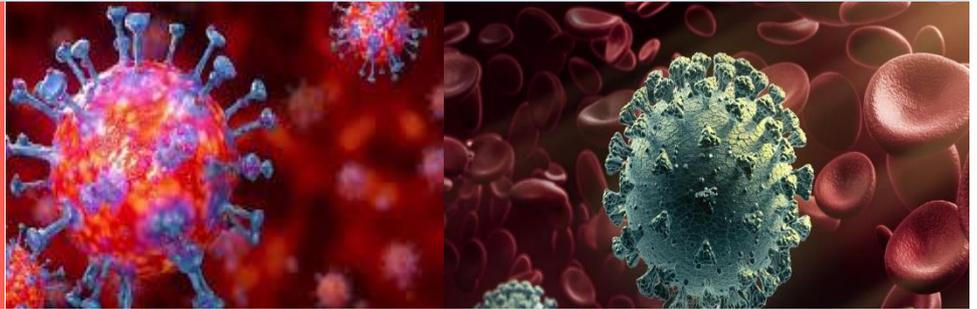


E-Newsletter on COVID-19



Vol. 02, No, 42



Issue: 22-24 May, 2021

.....About Newsletter

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

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

Newspapers Covered:

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

Contents.....

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Op-Eds

[Articles/Editorials/News comments02](#)

National News

• Islamabad	• Balochistan
• Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	• Gilgit Baltistan
• Sindh	• AJK
• Punjab	

International News

• Countries News	• Donors News
----------------------------------	---------------

Other SDPI Engagements

• Webinars News	• Researchers Articles
• Research Study	• Related Articles
• SDPI Related News	• Other SDPI Engagements

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Op-Eds/Articles/Editorials

Op-Eds/Articles/Editorials

Tackling Covid-19

Source: [Arbab Usman](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-05-22

What will be the shape of Pakistan when it emerges out of the pandemic? How long will Covid take and how will Pakistan be able to ride the wave? What will be the future of the GDP that has already been impacted? Has the government's response been effective in mitigating the spread of the virus? Among many others, these are some of the questions that are on the mind of every sensible Pakista.....[more >>](#)

Panda on the Olive Tree – I

Source: [Saud bin Ahsen](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-05-22

In very introduction of his book, China-Pakistan Axis, author Andrew Small mentioned that when a US delegate once confronted a Chinese delegate about Beijing's uncompromising support for Pakistan, the Chinese General Xiong Guangkai reportedly responded with a heavily-loaded sarcastic remark: "Pakistan is our Israel". Andrew S characterises this remark as part explanation, part sa.....[more >>](#)

Covid courts

Source: [A.G. Noorani](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-23

FROM ancient times, courts have been at loggerheads with executive power. It continues in modern times. Right now, India is undergoing a trial of strength between ministers and judges. It is the governments' (central and in the states) duty to protect citizens from Covid-19. India has a written constitution with a chapter on fundamental rights which are enforceable by the supreme court, and[more >>](#)

What is the real number of deaths due to Covid-19?

Source: [Dr Rana Jawad Asghar](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-22

There are 3.5 million reported deaths globally due to Covid-19 and Pakistan has reached a grievous milestone of 20,000. This figure included two close friends of mine — both medical doctors. For most of us, statistics are just numbers we read daily and ignore but behind each number is a human life and a family's future. Epidemics have ravaged regions before. Just recently, Ebola had ra.....[more >>](#)

Inside the race to find a Covid-19 treatment pill

Source: [Deena Beasley](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-22

In early 2020, as a new deadly coronavirus began spreading around the world, Pfizer Inc assembled what it called a "SWAT team" of scientists and chemists to identify a potential treatment to fight Covid-19. The US pharmaceutical giant, which had begun exploring a vaccine, also wanted to produce a pill that could stop the infection from progressing, similar to how the widely-used T.....

[more >>](#)

Countering anti-vaccination rumours

Source: [Editorial](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-22

The best insurance against the spread of Covid-19 pandemic is vaccination, yet many are hesitant to avail the chance because of misinformation/rumours about the efficacy and side-effects of different vaccines being administered across this country. That though is hardly surprising considering that even polio vaccination is resisted by certain elements, claiming it to be a Western ploy to try and r.....[more >>](#)

Vaccinating Teachers

Source: Editorial, [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-22

The education ministry's consideration to prioritise the vaccination of the teachers could prove to be decisive in the re-opening of academic institutions and the welfare of teachers as well. One of the sectors that have been hit the worst due to the pandemic is the education sector. The government's decision to prioritise teachers is in accordance with the plan of the United Nati.....

[more >>](#)

Low vaccination levels

Source: Editorial, [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-23

NEWS that the government is opening vaccinations for people over 30 is indeed welcome, but the greater challenge of millions of unvaccinated citizens remains. Around 3.5m people have been vaccinated in the country thus far — a low and foreboding number given that we have clocked in over 20,000 recorded deaths and frequently see oscillating patterns in positivity ratios in major cities. Moreo.....

[more >>](#)

Panda on the Olive Tree — 2

Source: Saud bin Ahsen, [Daily Times](#), 2021-05-23

China's main interests in Israel are advanced technologies and Israel's strategic location. As a developing nation, China has a lot of domestic challenges—pollution, desertification, an aging population, etc. Israel is a global powerhouse in technologies and innovation and can help China solve these problems. China is particularly interested in Israel's expertise in biotech.....

