**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

**Op-Eds**

*Articles/Editorials/News comments* .............................................02

**National News**

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**SDPI Engagements**

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**A Product of ASRC-SDPI**

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**Sustainable Development Policy Institute, SDPI**

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Tel: +92.51. 2278134, Fax: 2278135,
## Op-Eds/Articles/Editorials

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<td><strong>Dose and don’ts</strong></td>
<td>Shahzada Irfan Ahmed, <em>The News, International</em>, 2021-02-21</td>
<td>The availability of vaccines for Covid-19 in the market has lit a glimmer of hope. These vaccines are being administered in several countries. There are long wait times because of the large number of people who need them. While there are still some concerns about the efficacy of these vaccines and the risks related to their use, a large number of people are going for them. There are countries where...</td>
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<td><strong>Shameful failure</strong></td>
<td>Derrick Z Jackson, <em>The News, International</em>, 2021-02-20</td>
<td>A century since the 1918 flu claimed an estimated 675,000 lives in the United States, COVID-19 is about to claim its 500,000th life in the nation. According to February 12 projections from the University of Washington’s Institute of Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME), we’re on track for 614,000 deaths by June. With no drastic action, we will surely surpass the 1918 toll before return...</td>
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<td><strong>A growing crisis</strong></td>
<td>Edna Bonhomme, <em>The News, International</em>, 2021-02-20</td>
<td>The COVID-19 pandemic and the economic devastation it caused made 2020 a trying year for me and so many people I know. After months of bad news, disappointments, and difficulties, I convinced myself that things will be better in 2021. Sadly, I was quickly proved wrong. On New Year’s Day, I received an email from Navient, a student loan servicing company, requesting that I pay $4,442 by Jan...</td>
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<td><strong>Vaccine inequity</strong></td>
<td>Editorial, <em>The Express Tribune, Islamabad</em>, 2021-02-21</td>
<td>Even as the world scrambles to stave off the still marauding coronavirus, the question of haves and have-nots is popping up when it comes to receiving the medical remedy to the plague. Vaccine inequity is becoming a challenge as poorer countries are left behind in the race to protect populations from the pandemic through anti-Covid shots. This fact was truthfully highlighted by UN secretary gener...</td>
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<td><strong>Coronavirus: good and bad news</strong></td>
<td>Dr Rana Jawad Asghar, <em>The Express Tribune, Islamabad</em>, 2021-02-21</td>
<td>Let’s start with the good news about the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. Globally, new daily Covid-19 cases have been declining for the past five weeks, along with daily hospitalisation and deaths. This is a steep decline in most countries including our neighbour India, which saw over 100,000 cases in September and is now reporting less than 10,000 cases daily. That is a nearly 90% decline fro...</td>
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<td>Covid vaccination</td>
<td>Editorial, The Express Tribune, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-02-20</td>
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<td>Global vaccination status</td>
<td>Dr Muhammad Nauman Zahid, The Nation, Islamabad</td>
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<td>30 years of Visegrad cooperation and Polish Presidency</td>
<td>Muhammad Asif Noor, Daily Times</td>
<td>2021-02-22</td>
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<td>Sri Lanka’s forced cremations</td>
<td>Kamal Siddiqi, The Express Tribune, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-02-22</td>
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<td>Vaccination resistance</td>
<td>Editorial, Business Recorder, Islamabad</td>
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There is some good news on the Covid-19 vaccination front as PM’s Assistant on Health Dr Faisal Sultan has revealed that Pakistan will be getting 2.8 million doses of the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine in another two weeks. The vaccines are coming from Pakistan’s Covax programme allocation. If waste is avoided, the number is good enough to cover almost 1.5 million people. Sultan informed the...

Global vaccination status
Covid-19 is causing tragic loss of life; and the measures needed to fight it have turned our world upside down— affecting billions of people and stopping economies in their tracks. Humanity is facing one of its darkest periods in living memory. Therefore, in these exceptional times—exceptional action is required. A year into the pandemic of the coronavirus, the global effort to dev.....

