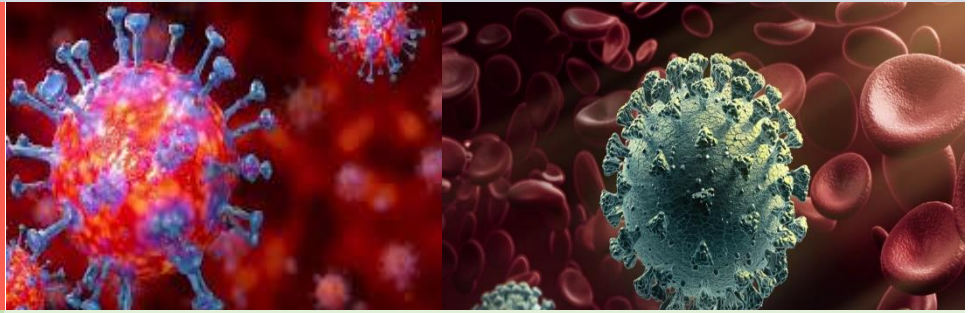


E-Newsletter on COVID-19



Vol. 02, No, 43



Issue: 25-28 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

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Op-Eds/Articles/Editorials

Op-Eds/Articles/Editorials

The vaccine game

Source: EDITORIAL, [The News, International](#), 2021-05-25

There is at present a huge amount of confusion over which vaccines could allow travellers to visit other countries without going through a quarantined period or other measures that are at present restricting international travel. The Pakistan Medical Association has expressed serious concerns over the fact that many countries that are making vaccination a condition for entry do not recognise China.....[more >>](#)

Waiting for PayPal

Source: Nauman Ahmad Bhatti, [Daily Times](#), 2021-05-25

The past few days have brought glad tidings to Pakistan, particularly to its youth. The country has now been added to the sellers' list of the world's greatest e-commerce platform: Amazon. Very good news for Pakistan's budding e-commerce sector. Now, Pakistani traders can export their products all over the world through Amazon. However promising the prospects maybe, this branchi.....[more >>](#)

So far so good

Source: Editorial, [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-25

After initial delays, the anti-Covid vaccination drive in Pakistan seems to be moving pretty smoothly, to the extent that whosoever — above the age of 30 — wants to receive the jabs is having no problems. Vaccination centres have been set up across the country, and daily vaccinations in the country are nearing the two hundred thousand mark. The total number of doses administered has ex.....[more >>](#)

Lessons from polio (Part - 1)

Source: Senator Ayesha Raza Farooq, [The News, International](#), 2021-05-26

Pakistan is no stranger to fighting battles against health emergencies; it has danced an arduous and painfully slow dance with the menace of polio. And now it finds itself, like the rest of the world, navigating uncharted territory with the havoc brought on by the Covid-19 virus. The war against the polio virus may not be over as yet but the invaluable lessons learnt from the successes of one of[more >>](#)

Post-covid: Mood swings!

Source: BR Research, [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-25

As countries double-down on Covid-19 through massive vaccination programs, the hope to unmask and restore economic activity and resume travel is no longer a distant reality. Over 3.4 million people globally have succumbed to the virus with upwards of 167 million people contracting the virus; but the trend for new cases is slowly reverting which is also reflecting in improved consumer confidence. T.....[more >>](#)

Are we victims of a man-made virus?

Source: Senator Rehman Malik, [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-25

This debate is now in advanced stages as the World Health Organisation (WHO) is already evaluating this virus. The opinion is divided but the experts will come up with facts or someone will own it under the pressure of their conscience. The world is inching towards reality by every passing day with new exposures on this issue. Dr Anthony Fauci has endorsed the first part of my demand to the Secret.....[more >>](#)

Digital Pakistan and inclusion for women

Source: [Rama Cheema](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-05-27

Covid-19 has wrought extensive socio-economic ramifications. These have triggered changes in consumer behaviour and business operations. Companies in Pakistan, for example, have been compelled to rethink how they work with particular emphasis shifting towards a strong digital presence. This has led the workforce to adapt accordingly, with a large percentage now working from home. Needless to say,.....

[more >>](#)

Waking up to post-Covid healthcare

Source: [Sarfaraz K. Niazi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-28

THE article 'Optimising Covid-19 TRIPS waiver' (Dawn, May 21), by Dr Zafar Mirza should serve as guidance and motivation to the Pakistan government and the pharmaceutical industry. I wish to add my views based on my experience in developing biotechnology and patent law practice on how Pakistan can satisfy its healthcare needs. A dramatic paradigm shift that took place because of the p.....

[more >>](#)

Why have bankruptcies fallen during the pandemic?

Source: [Paul Vandenberg](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-05-27

Government assistance programs, and relaxed insolvency procedures, have helped keep businesses afloat during the pandemic. The number of bankruptcies fell in 2020 in many countries. At first glance, this is a strange occurrence as 2020 was the year of the COVID-19 outbreak that caused lockdowns, a sharp decline in business activity, and negative economic growth. We would have expected more busine.....

[more >>](#)

An unequal society

Source: [Jill Richardson](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-05-28

After getting vaccinated, I eagerly returned to some parts of normal life, expecting the essential workers I interacted with would be already vaccinated. After all, they became eligible for the vaccine before I did, and our county has one of the highest rates of vaccinations in the country. I was surprised when a few people told me they weren't vaccinated. They wanted to get vaccinated, and.....

[more >>](#)

National News

Islamabad

Ministers, advisers, SAPMs to get Pak made vaccine

Source: [Muhammad Saleh Zaafir](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-05-25

ISLAMABAD: The single-dose Chinese CanSino vaccine developed by National Institute of Health (NIH) Islamabad would be administered to federal ministers, ministers of state and their families as a measure of confidence developing in homemade medicine who have yet to be vaccinated. To a query Monday evening Dr Faisal Sultan SAPM said that the ministers, state ministers, SAPMs and advisers are old e.....[more >>](#)

Chinese father, daughter honoured for promoting Sino-Pak friendship

Source: [Inp](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-05-25

BEIJING: A Chinese father and his daughter, who are famous in China and have contributed to Pak-Chin friendship for 65 years, were respectively awarded the Hilal-I-Pakistan and Sitara-I-Pakistan across 33 years, according to a report published by China Economic Net (CEN). To mark the 70th anniversary of China-Pakistan diplomatic ties, CEN had an interview with the daughter, Geng Ying. She recalle.....[more >>](#)

Chinese father, daughter honoured for promoting Sino-Pak friendship

Source: [Inp](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-05-25

BEIJING: A Chinese father and his daughter, who are famous in China and have contributed to Pak-Chin friendship for 65 years, were respectively awarded the Hilal-I-Pakistan and Sitara-I-Pakistan across 33 years, according to a report published by China Economic Net (CEN). To mark the 70th anniversary of China-Pakistan diplomatic ties, CEN had an interview with the daughter, Geng Ying. She recalle.....[more >>](#)

Education Ministry signs MoU to digitise ICT schools

Source: [Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-05-25

Islamabad: The Federal Directorate of Education on Monday signed a memorandum of understanding with Tech Valley, the country partner of Google for Education, to digitise all government schools in Islamabad with officials calling the initiative to be in line with the prime minister's vision of 'Digital Pakistan'. Federal education and professional training secretary Farah Hamid Kh.....[more >>](#)

Understanding scientifically spread, control of COVID-19 stressed

Source: [Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-05-26

Islamabad: Prof Swaran Singh from the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, has said that the democratic and demographic dividend of South Asia was under threat from the coronavirus and supported the already under discussion idea of introducing a global treaty for fighting the pandemic. Prof Singh was speaking at a webinar on 'Response to challenges of pandemic in South Asia,' organi.....[more >>](#)

Shafqat Mahmood tests positive for Covid-19

Source: [Dawn.com](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-25

Federal education minister Shafqat Mahmood said on Tuesday that he had tested positive for the coronavirus, adding that he was experiencing "mild symptoms". In a tweet, the minister said: "I have tested positive for coronavirus. I feel fine with mild symptoms. InshAllah will get well soon." A day earlier, Mahmood had chaired an online meeting of the Inter-Provin.....[more >>](#)

Pakistan starts working on nasal Covid-19 vaccine

Source: [Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-25

ISLAMABAD: With only four million people having been fully or partially vaccinated across the country, the University of Health Sciences (UHS) has started working on protocols to start trials for nasal Covid-19 vaccine. It will be a single dose vaccine, which does not require a syringe. It is hoped the clinical trial will commence in six to eight weeks after approval from three committees is obtained.....

