.....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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A Product of ASRC-SDPI

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## Op-Eds/Articles/Editorials

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<th>Publication Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>Worrisome RLNG, vaccine shortages</td>
<td>Editorial, Business Recorder, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-06-22</td>
<td>A Business Recorder exclusive reveals an impending power crisis projected at 3000MW from 29 June to 5 July due to: (i) shortage of re-gasified liquefied natural gas (RLNG), an imported fuel with Engro seeking dry docking of its LNG terminal and therefore not having booked the required cargo for one week though the cabinet committee on energy has yet to approve this proposal; in addition National P.....more &gt;&gt;</td>
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<td>Support and solidarity</td>
<td>Myra Dahgaypaw, The News, International</td>
<td>2021-06-22</td>
<td>As the number of people fleeing the Burmese military’s violence has only increased since the coup, seeking refuge in Thailand has proven increasingly difficult for Burma’s ethnic minority refugees as Thai officials fear the spread of Covid-19 and strictly police their borders. Estimates report that in March and April, close to 3,000 Karen internally displaced persons (IDPs) crossed th.....more &gt;&gt;</td>
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<td>Vaccination hold-up</td>
<td>Editorial, The Express Tribune, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-06-23</td>
<td>The government needs to take swift actions to make up for the gap in supply of anti-Covid19 vaccines in the country. Many vaccinations centres, including those in major cities of Karachi, Lahore and Rawalpindi, had to be closed towards the end of the last week after the vaccine doses ran out of stock. People approaching the various vaccination centres were sent back. While some of them were disappo.....more &gt;&gt;</td>
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<td>Women, Covid and gender-based violence</td>
<td>Dr Shuja Ahmed Mahesar, Daily Times</td>
<td>2021-06-22</td>
<td>Covid-19 disaster has triggered rise in the cases of gender-based violence and stress among women in the wake of coronavirus situation and subsequent lockdowns imposed across the world. Rapid increase in incidence of domestic violence has now been recognised globally. Thus, United Nations has already taken initiatives to combat the worldwide surge in domestic violence against women in the form of .....more &gt;&gt;</td>
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<td>Travel restrictions</td>
<td>Editorial, Dawn, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-06-26</td>
<td>CANADA’S decision to allow PIA flights to Toronto is a welcome step, given the steady fall in confirmed Covid-19 cases in Pakistan over recent weeks. On June 24, around 1,052 people tested positive after 45,924 tests were conducted, indicating a national positivity ratio of 2pc. This is a significant improvement from April, when the positivity ratio in some cities was a staggering 40pc and t.....more &gt;&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Covid highlights potential of a digital Pakistan</td>
<td>Khurram Zia Khan, The Express Tribune, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-06-26</td>
<td>The world has faced an extremely difficult last 16 months due to Covid-19. Businesses, educational institutions and many other facilities have faced long-term closure which has a negative impact on human life. Along with other countries of the world, Pakistan also faced various problems. Words like lockdown, social distancing and SOPs become part of our day-to-day conversation. While we are faci.....more &gt;&gt;</td>
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No room for complacency
Source: Editorial, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-06-27
Planning Minister Asad Umar, who also heads the NCOC, has expressed fears of a fourth wave of coronavirus breaking out the next month if the general public fails to follow the SOPs aimed at preventing Covid-19. His fears are not unfounded considering the recent increase in cases partially due to the highly contagious Delta variant of the disease in many countries. Most of these countries are highl.....

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Expected Covid surge
Source: Editorial, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-06-28
TOP health and Covid-19 response officials in the country are already starting to talk about the possibility of the fourth wave. Though new confirmed cases and the national positivity ratio are low as compared with last month, the high transmissibility of the Delta variant, poor SOP enforcement and limited vaccine coverage make Pakistan ripe for yet another peak. Two weeks ago, Sindh Health Minist.....

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End vaccine apartheid
The term ‘delta’ in science and mathematics denotes a difference, or a gap; as in the delta between two values. In geography, a delta is where a river meets the sea, spreading out, covering the most area in its course. In reference to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, Delta is the highly contagious variant of the SARS-CoV-2 virus that is tearing through unvacci.....

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Pandemic and online learning
Source: Prof Dr Zia Ahmed, Daily Times, 2021-06-28
After the world was hit by COVID-19 last year, no mode of education has yielded fruitful results. On the contrary it has increased anxiety and frustration amongst students, teachers and parents because of poor performance and outcome. Its reason is the frequent attempts the authorities made to shift modes of education from In-person to Online and then reversing it. Some students protested against .....

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Vaccine Hesitancy
Source: Ahmad Raza, Daily Times, 2021-06-28
The recent pandemic, Covid-19, has swept through the world in such a short span of time. Since its outbreak, it has wreaked havoc in more than 214 countries of the world with total confirmed cases of more than 156 million and more than 3.2 million deaths. The novel virus has posed some serious threats to physical health and economic security inter alia making it the ultimate stressor in the societ.....

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Is the US irrational?
Source: Harlan Ullman, Daily Times, 2021-06-27
Russia and China, as well as some of America’s closest allies, are questioning the rationality of the country’s politics. Not only that, Moscow and Beijing view the US as a nation in decline. Indeed, they point to the January 6 riots on Capitol Hill as the final proof. And who can blame them? For when American presidents continuously assert the country’s exceptionalism while tout.....

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A loss of humanism
We do not have any standard prescriptions for dealing with grief and the loss of loved ones. Poets and creative writers may give voice to some of our feelings and ease our pain a little bit. There are experts with their advice. And, of course, we find strength in the love and support of family and friends. I had shared last week my personal story of losing three siblings to Covid-19. As I struggle.....
more >>

Life vs livelihood during COVID
Source: Mahnoor Ali Pervaiz, Daily Times, 2021-06-29
In December 2019, the first case of COVID-19 was reported in Wuhan, China. Since then, the outbreak has continued to hold the world more or less hostage. Economies have contracted, stocks have crashed and public healthcare systems have been overburdened. All of which forced the world to change its habits. Yet for those living in a country that is home to poverty, instability and malnourishment &md.....
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Fourth Wave
Source: Editorial, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-06-29
Despite the number of confirmed cases and the national positivity ratio going down, officials are already cautioning about a fourth wave hitting the country in July if Covid-19 SOPs are not adhered to. According to the government, AI-based disease modelling analysis reveals that the fourth wave could be a reality and that it is imperative that everyone gets vaccinated and takes necessary precautio.....
more >>

Ease in Covid curbs
Source: Editorial, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-06-30
It is happy news that will bring smiles to many faces long-inured to restrictions caused by the contagious coronavirus pandemic disease. The NCOC has announced lifting of more curbs necessitated by the need to prevent the fast spreading Covid-19 following a significant improvement in the situation pertaining to the pandemic. The new regulations will be effective from July 1 till July 31. The relax.....
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Artificial intelligence and the Covid recovery plan
There is a lot of hype surrounding Artificial Intelligence (AI), and the first step in assessing the extent of its impact is to solve the puzzle and understand what it has to offer. While being attributed to machines with a human level of intelligence, it is viewed as an “umbrella” concept that spans a variety of disciplines and technologies, including machine learning, deep learning, .....
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Opening up
As Pakistan's positivity rate falls to 1.78 percent countrywide, the NCOC at a meeting on Monday further relaxed restrictions covering most sectors in the country. But it has imposed checks on activities based largely on vaccinated people and they will be allowed greater freedoms than those who are unvaccinated. This is a sensible policy in terms of safety, although there should also be a remi.....
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<td>Creating resilient societies</td>
<td>Muhammad Omar Iftikhar, Daily Times</td>
<td>2021-07-01</td>
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<td>Poor vaccine response</td>
<td>Editorial, Dawn, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-07-04</td>
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Creating resilient societies
Source: Muhammad Omar Iftikhar, Daily Times, 2021-07-01
Developing resilient societies remains important, now more so than ever. The pandemic has dented the social and business arena at a global level. Governments must ensure that their internal working at the operational and strategic levels are rational and meet the needs of the people. Management consultancy firm McKinsey & Company published a survey back in November 2020. “Rethinking Resilience” more >>

Safety at workplace
During his campaign for the Presidency, Joe Biden called on President Donald Trump to: “Establish and enforce health and safety standards for workplaces… The Trump Administration should immediately release and enforce an Emergency Temporary Standard… to give employers and frontline employees specific, enforceable guidance on what to do to reduce the spread of COVID.” Bid….. more >>

Covid-19 Diary-V
Almost exactly two weeks after I had started feeling feverish and achy, I headed to Mayo Hospital to get a repeat Covid PCR test. This is the ‘gold standard’ in both diagnosing a person with Covid-19 as well as declaring them free of the infection. I had been feeling fine for a while now and was reasonably sure I had nothing to worry about, but the effects of Covid-19 infection are as….. more >>

Vaccine reluctance
The Covid-19 pandemic has caused a global health crisis that has crippled leading economies worldwide. Since the beginning of the pandemic in late 2019, millions of lives have been lost. Many are still battling for survival in overcrowded hospital wards. Healthcare systems all over the globe are in tatters, with unexpected loopholes exposed. Reaching herd immunity through swift vaccination….. more >>

What’s the deal on Covid vaccines?
Recently, Lahore Expo Centre, one of the city’s most popular Covid-19 vaccination sites, became a venue for a protest demonstration by those who wanted to get the jab but had been politely turned away because the Oxford-AstraZeneca vials had run out of stock. Some of the protestors, who included some overseas Pakistanis and those wishing to travel abroad, forced their way into the Expo hall….. more >>

Poor vaccine response
Source: Editorial, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-04
PAKISTAN has one of the lowest Covid-19 vaccination rates in the world — a situation which, if not improved, can lead to multiple challenges. Thus far, only 5pc of our entire population has been vaccinated. Even if one were to look at the percentage of vaccinated people in the eligible group, the figure is a sorry 10pc. Though the data shows vaccine coverage in Islamabad is promising at 35pc….. more >>
The ‘jab-can’ts’
Source: Hajrah Mumtaz, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-06
THE NCOC recently allowed the resumption, under strict protocols, of several areas of operation hit severely by the pandemic. These include indoor dining, attendance at weddings, cinemas, shrines, etc — activities with large numbers of people. Amongst the protocols are the production and checking by establishments of vaccination certificates in a bid to ensure that unvaccinated individuals ..... more >>

Health risk allowance
Source: Editorial, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-06
THE federal government made the right decision to resume payment of risk allowance to healthcare workers who continue to put their lives in considerable peril as they treat patients of Covid-19. According to media reports, around 14,600 healthcare workers have been affected by the coronavirus; 143 have lost their lives in the line of duty. The issue was brought to light by National Assembly Speake..... more >>

Choosing not to see
Source: Muhammad Hamid Zaman, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-06
In the nominal discourse of abysmally low vaccination rates in the country, two factors are often discussed. It is said that there are either not enough vaccines, or there may be vaccine hesitancy in the public. That is indeed true — but what if there is another lived reality for some people? For these people, the problem may not be lack of vaccines, and they may not be in the anti-vaxx camp..... more >>

Europe’s Covid-19 setbacks risk another summer travel washout
Source: Sarah Young and Laurence Frost, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-06
Europe’s airlines and travel sector are bracing for a second lost summer, with rebound hopes increasingly challenged by a hobbled Covid-19 vaccine rollout, resurgent infections and new lockdowns. Airline and travel stocks fell on Friday after Paris and much of northern France shut down for a month, days after Italy introduced stiff business and movement curbs for most of the country inc..... more >>

Letting loose?
Source: BR Research, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-06
Never a lull moment when a pandemic is raging on! There has been a considerable letup in Covid-19 infections from the third wave. But a volcano doesn’t just suddenly cease eruption. With most restrictions already lifted and the public largely disregarding masking and social distancing SOP’s, the public health officials have started warning that another wave of infections is around the ..... more >>