[more >>](#)

National News

Islamabad

By brushing audit report under the carpet: Govt can't hide COVID corruption: Bilawal

Source: [Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-05-22

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhutto Zardari said on Friday the government could not be able to hide its corruption with making efforts to bury the audit report of Auditor General of Pakistan (AGP) on COVID-19 expenditures. "Even efforts to bury the AGP damning report on severe irregularities of COVID-19 funds would fail as it would be impossible for the Pr.....[more >>](#)

Corona kills 102 more in 24 hours

Source: [App](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-05-22

ISLAMABAD: The national tally of active COVID-19 cases was Friday recorded 63,229 with 3,070 more people testing positive and 6,021 recovering during the 24 hours. One hundred and two patients died during the 24 hours, out of which 89 were under treatment in hospital and 13 out of the hospital, according to the National command and Operation Centre (NCOC). Most of deaths occurred in the Punjab fo.....[more >>](#)

Schools reopen from 24th

Source: [news Desk](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-05-22

LAHORE/ ISLAMABAD: The School Education Department Punjab on Friday announced reopening of all public and private schools in selected 16 districts of the province from May 24. All schools in these districts will reopen for four days a week staggering two days attendance of each child i.e. the schools will be allowed to call students on alternative days with 50% attendance starting from May 24. T.....[more >>](#)

One more perishes to corona, 271 new cases reported

Source: [Muhammad Qasim](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-05-22

Islamabad : Coronavirus illness, COVID-19 claimed one life from Islamabad Capital Territory while no patient died of the disease from Rawalpindi district in the last 24 hours though as many as 271 new patients have been tested positive for the illness from the region including 221 cases from ICT and 50 from Rawalpindi. To date, a total of 1,684 patients have died of COVID-19 from the twin cities[more >>](#)

Pakistan starts local production of anti-Covid vaccine, NA told

Source: [Muhammad Faisal Kaleem](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-05-22

Parliamentary Secretary for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination Dr Nausheen Hamid on Friday informed the National Assembly that Pakistan has started local production of anti-Covid vaccine. Responding to various questions during the question hour, Nausheen said the first batch of CanSino vaccine was currently being manufactured at the National Institute of Health (NIH), which wo.....[more >>](#)

Vaccination for people over 30 begins today

Source: [Aamir Yasin](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-22

ISLAMABAD: Inoculation against Covid-19 of people aged 30 years and above is set to start from Saturday (today) as the National Assembly was informed that local production of the anti-coronavirus vaccine has begun. In a tweet, Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Asad Umar, who also heads the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), said: "In today's (F.....[more >>](#)

3 million people in Pakistan lacking IDs may miss out on Covid-19 jobs

Source: [Anadolu Agency](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-22

A prove-your-identity condition may leave three million people in the country without coronavirus vaccines, including mainly unregistered refugees, jeopardising Pakistan's fight against the pandemic. Currently, only Pakistani nationals or immigrants who have either computerised national identification cards (CNIC) or official refugee status can receive the jobs. Pakistan has so far vaccinate.....

[more >>](#)

Pakistan hosting World Environment Day laudable, say environmentalists

Source: [Jamal Shahid](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-22

ISLAMABAD: It is a matter of great pride that Pakistan has been selected to host the main event for World Environment Day (WED) this year, which will be observed on June 5. This was highlighted by environmentalists during an online meeting. Members of the advisory body of International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN-Pakistan) from all provinces and Azad Jammu and Kashmir participated in t.....

[more >>](#)

CAA makes coronavirus test mandatory for diplomats, families

Source: [Mohammad Asghar](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-22

RAWALPINDI: The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) has made the Covid-19 test mandatory for diplomats, diplomatic staff and their families traveling to Pakistan. They would also undergo a rapid antigen test (RAT) upon arrival in the country. In case of a positive RAT result, the diplomats will be required to undergo mandatory indoor quarantine in their respective embassies or home. The Ministry of

[more >>](#)

Capital reports one Covid-19 death, 221 new cases

Source: [Aamir Yasin | Munawer Azeem](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-22

ISLAMABAD: A Covid-19 patient died and 221 more cases were detected in the capital on Friday. Officials of the capital administration said the death toll from the virus had reached 744. The deceased, a male, was in the age group of 60-69 and a resident of F-10. In the last 24 hours, 3,897 tests were conducted and 130 males and 91 females were found infected. The positivity rate remained 5.6 per

[more >>](#)

New timings, closing days for businesses notified in Islamabad

Source: [Munawer Azeem](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-22

ISLAMABAD: The capital administration on Friday announced new timings and closing days for business and commercial activities to prevent the spread of Covid-19. According to a notification issued by Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Hamza Shafqaat, in exercise of powers under the Epidemic Diseases Control Act 1958 and in compliance with the directions of the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC.....

[more >>](#)

102 more deaths reported; Countrywide Covid-19 death tally crosses 20,000 mark: NCOC

Source: [Abdul Rasheed Azad](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-22

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's Covid-19 death tally has crossed 20,000 mark and reached 20,089 as the country reported 102 more deaths due to the coronavirus, the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) said. According to the NCOC, over the past 24 hours, the health authorities across the country conducted 51,528 Covid-19 tests, detected 3,070 cases, with a positivity rate of almost six per.....

[more >>](#)

Pakistan records 4,007 new COVID cases, 88 deaths in 24 hours

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-22

A total of 88 deaths by COVID-19, in the last 24 hours has been reported in Pakistan. The positivity ratio has surged to 897,468. The mortality rate across the nation has risen to 20,177 on Saturday. It has been revealed by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) that in the last 24 hours, a total of 4,007 persons has tested positive for novel coronavirus. A comparative analysis of t.....

[more >>](#)

Government decides to vaccinate teachers

Source: [Rahul Basharat](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-22

Islamabad - Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training (FE&PT) on Friday said that all public and private schools in the districts with less than 5 pc coronavirus (COVID-19) positivity ratio will re-open from May 24th. Statement released by the Ministry said that the decision has been taken following the instructions of the National Command and Operations Center (NCOC) given

[more >>](#)

Pakistan has started local production of anti-Covid vaccine, NA told

Source: [Javaid-ur-Rahman](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-22

ISLAMABAD - The government in Friday's National Assembly sitting introduced 'The Protection of Journalists and Media Professionals Bill, 2021', which is aimed to ensure accountability for all forms of threats, coercion and violence against journalists and media professionals. The 'Journalists Protection Bill' was laid before the House, as even the Opposition side.....

[more >>](#)

Vaccinating people without CNICs huge challenge: Asad Umar

Source: [Ikram Junaidi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-23

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Asad Umar on Saturday said it was a huge challenge to vaccinate those residents of the country who did not possess computerised national identity cards (CNICs), but the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) was trying to devise a mechanism to have them inoculated as well. Meanwhile, Pakistan has joined the list of 30.....