Cyber report
Harassment, extortion, hacking, and other crimes committed over the internet against users of social media often go unacted upon in our country and have been frequently ignored even after the setting up of the FIA's Cybercrime Wing. According to figures recorded by the Digital Rights Foundation, which acts against harassment and other offences over the internet, there was a huge surge in crime.....

30 years of Visegrad cooperation and Polish Presidency
Earlier this week, Presidents of Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Slovakia gathered in northern Poland to celebrate 30 years of strong partnership and cooperation at the Visegrad Forum. This was the sixth Polish Presidency in the Visegrad Group (V4) beginning from July 1 2020 and will last till June 30, 2021. Theme for the Polish presidency at V4 is “Back on Track” referring to .....  

Sri Lanka’s forced cremations
As Prime Minister Imran Khan visits Sri Lanka this week, one can hope attention can be drawn to the prickly issue of the forced cremation of Muslims suspected to have died of Covid-19. Sri Lanka is the only country in the world to have forced cremations during the pandemic, ignoring advice from the World Health Organization that permits burials. It is feared that as many as 200 Muslims have been.....

Vaccination resistance
In a recent statement, federal minister and head of the National Command and Operation Centre Asad Umar urged all frontline healthcare workers (HCWs) to register themselves for Covid-19 vaccination, saying they are our priority. They, of course, are more vulnerable to the virus because of the nature of their work. In fact, 130 of them have lost their lives in the line of duty. Yet not many may be .....
## National News

### Islamabad

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<td>5.6m Covid-19 vaccine doses to reach in March</td>
<td>APP, The News, International</td>
<td>2021-02-21</td>
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<td>ISLAMABAD: The country has managed to vaccinate 72,882 Front Line Healthcare Workers (FLHCWs) so far under the national vaccination strategy being implemented simultaneously across the country. According to the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), around 5.6 million COVID vaccine doses would reach the country by the end of March, 2021 out of these 2.8 million doses of Gavi/COVAX were exp...</td>
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<td>504,000 vaccine doses given to federating units: NCOC</td>
<td>Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-02-21</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISLAMABAD - The National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) said Saturday that at least 504,000 coronavirus vaccine doses were provided to the federating units for inoculation of frontline healthcare workers (FLHCWS) since the vaccination process launched simultaneously across the country. The vaccine administration to FLHCWs was in progress under the National Vaccine Strategy. So far, the v...</td>
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<td>40 new deaths, 1,245 Covid-19 infections reported in a day</td>
<td>Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-02-20</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISLAMABAD - Pakistan on Friday morning reported 40 new Covid-related deaths and 1,245 new cases as the death toll reached 12,527. During last 24 hours, 40 more people lost their lives to Covid-19 while with 1,245 more cases, the tally reached 568,506. According to the latest figures displayed on National Coronavirus Dashboard of the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), Sindh with 255......</td>
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<td>Dr Faisal shares successful implementation of smart lockdowns at SAARC conference</td>
<td>Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-02-20</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISLAMABAD-Special Assistant to Prime Minister (SAPM) on National Health Services (NHS) Dr. Faisal Sultan on Friday shared country’s successful steps taken during COVID-19 pandemic at SAARC conference held on COVID-19 management. A statement released by the Ministry of NHS said Pakistan participated in the virtual workshop on “Covid-19 Management: Experience, Good Practices and Way......</td>
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<td>Number of Covid-19 cases drops drastically</td>
<td>Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-02-22</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISLAMABAD: While as many as 1,329 more people have been infected with coronavirus in a single day, the total number of active cases has dropped to 24,466. According to data issued by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Sunday, 1,329 cases and 38 deaths were reported in a single day. While 252 ventilators were in use by Covid-19 patients across Pakistan, Lahore’s 38 per......</td>
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<tr>
<td>Covid-19 cases on the rise again</td>
<td>Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-02-22</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISLAMABAD: Two people died of Covid-19 in Rawalpindi on Sunday while 152 more people were diagnosed with the disease in the twin cities as positive cases have reportedly been increasing. The deceased were identified as Noor Jehan, 52, a resident of Dhoke Syedan. She was brought to Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (Pims) on Feb 19, and Mohammad Ashraf, 60, a resident of Shakrial. He was admi......</td>
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<td>Coronavirus kills 38, infects 1,329 in 24 hours: NCOC</td>
<td>Agencies, Daily Times, 2021-02-22</td>
<td>2021-02-22</td>
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<td>PM’s aide urges masses not to pay heed to vaccine misinformation</td>
<td>News Desk, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-02-22</td>
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<td>Health staff; Govt opens Covid-19 vaccine registration</td>
<td>APP, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-02-22</td>
<td>2021-02-22</td>
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<td>COVID-19 vaccine registration opens for supporting health staff</td>
<td>Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-02-22</td>
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<td>38 deaths, 1329 new virus cases reported in a day</td>
<td>Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-02-22</td>
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<td>Dr Faisal urges eligible people to register for COVID-19 vaccination</td>
<td>Israr Ahmad, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-02-22</td>
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Punjab