[more >>](#)

Islamabad reports 2.9pc positivity ratio

Source: [Aamir Yasin | Munawer Azeem, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-26

ISLAMABAD: The positivity ratio of Covid-19 cases in the capital dropped to 2.5pc during the last 24 hours as 106 positive cases were reported in the city. However, four people lost their battle against the virus in Pindi, 45 tested positive for the disease and 132 reportedly recovered. The positivity ratio in the district climbed to 5.7pc. Officials of the capital administration said during the.....

[more >>](#)

12 Indian High Commission officials asked to quarantine

Source: [Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-25

ISLAMABAD: The Foreign Office on Monday asked 12 officials of the Indian High Commission (IHC) to quarantine, after a family member of an official tested positive for Covid-19. According to reports, the officials were asked to undergo quarantine along with their family members and drivers after an official's spouse tested positive for the coronavirus. The officials were made to undergo rap.....

[more >>](#)

120,000 doses ready for launch within a week

Source: [Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-26

ISLAMABAD: With 120,000 doses of Covid-19 vaccine having been packed at the National Institute of Health (NIH), the relevant authorities are considering reverting back to using the name CansinoBio after initially printing PakVac on the first batch of the vaccine. While the country recorded 2,253 new cases and 92 deaths during the last 24 hours with a positivity ratio of 4.82 per cent, the number

[more >>](#)

Corona positivity rate falls to 4.82, lowest in 10 weeks

Source: [news Desk, Daily Times](#), 2021-05-26

Pakistan's coronavirus positivity ratio has dropped to 4.82 percent, the lowest level in 10 weeks, as 2,253 new infections emerged over the past 24 hours, said the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Tuesday. The country reported an 8.5 percent average positivity rate during the last 30 days. As per official figures provided by the NCOC, Pakistan reported 2,253 new coronavirus c.....

[more >>](#)

Corona positivity ratio falls to lowest level in 10 weeks

Source: [news Desk, The News, International](#), 2021-05-26

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's coronavirus positivity ratio has dropped to the lowest level in 10 weeks as the country reported a 4.82 percent positivity rate Tuesday after 2,253 new infections and 92 deaths over the 24 hours. The country had reported an 8.5 percent average positivity rate during the last 30 days. As per official figures provided by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), th.....

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Two COVID-19 deaths, 180 new cases from twin cities

Source: [Muhammad Qasim](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-05-26

Islamabad:Coronavirus illness, COVID-19 claimed another two lives from Rawalpindi district and Islamabad Capital Territory in the last 24 hours taking death toll from the region to 1,695 while as many as 180 new patients have been tested positive from the twin cities taking tally to 104,527 on Tuesday. It is, however, important that the positivity rate of COVID-19 recorded from ICT in the last 24.....

[more >>](#)

Shafqat Mahmood down with COVID

Source: [Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-05-26

Islamabad:Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training Shafqat Mahmood was diagnosed with coronavirus on Tuesday, a week after getting the first jab of the COVID-19 vaccine. He broke the news in a tweet. "I have tested positive for coronavirus," he wrote on his official Twitter account. The minister, however, said he felt fine with mild symptoms of coronavirus and Inshalla.....

[more >>](#)

Capital sees lowest positivity rate of third wave

Source: [Aamir Yasin | Munawer Azeem](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-26

ISLAMABAD: After several months, the capital reported the lowest Covid-19 positivity ratio of 2.7pc. Two people succumbed to the virus in the twin cities while 111 new cases surfaced in Islamabad and 82 in Rawalpindi on Tuesday. Officials of the capital administration said death toll from the disease in the capital reached 746. The deceased was a male patient from the 40-49 age group, a resident

[more >>](#)

Vaccination drive for citizens aged 19, above to commence from tomorrow

Source: [News Desk](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-26

ISLAMABAD: National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) chief Asad Umar announced on Wednesday opening Covid-19 vaccine registration for citizens aged 19 years and above from tomorrow (Thursday). The minister termed the start of the vaccination drive for the age group as marking the opening of inoculation for the entire population. "In today's NCOC meeting, we decided to open up vaccinat.....

[more >>](#)

Country reports 3,060 Covid-19 cases, 57 deaths

Source: [Abdul Rasheed Azad](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-25

ISLAMABAD: The country, Monday, reported 3,060 Covid-19 cases and 57 coronavirus deaths, taking the national Covid-19 case tally to 903,599 and death toll to 20,308, since the pandemic outbreak on February 28, 2020. According to the latest updates issued by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) here, countrywide 2,693 coronavirus patients have also recovered in the past 24 hours, t.....

[more >>](#)

Pakistan reports 2,724 new COVID cases in one day

Source: [Web Desk](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-26

Pakistan has reported 65 deaths in the last 24 hours by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has surged to 908,576. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 20,465 on Wednesday. According to the latest figures by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) 2,724 persons tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 24 hours. Punjab remains the worst-hit province in terms.....

[more >>](#)

NIH starts formulating, packing of local PakVac corona vaccine

Source: [Rahul Basharat, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-26

ISLAMABAD - The National Institute of Health (NIH) on Tuesday started formulating and packing of the China-based novel coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine locally after transfer of technology from China and named the vaccine as PakVac. The CanSino vaccine trials were also conducted in Pakistan in collaboration with China and a single shot anti-COVID-19 vaccine is being administered to the populati.....

[more >>](#)

Corona positivity rate nosedives in Pakistan

Source: [Tahir Niaz, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-26

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan's coronavirus positivity ratio has fallen to the lowest level in 10 weeks, thanks to strict measures and restrictions on public movement by the government. The country reported a 4.82 percent positivity rate on Tuesday as 2,253 new infections were reported over the past 24 hours. A total of 46,726 tests were conducted during the 24 hours period. The country had repo.....

[more >>](#)

ARL organises Covid-19 vaccination campaign

Source: [Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-26

RAWALPINDI - Attock Hospital (Pvt) Limited organised a Covid-19 vaccination camp in collaboration with National Command Operation Centre (NCOC) and District Health Authority on Tuesday. Attock Group has always been at the forefront of ensuring the wellbeing of its employees as well as private patients who are in need of medical care. Dr. Muhammad Iftikhar CMO Attock Hospital said we are thankful t.....