Fourth Wave
Source: Editorial, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-06
Pakistan’s positivity rate is edging three percent for the fifth consecutive day as 1347 new cases were reported in the last 24 hours alone. Concerns about a fourth wave are already being expressed, especially in light of a nationwide ease in restrictions. This is certainly not the right time to let our guard down as people have continued to show apathy towards social distancing measures and..... more >>
Masks off?
Source: BR Research, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-07
Fresh cases of the coronavirus have begun to slowly increase as mobility restrictions relax, and masks come off. Certainly, the Pakistani government's vaccination roll-out is ramping up with daily vaccine offtake falling somewhere between 300,000 to 400,000 doses with an upward looking trajectory indicating more people are lining up outside vaccination centres to get a jab. The challenge for.....
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Journey of ‘return to normalcy’
Source: BR Research, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-07
Over a year and a half into the pandemic, are we returning to pre-pandemic life? Things in Pakistan have been much close to normal throughout most of the last one year, and the Global Normalcy Index also shows the same. The Economist's recently released Global Normalcy Index is a fillip for hope as it shows that life is a little over halfway back to pre-COVID times. While the data is limited.....
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International Ranking
Source: Editorial, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-07
The international community recognised Pakistan’s efforts in its fight against Covid-19 as it ranked third in The Economist's Global Normalcy Index. Our government's persistence and determination was evident from the standard of administration and the direction of public policy, especially in the face of situations that seemed to be impossible to recover from. After suffering fr.....
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Demand picks up after austerity
Source: BR Research, Bretton Woods Observer, London, 2021-07-08
Growth in the petroleum industry – indicated by growth in volumetric sales - by the oil marketing companies turned positive again in FY21 after remaining in the negative territory for over two years. FY20 was the weakest year in terms of year-on-year growth with furnace oil witnessing the largest decline among key fuels; high speed diesel also remained in the negative zone in terms of volume.....
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Covid handling
Source: Editorial, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-09
Pakistan's Covid response has earned international recognition. Normalcy index ofThe Economisahas ranked Pakistan among the best performing countries for handling the coronavirus pandemic. This index of the acclaimed magazine tracks the progress of 50 countries, which account for 90 per cent of the global GDP, in terms of their return to pre-pandemic life on the basis of eight indicators cla.....
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COVID-19 and Pakistan
Source: Editorial, Daily Times, 2021-07-09
Every time we start putting the flags out over the flattened infection curve, a new wave is ready to pound down our door. Amid, slowly creeping confirmed cases, there are now talks of the fourth COVID wave, which is about to hit Pakistan. Fears of a soaring positivity rate should have turbo-charged Pakistan’s inoculation drive to ensure we stop the virus in its tracks. To date, herd immunit.....
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National News

Balochistan

**Fighting Covid-19: The third battle continues**
QUETTA: After more than a year of living under the constant threat of an undefeated pandemic, it appears the people of Quetta have now turned numb to the viral threat. The growing desensitisation, which is a treacherous path to tread, has left many throwing all caution to the wind, in a time when it is most needed. “It’s not like the people have not had hell to pay or haven’t w.....more >>

**70 Levies personnel suspended for refusing vaccine**
Source: AFP, *Business Recorder, Islamabad*, 2021-07-02
QUETTA: Balochistan government has suspended 70 paramilitary troops without pay after they refused to receive Covid-19 vaccines, officials said. The group were suspended in Balochistan on Wednesday "after repeated written warnings and verbal requests" to get the jabs, said Habib Ahmed Bangalzai, a senior local official. "They will also not get their salaries," Bangalz....more >>

Gilgit Baltistan

**Gilgit schools to be closed from July 1 over Covid cases**
Source: A Correspondent, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2021-06-29
GILGIT: The Gilgit-Baltistan government on Monday decided to close the schools in the Gilgit division from Thursday (July 1) , and also postponed all the scheduled events after an increase in the coronavirus cases was witnessed during the last one week. According to a press release issued by the information department, the region recorded an increase in coronavirus cases during the last week with.....more >>

Islamabad

**Pakistan to receive 13m Pfizer vaccines**
ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Monday signed an agreement with Pfizer Pakistan under which it would receive 13 million doses of the American vaccine. On the other hand, over 600 diplomats from 57 countries have been vaccinated at the National Institute of Health (NIH). According to a statement issued by a publicity firm, the agreement was signed by Pfizer Pakistan and the National Disaster Manageme.....more >>

**Capital records lowest Covid-19 cases since Oct**
Source: Staff Reporter, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2021-06-22
ISLAMABAD: The capital reported lowest number of Covid-19 cases in a single day since October whereas the positivity rate was 0.6pc. Officials of the capital administration said 24 people were infected by the virus. This is the lowest number of cases in a single day since Oct 5, 2020 when 23 cases were reported. During the last 24 hours 3,627 tests were conducted in the capital and out of the to.....more >>
COVID-19 vaccination resumes in all districts
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-06-22
KARACHI: The vaccination for Covid-19 resumed in all 29 districts of Sindh on Monday after a day’s closure of vaccination centres due to shortage of jabs. According to health department officials, a total of 421,000 doses of SinoVac were distributed to vaccination centres late Sunday night across the province including 23,000 doses to district Central, 140,000 to district East, 20,000 to district.....
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Covid-19 deaths cross 22,000 mark across country
Source: Abdul Rasheed Azad, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-06-22
ISLAMABAD: Country’s Covid-19 deaths on Monday crossed 22,000 mark and reached 22,007 as the country reported 30 more deaths in the past 24 hours, the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) said. According to the NCOC, over the past 24 hours, the country also detected 907 coronavirus infections, following which the nationwide tally of Covid-19 infections reached 849,175 since the.....
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US gives more medical equipment to handle corona
Source: Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-06-22
ISLAMABAD - The Ministry of National Health Services (NHS) on Monday received the second shipment of emergency medical equipment donated by the US government through USAID Pakistan at Islamabad. In a statement issued here, the ministry said that this shipment includes personal protective equipment usable by more than 13,500 frontline healthcare workers and 600 ICU and operation theatre staff. The.....
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Studies reveal: Ways for corona patients to get lost senses back
ISLAMABAD: Loss of smell is a strange and distinct feature of COVID-19, so much so that it is considered a better predictor of whether someone has been infected than other common symptoms, such as fever or coughing. Studies suggest that up to half of infected people temporarily lose their ability to perceive smells, although this may be as high as 67% in those with mild to moderate infections &nda.....
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FM visits dedicated COVID-19 vaccination facility for diplomats at NIH
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-06-22
ISLAMABAD - Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi on Monday visited the dedicated COVID-19 vaccination facility for diplomats at the National Institute of Health. Highlighting the effective government policies and interventions, the Foreign Minister stated that Pakistan's handling of the COVID-19 pandemic, based on the “whole of Government approach,” “smart lockdowns”.....
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<td>No death due to COVID-19 from twin cities, 34 cases</td>
<td>Muhammad Qasim, The News, International</td>
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<td>British Lord for better safety practices to protect all from COVID-19</td>
<td>Afshan S. Khan, The News, International</td>
<td>2021-06-23</td>
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<td>About 2m more doses of Covid-19 vaccine reach Pakistan from China</td>
<td>Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-06-23</td>
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<td>Pakistan’s Covid-19 positivity rate drops to 1.69pc</td>
<td>Tahir Niaz, The Nation, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-06-23</td>
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<td>Expats protest outside mass vaccination centre, demand AstraZeneca vaccine</td>
<td>Rahul Basharat, The Nation, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-06-23</td>
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COVID-19 deaths, positivity among infections drop record low since June 1
Source: App, Daily Times, 2021-06-23
The Covid-19 daily deaths, positivity and infections dropped to record lowest number since June 1 as the national tally on Tuesday of total active COVID-19 cases was recorded 33,452 with 663 more people tested positive for the deadly virus and 1,204 people recovered from the disease during the last 24 hours. Twenty-seven corona patients have died during the past 24 hours, 25 of whom were under tr.....
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Govt partners with Facebook to fight COVID-19 misinformation
Source: App, Daily Times, 2021-06-23
The Government of Pakistan has partnered with Facebook in its fight against COVID-19 to tackle misinformation creating displeasure among the masses. In Pakistan, over 32 million people received authoritative information regarding COVID prevention and vaccination through social media messaging campaigns conducted by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Information’s Digital Media Wing.....
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COVID-19 claims 39 lives, infects 930 more in past 24 hours
Source: App, Daily Times, 2021-06-24
The national tally on Wednesday of total active COVID-19 cases was 33,005 with 930 more people tested positive for the deadly virus and 1,338 people recovered from the disease during the last 24 hours. Thirty-nine corona patients have died during the past 24 hours, all of whom were under treatment in the hospitals, according to the latest update issued by the National Command and Operation Centre.....
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55pc residents of Islamabad vaccinated against Covid-19
Source: news Desk, Daily Times, 2021-06-24
The federal capital is pushing ahead with the Covid-19 vaccination drive, said a senior health official on Wednesday, adding that the authorities had administered shots to 55 percent of its population while aiming to immunise at least 70 percent of the city’s residents by the end of August. “All vaccination centres in the capital are running smoothly and we are administering between 10.....
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Initial response to Covid-19 lacked enforcement: HRCP
Source: Kalbe Ali, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-06-24
ISLAMABAD: The Human Rights Commission of Pakistan’s (HRCP) annual report on the state of human rights in 2020 claimed that the government’s initial response to Covid-19 pandemic was marred by a lack of transparency and enforcement, whereas the authorities failed to enforce standard operating procedures in mosques as most religious bodies and mosque committees refused to comply with th.....
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After Covid, could the next big killer be heatwaves?
Source: Marlowe Hood, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-06-24
Searing, unrelenting heat scorches large swaths of the Earth, killing millions who have no means to escape. Shade is useless, and shallow bodies of water are warmer than the blood coursing through people’s veins. This is a scene from a new sci-fi novel, but the suffocating horror it describes may be closer to science than fiction, according to a draft UN report that warns of dire conse.....
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<td>Mobilising finance needed to help recover from Covid-19: FM</td>
<td>Our Staff Reporter, <em>The Nation, Islamabad</em></td>
<td>2021-06-24</td>
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<td>ISLAMABAD - Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi on Wednesday said that there was a need to mobilise the finance needed by developing countries to recover from the COVID-19 induced recession and to restore them on the path to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. Addressing the Asia and Pacific High Level Conference on Belt and Road Cooperation, the Foreign Minister said, &quot;...&quot; more &gt;&gt;</td>
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<td>2m doses of Sinovac Covid-19 vaccine arrive</td>
<td>Tahir Niaz, <em>The Nation, Islamabad</em></td>
<td>2021-06-24</td>
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<td>ISLAMABAD - A fresh batch of two million Covid-19 vaccines arrived in Pakistan from China on Wednesday. The vaccines were handed over to the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) at the Islamabad Airport, according to the officials. A special PIA aircraft, PK 6852 flew from Beijing to Islamabad on Wednesday carrying the Covid-19 jabs. The consignment was part of the emergency orders the fe..... more &gt;&gt;</td>
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<td>Capital continues to see less than 1pc positivity ratio</td>
<td>Staff Reporter, <em>Dawn, Islamabad</em></td>
<td>2021-06-25</td>
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<td>ISLAMABAD: The Covid-19 positivity ratio in the capital was 0.9pc as 3,906 tests were conducted in the capital which detected the virus in 39 people — 23 men and 16 women — and 40 people recovered on Thursday. One person reportedly succumbed to the virus in Rawalpindi district. Officials of the capital administration said nine cases were reported in the age group of 30-39, followed b..... more &gt;&gt;</td>
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<td>ISLAMABAD: A special flight of Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) airlifted two million doses of SinoVac COVID-19 vaccine from China that arrived at the Islamabad International Airport here on Wednesday. The consignment received was part of the planned contracted quantity purchased from China, the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) apprised in an update here issued. The National Dis..... more &gt;&gt;</td>
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<td>Rawalpindi : No death was reported due to coronavirus illness, COVID-19 from Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district in the last three days from where a total of 1766 patients had already died of the illness. In the last 24 hours, as many as 45 new patients from the twin cities have been diagnosed with coronavirus illness taking tally to 107,131. It is important that the number of pat..... more &gt;&gt;</td>
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<td>Active Covid cases fall below 33,000</td>
<td>Our Correspondent, <em>The Express Tribune, Islamabad</em></td>
<td>2021-06-25</td>
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<td>ISLAMABAD: The national tally of active Covid-19 cases fell below 33,000 on Thursday, the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), which serves as the unified national effort against the coronavirus pandemic, said in its daily update of the disease. It said that the tally of active cases was recorded at 32,936, as 1,097 more people tested positive for the virus while 1,131 people recovered ..... more &gt;&gt;</td>
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<td>Govt’s response to Covid-19 pandemic; Diplomatic corps, international bodies briefed</td>
<td>Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-06-25</td>
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<td>ISLAMABAD: The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) organised a briefing session for members of the Diplomatic Corps and the international organisations based in Islamabad on government of Pakistan’s national response to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Chairman NCOC and Federal Minister for Planning, Development, Reforms and Special Initiatives, Asad Umar, outlined multiple dimension.</td>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Training of medical staff starts to control corona pandemic</td>
<td>APP, The Nation, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-06-25</td>
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<td>FAISALABAD - The district health authority conducted a training session for the medical staff at District Health Development Centre on Thursday. Deputy Commissioner (DC) Muhammad Ali said that medical staff was working at front-line in war against coronavirus. Therefore, the training was imperative to save them and other people from corona disease. He said that the third wave of corona pandemic was ve.</td>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
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<td>Vaccine acceptability decisions should be taken by WHO: Asad Umar</td>
<td>Tahir Niaz, The Nation, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-06-25</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISLAMABAD - Federal Minister for Planning and Head of National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) Asad Umar said Thursday that vaccine acceptability decisions should be taken by a global institution such as WHO. He gave the statement in the wake of rejection of some brands of Covid-19 vaccine by some nations. “Vaccine acceptability decisions have to be taken by a global institution lik.</td>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asad Umar warns of fourth Covid-19 wave in July if SOPs not followed</td>
<td>Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-06-25</td>
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<td>ISLAMABAD: Head of the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) and federal minister Asad Umar on Friday said that a fourth wave of Covid-19 could possibly occur in July if precautionary SOPs are not adhered to. &quot;Reviewed the artifical intelligence-based disease modeling analysis today in NCOC,&quot; Umar said in a tweet. &quot;In the absence of strong SOP enforcement and continued stro.</td>
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<td>Capital sees slight increase in positivity ratio</td>
<td>Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-06-26</td>
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<td>ISLAMABAD: As many as 32 Covid-19 cases emerged in the capital during the last 24 hours with a slight increase in positivity ratio reported on Thursday. Rawalpindi district saw 14 people getting infected by the deadly virus. However, no deaths were reported in the federal capital and Rawalpindi. Officials of the capital administration said 3,118 tests were conducted in the capital out of which r.</td>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pakistan to get ventilators, personal protective equipment from Canada</td>
<td>Mateen Haider, The Nation, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-06-26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Islamabad - Pakistan would receive major covid-19 related medical supplies from the government of Canada which would help in fighting covid-19 in Pakistan. &quot;The Government of Canada has announced to donate additional covid-19 related medical supplies to Pakistan in response to the ongoing challenges of the covid-19 pandemic in South Asia&quot;, a statement issued from Canadian government said.</td>
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<td>ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's coronavirus positivity rate dropped to 1.9 per cent on Saturday as 935 new cases were reported in the country. With the new count, the total tally of cases since the outbreak of the pandemic in the country has risen to 953,842. The country's death toll, meanwhile, climbed to 22,188 after 36 more people succumbed to the virus in a single day. According to the Na.....</td>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Covid positivity rate falls below 2%</td>
<td>Our Correspondent, <em>The Express Tribune, Islamabad</em>, 2021-06-26</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISLAMABAD: The national Covid-19 positivity ratio fell below 2% for the second time this week, while the single-day tally of fresh cases stayed below 1,000 during the last 24 hours, according to daily update of the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on the pandemic. During the last 24 hours, the forum said 935 people tested positive for the infectious disease from 46,842 coronavirus te.....</td>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pakistan to get 2.5m Moderna vaccine doses under Covax</td>
<td>NNI, <em>Business Recorder, Islamabad</em>, 2021-06-27</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISLAMABAD: Pakistan is all set to receive free 2.5 million doses of Moderna coronavirus vaccine under Covax scheme. According to sources, Pakistan will receive the consignment of the jabs in a week or two. The new vaccine will be administered to people with low immune system and chronic diseases. Anyone wanting to travel abroad will also be able get the jab as Morderna vaccine is approve.....</td>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pakistan reports 935 new corona cases, 36 deaths</td>
<td>Our Staff Reporter, <em>The Nation, Islamabad</em>, 2021-06-27</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISLAMABAD - Pakistan on Saturday morning reported 935 new coronavirus cases that took the country's Covid-19 tally to 953,842. The country's death toll, meanwhile, climbed to 22,188 after 36 more people succumbed to the deadly disease in a single day. According to the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), 1,110 patients recovered from the deadly disease in a day, taking to.....</td>
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<tr>
<td>Curbs on air travel to be eased from July 1 as virus relents</td>
<td>Mohammad Asghar</td>
<td>Ikram Junaidi, <em>Dawn, Islamabad</em>, 2021-06-28</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISLAMABAD: As Covid-19 situation improves in most parts of the world, including Pakistan, the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) has decided to gradually normalise inbound international air travel, increasing direct flights to 40 per cent from the United Kingdom (UK), Europe, Canada, China and Malaysia. On the other hand, the country continued to record less than 1,000 cases for the sec.....</td>
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<td>ISLAMABAD: All indicators related to Covid-19 are showing positive signs as the capital has reported the lowest weekly positivity ratio of the current year — a tenfold reduction in cases in two months. As many as 37 patients were found infected by the virus on Sunday. According to a graph revealed by district health authorities, the positivity rate was 10pc in the second half of April (19 t.....</td>
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Another day without corona death
Rawalpindi: The confirmation of 64 new patients positive for coronavirus illness, COVID-19 from Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district in the last 24 hours has taken tally to 107,334 while no death has been reported from the region due to the illness. It is, however, important that as many as 1,768 patients suffering from COVID-19 had already died of the illness from the twin cities.....
more >>