**Highest number of COVID-19 cases in a day in the last one month, no death**
Rawalpindi: The number of patients being tested positive for coronavirus illness, COVID-19 from Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district is on a significant rise at least for the last 12 days while the number of patients tested positive from the region in the last 24 hours is the highest in a day in the last one month. Data collected by ‘The News’ reveals that as many as 1.....

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**24 shops sealed over violation of corona SOPs**
LAHORE: The city district administration sealed 24 shops, stores, marriage halls, petrol machines and imposed Rs 50,000 fine on violation of coronavirus related Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) here on Saturday. According to a spokesperson for the District administration, Assistant Commissioner (AC) Cantt Zoha Shakir sealed 6 shops in Cantt area and imposed Rs 20,000 fine for overcharging and.....

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**19 COVID patients die**
LAHORE: As many as 19 COVID-19 patients died and 534 new infections were confirmed in Punjab during the last 24 hours. According to Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department (P&SHD) report issued on Saturday, the toll of fatalities was raised to 5,184 in Punjab, while confirmed cases of coronavirus reached 166,776 in the province. As per the spokesperson of Corona Monitoring Room at Prima.....

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**Corona claims 30 more lives in Punjab**
LAHORE: Around 30 patients died from COVID-19 while 526 new infections were confirmed across Punjab including the Rawalpindi district during the last 24 hours. One more person passed away in Islamabad Capital Territory, besides 132 new cases from twin cities. According to report issued by Primary and Secondary Healthcare (P&SH) Department Punjab on Friday, the death toll so far reached 5,166,.......

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**3 COVID-19 deaths, 132 new cases from twin cities**
Rawalpindi: The severity of the second wave of coronavirus illness, COVID-19 outbreak can be termed intact at least in Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district from where another three deaths due to the illness have been reported in the last 24 hours while 132 new cases have been confirmed positive for the disease. Data collected by ‘The News’ on Friday has revealed.....

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**Corona kills 28 more**
LAHORE: Around 28 patients died from COVID-19 while 526 new infections were confirmed in Punjab during the last 24 hours. According to report issued by Primary and Secondary Healthcare (P&SH) Department Punjab on Friday, the death toll so far reached 5,166, while confirmed cases became 166,242 in the province. As per the spokesperson for Corona Monitoring Room at P&SHD, 12,049 tests have b.....

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Another 19 die of coronavirus in Punjab
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-02-21
LAHORE - The death toll due to coronavirus reached 5,184 after another 19 people succumbed to the virus in Punjab during the last 24 hours. According to the data shared by the spokesperson of Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department (P&SHD), the number of coronavirus cases in the province reached 166,776 after the registration of 534 new cases of coronavirus while the recoveries were.....

Smart lockdown imposed in 7 areas of City
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-02-21
LAHORE - The Punjab government has imposed smart lockdown in seven areas of the provincial capital on Saturday to contain the spread of coronavirus pandemic. According to the Primary & Secondary Healthcare Department (P&SHD) Punjab spokesperson, smart lockdown has been imposed in some streets of F-Bolck Johar Town, S-Block Phase-2 DHA, Asif Block Allama Iqbal Town, A-Block Gulshan-e-R.....