[more >>](#)

Dr. Faisal visits PIMS, examines COVID-19 vaccination

Source: [Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-25

ISLAMABAD - Special Assistant to Prime Minister (SAPM) on National Health Services (NHS) Dr. Faisal Sultan on Monday visited Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS) to examine the coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccination. Dr. Faisal Sultan in his surprise visit examined different wards and emergencies of the hospital and inquired about facilities being provided to the patients there. He said

[more >>](#)

PRCS chairman raises alarm over Covid vaccine acceptability issues

Source: [Staff Reporter, Daily Times](#), 2021-05-27

Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) Chairman Abrar ul Haq on Wednesday expressed concerns over hurdles being faced by Pakistanis via-a-vis international travelling due to lack of universal acceptability of different brands of Covid-19 vaccine being administered in the country. In a statement, the PRCS chairman said that under the directions of Honorable President of Pakistan the PRCS through the.....

[more >>](#)

Five lives lost to Covid-19 in Islamabad, Rawalpindi

Source: [Aamir Yasin | Munawer Azeem, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-27

ISLAMABAD: Five people lost their lives to Covid-19 in the capital and Rawalpindi district whereas 189 people - 133 in Islamabad and 56 in Rawalpindi - were found infected on Wednesday. The positivity ratio in the capital was recorded at 2.6pc with 2.7pc in the garrison city. Officials of the capital administration said death of a male patient was reported in the age group of 50-59 and that of a.....

[more >>](#)

Black fungus situation not alarming, claims health expert

Source: [Ikram Junaidi](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-27

ISLAMABAD: A microbiologist on Wednesday said though some black fungus cases had been reported in Pakistan, situation is not as alarming as in India. However, the number of cases can increase in coming days, he added. Talking to Dawn, he said while around 5pc of patients are severely affected and hospitalised due to the Covid-19 related complications, black fungus is going to become another major

[more >>](#)

Covid snuffs out four more lives in Rawalpindi

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-27

ISLAMABAD/RAWALPINDI: Four more people died of Covid-19 in Rawalpindi, while 56 fresh were reported from the garrison city and 111 cases from the federal capital. Further, the total district tally of coronavirus vaccination Wednesday reached 290,377 with the inoculation of 24,300 more persons against the deadly virus during the last 24 hours. According to fresh data released by the District Hea.....

[more >>](#)

Govt opens vaccination drive to all adults

Source: [Abdul Rasheed Azad](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-27

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan is to start registering citizens over 19 years of age and above for coronavirus vaccination from today (Thursday). This was announced by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) Chairman, Asad Umar, here on Wednesday, in a tweet, saying the government has decided to open anti-Covid vaccination registration for all people aged 19 years and above from May 27. He.....

[more >>](#)

Registration of people for vaccination with age 19, above starts today

Source: [Tahir Niaz](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-27

ISLAMABAD - The National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) has decided to open vaccine registration for the people aged 19 years and above from today. A decision to this effect was taken at the NCOC meeting chaired by Minister for Planning and Development Asad Umar here on Wednesday. Later in a tweet, the Minister said, "In today's NCOC meeting we decided to open up vaccination

[more >>](#)

Chinese vaccine PakVac qualifies quality assurance test

Source: [Rahul Basharat](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-27

ISLAMABAD - The single dose locally finished and packed corona vaccine 'PakVac' has qualified the painstaking quality assurance (QA) test at the National Institute of Health (NIH) and reflected its effectiveness. The scientists at NIH observing the research on local anti-COVID-19 vaccine informed The Nation that the China based CanSino bio vaccine was brought at NIH in concentrate.....

[more >>](#)

PRCS concerned over travel restrictions due to lack of vaccines acceptability

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-27

ISLAMABAD -Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) Chairman Abrar ul Haq on Wednesday expressed concerns over hurdles being faced by Pakistanis via-a-vis international travelling due to lack of universal acceptability of different brands of Covid-19 vaccine being administered in the country. In a statement, the PRCS chairman said that under the directions of President of Pakistan, the PRCS throu.....

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Dr Faisal visits F-9 mass vaccination centre

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-27

ISLAMABAD -Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination Dr Faisal Sultan Wednesday visited the Mass Vaccination Centre F-9 Park to monitor the services being offered to the citizens. Talking to the media on the occasion, he said in order to enhance the vaccination coverage in the capital, the mass vaccination centre having 25 vaccination co.....

[more >>](#)

COVID-19 claims 65 lives, 2,724 more cases reported

Source: [App](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-05-27

ISLAMABAD: The national tally on Wednesday of total active COVID-19 cases recorded 60,268 with 2,724 more people tested positive for the deadly virus and 4,686 people recovered from the disease during the last 24 hours. Sixty-five corona patients have died during past 24 hours, 58 of whom were under treatment in hospital and seven out of the hospital in their respective quarantines or homes, acco.....

[more >>](#)

Pakistan tells: EU joint efforts needed for interfaith, cultural harmony

Source: [Mariana Baabar](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-05-27

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and the European Union on Wednesday said the importance of their relationship was 'highly valued' as they strive to further strengthen this partnership. Islamabad says that the Pakistan-EU Strategic Engagement Plan (SEP) had ushered in a new phase in the partnership by providing a solid foundation and framework for multidimensional cooperation between the two sides.....

[more >>](#)

Islamabad, Pindi report less than 5pc positivity rate

Source: [Aamir Yasin | Munawer Azeem](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-28

ISLAMABAD: A decline in the positivity ratio of Covid-19 cases has been seen in Islamabad and Rawalpindi. However, there has been no respite from casualties related to the disease as five patients died on Thursday. Positivity rate in the capital was recorded at 2.2pc and in the Rawalpindi district at 2.7pc. As many as 117 people were diagnosed with the disease in the capital and 50 in Rawalpindi.....

[more >>](#)

Corona claims 5 more lives, 182 get infected

Source: [Muhammad Qasim](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-05-27

Islamabad : As many as five more confirmed patients of coronavirus illness, COVID-19 from Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district lost their lives due to the illness in the last 24 hours taking the death toll from the region to 1,700 while 182 new patients were reported from the twin cities that took the total number of patients so far registered from the region to 104,709. According

[more >>](#)

Pakistan duty bound to raise Kashmir at UN more strongly: Bozkir

Source: [Mariana Baabar](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-05-28

ISLAMABAD: In a powerful statement on Kashmir, the visiting President of the United Nations General Assembly Volkan Bozkir encouraged Pakistan to take up the issue of Jammu and Kashmir more robustly at the United Nations. Speaking at a joint press conference with Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi at the Foreign Office on Thursday, the visiting dignitary said, "I think it is the duty, es.....

[more >>](#)

DRAP clears NIH-made COVID vaccine

Source: [Correspondent](#) , [The News, International](#) , 2021-05-28

ISLAMABAD: The Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) has approved the locally-made single-dose Chinese coronavirus vaccine for use in the country. PakVac will be available for use by the end of the outgoing month. The DRAP's National Control Lab has issued a certificate to it for 'lot release' after the passing of the testing. The vaccine was made at the National Institute of

[more >>](#)

Corona takes 75 more lives in 24 hours

Source: [App](#), [The News, International](#) , 2021-05-28

ISLAMABAD: The national tally of active COVID-19 cases was Thursday recorded 59,018, as 2,726 more people tested positive with 75 deaths during the 24 hours. According to APP, out of 75 deaths, 68 patients were under treatment in various hospitals, while seven others were at their respective quarantines or at home, according to the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC). Most of the deaths.....

[more >>](#)

Corona claims five more lives

Source: [Muhammad Qasim](#), [The News, International](#) , 2021-05-28

Islamabad : Another five confirmed patients of coronavirus illness, COVID-19 from Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district died of the illness in the last 24 hours taking the death toll to 1,705 while 163 new patients have been tested positive for the disease from the region that has taken tally to 104,872 on Thursday. The positivity rates of COVID-19 from both ICT and Rawalpindi distr.....

