.....About Newsletter

In order to keep abreast of emerging issues at the National/International and local level, the SDPI brings out a Bi-weekly E-Newsletter on “COVID-19”.

It carries reference information’s to the News items/Comments/Op-Eds appearing in leading National/International dailies.

Newspapers Covered:

- Dawn
- The News
- The Express Tribune
- The Nation
- Business Recorder
- Daily Times
- Pakistan Observer
- Pakistan Today
- Urdu Point

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Op-Eds/Articles/Editorials

Post-Covid rehab
Source: Raja Khalid Shabbir, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-04-10
Covid-19 will end, as do all nightmares. What will remain behind is a world of grief. Our first rehabilitative challenge would be something which we have always saved for last: mental health. We have all, in one way or the other, faced the consequences of Covid-19. While many have been physically impacted by the virus and pinned to ICU beds or forced to retreat in a corner of the house, others have... more >>

The Washington Consensus and the meat cleaver
Source: Farrukh Khan Pitafi, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-04-10
Is the teacher out of his depth or the classroom has changed beyond recognition? At a time when the Covid-19 crisis has devastated the world economy, thrown economic pundits for a loop and made the lives of citizens around the world hard to bear, this question was to be expected. The World Economic Outlook Report of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) that just came out speaks of a remarkable rec... more >>

Exams in a pandemic
For several months, a debate has been continuing in the country over the holding of the Cambridge Assessment International Education ‘O’ and ‘A’ level exams in the last week of April. The matter has now been taken to the Sindh High Court by a student, who has asked in her petition why thousands of Cambridge examination students are being subjected to danger at a time when t... more >>

A case of missing doses
Last week, reports about the alleged ‘disappearance’ of 900-odd jabs of the Covid-19 vaccine Sinopharm from three public hospitals in Lahore, shocked everyone. Though an inquiry was initiated on the orders of the Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar, the matter remains unresolved. The vaccine doses had been provided to the public hospitals for the inoculation of frontline health workers... more >>

Covid-19: give me fresh air to breathe, please!
Source: Dr Rana Jawad Asghar, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-04-11
The Covid vaccine seems a distant mirage for most Pakistanis. As reported by the government, over one million people have been vaccinated — mostly healthcare workers, elders, and children of Pakistan’s powerful elites. Still, this is less than 0.5% of Pakistan’s population. Anyone can do the math to work out how long we will need to vaccinate 70% of the population. While an absol... more >>

Unequal vaccine distribution
Source: EDITORIAL, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-11
It is in times of crisis that we often see the best — or worst — of humanity. In this regard, the pandemic has put the world’s compassion to test. The rate at which rich nations are buying up vaccines from manufacturers that have a finite supply has been described by the WHO chief as “grotesque”. This week, as the body missed its target of seeing vaccines being admini... more >>
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<th>Article Title</th>
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<td>Shifting into new trade paradigm</td>
<td>Aadil Nakhoda, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-04-12</td>
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<td>KARACHI: Pakistan’s exports rebounded to more than $2.3 billion in March 2021, an increase of 14.17% from $2.07 billion in February 2021, reported the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS). Exports in March 2021 were almost 30% more than those reported in March 2020, when Covid-19 started making an adverse impact on shipments from Pakistan. On the other hand, imports were reported at $5.6 b...</td>
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<td>Life responsibility</td>
<td>Andleeb Abbas, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-04-12</td>
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<td>“It’s my life” sung by Jon Bon Jovi was a Chart buster song in 2000. Everybody loved the theme. It started the millennial era. The 21st generation rebels just adored the concept of claiming that ‘it is my life and let me do what I want.’ It also resonated with the older crowds who for long had lived inbox lives. This super hit after two decades remains as popular as e...</td>
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<td>It is summertime madness out here. Covid-19 cases are climbing like a vengeance and the third wave seems to be battling the first that peaked sometime in June. By that measure, we have two more months of getting too close to the sun. For the first time since June in fact, daily coronavirus cases crossed 9,000 during the first week of April. The 7-day rolling average stands at about 5,400 which are...</td>
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<td>The virus’s latest attack</td>
<td>Arifa Noor, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-13</td>
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<td>SOON after the vaccination drive was opened for elderly citizens, I asked a few colleagues if they were planning to take their parents for a shot anytime soon. Except for one notable exception, whose parents didn’t fall in the right age category, the rest said that their parents (and a grandparent or two) were not willing. I was taken aback to say the least — after all, most of these c...</td>
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<td>The Covid-19 pandemic might not alter the existing power status-quo in a fundamental way. It, nonetheless, did end up highlighting global neglect of non-traditional security threats. The pandemic revealed – rather, tested – the whole world simultaneously for its preparedness and management of a global crisis, lessons from which can be drawn and revisited in case of other possib...</td>
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<td>Getting the world vaccinated is not about some feel-good gestures, like a few billion dollars for COVAX, the Bill Gates-inspired initiative to make vaccines available in developing countries. It means pulling out all the stops to produce and distribute billions of vaccines as quickly as possible. To do this, we need the cooperation of the whole world and the elimination of all the barriers...</td>
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Covid panic
There appears to be some sense of panic over the coronavirus pandemic raging through Pakistan. There are now clear indications that fear is spreading as news of deaths widens around the country. Since it began early last year, Pakistan has suffered 721,000 infections and over 15,000 deaths as a result of the virus. To add to the problems, the country’s vaccination programme has been moving a.....

Post-vaccination positive cases surface across world
LAHORE: Post-vaccination Covid-19 positive cases have surfaced across the world while there are calls by experts that vaccination should be declared compulsory and sentences or fines should be imposed on denial for vaccination. To stop the virus from spreading, 70 to 90 percent population should be vaccinated because it reduced 90 percent infections, said experts. Israeli experts said the people, .....
**FM Visits Germany**
Pakistan will gain significant benefits from Foreign Minister (FM) Shah Mahmood Qureshi’s official two-day visit to Berlin. FM Shah’s visit will take the bilateral relations between Islamabad and Berlin to new heights. The two sides have been in close contact and have enjoyed friendly ties for seven decades. Germany is one country that has always provided assistance to Pakistan without.....

**Pandemic ‘forced educators to consider new ways of evaluating student-learning’**
“Online classes, online exams,” chanted students across Pakistan in early 2021 as they took to the streets to protest against plans to conduct in-person examinations during the pandemic. The protests went far beyond the usual complaints about examinations as students raised a number of concerns around the effectiveness of online learning, the safety of in-person examinations an.....

**Global academic delay and digital divide**
Source: Syed Wajahat Ali, *Daily Times*, 2021-04-10
Multidisciplinary Digital Publishing Institute (MDPI), Switzerland, published a study sampling 31,212 higher education students from 133 countries and 6 continents. The research finds “boredom, anxiety, and frustration” among students during lockdowns. The socio-demographic difference, gender, and nature of subjects are important variables in scoring the efficiency of online academics......

**Education disrupted**
Source: Faisal Bari, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2021-04-16
ONCE again schools have been closed. It is not clear when they will reopen as the third Covid-19 wave continues to rage. On April 14, the government website tracking Covid numbers reported that 5,395 people had tested positive and 118 had died. These are some of the highest numbers we have seen during the pandemic. Though some lockdowns are in place, and have been so for the last three to four wee.....
## National News

### Balochistan

**49,523 vaccine doses administered in Rwp with no death in 24 hours**  
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-12  
QUETTA - Around 49,523 doses of COVID-19 vaccines have now been administered to people in the district. District Health Coordinator for COVID-19, Dr Jawad Khalid told APP here Sunday, that 14,023 health workers including 35,500 people with senior citizens have received free of cost shots at 23 government vaccination centres of the district. He informed that the district health authority has regist...more >>

**Massive uptick in positivity sets off alarm bells**  
Source: Mohammad Zafar, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-04-14  
QUETTA: The sudden rise of the coronavirus positivity rate in Balochistan has raised alarm bells in the corridors of the provincial government. Addressing a press conference on Tuesday, Balochistan government spokesperson Liaquat Shahwani said the third wave of Covid-19 has tightly gripped the entire country, adding that, currently around 4,000 to 5,000 cases are being reported on a daily basis. &.....more >>

**Balochistan reports 76 Covid-19 cases, two deaths**  
Source: INP, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-04-14  
QUETTA: Balochistan Health Department on Tuesday reported two more deaths and 76 positive cases of novel coronavirus in the province. The overall deaths by coronavirus in the province have reached to 217. According to a spokesperson for the health department, Covid-19 positive cases have been reported in five districts of the province. Nine cases have been reported in educational institi...more >>

### Islamabad

**Ban on public transport for two days**  
Islamabad: The District Administration of Federal Capital, in the perspective of alarmingly spreading the third phase of COVID-19, decided a complete ban on public transport plying between the twin cities of Rawalpindi and Islamabad for Saturday and Sunday. A notification issued by the Deputy Commissioner Islamabad, Hamza Shafqaat, said, the ban would initiate at midnight on Friday and Sa......more >>

**Fighting third wave impossible without public support: PRCS**  
Islamabad: The third wave of coronavirus is very dangerous, more contagious and deadlier than the first two waves. The increase in cases is building pressure on the health system. Unfortunately, people are not taking precautions while going out in public which could have dangerous implications and speed up the spread of the virus. In a press statement issued here on Friday, the Chairman o.....more >>

**Covid-19; Proposed anti-smuggling law envisages heavy fines**  
Source: Zaheer Abbasi & Sohail Sarfraz, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-04-10  
ISLAMABAD: A proposed law has empowered the law enforcement agencies and customs to impose heavy fines on smugglers of foreign currency, gold/silver, precious stones, sugar, onions, pulses, salt, potatoes, gur, rice, wheat/flour, chemical fertilisers, livestock, maize, edible oil, and therapeutic goods. According to a brief of the Covid-19 (Prevention of Smuggling) Ordinance, 2020, presented .....more >>
Covid-19 claims 105 lives, infects 5,312 across country
Source: Abdul Rasheed Azad, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-04-10
ISLAMABAD: The Covid-19 has claimed 105 lives and infected 5,312 people across the country in the past 24 hours taking the national Covid-19 death tally to 15,229 and total cases to 710,829 since the pandemic outbreak in Pakistan. According to the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), over the past 24 hours 2,390 corona patients also recovered taking the national tally of recoveries.... more >>

Pakistan reports more than 5,000 Covid-19 cases for second day
Source: Tahir Niaz, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-10
ISLAMABAD - The Coronavirus situation is worsening in the country with each passing day as Pakistan reported more than 5,000 Covid-19 cases for the second day straight on Friday and 105 more deaths, taking the national death toll to 15,229. According to the National Command and Operations Centre (NCOC), the country reported 5,312 cases on Friday while the Coronavirus positivity ratio was reco..... more >>

Covid-19 delayed Pakistan’s privatization plans: IMF document
ISLAMABAD - The government is not expecting completion of any major privatisation during ongoing fiscal year due to the lengthy process. “Against the backdrop of Covid-19 and economic uncertainty, we have not been able to finalise the privatisation of two LNG power plants by end-FY 2020 as previously planned. We now expect to complete the process by end-February FY 2022, with proceeds s..... more >>

Pakistan witnessed one of smallest increases in public debt after Covid: Hammad
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-10
ISLAMABAD - Finance Minister Hammad Azhar on Friday said that Pakistan has witnessed one of the smallest increases in public debt in the world after Covid due to the policies of the incumbent government. “Pakistan’s fiscal response to Covid has been prudent and well-targeted, including re-allocation of spending to the most vulnerable through the landmark Ehsaas programme. As a res..... more >>

7 Islamabad localities de-sealed
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-10
ISLAMABAD - The Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) administration on Friday ordered de-sealing seven localities of the federal capital after a detailed survey and testing of the suspect individuals. These areas include Bahria Town Phase-II & III Islamabad, Sohan Garden Block H, PWD Block C, Korang Town, Pakistan Town Phase-I, NPF Block A, DHA-II Sector B and E Islamabad. These areas were s..... more >>