28 deaths, 526 new cases of coronavirus in Punjab
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-02-20
LAHORE - The pandemic coronavirus claimed another 28 precious lives whereas 526 new cases were reported on Friday in the province which turned the death toll to 5,166. According to data shared by the spokesperson for the Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department (PP&SHD), the number of coronavirus cases in the province reached 166,242. The PP&SHD confirmed that 313 new cases.....

WASA installs hand sanitizer booths at educational institutions
Source: Israr Ahmad, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-02-20
Rawalpindi-The Water and Sanitation Agency (WASA) is installing hand-washing stations and disinfectant-spraying booths in government-run universities, colleges and schools across the city to try to curb an accelerating spread of coronavirus infections among students. ‘The WASA has manufactured the hand-washing and spraying booths with help of United Nations International Children’.....

Covid pushing world towards digital economy
Source: Irfan Aslam, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-02-22
LAHORE: CNN anchor and columnist Fareed Zakaria thinks that after the Covid-19 pandemic struck, the world has greatly moved to digital economy with an explosion in online shopping and viewing of movies, Amazon taking market shares each day from other companies, and book sales going up. Elaborating his point further, he said Amazon had 30 per cent of the market share before the pandemic but it now.....

19 more die of Covid in Punjab
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-02-22
LAHORE: The Punjab government has reported that coronavirus claimed 19 more lives during the past 24 hours taking the tally of total deaths to 5,204. Of 19 deaths, seven have been reported from Faisalabad, three each from Lahore and Sargodha, two each from Gujranwala and Rahim Yar Khan and one each from Rawalpindi and Toba Tek Singh. As many as 569 new cases have been reported in Punjab during t.....
Spring festivities a casualty of Covid
Source: Salman Khan, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-02-22
The cultural events of the city and the institutions of spring seem to have been overshadowed by the onslaught of the coronavirus. The virus continues to take its toll on the populace of Lahore (like elsewhere) — a city which is known for its cultural landmarks, literary activities and the spirit of conviviality. The just concluded Lahore Literary Festival (LLF), ThinkFest and many other s.....
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Covid vaccination off to slow start in Punjab
Source: Yousaf Abbasi, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-02-22
LAHORE: The medical and paramedical staff of government hospitals in Punjab appear reluctant to get vaccinated against coronavirus till the situation regarding the side effects becomes clear. Out of about 20,000 doctors, 70,000 nurses and 150,000 paramedics working in 253 government hospitals across the province, only 1,500 have received the first dose of the vaccine. According to sources, about 1.....
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Punjab sets up corona vaccination management committees
Source: INP, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-02-22
Lahore - The Punjab government has established corona vaccination management committees across the province, a health official said on Sunday. Secretary Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department Capt (Retd) Usman has stated that the committees will work under the supervision of concerned deputy commissioners. “The vaccine management committees will strictly monitor the vaccination dr......
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19 more deaths, 569 new cases of coronavirus in Punjab
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-02-22
LAHORE - The death toll due to coronavirus reached 5,204 after another 19 people succumbed to coronavirus in the province during the last 24 hours. According to the data shared by the spokesperson of Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department (P&SHD), the number of coronavirus cases in the province reached 167,345 after the registration of 569 new cases while the recoveries were r.....
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Corona vaccine management committees formed in Punjab
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-02-22
LAHORE - The Punjab government has constituted vaccine management committees in the province to make the vaccination drive a success. This was disclosed by Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department (P&SHD) Secretary Capt (retired), M Usman Younis in a letter issued to the local administration on Sunday. He said that a comprehensive strategy had been devised to activate the vaccin.....
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2020: A challenging year; equally challenging tasks
Source: Javed Younas, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-02-22
The year 2020 can be rightly termed as the most challenging cycle of this century. The impacts of events that happened will be felt in the coming decades as well. The year 2020 was challenging in administrative, social and cultural aspects. In these testing times, only the timely and correct decisions by efficient and clear-headed leadership could steer the country out of the quagmire. Under ......
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Healthcare workers incentivised to get Covid-19 vaccination
The Sindh Health Department has announced giving health risk allowance to all the healthcare workers who get themselves vaccinated against Covid-19, according to a notification issued on Saturday. The notification issued by Health Secretary Kazim Jatoi states that all the healthcare workers who get the vaccine from the authorized adult vaccination centres will be entitled to the health risk allow.....
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Post-Covid world: Let’s rethink how we live and how we should
“It is impossible for people in Defence and Clifton to be healthy if the localities across the street are teeming with disease. The disease will catch us,” said noted economist Dr Kaiser Bengali on Saturday. “We cannot ignore the health of our poor citizens. This is the lesson that we have to learn and act on,” he said while speaking at a panel discussion, arranged .....
more >>

