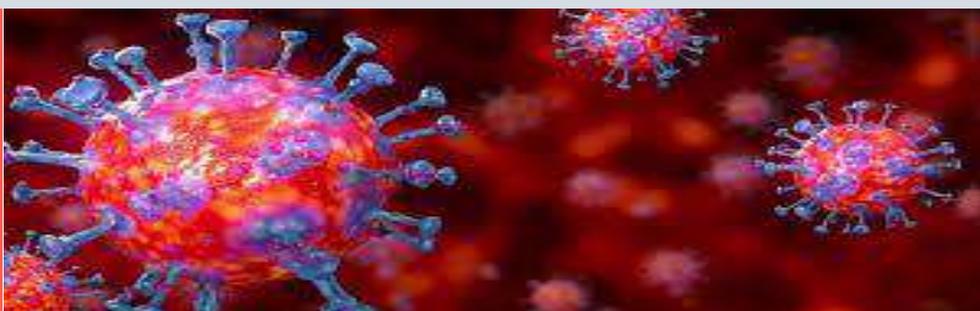


# E-Newsletter on COVID-19



Vol. 01, No, 67, 68



Issue: 12-18 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

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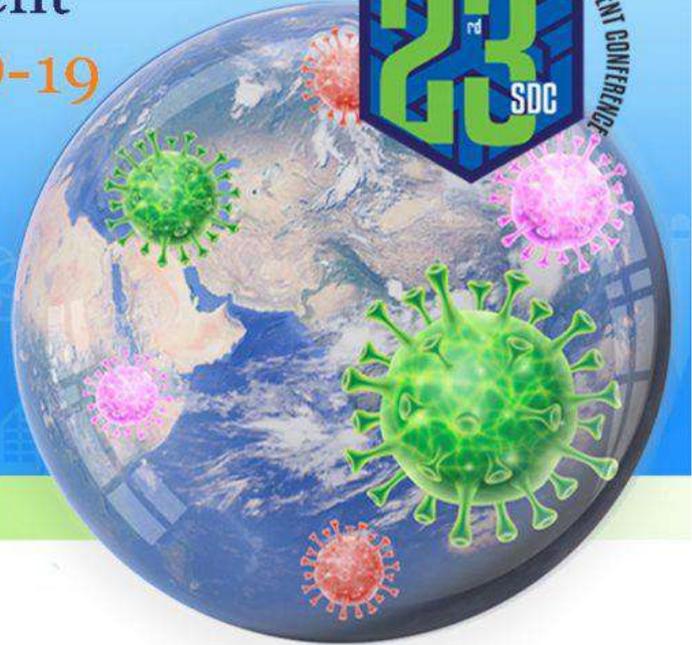
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# Sustainable Development in the Times of COVID-19

14-17 December 2020 | Islamabad, Pakistan



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## Op-Eds/Articles/Editorials

### Op-Eds/Articles/Editorials

#### Against workers

Source: [Katy Wiese, The News, International](#), 2020-12-12

The Covid-19 pandemic killed more than a million people across the world and presents an unprecedented challenge to public health, food systems and the world of work. Nearly half of the 3.3 billion people who make up the global workforce is at risk of losing their jobs, while tens of millions of people have fallen or may fall into poverty. Often the first to lose their jobs are those whos.....

[more >>](#)

#### Youth Force – An Initiative towards a More Divided Society?

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

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 >>](#)

### Health intelligence to deal with the pandemic

Source: [Dr Rana Jawad Asghar, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-12

The danger of a deadly pandemic was feared by everyone working in pandemic preparedness but not fully realised by those leading the world. Some certainly understood the potential dangers of it to national security but not its full impact. Now we are concerned with just surviving, when more 1.5 million have died and 70 million are confirmed to have contracted Covid-19. These are heavily under-repor.....

[more >>](#)

### World watches as first-mover UK probes adverse reactions to Pfizer vaccine

Source: [Alistair Smout, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-12

Britain hailed "V-Day" when it became the first country to roll out the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine. Yet, as first mover, it has also become the first to report cases of adverse reactions, allowing other nations to watch and learn. Officials from around the world are keen for British authorities to give them as much information as possible about the two reported cases of anap.....

[more >>](#)

### World outlook in 2021

Source: [Muhammad Omar Iftikhar, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-12

The year 2020 was marked with unprecedented chaos, unthinkable confusion, and unparalleled commotion. The pandemic that spread across the world compelled entire continents to experience a lockdown—a sight we never thought to witness. From Europe to Asia; from North America to Australia; the world was shell shocked when people began falling ill because of the virus and losing the battle of li.....

[more >>](#)

### Covid-19 fails to rock banking sector

Source: [Hamza Habib, The News, International](#), 2020-12-13

Few economists could have imagined a pandemic as lethal and scary as the Covid-19 only a few years ago. More than 68 million people worldwide have already been infected with the virus and more than 1.6 million have died of the disease. Economic activities have been affected to such an extent that the World Bank and TShe International Monetary Fund have projected a contraction of 5.2 percent and 4.....

[more >>](#)

### Political leadership in pandemic times

Source: [Dr Tariq Rahman, The News, International](#), 2020-12-13

Whenever I used to read about the epidemics of the pre-modern age, I thought the people of that time did not know any better. After all, they did not know about germs or viruses so they thought everything was a punishment for their collective sins. In Europe, they generally went on a rampage killing Jews and old women who had cats as pets, blaming the former for the killing of Christ and the latte.....

[more >>](#)

### Mass murder at Minar-e-Pakistan today

Source: [M Bilal Lakhani, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-13

As many as 57 jet planes full of Pakistanis have died from Covid-19 to date. Take a moment to let that sink in. Remember the anger and sheer outrage you feel when you see one Pakistani airliner crash. Just because Covid-19 deaths aren't as dramatic in terms of TV footage doesn't mean they're any less painful. Now imagine a jet plane full of people crashing into the Minar-e-Pakist.....

[more >>](#)

### **The trust crisis**

Source: [Maleeha Lodhi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-15

ONE of the key political issues in the global debate today is the steady erosion of people's trust in governments across the world. More than evident in the pre-pandemic era this came into sharper relief after Covid-19 struck. The issue of trust was in the spotlight when handling of the coronavirus crisis was assessed and it was found that where people had greater trust in their government, .....

[more >>](#)

### **Dangers of e-waste**

Source: [Ali Ashar Jaffri](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-15

The world is rapidly embracing the various dimensions of the Industrial Revolution (IR) 4.0 through the application of the Internet-of-Things (IoT), AI, cloud computing, block chain technologies, etc in diverse industries. Contemporary to its devastating impacts on the global economy, the Covid-19 pandemic has served as a driving force for the adoption of digitalization and automation by b.....

[more >>](#)

### **As Rome embraces winter**

Source: [Daud Khan](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-16

Italy is going through a terrible autumn. The number of new Covid-19 cases rose from just over a 100 a day in summer to over 40,000 in mid-November. To some extent this reflects higher testing levels, including of people without symptoms. However, other numbers confirm that Covid-19 continues to wreak havoc. The percentage of swabs coming in positive is now almost 30% as opposed to below 1% in sum.....

[more >>](#)

### **Hunger in America**

Source: [Rajan Menon](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-17

In society at large, precautions – lockdowns, social distancing, limits on festive gatherings – necessary to keep Covid-19 at bay have increased loneliness and social isolation. Contrary to early expectations, reports of abuse and violence within families haven't actually spiraled, but experts suggest that may be because the victims, confined to their homes alongside their torma.....

[more >>](#)

### **New year wishes for Pakistan**

Source: [Frank F Islam](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-12-16

As we enter the holiday season and approach the new year, I want to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt best wishes to and for Pakistan and Pakistanis. Because of Covid-19, 2020 has been a trying year. We have all had to try harder. We have done so across the board and it is paying off. Vaccines are now being distributed in the U.K., the U.S. and in other countries and will soon be distr.....

[more >>](#)

### **The shadow pandemic: VAWG**

Source: [Naila Tasneem](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-12-17

The call for global action has been amplified by UN Women's Generation Equality campaign to bridge funding gaps, ensure essential services for survivors of violence during the COVID-19 crisis, with focus on prevention, and collection of data that can improve life-saving services for women and girls. As countries around the world implemented lockdown measures to stop the spread of the coronav.....