[more >>](#)

Three succumb to Covid-19 in capital

Source: [Aamir Yasin | Munawer Azeem](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-23

ISLAMABAD: Three more deaths from Covid-19 and 146 new cases were reported in the capital on Saturday. Officials of the capital administration said the deceased included a female aged 20-29 years and two males in the age group of 60-69 and 80-89 years. They were residents of G-10, G-7 and Tarnol. With these three deaths, the toll from Covid-19 in the capital increased to 744. In the last 24 hou.....

[more >>](#)

FO takes up vaccine issue with Saudi govt

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-23

The Foreign Office on Saturday said it had taken up with the Saudi government the issue of the kingdom denying entry to Pakistani Hajj pilgrims, who were vaccinated against Covid-19 with Chinese jabs. It asked the Saudi authorities to register Chinese vaccines including Sinopharm and Sinovac in their list of approved jabs. The Foreign Office informed the kingdom that it was difficult to obtain vac.....

[more >>](#)

Pakistan for inclusion of some Chinese vaccines on list approved by S. Arabia

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-23

ISLAMABAD: Pak-istan has proposed inclusion of some of the Chinese vaccines used in the country in the list of vaccines approved by Saudi Arabia as mandatory vaccines for travel to the Kingdom for visit, Hajj, and Umrah. Responding to media queries about the mandatory vaccines for travel to Saudi Arabia for visit, Hajj and Umrah, Foreign Office spokesperson Zahid Hafeez Chaudhri said that Pak.....

[more >>](#)

Spouse of Indian non-diplomatic staff tested positive for Covid-19

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-23

ISLAMABAD: A spouse of an Indian non-diplomatic staff has tested positive for COVID-19 after crossing into Pakistan. Indian media reported on Saturday that the spouse of the non-diplomatic staff entered Pakistan with a negative corona virus report to join work, but slight infection was detected in the rapid test. As per protocols, Indian staff members who enter Pakistan will stay quarantine f.....

[more >>](#)

PM's aide visits Covid vaccination centre

Source: [Press Release](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-23

ISLAMABAD: PTI MNA & Special Assistant to Prime Minister Ali Nawaz Awan on Saturday visited the Covid-19 vaccination center established in Dr Akbar Niazi Teaching Hospital. He was received by Director Hospital Col Ghulam Mujtaba Abbasi – TI (M) (retd) with his team and presented a bouquet. Director hospital briefed him about the facilities provided in vaccination center and explaine.....

[more >>](#)

ICCI urges govt for extending business timings to 10pm

Source: [Agencies](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-23

ISLAMABAD - The Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) on Saturday urged the government to extend the business timings in markets from current 8pm to 10pm and for food outlets and restaurants up to 12 midnight so that business activities could flourish smoothly that would help in reviving the overall economy. Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry President, Sardar Yasir Ilyas

[more >>](#)

88 more corona patients die in 24 hours

Source: [App](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-05-23

ISLAMABAD: The national tally of active COVID-19 cases was Saturday recorded 63,436 with 4,007 more people testing positive and 3,712 recovering during the 24 hours. Eighty-eight corona patients have died during the 24 hours, out of which 80 were under treatment in hospital and eight out of the hospital, according to the latest update issued by the NCOC. Most of deaths occurred in the Punjab fol.....

[more >>](#)

Vaccination for age group 30-40 begins

Source: [App](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-05-23

ISLAMABAD: The National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) has announced vaccination of people falling in the age bracket of 30-40 from Saturday. In a tweet, the NCOC urged the people falling in the above age bracket to register themselves by sending their CNIC number to 1166. On receiving the SMS, the recipient may visit the mentioned vaccination center on the given date (or afterwards) to get.....

[more >>](#)

Covid-19 positivity ratio falls to 4.96pc with 62,620 active cases

Source: [news Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-05-24

Pakistan's coronavirus cases have surpassed the grim milestone of 900,000 after 3,084 new infections emerged during the last 24 hours, the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) said on Sunday. According to the NCOC, the Covid-19 claimed the lives of 74 more people across the country over the last 24 hours, taking the death toll from the disease to 20,251. Meanwhile, the coronavirus

[more >>](#)

2m more doses of Sinovac vaccine land

Source: [news Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-05-24

A special flight of Pakistan International Airlines (PIA), PK-6853, airlifted another batch of two million doses of Sinovac vaccine from Beijing to Islamabad on Sunday. PIA Country Manager for China said that a special flight had also transported a consignment of one million doses of Sinovac vaccine last Sunday. The Chinese authorities have pledged to continue uninterrupted supply of vaccine to h.....

[more >>](#)

With 4,007 new infections, total Covid-19 cases near 900,000

Source: [news Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-05-23

Pakistan reported 4,007 new coronavirus cases on Saturday, taking the total caseload in the country to 900,000. According to the data provided by National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), at least 88 more people succumbed to the virus on Saturday, pushing the national tally to 20,177. The coronavirus positivity rate in Pakistan stood at 6.43% with 63,436 active cases across the country. On S.....

[more >>](#)

WHO urged to help resolve vaccine acceptability issue

Source: [Ikram Junaidi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-24

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Medical Association (PMA) has urged the World Health Organisation (WHO) to lay its role in getting all vaccines acceptable by countries which have made it mandatory for visitors to be inoculated by certain brands only. On the other hand, as the number of positive cases among passengers from the UAE and Bahrain is increasing, the National Command and Operation Centre (.....

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3M in Pakistan lacking IDs may miss out on Covid-19 jabs

Source: [Agencies](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-05-23

A prove-your-identity condition may leave 3 million people in Pakistan without coronavirus vaccines, including mainly unregistered refugees, jeopardizing the country's fight against the pandemic. Currently, only Pakistani nationals or immigrants who have either computerized national identification cards (CNIC) or official refugee status can receive the jabs. The country of over 207 million.....

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Islamabad, Rawalpindi report less than 5pc positivity rate

Source: [Aamir Yasin | Munawer Azeem](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-24

ISLAMABAD: The federal capital and the district of Rawalpindi on Sunday reported less than five per cent positivity rate and there was also no death reported from Covid-19. In Islamabad, 156 people tested positive out of 3,761 tests with the positivity rate standing at 4.9 per cent against 3.98pc on Saturday. With 70 new cases, the positivity rate further declined to 4.1pc in the Rawalpindi dist.....