COVID-19 claims 12 more patients, infects 404 others, says CM
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-02-21
KARACHI - As many as 12 more patients of coronavirus died overnight lifting the death toll to 4,288 and 404 new cases emerged when 11,399 tests were conducted. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued on Saturday. He added that 12 more patients of COVID-19 lost their lives lifting the death toll to 4,288 that constituted 1.6 percent death rate. Mr.....
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COVID-19 claims nine more patients’ lives, infects 391 others
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-02-20
KARACHI - As many as nine more patients of coronavirus died overnight lifting the death toll to 4,276 and 391 new cases emerged when 12,205 tests were conducted. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued on Friday. He added that nine more patients of COVID-19 lost their lives lifting the death toll to 4,276 that constituted 1.6 percent death rate. Mr Sh.....
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This week 50 years ago: Flower show and deadly disease
Source: Peerzada Salman, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-02-22
ONE of the dreams of mankind is to be disease-free. Its importance has never been felt more poignantly the way it has been in these coronavirus-hit times. Karachi, like all metropolises in the world, over the years has had to grapple with one ailment or another (as was mentioned about smallpox last week). On Feb 26, 1971 the media reported with a fair degree of trepidation that measles — an.....
more >>

Fashion in the times of Covid-19
Source: Faisal Quraishi, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-02-22
KARACHI: The lull period is finally over, it seems, when it comes to fashion weeks for following hot on the heels of the three-day Pantene Hum Bridal Couture Week, held earlier this month in Lahore, is the two-day Secret Garden Fashion Pakistan Week Spring/Summer '21, albeit a much smaller, toned-down outdoor affair hosting 13 designers and fashion labels, and being held at an expansive, pri.....
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**Covid kills four more as another 386 test positive**
Four more people have died due to Covid-19 and 386 others have tested positive for the disease during the past 24 hours in Sindh, with the death toll due to the viral coronavirus infection reaching 4,292 in the province. Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said in his daily situation report on the health emergency on Sunday that 11,040 samples were tested in the past 24 hours, resulting in 386 peo.....
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**Sindh reports 386 new cases of Covid-19**
Source: Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-02-22
KARACHI: At least 4 more patients of Covid-19 died overnight while 386 new cases emerged, Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah stated on Sunday. The chief minister added that 4 more deaths lifted the death toll to 4,292 that constituted 1.6 percent death rate. Murad Ali Shah said 11,040 samples were tested which detected 386 cases that constituted 3.5 percent current detection rate. ..... 
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**COVID-19 claims one more life, infects 225 others**
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-02-22
KARACHI - As many as one more patient of coronavirus died overnight lifting the death toll to 4,293 and 225 new cases emerged when 9,869 tests were conducted. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued on Monday. He added that one more patient of COVID-19 lost his life lifting the death toll to 4,293 that constituted 1.6 percent death rate. Murad Al.....
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**JI inaugurates Al-khidmat laboratory collection point for corona test**
Source: Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-02-22
Karachi - Karachi Ameer Jamaat-e-Islami (JI), Hafiz Naeem-ur-Rehman inaugurated Al-khidmat Laboratory Collection Point for corona test near Nipa Chowrangi in Gulshan-e-Iqbal. Addressing the ceremony, he said that in the next two years, 25 such points would also be set up in parts of Karachi where needy would avail test facility on nominal charges. He said that it is sheer responsibility of govern.....
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### International News

