive sessions and register for free at the following link:  
<https://sdpi.org/sdconference/Sustainable-Development-in-the-Times-of-COVID-19>

## HOW TO JOIN LIVE SESSIONS

After registering, from 14 - 17 December 2020, you may join any of the sessions as listed under the **Daily Schedule**.

**Interactive Session:** By clicking on this, you can interact with the panelists and share your comments and questions in the chat box.

**Facebook live/SDTV live:** You can watch and listen to the session being live-streamed by clicking on the icons provided.

**Concurrent Sessions:** You can easily enter and exit from one concurrent session and join any other of your interest.

**Panels:** To read about the focus of each session, click on the Panels tab to read the panel write-up.

**Conference Agenda:** Click on the Conference Agenda to view the 4-day programme.

Please mark the dates in your calendar: 14 -17 December 2020. We look forward to your **online** participation.

Request: Kindly share our invitation from your platform.

Thank you.

## Op-Eds/Articles/Editorials

### Op-Eds/Articles/Editorials

#### 'CAUTION IN THE TIME OF CORONA'

Source: [Dr. Marina Maryem Khan](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-12-08

Pandemics are as old as human history. Thanks to Edward Jenner for discovery of vaccines which brought a hope for ailing humanity and millions of people suffering injuries in warships due to infected wounds. However, micro-organisms have over the years been changing their genetic makeup to be as competitive as their rival primates to survive the era of antibiotics and vaccines. Although scientific.....[more >>](#)

#### Impact of Covid 19 on Sustainable Development in Pakistan

Source: [Major Dr Muhammad Ali](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-12-08

The coronavirus COVID 19 is a much more than a health crisis after World War Two both at national and international levels. It is an ongoing political, social, economic and military crisis, which is and will leave deep scars worldwide. It was emerged in Asia last year and later it spread to all continents except Antarctica. USA, Europe and African countries were and still the worse hit fro.....[more >>](#)

#### Why the second wave shouldn't surprise us

Source: [Robin Iqbal](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-09

Pakistan got its first patient of coronavirus on February 26, 2020. The bull was taken by the horns; measures adopted, awareness imparted, the bullet dodged and international eulogies gathered. Then, life sprang back to normal. All the SOPs were joyfully thrown out of the window and around the end of October, the government announced the advent of the second wave of the monstrosity. As per the dat.....[more >>](#)

#### A better future

Source: [Lorenzo Marsili](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-10

"The old world is dying and the new world struggles to be born. This is the time of monsters." Antonio Gramsci's famous adage about the stormy 1920s is quoted often a century later to describe the world's depressing current reality. As we prepare to finally leave this disastrous year behind, many are relieved, however, that the world will be rid of at least two mons.....[more >>](#)

#### The real American carnage

Source: [S Qaisar Shareef](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-10

"The forgotten men and women of our country will be forgotten no longer. This American carnage stops right here and stops right now." With these words on January 20, 2017, Donald Trump was sworn in as the 45th president of the United States. Trump had come from a business background and had been a reality TV star. His populist campaign – anti-immigrant, hateful of Muslims.....[more >>](#)

#### Covid-19 and the rising educational insecurities

Source: [BR Research](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-10

Schools started opening in a phased manner after six-month closure in September but have recently been closed again as the country grapples with the second wave of coronavirus. Closing of schools - although necessary due to the global pandemic– must be the hardest decision for the authorities. Or so we think for a country that has 20 million children out of school and a fragmented educationa.....

[more >>](#)

### **Dangerous Time**

Source: [Editorial, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-10

As we continue to grapple with a very crucial part of the second wave of coronavirus, doctors are painting an even more worrisome picture in the days to come. The virus is mutating. The key difference from the first wave earlier in the year is that the spikes on the virus have now increased, making it both—more infectious and easily transmissible. There is also reason to believe that the lon.....

[more >>](#)

### **Youth Force – An initiative towards a more divided society?**

Source: [Ghanwah Ijaz, Daily Times](#), 2020-12-11

The Coronavirus Relief Tiger Force (CRTF) was established in Pakistan to combat the economic woes of the needy, with a vision to supply food and other essential household items to maximum number of families, during the lockdown. According to government officials, they received an unprecedented response from the public. One report suggests that around 0.3 million people registered to become a part .....

[more >>](#)

### **Covid keeps rising**

Source: [BR Research, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-11

The more you listen to experts, the more you know Pakistan has not reached the peak of the second wave. Of late, various government officials have been seen finding solace in the fact that the positivity rate so far in the second wave has not crossed 8 percent yet over a 7-day moving average – and that is a third of the July peak. And the dangerous inference from that is a lax attitude, and .....

[more >>](#)

### **Winching the country out of crisis**

Source: [Malik Muhammad Ashraf, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-11

Needless to emphasise that Pakistan is facing a crisis situation of unprecedented magnitude. The onset of corona devastated almost all the economies of the world besides taking a toll on human lives including in Pakistan. There was an outcry for global cooperation to deal with this global threat to human lives and their livelihoods. Prime Minister Imran Khan was the most vociferous among the world.....

[more >>](#)

## National News

### Islamabad

#### ITA fines 5 bus stands on SOPs violation

Source: [Our crime correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-08

Islamabad: Secretary Islamabad Transport Authority (ITA) along with field staff launched a campaign at bus stands to ensure the implementation of COVID-19 SOPs in general passenger vehicles. During the campaign seven bus stands were inspected at Faizabad. The management of five bus stands were fined for Rs35,000. In addition to Faizabad area, staff also inspected vehicles at chungli no. 26 .....[more >>](#)

#### National Covid-19 positivity hits 10%

Source: [news desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-12-08

The Covid-19 cases continue to soar amid the second wave of the pandemic and the positivity ratio in the country was recorded at 9.71 percent during the last twenty-four hours as 3,795 new cases came to surface in 39,076 tests. According to the data provided by National Command and Operations Centre (NCOC), the country's case positivity rate climbed to 9.71 percent for the first time.....[more >>](#)

#### Covid-19 vaccine to be available between January & March: Faisal

Source: [news desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-12-08

Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on health Dr Faisal Sultan has said that the government is negotiating with China and Russia, among others, to procure coronavirus vaccines. "We are in talks with China, Russia and some other countries for procurement of the [Covid-19] vaccine after narrowing down our priority list," Dr Faisal Sultan told a foreign news agency. The vac.....