[more >>](#)

Educators told to get anti-Covid jabs

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#) , 2021-05-28

ISLAMABAD/RAWALPINDI: The Federal Directorate of Education (FDE) has directed all Area Education Officers (AEOs) to ensure the vaccination of teaching and non-teaching staff of educational institutions in the Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) in their respective areas. According to a notification issued by FDE here on Thursday, it was stated that the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC)

[more >>](#)

Online shoppers duped by fake websites amid lockdown

Source: [APP](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#) , 2021-05-28

ISLAMABAD: Since Covid has hit the country with prolonged lockdown and closures of markets and businesses during the spike of the contagious disease, online shopping has emerged as a remedy to shoppers facing difficulties. Unlike the global practice of quality and genuineness of the online service providers and shopping portals, a number of fake e-shopping websites have become rampant, particula.....

[more >>](#)

Covid-19 positivity ratio declines to 4.35pc

Source: [Abdul Rasheed Azad](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#) , 2021-05-28

ISLAMABAD: The national Covid-19 positivity ratio, Thursday, declined to 4.35 percent as the country recorded 2,726 cases after 62,706 tests were conducted, while 75 coronavirus patients died and 3,901 patients recovered. The NCOC said that at present, there are 59,018 total active Covid-19 cases in the country. The 4.35 percent positivity rate is the lowest in the past 12 weeks as the c.....

[more >>](#)

Afghanistan unlikely coronavirus stopover for Pakistani workers

Source: [AFP](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-28

ISLAMABAD: Afghanistan's capital has become an unlikely pandemic transit route for Pakistanis desperate to reach the riches of Saudi Arabia despite deteriorating security and the threat of bomb blasts. With most Gulf flights from Pakistan cancelled as the country is added to a growing number of coronavirus travel blacklists, thousands of workers are hoping to reach the kingdom after fir.....

[more >>](#)

Lowest Covid-19 positivity ratio in three months

Source: [news Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-05-28

NCOCPakistan on Thursday reported a positivity rate of 4.34%, the lowest since March 6 as the country sees a steady decline in coronavirus cases amid the third wave of the pandemic. The national tally of total active Covid-19 cases was recorded at 59,018 as 2,726 more people tested positive for the deadly virus besides 75 deaths reported across country on Thursday. Out of total 75 deaths, 68 pati.....

[more >>](#)

Lowest Covid-19 positivity ratio in three months

Source: [news Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-05-28

NCOCPakistan on Thursday reported a positivity rate of 4.34%, the lowest since March 6 as the country sees a steady decline in coronavirus cases amid the third wave of the pandemic. The national tally of total active Covid-19 cases was recorded at 59,018 as 2,726 more people tested positive for the deadly virus besides 75 deaths reported across country on Thursday. Out of total 75 deaths, 68 pati.....

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Vaccination of all teaching, non-teaching staff be ensured till June 5: FDE

Source: [Rahul Basharat](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-28

Islamabad - The Federal Directorate of Education (FDE) on Thursday instructed all Area Education Officers (AEO) to ensure vaccination of all teaching and non-teaching staff of public sector schools and colleges of the city till June 5. The FDE had extended the closure of 423 educational institutions and notified re-opening of the institutions from June 06 due to high positivity ratio of novel.....

[more >>](#)

Pakistan reports 2,726 new corona cases, 75 deaths

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-28

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan reported 2,726 new coronavirus cases in the past 24 hours on Thursday, taking the country's Covid-19 tally to 911,302. The country's death toll climbed to 20,540 after 75 more people succumbed to the deadly disease during the past 24 hours. Meanwhile, 3,901 patients recovered from the deadly disease in a day, taking total recoveries to 831,744. According to the Nat.....

[more >>](#)

2 Polyclinic healthcare workers lose life in line of Covid-19 duty

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-28

ISLAMABAD - The Federal Government Services (FGS) Polyclinic hospital lost two healthcare workers and around 300 were infected in the line of duty during COVID-19 pandemic. Spokesperson FGS hospital Dr. Abdul Jabbar Bhutto said this in a media talk held here. Briefing about the hospital's steps taken to cope with the pandemic situation he said that earlier hospitals had vaccination cent.....

[more >>](#)

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Vaccine shortage in Dir hospitals protested

Source: [A Correspondent](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-25

LOWER DIR: The Pakistanis working in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and other Gulf countries on Monday held a demonstration outside Timergara Press Club against shortage of AstraZeneca vaccine in government hospitals. Scores of overseas Pakistanis gathered outside the press club and chanted slogans against the government for not paying heed to their issue. Speaking on the occasion, Ahmad Sadiq, Maulan.....

[more >>](#)

Corona positive cases in KP decline

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-25

Peshawar - Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is witnessing a marked decline in corona cases, with the number of corona positive cases in the province coming down to 5.2 percent. There are 600 patients in High Dependency Unit (HDU), 150 patients in Intensive Care Unit (ICU) and 47 patients on ventilators in different hospitals across the province, said a press release issued here on Monday. Khyber Teaching

[more >>](#)

Mass vaccination centre for Covid-19 set up at KMU

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-27

Peshawar - Khyber Medical University (KMU) Peshawar and Health Department Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in joint collaboration have established a large-scale mass vaccination centre for COVID-19. This centre was jointly inaugurated by 102 Brigade Commander Brig Muddassir, Secretary Health Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Imtiaz Hussain Shah and Vice Chancellor KMU Prof Dr Zia-ul-Haq. Director General Health Servic.....

[more >>](#)

Afghan refugees vaccination policy in final stages

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-28

PESHAWAR: Health Department Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (K-P) has initiated work on a policy for the vaccination of all Afghan refugees living in the refugees camps across the province. An official of the Health Department told The Express Tribune that funding for the vaccination process will be provided by the UNHCR. "With the help of the National Command and Control Centre, the Health Department.....

[more >>](#)

Coronavirus claims 19 more lives in KP

Source: [app](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-05-28

The death toll from coronavirus infection reached 4009 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa as the virus claimed 19 more lives during the last 24 hours, a report from the Health Department said. According to the report 383 new cases of the coronavirus infection were reported from the province during the same period taking the number of total cases to 131027. 484 patients of coronavirus infection gained recover.....

[more >>](#)

Punjab

Number of COVID-19 patients declines

Source: [Muhammad Qasim](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-05-25

Rawalpindi: The third wave of coronavirus illness, COVID-19 outbreak that hit Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district the hardest has started losing intensity to a significant extent as the number of cases reported from the region has shown a certain decline at least in the last two weeks or so. Data collected by 'The News' has revealed that in the last two weeks, a total o.....

[more >>](#)

Corona vaccination card launched

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-25

LAHORE: The Punjab government has launched new corona vaccination card to facilitate citizens to secure record of the vaccinated people across the province. The card will help citizens keep record of their vaccination as well as the time and date of the next dose. Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department Secretary Sarah Aslam has asked citizens to get their second dose in time as mentioned on.....

[more >>](#)

Five more people lose battle to Covid in Rawalpindi

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-25

ISLAMABAD/RAWALPINDI: The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Monday said that 106 new cases of coronavirus were reported from the federal capital during the last 24 hours. According to an official of NCOC, as many as 156 cases were reported on Sunday while 146 cases were reported on Saturday. He said so far 80,418 cases while 745 deaths were reported from the Islamabad Capital Terri.....

[more >>](#)

Establishment of free Covid-19 vaccination center at BoP Head Office

Source: [press Release](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-05-26

BOP in collaboration with District Administration Lahore has established a Covid-19 Vaccination Centre at BOP Head Office to provide free of cost vaccination to its employees and their families. President BOP Mr. Zafar Masud and Deputy Commissioner Lahore Mr. Mudassar Riaz Malik jointly inaugurated the facility. President BOP got himself vaccinated to set personal example for BOP staff so they ha.....