[more >>](#)

## National News

### Islamabad

#### Corona claims 50 more lives: Pak Covid-19 positivity ratio at 7.15pc, recovery ratio at 86pc

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

ISLAMABAD: The total active COVID-19 cases in Pakistan on Friday were recorded at 44,582 as 3,047 more people tested positive for the deadly virus during the last 24 hours. Fifty corona patients, 47 of whom were under treatment in hospital and three in their respective homes or isolation facilities, died on Thursday, according to the latest update issued by the National Command and Operation Centr.....

[more >>](#)

#### 319 test positive for virus in capital

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

ISLAMABAD: At least 319 people have tested positive for novel coronavirus disease (Covid19) in the capital during the last 24 hours, National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) said on Friday. According to an official of NCOC, as many as 275 cases were reported on Thursday while 359 cases were reported on Wednesday. The pandemic has claimed 353 lives in the capital territory so far. Meanwhile, f.....

[more >>](#)

#### Another surge in infections seen in Islamabad

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

ISLAMABAD: An increase was seen in the number of Covid-19 cases in the capital as 319 more people were found infected compared to 275 on Thursday. Besides, five people, including a woman, died of the disease. They were residents of Loi Bher, I-8, G-11, G-13 and F-6, and aged between 50 and 79 years. During the last 24 hours, 6,629 tests were conducted in the city and the positivity rate remained.....

[more >>](#)

#### Ban on gatherings, carrying arms in capital extended for two months

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

ISLAMABAD: The capital administration on Friday extended ban on all kinds of gatherings of five or more people, processions and rallies and demonstrations at any public place in Islamabad, including the Red Zone for a period of two months. Likewise, the ban also extended over use of cassette players sound, system, CD/DVD and other mediums for making objectionable/sectarian related speeches. Depu.....[more >>](#)

#### Pakistan reports 2,729 new coronavirus cases in one day

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

Pakistan has reported 71 deaths in the last 24 hours by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has surged to 435,056. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 8,724 on Saturday. According to the latest figures by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC), 2,729 persons tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 24 hours. Sindh remains the worst-hit province by the pan.....[more >>](#)

#### Coronavirus daily cases cross 3,000 mark

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

ISLAMABAD - The second wave of Coronavirus continues to hit the country as Pakistan crossed 3000 mark of daily Covid-19 cases, according to the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC). It Friday morning reported that during the last 24 hours, 50 new deaths were reported from across the country due to Coronavirus while the number of people tested positive during the same period was 3,047.....[more >>](#)

### **Young volunteer allegedly tests corona positive after receiving vaccine**

Source: [Rahul Basharat](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#) , 2020-12-12

ISLAMABAD - A young novel coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine volunteer who received a vaccine jab at Shifa International Hospital in the ongoing trials has allegedly tested positive with the virus, The Nation learnt on Friday. The hospital in collaboration with National Institute of Health (NIH) is conducting Phase-III trials and the vaccine has been administered to more than 4,000 volunteers so far. ....

[more >>](#)

### **71 more die as corona killing spree continues**

Source: [Muhammad Anis](#), [The News, International](#) , 2020-12-13

ISLAMABAD: Another 71 COVID-19 patients died across the country in the last 24 hours, taking the death toll to 8,724, the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) reported on Saturday. "In all, 2,470 patients are in critical condition across Pakistan and their number is rising fast," said the Center in its daily COVID-19 situation report. The National Positivity Ratio is 6.59% wi.....

[more >>](#)

### **Interest-free loans offered to schools**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#) , 2020-12-13

ISLAMABAD: The federal government has decided to give relief to private educational institutions affected by the lockdown and the extended winter vacations due to novel coronavirus (Covid-19). In a meeting between the top officers of the ministry of federal education and professional training and the representatives of private schools owners, it was decided to give interest-free loans to low fee.....

[more >>](#)

### **Effective steps taken to deal with Covid-19: Shibli**

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#) , 2020-12-13

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Shibli Faraz on Saturday said the government had taken effective steps to deal with the second wave of the Covid-19. In a tweet, he said that public health and protection of people's lives was the foremost priority of the government. The minister appealed to the people to strictly follow the SOPs as the precautionary steps and av.....

[more >>](#)

### **Pakistan reports 3,369 new COVID-19 cases in one day**

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#) , 2020-12-13

Pakistan has reported 72 deaths in the last 24 hours by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has surged to 438,425. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 8,796 on Sunday. According to the latest figures by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC), 3,369 persons tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 24 hours. Sindh remains the worst-hit province by the pande.....

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### **Pakistan reports rise in daily virus deaths**

Source: [Tahir Niaz](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#) , 2020-12-13

ISLAMABAD - The Covid-19 positivity ratio remained 6.59 percent in the country as the authorities found Karachi as the city with the highest positivity ratio at 20.88 percent. According to the latest figures released by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), AJK was recorded with 8.7 percent positivity ratio, Balochistan 10.48 percent, GB 1.23 percent, Islamabad 4.27 percent, KP 4.....

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### **Pakistani doctor develops app for instant Covid-19 testing**

Source: [News Desk](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-14

In a landmark achievement, a Toronto-based Pakistani doctor has introduced an instant Covid-19 diagnostic test using a smartphone, according to Radio Pakistan. Dr Nazeem Khalid, who graduated from King Edward Medical University in 1983 before acquiring experience in the invention of medical devices and systems, told High Commissioner for Pakistan to Canada Raza Bashir Tarar that his innovation is .....

[more >>](#)

### **'Landa' bazaars bear the brunt of COVID-19**

Source: [APP](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-14

ISLAMABAD: The second wave of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has badly affected the 'landa' bazaars in the federal capital due to fear of contracting the disease from secondhand winter wear. 'Landa' bazaars are considered as a blessing for low-income households as many citizens look to purchase used clothes as a result of decreasing purchasing power. These baz.....

[more >>](#)

### **Pakistan records 2,362 new coronavirus cases in one day**

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-14

Pakistan has reported 36 deaths in the last 24 hours by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has surged to 440,787. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 8,832 on Monday. According to the latest figures by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC), 2,362 persons tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 24 hours. Sindh remains the worst-hit province by the pande.....

[more >>](#)

### **Out of 72 died due to corona, 42 were on ventilators: NCOC**

Source: [Tahir Niaz](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-14

ISLAMABAD - The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) yesterday said that out of the 72 deaths due to the coronavirus during the last 24 hours, 42 persons who died were on ventilators. Most of the deaths occurred in Punjab followed by Sindh, according to the NCOC. It said 67 persons died in hospitals and 5 died out of hospital on 12 December. Total active Covid-19 cases in the Pakistan.....

[more >>](#)

### **PM prays for Tariq Jamil's recovery from COVID-19**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-15

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan Monday prayed for noted religious scholar Maulana Tariq Jamil's speedy and full recovery from COVID-19. The prime minister tweeted, "Praying for Maulana Tariq Jamil's speedy and full recovery from Covid 19". .....

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### **Hospitals running short of space as people ignore SOPs**

Source: [APP](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-15

ISLAMABAD: Hospitals of the twin cities are running short of space, a top health official in Islamabad said on Monday. He asked the public to observe precautions recommended for preventing the spread of the novel coronavirus (Covid-19). District Health Officer Zaeem Zia urged citizens to strictly follow health expert's recommendation regarding Covid-19. He said that it has been observed th.....

[more >>](#)

### **Pakistan's allocation for vaccine purchase raised to \$250m**

Source: [Ikram Junaidi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-13

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has increased its funds allocated for purchasing Covid-19 vaccine to \$250 million and signed non-disclosure agreements with various multinational companies. Under the agreement, the recipient country will not make details of the vaccine public. Earlier, the government had set aside \$150m for the vaccine. Talking to Dawn, Parliamentary Secretary on National Health Services (NH.....

[more >>](#)

### **Capital reports highest death toll from Covid-19**

Source: [Aamir Yasin | Munawer Azeem](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-13

10 succumb to virus in Islamabad Commissioner says cases increased in last 12 days in Pindi district ISLAMABAD: The federal capital recorded the highest death toll after 10 patients lost their battle with Covid-19 on Saturday. Talking to Dawn, Deputy Commissioner Hamza Shafqaat said this was the highest toll reported since the outbreak of the virus in Islamabad. He said the capital had ea.....