Over 0.9m recover from Covid-19 so far: NCOC
The number of people who have recovered from the coronavirus in the country shot past 900,000 on Sunday after more than 1,300 people recovered from Covid-19. According to the data issued by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), the country reported less than 1,000 cases of coronavirus for the second consecutive day. The NCOC said that 44,544 people were tested for the infection in the.....
more >>

Drug addiction: A major challenge alongside coronavirus
Source: App, Daily Times, 2021-06-28
Globally, there are great concerns about coronavirus, polio and HIV AIDS but no serious efforts were made to eradicate the menace of drug addiction and its illicit trafficking, which has been affecting around 35 million people every year worldwide. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes (UNODC) Report 2019 has revealed that an estimated 271 million people aged 15-64, had used drugs in 2017.....
more >>

Iron Brothers join hands to combat Covid-19 and Political virus
Source: Inp, Daily Times, 2021-06-28
“It has been proofed by China’s successful experience that the Covid-19 epidemic is preventable, controllable, and curable, Gwadar Pro reported on Sunday. However, the only way to defeat the virus is solidarity and cooperation of the international community, rather than politicization,” Lin SongTian, President of the Chinese People’s Association for Friendship with Foreign.....
more >>

Coronavirus infects 935, kills 36 in a day
Source: news Desk, Daily Times, 2021-06-27
The country continues to see a gradual improvement in the pandemic situation, as 935 cases were reported during the last 24 hours, said the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Saturday. According to the NCOC data, at least 46,842 coronavirus tests were conducted across the country in the last 24 hours, out of which 935 came back positive. Another 36 people died of Covid-19 in the coun.....
more >>

Delta ‘most transmissible’ of coronavirus variants identified so far: WHO chief
Source: App, Daily Times, 2021-06-28
The head of the UN health agency expressed concern on Friday over the coronavirus’ delta variant, which he called “the most transmissible” mutation to date. Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) told journalists at a regular briefing in Geneva that delta has been identified in at least 85 countries and is “spreading rapidly .....
PM won’t succumb to IMF: Tarin
ISLAMABAD: Finance Minister Shaukat Tarin on Saturday said that Prime Minister Imran Khan would not succumb to the IMF pressure and won’t put burden on the poor. Winding up debate on demands for grants for the Finance Division, the minister maintained that Imran Khan, who is standing before the IMF, would not burden the poor masses. “Imran Khan, who has not increased petroleum prices.....
more >>

Water pandemic
The UN has warned that after the Covid-19 pandemic, drought around the world could become the most serious crisis faced by the globe. The UN has said that as global warming gains speed, at least 130 countries are at risk of facing severe water shortages, while another 23 may be affected by water shortage in one way or the other. Already losses of $124 billion have been experienced between 1998 and.....
more >>

Islamabad logs one more COVID death, 31 new cases
Rawalpindi : Coronavirus illness, COVID-19 has claimed one more life from Islamabad Capital Territory in the last 24 hours taking the death toll from the federal capital to 776 while a total of 31 new patients have been reported positive for the illness from ICT and Rawalpindi district taking the tally from the region to 107,270 on Saturday. It is important that the death of a patient from ICT ha.....
more >>

Pakistan reports below 1,000 Covid-19 cases for 2nd consecutive day
ISLAMABAD - The coronavirus cases in Pakistan continue to remain under control as the country reported less than 1,000 Covid-19 cases for the second consecutive days on Sunday. According to the statistics shared by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), Pakistan carried out 44,544 Covid-19 tests in the last 24 hours out of which 901 returned positive. The new cases took the nationa.....
more >>

Over 0.9m recover from Covid-19 so far: NCOC
Source: news Desk, Daily Times, 2021-06-29
The number of people who have recovered from the coronavirus in the country shot past 900,000 on Sunday after more than 1,300 people recovered from Covid-19. According to the data issued by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), the country reported less than 1,000 cases of coronavirus for the second consecutive day. The NCOC said that 44,544 people were tested for the infection in the.....
more >>
**COVID-19: NCOC decides to soften curbs for vaccinated individuals**
Source: news Desk, Daily Times , 2021-06-29

The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Monday decided to ease restrictions imposed to contain disease spread during the third wave of Covid-19 pandemic and allowed vaccinated individuals to attend indoor activities on a limited scale. An NCOC special session was chaired by Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Asad Umar, co-chaired by National Coordinator... more >>

**COVID-19 national tally reports lowest death number in June**
Source: App, Daily Times , 2021-06-29

The national tally on Monday of total active COVID-19 cases was recorded 32,225 with 914 more people testing positive for the deadly virus and 910 people recovering from the disease during the last 24 hours. Twenty corona patients have died during the past 24 hours, 19 of whom were under treatment in the hospitals and one out of the hospitals had perished in their respective quarantines or homes, ..... more >>

**Britain hails Pakistan’s Covid response**
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad , 2021-06-29

ISLAMABAD: British High Commissioner Christian Turner on Monday appreciated Pakistan’s response to the Covid-19 pandemic. During a meting with Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training Shafqat Mahmood, the high commissioner said so far Pakistan has done well to curtail the virus. The two sides exchanged views on a range of bilateral issues, says a press release issued by educ..... more >>

**About 3,000 inoculated after protesters damage Islamabad's F-9 Park vaccination centre**
Source: Munawer Azeem, Dawn, Islamabad , 2021-06-29

ISLAMABAD: Hundreds of people staged a protest and created law and order situation at F-9 Park vaccination centre over shortage of Pfizer and Astrazeneca vaccines on Monday. Officials of the capital administration said that about 3,000 people from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) reached the centre to get the shots of Pfizer and Astrazeneca vaccines which are mandatory for entry in Saudi Arabia. The staf..... more >>

**Paramedics threaten to halt Covid-19 drive**
Source: Shabbir Hussain, The Express Tribune, Islamabad , 2021-06-29

ISLAMABAD: A large number of health workers of public sector hospitals inIslamabadtook to the streets on Monday after health authorities rejected a summary seeking Covid-19 risk allowance for frontline warriors. The health secretary had earlier made the inoculation of coronavirus vaccines mandatory for health workers before they sought the risk allowance. According to sources, when the list of ..... more >>

**Corona curbs relax**

ISLAMABAD: The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) Monday permitted restaurants to operate at 50% indoor capacity but the exception had been made only for vaccinated people. In a statement, the NCOC said indoor and outdoor dining had now been allowed till 11:59 pm, while indoor dining would be at 50% occupancy only for those who had received both doses of the vaccine. The development ca..... more >>
Only vaccinated persons allowed indoor dining
Source: Nuzhat Nazar, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-06-29
ISLAMABAD: The National Command and Operations Centre (NCOC), on Monday, allowed indoor dining operation of 50 percent capacity only for vaccinated individuals. In a statement, the NCOC said indoor and outdoor dining had now been allowed till 11:59 pm, while indoor dining would be at 50 percent occupancy only for vaccinated individuals. This was decided during an NCOC session, with Minis.....

Centre reports 20 single-day virus deaths
Source: Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-06-29
ISLAMABAD - The national tally on Monday of total active COVID-19 cases was recorded 32,225 with 914 more people testing positive for the deadly virus and 910 people recovering from the disease during the last 24 hours. Twenty corona patients died during past 24 hours, 19 of whom were under treatment in the hospitals and one out of the hospitals had perished in their respective quarantines or home.....

Centre eases more curbs, allows reopening of marriage halls, cinemas to vaccinated people
Source: Imran Mukhtar, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-06-29
The government has also allowed re-opening of shrines, cinemas, and indoor gyms halls from next month but with strict observance of Covid-19 standard operating procedures (SOPs). However, ban on contacts sports and all types of indoor and outdoor gatherings including festivals and cultural, musical, religious and other events will continue. All these decisions were made by the National Comman.....

3m more doses of vaccine arrive from China
Source: Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-06-30
ISLAMABAD: While the number of active cases of coronavirus has dropped from over 55,000 to 32,153 within a month, the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Tuesday expressed concern over the rising positivity rate in Gilgit-Baltistan and the Ministry of National Health Services issued a guideline for animal markets in view of upcoming Eidul Azha. Animal vendors without evidence of vacci.....

Slight decline seen in Covid-19 cases
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-06-30
ISLAMABAD: A decline in the number of Covid-19 cases was seen in Islamabad and Rawalpindi district on Tuesday with 23 people testing positive in the former and 11 in the latter. The positivity ratio was 1.1pc whereas 39 people recovered from the disease in the capital. No virus-related casualties were reported in the last three days. Officials of the capital administration said during the last 2.....