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NUMS VC for international partnership in research for making vaccines, medicines

Source: [App](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-05-26

Rawalpindi: Vice Chancellor National University of Medical Sciences (NUMS) Lt Gen Muhammad Imran Majeed HI(M) called for forging international partnership in research with leading universities of the world for producing vaccines and medicines, specific to microbial strains found in Pakistan. Research collaboration of Pakistani medical universities with international partners is the way forward in

[more >>](#)

COVID-19 vaccination camp held

Source: [news Desk](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-05-26

Rawalpindi: Attock Hospital (Pvt) Limited organised a COVID-19 vaccination camp in collaboration with NCOC and District Health Authority, press release. Attock Group has always been at the forefront of ensuring the wellbeing of its employees as well as private patients who are in need of medical care. According to Dr. Muhammad Iftikhar, chief medical officer, Attock Hospital, we are thankful to NC.....

[more >>](#)

The shapes of recovery

Source: [Mansoor Ahmad](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-05-26

LAHORE: The entire world is in an uncharted territory on the economic way forward during and after the pandemic. The upheaval and uncertainty caused by Covid-19 is unprecedented in human history. Most of the world is slowly recovering from the shock. The recovery is V-shaped in some countries, but others are not as lucky. Then there are countries that crumbled and remained in recession for some t.....

[more >>](#)

Punjab opts for random sampling to gauge third wave

Source: [Asif Chaudhry](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-26

LAHORE: After a 'sharp' decline in Covid deaths and positive cases in Punjab, the health authorities have fielded teams in all the 36 districts of the province for random sampling to make a final decision either the third wave of the virus is ending or it is still posing a threat to the people. The massive downward trend was recorded during last week when daily deaths and new cases dr.....

[more >>](#)

No new taxes imposed since corona hit country: minister

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-26

LAHORE: Provincial Minister for Excise, Taxation and Narcotics control Hafiz Mumtaz Ahmad has said that no new tax has been imposed since the Covid-19 has hit the country. The Minister was speaking at the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI). He said that the facility of five percent relaxation on online payments, that was introduced last year, would continue. He said all relief pac.....

[more >>](#)

Covid-19; Punjab reports 55 more deaths

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-26

LAHORE: With 55 more fatalities in Punjab including 20 in Lahore, 14 in Multan and 16 in Rawalpindi during the last 24 hours, the death toll in the province reached 9,839. Most of the deaths due to Covid-19 were reported from Lahore (20), Rawalpindi (16), Faisalabad (05), Multan (14), Gujranwala (02) and one each death from Muzaffargarh, Rahim Yar Khan and Sahiwal taking the death toll in the.....

[more >>](#)

Children's Hospital for vaccination; Special counter for officers of PHP established

Source: [Press Release](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-26

FAISALABAD: In compliance of directions of Additional IG Punjab Highway Patrol, Akram Naeem Bharoka, SSP patrolling established a special counter for the officers/officials of Patrolling police at Children Hospital Faisalabad. While talking to media, he said that the wellbeing of Punjab Highway Patrol (PHP) personnel is his prime focus. The designated counter will facilitate the PHP staff to be va.....

[more >>](#)

Punjab to administer vaccine to students of universities

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-25

LAHORE: The Punjab government has decided to administer corona vaccine to students of all medical universities and colleges across the province. The decision to this effect was taken in a meeting chaired by Provincial Health Minister Dr Yasmin Rashid here on Monday at the Civil Secretariat to review the situation of corona pandemic. The Chief Secretary Punjab, Senior Member Board of Reve.....

[more >>](#)

Overall corona positivity rate drops in Punjab

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-25

LAHORE: The overall positivity rate of coronavirus in the province has further declined to 03.52 percent, as out of 22,735 Covid-19 tests conducted during the last 24 hours, as many as 802 fresh virus cases and 16 fatalities were reported across Punjab taking the provincial tally of cases to 334,760 and death toll to 9784. With the recovery of 1,170 more virus patients, the number of recovere.....

[more >>](#)

Yasmin seeks report from PSHD over administering less number of vaccines

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-26

LAHORE - Punjab Health Minister Dr Yasmin Rashid has sought report from the Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department (PSHD) over administering less number of vaccines on Monday. Chairing a meeting to review the corona pandemic situation, pace of vaccination and medical facilities in hospitals at the Civil Secretariat on Tuesday, she directed providing details about the jabs in each district.....

[more >>](#)

15 shops sealed over SOPs violations

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-26

LAHORE - The city district administration sealed 15 shops, restaurants and imposed fine Rs 25,000 over violations of corona related standard operating procedures (SOPs) here on Tuesday. A special team under the supervision of Assistant Commissioner Cantt Zeeshan Ranjha inspected SOPs implementation at cantonment area and sealed four shops. He also visited Nishat Colony to inspect SOPs implementati.....

[more >>](#)

Around 266,077 people get COVID-19 jab in district

Source: [APP](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-26

Rawalpindi - Around 266,077 people including 22,034 health workers and 244,043 senior citizens have received jabs against coronavirus from 22 centres across the district since the vaccination administering drive launched in first week of March. An official of district administration informed that around 3,145 people had been inoculated the vaccine at Tehsil Headquarters Hospital (THQH) Taxila.....

[more >>](#)

BOP establishes free Covid-19 vaccination centre for employees

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-26

LAHORE - Bank of Punjab (BOP) in collaboration with district administration Lahore has established a Covid-19 vaccination centre at BOP Head Office to provide free of cost vaccination to its employees and their families. President BOP Zafar Masud and Deputy Commissioner Lahore Mudassar Riaz Malik jointly inaugurated the facility. President BOP got himself vaccinated to set personal example for BOP.....

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Safe vaccines being administered to people, says Health Minister

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-25

LAHORE - Punjab Health Minister Dr Yasmin Rashid inaugurated a Vaccination Centre at the United Christian Hospital (UCH) Gulberg here on Monday. Present on the occasion were Secretary Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department Sarah Aslam, Commissioner Lahore Captain (retired), Usman Younis and other officials. The Health Minister reviewed vaccination arrangements and visited registration r.....

[more >>](#)

Minister inaugurates vaccination centre at Social Security Hospital

Source: [Press Release](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#) , 2021-05-27

FAISALABAD: Punjab Minister for Labor and Human Resources Ansar Majeed Khan visited Faisalabad and inaugurated the corona Vaccination Center at Social Security Hospital Madina Town and observed the process of vaccinating citizens at various counters and checked available of utility services. Divisional Commissioner Saqib Manan, Deputy Commissioner Muhammad Ali, CEO Health Dr. Mushtaq Sipra, D.....

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LCCI for opening of marriage halls under SOPs

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#) , 2021-05-27

LAHORE: The Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) on Wednesday urged the government to review the decision regarding closure of marriage halls to save more than 50 industries and jobs of millions of workers. LCCI President Mian Tariq Misbah Khan expressed these views while talking to the delegation of catering and marriage halls, led by Convener LCCI Standing Committee Junaid Ahmad Z.....

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Corona positivity rate declines in Punjab

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#) , 2021-05-27

LAHORE: The overall positivity rate of coronavirus in the province has further declined to 2.92%, as out of 25,245 Covid-19 tests conducted during the last 24 hours, as many as 738 fresh virus cases and 36 fatalities were reported across Punjab taking the provincial tally of cases to 336,315 and death toll to 9875. With the recovery of 1879 more virus patients, the number of recovered patient.....