[more >>](#)

### **Pakistan reports 72 Covid-19 fatalities**

Source: [Ikram Junaidi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-14

ISLAMABAD: As many as 3,369 cases and 72 deaths were reported due to Covid-19 in a single day on Sunday across the country. The highest positivity ratio was observed in Karachi which was 18.92pc, followed by Peshawar, 18.08pc and Hyderabad, 15.26pc. The total number of active cases, which surpassed the 50,000 mark last month, has come down to 46,629 while 383,000 people have recovered so far fro.....

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### **Pakistani doctor develops smartphone-based Covid-19 test**

Source: [Amin Ahmed](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-14

ISLAMABAD: A Pakistani doctor based in Toronto has introduced an instant Covid-19 diagnostic test using a smartphone. Pakistan High Commissioner to Canada Raza Bashir Tarar has congratulated Dr Naqeeb Khalid for his extraordinary achievement. In a video conversation with Dr Naqeeb Khalid who led the development of smartphone-based diagnostic test for Covid-19 as Director of Medical Device Progra.....

[more >>](#)

### **Islamabad sees fall in cases, positivity rate**

Source: [Aamir Yasin | Ikram Junaidi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-14

Health officer claims capital has hit its peak Expert believes cases dropped due to rain Pindi also receives less patients ISLAMABAD: With the positivity rate dropping by 2pc in the last two weeks and the number of cases also falling in the federal capital, the district administration is hoping that the city might have hit the peak of the second wave. However a health expert believes that.....

[more >>](#)

### **Strict action against societies violating rules**

Source: [APP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-14

ISLAMABAD: The Capital Development Authority (CDA) has decided to strictly ask owners of housing societies and schemes to implement the CDA and Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) Zoning Regulation. Offices of a number of illegal housing schemes and societies have been sealed. Islamabad was divided into five zones according to ICT Zoning Regulation 1992. Under the regulations, planning and developm.....

[more >>](#)

**Coronavirus claims 73 more lives in one day**

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-15

Pakistan has reported 73 deaths in the last 24 hours by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has surged to 443,246. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 8,905 on Tuesday. According to the latest figures by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC), 2,459 persons tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 24 hours. Sindh remains the worst-hit province by the pand.....

[more >>](#)

**Pakistan records slight decline in corona cases**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-15

ISLAMABAD - The country Monday witnessed slight decline in Covid-19 infections in a single day for the first time after a period of 10 days as 2,362 new positive cases were reported along with 36 deaths during last 24 hours. For over last 10 days, the Covid-19 infections were over 3,000 with over 50 deaths for each single day. With 36 new deaths in last 24 hours the nationwide death toll jump.....

[more >>](#)

**New corona cases increasing with almost 3,000 daily mark, SAPM Dr Faisal**

Source: [Rahul Basharat](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-15

ISLAMABAD - The government in order to procure the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine has the options of bilateral contracts with the manufacturing firms and the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI) established COVAX window. This was stated by the Vice Chancellor (VC) National Health Services Academy (NHSA) who is also a member of the technical committee on COVID-19 vaccine.....

[more >>](#)

**Pakistan's coronavirus death toll surges past 9,000**

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-16

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan recorded 105 new deaths from the novel coronavirus in the past 24 hours, the highest single-day tally in six months, data issued by the National Command and Operations Centre (NCOC) showed on Wednesday. At least 70 out of the 105 who died of COVID-19 were on ventilators. December 15's death toll raised the total number of people who have died across the country aft.....

[more >>](#)

**56% Pakistanis want opposition to postpone rallies: survey**

Source: [nill](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-17

ISLAMABAD: According to a fresh survey conducted by the Institute for Public Opinion Research (IPOR), 56 percent respondents have advised the opposition to postpone their public rallies keeping in view the threat of coronavirus. Twenty-three percent respondents said the opposition must go ahead with its rallies. The performance of Prime Minister Imran Khan was also appreciated in the survey.....

[more >>](#)

**COVID-19 claims life of educationist**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-17

Islamabad: The COVID-19 claimed life of an educationist, Zahoor Ahmed Mughal at Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS) here on Wednesday. Zahoor Mughal, principal of the Islamabad Model School for Boys (IMSB), G-11/2 was admitted at Isolation Ward of PIMS on November 30 and later he was put on ventilator due to his critical condition. The deceased was Ph.D scholar after doing M.Phi.....

[more >>](#)

### **Pakistan sees second highest death toll in a day from virus**

Source: [Ikram Junaidi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-17

ISLAMABAD: While the second wave of coronavirus claimed as many as 105 lives — the second-highest since the disease outbreak — in the past 24 hours, Special Assistant to Prime Minister (SAPM) on Health Dr Faisal Sultan said on Wednesday Pakistan was passing through the same situation it had faced in June. Earlier, the highest number of deaths was reported on June 15 when the first wav.....

[more >>](#)

### **As casualties rise in twin cities, capital sees fall in daily cases**

Source: [Aamir Yasin | Munawer Azeem](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-17

ISLAMABAD: As casualties in the twin cities continue to increase, the capital reported a decline in the number of daily positive cases, with 158 people getting infected on Wednesday. According to statistics released by the local administrations of the twin cities, 11 people lost their lives to the virus. The data further revealed that Islamabad had recorded 205 cases on Tuesday. District Health .....

[more >>](#)

## **Khyber Pakhtunkhwa**

### **People urged to be vigilant against coronavirus**

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

PESHAWAR: Hazara Division Commissioner Riaz Khan Mehsud Friday addressed the Juma prayers congregation at Markazi Jamia Masjid in Abbottabad and urged upon the people to be vigilant and take precautionary measures against coronavirus pandemic. Abbottabad Deputy Commissioner, Assistant commissioners, District Khateeb Mufti Abdul Wajid and a large number of people were present on this occasi.....

[more >>](#)

### **Traffic police inspect corona SOPs at BRT stations**

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

PESHAWAR: Traffic police Friday visited BRT stations and inspected the use of safety masks and sanitization services in the wake of present spike in coronavirus cases in the provincial capital. The traffic police team led by Chief Traffic Officer Abbas Majeed Marwat met with BRT's authorities and directed to ensure wearing of masks by each commuter and display posters for awareness a.....

[more >>](#)

### **Dozens of shops sealed in Lakki over SOP violation**

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

LAKKI MARWAT: The Lakki Marwat district administration sealed around three dozen business outlets in different towns on Friday over violation of the precautions against Covid-19. The action was initiated on the directives of deputy commissioner Abdul Haseeb under the administration's strategy to raise awareness about the deadly disease and implement all relevant protocols to contain the pan.....

[more >>](#)

### **Another doctor dies of corona in KP**

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-13

PESHAWAR: The coronavirus on Saturday claimed the life of another doctor in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, taking the toll of doctors who have died of the infectious disease to 28 in the province. The latest victim was a noted female pathologist, Prof Zaibun Nisa. She had been suffering from the viral infection for the last few days and was admitted to the Northwest General Hospital in Peshawar, whe.....

[more >>](#)

### Several people punished over SOPs violations

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-13

PESHAWAR: The district administration on Saturday continued action over the violation of standard operating procedures (SOPs) to protect people from coronavirus. Deputy Commissioner Muhammad Ali Asghar said that 219 citizens were fined at Bus Rapid Transit during travelling while 316 were fined in various bazaars for not wearing facemasks. The official said 184 shops were sealed while 900.....

[more >>](#)

### Coronavirus claims another medic's life

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-13

PESHAWAR: The novel coronavirus pandemic has claimed another medical professional in the province, raising the toll of doctors and paramedics succumbing to the virus to 45. Professor Zaibun Nisa, the head of the pathology department at the Kabir Medical College in Peshawar died of the novel coronavirus (Covid) on Saturday. Officials of the Provincial Doctors Association (PDA), in a statement on.....

[more >>](#)

### Clerics back SOPs to contain Covid

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-13

PESHAWAR: Clerics on Saturday assured the provincial government of full support in implementing the standard operating procedures (SOPs) prescribed to keep the novel coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic from spreading, especially during its second wave. The assurances were given during a meeting convened on Saturday by the Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (K-P) Auqaf, Hajj, Religious and Minority Affairs Department.....