Over 5,000 Covid infections reported for second day
Source: Aamir Yasin, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-10
ISLAMABAD: The coronavirus situation continued to worsen as 105 deaths and more than 5,000 new cases were reported for the second consecutive day on Friday, taking the national death toll to 15,229. According to the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), the country reported 5,312 cases on Friday while the coronavirus positivity ratio was recorded at 9.6 per cent. With 5,312 new cases, the..... more >>
SECP enrols 2,513 firms in March
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-10
ISLAMABAD: Despite Covid challenges, the registration of new companies grew 72pc to 2,513 in March over the same month last year. This is the highest number of companies ever registered in a single month with the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP). The reforms introduced by the SECP for ease of doing business and digitalisation are resulting in continued growth of entrepreneurs.....
more >>

No let-up in Covid-19 casualties in twin cities
Source: Munawer Azeem, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-10
ISLAMABAD: Eight more people lost their life to Covid-19 in the twin cities - four each in Islamabad and Rawalpindi - with 674 new cases in the capital and 259 in the garrison city on Friday. Officials of the capital administration said six deaths were also reported in the city on Thursday. On Friday, the death of two women in the age group of 50-59, one man in the age group of 80-89 and another.....
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South Asia surpasses 15m corona cases
ISLAMABAD: Coronavirus infections in the South Asia sub-region surpassed the grim milestone of 15 million on Saturday, led by India's record daily infections and vaccine shortages. South Asia - India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Bhutan, Nepal, Maldives, and Sri Lanka - accounts for 11% of global cases and almost 6% of deaths. The region accounts for 23% of the world's population of .....
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NCOC extends coronavirus restrictions across Pakistan till April 13
ISLAMABAD: The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Friday announced it was extending the coronavirus restrictions imposed earlier across the country, till April 13. The decisions, according to the country's nerve centre on tackling coronavirus, was taken during a meeting of the NCOC chaired by Asad Umar. The forum said an NCOC meeting will be held on April 12 to review how.....
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Corona kills over 600 in a week
ISLAMABAD: The killing spree of the new coronavirus disease COVID-19 continues unabated countrywide largely benefiting from the people's least regard for the government-specified Standard Operating Procedures (SPOs). A total of 632 patients have lose their battle for life to the pandemic in one week beginning April 4, according to the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC). A .....
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DRAP allows resumption of vaccination administration
Islamabad: The Drug Regulatory Authority Pakistan (DRAP) has allowed the privately-owned Shifa International Hospital and Islamabad Diagnostic Centre (IDC) to resume the administration of coronavirus vaccination. The regulator had authorised the AGP Limited to be the first company to import Sputnik-V vaccine in Pakistan for private sales. On April 7, the DRAP had stopped both the centres .....
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### PM commends Khyber Teaching Hospital revamp
Source: News Desk, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-04-10

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan on Monday commended the revamp of Khyber Teaching Hospital (KTH) in Peshawar, Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (K-P). “Khyber Teaching Hospital has been totally revamped and modernised after a lot of effort,” the premier said on his official Twitter handle. He also congratulated the KTH Board and management for their efforts in the restoration process. Read more>

### Country reports 100 more deaths amid Covid-19 surge
Source: Zulfiqar Ahmad, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-04-11

ISLAMABAD: The country on Saturday reported at least 100 deaths from Covid-19 – the second consecutive day for such grim statistics and recorded 5,139 cases during the last 24 hours. According to National Command and Operations Centre (NCOC), most of the deaths were reported from Punjab followed by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP). Out of the 100 deaths, 93 succumbed to the disease while under t..... Read more>

### Pakistan reports 5,050 coronavirus cases in 24 hours

Pakistan has reported 114 deaths in the last 24 hours by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has surged to 721,018. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 15,443 on Sunday. According to the latest figures by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) 5,050 persons tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 24 hours. Punjab remains the worst-hit province in terms of..... Read more>

### Country reports 100 Covid-19 cases for second day straight
Source: Tahir Niaz, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-11

ISLAMABAD - The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) has decided to extend the Covid-related restrictions already in place till April 13. An NCOC session was held with Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Asad Umar, in the chair here on Saturday. “Discussion on NPIs was carried out. Existing NPIs will be extended till 13th April and further discus..... Read more>

### Shifa, Islamabad Diagnostic Centre allowed to resume Sputnik V vaccine administration
Source: Tahir Niaz, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-11

ISLAMABAD - The authorities have allowed Shifa International Hospital and Islamabad Diagnostic Centre (IDC) Islamabad to resume administration of Sputnik V vaccine at the health facilities with a direction to take necessary measures to ensure documentation of the storage conditions as per internationally-accepted best practices. The Drug Regulatory Authority Pakistan (DRAP), Ministry of Natio..... Read more>

### Huge quantity of vaccine awaited as 100 more die
Source: Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-11

ISLAMABAD: As the coronavirus has claimed more than 500 lives in just five days with positivity ratio rising as high as 10.47 per cent, the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) expects arrival of a large quantity of vaccine within next few weeks. At a session chaired by Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Asad Umar, it was decided to extend the e..... Read more>
Covid-19 cases, positivity rate rise in capital again
Source: Munawer Azeem | Aamir Yasin, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-11

ISLAMABAD: An increase was seen in the number of Covid-19 cases and positivity rate in the capital on Saturday. Officials of the capital administration said 729 more people contracted the virus compared to 674 on Friday. During the last 24 hours, 7,888 tests were conducted, with the positivity rate climbing to 9.4pc compared to 7.7pc on Friday. The number of active cases in the capital has reac.....

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RTA accelerates drive against SOPs violators

Rawalpindi: Regional Transport Authority (RTA) Rawalpindi on the directives of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Rawalpindi Anwar-ul-Haq, has accelerated its ongoing operation against COVID-19 Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) violators. According to Secretary, RTA Rawalpindi Rashid Ali, the authority on the directives of the DC had launched a campaign to ensure implementation of the SOPs. He .....

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President Alvi slowly getting back to 'normal routine' after testing positive for coronavirus

President Arif Alvi is "slowly getting back to normal routine" after testing positive for coronavirus, roughly two weeks ago. The president's health update was shared on Twitter by his son, Awab Alvi. He also shared a picture of the president, sitting on his official desk, pen in hand. "Happy to share that the President of Pakistan Arif Alvi slowly getting back to normal routi.....

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Corona takes down another 114

ISLAMABAD: Saturday turned out to be the deadliest day in the country with regard to deaths from COVID-19, with the daily toll jumping up to 114. The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) recorded 73,875 active cases with 5,050 more people testing positive and 4,139 recovering during the 24 hours.Of 114 deaths, 104 took place at the hospital and 10 at their respective quarantines o.....

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Covid-19 SOP compliance remains weak, says Asad Umar
Source: News Desk, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-04-12

Federal Planning and Development Minister Asad Umar on Monday said Covid-19 SOP compliance remains weak in the country and the administration has been asked to "ramp up" enforcement to avoid a crisis like situation. The minister added that the pressure on hospitals is increasing across the country. The minister's tweet came after he presided over a National Command Operation Centre (.....

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Covid-19 claims 114 more lives
Source: Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-04-12

ISLAMABAD: The national tally on Sunday of total active Covid-19 cases recorded 73,875 with 5,050 more people tested positive for the deadly virus and 4,139 people recovered from the disease during the last 24 hours. One hundred and fourteen corona patients have died during past 24 hours, 104 of whom were under treatment in hospital and 10 out of the hospital in their respective quarantines o.....

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Covid-19 safety; Health authorities asked to educate citizens
Source: APP, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-04-12
ISLAMABAD: The Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations, and Coordination Sunday asked the authorities concerned to effectively observe COVID-19 standard operating procedures (SOPs) and create awareness in public about the importance of Corona safety measures. According to an official of the ministry, provinces have been asked to support the efforts of the federal government in the p.....
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Pakistan records 4,584 new COVID cases in 24 hours
Pakistan has reported 58 deaths in the last 24 hours by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has surged to 725,602. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 15,501 on Monday. According to the latest figures by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) 4,584 persons tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 24 hours. Punjab remains the worst-hit province in terms of.....
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114 die in a day amid 3rd virus wave
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-12
ISLAMABAD - Country’s death toll swelled to 15,443 on Sunday as the National Command & Operation Centre reported 114 deaths in the last twenty-four hours, the highest number of deaths reported in one day during the current year. According to the NCOC, at least 114 corona patients have died during past 24 hours, 104 of whom were under treatment in hospitals and 10 out of the hospital.....
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Deadliest Covid day since June claims 114 lives
Source: Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-12
ISLAMABAD: While the country reported the highest number of single-day deaths since June last year, 5,050 more people contracted Covid-19 on Sunday. The number of critical patients reached all-time high of 4,920 and that of active cases crossed 70,000 mark. According to data released by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), 114 deaths were reported in a single day, of which 43 person.....
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Capital witnesses another spike in Covid-19 cases
Source: Aamir Yasin | Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-12
ISLAMABAD: While 798 more people were found infected with Covid-19 in the capital on Sunday with an 11.04pc positivity ratio, the district administration has been anticipating a decrease in the positive cases during the current week. As many as 251 people were diagnosed with the disease in Rawalpindi whereas no casualties were reported during the last 24 hours in both the cities. According to a .....
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Privilege motion moved against Pims head
Source: Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-12
ISLAMABAD: The National Assembly Standing Committee on Rules of Procedure and Privileges is going to hear a privilege motion on Monday (today)against the head of Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (Pims) for failing to provide admission to a Covid-19 patient referred by the National Assembly (NA) speaker and refusing to attend a meeting at the speaker’s residence. The mover of the motio.....
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### Pakistan to receive 15m Covid-19 jabs under Covax by May: Qureshi

**Source:** News Desk, *The Express Tribune, Islamabad*, 2021-04-12

Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi on Monday said that Pakistan will receive 15 million doses of Covid-19 vaccine under COVAX — a platform to ensure coronavirus shots reach those in greatest need — by May 2021. Qureshi, who is on a two-day official visit to Germany, announced the development following his meeting with Foreign Minister Heiko Maas. COVAX is led by the World Health O.....

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### Covid situation worse than June last year: PM’s aide

**Source:** Ikram Junaidi, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2021-04-13

ISLAMABAD: The coronavirus disease has severely affected the country’s healthcare system and the situation is worse than that in June last year, Dr Faisal Sultan, the Special Assistant to the Prime Minister (SAPM) on Health, revealed on Monday. “Only five per cent of the people wear masks and violation of standard operating procedures (SOPs) has become the norm across the country,&rdq.....

[more >>](#)

### Situationer: Ramazan crucial in combating Covid third wave

**Source:** Fahd Husain, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2021-04-13

STATISTICS tell a grim story of the third wave of Covid-19 ravaging the urban centres of Pakistan. With the government struggling to enforce SOPs, manage critical care load and acquire vaccines, senior officials say the four weeks of Ramazan will be crucial in determining if the rising curve of the infection can be successfully flattened and eventually brought down. A comparison of the three Covi.....

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### Health office recommends sealing of seven sub-sectors in Islamabad

**Source:** Munawer Azeem, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2021-04-13

ISLAMABAD: The district health office has recommended sealing of seven areas in different sectors of the capital city as Covid-19 cases continued rising. District Health Officer (DHO) Dr Zaeem Zia told Dawn that his office had recommended to the district administration to seal G-6/1, G-6/2, G-7/2, G-8/1, G-9/2, G-10/4 and G-11/3 as cases are surfacing there.A letter written to the deputy commissi.....

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### Covid-19 claims 58 more lives, infects 4,584


ISLAMABAD/LAHORE: The national tally on Monday of total active COVID-19 cases recorded 75,266 with 4,584 more people tested positive for the deadly virus and 3,135 people recovered from the disease during the last 24 hours. Fifty eight corona patients have died during past 24 hours, 55 of whom were under treatment in hospital and three out of the hospital in their respective quarantines or.....