Pakistan reports lowest fresh Covid cases in nine months
Source: news Desk, Daily Times, 2021-06-30
Pakistan on Tuesday reported the lowest number of fresh cases Since October 25, 2020, as 735 people contracted the infection, according to the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC). The country reported the lowest coronavirus cases in a single day since October 25, when 707 new cases of the infection were reported in a single day. Twenty-three people passed away from the infection on Tuesd.....
COVID-19 national tally of active cases drops below 33 thousands
Source: app, Daily Times, 2021-06-30
The national tally on Monday of total active COVID-19 cases was recorded 32,153 with 735 more people testing positive for the deadly virus and 784 people recovering from the disease during the last 24 hours. Twenty-three corona patients have died during the past 24 hours, 23 of whom were under treatment in the hospitals, according to the latest update issued by the National Command and Operation ..... more >>

PMA warns of fourth Covid-19 wave in August after Eid
Source: news Desk, Daily Times, 2021-06-30
The Pakistan Medical Association (PMA) warned on Tuesday that the government’s decision to allow indoor dining and marriages at restaurants and wedding halls for vaccinated people from next month could lead to a fourth coronavirus wave in the first week of August, following the religious Eid-ul-Azha holiday. The medical professionals raised questions regarding the mechanism to implement the..... more >>

Weekly positivity ratio in ICT drops
Islamabad: As many as 44 new patients were tested positive for coronavirus illness, COVID-19 from Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district in the last 24 hours while the virus claimed no life from the region. Data collected by ‘The News’ on Monday reveals that in the last week, the weekly positivity rate of the infection in the federal capital has been recorded as 0.9 per c..... more >>

NCOC discusses rollout plan for 3m doses
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-06-30
ISLAMABAD - The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Tuesday discussed the rollout plan of 3 million doses of Sinovac vaccine that arrived Tuesday from China under the procurement plan for the month of June. National Coordinator Lt Gen Hamood uz Zaman Khan chaired the NCOC session while SAPM on health Dr Faisal Sultan and Chairman NDMA Lt Gen Akhtar Nawaz Satti attended the session..... more >>

Less than 800 new infections reported in 24 hours
Source: Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-06-30
ISLAMABAD - Pakistan reported 723 Covid-19 cases during the last 24 hours period suggesting that the infection was on the decline. According to the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), 41,133 tests were carried out during the past 24 hours while 735 returned positive. The positivity rate remained at 1.78 percent. The country also reported 23 deaths in a single day taking the death toll to..... more >>

NIH employees stage protest over non-release of COVID-19 risk allowance
Source: Rahul Basharat, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-06-30
ISLAMABAD -The National Institute of Health (NIH) employees on Tuesday blocked the main gate of the facility staging a protest over non-release of COVID-19 risk allowance. Employees of NIH protested for the second day on Tuesday against non-receipt of Health Risk Allowance. The closure of the main gate caused difficulties for the citizens visiting the facility for the COVID-19 test and vaccin..... more >>
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<tr>
<td>Rebound in economic activity likely to continue in coming months</td>
<td><a href="https://www.thenation.com.pk/">APP, The Nation, Islamabad</a></td>
<td>2021-06-30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Active Covid cases drop below 32,000 in Pakistan</td>
<td><a href="https://expresstribune.com.pk/">Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad</a></td>
<td>2021-06-30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan seals land border with Iran over Covid spread fears: Sources</td>
<td><a href="https://dailytimes.pk/">Inp, Daily Times</a></td>
<td>2021-07-01</td>
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<tr>
<td>COVID-19 national tally of active cases drops below 32 thousand</td>
<td><a href="https://dailytimes.pk/">App, Daily Times</a></td>
<td>2021-07-01</td>
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<tr>
<td>Passengers suffer as foreign airlines cancel flights</td>
<td><a href="https://dawn.com.pk/">Azfar-ul-Ashfaque, Dawn, Islamabad</a></td>
<td>2021-07-01</td>
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ISLAMABAD - With significant signs of economic recovery, the government would continue to follow the positive reform momentum to boost the competitiveness of country’s economy and lay a strong foundation for a more robust, inclusive and sustainable recovery. “Pakistani economy has shown significant signs of economic recovery with fast resumption of economic dynamism,” says t.....

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ISLAMABAD: The national tally of total active Covid-19 cases fell to 31,606 on Wednesday as 979 more people tested positive for the virus while 1,499 people made full recovery from the disease during the last 24 hours, according to the latest update issued by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC). The national Covid positivity ratio during past 24 hours was recorded at 2.3%. among that a.....

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Pakistan has sealed its land route with Iran over fears of COVID spread after it emerged that the neighboring country’s Zahedan city is in the grip of a virus wave, sources said on Wednesday. The sources said that Pakistan has closed down its Taftan border with the neighbouring country. “No one is allowed to cross the border from either side,” they said. In May this year, Pakista.....

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The national tally on Wednesday of total active COVID-19 cases was 31,606 with 979 more people testing positive for the deadly virus and 1,499 people recovering from the disease during the last 24 hours. Twenty-seven corona patients have died during the past 24 hours, 25 of whom were under treatment in the hospitals and two of them perished in their respective homes or quarantine facilities, acco.....

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KARACHI: People intending to come to Pakistan or leave the country have been facing hardship and mental agony because of cancellation of their flights by several foreign airlines due to capacity restrictions, it emerged on Wednesday. The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) has taken notice of the large-scale flight cancellation and blamed foreign carriers for “overbooking”, saying the agen.....

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ISLAMABAD: The national tally on Monday of active COVID-19 cases was recorded 32,153 with 735 more people testing positive for the deadly virus and 784 people recovering from the disease during the 24 hours. Twenty-three corona patients have died during the 24 hours, out of which 23 were under treatment in hospitals, according to the latest update issued by the National Command and Operation Cent.....

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Expats’ protests continue in Islamabad as shortage of Pfizer, AstraZeneca persists
Source: Munawer Azeem | Aamir Yasin, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-01
ISLAMABAD: Hundreds of people, who came to Islamabad from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for vaccination, blocked 9th Avenue for hours during a protest on Wednesday after being told by staff at F-9 vaccination centre that they ran short of Pfizer and AstraZeneca. Over 2,000 people moved towards the F-9 Vaccination Centre and police were unable to stop them, officials of the capital administration said, addin.....
more >>

Iran closes Taftaan border with Pakistan as Covid cases rise
Source: Mateen Haider, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-01
ISLAMABAD - Iran has closed its main border crossing point at Taftaan with Pakistan due to the rise in Covid cases in border city Zahidan, credible sources said yesterday. Iranian authorities have informed Pakistani authorities on phone about the decision before closing the border for an indefinite time, the sources told The Nation.Pakistani passengers bound for Iran at Pakistani side were informe.....
more >>

Pakistan reports 979 new corona cases, 27 deaths
Source: Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-01
ISLAMABAD - Pakistan reported 979 new coronavirus cases in the past 24 hours, taking the country’s Covid-19 tally to 957,371. The country’s death toll climbed to 22,281 after 27 more people succumbed to the deadly disease. Meanwhile, 1,499 patients recovered from the deadly disease in a day, taking total recoveries to 903,484. According to the National Command and Operation Centre (NCO.....
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One dies of COVID-19, 51 new cases from twin cities
Islamabad : Another 51 patients were tested positive for coronavirus illness, COVID-19 from Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district in the last 24 hours while one patient died of the illness from ICT keeping the situation still alarming. Confirmation of 51 new patients from the twin cities has taken the total number of patients so far reported from the region to 107,461 of which 82,65.....
more >>

Flight cancellations
Source: Editorial, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-02
WITH the cancellation of several international flights, travellers to and from Pakistan have been plunged into a state of uncertainty. According to the Civil Aviation Authority, no move has been made on its part to cancel the flights. The CAA maintains that passengers were inconvenienced because international carriers first overbooked flights and later had to cancel them because of the restriction.....
more >>

Pace of vaccination remains ‘very slow’ in Pakistan
Source: Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-02
ISLAMABAD: Although around five per cent of Pakistan’s total and 10pc of its eligible population has got at least one dose of the Covid-19 vaccine, the country is still one of the low-ranked countries where pace of vaccination remains very slow. The data of federating units show that 35pc of eligible people have been vaccinated in Islamabad but only 3pc people opted for vaccination in Baloc.....
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Capital sees slight increase in Covid-19 cases
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-02
ISLAMABAD: The capital saw an increase in the number of Covid-19 cases as 54 people were diagnosed with the disease on Thursday whereas two people passed away. The positivity ratio was 1.9pc. The death of a female patient from the 70-79 age group was reported and death of a male patient from the 80-89 age group was reported. Both of them were residents of G-6 and G-13, officials of the capital ad..... more >>

38,557 vaccine doses wasted in six months
Source: Imran Gabol, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-02
LAHORE: As many as 38,557 doses of coronavirus vaccines went waste in different areas of Punjab owing to temperature issues in cold storage and transportation problems between cities during the last six months. However, Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department Secretary Sarah Aslam rejected the reports terming it a ‘normal practice’. According to the Expanded Programme on I..... more >>

Amid ‘shortage’ of Covid-19 vaccines, national positivity ratio stands at 2.2%
Source: news Desk, Daily Times, 2021-07-02
The national tally of total active Covid-19 cases was recorded at 31,767 amid reports of shortage of vaccines in several cities across country, a private TV channel reported on Thursday. According to the report, vaccine doses from AstraZeneca, Pfizer, and CanSino Bio have run out of supply. Several vaccination centres have displayed banners saying that the said vaccines are not available. China&r..... more >>

Pakistan receives 2.5m Moderna jabs from US
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-02
ISLAMABAD: Pakistan received on Friday 2.5m doses of the Moderna Covid-19 vaccine, donated by the United States (US) underpartnership with the COVAX global vaccine initiative, UNICEF and the federal government. According to a press release issued by the US embassy, the vaccines arrived at the Islamabad International Airport as a donation part of the 80 million doses the US is sharing with the world..... more >>

Daily Covid-19 caseload goes over 1,000 for first time in a week
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-02
ISLAMABAD - Pakistan on Thursday reported over 1,000 single day coronavirus cases, for the first time in a week. The country reported 1,037 new cases Thursday morning, taking the tally to 958,408. The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) data showed that 46,145 tests were conducted on June 30, of which 1,037 came back positive for Covid-19. The positivity rate for the day remained 2.2..... more >>

2.5m doses of Moderna vaccine arrive from US
Source: Mohammad Asghar | Amin Ahmed | Aamir Yasin, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-03
ISLAMABAD / RAWALPINDI: Pakistan on Friday received 2.5 million doses of Moderna vaccine from the US, with a senior American official in the federal capital confirming that Washington would be sending more in future. In another development, the Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority (PCAA) issued notices to some foreign airlines for causing inconvenience to passengers by the sudden cancellation of flight..... more >>
Capital’s positivity rate rises for second day
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-03
ISLAMABAD: With lockdown restrictions easing, a slight increase in the Covid-19 positivity ratio was seen in the capital as it reached 3.7pc on Friday from 1.9pc reported on Thursday. As many as 37 people recovered from the disease. Officials of the capital administration said 73 new cases emerged against the 1,956 tests conducted in the last 24 hours. On Thursday, 54 people were found infected o.....
more >>

CAA curbs on foreign airlines cause hardship for passengers
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-03
ISLAMABAD: Thousands of Pakistanis, who wanted to return to the country, would have to wait a little longer, as the airlines cancelled the flights for Pakistan after the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) extended the restriction of allowing 20% inbound operations for two more weeks. Several foreign airlines, which operated flights to and from Pakistan, had anticipated lifting of the restrictions beca.....
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COVID-19 tally reports spike in daily positive cases
Source: Agencies, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-03
ISLAMABAD - The national tally on Friday of total active COVID-19 cases was recorded 31,910 with 1,277 more people testing positive for the deadly virus and 1,110 people recovering from the disease during the last 24 hours. Twenty-four corona patients have died during past 24 hours, 21 of whom were under treatment in the hospitals and three of them perished in their respective homes or quaran.....
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Vaccine rates
The spread of the Covid-19 pandemic in Pakistan appears to be under control – though the infection rates are going up again – but this should not be a cause for any complacency or celebration. To date, only five percent of Pakistan’s total population has received at least one dose of the Covid-19 vaccine. For the eligible population, this ratio is around 10 percent which places P.....
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85 COVID-19 cases, no death from twin cities
Islamabad: The number of patients being tested positive for coronavirus illness, COVID-19 from Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district continued to register an upward trend as in the last 24 hours, another 85 patients were tested positive for the infection from the twin cities though the virus claimed no life from the region. Data collected by ‘The News’ on Saturday reve.....
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Eid preparations peak despite COVID-19 threat
Islamabad: With around two weeks left in the religious festival of Eidul Azha, majority of the people have started preparations for celebrating this important festival thronging city markets for shopping and looking for the sacrificial animal. Buying sacrificial animal for the people is an uphill task this time too as majority of the people are cautious about their safety when the risks of fou.....
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Ministry finally decides to pay Covid-19 risk allowance to health workers
Source: Munawer Azeem | Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-04
ISLAMABAD: On the intervention of Speaker National Assembly Asad Qaiser, the Ministry of National Health Services (NHS) has decided to pay the Covid-19 health risk allowance to the frontline health workers. However, the healthcare workers complained that the ministry wanted to pay the allowance to selected employees despite the fact that all healthcare workers faced the risk of contracting the vi.....