[more >>](#)

### Senior doctor dies due to coronavirus

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-13

PESHAWAR - Former head of the Pathology Department of Khyber Medical College (KMC) Professor Dr Zeb-un-Nisa died due to coronavirus complications here on Saturday. Provincial Doctors Association said she was on a ventilator at a private hospital for more than a week. With her death, the total number of doctors dying from the coronavirus infection in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) has risen to 28 whi.....

[more >>](#)

### Another doctor dies of Covid as toll reaches 30 47 health workers have lost their lives in the province

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-14

ABBOTTABAD: Another doctor from Abbottabad succumbed to the coronavirus on Sunday, raising the death toll of doctors in the province of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa to 30. Professor Dr Hassan Shahzad died while he was under treatment at an intensive care unit of Ayub Teaching Hospital in Abbottabad. Shahzad was there for the past one week. He was also the former medicine department head of the Ayub Medica.....

[more >>](#)

### COVID-19 pandemic: Death toll reaches 196 in Hazara

Source: [Syed Kosar Naqvi](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-15

ABBOTTABAD: With the death of a former professor of medicine Dr Hassan Shehzad in the Ayub Teaching Hospital, the death toll from coronavirus has risen to 196 in the Hazara division, with 110 fatalities alone in Abbottabad. Also, positive cases have increased up to 7,245 out of total 82,017 cases screened while 4,333 cases are still awaited. Dr Hassan Shehzad was the 32nd doctor who lost l.....

[more >>](#)

### 5 Nowshera schools shut as 54 more test positive

Source: [nill](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-15

NOWSHERA: Another 54 persons tested positive for the coronavirus in Nowshera that took the number of patients suffering from the viral infection to 1,465, officials said on Monday. With the rising number of Covid-19 cases, the authorities locked down five more educational institutions. These included Government Girls High School Kanakhel, Government Girls High School Kanakhel (Boys), Gover.....

[more >>](#)

### Ulema urged to help protect people from Covid

Source: [Correspondent](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-13

ABBOTTABAD: Commissioner Hazara Riaz Khan Mehsud has urged ulema and elders to create awareness of safety measures among people to protect them from contracting Covid-19 and contain spread of the virus. He was addressing the ulema and elders at Markazi Jamia Masjid after Friday prayers here. Mr Mehsud said that currently Abbottabad was on top of the list for coronavirus cases and it was need of .....

[more >>](#)

### Covid claims eight more lives

Source: [Ashfaq Yusufzai](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-13

PESHAWAR: Eight more people, including a woman doctor and a retired college professor, lost life to novel coronavirus in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Saturday. Haripur and Abbottabad districts recorded two deaths each and Peshawar, Lower Dir, Swabi and Khyber districts one each. Prof Zaibu Nisa, a former head of the pathology department at the Khyber Medical College, and Prof Nasib Dar Mohammad, a form.....

[more >>](#)

### Covid-19 claims another Abbottabad medic

Source: [Zubair Ayub](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-15

ABBOTABAD: The novel coronavirus pandemic claimed another medic in the Hazara region on Monday as cases continue to soar. Health officials said that Dr Hassan Shehzad, a professor of medicine, succumbed to the virus at the Ayub Medical Complex on Monday. He was later buried in his native graveyard in Abbottabad. Officials said that Dr Shehzad used to work at the complex. But after retiring, he.....

[more >>](#)

### Health officials for strict enforcement of coronavirus SOPs

Source: [Ashfaq Yusufzai](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-14

PESHAWAR: The health department has urged people to comply strictly with precautionary measures to minimise losses due to Covid-19 as Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has reported 10 deaths and 357 new cases of the virus. "We are extremely concerned about the prevalence of coronavirus in Peshawar which is the epicentre of the mortalities as well as new cases. Despite action by the district administration.....

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### Books sale sees encouraging trend despite Covid-19

Source: [Sher Alam Shinwari](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-14

PESHAWAR: Compared to last year, the outgoing year witnessed an encouraging trend of publication of books on different topics including sociology, climate change, environment, psychology, postmodernism, medical, engineering and emerging literary genres. Despite Covid-19, publication of Pashto books surged to around 20,000 compared to last year's 15,000 brought out by publishers, institution.....

[more >>](#)

**12 more die of corona in KP**

Source: [Bureau Report](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-16

PESHAWAR: At least 12 more people died of coronavirus on Tuesday, the highest number of people died of the infectious disease in the second wave in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. With the fresh deaths, the death toll from the viral infection jumped to 1489. Also, 466 more people diagnosed with the viral infection in the province, bringing the total number of positive cases to 53,253 in the provinces.....

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**Media urged to play role in stemming coronavirus spread**

Source: [Syed Kosar Naqvi](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-18

ABBOTTABAD: A senior official on Thursday asked the media to play a role in educating the public on the protective measures for stemming the coronavirus spread. Hazara Division Commissioner Riaz Khan Mehsud said this while talking to the media at a ceremony held at the Commissioner's House where he administered the oath to the newly elected officials of the All Traders Federation. H.....

[more >>](#)

**Smart lockdown enforced in seven Peshawar areas**

Source: [Ashfaq Yusufzai](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-17

PESHAWAR: The district administration has imposed smart lockdown in seven areas of provincial capital as the positivity of Covid-19 swabs has risen to 16 per cent in the hardest-hit district of the province. On Wednesday, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa reported 13 deaths due to coronavirus and 356 new cases, making total number of province-wide mortalities and incidence 1,502 and 53,609 respectively.....

[more >>](#)

**Punjab****Corona kills 19 more**

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

LAHORE: Around 19 corona patients died and 647 new infections were confirmed in Punjab during the last 24 hours, according to report issued by Primary and Secondary Healthcare (P&SH) Department on Friday. The death toll reached 3,284 in Punjab, while confirmed cases became 125,897 in the province. As per the spokesperson for Corona Monitoring Room at P&SH Department, 16,645 tests ha.....

[more >>](#)

**'Faith healer' held for sexually abusing woman**

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

CHINIOT: A 'faith healer' was arrested after a video showing him sexually abusing a woman went viral on social media. Muhammadwala police registered a case under sections 376 of PPC and 18 of Motion Pictures Ordinance 1979 against the resident of Silanwali tehsil of Sargodha district, who was known as a faith healer of Addah Kalri village. A video had gone viral on social media showi.....

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**Punjab sees highest number of deaths in 24 hours: NCOC**

Source: [News Desk](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-13

ISLAMABAD: The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Sunday reported that the most coronavirus related deaths in the last 24 hours occurred in Punjab. Pakistan's Covid-19 death toll jumped to 8,796 on Sunday. The highest death toll was observed in Punjab with a total of 3,351 deaths, followed by Sindh with 3,149 fatalities, 1,463 in K-P, 368 in Islamabad, AJK 191, Balochistan 175 a.....

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### 21 hotspots identified in Pindi

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#) , 2020-12-13

RAWALPINDI: Some 21 new spots including six houses in Rawalpindi district have been declared as new novel coronavirus disease (Covid-19) hotspots on Saturday. The surveillance in the related areas has been jacked up while the administration has become active to enforce Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) devised to curb the pandemic virus. These newly declared hotspots also include six houses .....

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### Covid-19 vaccine scams surfacing, warns FIA

Source: [Imran Asghar](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#) , 2020-12-13

RAWALPINDI: As the world welcomed the news that a vaccine has been developed for the novel coronavirus (Covid-19) by large pharmaceuticals and some countries, scammers have started to take advantage of the news to fleece unsuspecting consumers. This has been warned by the federal investigators and border control officials of the country. Officials of the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) have .....

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### 13 more city areas go under smart lockdown

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#) , 2020-12-13

LAHORE: Following a surge in the number of coronavirus cases, the government has decided to impose smart lockdown in another 13 areas of the provincial metropolis. Punjab Primary and Secondary Health Secretary Captain (retd) Muhammad Usman indicated that smart lockdown has been imposed in areas where reports of coronavirus tests are being received positive. He highlighted that smart lockdown has.....