[more >>](#)

### PM demands financial support for developing countries

**Source:** Mumtaz Alvi, *The News, International*, 2021-04-13

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan Monday called for disavowing power rivalries and geopolitical competition and said the world was at a critical point in world history, as the COVID pandemic has dramatically illustrated humanity’s oneness and interdependence. “We must opt for unconditional international cooperation. Together, we can – we must – construct a new, p.....

[more >>](#)
Daily Covid death toll hits 118—highest since June
Source: News Desk, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-04-13
ISLAMABAD: As many as 118 Covid-related deaths were reported across on Tuesday—the highest since June, while at least 4,318 more people tested positive for the virus. According to statistics of the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC), most deaths occurred in Punjab followed by Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa. Out of the 118 deaths, 37 occurred on ventilators, while 110 died in hospital and ei.....
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PM Imran slams 'vaccine nationalism' at ECOSOC forum
Source: Rizwan Shehzad, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-04-12
ISLAMABAD: While slamming the "vaccine nationalism" and export restrictions by some countries, Prime Minister Imran Khan on Monday urged the international community to ensure that the Covid-19 vaccine is available to "everyone, everywhere, and as soon as possible". He expressed these views while delivering the opening statement at the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Fo.....
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Pakistan reports 4,318 new COVID cases in one day
Pakistan has reported 118 deaths in the last 24 hours by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has surged to 729,920. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 15,619 on Tuesday. According to the latest figures by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) 4,318 persons tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 24 hours. Punjab remains the worst-hit province in terms ..... more >>

Pakistan reports 4,318 new COVID cases in one day
Pakistan has reported 118 deaths in the last 24 hours by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has surged to 729,920. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 15,619 on Tuesday. According to the latest figures by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) 4,318 persons tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 24 hours. Punjab remains the worst-hit province in terms ..... more >>

President Alvi recovers from Covid-19
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-13
Islamabad - President Dr Arif Alvi has recovered from Covid-19. In a tweet on Monday, he said he came out of Covid and spent first full day at work today. The President appealed the nation to wear masks and adhere to the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). Meanwhile, President Arif Alvi’s son Awab Alvi in a tweet said his father is “slowly getting back to normal routine”.....
more >>

IMF lauds Pak response to health, economic crisis
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-13
ISLAMABAD - The International Monetary Fund (IMF) on Monday commended Pakistan’s response to the health and economic crisis. “I commended Pakistan’s response to the health and economic crisis, and we discussed the way forward for vital economic reforms and external financing needed to build a better future for Pakistan’s people,” said IMF Managing Director Kristalina ..... more >>
Dr Faisal urges Ulema role to control corona in Ramazan
Source: Rahul Basharat, The Nation, Islamabad , 2021-04-13
ISLAMABAD - Special Assistant to Prime Minister (SAPM) on National Health Services (NHS) Dr Faisal Sultan has urged religious scholars and Ulema to play their role to control the novel coronavirus spread during the month of Ramazan. Briefing the media after the National Command and Operations Centre (NCOC) meeting, the SAPM said that the spread of Covid-19 has had a devastating effect on the health ......
more >>

Govt decides to pass 4m students amid corona
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad , 2021-04-13
ISLAMABAD - Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training Shafqat Mahmood on Monday said that it has been decided to pass four million students across the country as the third wave of Covid-19 has emerged as a major challenge. Addressing a book launching ceremony here, the minister said that all the provinces have taken this unanimous decision. “We have decided to pass 4 mill.....
more >>

Corona kills another 118 in 24 hours
ISLAMABAD: The national tally of active COVID-19 cases was on Tuesday recorded 76,034 with 4,318 more people testing positive and 3,432 recovering during the 24 hours. One hundred and eighteen patients have died during the 24 hours, out of whom 10 were under treatment in hospital and eight in their respective quarantines or homes, according to the National command and Operation Centre (NCO.....
more >>

All Pakistanis to get vaccine jab after Eidul Fitr, says Asad Umar
ISLAMABAD: Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Asad Umar on Tuesday said that more than 1.3 million people had so far been vaccinated against COVID-19 in the country. Addressing a press conference here, Asad Umar hoped that the vaccination for the people of age group 50 to 60 years would start soon whereas after Eidul Fitr, people of all age group would be able to ge.....
more >>

NCOC tightens Covid-19 restrictions as Ramazan begins
Source: News Desk, The Express Tribune, Islamabad , 2021-04-14
ISLAMABAD: In line with rising Covid-19 infections and the start of the month of Ramazan, the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) decided to broaden Covid-19 restrictions across Pakistan and ensure strict regulation of SOPs. The decisions taken at a special session of the meeting held on Tuesday (April 13) were to come into effect today (April 14). The session was headed by Federal Minister for.....
more >>

Pakistan to make single-dose Covid vaccine
Source: Razya Khan, The Express Tribune, Islamabad , 2021-04-14
ISLAMABAD: An official told a National Assembly panel on Tuesday that the National Institute of Health (NIH) is going to make Pakistan's own single-dose coronavirus vaccine soon. “We are going to make a single-dose vaccine for Covid-19,” NIH Executive Director Major General Aamer Ikram told the NA Standing Committee on National Health Services. “We conducted the clinical tri.....
more >>
Pakistan records highest death toll of third Covid-19 wave
Source: News Desk, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-04-14
The country recorded its highest death toll from the third wave of the Covid-19 pandemic on Wednesday as at least 135 people succumbed to the virus over the last 24-hours. Pakistan's death toll from the deadly contagion now stands at 15,754. Most Covid-19 deaths occurred in Punjab followed by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (K-P), according to the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC). According to the.....
more >>

Minister says ‘sufficient’ stock of vaccine available
Source: APP, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-04-14
ISLAMABAD: Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Asad Umar on Tuesday said that more than 1.3 million people had so far been vaccinated against COVID-19 in the country. Addressing a press conference here, the minister informed that as of now, 900,000 vaccines are available in the country while more would be procured in coming days. The minister who is also Chairman N.....
more >>

Covid-19 claims 118 more lives across country
Source: Abdul Rasheed Azad, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-04-14
ISLAMABAD: Pakistan, Tuesday, reported 118 coronavirus deaths which is the highest daily Covid-19 toll since July 2020, the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) reported. According to the NCOC, out of 118 deaths Punjab reported 74 and Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa 32, while in the past 24 hours, the country reported 4,318 Covid-9 cases, which took the national tally to 729,920, since the pandemi.....
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Pakistan reports 4,681 new COVID cases in one day
Pakistan has reported 135 deaths in the last 24 hours by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has surged to 734,423. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 15,754 on Wednesday. According to the latest figures by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) 4,681 persons tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 24 hours. Punjab remains the worst-hit province in term.....
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Centre reports 118 single-day virus deaths, highest since June 4,318 more people tested positive in 24 hours
Source: Tahir Niaz, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-14
ISLAMABAD - Pakistan on Tuesday reported the most single-day deaths since the first wave of Covid-19. As many as 118 Covid-related deaths were reported across the country on Tuesday — the highest since June while at least 4,318 more people tested positive for the virus, according to the statistics shared by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC). It said most of the deaths oc.....
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Fix appeals against Sharif for hearing under Covid-19 policy: IHC
Source: Shahid Rao, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-14
ISLAMABAD - The Islamabad High Court (IHC) Tuesday directed its registrar office to fix appeals against former prime minister Nawaz Sharif in corruption references for hearing under COVID-19 policy. A division bench of IHC comprising Justice Aamer Farooq and Justice Mohsin Akhter Kayani conducted hearing of the petition of National Accountability Bureau (NAB) for early hearing of Sharif famil.....
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NA Sectt seeks NCOC advice for next session
Source: Javaid-ur-Rahman, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-14
ISLAMABAD - The National Assembly Secretariat, in wake of Coronavirus [COVID-19] pandemic, has sought opinion from National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) to summon the National Assembly (NA) session on Friday. According to tentative schedule, the National Assembly Secretariat has planned to summon the National Assembly for two weeks observing proper SOPs due to severe third wave of Coro.....
more >>

President, PM urge people to follow SOPs during Ramazan
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-14
Islamabad - President Dr Arif Alvi and Prime Minister Imran Khan on Tuesday urged the countrymen to strictly follow all the agreed Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) during the month of Ramazan-ul-Mubarak and discourage the people involved in profiteering and hoarding to show compassion for the needy. The President, in his message on 1st of Ramazan ul Mubarak 1442 AH, felicitated the nation.....
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7 sub-sectors sealed due to Covid-19 threat in capital
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-14
ISLAMABAD - The Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) administration has sealed 7 sub-sectors of the capital city due to increasing cases of Covid-19 there, until further orders. District Magistrate Islamabad issued a notification to this effect on Tuesday. The sub-sectors include G-6/1, G-6/2, G-7/2, G-8/1, G-9/2, G-10/4 and G-11/3. The decision has been taken in public interest on the recommendatio.....
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Islamabad vaccination centres to remain shut on Friday during Ramazan
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-14
Islamabad - The Ministry of National Health Services (NHS) on Tuesday announced that the vaccination centres in Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) will remain closed on Friday instead of Sunday during the month of Ramazan. The notification issued by the ministry referring to the decision of National Command and Operations Centre (NCOC) said that the holidays will be observed on Friday instead of ..... more >>

Record number of virus-related deaths reported since last June
Source: Kalbe Ali | Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-14
ISLAMABAD: While a record number of single-day deaths since June 2020 (118) was reported on Tuesday, Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Asad Umar warned that the new UK variant of coronavirus was spreading in southern parts of the country and said vaccination of the people between 50 and 60 years would start soon after Eidul Fitr Meanwhile, Special Assistant to the Prime M.....
more >>

Another deadly day as coronavirus claims 118 more lives in Pakistan
ISLAMABAD: Amid the troubling third wave of coronavirus, 118 more succumb to the virus in Pakistan, taking the national tally to 15,872. Pakistan has tightened the restrictions across the country as the infections are on a climb for the past few months. The country’s coronavirus positivity rate stands at 8.3% as of today. As per the data on the official National Command and Operation.....
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7 sub-sectors sealed
Islamabad: Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) administration has sealed seven sub-sectors as COVID-19 cases continue to rise in the federal capital. According to a notification issued by the district magistrate on Wednesday, the localities were sealed on the recommendation of the health office after reporting more positive cases from these areas. The sub-sectors included G-6/1, G-6/2, G-7.....

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ICT admin issues new SOPs
Islamabad: Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) Administration has issued non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPIs) for the Holy month of Ramazan as the number of cases amid the third wave of coronavirus is on the rise. A list of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) was issued by the administration on Wednesday. According to new SOPs, the market timing would be observed from Sehr till 6:00 pm.....

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Social help along with social distancing need of the hour
Islamabad: Ramazan is a month in which most people reach out to the poor and needy with a big heart. There are many families, communities, and organisations who buy Ramazan packages from stores or arrange for ration for the needy and then distribute among them. One of the activities which is quite prevalent in our society is to arrange for ‘iftar’ in mosques as well as on footpaths fo.....

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Curbs tightened amid unrelenting Covid surge
Source: Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-15
ISLAMABAD: While the country has reported another record number of coronavirus-related deaths since June, the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) has declared Saturdays and Sundays as closed days at national level. Timings for all markets will be from Sehr till 6pm. Unlike past, the new order will also apply to grocery shops, medical stores and petrol pumps, etc. Railway, which is funct.....

more >>

Pindi reports highest Covid-19 cases in single day
Source: Munawer Azeem | Aamir Yasin, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-15
ISLAMABAD: Rawalpindi saw the highest number of Covid-19 cases reported in a single day since the outbreak of the pandemic as 403 people were found infected by the virus on Wednesday. On the other hand, Islamabad witnessed a decline in the number of cases, with 508 people testing positive. Five patients lost their battle against the virus while 12 were discharged after recovering during the last .....

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Pakistan records highest death toll of Covid-19 third wave
Source: news Desk, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-15
The national tally on Wednesday of total active Covid-19 cases was recorded at 76,757 as 4,681 more people tested positive for the deadly virus. One hundred and thirty-five patients died on Wednesday, 126 of whom were under treatment in hospitals and nine in their respective quarantines or homes, according to the latest update issued by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC). Most of the.....