[more >>](#)

#### COVID-19 claims 89 lives in one day

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-08

Pakistan has reported 89 deaths in the last 24 hours by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has surged to 423,179. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 8,487 on Tuesday. According to the latest figures by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC), 2,885 persons tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 24 hours. Sindh remains the worst-hit province by the pand.....

[more >>](#)

#### Years of research laid groundwork for speedy COVID-19 shots

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-12-08

How could scientists race out COVID-19 vaccines so fast without cutting corners? A head start helped — over a decade of behind-the-scenes research that had new vaccine technology poised for a challenge just as the coronavirus erupted. "The speed is a reflection of years of work that went before," Dr. Anthony Fauci, the top U.S. infectious disease expert, told The Associated Press.....

[more >>](#)

#### 89 deaths in past 24 hours; 2,885 new Coronavirus cases reported

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-12-09

The second wave of coronavirus continues wreaking havoc in the country as Pakistan recorded 89 new fatalities — the highest single-day deaths over five months — during the last 24 hours, revealed the data shared by National Command and Operations Centre (NCOC) on Tuesday . According to the NCOC, 89 more people succumbed to the disease in the past 24 hours, taking the death toll to 8,4.....

[more >>](#)

### **Govt stabilised economy, brought inflation down despite pandemic: Shibli**

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-12-09

Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Shibli Faraz has said that the government has managed to stabilise the economy and bring down inflation despite Covid-19. Addressing a news conference in Islamabad on Tuesday after the cabinet meeting, the information minister expressed satisfaction that the prices of essential commodities including that of sugar and wheat flour are coming.....

[more >>](#)

### **Pakistan's Covid vaccine drive needs antidote to conspiracy theories**

Source: [Reuters](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-09

ISLAMABAD: Helping to lead a mass trial for a Chinese-made Covid-19 vaccine in Pakistan, a country where anti-vax sentiment can turn lethal and conspiracy theories are endemic, Dr Mohsin Ali has heard all kind of questions from anxious, prospective volunteers. "Is this going to take away my reproductive ability? Is this going to kill me? Is there any 5G chip in this? And, is there a conspi.....

[more >>](#)

### **Second wave may become deadlier with virus mutation**

Source: [Ikram Junaidi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-09

ISLAMABAD: While a comparative data analysis of the first and second waves of novel coronavirus shows that the first wave was more lethal in Pakistan, health experts believe the ongoing wave may prove deadlier as the virus has mutated itself. However, the government claims that both waves affected the masses in the same way, with the only difference being that the weather has turned col.....

[more >>](#)

### **Coronavirus cases tally reaches 424,668 across country**

Source: [Abdul Rasheed Azad](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-09

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's coronavirus cases tally has reached 424,668 and death toll, 8,508 as Sindh and Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) jointly reported 1,509 new cases, and 21 deaths. The Covid-19 data released here on Tuesday evening by the Sindh Chief Minister, Murad Ali Shah's office said that the province had detected 1,472 Covid-19 new cases, and 21 deaths during the last 24 hours.....

[more >>](#)

### **City admin continues campaign for COVID-19 SOPs compliance**

Source: [Tahir Niaz](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-09

ISLAMABAD - The Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) administration has been continuing a campaign to ensure that the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for containing spread of COVID-19 in the city are being followed in letter and spirit. The officials said that AC Koral inspected areas of Ali Pur Farash, Thanda Pani, Nilore and Punjgiran for COVID-19 SOPs' implementation, unauthorised .....

[more >>](#)

### **Covid-19 claims 60 more lives in country**

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-12-10

Pakistan has recorded 60 deaths and 2,963 new cases due to the Covid-19 in the last 24 hours, said the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Wednesday. According to the NCOC, 60 more people succumbed to the disease, taking the death toll to 8,547, while with fresh inclusion of the infections in the country the national tally of cases now currently stands at 426,142. A total of 1,797 pa.....

[more >>](#)

**Pakistan reports 3,138 new COVID-19 cases in one day**

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-10

Pakistan has reported 56 deaths in the last 24 hours by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has surged to 429,280. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 8,603 on Thursday. According to the latest figures by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC), 3,138 persons tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 24 hours. Sindh remains the worst-hit province by the pan.....

[more >>](#)

**Coronavirus Vaccine will be available in March 2021 in Pakistan: Dr Faisal**

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-10

The Federal Ministry of National Health Services has announced that Coronavirus Vaccine will be available in March 2021 in Pakistan. In this regard, Special Assistant for Health Dr. Faisal Sultan while talking to 'Dunya News' said that the government has finalized the procedure to prevent coronavirus and to buy vaccine. Dr. Faisal Sultan said that under the vaccination plan, vacc.....

[more >>](#)

**PM, Bill Gates hold phone talk**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-10

ISLAMABAD - Prime Minister Imran Khan held a telephone conversation with Mr Bill Gates, co-chair of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation on Wednesday. Both exchanged views on the COVID-19 situation and Polio eradication efforts in Pakistan. The Prime Minister shared Pakistan's policy to control and mitigate the deleterious impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on health and economy. He appr.....

[more >>](#)

**Country reports 60 virus deaths in a day**

Source: [Tahir Niaz](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-10

ISLAMABAD - Minister for Planning and Development Asad Umar has again appealed to the people to strictly follow the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to contain the spread of Covid-19 in the country. Addressing the media after a meeting at the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) on the COVID-19 situation here Wednesday, he regretted that people are not following the SOPs of Corona.....