[more >>](#)

### Four more patients die of corona in Multan

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#) , 2020-12-13

MULTAN - Four more corona patients lost their lives in Nishtar Hospital Multan during last 24 hours bringing the tally to 215 in the city since March this year. Focal person Nishtar hospital for infectious diseases, Dr Irfan Arshad on Saturday said Muhammad Said (80) Iqbal Bano (80) Wazeeran Bibi (65) and Shamim Akhtar (67) passed away at Intensive Care Unit of the hospital during this time span. ....

[more >>](#)

### 31 COVID-19 patients die, 686 new cases reported

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#) , 2020-12-14

LAHORE:As many as 31 COVID-19 patients died and another 686 new infections were confirmed in Punjab during the last 24 hours, according to a report issued by Primary and Secondary Healthcare (P&SH) Department on Sunday. The toll of fatalities has risen to 3,351 in the province, while confirmed cases of coronavirus reached 127,212. According to the spokesperson for Corona Monitoring Room a.....

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### CM Buzdar says opposition becoming cause of rapid spread of coronavirus

Source: [Mubashir Hassan](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#) , 2020-12-14

LAHORE - Punjab Chief Minister (CM) Sardar Usman Buzdar, while regretting opposition's negative politics on Sunday, said that the nation had rejected their anti-state narrative since they wanted to create chaos in the country. In a statement, the chief minister said that unfortunately 11 opposition parties gathered on the platform of Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) had also become th.....

[more >>](#)

**Two more die of coronavirus**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-14

SARGODHA - Two more people died of coronavirus and another 200 tested positive for COVID-19 during the last week, according to Chief Executive Officer Health Dr Rai Samiullah. Talking to media on Sunday, he said that death toll due to coronavirus had reached 70 since March this year. He said that 2,800 coronavirus tests were conducted in corona lab during the week. He said total active COVID-19 .....

[more >>](#)

**COVID-19 claims 31 more lives**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-14

LAHORE-Another 31 patients lost their lives to COVID-19 while 686 new cases were reported in Punjab on Sunday. A spokesperson for the Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department said the total number of coronavirus cases reached 127,212 and death toll to 3,351 in the province while the recoveries were 114,910. The P&SHD confirmed that 338 new cases of COVID-19 were reported in Lah.....

[more >>](#)

**Attock witnesses highest number of COVID-19 patients**

Source: [Muhammad Sabrin](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-14

ATTOCK - Attock witnessed highest ever spike of novel coronavirus COVID-19 cases of the year as 16 more persons were tested positive on Sunday. The district crossed the 900 tally as the number of infected patients rose to 909. According to health authorities, it is highest tally of positive cases of the year in a day in Attock district. Chief Executive Officer District Health Authority Dr Jawad El.....

[more >>](#)

**Sudden decline in Covid deaths, cases**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-15

LAHORE: As compared to the Sunday's statistics, Punjab witnessed a sharp decline in the number of Covid-19 deaths and new confirmed cases of the virus. According to the official figures released by the Punjab government on Monday, the coronavirus claimed the lives of 14 patients, while 329 people tested positive. The number of deaths and new cases of the virus in Punjab on Sunday was repor.....

[more >>](#)

**Another doctor dies from coronavirus**

Source: [Correspondent](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-15

MUZAFFARGARH: Another doctor of Muzaffargarh died from coronavirus complications at Nishtar hospital in Multan on Monday. Dr Arshad Bhutta of Alipur chapter of the Punjab Medical Association had been admitted to the Nishtar Hospital where he died. He was the second doctor of Muzaffargarh district who died in the line of duty. Earlier, a doctor of the Muzaffargarh DHQ Hospital died last week from.....

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**Dr Faisal Sultan for media role in curbing corona**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-15

LAHORE:Special Assistant to Prime Minister (SAPM) on Health Dr Faisal Sultan has said that media has a critical role to play in a successful national effort to control the second wave of COVID-19 in Pakistan. He said this after inaugurating an online workshop for health journalists on Monday organised by an NGO in collaboration with the Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations and.....

[more >>](#)

### 14 corona patients die in Punjab

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-15

LAHORE: Around 14 COVID-19 patients died and 329 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 death toll reached 3,365 in Punjab, while confirmed cases of coronavirus reached 127,541 in the province. Out of a total of 127,541 infections in Punjab, 124,761 citizens contrac.....

[more >>](#)

### 686 new cases, 31 deaths reported from Covid-19 in Punjab

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-14

LAHORE: The Punjab government reported on Sunday that coronavirus claimed 31 more lives in the province in the past 24 hours, taking the death toll in the province to 3,351 since the outbreak. The new positive cases reported in Punjab in the same period stood as high as 686, taking the total cases in the province to 127,212. The highest number of 338 new cases was reported from Lahore on Sunday, .....

[more >>](#)

### Eateries, shops sealed over SOPs violation

Source: [Correspondent](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-14

GUJRANWALA: The district administration on Sunday sealed two restaurants for allowing indoor dining, two factories and more than a dozen shops for violating coronavirus SOPs. Deputy Commissioner Suhail Ashraf told reporters that on the direction of the government, action was taken against the trading centres, factories, restaurants and other places for violation of SOPs. A team under the supervi.....

[more >>](#)

### Three doctors contract Covid

Source: [Correspondent](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-14

SHEIKHUPURA: Three doctors posted in local district headquarters hospital tested positive for the Coronavirus. After the DHQ hospital doctors tested positive they went in isolation at their respective houses. Meanwhile, 17 other patients, who were found virus positive were also quarantined at their respective houses. ....

[more >>](#)

### Maulana Tariq Jameel hospitalised

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-14

LAHORE: Renowned religious scholar Maulana Tariq Jameel was admitted to a hospital on Sunday after testing positive for coronavirus. The Maulana announced on his Twitter account: "I was not feeling well from the last few days and on getting tested for Covid-19, it came positive and was admitted to the hospital on the advice of the doctors." He requested his followers to pray for him. ....

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### Rallies threat to people's lives, country's economy, says Qureshi

Source: [Correspondent](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-14

MULTAN: Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi has said that rallies and public gatherings are not only a threat to human lives, but also equally damaging for the country's economy. Addressing various functions in connection with the public contact campaign in NA-156 and NA-157 constituencies here on Sunday, Mr Qureshi said the government was not afraid of rallies and gatherings, but Prime M.....

[more >>](#)

**Punjab records 329 fresh corona cases, 14 deaths**

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-15

LAHORE: Out of 11,536 cases reported during the last 24 hours, as many as 329 fresh cases and 14 fatalities were reported across the province taking the provincial tally of coronavirus cases to 127,541 and deaths to 3365. With recovery of 88 more people, the total number of recovered patients has reached to 114,998 in the province. However, another 1,719 people have recovered from Covid-19 ac.....

[more >>](#)

**57 corona patients die in 24 hours**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-16

LAHORE: Around 57 COVID-19 patients died and 597 new infections were confirmed in Punjab during the last 24 hours, according to report issued by Primary and Secondary Healthcare (P&SH) Department on Tuesday. The death toll reached 3,422 in Punjab, while confirmed cases of coronavirus reached 128,138 in the province. As per the spokesperson for Corona Monitoring Room at P&SH Departme.....

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**No evidence of re-infection of COVID-19 cases in Punjab**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-17

LAHORE: The Corona Experts Advisory Group (CEAG) has claimed no evidence of re-infection of COVID-19 cases in Punjab "There is no confirmed research regarding re-infection of COVID-19 although a few cases internationally have been mentioned/reported once in a blue moon," said experts during a press briefing to dilate upon the trends and policies to tackle the emergence of second.....

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**Five Covid-19 patients die in Pindi Family of deceased patient fights with RIUKT doctors**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-17

RAWALPINDI: Another five patients infected with novel coronavirus disease (Covid-19) and under treatment in allied hospitals of Rawalpindi passed away on Wednesday. The victims were identified as Nasreen Rafique and Nawaz who succumbed to the pathogen in Holy Family Hospital (HFH) while Shamshad Begum and one other succumbed to the pandemic virus in Rawalpindi Institute of Urology and Kidney Tra.....

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**Political gatherings worsen Covid situation, say doctors**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-17

LAHORE: The health officials and the medical experts have said the frequent political gatherings in major cities of Punjab has caused increase in the number of Covid-19 cases and deaths across the province. They warned the figures would further increase if preventive measures are not taken by the public in accordance with the guidelines issued by Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department.....