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Covid patients with sedentary habits more likely to die: study
Source: Agencies, Daily Times, 2021-04-15
Among covid patients, a lack of exercise is linked to more severe symptoms and a higher risk of death, according to a study covering nearly 50,000 people who were infected with the virus. People physically inactive for at least two years before the pandemic were more likely to be hospitalised, to require intensive care, and to die, researchers reported Tuesday in the British Journal of Sports Med.....
more >>

Ramazan and raging virus
Source: Editorial, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-04-15
Just about the start of the holy month of Ramazan, Pakistan has witnessed its deadliest coronavirus days since the June 2020 peak: as many as 135 coronavirus deaths have been recorded across the country over the last 24 hours. A day before that, the country had reported 118 deaths from the lethal infection. According to NCOC, 153 and 148 deaths had been reported respectively on June 20 and 21 last.....
more >>

NCOC decides to implement ‘broader lockdowns’
Source: Abdul Rasheed Azad, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-04-15
ISLAMABAD: Pakistan, on Wednesday, issued new coronavirus standard operating procedures (SOPs) including broader lockdown, market timings, Taraweeh prayers, and public transport. A special meeting of the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) chaired by Chairman NCOC Asad Umar held here to review situation of the coronavirus in the country and religious activities during Ramazan. The NC.....
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Covid-19 deaths reach record 135 mark
ISLAMABAD: Pakistan, Wednesday, reported 135 Covid-19 deaths, the highest number of coronavirus deaths since June 2020, the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) said. According to NCOC data, the national tally of active Covid-19 cases recorded at 76,757 with 4,681 more people tested positive for the deadly virus. The NCOC said that 3,645 people recovered from the coronavirus in t.....
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Record tests for Covid-19 conducted in a day
Source: Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-16
ISLAMABAD: While a record number of Covid-19 tests were conducted in a day since the beginning of the pandemic, the country reported another highest number of coronavirus cases in the last 10 months. All federating units have issued different schedules for vaccination, bifurcating timings in morning and evening shifts. Moreover, after confirmation of a number of Covid-19 cases, the Senate Secret.....
more >>

Increase in coronavirus cases linked to disregard for SOPs
Source: Zulfiqar Baig, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-04-16
ISLAMABAD: With the coronavirus epidemic showing no signs of slowing down, the blows keep coming and the challenges keep mounting. For the administration in the capital, where the soaring Covid-19 cases have crossed the 68,000 mark, the increasing disdain for the standard preventive measures has emerged as the single most daunting challenge. Health experts in the city have cautioned that such beha.....
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Pakistan reports 5,364 coronavirus cases in 24 hours
Pakistan has reported 110 deaths in the last 24 hours by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has surged to 745,182. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 15,982 on Friday. According to the latest figures by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC), 5,364 persons tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 24 hours. Punjab remains the worst-hit province by the pandem.....

Capital again reports a slight increase in Covid-19 cases
Source: Aamir Yasin | Munawer Azeem, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2021-04-16
ISLAMABAD: A slight increase was seen in the number of Covid-19 cases in the capital on Thursday. Besides, six people died of the virus in the city. Officials of the capital administration said the death of two female patients was reported in the age group of 50-59 and one male each in the age group of 60-69 and 90-99. Deaths of a male and a female were also reported in the age group of 70-79. T.....

Country sees 135 virus deaths in a day amid 3rd wave
According to the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), 153 deaths were reported in Pakistan on June 20 last year. The next day 148 deaths were reported and since then the number of deaths had remained less than 118. According to the NCOC, 48,092 tests were conducted during the last 24 hours after which 4,681 people tested positive. The total number of cases in the country is 734,423 a.....

NCOC issues new corona SOPs for Ramazan
ISLAMABAD - The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Wednesday issued new guidelines to curb the spread of coronavirus during the month of Ramazan. The preventive measures were issued during a special meeting of the NCOC chaired by Federal Minister for Planning Asad Umar. The forum decided to implement broader lockdowns with stringent enforcement protocols where no mobility will be allo.....

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Corona cases on the rise as people flout SOPs in Mardan
MARDAN: The district administration has been unable to implement Covid-19 related standard operating procedures (SOPs) in the city and to implement lockdown in the district in the face of rising coronavirus cases. It may be noted that the National Command and Operation Centre earlier this month had issued new guidelines for the prevention of Covid-19. The provincial government had directed.....

ANP activist Nawaz Mayar dies of Covid-19
MARDAN: Prominent social worker and activist of Awami National Party (ANP) Mohammad Nawaz Khan of Mayar died due to Covid-19 at the Mardan Medical Complex (MMC). He was 66. The Covid-19 is rapidly spreading in Mardan district where 155 persons, mostly male were admitted only in MMC in which 25 died in the last three days. These figures were provided by the officials of MMC. However, these.....
CM Mahmood Khan orders special campaigns for coronavirus SOPs implementation
PESHAWAR: Expressing grave concern over the increasing ratio of coronavirus positive cases, Chief Minister Mahmood Khan on Friday directed the officials to launch a special campaign for the implementation of standard operating procedures (SOPs) and precautionary measures to contain the spread of the pandemic in the province. He said this while chairing a meeting to review the current situa.....
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Three more doctors succumb to Covid-19
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-04-10
PESHAWAR: Three more doctors have succumbed to Covid-19 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (K-P) in the past few days, bringing up the total number of doctors killed in the pandemic to 55 so far. Around 89 health workers have also lost their lives in which 55 are doctors. According to the Provincial Doctors Association (PDA) Dr Hakim Shah of Cantt General Hospital Peshawar breathed his last in the hospital. He.....
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No oxygen shortage in KP hospitals, claims dept
Source: Bureau Report, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-10
PESHAWAR: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa health department has claimed that there is no shortage of medical oxygen in major hospitals of the province and that it is working to improve oxygen supply during the third wave of coronavirus. The claim was made during a meeting chaired by Chief Minister Mahmood Khan here on Friday. The meeting was convened to review the capacity of the province’s healthcare.....
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106 shops sealed over SOPs violation
PESHAWAR: District administration Peshawar has sealed 106 shops and arrested shopkeepers during a crackdown on the violators of Corona preventive standard operating procedures (SOPs) here on Saturday. District administration Peshawar is carrying crackdown on the violators of Corona SOPs to prevent further spread of the virus in the district and in this connection conducting raids in bazaar.....
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Defence minister tests negative for coronavirus
NOWSHERA: Federal Minister for Defence Pervez Khattak tested negative for the coronavirus on Saturday. President Dr Arif Alvi and Defence Minister Pervez Khattak had tested positive for Covid-19 almost 10 days after Prime Minister Imran Khan reported positive on March 29 last. Pervez Khattak quarantined himself at his home and continued medical treatment for the viral infection. All of his.....
more >>

Faith healer video causes public uproar
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-04-11
PESHAWAR: The video of a faith healer, insufflating patients inside the Covid-19 high dependency ward of Lady Reading Hospital (LRH) in Peshawarmade rounds on social media, causing uproar in the general public Saturday. In the video the well-known faith healer from Badhaber village of Peshawarcould be seen, with his armed guard and retinue, walking from one bed to other and insufflate each patient.....
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>106 shopkeepers held for violating Corona SOPs</td>
<td>Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-04-11</td>
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<tr>
<td>PESHAWAR: District administration Peshawar has sealed 106 shops and arrested shopkeepers during a crackdown on the violators of Corona preventive standard operating procedures (SOPs) here on Saturday. District administration Peshawar is carrying crackdown on the violators of Corona SOPs to prevent further spread of the virus in the district and in this connection conducting raids in bazaars a.....</td>
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<td>Social stigma blamed for low Covid testing</td>
<td>Correspondent, Dawn, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-04-11</td>
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<td>SWAT: The civil society activists urged the residents of Swat district to follow the Covid-19 standard operating procedures following a spike in deaths by the virus. They told Dawn that more than 105 people died of coronavirus in the district during the last week. The activists insisted that being Covid-19 patient carried the social stigma, so most people didn’t undergo testing after deval.....</td>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>MoU inked for research to develop new medicines</td>
<td>Correspondent, Dawn, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-04-11</td>
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<td>MARDAN: The Bacha Khan Medical College (BKMC) on Saturday inked a memorandum of understanding with the Khyber Medical University to encourage and promote quality research to develop new medicines and procedures to help cure ailments. KMU vice-chancellor Dr Ziaul Haq and BKMC dean Prof Mohammad Fazil signed the MoU at a ceremony here. Under the agreement, KMU’s sub office of research, innov.....</td>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alarm as 32 more lose life to coronavirus in KP</td>
<td>Ashfaq Yusufzai, Dawn, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-04-11</td>
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<td>PESHAWAR: Thirty-two residents died of coronavirus and 983 were infected with it in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Saturday with Peshawar recording more mortalities and cases than other districts. The administration of Peshawar continued with the crackdown on violators of standard operating procedures in the day sealing shops, impounding public transport vehicles and arresting traders and drivers. Accord.....</td>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
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<td>PESHAWAR: A senior doctor was among 33 more people who died of coronavirus in KP on Sunday. The latest deaths took the toll from the viral infection to 2,651. A senior physician, Prof Dr Ilyas Saeedi, also lost life to Covid-19. He was suffering from coronavirus and admitted to the Lady Reading Hospital (LRH) Peshawar. The doctor was put on ventilator after his condition deteriorated and.....</td>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Covid-19 claims 32 more lives in KP</td>
<td>Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-04-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PESHAWAR: 32 more succumbed to Coronavirus in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa during last 24 hours, confirms an official of the Health Department here Sunday. With the fresh casualties the number of deaths from the virus has reached to 2618. The total number of corona cases in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has reached 98,301, the official informed. 983 fresh Corona cases have been confirmed while 746 patients of Cor.....</td>
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<td>Traders launch drive to contain virus spread</td>
<td>Bureau Report, <a href="https://www.dawn.com">Dawn, Islamabad</a></td>
<td>2021-04-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Covid mortalities alarmingly high in KP despite partial lockdown</td>
<td>Ashfaq Yusufzai, <a href="https://www.dawn.com">Dawn, Islamabad</a></td>
<td>2021-04-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No district safe from pandemic, says minister</td>
<td>Ashfaq Yusufzai, <a href="https://www.dawn.com">Dawn, Islamabad</a></td>
<td>2021-04-13</td>
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<td>Activists urge Dir admin not to fine labourers over SOP violations</td>
<td>Correspondent, <a href="https://www.dawn.com">Dawn, Islamabad</a></td>
<td>2021-04-13</td>
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<td>Closure of Torghar schools sought over Covid cases</td>
<td>Correspondent, <a href="https://www.dawn.com">Dawn, Islamabad</a></td>
<td>2021-04-13</td>
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PESHAWAR: The business community here on Sunday launched a campaign to create awareness among shopkeepers and customers of the importance of wearing face mask to protect themselves and contain the spread of coronavirus in the provincial metropolis amid surge in the Covid-19 cases. In this connection, a joint meeting of traders and police officials was held wherein Traders Alliance president Mujee.....

Covid mortalities alarmingly high in KP despite partial lockdown

PESHAWAR: The two-day a week lockdown, re-imposed by the provincial government three weeks ago, is yet to make any impact regarding reduction in Covid-19 cases and mortalities as 33 more people have died of the pandemic including a senior physician and 1,294 cases have been reported in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The rate of positivity for coronavirus swabs has also increased during the third wave of the.....

No district safe from pandemic, says minister

PESHAWAR: Covid-19 claimed 32 more lives and infected 610 people in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa as the health department began free treatment of the coronavirus patients from the funds of Sehat Sahulat Programme. *Free treatment of coronavirus patients in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has started on Sehat Card Plus in private and government hospitals. During the global epidemic, Chief Minister Mahmood Khan&rsq.....