[more >>](#)

**'World heading towards cashless society, online payment a plausible solution'**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-10

ISLAMABAD-Chief Executive Officer and founder of Auto Coin Cars Mustansar Iqbal yesterday said the world was heading towards a cashless society and adoption of online payment options was a plausible solution. In a statement, he said the pandemic had pressed the reset button, initiating a new sense of normal. People are being advised to follow SOPs, such as maintaining social distances and wea.....

[more >>](#)

**Microsoft to support human resources adapt ever-changing nature of work**

Source: [Press Release](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-10

LAHORE -"The way we work has been irrevocably changed by the challenges we have been faced with in this difficult and uncertain year. Today, you will find more people working from their homes than in office spaces as organisations have shifted towards a fully remote or hybrid work model in order to overcome the limitations placed upon them by the need for social distancing and other measures.....

[more >>](#)

### **Corona rages unabated: 57, including FPSC chairman die**

Source: [Saleh Zaafir](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-11

ISLAMABAD: As many as 57 COVID-19 patients, including Adviser to Sindh Chief Minister on Social Welfare Syed Aijaz Ali Shah Sheerazi and FPSC Chairman Maroof Afzal, died during the last 24 hours across the country out of which 36 were on the ventilator. However, most of deaths were reported in the Punjab followed by Sindh, according to the latest update issued by the National Command &.....

[more >>](#)

### **Outdoor dining with SOPs allowed in capital**

Source: [Munawer Azeem | Aamir Yasin](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-11

ISLAMABAD: The district administration has allowed outdoor dining subject to the implementation of Covid-19 standard operating procedures (SOPs). Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Hamza Shafqaat through a notification on Dec 1 prohibited all kinds of indoor dining. However, on Thursday in an order he said outdoor dining was allowed till 10pm subject to the implementation of the SOPs. Meanwhile, five.....

[more >>](#)

### **Newly-appointed FPSC chief dies**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-11

ISLAMABAD: Newly-appointed Federal Public Service Commission (FPSC) Chairman Maroof Afzal passed away due to Covid-19 on Thursday. A former officer of Pakistan Administrative Service (PAS), Maroof Afzal had earlier served as the chairman of Capital Development Authority (CDA). He also served as the secretary establishment and cabinet division. After his retirement, he was appointed as a member o.....

[more >>](#)

### **56 more die due to COVID-19**

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-12-11

As many as 56 COVID-19 patients have lost their lives during the last 24 hours across the country out of which 36 were on ventilators. However, most deaths were reported in Punjab followed by Sindh during the last 24 hours, according to the latest update issued by the National Command & Operation Centre (NCOC). The total 56 corona patients, who were under treatment had lost their lives, out .....

[more >>](#)

### **Free ecommerce stores for women SMEs**

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-12-11

More and more women have been starting home-based businesses since COVID-19. Whether it is baking, art classes, fashion, crafts or a range of creative for-profit endeavours, they are by and large struggling with access to market and a bridge to help them serve the market. Technology is the easiest and most efficient bridge, but by and large, they are struggling to set up their own ecommerce sites.....

[more >>](#)

### **President allows 15-day extension for appeals time-barred in lockdown**

Source: [Naveed Butt](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-11

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi on Thursday allowed 15-day extension for appeals time-barred during lockdown. The president took the decision in line with the policy of the government and the notification issued by the Supreme Court of Pakistan that aimed at facilitating litigants during lockdown as the institution branch of the Court was closed for filing of cases keeping in view the Limit.....

[more >>](#)

**Country reports 56 more virus deaths in a day**

Source: [Tahir Niaz](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-11

ISLAMABAD - The coronavirus second wave continues taking high toll on the nation as it claimed 56 more lives during the last 24 hours in the country. As many as 3,138 more persons tested positive in the country during the same period. The government has been asking people to adopt the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) to curtail spread of the killer virus. With 56 new deaths in the last 24 .....

[more >>](#)

**Pakistan to cooperate with SAARC countries universities on COVID-19 response**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-11

ISLAMABAD - Higher Education Commission (HEC) Chairman Tariq Banuri Thursday said all the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) member states have similar experiences in terms of the use of different applications and software for online education, governance of e-learning system, capacity building of faculty, poor internet connectivity, power breakdowns and need for technologica.....

[more >>](#)

## Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

**KTH director among seven suspended over negligence in duty**

Source: [news desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-12-08

Seven officers at Khyber Teaching Hospital (KTH) were suspended on Monday over negligence in duty, a day after six coronavirus patients died after the hospital ran out of oxygen supply. The provincial government had ordered the hospital's Board of Governors (BoG) to submit a report within 48 hours. However, the report was handed in within a day. The management suspended seven incl.....

[more >>](#)

**Six corona patients die; KTH director, six others suspended over oxygen shortage**

Source: [Amjad Ali Shah](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-08

PESHAWAR: Seven officials of Khyber Teaching Hospital (KTH) suspended on Monday after the hospital ran out of oxygen supply claiming lives of six coronavirus patients. Suspended officials included Director Nadeem Tahir, Facility Manager Tahir Shahzad, Supply Chain Manager Ali Waqas, Biomedical Engineer Bilal, Oxygen Plant Assistant Naimat and two workers of the plant, according to a prelimina.....

[more >>](#)

**9 officials suspended after virus patients died due to oxygen shortage in Peshawar**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-08

PESHAWAR - The inquiry committee of Khyber Teaching Hospital (KTH) on Monday suspended at least nine employees over death of six patients due to lack of oxygen supply. The KTH Chairman and Board of Governors took a serious notice of the deaths of patients in the Covid Isolation Ward and one patient in ICU on early Sunday. An emergency meeting was called with the hospital administration and a.....

[more >>](#)

**Medical tragedy**

Source: [Editorial](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-09

Had the same incident occurred in some other country, it would have made front-page leads and led to a national outcry. But we are a people that are almost immune to the loss of life of our own citizens. This is what we saw at the Khyber Teaching Hospital in Peshawar on Saturday night, when six patients died due to a failure in the supply of oxygen and a decline in oxygen levels available to them.....