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**Notices to eight schools for violating closure orders**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-17

LAHORE: The District Education Authority (DEA) on Wednesday issued show-cause notices to eight private schools for violating Covid-19 school closure orders. The government had closed all educational institutions including schools, colleges and tuition centres from Nov 26 till Dec 24 in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic. The DEA had served show-cause notices to Alhafeez Model High School Deen.....

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## Sindh

**23 persons, including three senior doctors, fall prey to Covid-19 in Sindh**

Source: [M Waqar Bhatti](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-12

KARACHI: Three senior doctors were among 23 people who died due to the coronavirus infection in Sindh between Thursday and Friday, raising the Covid-19 death toll in the province to 3,132, said provincial health officials on Friday. They added that 873 patients of Covid-19 were under treatment at various health facilities in the province, of whom the condition of 777 was serious while 94 w.....

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**23 more patients die of Covid, 1,489 new cases emerge**

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

KARACHI: Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said on Friday that 23 more patients of coronavirus died overnight lifting the death toll to 3,132 constituting 1.6 per cent death rate. In a statement issued here from CM House, he said that 1,489 new cases emerged when 11,537 samples were tested, which constituted 12.9pc current detection rate. He added that so far 2,124,583 tests had been conducted .....

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**COVID-19 claims 23 more lives, infects 1,489 others**

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

Karachi - Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah has said that 23 more patients of coronavirus died lifting the death toll to 3,132 and 1,489 new cases emerged when 11,537 samples were tested. In a statement issued from CM House on Friday, he said 23 more patients died overnight lifting the death toll to 3,132 that constituted 1.6 percent death rate. The CM said that 11,537 samples we.....

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**Foodpanda for permitting indoor dining at restaurants with enhanced SOPs**

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

KARACHI-Restaurants in Pakistan employ millions of people and indoor dining is their biggest source of revenue. After almost 6 months of lockdowns in 2020, most restaurants are on the brink of bankruptcy. Contrary to popular belief, an overwhelming majority of restaurants are small family run establishments that are the sole source of income for these families. In solidarity with restaurants of Pa.....

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**Covid kills 17 as 1,624 test positive in Sindh**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-13

Seventeen more people have died due to Covid-19 and another 1,624 cases have been reported during the past 24 hours in Sindh, with the death toll due to the viral disease reaching 3,149 in the province. Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said in his daily situation report on the health emergency on Saturday that 13,393 samples were tested in the past 24 hours, resulting in 1,624 people, or.....

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**Sindh allows takeaway services to run until 1am**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-13

The Sindh Home Department has issued a new notification allowing restaurants across the province to run their takeaway services until 1am daily, following which the eateries are to offer only home deliveries during the late-night hours. According to the government's notification, restaurants are allowed to offer outdoor dining services until 10pm, followed by takeaway services until .....

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**28 in South district fined Rs14,000 for not wearing masks**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-13

On the orders of District South Deputy Commissioner Irshad Ali Sodhar, action was taken against violators of the coronavirus-related standard operating procedures (SOPs) on Friday and Saturday. According to the details shared by the District South deputy commissioner's office, the Lyari assistant commissioner, the Aram Bagh assistant commissioner, the Saddar assistant commissioner an.....

[more >>](#)

**IBA, OTF sign agreement to support Covid-19-affected students**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-13

The Institute of Business Administration (IBA) Karachi and the Orange Tree Foundation (OTF) on Saturday signed an agreement to support deserving IBA students whose families had been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. The scholarship would support 25 students in their final year of undergraduate programme, and five general scholarships would be given to students from underprivileged background.....

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**'Covid second wave likely to intensify'**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-13

Sindh Health Minister Dr Azra Fazal Pechuho warned on Saturday of the likelihood of the second wave of the pandemic intensifying during winter, as over 1,600 new Covid-19 cases and 17 deaths emerged in Sindh. In a video statement, the provincial health minister said the current wave could be thrice, over even four times more potent than the previous one. She further said her department had sped u.....

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**Sindh reports 1,624 Covid-19 cases, 17 deaths**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-13

KARACHI - Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Murad Ali Shah said the province has reported 1,624 coronavirus cases and 17 deaths during the last 24 hours. In a statement, he said 13,393 samples were tested during this period. The provincial total has risen to 194,359 while the death toll is 3,149. Shah urged citizens to abide by standard operating procedures (SOPs) for curbing the spread of the virus.....

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**IBA, OTF sign agreement to support COVID-19 affected students**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-13

KARACHI - Institute of Business Administration (IBA) Karachi and Orange Tree Foundation (OTF) have signed an agreement to support deserving IBA students whose families have been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. The scholarship will support 25 such students in their final year of undergraduate programmes, in addition to offering 5 general scholarships for students from underprivileged background.....

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**Covid kills nine as 1,343 more test positive in Sindh**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-14

Nine more people have died due to Covid-19 and another 1,343 cases have been reported during the past 24 hours in Sindh, with the death toll due to the viral disease reaching 3,158 in the province. Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said in his daily situation report on the health emergency on Sunday that 10,270 samples were tested in the past 24 hours, resulting in 1,343 people, or 13.1 per .....

[more >>](#)

### **Life amid Covid-19: Haunted by the ghost of financial instability**

Source: [Razzak Abro](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#) , 2020-12-14

KARACHI: Where the global coronavirus pandemic has been disastrous for most world economies, it is its micro-impact on developing countries like Pakistan that has left the common man in dire straits. Owing to closed businesses and lack of government support, hundreds and thousands of people, who could once make enough to get by, have now been pushed to the breadlines in mere days following one l.....

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### **Sindh sees 1,343 new cases of Covid-19**

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#) , 2020-12-14

KARACHI: Sindh has witnessed 1343 new cases of Covid-19 out of 10270 tests conducted while nine more patients of coronavirus died, Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah told in a statement issued here from CM House on Sunday. The statement reveals that nine more fatalities overnight lifted the death toll to 3,158 that constituted 1.6 percent death rate. Overnight 10,270 tests were conducted.....

[more >>](#)

### **COVID-19 claims nine more lives, infects 1,343 others: CM**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#) , 2020-12-14

Karachi - Sindh has reported 1,343 new cases of the novel coronavirus, raising the provincial tally to 195,702. Moreover, the daily situation report issued by the Chief Minister's office confirmed the deaths of nine more patients. The death toll now stands at 3,158. The report added that currently, there are 25,201 active cases in the province.

.....

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### **9,500 candidates appear in KU's entry test amid strict SOPs**

Source: [nill](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#) , 2020-12-14

KARACHI - Over 9,500 candidates participated in an entrance test conducted by the University of Karachi for the bachelor's programme amid strict COVID-19 standard operating procedures (SOPs). As many as 30 examination centres had been set up in different departments of Karachi University for the entrance test, said a spokesperson of the KU on Sunday. Use of face masks and sanitisers ha.....

[more >>](#)

### **Six Covid-19 deaths reported**

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#) , 2020-12-15

KARACHI: Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Monday said that six more patients died overnight and 1,260 new cases emerged when 8,464 samples were tested across the province. In a statement issued here from CM house, he said that so far 2,156,710 tests have been conducted against which 196,960 cases were detected, of them 85.4 per cent or 168,209 patients recov.....

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### **Six more fall prey to Covid as 1,260 test positive in Sindh**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#) , 2020-12-15

Six more people have died due to Covid-19 and another 1,260 cases have been reported during the past 24 hours in Sindh, with the death toll due to the viral disease reaching 3,164 in the province. Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said in his daily situation report on the health emergency on Monday that 8,464 samples were tested in the past 24 hours, resulting in 1,260 people, or 15 per c.....

[more >>](#)

### Alarm raised over death of three more doctors due to Covid-19

Source: [Faiza Ilyas, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-13

KARACHI: Three senior doctors of the city, including a former director general of health, lost their lives during the past two days due to complications caused by Covid-19, raising alarm among healthcare providers. So far, 46 doctors have died of the coronavirus in Sindh. Of them, 26 doctors were based in Karachi. Sources said Dr Waseemuddin was a paediatrician, Prof Abdul Sattar Korai, the form.....