Activists urge Dir admin not to fine labourers over SOP violations

LOWER DIR: Social and political activists here on Monday demanded of the administration to stop taking action against daily wagers and labourers for not wearing face mask. Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf activist Ali Shah Mishwani, social activist Syed Izharud Din, Liaquat Seemab and others expressed anguish over the administration's action against the labourers and other daily wagers for not wear.....

Closure of Torghar schools sought over Covid cases

MANSEHRA: The residents have demanded the immediate closure of schools in Torghar district over the growing coronavirus incidence among students. They said as more and more schoolchildren were testing positive for the virus, the vulnerability of others was growing. The residents claimed that Torghar was the only district in Hazara division, where schools were open. Rabnawaz Khantold reporters t.....

Guidelines issued to courts amid surge in Covid cases in KP

PESHAWAR: In the wake of surge in Covid-19 cases, Peshawar High Court on Wednesday issued guidelines to the district courts and directed them to give priority to urgent nature of cases. In the guidelines released by the registrar of high court, Khawaja Wajiuddin, the categories of urgent cases have been described for the courts of district and sessions judges and civil judges-cum-judicial magist.....
Over 200 vehicles impounded over SOP violation
Source: Bureau Report, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-16
PESHAWAR: The traffic police have taken action against more than 20,000 people for violating Covid-19 safety measures in the provincial capital in a week and also impounded 204 public transport vehicles. A statement issued here said that the weeklong SOPs enforcement measures, police took action against 20,985 people in different parts of the city for violating the safety protocols. It said that....
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Ayub Medical Complex closes OPDs
Source: Correspondent, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-16
ABBOTTABAD: The Ayub Medical Complex on Thursday closed outpatient departments and began treating only patients needing emergency care to handle the influx of coronavirus patients. Spokesman for the complex Saif Rajput told reporters that elective services had been suspended and surgeries cancelled. He also said the management had restricted the movement of patients and their attendants on the p.....
more >>

Third Covid wave more fatal for medics in KP
Source: Ashfaq Yusufzai, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-16
PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa lost 35 persons including a senior doctor to Covid-19 on Thursday as the third wave continued to kill doctors and other health workers faster than it did during the first two waves of the pandemic. So far, 91 health workers including doctors, nurses and paramedics have died of Covid-19 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Meanwhile, the province’s death toll from the virus c.....
more >>

Traders reject new business timings
Source: Bureau Report, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-16
PESHAWAR: Traders here have expressed their reservations about the decision to close down their shops by 6pm daily as part of the standard operating procedures (SOPs) for containing Covid-19 and demanded of the provincial government to allow the business activities from 8pm to midnight. Representatives of the traders in a joint meeting with Mujeebur Rehman in the chair here on Thursday discussed ..... more >>

Kohat hospitals run short of beds for Covid patients
Source: Correspondent, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-16
KOHAT: With Covid positivity ratio going up and one or two deaths reported daily the district administration here on Thursday urged the people to strictly follow the standard operating procedures (SOPs) to contain the spread of virus. Deputy commissioner Abdur Rehman accompanied by district police officer Sohail Khalid told the people in a video message that there was shortage of beds in almost a..... more >>
10 deaths keep situation alarming
Rawalpindi: Another 10 patients suffering from coronavirus illness, COVID-19 from Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district have died of the illness while another 921 patients have been tested positive from the twin cities in the last 24 hours hinting that the outbreak is much more intense in terms of both morbidity and mortality in this region of the country as compared to the first tw.....
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58 more die from corona
LAHORE:Around 58 more patients died from COVID-19 while 2,711 new infections were confirmed in Punjab province during the last 24 hours. According to report issued by P&SHD, Punjab on Friday, the death toll so far reached 6,851 in Punjab, while confirmed cases became 243,295 in the province. As per the spokesperson for Corona Monitoring Room at P&SHD, 25,871 tests have been conducted in th.....
more >>

2,711 new Covid-19 cases reported in Punjab
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-10
LAHORE - As many as 2,711 cases of coronavirus were reported in Punjab on Friday, while the pandemic claimed 58 precious lives in 24 hours which pushed the death toll to 6,851. According to data shared by the spokesperson of Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department (P&SHD), the number of coronavirus cases in the province reached 243,295. The P&SHD confirmed that 1,347 new ..... more >>

737 corona patients recover in a day
Source: Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-10
LAHORE - Health Department released the status of facilities for COVID-19 patients here on Friday. As per latest statistics, as many as 1,73,028 patients have recovered and returned to their homes so far in the province. In the last 24 hours 737 patients returned to their homes. Out of 6,286 reserved beds for COVID-19 patients, 4,075 are available. In Lahore’s public sector hospitals, 7......
more >>

10 shops sealed over SOPs breach
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-10
LAHORE - The city district administration sealed 10 shops, restaurants, marriage halls and imposed fines on violation of coronavirus-related Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) here on Friday. According to a spokesperson for the district administration, Assistant Commissioner (AC) Cantt Zeeshan Ranjha sealed Ramda Hotel, SPA Hotel, Sarhad Hotel & Restaurant at Gurumangat Road. AC City Fa.....
more >>

4 persons die of Covid-19 in Rawalpindi
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-10
Rawalpindi-Four people died of coronavirus on Friday in different hospitals of city, informed sources. Similarly, 259 patients tested positive of deadly virus, they added. According to sources, Sheikh Muhammad Anees (67) resident of Angatpura, brought to Shifa International Hospital on April 8 and he died on late Thursday night. “Abdul Qadoos (73) resident of Khana Road, died on Fri.....
more >>
10 COVID-19 deaths, 946 cases from twin cities
Rawalpindi: Saturday was the 10th day in the last 15 days with reports of over 920 cases of coronavirus illness, COVID-19 from Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district while earlier in the last one year, the number of patients tested positive for the illness in a day from the twin cities crossed the number of 900 only once, on March 20 this year. COVID-19 claimed another 10 live.....
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Punjab reports 57 corona deaths, 2,628 fresh cases
LAHORE: There is no let up in coronavirus spread as well as causalities, as more 57 fatalities including 31 in Lahore were reported across the province during the last 24 hours taking the provincial tally of death toll to 6,908. Out of 21,184 Covid-19 tests conducted during the last 24 hours, as many as 2,628 fresh virus cases were reported across the province with positivity rate of 12.04 pe.....
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Anti-people policies, Covid-19 pose equal threat to country: JI chief
LAHORE: Chief of Jamaat-e-Islami Siraj ul Haq has said the PTI’s anti-people policies and Covid-19 pose equal threat to the country, adding the three-year time is enough for a government to at least prove its vision and abilities but the incumbent set-up has nothing to show on its credit so far. Talking to party workers here, he challenged the rulers to bring it on record if they did an.....
more >>

Pandemic claims 57 more deaths, 2,628 new cases of virus in Punjab
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-11
LAHORE - As many as 2,628 cases of coronavirus were reported in Punjab on Saturday while the pandemic claimed 57 precious lives in 24 hours which turned the death toll to 6,908. 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 245,923. The P&SHD confirmed that 1,276.....
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Punjab govt issues SOPs for Ramazan
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-11
LAHORE - The Punjab government has issued Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the holy month of Ramazan to control the spread of coronavirus. According to the notification issued by the Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department (P&SHD) on Saturday, citizens below the age of 60 years will be allowed to offer prayers in the mosques by following SOPs. As the citizens above 60 years of.....
more >>

6 persons die of coronavirus in Rawalpindi
Source: Israr Ahmad, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-11
Rawalpindi - Six more persons died of coronavirus in different hospitals of city here on Saturday, informed sources. The number of critical patients also increased in the garrison city hospitals as 226 patients tested positive of deadly virus, they said. On the other hand, the district administration imposed smart lockdown in Lalazar area in the garrison city and Maira Shams in Gujar Khan. .....
more >>
OPD services of four specialities closed in eight Covid-hit dists
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-11
LAHORE: The specialised healthcare and medical education department on Saturday suspended out-patient department (OPD) services of ENT, ophthalmology, dermatology and dentistry as well as elective surgeries in the public sector teaching hospitals of seven coronavirus high-prevalence districts for 10 days. The situation will be reviewed on April 20. The department took the decision to prevent tra.... more >>

6 deaths, 1,041 cases in a day
Rawalpindi: As many as 1,041 patients have been tested positive for coronavirus illness, COVID-19 from Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district in the last 24 hours setting a new record for the second the highest number of cases reported in a day from the twin cities since the advent of coronavirus in Pakistan. Also, it has happened for the third time in the history of COVID-19..... more >>

Beds, ventilators being increased in hospitals: Dr Yasmin Rashid
LAHORE: Punjab Health Minister Dr Yasmin Rashid chaired a meeting to review the situation of Corona Pandemic in the wake of alarming rise in number of patient in ICUs at a meeting at the Chief Minister's Secretariat here on Sunday. The meeting was called on directions from Chief Minister Usman Buzdar. The Health Minister reviewed the current situation of the Corona Pandemic in Punjab ..... more >>

64 die from Covid-19
LAHORE: Around 64 patients died from Covid-19 and another 2,515 positive cases were confirmed in Punjab during the last 24 hours. According to report issued by Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department (P&SHD) on Sunday, the toll of fatalities was raised to 6,972 in Punjab, while confirmed cases of coronavirus reached 248,438 in the province. As per the spokesperson of Corona Monitor..... more >>

Jinnah Hospital OPD shut after rise in corona cases
LAHORE: The Specialized Healthcare and Medical Education Department (SHC&MED) has ordered closure of Out-Patient Department (OPD) of Jinnah Hospital Lahore in view of rising cases of coronavirus in Lahore. Secretary SHC&MED Barrister Nabeel Ahmad Awan said that the staff, doctors and paramedical staff deputed in OPD of Jinnah Hospital would be utilised for the healthcare of corona p..... more >>

Covid vaccination centre inaugurated at FJWU
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-04-12
RAWALPINDI: A coronavirus vaccination centre at Fatima Jinnah Women University was inaugurated by the Punjab law minister on Sunday. Law Minister Raja Basharat hoped that the spread of the virus would be curtailed with the cooperation of the masses in implementing standard operating procedures (SOPs). Rawalpindi Deputy Commissioner (DC) Anwarul Haq gave a detailed briefing to the minister on the a..... more >>
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<tr>
<th>Article</th>
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<tr>
<td>Critically ill patients; Punjab witnesses alarming rise</td>
<td>Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-04-12</td>
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<td>LAHORE: Punjab Health Minister Dr Yasmin Rashid said on Sunday that the province is witnessing an alarming rise in the numbers of critically-ill Covid-19 patients. &quot;We are witnessing an alarming rise in the number of critically ill patients and the numbers of positive cases are getting very high currently,&quot; the health minister said while chairing a high-level meeting to review measures.</td>
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<td>Seven die due to coronavirus in Faisalabad</td>
<td>Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-04-12</td>
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<td>FAISALABAD - Seven more patients died of COVID-19 in the district, while 192 persons tested positive during the last 24 hours. A spokesperson for the Health Department said on Sunday the death toll due to COVID-19 rose to 689 in the district. He said that 1,043 tests for coronaviruses were conducted in public and private sector labs during the same period. He said that so far 10,242 patients had r...</td>
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<td>All resources being utilised to control pandemic, says Health Minister</td>
<td>Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-04-12</td>
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<td>LAHORE - Punjab Health Minister Dr Yasmin Rashid chaired a meeting to review the situation of corona pandemic in the wake of alarming rise in the number of patients in ICUs at the Chief Minister's Secretariat here on Sunday. Present in the meeting were Minister for Industries Mian Aslam Iqbal, Chief Secretary Punjab Jawad Rafique Malik, Additional Chief Secretary Home Momin Agha, Secret...</td>
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<td>64 more deaths, 2,515 new virus infections reported in Punjab</td>
<td>Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-04-12</td>
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<td>LAHORE - As many as 2,515 new cases of coronavirus were reported in Punjab on Sunday while the pandemic claimed 64 precious lives in the last 24 hours, pushing the death toll to 6,972 in the province. According to the data shared by a spokesperson for the Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department (P&amp;SHD), the number of coronavirus cases in the province reached 248,438. The P&amp;SHD c...</td>
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<td>PTI local leader dies of Covid-19</td>
<td>Correspondent, Dawn, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-04-12</td>
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<td>OKARA Former district president of the Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf and its candidate for provincial assembly in 2013 election Chaudhry Azhar Mehmood died of the Covid-19 on Sunday. He was 54. The deceased was laid to rest in native Chak 2/4-L. He remained the union council nazim. He worked a lot to strengthen the PTI in the district and was elevated to the slot of the district president of the party...</td>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
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<td>RTA accelerates operation against Covid-19 SOPs violators</td>
<td>APP, The Nation, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-04-12</td>
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<td>RAWALPINDI - Regional Transport Authority (RTA) Rawalpindi on the directives of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Rawalpindi Anwar-ul-Haq has accelerated its ongoing operation against Covid-19 Standard Operating Procedures violators. According to Secretary, RTA Rawalpindi, Rashid Ali, the authority on the directives of the DC had launched a campaign to ensure implementation of the SOPs. He said the teams o...</td>
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<td>Oxygen supply to hospitals halted due to traffic jams</td>
<td>Our Correspondent, The News, International</td>
<td>2021-04-13</td>
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<td>16 more die from corona</td>
<td>Our Correspondent, The News, International</td>
<td>2021-04-13</td>
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<td>Mafia exploits shortage of injection</td>
<td>Adnan Lodhi, The Express Tribune, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-04-13</td>
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Rawalpindi: As many as 864 new patients have been tested positive for coronavirus illness, COVID-19 from Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district making nearly 19 per cent of all patients reported from Pakistan in the last 24 hours while out of 58 deaths caused by the disease in the country in a day, nine were reported from the region. To date, a total of 85,631 patients have bee.....