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1,065 policemen affected by COVID-19: CCPO

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#) , 2021-05-27

LAHORE - Capital City Police Officer (CCPO), Additional IG Ghulam Mahmood Dogar on Wednesday said 1,065 officials of the Lahore police had so far been affected from the COVID-19 during three waves and 921 had joined their duties after recovery. As many as 139 policemen were still quarantine at their homes, he added. Two DIGs, three senior officers of SSP rank, seven SSPs, 24 DSPs, 33 inspectors, 1.....

[more >>](#)

Slapping Pakpattan AC: MPA arrested after LHC withdraws pre-arrest bail

Source: [Correspondent](#) , [The News, Islamabad](#) , 2021-05-27

LAHORE: The police on Wednesday arrested PML-N MPA Mian Naveed Ali after the Lahore High Court withdrew his pre-arrest bail in a case of slapping Pakpattan Assistant Commissioner Khawar Bashir. The City Police of Pakpattan had registered an FIR against the MPA, his father and others on charges of slapping the assistant commissioner and hurling threats to him. The alleged incident took place when

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Covid infectivity rate drops to 3pc in Punjab

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#) , 2021-05-28

LAHORE: With 24 more Covid deaths during the last 24 hours, the infectivity rate of the virus dropped to three per cent in Punjab. According to the Covid official update released on Thursday, the death toll reached 9,899 in Punjab and 4,044 in Lahore. A spokesperson for the health department said out of the total 24 deaths, 10 were reported from the provincial capital alone while four others from.....

[more >>](#)

Covid jab made mandatory for chainstores workforce

Source: [Jawwad Rizvi, The News, International](#), 2021-05-28

LAHORE: Chainstore Association of Pakistan (CAP) has made it mandatory for all its members to get their workers vaccinated to keep the economy moving and continue working in their respective brands CAP made this decision after sensitising the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) to prioritise the retail sector for vaccination so the sector could continue its economic activities. The NCOC.....

[more >>](#)

758 fresh cases, 24 deaths reported; Overall corona positivity rate slightly up in Punjab

Source: [Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-28

LAHORE: The overall positivity rate of coronavirus in the province has slightly surged to 03.04 percent from 02.92 percent, as out of 24,914 Covid-19 tests conducted during the last 24 hours, as many as 758 fresh virus cases and 24 fatalities were reported across Punjab taking the provincial tally of cases to 337,073 and death toll to 9,899. With the recovery of 1,797 more virus patients, the.....

[more >>](#)

Civil defence starts COVID-19 awareness campaign

Source: [APP, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-28

SAHIWAL - District Officer Civil Defence Sahiwal Fareeha Jaffer, along with volunteers, Thursday distributed masks and sanitizers among the public, in connection with the COVID-19 awareness campaign, launched by the Civil Defence Department. She appealed to people to wear mask at the public places, especially in bazaars and markets and keep their hands constantly sanitized. She said the campa.....

[more >>](#)

Sindh**Sindh bans public activity after 8pm**

Source: [M Waqar Bhatti, The News, International](#), 2021-05-25

KARACHI/ISLAMABAD: On the recommendations of provincial Task Force on COVID-19, Sindh Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah Monday announced to impose a ban on movement of people either on foot or in the vehicles from Tuesday to contain the spread of viral disease and directed the provincial administration to implement the ban in letter and spirit. "Owing to its severity of the COVID-19 situation,

[more >>](#)

Pakistan nears debt-for-nature swap agreement with creditors

Source: [Monitoring Desk, The News, International](#), 2021-05-25

KARACHI: Pakistan is closing in on a deal with bilateral creditors that would tie debt relief to the achievement of biodiversity goals, Bloomberg reported on Monday. The South Asian nation is working with lender countries on a debt-for-nature swap program, which would see debt relief in return for binding commitments to achieve conservation targets. An official letter of intent could be announced.....

[more >>](#)

Covid-19 hits people with diabetes harder than non-diabetics, say experts

Source: [Imran Ayub, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-25

KARACHI: People living with poor diabetes control are more prone to various types of infectious diseases, including Covid-19 as well as lethal infections like mucormycosis, or 'black fungus', as the health condition reduces a person's ability to fight bacteria, viruses and fungus, experts associated with pandemic control measures, care and treatment in Pakistan warned on Monday.

[more >>](#)

Fresh covid restrictions imposed in Sindh: Murtaza Wahab

Source: [news Desk](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-05-25

Sindh Government Spokesperson and Advisor for Law, Environment & Coastal Development Barrister Murtaza Wahab on Monday said that a new order has been announced by the Sindh Government to control the corona virus situation in the province. Wahab said the orders were given by the Sindh Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah after a high-level meeting held in Karachi. While addressing a press conference.....

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Sindh bans gatherings of over 10 people as Covid cases surge

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-25

KARACHI: The Sindh government on Tuesday notified Covid-19 restrictions to contain the recent surge in coronavirus cases, including a ban on gatherings of more than 10 people and on unnecessary movement after 8pm. The Provincial Task Force on Covid-19, in a meeting chaired by Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah on Monday, decided to tighten coronavirus restrictions in a bid to control the rising number of.....

[more >>](#)

MQM-H sees Covid-19 restrictions in 'only Mohajir areas'

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-26

KARACHI: Mohajir Qaumi Movement-Haqiqi chairman Afaq Ahmed on Tuesday expressed concerns over the stricter measures announced by the provincial government on the pretext of curbing the spread of Covid-19 and condemned what he called a biased attitude towards Karachi traders and people. Speaking at a press conference at his residence in DHA, he questioned why all Covid-19 related standard operating.....

[more >>](#)

Covid prompts change in NED admission policy

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-26

KARACHI: The NED University of Engineering and Technology has decided to open admissions on the basis of matric examinations in case intermediate examinations are not conducted by July. The decision was taken in light of the limitations caused by the coronavirus. The university reached this decision during a recently held NED University Academic Council session. The decision of giving admission.....

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Sindh bans gatherings of over 10 people as Covid cases surge

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The Express Tribune, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-26

KARACHI: The Sindh government on Tuesday notified Covid-19 restrictions to contain the recent surge in coronavirus cases, including a ban on gatherings of more than 10 people and on unnecessary movement after 8pm. The Provincial Task Force on Covid-19, in a meeting chaired by Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah on Monday, decided to tighten coronavirus restrictions in a bid to control the rising number of.....

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Industrial units; Vaccination centres to be set up: minister

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-26

KARACHI: Provincial Minister for Industries & Commerce and Anti-Corruption & Cooperative Department Jam Ikramullah Dharejo has said that success against corona virus is a national goal. Sindh Government in collaboration with industrialists will expedite the vaccination of factory workers. This was stated by the Provincial Minister for Industries & Commerce and Anti-Corruption &.....

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Industrial units; Vaccination centres to be set up: minister

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-26

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Karachi to come under night 'curfew' from today

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-25

KARACHI: The Sindh Task Force on coronavirus in its extensive meeting presided by Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah here on Monday reviewed the Covid situation and owing to its severity placed a ban on unnecessary movement of people, on foot or in vehicles, after 8pm except for valid reasons. The meeting was told that during the last one week (May 17 to 23), the coronavirus had badly affected.....

[more >>](#)

Sindh reports 1,209 coronavirus cases, six deaths

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-26

KARACHI - At least six more patients of the coronavirus died during the past 24 hours in Sindh, lifting the provincial death toll to 4,942. In a daily statement on the COVID-19 situation, Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Sindh Murad Ali Shah said 1,209 more people were diagnosed with the COVID-19 during the same period in the province. The chief minister said that out of the fresh 1,209 cases, 452 were re.....