[more >>](#)

### Another 1,260 viral infections confirmed

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-15

As many as 1,260 people were diagnosed with Covid-19 in the province overnight, said a statement issued Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah on Monday. The virus tally in the province reached 196,960 with the new cases, which emerged after 8,464 samples were tested on the day. The positivity ratio for the day was 14.8 per cent for Sindh. Meanwhile, six more patients succumbed to the vir.....

[more >>](#)

### Nine coronavirus patients die overnight in Sindh

Source: [Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-14

KARACHI: Nine more patients of coronavirus died overnight and 1,343 new cases emerged when 10,270 tests were conducted. This was stated by Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued from CM House here on Sunday. He said that nine more patients died overnight, lifting the death toll to 3,158 constituting 1.6 per cent death rate in the province. He said that 10,270 tests were conduc.....

[more >>](#)

### Covid-19 unit at ASH faces closure for want of funds

Source: [Imran Ayub, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-14

KARACHI: Amid the growing number of coronavirus cases with Karachi emerging as a key hotspot urban centre in the country, a 100-bed Covid-19 Infectious Disease and Research Centre at the Abbasi Shaheed Hospital (ASH) is feared to close its operation after less than a month it became functional as the local administration has failed to meet its financial commitment for the specialised unit of the t.....

[more >>](#)

### Six more die of Covid-19, 1260 new cases emerge: CM

Source: [Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-15

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has said that six more patients died overnight from Covid-19 lifting the death toll to 3,164 and 1,260 new cases emerged when 8,464 samples were tested. In a statement issued here from CM house on Monday, Murad Ali Shah said that six more patients lost their lives overnight lifting the death toll to 3,164 that constituted 1.6 percent death rat.....

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### Restaurants; Govt urged to allow indoor dining with enhanced SOPs

Source: [Press Release, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-15

KARACHI: Restaurants in Pakistan employ millions of people and indoor dining is their biggest source of revenue. After almost 6 months of lockdowns in 2020, most restaurants are on the brink of bankruptcy. Contrary to popular belief, an overwhelming majority of restaurants are small family-run establishments that are the sole source of income for these families. In solidarity with restaurants of P.....

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**COVID-19 claims 6 more lives, infects 1,260: CM**

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-15

KARACHI - Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah on Monday said six more corona patients died overnight raising lifting the death toll to 3,164, with 1,260 new positive cases emerged. The death rate stood at 1.6 percent while the testing of 1,260 positive for COVID-19 out of 8,464 tests conducted, showed the ratio of 14.9 percent, the chief minister said in a statement. He said till d.....

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**Sindh reports another 58 deaths from Covid-19**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-16

Another 23 people have died due to Covid-19 in Sindh during the past 24 hours, while 35 earlier deaths have also been reported, taking the province's overall death toll due to the viral disease to 3,222. Officials said 43 of the 58 new victims belonged to Karachi Division — 12 to District Central, nine to District East, six each to the Korangi and Malir districts, and five each.....

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**Covid kills 15 as 1,224 more test positive in Sindh**

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-17

Fifteen more people have died due to Covid-19 and another 1,224 cases have been reported during the past 24 hours in Sindh, with the death toll due to the viral disease reaching 3,237 in the province. Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said in his daily situation report on the health emergency on Wednesday that 11,495 samples were tested in the past 24 hours, resulting in 1,224 people, or .....

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## International News

### Countries News

#### Turkey's daily COVID-19 deaths at record high 203, total toll exceeds 15,000

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-12-15

Turkey's daily coronavirus deaths rose to a record 203 in the last 24 hours, data from the Health Ministry showed on Monday, bringing the country's total death toll to 15,103 since the beginning of the pandemic. Turkey also recorded 32,137 new coronavirus cases, including asymptomatic ones, in the last 24 hours. For four months, Ankara only reported daily symptomatic cases but .....

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#### Canada's first Covid-19 vaccinations set to start

Source: [Reuters](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-15

OTTAWA: Canada's provinces of Quebec and Ontario are set to begin Covid-19 inoculations on Monday after some of the 30,000 doses of the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine arrived over the weekend, making Canada one of the few western nations to start vaccinations. "The number of vaccinations that will take place today are probably pretty small," retired general Rick Hillier, who is in char.....

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#### 26 Nigerian generals test positive for Covid-19, one dies

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-15

LAGOS: At least 26 Nigerian generals have tested positive for the novel coronavirus after they attended a conference in the nation's capital and one has died, the army said. Testing was ordered following the death of major-general John Irefin during the 2020 Chief of Army staff Annual conference in Abuja last week. "The Chief of Army Staff directed the immediate suspension of the con.....

[more >>](#)

#### US set for mass vaccinations as world virus deaths top 1.6 million

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-14

WASHINGTON: The Pfizer-BioNTech Covid-19 vaccine began leaving the company's Michigan factory on Sunday, ready to be injected into the arms of millions of the most vulnerable Americans as the global death toll topped 1.6 million. Doses will be shipped out in boxes containing dry ice that are capable of staying at -70 degrees Celsius (-94 degrees Fahrenheit), the frigid temperature needed to....[more >>](#)

#### Germany orders partial lockdown to curb 'out of control' virus

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-14

BERLIN: Germany will go into a partial lockdown from Wednesday with non-essential shops and schools to close, as Europe's biggest economy battles to halt an "exponential growth" in coronavirus infections. The new curbs will apply until January 10, with companies also urged to allow employees to work from home or offer extended company holidays, under the new measures agreed by C.....

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#### WHO team to investigate origins of novel coronavirus in Wuhan, China

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-17

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has decided to send a group of scientists to the Chinese city of Wuhan next month in a bid to find out how the virus originated and started spreading among humans. According to a report published by theBBC on Thursday, a team of 12 to 15 researchers will go to Wuhan in January 2021. China had also investigated the origins of the virus on its own to inve.....

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**Pompeo goes into quarantine**

Source: [Reuters](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-17

WASHINGTON: Secretary of State Mike Pompeo has come into contact with someone who tested positive for the coronavirus and has gone into quarantine although he has tested negative, the US State Department said on Wednesday. "Secretary Pompeo has been identified as having come into contact with someone who tested positive for Covid. For reasons of privacy we can't id.....

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**Germany enters harder lockdown as virus deaths hit new highGermany enters harder lockdown as virus deaths hit new high**

Source: [AP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-17

BERLIN: Germany reported a record level of coronavirus deaths as it entered a harder lockdown on Wednesday, closing shops and schools to try to bring down stubbornly high new daily infections. The country recorded 179.8 virus infections per 100,000 residents over the last seven days, a new high and significantly more than the 149 per 100,000 reported a week ago by the Robert Koch Institute, t.....

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## SDPI Engagements

### SDC-2020

#### “Sustainable Development in the Times of COVID-19”

##### Speakers highlight importance of water, sanitation amid pandemic

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-18

ISLAMABAD: Parliamentary Secretary Planning Kanwal Shauzabon Thursday said contaminated water was the root cause of water borne diseases. Chairing a discussion titled: “Access to Water and Sanitation in a post COVID-19 Pakistan”, she said improved engagement of all stakeholders was required at grassroots level in order to carry out tree plantation, organic farming and wastewater dispo.....[more >>](#)

##### Fawad highlights three top priorities of govt

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-18

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Science and Technology Fawad Chaudhary on Thursday said that the government had three top priorities: agriculture, electronics, and manufacturing of electric vehicles. Speaking at a seminar organised by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), titled: “The Role of Science and Technology in the times of Covid-19”, he said that the emergence o.....[more >>](#)

##### Pakistan intends to work with China on solar panel technology in next three months: Ch Fawad

Source: [APP](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2020-12-18

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Science and Technology, Chaudhry Fawad Hussain Thursday said Pakistan wanted to work with China on solar panel technology in the next three months. The minister was speaking virtually at the concluding day of 23rd conference on “Sustainable Development in the Times of Covid-19” arranged by Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) from December 14.....[more >>](#)

##### Economic Security defines the core of Pakistan’s future trajectory

Source: [News Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2020-12-17

Most of the conversation in the world has imagined Pakistan as a country associated with traditional security. The Prime Minister’s vision for Pakistan is based on an economic security and human welfare paradigm. The economic security vision has three pillars: connectivity, development partnerships and peace within the region and beyond. These views were expressed by the SAPM on National Sec.....[more >>](#)