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Rawalpindi: Commissioner Rawalpindi Gulzar Hussain Shah has directed the authorities to ensure standard operating procedures (SOPs) regarding anti-COVID-19 at all Ramazan Sasta bazaars according to guidelines issued by the Punjab government. Commissioner directs to ensure COVID-19 SOPs at Ramazan bazaars During a visit to Ramazan Bazaar set up at the double road, he said the promise of prov.....

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LAHORE: The oxygen supply to hospitals has been halted due to traffic jams on roads in the city on Monday. The suspension of oxygen supplies to hospitals has endangered lives of critical patients due to prolonged traffic blockade on inter-city roads and main thoroughfares in the provincial metropolis. The activists of a religious outfit are protesting against the federal government to press.....

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LAHORE: Around 16 COVID-19 patients died and 2,021 new positive cases were confirmed in Punjab during the last 24 hours. According to Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department (P&SHD) report issued on Monday, the death toll reached 6,988, while confirmed cases of coronavirus reached 250,459 in the province. As per the spokesperson for Corona Monitoring Room at P&SHD, 17,755 tests.....

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LAHORE: The Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department on Tuesday announced the extension of smart lockdowns, enforced in Covid-19 hotspots, till April 26 amid rising coronavirus cases. According to the provincial health department, cities with a positivity ratio of more than eight per cent would have a complete ban on outdoor weddings and all celebrations whereas shrines would also remain cl.....

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LAHORE: At a time when Covid-19 is at its peak in Punjab, the supply to hospitals of an injection used to treat patients having serious breathing difficulties has reportedly stopped, forcing them to purchase it from the market at exorbitant prices of over Rs500,000. According to sources in the provincial health department, the Actemra injection, which is very important to stabilise the breathing sys.....

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### Home vaccination for above 80s begins
Source: Our Correspondent, The Economist, 2021-04-13
RAWALPINDI: The Rawalpindi administration has started the facility of vaccination at home for citizens aged 80 and above. The measure has been taken to protect the elderly citizens from a much-contagious and deadly variant of coronavirus, District Health Authority (DHA) Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Faiza Kanwal told The Express Tribune on Monday. She said coronavirus vaccination centres have been....

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### Punjab reports 2021 new Covid-19 cases, 16 fatalities
LAHORE: Out of 17,755 Covid-19 tests conducted during the last 24 hours, as many as 2021 fresh virus cases and 16 fatalities were reported across the province with positivity rate of 11.38 taking the provincial tally of cases to 250,459 and death toll to 6988. With the recovery of 1592 more virus patients, the number of recovered patients in the province has reached to 203960. In Lahore,......

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### Covid-19 claims 58 more lives countrywide
Source: Abdul Rasheed Azad, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-04-13
ISLAMABAD: Pakistan reported 58 more coronavirus-related deaths, while 4,584 new positive cases were registered across the country over the last 24 hours, according to the data released by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Monday. According to latest statistics, the total number of confirmed coronavirus cases has reached 725,602 across the country. In the last 24 hours, a to......

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### CM urges Ulema to educate people about importance of corona SOPs, vaccination
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-13
LAHORE - A delegation of Ulema and religious scholars including Federal Minister for Religious Affairs Pir Noor-ul-Haq Qadri, Provincial Law Minister Raja Basharat, Auqaf Minister Saeed-ul-Hassan Shah and Pir Jalil Ahmad Sharaq-puri called on Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar at his office. Secretaries of Auqaf, Information departments and others were also present. Talking on the occas.....

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### 15 deaths, 765 cases in a day
Rawalpindi: Coronavirus illness, COVID-19 has claimed lives of as many as 15 patients belonging to Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district in the last 24 hours equalling the record for the highest number of deaths from the region in a day that was set on November 27 last year. It is worth mentioning here that it happened for the fourth time in the history of COVID-19 in Pakist.....

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### 21 shops sealed
LAHORE: District Administration Lahore sealed 21 shops on the violation of corona SOPs here on Tuesday. DC Lahore Mudassar Riaz Malik said that a total of 21 shops, stores and cafes were sealed while FIR was also registered on the report of 01 open marriage function. .....
Covid-19 positivity rate declines to 8.52pc in Punjab
Source: Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-04-14
LAHORE: There is no let up in coronavirus spread and causalities, as more 74 fatalities including 38 in Lahore were reported across the province during the last 24 hours taking the provincial tally of death toll to 7052. Out of 27,230 Covid-19 tests conducted during the last 24 hours, as many as 2337 fresh virus cases were reported across the province with positivity rate of 8.52 taking the p.....
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Shopping malls, marriage halls challaned for violating SOPs
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-14
RENALA KHURD - The city district administration, during the ongoing crackdown against corona SOPs violators, checked 326shopping malls, shops, stores and marriage halls sand imposed Rs54,500 fine here on Tuesday. According to a spokesperson for the district administration, the Secretary District Transport Authority Mehr Mohsin Riaz checked various vehicles and imposed Rs4000 fine on four vehicles. Th.....
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Six die of coronavirus in Sargodha last week
Source: Staff Reporter, The Frontier Post, 2021-04-14
SARGODHA - Six people died of coronavirus while 400 new cases were reported in the district during the last week. Talking to the media here on Tuesday, Chief Executive Officer Health Dr Rai Samiullah said the death toll due to COVID-19 reached 162 while total cases 4846 and recoveries 3945 in the district since March 2020. He said that 6,000 tests for coronavirus were conducted during the week. He.....
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158,692 COVID-19 suspects visited corona centers in Rawalpindi so far
Source: APP, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-14
Rawalpindi - Around 158,692 COVID-19 suspects have so far been brought to the health facilities of the district, out of which 21084 cases were tested positive including 19413 from Rawalpindi and 1671 to other districts who were provided with the required treatment and 18016 discharged after recovery. According to the daily situation report issued by the District Corona Management centre, resu.....
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Pindi worst hit by 3rd wave, highest number of cases in a day
Rawalpindi : Rawalpindi district has been worst hit by the third wave of coronavirus illness, COVID-19 outbreak as compared to the first two waves with reports of as many as 5,687 new patients tested positive in the last four weeks along with 138 deaths due to the illness. In the last 24 hours, 395 new patients have been reported from the district which is the highest number of cases repor.....
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Two ATCs closed for 10 days due to COVID-19
LAHORE: Two Anti-Terrorism Courts (ATCs) in Lahore have been closed for 10 days due to corona virus. According to details, the two Anti-Terrorism Courts have been closed for 10 days after Anti-Terrorism Courts Judge Arshad Hussain Bhutta and a court official tested positive for COVID-19. A letter had been written to district and sessions judge Lahore with a request to supervise the ATCs work wherea.....
more >>
79 more fall prey to virus in Punjab
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-15
LAHORE: The Covid-19 death toll reached 7,141 after 79 more patients succumbed to the virus in Punjab during the last 24 hours. Similarly, 2,775 more people tested positive for the virus during the same period in Punjab, taking the total number to 255,571. Of the new positive cases, 1,436 were reported from Lahore alone. Other high infection districts were Rawalpindi, Multan, Faisalabad and Sarg.....

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Javed Latif skips hearing for being Covid positive
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-15
LAHORE: A sessions court was told on Wednesday that PML-N MNA Javed Latif had been tested positive for Covid-19 and could not attend hearing of his bail petition in a case registered against him on charges of inciting people against the state institutions. A counsel for the MNA submitted a medical report of his client and sought a long adjournment in the case. Additional District & Sessions ..... 

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ATCs closed after judge, others contract Covid
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-15
LAHORE: The anti-terrorism courts (ATCs) in Lahore have been closed for 10 days after its administrative judge, Arshad Hussain Bhatti, and other staff members tested positive for Covid-19. A notice pasted at the main gate of the premises reads that the anti-terrorism courts would remain closed till April 23 due to spread of coronavirus among the judge and other staff of the courts. In the meantime.....

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New Civil Aviation Authority steps to curb Covid
Source: Mohammad Asghar, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-16
RAWALPINDI: The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) has introduced fresh measures making it mandatory for all passengers travelling to Pakistan to submit complete information through “Pass Track App” as part of the continuing measures to curb the spread of Covid-19 in the country. It will also be helpful in streamlining data submission and tracking through relevant platforms for passengers.....

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13 educational institutes sealed after COVID-19 cases reported
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-15
ATTOCK - As many as 13 educational institutes have been sealed for one week by the district administration owing to appearance of corona positive cases among the teachers and students. The step has been taken to control the rising cases. Meanwhile, number of positive cases in the district has reached upto 1741. Those institutes which have been sealed include Government Girls High School Formali , ..... 

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22 more coronavirus patients die in Faisalabad
Source: Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-15
FAISALABAD - As many as 22 more patients died of the COVID-19 in the district during past two days. A spokesperson for the health department said on Wednesday that the death toll due to COVID-19 rose to 713 in the district. He said that 1,484 tests for coronavirus were conducted in public and private sectors labs, out of these 153 were tested positive during last 24 hours. He said that so far 10,9.....

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ATCs in Lahore closed for ten days due to coronavirus
Source: Staff Report, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-15
LAHORE - Anti-Terrorism courts (ATCs) in Lahore have been closed for ten days due to Coronavirus. According to details, the two ATCs have been closed for ten days after ATC Judge Arshad Hussain Bhutta and a court official tested positive for COVID-19. A letter had been written to District and Sessions Judge Lahore with a request to supervise the ATCs work, whereas Additional Sessions Judge Hamid H.....

Violation of corona SOPs goes unchecked in public transport
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-15
LAHORE- The violation of coronavirus related Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) in public transport were going unchecked in the provincial metropolis. Non-compliance of the SOPs including the use of face-masks, hand-sanitizers and social distancing was witnessed in the inter and intra-city transport. Transporters as well as commuters were also found exhibiting irresponsible behaviour in imp.....