[more >>](#)

COVID Task Force bans unnecessary public movement after 8pm

Source: [Abdullah Zafar](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-26

KARACHI - The Provincial Task Force on Coronavirus in its extensive sitting under Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah on Monday reviewed COVID situation and owing to its severity a ban on unnecessary movement of people, on foot or in vehicles, has been banned after 8 pm, except for valid reasons. The meeting which was held at CM House was attended by provincial ministers, Dr Azra Fazal P.....

[more >>](#)

Two judges of Karachi City Court test positive for COVID-19

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-25

KARACHI - Two judges of the Karachi City Court have tested positive for the COVID-19. The number of COVID-19 positive patients is rapidly increasing at the City Court. Senior Civil Judge South Asghar Ali after testing positive for the coronavirus has quarantined himself, while Judicial Magistrate South Kamran Kalhor is also hospitalised after testing COVID positive. Showing concern on the increas.....

[more >>](#)

COVID vaccination centres to be set up in industrial zones

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-25

KARACHI - COVID vaccination centres will be set up in industrial zones to vaccinate factory owners and workers, a top meeting decided on Monday. The decision was taken at a meeting, chaired by Provincial Minister for Industries & Commerce and Anti-Corruption & Cooperative Department Jam Ikramullah Dharejo in his office on Monday. The factory owners will cooperate with the government in thi.....

[more >>](#)

Advisor seeks cooperation of masses to contain spread of COVID-19

Source: [App, Daily Times](#), 2021-05-27

Advisor for Law, Environment & Coastal Development Barrister Murtaza Wahab has said that everyone should cooperate with the Government to stop the spread of coronavirus as it is not possible to control the corona virus without the cooperation of the people. He expressed these views while addressing the inaugural function of the Vaccination Center at the office of the Federal B Area Industrial

[more >>](#)

The heavy lockdown

Source: [Peerzada Salman, Daily Times](#), 2021-05-27

KARACHI: Health and the economy — these are the two major issues facing almost every nation in the world ever since coronavirus emerged as a pandemic that had, and still has, the potential to damage the human race irreparably. Fair enough. Health or the economy? It's a chicken and egg situation. What the Sindh government did early last year was praised by all and sundry. The federal go.....

[more >>](#)

Vaccinators' strike hits inoculation drive in rural areas

Source: [Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-27

KARACHI: The drive of Covid-19 vaccination in rural Sindh suffered a blow on Wednesday when more than 1,300 vaccinators went on strike following the government plan to re-examine their recruitments in line with court orders, sources and officials said. They said the health department had recently issued letters to 1,302 vaccinators recruited in 2019, informing them about the process which had bee.....

[more >>](#)

Lockdowns may hit mango export target: Ahmad Jawad

Source: [N H Zuberi, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-27

KARACHI: Country mango exports kick off from today, however there are still lockdowns effect in different regions and countries of the world and flights from Pakistan are suspended or restricted. Due to this, it is feared that Pakistan's mango exports will decrease, if situation won't change, said PBF vice president Ahmad Jawad. He said PIA management could arrange special cargo f.....

[more >>](#)

Stopping spread of coronavirus; Adviser seeks people's cooperation

Source: [Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-27

KARACHI: Spokesperson for Sindh government and adviser on law, environment and coastal development Murtaza Wahab has said that everyone should cooperate with the government to stop the spread of coronavirus as it is not possible to control the coronavirus without the cooperation of the people. Addressing the inaugural function of the vaccination centre at the office of the Federal B Area Indu.....

[more >>](#)

Covid-19 claims 24 more lives, 1293 new cases emerge

Source: [Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-27

KARACHI: As many as 24 more patients of Coronavirus died overnight lifting the death toll to 4,966 and 1293 new cases emerged when 22,043 tests were conducted. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued here on Wednesday. He added that 24 more patients of Covid-19 lost their lives lifting the death toll to 4,966 that constituted 1.6 percent death rate.

[more >>](#)

COVID claims 24 more lives in Sindh

Source: [Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-27

KARACHI - As many as 24 more patients of coronavirus died overnight lifting the death toll to 4,966 and 1,293 new cases emerged when 22,043 tests were conducted. This was stated by Sindh Chief (CM) Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued on Wednesday. He added that 24 more patients of COVID-19 lost their lives lifting the death toll to 4,966 that constituted 1.6 percent death rate. Mr S.....

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NCOC lauds Sindh gov't's efforts towards checking Covid-19

Source: [Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-28

KARACHI: The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) has appreciated Sindh government's efforts towards contact tracing, testing and vaccination to check Covid-19 and hoped for the same effectiveness in the ongoing vaccination campaign. A delegation of the NCOC led by Major General Asif Mehmood Goraya called on Sindh Chief Secretary Syed Mumtaz Ali Shah at Sindh Secretariat on Thursday.....

[more >>](#)

People urged to get crucial second dose of Covid-19 vaccine

Source: [Faiza Ilyas, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-28

KARACHI: Over 100,000 people, who received their first dose of Covid-19 vaccine, have not reported back to the government-run adult vaccination centres for their second vaccine dose, leaving them very vulnerable to the disease, health department officials stated on Thursday. According to health department sources, a total of 405,673 people have been scheduled for the second vaccine dose till date.....

[more >>](#)

Covid-19 restrictions, SOPs in Sindh to remain in place, says Murad

Source: [Tahir Siddiqui, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-28

KARACHI: Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah decided on Thursday to continue the ongoing restrictions and Covid-19 standard operating procedures (SOPs) and said that the situation would be reviewed again on Monday. Presiding over a meeting of the Provincial Task Force on Coronavirus at Chief Minister House, he thanked the people of the province for their cooperation and support during the ongoing

[more >>](#)

HIS running 84 Covid vaccination centres in Sindh

Source: [Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-28

HYDERABAD: Integra-ated Health Services (IHS) under its management health facilities is running 84 Covid Vaccination Centers in 20 districts across Sindh. Details released from HIS's Hyderabad Management Unit said out of eight districts of Hyderabad region including Latifabad, Sindh Government Hospital Kohsar, four of Jamshoro district's rural health centers Sun, Jhanghara, Arazi and Bh.....

[more >>](#)

Karachi lockdown turned into a money making opportunity for police

Source: [Muzammil Ferozi, Daily Times](#), 2021-05-28

Ever since the Sindh government has announced strict lockdown measures in Karachi, owing to the high positivity rate of Covid-19, It is being noticed that under the garb of Corona SOP's, Karachi is being turned into a police state, which is offering a money making opportunity to the law enforcement personnel. Daily Times learnt that in many suburbs, such as Lyari, Gadap, Ibrahim Hyedri, Qai.....

[more >>](#)

Coronavirus cases in Karachi, Hyderabad decline significantly, says Sindh CM

Source: [Our Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#) , 2021-05-28

KARACHI - Sindh Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah has expressed satisfaction over measures to curb the spread of the novel coronavirus in the province and thanked the people for cooperating with the authorities in implementing Covid-19 SOPs. The Covid-19 positivity rate has come down to 6.8 per cent from 8.63 per cent in the province. "If the support of the people continued with the same spirit,.....

[more >>](#)

Sindh orders all govt employees to get vaccinated against Covid-19

Source: [Staff Reporter](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#) , 2021-05-28

KARACHI - The Sindh government on Thursday directed all government employees of different departments to get vaccinated against the Covid-19 as soon as possible. In this connection, the provincial government has issued directives to all secretaries of government departments. Moreover, the Sindh government has also decided to set up covid vaccination centres at the province's educational insti.....