[more >>](#)

### **Coronavirus takes 10 more lives in KP**

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-09

PESHAWAR: The coronavirus on Tuesday claimed 10 more lives in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, taking the death toll from the viral infection in the province to 1,429. The virus infected 428 more people that brought the total number of such people to 50,506. Of 10 fatalities, five people died in Peshawar, two in Nowshera and one each in Mardan, Upper Chitral and Abbottabad. With five more losses, Pes.....

[more >>](#)

### **Rescue service 1122 conducts awareness session on COVID-19**

Source: [APP](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-09

PESHAWAR: Rescue service 1122 of Dir Lower on Tuesday conducted a campaign to educate masses regarding precautionary measures against the spread of COVID-19 and to get prompt services of the Rescue 1122 in case of emergency. The awareness Rescue raising sessions were held on the directives of Director General Rescue 1122 KP Dr Khatir Ahmed says media spokesperson of the service. On the oc.....

[more >>](#)

### **K-P task force reviews measures to curb coronavirus spread**

Source: [News Desk](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-09

A meeting of Provincial Task Force on Covid-19 was held at Corps Headquarters in Peshawar on Tuesday, in which measures being taken to curb the spread of coronavirus in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa were reviewed. Chief Minister Mahmood Khan, Peshawar Corps Commander Lieutenant General Nauman Mahmood and other senior civil and military officials attended the meeting, read a statement issued by Inter-Service.....

[more >>](#)

### **K-P Covid task force holds meeting at CHQ**

Source: [News Desk](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-09

The Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa Covid-19 Task Force held a meeting at the Corps Headquarters Peshawar on Tuesday, said the military's media wing. According to the Inter-Services Public Relations, K-P Chief Minister Mahmood Khan, Peshawar Corps Commander Lt Gen Nauman Mehmood, senior civil and military officials attended the meeting. The forum was apprised about the prevailing coronavirus situation .....

[more >>](#)

### **KP's Task Force on Covid-19 meets in Peshawar**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-09

PESHAWAR -Ameeting of the provincial Task Force on COVID-19 was held at Corps HQ Peshawar on Tuesday. KP Chief Minister Mahmood Khan, Commander Peshawar Corps Lieutenant General Nauman Mahmood and other senior civil and military officials attended the meeting. The forum was apprised about review of COVID 19 situation in KP and actions being taken to implement coronavirus SOPs. The forum was also i.....

[more >>](#)

### **11 more die of corona in KP**

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-11

PESHAWAR: At least 11 more patients died of coronavirus and 410 others tested positive for the viral infection in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Thursday, taking the death toll from the infectious disease to 1450. Of 11 fatalities, six were reported from Peshawar and one each from Nowshera, Swabi, Mansehra, Abbottabad, and Dera Ismail Khan. Peshawar on Thursday recorded 196 positive cases, Lower D.....

[more >>](#)

**Covid positivity rate surges in Peshawar**

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-11

PESHAWAR: Eleven persons died of coronavirus and 410 new cases were reported in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Thursday as positivity rate in Peshawar swelled to 10.6 per cent. Peshawar accounted for six mortalities and 196 new cases in the province, taking its total count of deaths and confirmed incidence to 703 and 19,607 respectively. One case was reported each from Nowshera, Swabi, Mansehra, Abbottaba.....

[more >>](#)

**AC asks Mardan traders to follow corona SOPs**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-11

MARDAN - Assistant Commissioner Mardan Dr Saman Abbas along with President Mardan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) on Thursday visited different markets of the city and advised traders to follow COVID-19 Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). According to a press statement, the AC visited different markets of the city including Bank Road, Sarfraz Ganj Bazaar, Mir Afzal Khan Bazaar, Sara.....

[more >>](#)

## Punjab

**Shops, marriage halls sealed for SOPs violations**

Source: [APP](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-08

LAHORE: The city district administration conducted a crackdown on those involved in violation of the coronavirus-related standard operating procedures (SOPs) and sealed 59 markets and shops, 28 restaurants and 19 marriage halls. A spokesperson said here on Monday the monitoring team was headed by Lahore Deputy Commissioner Mudassar Riaz, while all additional deputy commissioner, assistant c.....

[more >>](#)

**Opp wants to spread Covid-19 to destroy economy: minister**

Source: [APP](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-08

LAHORE: Punjab Minister for Industries Mian Aslam Iqbal on Monday said that second wave of Covid-19 speedily spreading in Pakistan due to irresponsible behaviours and masses should show responsibility by avoiding large public gatherings. He said that international economy including Pakistan's economy had been adversely affected due to corona pandemic. Talking to business community her.....

[more >>](#)

**Apex committee concern over non-implementation of corona SOPs**

Source: [Staff Report](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-12-08

Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar chaired the apex committee meeting at his office on Monday which was attended by Corps Commander Lahore Lt. Gen. Majid Ehsan, GOC 10-Division Maj. Gen. Muhammad Aneeq-ur-Rehman Malik, DG Rangers Punjab Maj. Gen. Muhammad Amir Majeed and high ranking military officials. Provincial Ministers Raja Basharat, Dr Yasmeen Rashid, SACM Dr Firdous Ashiq Awan, Chief.....

[more >>](#)

**Pakistan negotiating with China, Russia to get vaccine**

Source: [News Desk](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-08

LAHORE - Country's top health official on Monday said authorities are negotiating with China and Russia besides among others to procure coronavirus vaccines. "We are in talks with China, Russia and some other countries for procurement of the (coronavirus) vaccine after narrowing down our priority list," says Prime Minister's Special Assistant on Health Dr Faisal Sultan.....