3 persons die of COVID-19 in Rawalpindi
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-15
Rawalpindi-Three more persons died of coronavirus in different hospitals of the city here on Wednesday, informed sources. As many as 403 patients tested positive as well, they said. According to details, Lala Bibi, 75, resident of city area, was brought to Rawalpindi Institute of urology on April 3 and died on Wednesday. They said Wasif Hussain, 65, resident of Wahdat Colony Peshawar Road, .....
Covid-19 lockdown; Markets in Karachi remain closed
Source: Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-04-10
KARACHI: All the major wholesale and retail markets remained closed here on Friday after the Sindh government imposed another Covid-19 lockdown on businesses mainly on Fridays and Sundays. It is the second such lockdown in the city, barring trade and commercial activities on Fridays and Sundays. However, the trade centers will function as per routine during other days. The provincial gov.....
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Shops sealed over violations of SOPs in District South
The District South’s administration took action over violations of Covid-19 standard operating procedures (SOPs) in various areas of the district on Friday and Saturday. On the directives of Deputy Commissioner Irshad Sodhar, Assistant Commissioner Civil Lines Waleed Baig sealed shops near Bilawal Chowrangi late on Friday night. According to details shared by the deputy commissioner&.....
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Covid kills six more as another 466 test positive
Six more people have died due to Covid-19 and 466 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 4,529 in the province. Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said in his daily situation report on the health emergency on Saturday that 8,685 samples were tested in the past 24 hours, resulting in ..... 
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In new world post Covid, CIEC continues with old ways
Source: Saifdar Rizvi, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-04-11
KARACHI: In 2019, the evaluation and subsequent grading of Sindh's private universities was interrupted for the year as the world reeled from the aftermath of a deadly pandemic. After a gap of around a year and a half, the Charter Inspection and Evaluation Committee (CIEC), a body formed to grade and monitor Sindh's public and private universities and recommend chartering of private universit.....
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COVID-19 claims 6 more lives in Sindh, infects 466 others
Source: APP, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-04-11
KARACHI: As many as six more patients of Coronavirus lost their lives overnight while 466 new cases emerged across the province. Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued here on Saturday, added that with demise of 6 more COVID-19 patients lifted the death toll to 4,529 that constituted 1.7 percent death rate. Shah said that out of 8,685 tested samples 466 cases were.....
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Corona vaccination; PBF chief lauds govt’s decision to register whole population
KARACHI: Chairman of National Business Group and President Pakistan Businessmen and Intellectuals Forum (PBF), Mian Zahid Hussain has said decision of the government to register the whole population for vaccination is laudable. However, the government should start registration of the whole population immediately as it is a matter of grave concern, he said. Mian Zahid Hussain said that s.....
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COVID-19 claims six more lives in Sindh, infects 466 others
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-11
KARACHI - As many as six more patients of coronavirus lost their lives overnight while 466 new cases emerged across the province. Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued here on Saturday, added that with demise of 6 more COVID-19 patients lifted the death toll to 4,529 that constituted 1.7 percent death rate. Shah said that out of 8,685 tested samples 466 cases were detected.....
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Covid kills one more as another 376 test positive
One more person has died due to Covid-19 and 376 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 4,530 in the province. Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said in his daily situation report on the health emergency on Sunday that 9,404 samples were tested in the past 24 hours, resulting in 376.....
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Sindh reports 376 new cases of Covid-19
Source: Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-04-12
KARACHI: Sindh has recorded 376 new cases of Covid-19 and one more death overnight, Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah told in a statement issued here on Sunday. He added the death toll lifted to 4,530 that constituted 1.7 percent death rate. The CM said 9,404 samples were tested which detected 376 cases that constituted 5.4 percent current detection rate. He added that so far 3,396,790 ..... 
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COVID-19 claims one more life, infects 376 others
Source: Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-12
KARACHI - As many as one more patient of coronavirus died overnight lifting the death toll to 4,530 and 376 new cases emerged when 9,404 tests were conducted. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued here on Sunday. He added that one more patient of COVID-19 lost his life lifting the death toll to 4,530 that constituted 1.7 percent death rate. Murad Ali Sha.....
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Business, inter-city transport remain closed due to surge in COVID-19 cases
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-12
HYDERABAD - In order to contain spread of COVID-19 to spread further, all business activities and inter-city transport remain suspended in Hyderabad on Sunday as per the decision of the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) and Sindh government. As per the directives of the competent authority, all business activities and inter-city/inter-provincial public transport had to remain close.....
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Federal cabinet told to decide Covid-19 jab price in two weeks
Source: Ishaq Tanoli, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-13
KARACHI: The Sindh High Court on Monday expressed resentment with the federal cabinet for not fixing the rate of a Covid-19 vaccine and directed it to determine the price till April 27. The SHC also extended its earlier interim stay order till the next hearing against the withdrawal of an exemption notification issued by the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (Drap) about the Covid-19 vaccine ..... 
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Sindh reports no Covid death
No one has died due to Covid-19 during the past 24 hours in Sindh, but 348 more people have tested positive for the disease. The death toll due to the viral coronavirus infection is at 4,530 in the province. Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said in his daily situation report on the health emergency on Monday that 8,642 samples were tested in the past 24 hours, resulting in 348 people, or.....

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SHC gives Centre 10 days to fix price of Sputnik V
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-04-13
KARACHI: The Sindh High Court directed the federal government on Monday to fix the price for the Russian coronavirus vaccine, Sputnik V, within 10 days over a plea filed by a private pharmaceutical company seeking the release of its consignment of the vaccine. A single-judge bench headed by Justice Nadeem Akhtar was informed by the assistant attorney-general during the hearing that the federal g.....

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Jazz initiates Covid-19 vaccination drive for employees
KARACHI: Pakistan's number one 4G operator and the largest internet and broadband service provider, Jazz has initiated an organization-wide COVID-19 vaccination drive, which includes its permanent and contractual employees. Keeping in view the limited availability of vaccines in the country, Jazz will be administrating the vaccination in phases, starting first with the front-line commer.....

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No COVID death reported in Sindh
Source: Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-13
KARACHI - Fortunately no death stemming from coronavirus was reported in last 24 hours; however, 348 new cases emerged when 8,642 tests were conducted. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued from CM House on Monday. He added that till last Sunday the number deaths was 4,530. Shah said that 8,642 samples were tested which detected 348 cases that const.....

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Emirates flight EK2021 highlights UAE’s impressive vaccination drive
Source: Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-13
KARACHI - Emirates' one-of-a-kind flight EK2021 proudly made a journey across the different emirates to celebrate the UAE’s remarkable progress in vaccinating its citizens and residents from COVID-19 through a national vaccination programme that has administered close to 9 million vaccines doses to date. The special flight, which carried fully vaccinated crew and passengers onboard, wa.....

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Sindh extends Covid-19 lockdown till May 16
The Sindh home department issued a new notification on Tuesday with a partial modification, extending the Covid-19 lockdown till May 16. The notification reads, “In continuation and partial modification of this department’s order of even number dated March 31, 2021, and in pursuance of the decisions at the NCOC forum communicated vide letters, the Government of Sindh, in exerci.....

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Sindh reports no death from Covid second day in a row
No one has died due to Covid-19 during the past 48 hours in Sindh, but 366 more people have tested positive for the disease. The death toll due to the viral coronavirus infection is at 4,530 in the province. Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said in his daily situation report on the health emergency on Tuesday that 10,176 samples were tested in the past 24 hours, resulting in 366 people, ..... 
more >>

Vaccination programme; Emirates flies across states to celebrate progress
Source: Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-04-14
KARACHI: Emirates’ one-of-a-kind flight EK2021 proudly made a journey across the different emirates Tuesday, to celebrate the UAE’s remarkable progress in vaccinating its citizens and residents from COVID-19 through a national vaccination programme that has administered close to 9 million vaccines doses to date. The special flight, which carried fully vaccinated crew and passenger.....
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Sindh extends ban on wedding functions till May 16
Source: Agencies, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-04-14
KARACHI: The Sindh government on Tuesday announced it was extending coronavirus restrictions in the province, including a complete ban on wedding functions, till May 16, 2021. According to the latest notification from the Home Department of the Government of Sindh, “Broader lockdowns” will be imposed in areas with eight percent coronavirus positivity ratios. The provincial go.....
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366 new cases of COVID-19 detected, no death reported
Source: Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-14
KARACHI - Fortunately no death stemming from coronavirus reported; however, 366 new cases emerged when 10,176 tests were conducted during last 24 hours. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued from CM House on Tuesday. The CM said that 10,176 samples were tested which detected 366 cases that constituted 3.6 percent current detection rate. He ad.....
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Secretary LG for awarding COVID-19 allowance to KMC healthcare employees
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-14
KARACHI - The Provincial Secretary Local Government, Syed Najam Ahmed Shah has asked the administrator Karachi to formulate a special policy for awarding COVID-19 allowance to the Karachi Metropolitan Corporation’s (KMC) health staff. He issued the directives in a meeting with a delegation of KMC Healthcare Employees who called on the Sindh LG secretary on Tuesday. The delegation compri.....
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Covid kills three more as another 470 test positive
Three more people have died due to Covid-19 and 470 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 4,533 in the province. Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said in his daily situation report on the health emergency on Wednesday that 9,923 samples were tested in the past 24 hours, res.....
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Chinese envoy meets PM Imran, pledges 'utmost help' to tackle Covid-19 surge
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-04-15
SINDH/ KARACHI: Chinese Ambassador Nong Rong called on Prime Minister Imran Khan on Thursday and pledged Beijing's utmost to help Pakistan deal with the latest Covid-19 surge. "During the meeting, views were exchanged on China's experience of poverty alleviation, Covid-19 situation, and bilateral relations," said an official statement. PM Imran, the communique added, congratulate.....
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470 new Covid infections detected in Sindh
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-04-15
KARACHI: Sindh reported three coronavirus-related deaths on Wednesday, when 470 new Covid-19 cases were detected in the province, according to a statement issued by Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on the day. The CM said following the recent deaths and new cases, the province Covid-19 death toll had climbed to 4,533, and the infection tally to 270,309. According to him, 262 new cases w.....
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Study finds Brazil, SA, UK variants of Covid-19 in Karachi
Source: Faiza Ilyas, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-16
KARACHI: The United Kingdom, South Africa and Brazil variants of the coronavirus might be responsible for the current severe third wave of Covid-19 in Pakistan, says a recent study. The study, which analysed 3,501 positive samples, found that these variants were responsible for causing 54 per cent of new Covid-19 infections reported from December 2020 to February 2021 in Karachi. According to th.....
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International News

**Countries News**

**UK travel ban**
Source: EDITORIAL, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-10
THE UK’s decision to impose restrictions on travellers from Pakistan has no doubt come as a blow to British Pakistanis who will face considerable hurdles if they wish to travel between the two countries to visit their families. Not only do returning British residents from Pakistan have to now quarantine for 10 days at a hotel, they must also pay almost £2,000 for the stay and mandatory C.....

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**WHO slams vaccine imbalance between rich, poor nations**
Source: AFP, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-10
GENEVA: The World Health Organisation on Friday condemned the chasm between rich and poor nations in accessing coronavirus vaccines, saying more than a dozen countries were still completely unprotected. WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus — a fierce critic of wealthy countries buying up vaccine supply for themselves — blasted the scarcity of doses available for poorer nations. His t.....