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88 more corona patients die in 24 hours

Source: [App, The News, International](#), 2021-05-23

ISLAMABAD: The national tally of active COVID-19 cases was Saturday recorded 63,436 with 4,007 more people testing positive and 3,712 recovering during the 24 hours. Eighty-eight corona patients have died during the 24 hours, out of which 80 were under treatment in hospital and eight out of the hospital, according to the latest update issued by the NCOC. Most of deaths occurred in the Punjab fol.....

[more >>](#)

Pakistan urges S Arabia to approve Chinese vaccines

Source: [news Desk, The News, International](#), 2021-05-23

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has requested Saudi Arabia to include Chinese vaccines to its list of approved COVID-19 shots for visitors traveling to the kingdom to perform Hajj and Umrah, Foreign Office spokesperson Zahid Hafeez Chaudhry said on Saturday. "Pakistan has taken up with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia the issue of vaccines which are mandatory for travel to Saudi Arabia for Umrah and Hajj,&r.....

[more >>](#)

NIH set to roll out locally-produced Chinese COVID vaccine

Source: [Jamila Achakzai, The News, International](#), 2021-05-24

ISLAMABAD: The state-run National Institute of Health has begun the production of a single-dose Chinese coronavirus vaccine believing the initiative will help meet the country's vaccine needs. The officials told 'The News' that a total of 124,000 CanSino jabs had been developed with China's support and they would be rolled out in local packaging in the current week. Pakista.....

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Indian woman with deadly corona variant enters Pakistan

Source: [Muhammad Saleh Zaafir, The News, International](#), 2021-05-24

ISLAMABAD: A non-diplomat staff of the Indian High Commission contracting the deadly Indian variant of coronavirus entered Pakistan on Saturday due to the Indian authorities 'error'. The Indian High Commission (IHC) has been asked to place the woman under mandatory quarantine along with 12 others, who traveled from India to Pakistan and then to Islamabad. India has yet to offer any wo.....

[more >>](#)

Corona pandemic: Positivity ratio down in Punjab by 3.13pc

Source: [News Report, The News, International](#), 2021-05-24

ISLAMABAD: The corona positivity ratio in the Punjab has come down by a large margin, according to a report released by the Punjab Health Department on Sunday. The positivity rate has come down to 3.13% in Punjab overall, whereas, in Lahore, the rate has reduced to 2.42%, reports Geo News. In the 24 hours, 29,121 coronavirus tests were conducted in Lahore out of which 914 tested positive. As pe.....

[more >>](#)

One more dies of COVID-19, 220 more get infected

Source: [Muhammad Qasim, The News, International](#), 2021-05-24

Islamabad : Another confirmed patient of coronavirus illness, COVID-19 from Islamabad Capital Territory died of the illness though the virus did not claim any life from Rawalpindi district in the last 24 hours while 220 new patients were tested positive for COVID-19 from the twin cities that took the total number of patients so far registered from the region to well over 104,000. It is important

[more >>](#)

Mass vaccination only solution to fight virus: Faisal

Source: [App, The News, International](#), 2021-05-24

Islamabad : Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Health Dr Faisal said that mass vaccination is the only way to fight COVID virus and government would further ramp up the vaccination drive to meet the target of five lakhs doses per day. Pakistan has achieved another milestone in its vaccination drive as the cumulative number of COVID-19 vaccine doses administered in the country crossed the

[more >>](#)

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Educational activities resume in 21 districts of KP on Monday

Source: [Bureau Report, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-22

PESHAWAR: The Elementary and Secondary Education Department, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, on Friday announced that all government and private educational institutions would resume educational activities in 21 districts of the province from Monday. According to a notification issued here, educational institutions will be opened in staggered fashion under strict standard operating procedures. The districts.....

[more >>](#)

Covid conundrum in K-P: Irregularities haunt vaccination programme

Source: [Umer Farooq, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-22

PESHAWAR: With the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (K-P) government racing to make more adults eligible for the Covid19 vaccine, public interest in the jab that is said to reduce the risk of being infected, appears to be increasing. But this growing interest comes with its own set of challenges. One irregularity that haunts the program is the out of turn vaccination of people who are currently ineligible to re.....

[more >>](#)

Mass Covid vaccination centres to open in four KP districts next week

Source: [Ashfaq Yusufzai, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-23

PESHAWAR: The health department is setting up mass coronavirus vaccination centres in Peshawar, Charsadda, Mardan and Swat districts for the speedy inoculation of the people against the virus as the National Command and Operation Centre, the country's Covid-19 nerve centre, has promised uninterrupted vaccine supplies to the province. The centre at the Khyber Medical University, Peshawar, wi.....

[more >>](#)

Oxygen plants being set up in 10 districts for serious patients

Source: [Ashfaq Yusufzai, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-24

PESHAWAR: The health department is installing 10 oxygen plants to cater to the needs of Covid-19 patients besides strengthening intensive care services for seriously-ill or wounded patients in the district headquarters hospitals of the province. "The installation process would be completed by end of June this year, which will not only help in survival of Covid-19 patients and also others cr.....

[more >>](#)

Punjab

Challenges of online teaching discussed

Source: [Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-05-22

Rawalpindi : Allama Iqbal Open University (AIU) Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Zia ul-Qayyum visited Federal Government Educational Institutions (Cantonment/Garrison) Directorate. He was warmly welcomed by Director General FGEIs (C/G) Directorate along with its faculty. He was apprised about the challenges of online teaching due to COVID pandemic to seek guidance and assistant for further improvement.....

[more >>](#)

Covid surge seen in Multan, Faisalabad, Bahawalpur

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-22

LAHORE: With 64 more Covid-related deaths on Friday in Punjab, the positivity rate of the coronavirus increased to 38.4 in Multan, 15.4 in Bahawalpur and 11.2 in Faisalabad while it dropped to 6.9 in Lahore. Following a massive surge in the positivity rate of infection, the Punjab government has imposed a lockdown on six localities of Multan -- Bilal Colony, Shujahabad Road, Chowk Shaheedan, Babar.....

[more >>](#)

Toba DHQ to have oxygen storage tank

Source: [A Correspondent](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-22

TOBA TEK SINGH: An oxygen storage tank will be installed on a self-help basis at the DHQ Hospital having 15 tons storage capacity. According to a District Health Authority official, the project will ensure uninterrupted oxygen supply to patients, specially Covid victims. He said local philanthropists were requested to donate funds for the purpose and so far Rs8.3m had been collected, including R.....