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NCOC issues Covid prevention guidelines for Eidul Azha
Source: Web Desk, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-04
ISLAMABAD: The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) reiterated on Sunday the Ministry of Health's guidelines for Eidul Azha, urging masses to follow the SOPs to prevent Covid infections. All cattle markets will be set up outside the cities with adherence to SOPs, said an official communique released by the authority. The authority also made it mandatory for all staffers and the dealers ..... more >>

Pakistanis going abroad will get Moderna vaccine
Source: INP, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-04
ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Planning Asad Umar on Saturday said that Pakistanis going abroad will be given the Moderna vaccine as some countries are not accepting Chinese vaccines. Umar, who also heads the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), appreciated the “progressive policy” of US President Joe Biden and Secretary of State Antony Blinken on COVID-19. “R..... more >>

Pakistan reports gradual rise in Covid-19 cases, deaths
Source: Tahir Niaz, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-04
ISLAMABAD - Pakistan on Saturday reported 1400 new coronavirus cases, up from 1,277 a day earlier and 34 deaths, suggesting a gradual increase in the Covid-19 cases and deaths. This was the third straight day when the country reported more than 1,000 daily new cases and the fourth consecutive day with a positivity rate over 2 percent. According to the National Command and Operation Center, 4..... more >>

Health ministry seeks lists for grant of corona risk allowance
Source: Rahul Basharat, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-04
ISLAMABAD - Ministry of National Health Services (NHS) on Saturday sought lists of the eligible employees of the departments for grant of COVID-19 risk allowance. The ministry, in response to the repeated protests of Healthcare Workers (HCWs), issued a notification to thirteen health departments asking to provide lists of eligible HCWs for release of COVID-19 risk allowance. The ministry sai..... more >>

Eidul Azha seen as next big test in Covid fight
Source: Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-05
ISLAMABAD: Just a fortnight after lifting of the curbs imposed to contain the spread of coronavirus, the number of infections and positivity rate have again started increasing in the country. Health experts fear that Eidul Azha can provide an opportunity to the virus to bounce back. Meanwhile, the World Health Organisation (WHO) has issued a new guideline to the nations for international travel ..... more >>
Capital’s positivity ratio rises again
Source: Imran Ali Kundi, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-05
ISLAMABAD: After the capital city saw a continuous decline in Covid-19 positivity cases in the last 10 weeks, the ratio has started to rise again, with experts fearing that the virus could bounce back. Moreover, 71 cases were reported on Sunday with the daily positivity rate recorded at 3.81%. The weekly positivity rate is considered more authentic as the number of cases can increase or decrease.....

Daily COVID-19 report: Pakistan records over 1,000 cases for fifth consecutive day
ISLAMABAD: The coronavirus positivity rate in Pakistan is nearing 3% after the country recorded a 2.97% positivity rate Monday morning. The death toll from the global coronavirus pandemic in Pakistan rose to 22,427 after 19 more people lost their lives due to the virus. According to the National Command and Operation Centre’s statistics, 45,245 coronavirus tests were conducted across the country.....

Moderna to be available across Pakistan from today
ISLAMABAD: The National Command and Operation Centre on Saturday said that the Moderna vaccine will be available starting Monday at designated vaccination centres across Pakistan. Inoculations using the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine have meanwhile already begun at a mass vaccination centre in Islamabad’s F-9 Park area. NCOC also shared a list of the vaccination centres across the major cities of.....

Sharp rise in number of corona patients in twin cities
Islamabad: A sharp rise in the number of cases of coronavirus illness, COVID-19 from Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district has been witnessed in the last 24 hours making the situation alarming though no death due to COVID-19 has been reported from the region in the last two days. As many as 112 new patients were tested positive for the infection from the twin cities in the last 2.....

Citizens asked to continue following corona SOPs
Islamabad: The Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations, and Coordination on Sunday urged the citizens to continue to following COVID-19 Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) in offices and markets to prevent the disease in the wake of an increase in the number of infections in the country. According to an official of the ministry, people were flouting Covid-19 SOPs that are in place.....

1,000 Covid-19 cases reported in a single day
Source: Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-05
ISLAMABAD: The country witnessed rising cases of Covid-19 infections as more than 1,000 coronavirus cases were reported on Sunday in a single day for the fourth consecutive day. The uptick in the coronavirus cases comes a few days after the country reported a decline in the number of cases on a daily basis, following which National Command and Operation Centre’s (NCOC) allowed relaxatio.....
NCOC issues guidelines for Eidul Azha
Source: APP, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-05
ISLAMABAD: The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Sunday issued detailed instructions to all the federating units for managing Eid-ul-Azha under strict Covid-19 safety protocols with cattle markets to be established outside the cities across the country. The NCOC has directed the provincial authorities to ensure that in the light of these guidelines, coronavirus standard operatio.....
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No coronavirus deaths reported in Islamabad for 3rd straight day
Source: Tahir Niaz, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-05
ISLAMABAD -Islamabad has not reported any Covid-related death for the last three days. Islamabad reported 71 new Coronavirus cases in a single day on Saturday, taking its tally to 82,916. However, the capital has not recorded any Coronavirus-related fatality for the last three days. Its death toll stands at 779. Meanwhile, Pakistan reported over 1,000 again for the second consecutive day on S.....
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Positivity rate from twin cities on continuous rise
Islamabad: The positivity rate of coronavirus illness, COVID-19 in Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district is on a continuous rise as in the last week, the weekly positivity in ICT has jumped to 2.33 per cent from the previous week’s positivity of 0.9 per cent while in Rawalpindi, the daily positivity has jumped to 2.95 per cent that was 1.11 per cent seven days back. The numb.....
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After nearly a week, Pakistan reports fewer than 1,000 daily COVID-19 cases
ISLAMABAD: With 830 new coronavirus infections, Pakistan recorded a daily case count of less than a 1,000 cases for the first time in nearly a week Tuesday morning. According to the National Command and Operation Centre's daily COVID-19 report, 25 lost their lives to the virus in the last 24 hours. This takes the total deaths from the virus to 22,452. Pakistan last reported less than a 1,000.....
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Covid-19 positivity rate decreases in capital
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-06
ISLAMABAD: The number of Covid-19 cases and the daily positivity rate decreased in the capital on Monday. Officials said a woman died of the disease while 53 new cases were reported. The deceased was in the age group of 80-89 and a resident of G-6. During the last 24 hours, 1,771 tests were conducted and the positivity rate remained 2.99 per cent. On Sunday, 71 people had tested positive out o.....
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Restaurant association, district admin set up vaccination camps
Source: Malik Asad, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-06
ISLAMABAD: The district administration in cooperation with All Rawalpindi Restaurants Association on Monday started administering Covid-19 vaccines in Saddar. Rawalpindi's eateries have joined the government’s vaccination drive since National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) has made it mandatory for people to show their vaccination certificates to staff at restaurants before indoo.....
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Covid-19 continues to pose economic challenge: ADB  
Source: Tahir Amin, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-06  
ISLAMABAD: Continued efforts by the government of Pakistan toward fiscal consolidation and policy reforms will be key to sustaining improvements in macroeconomic stability, especially in broadening the tax base and improving the business environment, says the Asian Development Bank (ADB). The Bank in its latest report “Asian Development Bank and Pakistan; Fact Sheet”, stated that .....  
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NCOC concerned over corona SOPs violations  
Source: Imran Mukhtar, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-06  
ISLAMABAD - Following a slight spike in Covid-19 infections since restrictions were relaxed countrywide, the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) on Monday expressed its serious reservations on violations of standard operating procedures (SOPs) to contain the disease. A meeting of the forum held under the chair of Minister for Planning and Development Asad Umar underscored that these .....  
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NCOC confirms presence of different variants in Pakistan  
Source: Ikrar Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-07  
ISLAMABAD: As many as two million more doses of Sinovac vaccine reached Pakistan from China on Tuesday. On the other hand, the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) confirmed presence of different variants of coronavirus, including the delta (Indian), beta (South African) and alpha (UK) variants, in Pakistan and detection of their cases in May and June. According to a study cond.....  
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Covid-19 positivity rate goes up in Islamabad again  
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-07  
ISLAMABAD: The number of Covid-19 cases and the positivity rate once again increased in the capital on Tuesday. In the last 24 hours, 1,519 tests were conducted and 79 people were found infected with the positivity rate of 5.2pc. On Monday, 1,771 tests had been conducted and the positivity rate was 2.99pc.Out of the total 79 cases, 22 were reported in the age group of 30-39, 14 in 0-9, 12 in 20-.....  
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PM praises NCOC, SBP, Ehsaas team over Economist's Covid index ranking  
Source: News Desk, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-07  
ISLAMABAD: Sharing Pakistan's ranking on The Economist's 'return to normalcy'index on Wednesday, Prime Minister Imran Khan congratulated the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), Ehsaas team and State Bank of Pakistan for their effective efforts to curb the pandemic. With a score of 84.4, Pakistan ranked third amongst 50 countries tracked by the Economist Magazine for return.....  
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Covid-19 impact; FIs required to implement IFRS 9 from Jan 1, 2022  
Source: Rizwan Bhatti, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-07  
KARACHI: The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) has delayed implementation on the International Financial Reporting Standard 9 (IFRS 9) due to Covid-19 impact and now the Financial Institutions (FIs) are required to implement IFRS 9 from January 1, 2022. Previously, in October 2019, the SBP announced the effective date of IFRS 9 implementation by January 1, 2021 and advised its transition requireme.....  
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### Delta, Beta, Alpha Covid-19 variants detected in May, June
Source: Rahul Basharat, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-07

ISLAMABAD - Ministry of National Health Services (NHS) on Tuesday said that the National Institute of Health (NIH) has detected the presence of the Delta (Indian), Beta (South African) and Alpha (UK) COVID-19 variants in the country during the months of May and June. Statement released by the ministry about COVID-19 genome sequencing update said that NIH continues to monitor the presence of d.....

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### NCOC asks chief secretaries to curb violations of SOPs
Source: Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-08

ISLAMABAD: While the number of new Covid-19 cases has doubled in just nine days, the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) held a special meeting of the provincial chief secretaries on Wednesday to control violations of pandemic-related standard operation procedures (SOPs). During the meeting, the federating and administrative units were directed to take strict action against violators of .....

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### SZAMBU completes volunteer recruitment for Covid-19 vaccine trial
Source: Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-08

ISLAMABAD: Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Medical University (SZABMU) Islamabad has completed volunteer recruitment for the Phase III trial of a Covid-19 vaccine - ZF2001 - and administered the vaccine to around 1,700 people. Meanwhile, a woman died of the virus while 107 new cases were reported in the capital on Wednesday. About the new vaccine, SZAMBU Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Tanwir Khaliq told Da.....

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### Inequitable vaccine access
Source: Editorial, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-09

The coronavirus pandemic has thrown into bold relief the wide gap between rich and poor countries in terms of access to vaccines, hospital beds, oxygen and medical equipment. This disparity between the classes is more pronounced in Third World countries. In view of the poor countries’ inability to procure large quantities of vaccines, the WHO had made a global appeal for funding vaccines and.....

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### Covid-hit England tour
Source: Editorial, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-09

Sporting activities around the world are getting back to normal slowly and gradually, and many an international competition involving multiple teams, like the UEFA Euro 2020, has remained largely unscathed from the Covid-19 pandemic. It's just unfortunate though that the novel virus has had its impact on the bilateral series of three ODIs and three T20Is between Pakistan and England starting.....

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### PM Imran fears fourth Covid wave looming over Pakistan, terms Indian-origin variant ‘the biggest concern’
Source: Dawn.com, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-08

Prime Minister Imran Khan on Thursday warned of a looming fourth wave of Covid-19 in the country, terming the Delta variant, which is believed to have originated in India, “the biggest concern”. Pakistan has witnessed an sudden rise in daily cases in recent days. According to the government's Covid-19 portal, the number of daily Covid-19 cases dropped from four digits to three digit.....