[more >>](#)

### **Strict action to be taken against corona SOPs violators: Dr Firdous**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-08

LAHORE - Special Assistant to Punjab Chief Minister on Information Dr Firdous Ashiq Awan on Monday said the apex committee meeting chaired by Punjab Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar had decided to take all necessary steps to control second wave of COVID-19. Addressing a press conference here at Directorate of General Public Relations, she said that numbers of corona patients were increasing day-.....

[more >>](#)

### **Virus: MBBS, BDS exams postponed, UHS issues new schedule**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-08

LAHORE - Due to current situation of COVID-19 pandemic, the University of Health Sciences (UHS) has postponed all professional MBBS and BDS examinations which were earlier scheduled to commence on or before January 10. UHS issued a new schedule of examination on Monday. According to the notification, first professional MBBS Annual exams 2020 for all affiliated medical colleges will commence on Jan.....

[more >>](#)

### **Maryam Nawaz, others booked for violating Covid SOPs**

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-12-09

Police on Tuesday registered a case against Maryam Nawaz and other Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz leaders and activists for violating standard operating procedures (SOPs) related to the Covid-19. According to details, the police booked PML-N Vice President Maryam Nawaz, MNA Malik Riaz, Waseem Khokhar, Talal Chaudhry, Marriyum Aurangzeb, Malik Abrar and others at Shahdara police station. The PML-N I.....

[more >>](#)

### **Number of critical patients at June level: Dr Yasmin Rashid**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-09

LAHORE: Punjab Health Minister Dr Yasmin Rashid said here Tuesday the number of critically ill patients in Punjab has touched the level of first week of June 2020, which was peak month of the pandemic. Addressing a press conference at the Surgical Tower, Mayo Hospital, health minister said that during the first wave, crisis management systems were developed and lessons were learnt on patient.....

[more >>](#)

### **Lockdown in several areas as COVID cases rise**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-09

LAHORE: Owing to a rising number of coronavirus cases in the city, authorities have decided to impose lockdowns in several more areas of the city in a bid to contain the virus. According to a notification issued by the Punjab Primary & Secondary Health Department, "smart lockdowns" with controlled entry and exit points have been imposed in 55 areas of the city, reports Geo New.....

[more >>](#)

### **41 corona patients die in Punjab**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-09

LAHORE: Forty-one COVID-19 patients died and another 429 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 3,218 in Punjab, while confirmed cases of coronavirus reached 124,191 in the province. As per the spokesperson of Corona Monitoring Roo.....

[more >>](#)

**Free test facility at Expo Centre, Mayo Hospital: Dr Yasmin**

Source: [Iqtidar Gilani](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-09

LAHORE - Punjab Health Minister Dr Yasmin Rashid said here on Tuesday that the number of critically ill patients in Punjab has touched the level of first week of June 2020, which was peak month of the pandemic. Addressing a press conference at the Surgical Tower, Mayo Hospital, she said that during the first wave, crisis management systems were developed and lessons were learnt on patient and.....

[more >>](#)

**33 hotels, 21 marriage halls, 74 shopping centres sealed**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-09

LAHORE - The city district administration sealed 33 hotels, 21 marriage halls and 74 shopping centres in a crackdown over violation of coronavirus related standard operating procedures (SOPs) here on Tuesday. The various teams also imposed Rs 98,000 fine on the violators and warnings were also issued, said a spokesperson for the district administration. He added that the teams impounded 21 cars .....

[more >>](#)

**7 persons die of coronavirus in Rawalpindi**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-09

Rawalpindi-As many as seven patients died of novel coronavirus in different hospitals of the city here on Tuesday, informed district government spokesperson. Similarly, some 122 more coronavirus positive patients have been brought to hospitals from various parts of district for medical treatment, she said. According to her, the COVID-19 took seven more lives in the city. She said the dead bo.....

[more >>](#)

**1 person dies of corona in Attock**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-09

ATTOCK- One person died of coronavirus in Attock while eight more patients tested positive of novel coronavirus COVID-19. Chief Executive Officer District Health Authority Dr Jawad Elahi while giving the details said that a suspected patient whose report was yet to be received identified as 60 years old Abdul Rehman, a resident of Attock, has died in isolation ward of District Headquarters Ho.....

[more >>](#)

**Smart lockdown imposed in 19 areas**

Source: [khalid Iqbal](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-10

Rawalpindi : On the directions of the Punjab Home Department, the local administration in Rawalpindi on Wednesday imposed a smart lockdown at 19 hotspots areas of coronavirus. The lockdown will remain in place till December 21, 2020. According to a notification issued by Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department, the smart lockdown has been imposed in Rahim Town, Muslim Town, Gulshanabad.....

[more >>](#)

**36 hotels, cafes sealed for violating SOPs**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-10

LAHORE: District Administration Lahore sealed 36 hotels, cafes and restaurants across the provincial metropolis for not implementing corona SOPs here on Wednesday. DC Lahore Mudassar Riaz Malik said that 36 hotels, cafes and restaurants had been sealed. Around 36 vehicles were found violating corona SOPs and were ticketed Rs35,700 fine while a vehicle was impounded. He said that eight marr.....

[more >>](#)

### **Mask made part of police uniform**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-10

LAHORE:IGP Inam Ghani has ordered that mask must be the part of the police uniform during duty. The decision has been taken after the news of violation of Covid-19 SOPs and rising number of positive cases in the provincial police force. Additional IG Finance and Welfare in a letter to all the police formations expressed sorry over noncompliance of SOPs. He said wearing mask must be made part of th.....

[more >>](#)

### **206 die of Covid in December's first week**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-10

LAHORE: Coronavirus took away as many as 206 lives in Punjab since the onset of December, official data available on the government website reveals. The second covid-19 wave infected a whopping 5,226 persons in the province during the same duration; resulting in an astounding average of 653 new patients per day in the first week of the ongoing month. According to the spokesperson for the Punjab.....