[more >>](#)

Covid cases surge after Eid lull

Source: [Adnan Lodhi](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-22

LAHORE: The rate of coronavirus infection in Punjab has started rising again after a respite during the Eidul Fitr holidays. At least 64 deaths including 35 deaths in Lahore were reported in the past 24 hours as Punjab recorded 898 new cases of the pandemic. The total number of confirmed cases has reached 332,000 in the province while 9,704 peoples died in province including 3,975 deaths in Lahore.....

[more >>](#)

Theatre owners issued notices over lockdown violation

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-22

LAHORE: Financially distressed artistes across the province remain in difficulty as theatres and cinemas could not be allowed to open. According to a notification issued by Lahore commissioner's office, only five theatres in Lahore will be allowed to operate with SOPs while the remaining theatres will stay closed until June 15. Reportedly, strict action will be taken against anyone who viola.....

[more >>](#)

Faisalabad airport conducts Covid-19 testing for 180 passengers

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-22

FAISALABAD - The corona rapid tests of 180 passengers were conducted at Faisalabad International Airport on Friday. Assistant Commissioner Saddar Umar Maqbool supervised the process of tests of passenger, who had arrived at airport from Bahrain by two air lines. All the passengers were allowed to go home after their tests reports were found negative. 182,532 vaccinated against corona As many.....

[more >>](#)

Colleges, varsities to remain closed in Lahore, 22 other dists of Punjab

Source: [Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-23

LAHORE: The Punjab Higher Education Department (HED) on Saturday extended closure of colleges and universities in 23 districts of the province due to increase in the number of coronavirus cases. According to a notification of the HED, "Pursuant to the decisions taken in the meeting of National Command & Operation Centre (NCOC) held on May 19, all public and private colleges in following.....

[more >>](#)

Ventilator occupancy in Punjab drops significantly

Source: [Asif Chaudhry, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-23

LAHORE: The ventilator occupancy in Lahore and the rest of Punjab has dropped considerably to 35 and 33pc, respectively, showing a visible decline in the number of critical patients of the Covid-19. According to some media reports, the occupancy had reached almost 100pc about a month back. The health experts also confirmed that the burden of the patients, including those requiring high-flow oxyg.....

[more >>](#)

90 Covid patients admitted to Pindi hospitals

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-23

RAWALPINDI: One person died of Covid-19 and 90 Covid patients were admitted to different hospitals of Rawalpindi on Saturday. According to the daily situation report issued by the District Health Authority, 12 Covid patients were brought to the Holy Family Hospital, 15 to the Benazir Bhutto Hospital, 36 to the Institute of Urology, 22 to the Fauji Foundation Hospital, three to the Bilal Hospital

[more >>](#)

1,057 new cases, 35 fatalities; Corona positivity rate drops to 4.56pc in Punjab

Source: [Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-23

LAHORE: The corona positivity rate in Punjab has declined to 4.56 percent, as out of 23,152 Covid-19 tests conducted during the last 24 hours across the province, as many as 1057 fresh virus cases and 35 more fatalities were reported taking the provincial tally of cases to 333,057 and death toll to 9739. With the recovery of 1617 more virus patients, the number of recovered patients in the pr.....

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90 COVID-19 patients admitted in city hospitals

Source: [APP, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-23

RAWALPINDI - Around 202,024 COVID-19 suspects have so far been brought to the quarantine facilities of the district, out of which 23,794 cases were tested positive who were provided with the required treatment while results of 178,230 were declared negative. According to the daily situation report issued by District Health Authority on Saturday, 90 COVID-19 confirmed patients were admitted to.....

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Covid-19 cases on decline in Punjab: Yasmin Rashid

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-23

RAWALPINDI: Punjab Health Minister Dr Yamin Rashid said on Sunday that Covid-19 cases were declining throughout the province, with 520 patients on oxygen beds and only eight on ventilators. While visiting the Rawalpindi Institute of Urology, Rashid said that Rawalpindi's Covid-19 positivity ratio had dropped down to 3.5%. She added that out of 2,000 available oxygen beds only 520 were in use in La.....

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Firdous urges people to get vaccinated

Source: [Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2021-05-23

GUJRANWALA: Special Assistant to Chief Minister Punjab for Information Dr. Firdous Ashiq Awan visited Gujranwala Saturday and inaugurated a Coronavirus vaccination center for media representatives at District Council Hall. Talking to journalists, she said the Punjab government was speeding up vaccination process to eradicate the virus, and for frontline workers the inoculation was in full swing.

[more >>](#)

4 more die of coronavirus, 229 new cases reported

Source: [Muhammad Qasim, The News, International](#), 2021-05-23

Rawalpindi : Coronavirus illness, COVID-19 has claimed another four lives from Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district in the last 24 hours while as many as 229 new patients have been tested positive for the illness that has taken tally to 103,983 from the region. To date, a total of 1,688 patients have died of COVID-19 from the twin cities while 95,543 have so far recovered from the

[more >>](#)

Punjab plans to vaccinate 140,000 people daily, says Yasmin Rashid

Source: [App, Daily Times](#), 2021-05-24

Punjab Minister for Primary and Secondary Health Dr Yasmeen Rashid Sunday said that medical oxygen generators would be provided to all teaching hospitals of the province in the next month in view of the increasing demand for medical oxygen. Talking to media persons during her visit to the Rawalpindi Institute of Urology (RIU), the Minister said that Oxygen is the most necessary cure to the contag.....

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Flouting Covid SOPs- Ignorant people will doom us all

Source: [Dr Mehreen Riaz, Daily Times](#), 2021-05-23

People are seldom following Covid SOP's as markets reopen. Scores of people can be seen without masks, as if Eid took away all the Covid. It is hard to understand how this nation will survive if the virus resurges. Tired and stressed doctors in the periphery have horrific stories to tell. Some doctors claim that the situation is worse even in the private hospitals, where Covid patients with.....