##### Addressing water shortage during pandemic stressed

Source: [Myra Imran](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-18

Islamabad : Speakers stressed the need to address water shortage during the pandemic when handwashing has become a necessity. They were speaking at a virtual panel discussion organised by WaterAid Pakistan in collaboration with Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) under the 23rd Sustainable Development Conference (SDC). The discussion was titled ‘Access to Water and Sanit.....[more >>](#)

##### Economic indicators better despite corona: Shibli

Source: [Mumtaz Alvi & Rasheed Khalid](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-18

ISLAMABAD: Information and Broadcasting Shibli Faraz Thursday said that due to well-thought-out policies of the federal government, Pakistan was included in the countries which responded wisely and successfully to the Covid-19 pandemic. He said Pakistan kept health and livelihood of the people and economy of the country on top priority while handling the coronavirus crisis. He was speaking.....[more >>](#)

### **Shibli Faraz At The 23rd Sustainable Development Conference**

Source: [Mufliha Noor](#), [Technology Times](#), 2020-12-18

Information and Broadcasting Shibli Faraz Thursday said that due to well-thought-out policies of the federal government, Pakistan was included in the countries which responded wisely and successfully to Covid-19 pandemic. He said Pakistan kept health and livelihood of the people and economy of the country at top priority while handling the coronavirus crisis. He was speaking as the chief guest a.....

[more >>](#)

### **Pakistan intends to work with China on solar panel technology in next three months: Ch Fawad**

Source: [APP](#), [APP](#), 2020-12-18

ISLAMABAD, Dec 17 (APP): Federal Minister for Science and Technology, Chaudhry Fawad Hussain Thursday said Pakistan wanted to work with China on solar panel technology in the next three months. The minister was speaking virtually at the concluding day of 23rd conference on "Sustainable Development in the Times of Covid-19" arranged by Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) fr.....

[more >>](#)

### **Pakistan plans to work with China on solar panel technology over the next three months: Ch Fawad**

Source: [nill](#), [PK News](#), 2020-12-18

ISLAMABAD, December 17 — Federal Science and Technology Minister Chaudhry Fawad Hussain said on Thursday that Pakistan wants to work with China on solar panel technology in the next three months. The Minister spoke in fact at the closing day of the 23rd conference on 'Sustainable Development in the Times of Covid-19' organized by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDP).....

[more >>](#)

### **23rd SDC begins: Pakistan has no option but to go back to IMF, says Pasha**

Source: [Mehtab Haider](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-15

ISLAMABAD: Former finance minister Dr Hafeez A Pasha has said Pakistan has no option but to go back to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) programme. He was speaking at a plenary of 4-day 23rd Sustainable Development Conference (SDC) panel titled "Economic Growth, Social Protection, and the IMF Programme amid COVID-19". He said Pakistan did not have a big number of COVID-19 c.....

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### **COVID-19 accelerates digital transformation: SCO secretary-general**

Source: [Xinhua](#), [China.org.cn](#), 2020-12-15

ISLAMABAD, Dec. 15 (Xinhua) -- Secretary-General of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Vladimir Norov said the coronavirus, despite its enormous damage to public health and global economy, had brought new opportunities by accelerating digital transformation. Speaking via a video conference on Monday in Pakistan's capital city, Norov said the digital economy and cross-border e-commerc.....

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### **COVID -19 Damage To Global Economy, Brought New Opportunities: SCO**

Source: [APP](#), [UrduPoint](#), 2020-12-15

ISLAMABAD, (APP - UrduPoint / Pakistan Point News - 14th Dec, 2020) :Secretary-General of Shanghai Cooperation Organization(SCO),VladimirNorov on Monday said that though COVID -19 had incurred enormous damage to the global economy as well it brought new opportunities at thesametime. He was speaking at the inaugural plenary of 4-day 23rd Sustainable Development Conference (SDC) titled: Sustainable.....

[more >>](#)

**Covid-19 accelerates digital transformation: SCO Secy-General**

Source: [Xinhua](#), [IND News](#), 2020-12-15

Islamabad, Dec 15 — Vladimir Norov, Secretary-General of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), said the coronavirus pandemic, despite its enormous damage to public health and global economy, had brought new opportunities by accelerating digital transformation. Speaking via video conference here on Monday, Norov said the digital economy and cross-border e-commerce will play an increa.....

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**Covid-19 accelerates digital transformation: SCO Secy-General**

Source: [GOPI](#), [Social News. xyz](#), 2020-12-15

Islamabad, Dec 15 (SocialNews.XYZ)Vladimir Norov, Secretary-General of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), said the coronavirus pandemic, despite its enormous damage to public health and global economy, had brought new opportunities by accelerating digital transformation. Speaking via video conference here on Monday, Norov said the digital economy and cross-border e-commerce will play an.....

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**COVID-19 opened new vistas of development: Alvi**

Source: [Rasheed Khalid](#), [The News, International](#), 2020-12-17

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi has said the COVID-19 pandemic is a big challenge that opened up new vistas of opportunities before the world to tackle the issues of sustainable development. He was addressing the 23rd Sustainable Development Conference on “Sustainable Development in the Times of COVID-19” organised by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute here on Wedne.....

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## Urdu Newspaper coverages

- درآمدات کم، مسابقتی رجحان میں اضافہ کیا جائے، گورنر اسٹیٹ بینک
- بروقت اقدامات سے معاشی اعشاریے بہتر ہوئے، گورنر اسٹیٹ بینک
- پاک چین اقتصادی راہداری منصوبے پر برق رفتاری سے کام جاری ہے، عاصم سلیم باجوہ
- کورونا کی دوسری لہر سے پاکستان میں معاشی اعشاریے متاثر نہیں ہوئے، گورنر اسٹیٹ بینک
- گورنر اسٹیٹ بینک ڈاکٹر رضا باقر نے معاشی حوالے سے قوم کو خوشخبری سنائی
- پوری دنیا میں پاکستانی مصنوعات کی طلب بڑھ رہی ہے: گورنر اسٹیٹ بینک
- پاک چین اقتصادی راہداری منصوبے پر برق رفتاری سے کام جاری ہے، عاصم سلیم باجوہ
- معاشی صورت حال بتدریج بہتر ہو رہی ہے، رضا باقر
- سی پیک پر برق رفتاری سے کام جاری، عاصم باجوہ
- سی پیک رابطوں میں بہرتی غربت میں کمی کا سبب، عاصم باجوہ
- پاکستان میں خوراک وافر مگر غریب کی پہنچ سے دور، آندرولا کمینسار
- کورونا کے خلاف فوری اقدامات، پاکستان دیوالیہ اور منفی اثرات سے محفوظ رہا، گورنر اسٹیٹ بینک
- کورونا کی دوسری لہر سے پاکستان میں معاشی اعشاریے متاثر نہیں ہوئے، گورنر اسٹیٹ بینک
- چین دنیا میں خوشحالی بانٹنے کی سوچ رکھتا ہے، عاصم باجوہ
- معاشی صورت حال بتدریج بہتر ہو رہی ہے، رضا باقر
- پالیسی ادارہ برائے پاءیدار ترقی کی ۴ روزہ سالانہ کانفرنس شروع
- تمام سائوتھ ایشیاء ممالک ماحولیاتی تبدیلی پر ایک پیج پر ہونے چاہیے، زرتاج گل
- بھارت انتہا پسندی اور دہشتگردی کے گڑھے میں گر چکا: ڈاکٹر عارف علوی
- عجائب گھروں کو بہتر بنا کر حکومت اپنے ریونیو میں اضافی کر سکتی ہے، زلفی بخاری
- بھارت پاکستان میں افغانستان کے ذریعے دہشتگردی کر رہا ہے، صدر علوی
- امریکہ سے بات چیت کا انداز بدلنے کی ضرورت ہے، معید یوسف
- کورونا سے غریب ممالک کو نقصان پہنچا، دنیا انہیں غربت سے نکالے، صدر علوی
- سعودیہ اور قطر ہمارے میوزیم پر سرمایہ کاری کے لیے تیار ہیں، زلفی بخاری
- پی ڈی ایم کے جلسوں اور بھارتی بیانیے میں مماثلت ہے، صدر علوی
- پاکستان کا مستقبل معاشی استحکام میں ہے، معید یوسف

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