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International News

Countries News

India corona death toll passes 300,000

Source: [News Report](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-05-25

NEW DELHI: India crossed another grim milestone Monday with more than 300,000 people lost to the coronavirus, while 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[more >>](#)

UN chief declares 'war' on Covid as India toll tops 300,000

Source: [AFP](#), [Daily Times](#), 2021-05-25

The UN chief on Monday declared the world "at war" against Covid-19, as India's death toll crossed 300,000 and Japan opened its first mass vaccination centres — just two months before the start of the Olympics. United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres urged governments to apply wartime logic to stark inequalities in the response to the pandemic, warning the[more >>](#)

Half of US adults fully vaccinated against Covid:White House

Source: [Agencies](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-05-26

Washington: Half of all US adults will have received full Covid-19 vaccines on Tuesday, the White House said, marking another huge milestone in the fight against the pandemic. "Today, the United States will reach 50 percent of American adults fully vaccinated," a White House official said, speaking on condition of anonymity. More than half a million Americans have died from the coronavi.....[more >>](#)

At least 115,000 health workers have died from Covid: WHO

Source: [Agencies](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-25

Geneva - At least 115,000 health and care workers have died from Covid-19 since the beginning of the pandemic, the WHO chief said Monday, calling for a dramatic scale-up of vaccination in all countries. At the opening of the World Health Organization's main annual assembly, Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus hailed the sacrifices made by health workers around the world to battl.....[more >>](#)

Kabul unlikely coronavirus stopover for Pakistani workers going back to Saudi

Source: [AFP](#), [Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-27

Afghanistan's capital has become an unlikely pandemic transit route for Pakistanis desperate to reach the riches of Saudi Arabia despite deteriorating security and the threat of bomb blasts. With most Gulf flights from Pakistan cancelled as the country is added to a growing number of coronavirus travel blacklists, thousands of workers are hoping to reach the kingdom after first spending two wee.....[more >>](#)

COVID looms large among IIOJ&K political prisoners

Source: [News Report](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-05-28

SRINAGAR: Hundreds of political prisoners languishing in overcrowded jails in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJ&K) are at risk of contracting COVID-19, which has already been detected in multiple prisons. Lawyers and activists are calling for their release. Jail data accessed by a foreign media outlet revealed that 119 inmates across 13 IIOJ&K jails have tested positiv.....[more >>](#)

Hundreds of journalists in India succumb to COVID

Source: [News Report](#), [The News, International](#) , 2021-05-28

NEW DELHI: Journalists have paid a heavy price while doing their jobs covering the pandemic in India. But the federal government has yet to recognise them as frontline workers, foreign media reported on Thursday. Not recognising journalists as frontline workers meant that they were not given priority in the vaccination programme in many states For journalists covering the coronavirus health crisi.....

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Building Hindu temple in New Jersey: Indian workers allege 'shocking violations'

Source: [News Report](#), [The News, International](#) , 2021-05-28

NEW YORK: Hundreds of marginalised workers from India were recruited to build a massive Hindu temple in New Jersey where they were forced to work long hours for low pay in violation of U.S. labor and immigration laws, according to lawsuit filed earlier this month. The complaint, filed in US District Court in Newark on behalf of more than 200 Indian construction workers at the temple, alleges &quo.....

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Donors News

'We are at war' with Covid, says UN chief

Source: [AFP](#), [The News, International](#) , 2021-05-25

GENEVA: The world is "at war" against Covid-19, the UN chief said on Monday, calling for the application of wartime logic to the inequitable access to the weapons needed to fight the pandemic. United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres decried the "tsunami of suffering" sparked by the coronavirus crisis. Addressing the opening of the World Health Organisation's ma.....

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Covid strain first detected in India found in 53 territories: WHO

Source: [App](#), [Daily Times](#) , 2021-05-27

The coronavirus variant first detected in India has now been officially recorded in 53 territories, a World Health Organization (WHO) report shows. Additionally, the WHO has received information from unofficial sources that the B.1.617 variant has been found in seven other territories, figures in the UN health agency's weekly epidemiological update showed on Wednesday, taking the total to 6.....

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Other SDPI Engagements

Webinar News

'Tobacco taxation, related health issues need monitoring systems'

Source: [Recorder Report](#), [Business Recorder, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-25

ISLAMABAD: Federal Parliamentary Secretary for Health Dr Nausheen Hamid, Monday, said that 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 regime&.....[more >>](#)

Govt plans to have constant monitoring system on tobacco consumption: Nausheen Hamid

Source: [Staff Report](#), [The Nation, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-26

Federal Parliamentary Secretary for Health, Dr Nausheen Hamid, has said that the tobacco taxation and related health issues need constant monitoring systems and 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 regime,' held by.....[more >>](#)

Health issues need constant monitoring systems: secretary

Source: [Our Correspondent](#), [The News, International](#), 2021-05-26

Islamabad: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 regime,&rs.....[more >>](#)

Right steps should be taken at every level to ensure transition towards clean energy in Pakistan: Experts

Source: [Sabah](#), [SABAH](#), 2021-05-25

ISLAMABAD, May 25 (SABAH): Right steps should be taken at every level to ensure transition towards clean energy in Pakistan. The experts in oil and gas sector said this while sharing their views with the participants at the public private dialogue 'The role of Oil and Gas Sector in clean energy transition of Pakistan-Rural Sindh,' jointly organized by sustainable Development Policy Ins.....[more >>](#)

EXPERTS SUGGEST IMMEDIATE STEPS TO ENSURE TRANSITION TO CLEAN ENERGY IN PAKISTAN

Source: [DNA News](#), [DNA News](#), 2021-05-26

Islamabad, MAY 25 – DNA – Right steps should be taken at every level to ensure transition towards clean energy in Pakistan. The experts in oil and gas sector said this while sharing their views with the participants at the public private dialogue 'The role of Oil and Gas Sector in clean energy transition of Pakistan-Rural Sindh,' jointly organized by sustainable Development.....[more >>](#)

Experts suggest to ensure transition to clean energy

Source: [Zubair Ahmad](#), [Daily Islamabad Post](#), 2021-05-26

ISLAMABAD: Right steps should be taken at every level to ensure transition towards clean energy in Pakistan. The experts in oil and gas sector said this while sharing their views with the participants at the public private dialogue 'The role of Oil and Gas Sector in clean energy transition of Pakistan-Rural Sindh,' jointly organized by sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) an.....[more >>](#)

'Tobacco taxation part of IMF programme'

Source: [Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad](#), 2021-05-26

ISLAMABAD: Speakers at a webinar highlighted that the need for tobacco taxation is one of the clauses of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) programme which Pakistan needs to abide by. Parliamentary Secretary for Health Dr Nausheen Hamid said that tobacco taxation and related health issues need constant monitoring and the federal government was committed to coming up with such systems. The web.....

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Researcher Articles

Youth as national dividend

Source: [Ali Rehmat Shimshali, The News, International](#), 2021-05-27

The youth are considered the future of any society and a country. Over 64 percent of the population of Pakistan is below the age of 30 years, one of the largest young populations in the world. This can be turned into the greatest dividend for Pakistan if we are able to capitalize on it. Unfortunately, lack of job opportunities, lack of social engagement, unequal education and health facili.....[more >>](#)

SDPI's Related News

Ways to benefit economy discussed at KU webinar

Source: [Our Correspondent, The News, International](#), 2021-05-27

An autonomous State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) would be beneficial for the economy, as developed countries have independent central banks. These were the views of a research fellow of the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), Dr Sajid Amin Javed, during a webinar titled "The Autonomy of State Bank of Pakistan". The webinar was held by hte Department of Economics, University of.....[more >>](#)

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