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**EU vaccine probe deepens Europe’s Covid woes**
Source: AFP, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-10
PARIS: Europe’s stuttering vaccine rollout faced multiple hurdles on Friday as EU regulators said they were reviewing side effects of the Johnson & Johnson shot and France further limited its use of the AstraZeneca jab. Across Europe populations are facing some of the world’s toughest anti-virus measures, yet the epidemic refuses to be curbed. All of France is subjected to restri.....more >>

**Bahrain releases dozens of prisoners after Covid cases**
Dubai - Dozens of detainees, including longterm political prisoners, have been released after protests by their families following Covid-19 cases in their jail, activists said Saturday. They said authorities had vowed to release 126 prisoners and 73 other detainees but only 166 had walked out so far from the jail in Faw, in the east of the kingdom. They included Mohamed Jawad, 75, an uncle of.....more >>

**Vaccine shortages hitting poor countries**
Source: AP, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-11
LONDON: As many as 60 countries might be stalled at the first shots of their coronavirus vaccinations because nearly all deliveries through the global programme are blocked until as late as June. The COVAX initiative is designed to provide vaccines to countries lacking the clout to negotiate on their own for scarce supplies. In the past two weeks, only 2 million doses were cleared for shipment to.....more >>

**China considers mixing Covid-19 vaccines to boost protection rate**
Source: Reuters, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-04-12
BEIJING: China’s top disease control official has said the country is formally considering mixing Covid-19 vaccines as a way of further boosting vaccine efficacy. Available data shows Chinese vaccines lag behind others including Pfizer and Moderna in terms of efficacy, but require less stringent temperature controls during storage. Giving people doses of different vaccines is one way to i.....more >>
From Sputnik-1 to Sputnik V: Russian scientific achievements
Source: AFP, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-04-12
MOSCOW: Russia boasts a rich history of scientific invention across a wide variety of fields, from the Sputnik satellite to the coronavirus vaccine of the same name. On the 60th anniversary of Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin becoming the first man in space, here are some of the country's most notable scientific and technological achievements: Sputnik satellite in one of the most significant .... more >>

‘Up to 80 percent’ in Sicily refuse AZ vaccine: President
Source: Agencies, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-12
Rome - Up to 80 percent of people offered the AstraZeneca Covid-19 vaccine in Sicily refuse it out of fears over its safety, according to the southern Italian region’s president Nello Musumeci. Public confidence in the Anglo-Swedish jab has been badly shaken by reports linking it to rare, but potentially fatal, blood clots, and by conflicting recommendations on its use. “In Sicil..... more >>

20 arrested at Finnish anti-Covid curbs protest
Source: Agencies, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-04-12
Helsinki- Several hundred people protested against Finland's Covid-19 restrictions in Helsinki on Saturday without permission, leading to 20 arrests when they refused to disperse. Up to 300 people gathered in the centre of the capital and authorities moved to break up the protest since it was not authorised. Public gatherings of more than six people are banned in Helsinki due to the pa..... more >>

The top killers
Source: news Desk, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-12
Covid-19 was the third leading cause of death in the United States last year, after heart diseases and cancer, reports CNN. ..... more >>

IMF warns more funding needed to safeguard global economy
Source: AFP, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-12
Warning that the recovery from the pandemic crisis is not yet over, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) called on policymakers to continue to spend money to shore up the global economy and ensure no one is left behind. Without that aid, and additional financing from both the Fund and the World Bank, developing nations and the poor in many countries could struggle to rebound from the downturn ca..... more >>

Pandemic has stirred extremism, hit poverty fight, says US report
Source: Anwar Iqbal, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-12
WASHINGTON: The Covid-19 pandemic has encouraged negative trends across the globe — stirring nationalist sentiments and skepticism while stalling progress in poverty reduction and gender inequality, warns a US intelligence report. “Covid-19 has shaken long-held assumptions about resilience and adaptation and created new uncertainties about the economy, governance, geopolitics, and tec..... more >>
India bans export of Remdesivir as coronavirus rages on
Source: Reuters, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-12
NEW DELHI: India on Sunday banned the export of anti-viral drug Remdesivir and its active pharmaceutical ingredients as demand rocketed due to a record surge in Covid-19 infections, leading to a crippling shortages in many parts. Authorities have blamed the ferocious resurgence of the virus mainly on crowding and a reluctance to wear masks. Still, religious gatherings have continued and Prime Mi......

PM joins UN chief in seeking debt relief for developing nations
Source: Anwar Iqbal, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-13
UNITED NATIONS: Prime Minister Imran Khan joined UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres on Monday in urging creditors to provide debt suspension, relief and liquidity to help developing nations cope with the negative economic impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. The prime minister, who made the opening statement at a special segment of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in New York, underline.....

WHO warns pandemic at ‘critical point’ as cases surge in South Asia
Source: AFP, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-13
LONDON: The Covid-19 pandemic has entered a critical phase as infections exponentially increase despite widespread measures aimed at stopping them, the WHO warned on Monday, with record case numbers in South Asia triggering tough new restrictions. However, Britons enjoyed the freedoms of a pint and a haircut for the first time in months as curbs eased, illustrating how fast-vaccinating countries .....
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<th>Title</th>
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<td><strong>Ramazan begins under shadow of coronavirus</strong></td>
<td>AFP, Dawn, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-04-14</td>
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<td>JAKARTA: Surging coronavirus cases in many parts of the world overshadowed the start of the Muslim holy month of Ramazan on Tuesday, with festivities curtailed by contagion fears. Europe, the worst-hit continent, passed the threshold of one million coronavirus deaths, while South Asian countries battle a spiraling outbreak of the disease that has crippled the global economy. Vaccination drives a.....</td>
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<td><strong>WHO, other agencies urge countries to suspend sale of live wild mammals</strong></td>
<td>Reuters, Dawn, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-04-14</td>
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<td>GENEVA: International agencies including the World Health Organisation urged countries on Tuesday to suspend the sale of live wild mammals in food markets, warning they may be the source of more than 70pc of emerging infectious diseases in humans. The guidance, aimed at ensuring the global food system is safe and sustainable, follows a WHO-led mission to Wuhan, China, to investigat.....</td>
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<td><strong>India, big vaccine exporter, now seeks imports as Covid cases soar</strong></td>
<td>Reuters, Dawn, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-04-14</td>
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<td>NEW DELHI: India is to fast-track emergency approvals for Covid-19 vaccines that have been authorised by Western countries and Japan, paving the way for possible imports of Pfizer, Johnson &amp; Johnson, and Moderna shots. The move, which will drop the need for companies to do small, local safety trials for their vaccines before seeking emergency approval, follows the world’s biggest surge .....</td>
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<td><strong>US recommends ‘pause’ for J&amp;J vaccine over clot reports</strong></td>
<td>AP, Dawn, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-04-14</td>
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<td>WASHINGTON: The US is recommending a pause in using the single-dose Johnson &amp; Johnson Covid-19 vaccine to investigate reports of potentially dangerous blood clots. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Food and Drug Administration said on Tuesday they were investigating unusual clots that occurred 6 to 13 days after vaccination. The clots occurred in veins that drain blood fr.....</td>
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<td>MUMBAI/AHMEDABAD: India’s new coronavirus infections hit a record level on Wednesday with Mumbai set to be locked down at midnight, but hundreds of thousands of pilgrims still thronged to a religious festival in the north of the country. The country reported 184,372 cases in the 24 hours, health ministry data showed, taking total infections to 13.9 million. Deaths rose by 1,027, for .....</td>
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<td><strong>Denmark cuts AstraZeneca vaccine altogether</strong></td>
<td>AFP, Dawn, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-04-15</td>
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<td>COPENHAGEN: Denmark on Wednesday announced it would stop using the AstraZeneca Covid-19 vaccine altogether, becoming the first European country to do so over suspected rare but serious side effects. “Denmark’s vaccination campaign will go ahead without the AstraZeneca vaccine,” Danish Health Authority director Soren Brostrom told journalists, despite recommendations from the Wor.....</td>
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Climate change makes Indian monsoon stronger, more erratic: study
Source: AFP, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-15
PARIS: Climate change is making India’s monsoon stronger and more chaotic, scientists said on Wednesday, warning of potential severe consequences for food, farming and the economy affecting nearly a fifth of the world’s population. A new analysis comparing more than 30 climate models from around the world predicts more extremely wet rainy seasons, which sweep in from the sea from rou.....
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Sputnik V vaccine does not cause blood clots: Russia
Source: AFP, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-15
MOSCOW: The developer of Russia’s Sputnik V coronavirus vaccine said on Wednesday its jab did not cause blood clots, a potential side effect that has disrupted rollouts in several Western countries. The United States has recommended pausing its rollout of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine after one person out of nearly seven million Americans died from a rare type of clot in the brain folio.....
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India’s coronavirus cases hit record amid disregard for precautions
Source: Reuters, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-15
MUMBAI: India’s new coronavirus infections hit a record level on Wednesday with Mumbai set to be locked down at midnight, but hundreds of thousands of pilgrims still thronged to a religious festival in the north of the country. The country reported 184,372 cases in the last 24 hours, health ministry data showed, taking total infections to 13.9 million. Deaths rose by 1,027, for a toll of 17.....
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Beds, oxygen fall short amid Covid surge in India
Source: Reuters, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-04-16
NEW DELHI: Many Indian hospitals were scrambling for beds and oxygen as Covid-19 infections surged to a new daily record on Thursday, with a second wave of infections centred on the rich western state of Maharashtra. India’s tally of total infections is second only to the United States, with experts blaming everything from official complacency to aggressive variants. The government has blam.....
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<td><strong>Webinars News</strong></td>
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**Industrial workers get monetary support of Rs. 75b amid Covid-19: Aliya**  
Source: News Desk, Pakistan Observer, 2021-04-11  
Parliamentary Secretary for Commerce, Textile, Industries and Production Aliya Hamza Malik has said that the Federal Government has disbursed Rs. 75 billion among the industrial workers in the aftermath of Covid-19. She said this while speaking at Pre-budget symposium and launch of SDPI's report on ‘Supporting export competitiveness amid Covid-19 in Pakistan’, held by Sustainabl.....[more >>](#)

**Power tariffs need to go up, says IMF**  
ISLAMABAD: The International Monetary Fund's (IMF) resident chief in Pakistan, Teresa Daban Sanchez, has said that the government would have to hike electricity tariff to ensure cost recovery of power generation and to grant long overdue autonomy to the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) in line with the best international practices. “Pakistan remains committed to the goals of the IM.....[more >>](#)

**Pakistan urged to adjust policies**  
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-04-15  
ISLAMABAD: An adjustment in Pakistan’s policies and reforms, increase in revenue collection, ambitious tax policy reforms and broad-based fiscal structural reforms are the need of hour. These views were expressed by International Monetary Fund (IMF) Country Representative Teresa Daban Sanchez during a keynote session with the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) on Wednesday. She.....[more >>](#)

**EFF programme open to adjustment**  
Source: Tahir Amin, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-04-15  
ISLAMABAD: The duration and size of the International Monetary Fund's (IMF's) Extended Fund Facility (EFF) programme continues to be the same, however it will be adjusted in the event of a need arising as a consequence of to third Covid-19 wave. This was stated by Teresa Daban Sanchez, IMF Resident Representative during a keynote session with Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Executive Direc.....[more >>](#)

**IMF can't dictate country's legislation, institutions, says Daban Sanchez**  
ISLAMABAD - The International Monetary Fund (IMF) on Wednesday clarified that it could not dictate country’s legislation and the institutions but just play an advisory role upon a request. About autonomy of regulators and a perception that is being compromised under IMF program, Ms Teresa Daban Sanchez, the Country Representative of IMF in Pakistan reiterated that all the reforms that h.....[more >>](#)

**Reforms programme under EFF to Pakistan is on right track: IMF’s Country Representative**  
Source: APP, Daily Times, 2021-04-15  
The Country Representative of International Monetary Fund (IMF) in Pakistan Ms Teresa Daban Sanchez has said that the Extended Fund Facility (EFF) to Pakistan is all set to achieve some major goals including revenue base fiscal sustainability. It is being achieved through the strategy by removing exemptions and privileges, enhancing social and productive spending, coordination with provinces, and.....[more >>](#)
IMF AGAIN ASKS GOVT TO INCREASE POWER TARIFF
Source: DNA News, DNA News, 2021-04-15
ISLAMABAD, APR 14 (DNA) – The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has once again asked the government to increase the electricity prices. IMF Resident Representative Teresa Daban Sanchez said it is necessary to increase the electricity tariff rates to lessen the losses of the power sector and added that there were other ways as well to give subsidies to the poor and middle-class people. She ..... more >>

Pakistan on track to achieve fiscal sustainability: IMF
Source: Staff Report, Pakistan Today Profit, 2021-04-15
ISLAMABAD: Pakistan is all set to achieve some major goals including fiscal sustainability under the Extended Fund Facility (EFF), International Monetary Fund (IMF) Country Representative Teresa Daban Sanchez said on Wednesday. Speaking at a webinar at the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), Sanchez said it is being achieved through the strategy by removing exemptions and privileges, ..... more >>