[more >>](#)

Implementation of SOPs led to decline in cases: minister

Source: [Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-24

RAWALPINDI: Punjab Health Minister Dr Yasmeen Rashid on Sunday termed strict implementation of the standard operating procedures (SoPs) the main reason behind the steady decline in Covid-19 cases. "Today, for the first time, the number of patients was less than one thousand as 901 cases were reported in Punjab along with 29 deaths and 28,973 tests were conducted. We are at a very comfortabl.....

[more >>](#)

Man dies after Covid jab

Source: [The Newspaper's correspondent, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-24

GUJRANWALA: A man died after he was vaccinated at a corona vaccination centre here on Sunday. According to deceased's family, Tariq (50) along with his wife went to corona vaccination centre at Arts Council Hall. As soon he was administered vaccine, his condition worsened. He was shifted to Gujranwala DHQ hospital where he expired. District health officer (DHO) Dr. Soofia Bilal told the m.....

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Covid infections decline across Punjab

Source: [Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-24

LAHORE: The coronavirus infection cases have begun reducing in Punjab and in the high prevalence Lahore and Rawalpindi districts primarily due to strict implementation of smart lockdown and SOPs. The Punjab health department recorded 901 new coronavirus infection cases and 29 deaths in the province during the last 24 hours. Of 901 new cases across the province, 314 have been reported from Lahore.....

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Oxygen generators to be provided to hospitals next month: Dr Yasmeen Rashid

Source: [App, The News, International](#), 2021-05-24

Rawalpindi : Punjab Minister for Primary and Secondary Health Dr Yasmeen Rashid Sunday said that medical oxygen generators would be provided to all teaching hospitals of the province in the next month in view of the increasing demand for medical oxygen. Talking to media persons during her visit to the Rawalpindi Institute of Urology (RIU), the minister said that Oxygen is the most necessary cure

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Sindh

About 3m in Pakistan lacking IDs may miss out on COVID-19 jabs

Source: [Anadolu Agency, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-22

KARACHI: A prove-your-identity condition may leave 3 million people in Pakistan without coronavirus vaccines, including mainly unregistered refugees, jeopardizing the country's fight against the pandemic. Currently, only Pakistani nationals or immigrants who have either computerized national identification cards (CNIC) or official refugee status can receive the jabs. The country of over 207 mil.....

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Sindh Covid-19 restrictions to remain in place for two more weeks

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-22

KARACHI: The Sindh government decided on Saturday to retain the current restrictions in the province, amid a surge in the Covid-19 cases, for another two weeks. The decision was reached at a meeting of the coronavirus taskforce led by Sindh Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah. Murad told the meeting that the highest number of 24,299 samples were tested in Sindh yesterday. As a result, 2136 new cases were.....

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Sindh sees 22 Covid fatalities, over 2,000 new cases

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-22

KARACHI: The pandemic claimed 22 more lives in Sindh, which reported over 2,000 fresh infections on Friday. According to a statement issued by the Chief Minister's House on Friday, 2,136 persons were diagnosed with the coronavirus when 24,299 samples were tested, indicating a positivity rate of 8.8 percent. The provincial pandemic death toll soared to 4,891 with the recent deaths, said CM.....

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Arts Council Karachi opens up vaccination facility for KPC members, media workers

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-22

The Arts Council in Karachi Saturday stated that it is now providing a Covid-19 vaccination facility to members of the Karachi Press Club (KPC). "The journalist community along with their families can get vaccinated in the Arts Council's vaccination Center," said President Arts Council Mohammad Ahmed Shah. PHOTO: EXPRESS This decision applies to all individuals employed within

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Sindh govt extends Covid-related restrictions by two more weeks

Source: [Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-23

KARACHI: The Provincial Task Force on coronavirus, keeping in view the rising trend of new cases and increasing death rate, on Saturday decided to continue with the ongoing restrictions for the next two weeks with strict standard operating procedures (SOPs) across the province. The meeting, presided over by Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah at CM House here, was attended by Provincial Ministers

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Sindh govt extends Covid-related restrictions by two more weeks

Source: [Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-23

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3m without IDs may miss out on Covid-19 jobs

Source: [Anadolu Agency, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-23

KARACHI: A prove-your-identity condition may leave three million people in the country without coronavirus vaccines, including mainly unregistered refugees, jeopardising Pakistan's fight against the pandemic. Currently, only Pakistani nationals or immigrants who have either computerised national identification cards (CNIC) or official refugee status can receive the jobs. Pakistan has so.....

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SMBs turn to digital platforms to fight Covid

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-23

KARACHI: The impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the economy has forced the small and medium-sized businesses (SMBs) to go for digital platforms in order to avoid closure and stay afloat, according to a Facebook survey. The SMBs in Pakistan reported higher rates of closure by 28% compared with regional countries, rising from 23% in October and dropping from 38% in May last year, according to the.....

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Teams will be sent to industrial areas to vaccinate workers: Wahab

Source: [Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-23

KARACHI: Government of Sindh Spokesman, Advisor to CM on Environment and Law, Barrister Murtaza Wahab has said that teams will go to the industries located in the industrial areas of the city and vaccinate the workers against Covid-19. The majority of people in Karachi work in industrial areas, which is why the Sindh government has decided to introduce corona vaccine in collaboration with ind.....

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Sindh takes stock of Covid-19 situation; Ongoing restrictions to continue for next two weeks

Source: [Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-23

KARACHI: The Provincial Task Force on Coronavirus, keeping in view the rising trend of new cases and increasing death rate, has decided to continue the ongoing restrictions for the next two weeks with strict Standard Operational Procedures (SOPs) all over Sindh. A meeting chaired by Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah was held here at CM House on Saturday. The provincial ministers, Dr Az.....

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SAI launches vaccination drive

Source: [N H Zuberi](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-23

KARACHI: SITE Association of Industry has launched vaccination of industrialists and workers in collaboration with Sindh government. According to the guideline, SAI directed the members to register the persons to be vaccinated by sending CNIC number through SMS at 1166. Once the verification code is received, send the list of persons to be vaccinated to the secretary-general of SITE Asso.....

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COVID restrictions to continue for next two weeks in Sindh

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-23

KARACHI - The Provincial Task Force on Coronavirus keeping in view the rising trend of new cases and increasing death rate has decided to continue the ongoing restrictions for the next two weeks with strict Standard Operational Procedures (SOPs) across the Sindh province. The meeting was presided over by Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah at CM House on Saturday. The provincial mi.....