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Covid-19 handling; Pakistan ranked among best-performing states
Source: Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad , 2021-07-08
ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has been ranked among best-performing countries for handling Covid-19, according to the Prime Minister’s Office. The Prime Minister’s Office shared data which stated that Economist Magazine is tracking 50 countries for return to pre-pandemic activity level. Pakistan has been ranked at number 3 after Hong Kong and New Zealand with a score of 84.4 in terms of han.....
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Pakistan seeking to vaccinate 70m by year-end: IMF
Source: Tahir Amin, Business Recorder, Islamabad , 2021-07-08
ISLAMABAD: The government of Pakistan is targeting to vaccinate 70 million people by the end of 2021 and has fully vaccinated approximately three million people as of July 1, 2021 and partially vaccinated around 13 million people, says the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The IMF in its updated report, “Policy Actions Taken by Countries,” which reviewed various steps Pakistan ha.....
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NCOC concerned over spike in Covid-19 cases
Source: Abdul Rasheed Azad, Business Recorder, Islamabad , 2021-07-08
ISLAMABAD: The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Wednesday expressed concerns over increase in COVID-19 cases across the country and took notice of violation of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) in various sectors. The NCOC session was held here under the chairmanship of Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Asad Umar whereas PM aide on health, D.....
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Covid-19 pandemic unearths opportunity to recast role of welfare state: Dr Sania
Source: Sardar Sikander Shaheen, Business Recorder, Islamabad , 2021-07-08
ISLAMABAD: Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Social Protection and Poverty Alleviation Dr Sania Nishtar has said that COVID-19 pandemic has “unearthed an opportunity to recast the role of the welfare state, which needs to be a major part of the re-commitment to agenda 2030.” “In Pakistan, we believe the social protection of today is the human capital, the resilience.....
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NCOC concerned over spike in COVID-19 cases; takes notice of SOPs violations
Source: Agencies, The Nation, Islamabad , 2021-07-09
ISLAMABAD - The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Wednesday expressed concerns over increase in COVID-19 cases across the country and took notice of violation of standard operating procedures (SOPs) in various sectors. The NCOC session was held here under the chairmanship of Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Asad Umar whereas PM aide on health, .....
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Umar asks provinces to accelerate vaccination drive
Source: Tahir Niaz, The Nation, Islamabad , 2021-07-08
ISLAMABAD - National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Wednesday expressed concern over the rising number of coronavirus cases in the country and asked the provinces to accelerate their vaccination drive. Federal Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives Asad Umar chaired the NCOC meeting here while all provincial chief secretaries attended the meeting through video lin.....
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Young doctors urge health ministry for early release of Covid-19 risk allowance
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-08
ISLAMABAD - Young Doctors Association (YDA) Islamabad Chapter on Wednesday urged the Ministry of National Health Services (NHS) for early release of Covid-19 risk allowance of healthcare workers (HCWs). A statement released by YDA said that a meeting of YDA cabinet and focal persons was held to discuss various issues including delay in Covid risk allowance. It has been decided not to accept fu.....
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Asset base of financial sector expands 14pc despite Covid-19: SBP
Source: APP, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-08
KARACHI - The Financial Stability Review (FSR) for CY20 issued by State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) on Wednesday indicated mild impacts of COVID-19 on national economy while financial system with over 14 percent expansion in asset base exhibited resilience in a challenging environment. The FSR highlights that calendar year 2020 was a challenging year for the financial sector as COVID-19 pandemic t.....
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PM for early vaccination as 4th wave looms
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-09
ISLAMABAD - Prime Minister Imran Khan while pointing out the threat of 4th wave of COVID-19 in the wake of recent rise in positive cases, Thursday urged the masses to continue the use of face masks and get themselves vaccinated as early as possible. “Our [coronavirus] cases, after a down-slide, have started rising up. We fear that the Indian [Delta] variant is coming. I appeal to the na.....
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Asad hints at smart lockdown if positive cases spike
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-09
ISLAMABAD - Minister for Planning and Development Asad Umar said Thursday that the government will not impose complete lockdown during the 4th wave of coronavirus pandemic feared to surface during current month. Addressing a ceremony in Islamabad, he said during the past waves of coronavirus, the government’s strategy to handle the pandemic and overcome its after-effects has been very s.....
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Umar rules out imposition of complete lockdown
Source: Abdul Rasheed Azad, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-09
ISLAMABAD: NCOC Chief Asad Umar, Thursday, while ruling out imposition of complete lockdown during the fourth wave of coronavirus, said the government would not impose complete lockdown during the fourth wave of coronavirus pandemic, which he feared would start in the current month of July. Addressing an oath taking ceremony of newly-appointed members of the National Youth Council (NYC), he s.....
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Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

**KP resuming Covid vaccination after receiving 240,000 doses**
Source: Ashfaq Yusufzai, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2021-06-22
PESHAWAR: Health department is resuming Covid-19 vaccination after receiving 240,000 doses from the centre on Monday as coronavirus cases continue to drop in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The province reported five mortalities due to coronavirus and 75 new cases, according to a report of health department. The government has inoculated 1.3 million people above 18 years in the province so far but shortage ..... 

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**Coronavirus claims nine more lives**
PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa recorded nine more deaths and 113 patients of Covid-19 on Wednesday as Lady Reading Hospital made vaccination certificate mandatory for patients visiting its outpatient departments. The LRH has resumed limited OPD services a fortnight ago after their suspension for several months. On Wednesday, it also asked head of the concerned specialists to examine the non-Covid p.....

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**KP health dept wants to boost Covid vaccination ahead of fourth wave**
Source: Ashfaq Yusufzai, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2021-06-28
PESHAWAR: As Covid-19 cases and mortalities continue to decline in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, health department has intensified efforts to enhance vaccination prior to the onset of the fourth wave. On Sunday, four more patients succumbed to the virus and 131 new cases were recorded in the province that took the overall tally of deaths and incidence to 4,308 and 137,759 respectively. Of the total infect.....

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**Inmates remain vulnerable to Covid**
Source: Ehtesham Khan, *The Express Tribune, Islamabad*, 2021-06-28
PESHAWAR: While officers of the Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa police force may soon be fully vaccinated against Covid-19, inmates at detention centres across the province remain vulnerable. According to jail sources, during the first and second wave of the pandemic, 13 prisoners tested positive for the coronavirus at the Peshawar Central Jail (PCJ), which was once reputed for its most famous inmate, Dr Sha.....

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**Traders extend support to admin in coronavirus vaccination drive**
Source: Bureau Report, *Daily Times*, 2021-06-29
PESHAWAR: The traders here on Monday assured the district administration of cooperation in its campaign for vaccination, removal of encroachments and discouraging profiteers. In a meeting at Sarhad Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Deputy Commissioner retired Capt Khalid Mahmood asked the business community to play its role effectively in vaccination to protect people from Covid-19, according to ..... 

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**Covid-19 vaccination: SCCI, district admin to devise mechanism**
PESHAWAR: The Sarhad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) and district administration here on Monday decided to devise a joint mechanism to ensure maximum Covid-19 vaccination among trader community. The decision was made during a meeting between SCCI President Sherbaz Bilour and Deputy Commissioner Khalid Mehmood. Calling for better coordination between the chamber and district administration,.....

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Urdu literary body resumes weekly sessions after pandemic break
Source: Bureau Report, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-06-30
PESHAWAR: The Urdu literary body Halqa Arbab-i-Zauq, Peshawar chapter, resumed its weekly critical evaluation session here on Tuesday after three-month break due to Covid-19 restrictions. Around 30 Urdu poets, writers and young scholars hailing from private and public sector colleges and universities attended the event held at Urdu Science Board Library, Khyber Bazaar. The participants first of ..... more >>

KP govt extends public health emergency for three more months
Source: Bureau Report, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-01
PESHAWAR: As coronavirus cases and mortalities due to the pandemic continue to decline, Khyber Teaching Hospital has started vaccination of patients’ attendants as part of the health department’s plan to boost up inoculation and ensure safety of people. The government has also extended public health emergency for three more months, according to a notification issued by health departme..... more >>

Only vaccinated people can visit Nadra centres in Bajaur
Source: Dawn Report, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-01
AJAUR/LAKKI MARWAT: The local administration on Wednesday made vaccination against Covid-19 mandatory for the people visiting the National Database and Registration Authority (Nadra) offices and the citizen facilitation centres in the Bajaur tribal district, a statement issued from the deputy commissioner’s office said. It said the step had been taken in the larger public interest to keep t..... more >>

Peshawar hardest hit district by coronavirus
Source: Bureau Report, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-02
PESHAWAR: The Covid-19 cases and fatalities continue to decline as the province recorded 241 deaths and 5,246 infections in June as compared to 769 deaths and 14,409 cases reported in May. On Thursday, 111 new infections were detected and four persons passed away due to the virus in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, making total count of deaths and incidence 4,324 and 138,179 respectively in the province. Acc..... more >>

70% seminary students in Peshawar vaccinated
Source: Shahzaib Khan, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-03
PESHAWAR: The district administration of Peshawar has completed vaccination of around 70 per cent clerics and students in the religious seminaries in the district. Talking to The Express Tribune an official said that all the clerics and administration of these seminaries were completely cooperating with the district administration and the process was going on smoothly. On the other hand around ..... more >>

OVID-19 claims three more lives in KP
PESHAWAR: The coronavirus claimed three more lives in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa during last 24 hours as 83 new cases of the virus were reported from the province, said daily updates released by Health Department here on Monday. With three more deaths, the tally from the disease in the province has reached to 4343 while the total number of Corona cases has climbed to 138,616. Meanwhile, 65 patients have al..... more >>
### Expats start getting Moderna vaccine
**Source:** A Correspondent, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2021-07-06

BAJAUR: A large number of overseas Pakistanis on Monday visited the vaccination centre set up at the District Headquarters Hospital, Khar, to get inoculated with the US-made Moderna Covid-19 vaccine. The overseas Pakistanis mostly working in Gulf states could not proceed to their workplaces owing to non-availability of the vaccines required by these countries. The rush of people at the main entr.....

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### Shortage of Moderna vaccine protested in Lower Dir
**Source:** A Correspondent, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2021-07-07

LOWER DIR: Hundreds of overseas Pakistanis on Tuesday demonstrated in Manda, Mayar, Samarbagh and Lal Qila areas against shortage of Moderna Covid-19 vaccine and slow inoculation process at the centres set up in government hospitals. Most of the expatriates, who had come for vaccination at hospitals, had to return without getting jabs due to mismanagement and rush at the centres. Later, they took.....

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### Mismanagement at vaccination centre angers Bajaur admin
**Source:** A Correspondent, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2021-07-07

BAJAUR: The district administration here on Tuesday expressed displeasure over poor arrangements at Covid-19 vaccination centre for overseas Pakistanis. During his visit to the centre at district headquarters hospital in Kahr, Additional Deputy Commissioner Zameen Khan Momand told senior health officials to adopt an effective strategy to ensure smooth and swift administration of jabs to overseas .....

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### Delta variant could rear its head in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa
**Source:** Umer Farooq, *The Express Tribune, Islamabad*, 2021-07-07

PESHAWAR: Despite all the precautions and safety measures, the contagious Delta Covid variant made its way to Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (K-P). With two confirmed cases, health experts warn the latest version of the respiratory virus might soon rear its head. According to details, the deadly variant, which is believed to be the most transmissible yet, was identified in swab samples collected at the Bach.....

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### Corona relief medicines given to Afghan official
**Source:** Our Staff Reporter, *The Nation, Islamabad*, 2021-07-07

KHYBER - The Custom Health Care Society donated medical apparatus and necessary medicines for treatment of corona patients in Afghanistan here in Torkham on Tuesday. In this connection, a ceremony was held in Custom Station, Torkham that was attended by Dr. Asif Mahmood Jah, Chief Collector of Custom (North), as chief guest. Collector Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Saleem Khan, Afghan Custom Commissioner Fawa.....

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### Supply of Moderna vaccine demanded
**Source:** A Correspondent, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2021-07-08

SHANGLA: The expatriate Pakistanis here have demanded the government to ensure availability of Moderna vaccine in Shangla hospitals like other parts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa so they could get the jabs and proceed to their workplaces in foreign countries as soon as possible. The residents who want to travel abroad told mediapersons on Wednesday that they daily visited the hospitals for vaccines which.....