[more >>](#)

### **Smart lockdown imposed in 19 localities of Rawalpindi**

Source: [Israr Ahmad](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-10

Rawalpindi-The district administration imposed smart lockdown till December 21 in 19 localities of Rawalpindi including 16 in the garrison city as the number of the Covid-19 patients increased in last two weeks, informed sources on Wednesday. The lockdown was imposed on directives of Punjab government. Dhoke Naju Khyaban-e-Sir Syed sector 3, Waris Khan, EidgahMohallah Asghar Mall and Chaklal.....

[more >>](#)

### **23 corona patients die, 446 new cases**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-11

LAHORE: Around 23 COVID19 patients died and another 446 new infections were confirmed in Punjab during the last 24 hours, according to report issued by P&SH Dept on Thursday. The death toll reached 3,265 in Punjab, while confirmed cases reached 125,250 in the province. As per the spokesperson for Corona Monitoring Room at P&SHD, 15,405 tests were conducted in the last 24 hours, which raise.....

[more >>](#)

### **LHC suspends hearing of regular cases for two weeks due to COVID-19 situation**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-11

LAHORE - Lahore High Court (LHC) Chief Justice Muhammad Qasim Khan on Thursday suspended hearing of regular cases for the next two weeks in the wake of prevailing COVID-19 situation. According to a LHC press release, the LHC CJ has suspended the regular cause list for the next two weeks after declaring them as motion weeks. It added that the LHC principal seat and all regional benches at Mult.....

[more >>](#)

### **5 more persons die of COVID-19**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-11

RAWALPINDI - As many as five patients died of novel coronavirus in different hospitals of the city here on Thursday, informed district government spokesperson. Similarly, some 132 more coronavirus positive patients have been brought to hospitals from various parts of district for medical treatment, she said. According to her, the COVID-19 took five more lives in the city. She said the dead bodie.....

[more >>](#)

## Sindh

**Sindh sees highest 24-hour coronavirus death toll as another 41 patients die**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-08

Sindh reported its highest 24-hour Covid-19 death toll on Monday after 41 more people died due to the disease, with 26 (or 63.4 per cent) of the victims, including two senior doctors, belonging to Karachi. The Pakistan Islamic Medical Association's (Pima) Dr Atif Hafeez identified the deceased doctors as ENT specialist Dr Waris Ponjani of the Sindh Government Hospital New Karachi and.....

[more >>](#)

**Three Do Darya restaurants sealed for violating SOPs**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-08

On directions from Karachi Commissioner Iftikhar Ali Shallwani, restaurants at Do Darya were sealed on Sunday night for violating the standard operating procedures (SOPs) announced by the Sindh government to check the spread of the coronavirus. According to details shared by the commissioner office, Additional Deputy Commissioner I District South Junaid Khan sealed Al Habib Restaurant, Kab.....

[more >>](#)

**Covid-19 claims 41 more lives in Sindh**

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-08

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has said that unfortunately 41 patients of Coronavirus died overnight lifting the death toll to 3,060 and 1,726 new cases emerged when 12,442 tests were conducted raising the tally to 186,212. In a statement issued here on Monday, the CM said that 41 patients lost their lives lifting the death toll to 3,060 that constituted 1.7 percent death rat.....

[more >>](#)

**COVID-19 claims 41 more lives, infects 1,726 others: CM**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-08

KARACHI - Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah has said that unfortunately 41 patients of coronavirus died overnight lifting the death toll to 3,060 and 1,726 new cases emerged when 12,442 tests were conducted raising the tally to 186,212. In a statement issued on Monday, the CM Sindh said that 41 patients lost their lives, lifting the death toll to 3,060 that constituted 1.7 percent.....

[more >>](#)

**132-bedded three COVID-19 wards established at LUH Jamshoro**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-08

HYDERABAD - The Liaquat University Hospital (LUH) management has established 132-bedded three COVID-19 wards at its Jamshoro hospital located in the premises of Liaquat University of Health Sciences. LUH's Director Administration and Development Abdul Sattar Jatoti while talking to media said all beds in LUH Hyderabad's COVID-19 isolation ward were fully occupied by corona patients due .....

[more >>](#)

**Covid-19 claims lives of another 21 people in Sindh**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-09

Twenty-one more people have died due to Covid-19 and another 1,472 cases have been reported during the past 24 hours in Sindh, with the death toll due to the viral disease reaching 3,081 in the province. Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said in his daily situation report on the health emergency on Tuesday that 11,242 samples were tested in the past 24 hours, resulting in 1,472 people, or 13.1 p.....

[more >>](#)

### **Covid-19 claims 41 more lives in Sindh**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-09

HYDERABAD: As the novel coronavirus claimed another 41 lives in the province overnight - the highest number of casualties recorded in a single day in Sindh so far in the second wave - as many as 1,726 fresh infections were detected on Monday. Meanwhile, authorities expanded the smart lockdowns in place in Hyderabad, which has been struggling with one of the highest Covid-19 positivity ratios in .....

[more >>](#)

### **Covid-19; Sindh reports 21 deaths in 24 hours**

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-09

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has said that 21 more Covid-19 patients died overnight lifting the death toll to 2,081 and 1,472 new cases emerged when 11,242 samples were tested raising the tally to 187,684. In a statement issued here from CM House, he said that 21 more patients lost their lives overnight lifting the death toll to 3,081 that constituted 1.6 percent death ra.....

[more >>](#)

### **18 more coronavirus patients perish in Sindh**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-10

Eighteen more people have died due to Covid-19 and another 2,003 cases have been reported during the past 24 hours in Sindh, with the death toll due to the viral disease reaching 3,099 in the province. Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said in his daily situation report on the health emergency on Wednesday that 12,582 samples were tested in the past 24 hours, resulting in 2,003 people, or.....

[more >>](#)

### **ANALYSIS: New player's entry into aviation industry amid pandemic termed bold**

Source: [Azfar-ul-Ashfaque](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-10

KARACHI: While the country's three operational airlines have been taking cost-cutting measures against the backdrop of a crisis that the global aviation industry has been facing since the outbreak of coronavirus, the decision of AirSial to enter an already saturated market is being seen as a bold move that may give a tough time to competitors but will benefit the people. The market situatio.....