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COVID claims eighteen more lives

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-23

KARACHI - As many as 18 more patients of coronavirus died overnight lifting the death toll to 4,909 and 1,411 new cases emerged when 19,149 tests were conducted. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued on Saturday. He added that 18 more patients of COVID-19 lost their lives lifting the death toll to 4,909 that constituted 1.6 percent death rate.

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Arts Council extends vaccination facility for members of KPC

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-23

KARACHI -The Arts Council of Pakistan Karachi on Saturday started the facility of immunisation against coronavirus to the journalist members of Karachi Press Club (KPC) and their families. The journalist community along with their families can get vaccinated from the COVID-19 Vaccination Centre at Arts Council of Pakistan Karachi, said President Arts Council Ahmad Shah. The facility will be availa.....

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Sindh educational institutions to remain closed till further orders

Source: [Safdar Rizvi](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-23

KARACHI: Amid rising coronavirus cases in Sindh, the provincial government has decided to extend the closure of schools that were shut on April 26. Sindh Education Minister Saeed Ghani said in a statement on Sunday that on-campus classes in all public and private educational institutions will remain suspended due to the alarming Covid-19 situation. He said 50 per cent of school staff including t.....

[more >>](#)

Sindh's COVID restrictions to stay in place for two more weeks

Source: [Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-05-23

KARACHI: On the recommendations of the provincial task force on COVID-19, Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Saturday announced that the coronavirus restrictions will stay in place for two more weeks due to the rise in the number of infection cases observed after Eidul Fitr. The provincial government has also decided to keep educational institutions closed until the COVID-19 situation im.....

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Stocks to track budget stimuli, virus spike

Source: [Javed Mirza](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-05-23

Loosening Covid clampdown and loudening political noise kept the market in yo-yo mode in week, while it is seen highly sensitive to budgetary stimuli and virus situation in the days to come, dealers said. Week-on-week, KSE-100 Shares Index gained 1.6 percent or 740 points to close at 45,914.98 points. Brokerage Arif Habib Limited in a note said after long Eid Holidays, the market commenced on a

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Tight restrictions return to Sindh as Covid cases surge: CM

Source: [news Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-05-24

Restrictions are being tightened in Sindh in view of increasing coronavirus cases and standard operating procedures (SOPs) cannot be relaxed at the moment. Sindh Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah announced this in a press conference on Sunday along with medical experts and representatives of doctors' organisations. He said that the coronavirus situation in the province has taken an alarming tu.....

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International News

Countries News

Death toll from COVID-19 so far could be 6-8m: WHO

Source: [News Report](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-05-22

GENEVA: Official death tolls from the COVID-19 pandemic are likely to be a "significant undercount", the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Friday, estimating that the true figure of direct and indirect deaths could be two to three times higher, a British wire service reported. Presenting its annual World Health Statistics report, the WHO estimated that total deaths from the COVID-.....[more >>](#)

IMF says ending Covid-19 pandemic possible at cost of \$50bn

Source: [Reuters](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-22

WASHINGTON: The International Monetary Fund on Friday unveiled a \$50 billion proposal to end the COVID-19 pandemic by vaccinating at least 40% of the population in all countries by the end of 2021 and at least 60% by the first half of 2022. Doing so, IMF officials say, would inject the equivalent of \$9 trillion into the global economy by 2025 due to a faster resumption of economic activity, w.....[more >>](#)

Another 2 million doses of Sinovac shots flown in from China

Source: [APP](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-23

BEIJING: Pakistan International Airlines (PIA)'s special flight PK-6853 airlifted another batch of 2 million doses of Sinovac vaccine from Beijing to Islamabad on Sunday. Last Sunday, another flight PK-6852 had also transported a consignment of 2 million doses of Sinovac jabs procured from China to fight the ongoing wave of the Covid-19 pandemic in Pakistan, Qadir Bux Sangi, PIA Country Mana.....[more >>](#)

The perils of premature victory

Source: [Hammad Sarfraz](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-23

DELHI: For weeks, a monstrous second wave of the novel coronavirus has been ravaging India. After overwhelming healthcare workers and claiming mass casualties in the country's biggest cities, the surge in Covid-19 is now decimating its rural heartland. And as India gasps for oxygen, there are warnings now of an 'inevitable' third wave. The Express Tribune had reached out earlier to.....[more >>](#)

Two Covid shots effective against India variant

Source: [Reuters](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-23

A double dose of Covid-19 vaccines is almost as effective against the fast-spreading variant of the coronavirus first identified in India as it is against Britain's dominant strain, English health officials said on Saturday. Britain's health minister said the data was groundbreaking and he was increasingly hopeful that the government would be able to lift more Covid restrictions next mon.....[more >>](#)

Germany serves up Covid jabs in the company canteen

Source: [AFP](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-05-24

It's well before midday but chemical technician trainer Ralf Scharf is already heading to the company canteen. And lunch is the last thing on his mind. He's here to get a Covid-19 jab, as his German employer Evonik Industries joins a push to ramp up the country's immunisation drive by including company doctors in the effort. "You can get vaccinated without hardly any wait.....[more >>](#)

Pandemic offers southern Italians chance to return home

Source: [AFP](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-05-24

Sipping a craft beer on a warm spring evening in Catania, Sicily, Corrado Paterno Castello spares a thought for friends and colleagues he left behind in Milan, 1,000 kilometres (600 miles) north. "Today, between meetings, I had a swim at the beach," the 29-year-old entrepreneur told AFP, with a beaming smile. "The quality of life you have here is very different from what you ex.....

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India start-ups eye pandemic profits

Source: [AFP](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-05-24

After dealing with two coronavirus funerals in two weeks, Raj Sharma was too grief-stricken to negotiate a third with profiteering hearse drivers and crematoriums, so he turned to one of the many new businesses that have sprung up around India helping struggling people while also turning a tidy profit. Sharma — not his real name — was reeling from the loss of a third friend when he he.....

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The European Covid certificate, a user's guide

Source: [AFP](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-05-23

It has been through a series of name changes and much scientific and political discussion, but the "EU digital Covid certificate" comes into use on July 1. How will it use data on coronavirus vaccinations, tests and immunity to usher in a return to summer tourism and non-essential travel across the European Union? What does the certificate record? Often colloquially referred to d.....