#### Countries News

**India's Serum Institute says prioritising domestic vaccine needs, asks for patience**
Source: Reuters, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-02-21
NEW DELHI: Serum Institute of India (SII), the world’s biggest vaccine maker by volume, on Sunday asked for patience from foreign governments awaiting their supply of Covid-19 shots, saying it had been directed to prioritise India’s requirements. "...I humbly request you to please be patient," SII’s Chief Executive Adar Poonawalla said in a tweethere, adding the company.....[more >>](#)

**US nearing 500,000 Covid deaths**
Source: AFP, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-02-22
WASHINGTON: The United States was on the brink of the grim milestone of 500,000 Covid-related deaths since the start of the pandemic, as the nation’s top virus expert warned a semblance of normalcy may not return until the end of the year. Signs of hope were emerging in the rollout of vaccines and the dropping off of a massive winter spike in infections, but the heavy toll continues to moun.....[more >>](#)

**Israel buys vaccines for Syria in secret deal with Russia**
Source: Ap, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-02-22
JERUSALEM: Israel paid Russia $1.2 million to provide the Syrian government with coronavirus vaccines as part of a deal that secured the release of an Israeli woman held captive in Damascus, according to Israeli media reports on Sunday. The terms of the clandestine trade-off orchestrated by Moscow between the two nations remained murky. But the fact Israel is providing vaccines to Syria, an enemy.....[more >>](#)

**French city seeks to curb tourist inflow amid virus spike**
Source: Agencies, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-02-22
PARIS: The mayor of the French city of Nice called on Sunday for a weekend lockdown in the area to stop the flow of visitors, saying tourists are welcome in normal times, but the city needs to focus on battling a sharp spike in coronavirus infections. The Nice area has the highest Covid-19 infection rate in France, with 740 new cases per week per 100,000 residents, according to Covidtracker.fr, t.....[more >>](#)

**Australia administers first Covid-19 vaccines**
Source: AFP, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-02-22
SYDNEY: Australia’s Covid-19 vaccine rollout began on Sunday, with top officials among a small group receiving the first jabs a day before the vaccination programme starts in earnest. Prime Minister Scott Morrison was injected with the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine at a medical centre in Sydney’s northwest, in what the government said was an effort to boost public confidence in the vaccinat.....[more >>](#)

**Malaysia to start Covid-19 vaccination drive early as first doses arrive**
Source: Agencies, Daily Times, 2021-02-22
Malaysia moved up its Covid-19 inoculation drive by two days as the first batch of vaccines arrived in the Southeast Asian nation on Sunday. Malaysia aims to vaccinate at least 80% of its 32 million people within a year as it pushes to revive an economy that, slammed by coronavirus-related curbs, recorded its worst slump in over two decades in 2020. It has imposed more lockdowns this year amid a.....[more >>](#)
S.Korea to begin using Pfizer coronavirus vaccines on Feb 27, PM says
Source: Agencies, Daily Times, 2021-02-22
South Korea will begin administering the first of 117,000 doses of Pfizer’s coronavirus vaccine on Feb. 27, a day after the country begins its first vaccinations with AstraZeneca’s products, the prime minister announced on Sunday. Plans call for about 10 million high-risk people, including health care workers and staffers and some residents of assisted care facilities and nursing home.....
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Privacy faces risks in tech-infused post-Covid workplace
Source: Agencies, Daily Times, 2021-02-22
People returning to work following the long pandemic will find an array of tech-infused gadgetry to improve workplace safety but which could pose risks for long-term personal and medical privacy. Temperature checks, distance monitors, digital “passports,” wellness surveys and robotic cleaning and disinfection systems are being deployed in many workplaces seeking to reopen. Tech giant.....
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