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KP reports no death for first time since Covid outbreak
Source: Ashfaq Yusufzai, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-08
PESHAWAR: No death was recorded due to Covid-19 on Wednesday in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for the first time since the onset of the pandemic. The province used to record mortalities due to the virus almost on daily basis since it claimed the first life in Mardan in March last year. The death of a resident of Mardan was also the first fatality due to the pandemic in the country. A report of health depart.....
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Punjab

677 centres in Punjab get 0.65m Covid doses
Source: Asif Chaudhry, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-06-22
LAHORE: The Punjab government distributed 0.65 million doses of Covid vaccine in all 677 centres of the province after it received new consignment from Islamabad on Sunday. After receiving the new stock, the vaccination services resumed on Monday morning. The new consignment of the vaccine was imported from China and provided to Punjab to address its shortage, particularly in Lahore. Recently, c.....
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Vaccination centre at Home Economic University inaugurated
Source: Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-06-22
LAHORE - Deputy Commissioner Muddasir Riaz Malik on Monday inaugurated corona vaccination centre at the University of Home Economics for the vaccination of university's employees and students. The deputy commissioner termed the vaccination center a great facility for the employees of varsity and students, saying that trained vaccinators would remain on duty and standard services would be pro.....
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Covid-19 cases continue to fall in capital, Pindi
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-06-23
ISLAMABAD: The capital and Rawalpindi district witnessed a decline in Covid-19 positive cases on Tuesday with the positivity rate in Islamabad recorded at 0.6pc. A total of 26 new Covid-19 cases were detected in the capital and 58 recovered from the deadly virus. No deaths were reported. Officials of the capital administration said during the last 24 hours, 4,106 tests were conducted in the capit.....
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CM, UK’s minister discuss halt to environmental degradation, coronavirus pandemic
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-06-23
LAHORE - United Kingdom's Minister of State for South Asia and Commonwealth Lord Tariq Ahmad of Wimbledon called on Punjab Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar at his office on Tuesday and discussed matters of mutual interest. High Commissioner of UK to Pakistan Christian Turner was also present on the occasion. Lord Tariq Ahmad appreciated the steps taken by the chief minister to overcome e.....
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Capital, Pindi report no Covid-related death
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-06-24
ISLAMABAD: Islamabad and Rawalpindi continue to see a decline in the number of Covid-19 cases as 45 people tested positive for the disease. Positivity rate in the capital was 0.8pc whereas 34 patients reportedly recovered and no virus-related casualties were reported. Officials of the capital administration said during the last 24 hours 4,378 tests were conducted and out of the total 27 males and.....
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CS orders strict implementation of SOPs at wedding ceremonies
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-06-24
LAHORE - Punjab Chief Secretary Jawad Rafique Malik on Wednesday directed all divisional commissioners to ensure strict implementation of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) regarding coronavirus in districts. He was presiding over a meeting to review corona pandemic and vaccination process in the province here at Civil Secretariat. Taking notice of the special branch’s report on SOPs.....
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669 corona vaccination centres fully functional across Punjab
LAHORE: With improvement in corona vaccine supply situation, the vaccination process at 669 vaccination centers across the province is underway and over 165,000 people were vaccinated during the last 24 hours. Sources in the Primary and Secondary Healthcare department said on Thursday that targets set by the NCOC for vaccination would be achieved. Currently, Chinese vaccines are being adminis.....
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Covid-19 vaccination campaign successfully underway in Punjab
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-06-25
LAHORE - The coronavirus vaccination campaign is going on successfully across Punjab as 178,354 citizens were vaccinated in the last 24 hours at 669 vaccination centers in the province. According to Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department spokesperson on Thursday, the total number of vaccinated citizens has reached 7,487,958. Similarly, as many as 855,553 healthcare workers have so far be.....
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Covid cases on the decline
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-06-26
LAHORE: Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department Secretary Sarah Aslam says Covid positivity rate is gradually decreasing across the province. While reviewing the Covid situation at a meeting on Friday, she said Punjab reported only 97 new infections during the last 24 hours. She said 12 more deaths had been reported during the same period. Sarah Aslam said vaccines for Covid-19 were crit.....
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Punjab witnesses significant decline in Covid-19 cases
LAHORE: Significant decline in wave of corona pandemic was witnessed in the province of Punjab, as out of 18,542 Covid-19 tests conducted during the last 24 hours, as many as 109 fresh virus cases and 13 fatalities were reported across the province taking the provincial tally of cases to 345,655 and death toll to 10,713. With the recovery of 245 more virus patients, the number of recovered pa.....
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Vaccination of RDA and WASA employees starts
Source: Israr Ahmad, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-06-27
Rawalpindi-In order to protect government employees from coronavirus, vaccination of RDA and WASA employees has been started on the direction of Director General of the civic bodies, informed a spokesman on Saturday. In this regard, a special centre has been set up in RDA building where Covid-19 vaccination of all employees is being carried out for prevention from the pandemic, he said. The .....
Eight more succumb to Covid; 141 test positive
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-06-28
LAHORE: As many as eight people lost their lives due to coronavirus in the province while 141 others tested positive during the last 24 hours. The province’s infection tally has risen to 345,796 and the death toll has climbed to 10,721. Until now 326,231 patients have fully recovered across the province while the number of active cases is 8,844. As many as 18,528 samples were taken on Satu.....

16,560 health workers contract covid-19 in Pakistan
Source: Inp, Daily Times, 2021-06-28
As many as 16,560 healthcare workers have been infected while battling the outbreak of COVID-19 in Pakistan, sources said on Sunday. According to sources at the Ministry of National Health, so far 9,893 doctors, 2,363 nurses and 4,304 other staff of hospitals have contracted the coronavirus. While battling the deadly outbreak of COVID-19 in the country 163 healthcare workers have lost their liv.....

All vaccination centres in Lahore to remain closed on Sunday
Source: DNA, Daily Times, 2021-06-27
All Covid-19 vaccination centres in Lahore will remain closed on Sunday (tomorrow), the provincial capital’s deputy commissioner said. He tweeted: “IMPORTANT: The public is informed that all vaccination centers in the city will be closed on Sunday.” “Therefore, all citizens of Lahore are requested not to visit any vaccination center tomorrow. Thanks.” Last week, .....

Covid infection rate drops to 1.49% in Rawalpindi
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-06-28
RAWALPINDI: The coronavirus test-to-positivity ratio has dropped to 1.49 per cent in Rawalpindi but the health experts advise the continued implementation of SOPs, stating that it is still necessary. There are only 24 patients at present receiving treatment in the three big public hospitals including Benazir Bhutto Hospital, Holy Family Hospital and Rawalpindi Institute of Urology and Kidney Tra.....

Shortage of shots : Universities face an uphill vaccination battle
Source: Muhammad Ilyas, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-06-28
LAHORE: Higher education institutions across the most populous province in the country face the daunting challenge of protecting their teaching and non-teaching staff against Covid-19. With vaccinations suspended in many parts of Punjab due to a shortfall of doses, meeting the goal before the next academic term, which begins in a few weeks, seems impossible. “We will not be able to make it.....

Public sector hospitals
LAHORE: As many as 304,319 corona patients are recovered in the public sector hospitals being run under the control of Specialized and Primary & Secondary Healthcare departments, while 152 patients are recovered during the last 24 hours. This was disclosed by Barrister Nabeel Ahmed Awan Secretary Specialized Healthcare Punjab today. He said that decline in wave of Corona pandemic was witn.....
Islamabad logs one more COVID death, 31 new cases  
Rawalpindi: Coronavirus illness, COVID-19 has claimed one more life from Islamabad Capital Territory in the last 24 hours taking the death toll from the federal capital to 776 while a total of 31 new patients have been reported positive for the illness from ICT and Rawalpindi district taking the tally from the region to 107,270 on Saturday. It is important that the death of a patient from ICT ha.....  
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Coronavirus claims eight more lives  
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-06-28  
LAHORE - Coronavirus claimed eight more lives while 141 new cases were reported in Punjab during the last 24 hours. According to the data shared by the spokesperson for the Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department (P&SHD), the total number of coronavirus cases reached 345,792 while death toll 10,721 and recoveries 326,231 in the province. As per the data provided by the P&SH.....  
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91,041 cops vaccinated against coronavirus  
Source: Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-06-28  
LAHORE - Inspector General of Police (IGP) Punjab Inam Ghani was informed here on Sunday that a total of 91,041 police officers above 30 years of age had been vaccinated against coronavirus so far and the process for vaccination of other police was under way without any break. According to a spokesman for the Punjab Police, DIG Welfare Agha Muhammad Yousuf told the IGP that 19,815 officers and per.....  
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152 more Covid-19 patients recovered  
Source: Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-06-28  
LAHORE: As many as 152 more coronavirus patients recovered on Sunday, according to the Health Department report. The data shared by the department said that 304,319 coronavirus patients had recovered altogether so far at the public sector hospitals across the province. The Specialized Healthcare and Medical Education Department sources said that 6,992 beds were reserved in all government owned ho.....  
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450 Indians stranded in Pakistan due to Covid curbs return home  
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-06-29  
LAHORE: More than 450 Indian nationals, who were stranded in Pakistan due to the closure of borders owing to the spread of Covid-19, returned home through the Wagah border on Monday. The Indian nationals were stranded in various parts of Pakistan due to Covid-19 restrictions as Pakistan had suspended travel to and from India in March 2020 following the outbreak of the virus. But batches of nation.....  
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Corona positivity rate declines in Punjab  
Source: Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-06-29  
LAHORE: Decline in the wave of Corona pandemic was witnessed in the province of Punjab, as out of 15,565 Covid-19 tests conducted during the last 24 hours, 104 fresh virus cases and eight fatalities were reported across the province taking the provincial tally of cases to 345,900 and death toll to 10,729. With the recovery of 281 more virus patients, the number of recovered patients in the pr.....  
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Corona pandemic; Over 8m vaccinated so far in Punjab
LAHORE: While the corona vaccination process is underway at fast pace across the province, over eight million people have been inoculated in the province so far. This was revealed in a high level meeting, which reviewed the situation of corona pandemic, pace of vaccination and stock of vaccines. The participants of the meeting were informed by the experts that the Corona pandemic is u.....

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Punjab sees rapid drop in Covid deaths
Source: Adnan Lodhi, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-01
LAHORE: The monthly Covid-19 death toll and infection rate in Punjab have dropped drastically during June with 708 fatalities reported during the past 30 days as compared to 1,462 in May. According to official data, at least 5,428 coronavirus cases were confirmed in Punjab during the past month, while the figure for May was 35,891. Routine life has resumed in the province as restrictions impose.....

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Health Minister launches awareness campaign of mask, social distancing
Source: Iqtidar Gilani, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-02
LAHORE - Punjab Health Minister Dr Yasmin Rashid inaugurated Lahore Wear Mask Campaign at the GPO here on Wednesday. Lahore Commissioner Captain (Retd) Usman Younis, Deputy Commissioner Mudassar Riaz Malik, Post Master General and other officials were present on the occasion. The “LahoreWear Mask” campaign has been initiated by Commissioner. Health Minister Punjab reviewed the ca.....

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Eight die of Covid in Punjab
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-02
LAHORE: Punjab has reported 121 Covid-19 cases and eight deaths during the last 24 hours. The province’s infection tally has risen to 346,301 and the death toll is 10,755. Punjab Primary & Secondary Healthcare Department Secretary Sarah Aslam reviewed daily activities of Covid-19 across Punjab. As many 121 new cases have been reported, bringing the total number of cases to 346,301. Un.....

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Six Covid deaths in Punjab
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-03
LAHORE: Punjab reported 153 coronavirus cases and six deaths in the last 24 hours while the infection tally has risen to 346,454 and the death toll to 10,761. Around 327,422 patients were completely recovered while 8,271 active cases were reported across the province. Two persons died in Lahore while six deaths were reported in the province. Up to 19,157 tests were conducted in the province whi.....

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Six more fall prey to COVID-19 attack
Source: APP, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-03
LAHORE - Coronavirus claimed six more lives while 153 new cases were reported and 254 citizens recovered in Punjab during the last 24 hours on Friday. According to the data shared by a spokesperson for the Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department (P&SHD), the death toll reached 10,761 and total infections 346,454 in the province. Also, 327,422 patients have recovered so far. As.....