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Will India's Covid catastrophe hurt Modi?

Source: [AFP](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-05-23

India is suffering a coronavirus catastrophe with millions of infections and nearly 300,000 dead but it is likely to have a limited impact on the political fortunes of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Here's why. How bad is the situation? A massive surge in cases has overwhelmed the health system in many areas. Officially, the death toll is nearing 300,000. But many experts say the true f.....

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Countries urge broader patent waivers than just Covid vaccines

Source: [AFP](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-05-23

Dozens of countries have revised a proposal at the WTO for patent waivers for medical tools needed to combat Covid, insisting it must be broader than just vaccines, non-governmental organisations said Saturday. More than 60 countries have presented a revision of their text before the World Trade Organization on ditching intellectual property protections for Covid-19 jabs and other medical tools w.....

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India's coronavirus death toll passes 300,000, 3rd highest in world

Source: [AP](#), [Dawn](#), [Islamabad](#), 2021-05-24

India crossed another grim milestone on Monday of more than 300,000 people lost to the coronavirus as a devastating surge of infections appeared to be easing in big cities but was swamping the poorer countryside. The milestone, as recorded by India's health ministry, comes as slowed vaccine deliveries have marred the country's fight against the pandemic, forcing many to miss their sho.....

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Former aide says UK's Johnson lied over Covid response

Source: [AFP](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-05-24

London: Ahead of a much-anticipated hearing into Britain's coronavirus response, former chief adviser Dominic Cummings has accused Prime Minister Boris Johnson of lying about pursuing a strategy of herd immunity when the pandemic first hit. Cummings is due to give evidence to the House of Commons select committees on health and science on Wednesday, and has already suggested he has a crucia.....

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Other SDPI Engagements

A Research Study

Indiscriminate implementation of laws against tobacco products demanded

Source: [INP](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-05-23

The tobacco lobby in Pakistan has become so powerful due to its connections in the power corridors that it has been demanding tax relaxations in the name of illicit trade in the country, revealed a research study titled “Regional Tobacco Tax Regime and Its Implications for Health”, conducted by Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI). The study found that the excise duty impos.....[more >>](#)

Tobacco industry seeks tax relaxations in the name of ‘illicit trade’: SDPI

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder](#), [Islamabad](#), 2021-05-23

ISLAMABAD: The powerful tobacco industry is demanding tax relaxations from the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) in the name of illicit trade in the country, according to a latest study of the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI). This is revealed in a research study titled, “Regional Tobacco Tax Regime and Its Implications for Health” that was conducted and released by Sustai.....[more >>](#)

Tobacco lobby demands tax relaxations in the name of illicit trade: study

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Pakistan Today](#), 2021-05-23

ISLAMABAD: The tobacco lobby in Pakistan has become so powerful due to its connections in the power corridors that it has been demanding tax relaxations in the name of illicit trade in the country. This is revealed in a research study titled “Regional Tobacco Tax Regime and Its Implications for Health” that was conducted and released by Sustainable Development Policy Institute [SDPI][more >>](#)

Tobacco lobby demands tax relaxations in the name of illicit trade – Research Study

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation](#), [Islamabad](#), 2021-05-23

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Webinar News

Tax evasion in tobacco industry results a loss of billions of rupees to the national economy

Source: [Web Desk](#), [Telecoalert](#), 2021-05-24

Federal Parliamentary Secretary for Health, Dr Nausheen Hamid, has said that the tobacco taxation and related health issues need constant monitoring systems and hence, the federal government is committed to come up with such systems. She said this while speaking at the webinar 'Fiscal intervention for health policy; Advocating the case of imposing higher taxes on Tobacco[more >>](#)

DR HAMID SAYS CONSTANT MONITORING SYSTEM ON TOBACCO CONSUMPTION IS ON THE CARD

Source: [DNA News](#), [DNA News](#), 2021-05-24

Islamabad, MAY 24 – Federal Parliamentary Secretary for Health, DrNausheen Hamid, has said that the tobacco taxation and related health issues need constant monitoring systems and hence, the federal government is committed to come up with such systems. She said this while speaking at the webinar 'Fiscal intervention for health policy; Advocating the case of imposing higher taxes on[more >>](#)

DR HAMID SAYS CONSTANT MONITORING SYSTEM ON TOBACCO CONSUMPTION IS ON THE CARD

Source: [DNA](#), [Daily Islamabad Post](#), 2021-05-24

Islamabad, MAY 24 – Federal Parliamentary Secretary for Health, Dr Nausheen Hamid, has said that the tobacco taxation and related health issues need constant monitoring systems and hence, the federal government is committed to come up with such systems. She said this while speaking at the webinar 'Fiscal intervention for health policy; Advocating the case of imposing higher taxes on Tob.....

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Researcher Articles

Social cohesion to counter terrorism, violent extremism

Source: [Sana Malik](#), [The Express Tribune](#), [Islamabad](#), 2021-05-22

In today's world, terrorism and violent extremism are complex multi-faceted issues that transcend national borders. Unlike terrorism, there is no universally accepted definition of violent extremism. International organisations such as the UN, the EU and NATO do not follow a single definition. The USAID qualifies violent extremism as "advocating, engaging in, preparing or otherwise sup.....

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SDPI's Related Articles

Economists divided on 3.94pc GDP growth rate projection

Source: [Khalid Hasnain](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-23

LAHORE: The country's leading economists have expressed mixed views on the provisional estimate of 3.94 per cent GDP growth rate projected by the National Accounts Committee (NAC) and said it negates the government's own estimate of 2.9pc GDP growth approved by the federal cabinet last month. Last month, the federal cabinet approved the medium-term budget strategy paper and shared it

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Rejuvenating The Digital Trade

Source: [Aadil Nakhoda](#), [Technology Times](#), 2021-05-24

Exports of goods from Pakistan have continued to breach the \$2 billion mark per month since October 2020. However, the star performer in the overall export basket, which includes services, is information and communication technology (ICT) services. According to statistics published by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS), ICT services exports increased 11.14% month-on-month in February 2021. T.....

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SDPI's Related News

Rejuvenating digital trade

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