[more >>](#)

### **COVID-19 claims 18 more lives, infects 2,003 others**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-10

Karachi - Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah has said that 18 more patients of coronavirus have died lifting the death toll to 3,099 and 2,003 more cases emerged when 12,582 samples were tested. In a statement issued from CM House, he said that 18 more patients of coronavirus died overnight lifting the death toll to 3,099 that constituted 1.6 percent death rate. The CM said that 1.....

[more >>](#)

### **School sealed, two employees held for violation of COVID-19 SOPs**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-10

HYDERABAD - The local administration on Wednesday sealed a private school and arrested two employees for violating government orders regarding closure of schools due to second wave of COVID-19 pandemic. In a statement, Assistant Commissioner (AC) Ishtiaq Ali Mangi informed that after receiving complaints about violation of SOPs, he visited Meritorious School at Latifabad unit-5 and found that scho.....

[more >>](#)

**CM's adviser Aijaz Sheerazi dies of Covid-19**

Source: [Correspondent, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-11

THATTA: Renowned political figure of lower Sindh Syed Aijaz Ali Shah Sheerazi passed away in a Karachi hospital on Thursday. He had been suffering from multiple medical issues that were further complicated by Covid-19 over a couple of months. Several thousand people from across Sindh, mostly from four coastal districts of lower Sindh, attended the funeral procession. His burial took place in the .....

[more >>](#)

**Sindh govt seeks WHO help for coronavirus vaccination**

Source: [Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-11

KARACHI: The Sindh government on Thursday sought the support of the World Health Organisation (WHO) to meet the upcoming challenges of vaccination for coronavirus prevention in the province and asked it to assist the local authorities from procurement of the vaccines to their storage and from cold-chain management to their distribution. The proposal to the WHO was made by Sindh Health Minister Dr.....

[more >>](#)

**10 more dead, another 1,559 test positive in Sindh**

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2020-12-11

Ten more people have died due to Covid-19 and another 1,559 cases have been reported during the past 24 hours in Sindh, with the death toll due to the viral disease reaching 3,109 in the province. Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said in his daily situation report on the health emergency on Thursday that 12,703 samples were tested in the past 24 hours, resulting in 1,559 people, or 12.3 per cent.....

[more >>](#)

**Sindh CM's adviser Aijaz Sheerazi dies of corona**

Source: [INP, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-11

KARACHI: Aijaz Ali Shah Sheerazi, adviser to the Sindh chief minister on population welfare died of the coronavirus at a hospital here on Thursday. Sheerazi, who belongs to Sujawal, had been fighting for his life after getting infected for the last two months at different health facilities. At the time of his death, he was in the intensive care unit of private hospital while placed on a .....[more >>](#)

**WHO extends aid to help Sindh fight virus: CM**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-11

KARACHI - Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah lauded the efforts of World Health Organization (WHO) in containing COVID-19 and controlling polio cases. He said that the organization would support Pakistan, particularly Sindh government in provision of COVID-19 vaccine. This he said while talking to WHO Representative and Head of Mission Pakistan, Dr Palitha Mahipala here at CM House. Mr Shah .....[more >>](#)

**10 more die from coronavirus, 1,559 new cases surface in Sindh**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-11

KARACHI - As many as 10 more patients of COVID-19 died overnight lifting the death toll to 3,109 and 1,559 new cases emerged when 12,703 samples were tested raising the tally to 191,246. This was disclosed by Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued here from CM House on Thursday. He said that 10 more patients lost their lives overnight, lifting the death toll to 3,109 t.....[more >>](#)

## International News

### Countries News

#### In Kenya, Covid-19's rural spread strains creaky healthcare

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-12-08

The recent deaths from Covid-19 in Kenya of a refugee, a member of parliament and a retired civil servant all happened for the same reason: emergency help was hours away. Nearly three quarters of Kenya's intensive care unit (ICU) beds are in the two largest cities, Nairobi and Mombasa. Yet the new coronavirus is spreading into rural areas where the public health system is creaking.....

[more >>](#)

#### Indonesia receives over a million Chinese Covid-19 vaccine doses

Source: [Agencies](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-08

Jakarta - Indonesia has received 1.2 million doses of a Covid-19 vaccine made by China's Sinovac, officials said, as the world's fourth most populous nation struggles to get soaring case rates under control. The doses arrived in Jakarta late Sunday on a flight from Beijing, with another 1.8 million expected to be sent again next month. Although Chinese regulators have yet to clear any of c.....

[more >>](#)

#### 90-year-old gets first jab as UK starts vaccination drive

Source: [Ap](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-09

LONDON: Britain became the first Western country to start a mass coronavirus vaccine campaign on Tuesday with a 90-year-old receiving the initial jab, as the number of cases in Europe hit 20 million. Kicking off Britain's "V-Day", Margaret Keenan said she felt "privileged" to be given the injection, the first of millions expected to be administered in the hard-hit co.....

[more >>](#)

#### Saving the City: London's finance district plots reboot as COVID compounds Brexit

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-12-10

For fintech entrepreneur Lewis Liu, no other city on earth could compare to London. Chinese-born and New York-bred, the CEO and co-founder of Eigen Technologies had always dreamed of setting up business in the Square Mile, the historic heart of European finance and home to a global talent pool vital to companies like his. But less than a year after opening his office within yards of the Bank of Eng.....

[more >>](#)

#### From junk to veg: vending machines adapt to virus crisis

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-12-10

With business selling chocolate bars to office workers in meltdown owing to the covid crisis, French vending machine makers have turned to experts on growth: farmers. And for farmers who want to reach consumers directly, vending machines offer a way to meet new demand and respect health regulations. Vending machines have been popping up alongside highways and near farms, and one of the main benef.....[more >>](#)

#### UK issues allergy warning over Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-10

LONDON: British health officials on Wednesday warned that anyone with a history of significant allergic reactions should not have the Pfizer-BioNTech Covid jab for the time being. The warning came after two members of the state-run National Health Service who were among the first to receive the vaccine on Tuesday suffered allergic reactions and needed treatment. NHS England medical director Step.....[more >>](#)

**Men with Covid-19 three times more likely to need intensive care: study**

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-10

PARIS: Men infected with Covid-19 are three times more likely to require intensive care than women and are at significantly higher risk of dying from the virus, scientists said on Wednesday. Researchers analysed over three million confirmed coronavirus cases from 46 countries and 44 states in the US between Jan 1 and June 1 of this year. They found that the risk of Sars-Cov-2 infection was the s.....

[more >>](#)

**Canada approves vaccine**

Source: [Reuters](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-10

TORONTO: Canada approved the Covid-19 vaccine from Pfizer Inc and BioNTech on Wednesday, clearing the way for shots to be delivered and administered across the country. The nation's first coronavirus vaccine green light comes under a new interim order system that allows for accelerated approval. "The approval of the vaccine is supported by evidence that it is safe, effective and of g.....

[more >>](#)

**Pandemic putting democracy under threat, says study**

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-10

STOCKHOLM: More than six in 10 countries around the world have adopted measures during the Covid-19 pandemic that threaten democracy or human rights, a report by democracy institute International IDEA said on Wednesday. The study, which examined the situation in almost all countries of the world, concluded that 60 percent of nations "implemented restrictions that were either illegal, dispro.....

[more >>](#)

**Amnesty says rich countries hoarding vaccine**

Source: [News Desk](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-11

PARIS: Human rights group Amnesty International has warned that only one in 10 people in poor countries are set to receive COVID-19 vaccines in 2021, while rich nations have "hoarded" three times the amount of shots they need. Amnesty International is part of an alliance of human rights organisations called The People's Vaccine, which published the alarming report on Wedn.....

[more >>](#)

**Air pollution: Covid-hit Bulgaria faces compound risk**

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-12-11

As the winter smog season in Bulgaria arrives, experts are concerned over a "perfect storm" of health risks: the country's high air pollution and the coronavirus — in a country with one of Europe's highest Covid-19 death rates. The danger is particularly acute given that several times last month the Bulgarian capital Sofia ranked as the world's most polluted cit.....

[more >>](#)

**Wealth of US billionaires soars during pandemic**

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-12-11

America's billionaires have seen their wealth rise by more than \$1 trillion since the start of the coronavirus pandemic, according to a study Wednesday, fueling a debate about higher taxes on the rich. The collective wealth of the 651 billionaires in the United States soared from \$2.95 trillion on March 18 to \$4.01 trillion on Monday, said the Institute for Policy Studies and America.....

[more >>](#)

## Donors News

### **J&J readies 500m vaccine doses for poor countries**

Source: [AFP](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-09

GENEVA: US pharmaceutical giant Johnson & Johnson said Tuesday it plans to provide 500 million doses of its vaccine for poor countries once results of clinical trials are announced by the end of January. It plans to sell the vaccine at cost price and will provide the doses to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, the group's scientific director Paul Stoffels told a virtual round table in Geneva.....

[more >>](#)

### **World Bank approves \$300m loan**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-10

ISLAMABAD: The World Bank has approved a \$300 million loan to help Pakistan address issues of climate change, health emergency and manage solid waste to reduce flooding chances in the largest city of the country. The Washington-based lender approved \$200 million for the Sindh Resilience project and \$100 million for the Solid Waste Emergency and Efficiency project, according to an official statement.....

[more >>](#)

### **Human rights must be 'front and centre' of coronavirus response: UN chief**

Source: [Agencies](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-11

UNITED NATIONS - United Nations (UN) Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Thursday called for human rights to be put "front and centre" of coronavirus response and recovery globally in order to achieve a better future for people everywhere. The UN chief made the call in his message for Human Rights Day, which is observed on Dec. 10. "People and their rights must be front and centre .....

[more >>](#)

## SDPI Engagements

### 23<sup>rd</sup> SDC-2020

#### 'Sustainable Development in the Times of COVID-19'

##### **President Alvi to inaugurate 23rd Sustainable Development Conference on Dec 14**

Source: [DNA News](#), [DNA News](#), 2020-12-11

ISLAMABAD, DEC 11 (DNA) – President of Pakistan Dr Arif Alvi will inaugurate the 23rd Sustainable Development Conference (SDC 2020), the flagship annual activity of the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), on December 14, 2020. The mega event titled 'Sustainable Development in the Times of COVID-19' will be concluded on 17 December 2020 with the closing remarks by Pri.....

[more >>](#)

##### **President Alvi to inaugurate 23rd Sustainable Development Conference on December 14**

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Spokesman](#), 2020-12-11

ISLAMABAD: President of Pakistan Dr Arif Alvi will inaugurate the 23rd Sustainable Development Conference (SDC 2020), the flagship annual activity of the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), on December 14, 2020. The mega event titled 'Sustainable Development in the Times of COVID-19' will be concluded on 17 December 2020 with the closing remarks by Prime Minister of Pakist.....

[more >>](#)

##### **President Alvi to inaugurate 23rd Sustainable Development Conference on Dec 14**

Source: [DNA](#), [Daily Islamabad Post](#), 2020-12-11

ISLAMABAD, DEC 11 (DNA) – President of Pakistan Dr Arif Alvi will inaugurate the 23rd Sustainable Development Conference (SDC 2020), the flagship annual activity of the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), on December 14, 2020. The mega event titled 'Sustainable Development in the Times of COVID-19' will be concluded on 17 December 2020 with the closing remarks by Pri.....

[more >>](#)

© 2013 - 2020 All rights reserved

Designed & Developed by NK-MIS Web Team, (SDPI)

Newsletter generate and disseminate by AS RC Team SDPI

# SUBSCRIBE

[Send Mail](#)

to our E - Newsletter on

**"COVID - 19"**