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<tr>
<td>Islamabad, Rawalpindi witness sharp rise in corona patients</td>
<td>Muhammad Qasim, The News, International</td>
<td>2021-07-03</td>
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<td>P&amp;SHD receives 300,000 doses of Moderna vaccine</td>
<td>Our Correspondent, The News, International</td>
<td>2021-07-04</td>
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<td>Three vaccinators booked over ‘fake entries’ at Expo Centre Lahore</td>
<td>Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-07-04</td>
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<td>Pfizer vaccine available for foreign travellers: Health Minister</td>
<td>Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-07-04</td>
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<td>LAHORE - Punjab Health Minister Dr Yasmin Rashid said here on Saturday that Pfizer vaccine was available for Pakistanis intending to travel abroad. She said that Pfizer vaccine could be administered to Pakistanis over producing working visas and other travel documents. *Pfizer vaccine facility is available at Mayo Hospital, Holy Family Hospital, Rawalpindi and Allied Hospital, Faisalabad,&amp;rd.....</td>
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<td>Five more succumb to Covid</td>
<td>Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-07-05</td>
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<td>LAHORE: As many as 146 new coronavirus cases and five deaths were recorded in Punjab during the last 24 hours on Sunday. Punjab’s Covid-19 caseload has risen to 346,728 and the death toll is 10,772. As many as 327,753 patients have fully recovered across the province while the number of active cases is 8,203. As many as 17,406 test samples were taken while a total of 5,708,442 tests have b.....</td>
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<td>LAHORE: Punjab Primary &amp; Secondary Healthcare Department Secretary Sarah Aslam has said a gradual decrease in COVID-19 infection rate has been witnessed in the province. According to a handout issued here on Sunday, during a daily review meeting of activities of COVID-19 across the Punjab, it was informed that 146 new cases have been reported, bringing the total number of cases to 346,728. .....</td>
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<td>Follow SOPs and get vaccinated: Dr Yasmin Rashid</td>
<td>Our Correspondent, The News, International</td>
<td>2021-07-06</td>
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<td>LAHORE: Punjab Health Minister Dr Yasmin Rashid said here Monday that there was an inverse link between number of vaccinated people and the number of new infections hence everyone must get them vaccinated. Speaking at the MoU signing ceremony between the Minister’s Delivery Unit, Health Department and University of Central Punjab, the health minister said that awareness among youths was a.....</td>
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<td>Long queues of vaccine seekers at Lahore’s Expo Centre</td>
<td>Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-07-06</td>
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<td>LAHORE: Hundreds of people aspiring to go abroad queued up at Expo Centre for coronavirus vaccination on Monday. The government had started to vaccinate those people who wanted to go abroad by establishing two vaccination centres in Lahore — Expo Centre and LDA Sports Complex. The vaccination centres would remain open for 24 hours. Hundreds of people including students, labourers and busin.....</td>
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<td>124 new corona cases in Punjab</td>
<td>Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-07-06</td>
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<td>LAHORE: Punjab reported 124 Covid-19 infections and four deaths during the last 24 hours on Monday. The province’s total coronavirus caseload is 346,852 and the death toll has increased to 10,776. The number of active cases in Punjab is 8,100. During the last 24 hours, no deaths have been reported by Covid-19 in Lahore after a long period, while four more deaths have been reported across .....</td>
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<td><strong>Moderna jabs arranged in 14 dists</strong></td>
<td>Adnan Lodhi, The Express Tribune, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-07-06</td>
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<td>LAHORE: A large number of people facing uncertainty due to the unavailability of coronavirus vaccines required for travelling abroad are likely to get some relief as Punjab health department has finally received the supply of Moderna vaccine, which is accepted in most countries as an alternative to AstraZeneca. The provincial government received 300,000 doses of Moderna vaccine from the federal ......&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;&lt;a class=&quot;more&quot; href=&quot;#&quot; title=&quot;more &gt;&gt;&quot;&gt;more &gt;&gt;&lt;/a&gt;</td>
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<td><strong>Covid rears its ugly head 55 new cases with three deaths reported in Rawalpindi</strong></td>
<td>Jamil Mirza, The Express Tribune, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-07-06</td>
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<td>RAWALPINDI!: The spread of coronavirus is gaining pace yet again in the Rawalpindi district while there is a threat that the patients might be infected with the dengue virus along with Covid-19. The positvity rate rose to 2.95 per cent from one per cent while three deaths were reported from the district on Monday. According to the details, the sudden escalation in the cases has once again rung a.....&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;&lt;a class=&quot;more&quot; href=&quot;#&quot; title=&quot;more &gt;&gt;&quot;&gt;more &gt;&gt;&lt;/a&gt;</td>
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<td><strong>Health minister terms partnership with academia key to overcoming public health challenges</strong></td>
<td>Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-07-06</td>
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<td>LAHORE - Punjab Health Minister Dr Yasmin Rashid said here on Monday that there was an inverse link between number of vaccinated people and the number of new infections hence everyone must get themselves vaccinated. Speaking at the MoU signing ceremony between the Minister’s Delivery Unit (MDU), Health Department, and the University of Central Punjab, she said that awareness among youth.....&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;&lt;a class=&quot;more&quot; href=&quot;#&quot; title=&quot;more &gt;&gt;&quot;&gt;more &gt;&gt;&lt;/a&gt;</td>
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<td><strong>162 new Covid cases, 10 more deaths in Punjab</strong></td>
<td>Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-07-07</td>
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<td>LAHORE: Punjab on Tuesday reported 162 Covid-19 cases and 10 related deaths over the past 24 hours. The province’s infection tally has risen to 347,014 and the related death toll to 10,786. As per the official data, as many as 327,976 patients have fully recovered across the province, while the number of active cases is 8,145. During the previous 24 hours, three more Covid deaths have bee.....&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;&lt;a class=&quot;more&quot; href=&quot;#&quot; title=&quot;more &gt;&gt;&quot;&gt;more &gt;&gt;&lt;/a&gt;</td>
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<td><strong>Punjab jails; 5,545 out of 47,000 inmates administered Covid-19 jabs</strong></td>
<td>Abdullah Mughal, Business Recorder, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-07-07</td>
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<td>LAHORE: Punjab Inspector General for Prisons Mirza Shahid Saleem Baig has disclosed that there are currently above 47,000 inmates confined in jails across Punjab out of which a total of 27,090 prisoners have so far been administered first dose of the novel coronavirus while 5,545 inmates were vaccinated with both doses since the outbreak of the pandemic. “Besides, 6,667 officials of the Punj.....&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;&lt;a class=&quot;more&quot; href=&quot;#&quot; title=&quot;more &gt;&gt;&quot;&gt;more &gt;&gt;&lt;/a&gt;</td>
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<td><strong>Police book private housing society management under Covid-19 SOPs violation act</strong></td>
<td>Israr Ahmad, The Nation, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-07-07</td>
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<td>Rawalpindi-Chontra police have lodged a case against the management of illegal housing society Blue World City including Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Saad Nazir and two directors for organizing plots balloting ceremony in violation of the Covid-19 standard operating procedures (SOPs), informed sources on Tuesday. Those charged in the first information report (FIR) registered under The Punjab.....&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;&lt;a class=&quot;more&quot; href=&quot;#&quot; title=&quot;more &gt;&gt;&quot;&gt;more &gt;&gt;&lt;/a&gt;</td>
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Steps to curb Covid taken in best national interest: minister
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-08
LAHORE: Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Asad Umer has said there is a need to work together to deal with natural disasters like earthquakes, hurricanes and coronavirus. He said all institutions including media, judiciary, scholars, doctors, nurses, and paramedical staff played a vital role during the pandemic. He was addressing online in the inaugural session o.....

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Five more Covid deaths in Punjab
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-08
LAHORE: Punjab has reported 166 Covid-19 cases and five deaths during the last 24 hours. The caseload now stands at 347,180 and the death toll is 10,791. As many as 328,234 patients have fully recovered across the province while the number of active cases is 8,155. During the last 24 hours, no more deaths have been reported in Lahore.Some 85 cases were reported in Lahore, 26 in Rawalpindi, nine.....

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Asad for joint efforts to combat coronavirus, natural calamities
Source: Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-08
LAHORE: Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Asad Umer has said that we need to work together to deal with natural disasters like earthquakes, hurricanes and corona-virus. All institutions including media, judiciary, scholars, doctors, nurses, paramedical staff played a vital role during the Covid. He was addressing online in the inaugural session of the two.....

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CS orders action against employees refusing vaccination
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-09
LAHORE - The Punjab chief secretary has directed action against the government employees refusing to get themselves inoculated against coronavirus. During a meeting held to review the situation of coronavirus pandemic and pace of vaccination at the Civil Secretariat here on Thursday, he directed all the divisional commissioners to ensure implementation of SOPs and speed up the vaccination pro.....

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Minister lauds Ghani Chemicals for oxygen plant's expansion
Source: Our Correspondent, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-09
ISLAMABAD - Federal Minister for Industries and Production Makhdum Khusro Bakhtyar on Thursday appreciated and acknowledged the efforts of Ghani Chemical Industries for increasing the oxygen production in the challenging times of the Covid-19 pandemic. Federal minister has held a meeting with Ghani Chemical Industries CEO / Executive Director Atique Ahmad Khan. Ghani Chemicals is the largest.....

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Sindh

Covid-19 vaccination resumes in all districts
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-06-22
KARACHI: The vaccination for Covid-19 resumed in all 29 districts of Sindh on Monday after a day’s closure of vaccination centres due to shortage of jabs. According to health department officials, a total of 421,000 doses of SinoVac were distributed to vaccination centres late Sunday night across the province including 23,000 doses to district Central, 140,000 to district East, 20,000 to di.....

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Citizens perplexed as gap between first, second Covid jabs increases
Source: Sameer Mandhro, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-06-22
KARACHI/ HYDERABAD: Citizens heading to the Expo Centre for their second Covid jab were turned away and directed to come back after 17 days as Sindh health authorities doubled the gap between the first and second doses of Sinovac and Sinopharm on Monday, when vaccination centres reopened after temporary closures amid shortage of doses. A squabble reportedly broke out between citizens, including th.....

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Vaccination resumes in Karachi
Source: NNI, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-06-22
KARACHI: Inoculation of citizens has been resumed at the city’s most corona vaccination centres after supply of vaccine stocks. The process of vaccination has been resumed at Karachi’s Khaliq Dina Hall, a major vaccination centre in the port city. However, COVID-19 vaccination at the Arts Councils was still suspended. The vaccination process in scores of Punjab cities has als.....

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Supply of anti-Covid vaccine; Pfizer, BioNTech announce agreement with NDMA
KARACHI: Pfizer Pakistan and BioNTech SE Monday announced an agreement with the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) to supply 13 million doses of their Covid-19 vaccine - BNT162b2. Deliveries are planned during course of 2021. “We are deeply honored to work with the Pakistan government and to marshal our scientific and manufacturing resources toward our shared goal of bringing.....

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What caused Pakistan to revise guidelines about double-dose Chinese vaccines?
KARACHI: Issuing revised guidelines for the double-dose Chinese vaccines Sinopharm and Sinovac vaccines, the Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination (NHS,R&C) Monday said the gap between two doses would now be six weeks instead of four weeks, causing confusion and indignation among thousands of people who had approached the vaccination centers for their second jabs. .....  

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COVID claims 3 more lives
Source: Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-06-22
KARACHI - As many as 3 more patients of coronavirus died overnight lifting the death toll to 5,344 and 423 new cases emerged when 11,418 tests were conducted. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued on Monday. He added that 3 more patients of COVID-19 lost their lives lifting the death toll to 5,344 that constituted 1.6 percent death rate. Mr Shah sai.....

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Instructions for vaccine doses gap revised again
KARACHI: In order to avoid unrest and quarrels at the COVID Vaccination Centers (CVCs), the authorities Tuesday said those willing to get their second jabs of Sinopharm and Sinovac vaccines as per previous guidelines and SOPs would not be returned unvaccinated, while those having the first jabs of both the vaccines would be asked to come for the second dose after 42 days. “Instructions have.....
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Covid-19 claims 14 more lives in Sindh
Source: Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-06-23
KARACHI: As many as 14 more patients of coronavirus died overnight lifting the death toll to 5,358 and 517 new cases emerged when 13,243 tests were conducted. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued here on Tuesday. He added that 14 more patients of COVID-19 lost their lives lifting the death toll to 5,358 that constituted 1.6 percent death rate. Shah.....
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Most businesses emerged unscathed from Covid pandemic, moot told
Source: Kazim Alam, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-06-24
KARACHI: If the five-member panel of CEOs assembled at the Institute of Business Administration (IBA) on Wednesday was a microcosm of the country’s post-Covid corporate sector, the key takeaway for the audience would be that money never stopped rolling in for big business even amid the worst global pandemic. Notwithstanding the repetitive use of the word “challenging,” four of t.....
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MoU signed to administer Covid jabs at Gerrys
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-06-24
KARACHI: Sindh Minister for Health and Population Welfare Dr Azra Pechuho oversaw the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the provincial health department and Gerrys Visa to streamline vaccine administration at the latter's location(s). The MoU will come into effect from June 28, 2021. The purpose of the agreement is to ease the process of traveling abroad and provide credible do.....
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COVID claims 10 more lives
Source: Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-06-24
KARACHI- As many as 10 more patients of coronavirus died overnight lifting the death toll to 5,368 and 604 new cases emerged when 12,782 tests were conducted. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued on Wednesday. He added that 10 more patients of COVID-19 lost their lives lifting the death toll to 5,368. Shah said that 12,782 samples were tested which.....
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‘Talks underway to get mRNA 273 vaccine through COVAX’
KARACHI: Pakistan is likely to get an unspecified number of Moderna’s mRNA COVID-19 vaccine doses through COVAX in the coming months, officials in the National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination (NHS,R&C) said on Thursday. Talking to The News, officials in the National Health Services confirmed that talks were underway with COVAX for acquiring Moderna's mRNA Covid-19 va.....
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More vaccination centres providing ease of access, says Wahab
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-06-25
KARACHI: Sindh government spokesperson Barrister Murtaza Wahab said that opening vaccination centres at various locations has made it easier for people to get inoculated. "Critics of the Sindh and Sindh Government should come see the change and learn how important vaccinations are to return to a normal life," he said. "Opening vaccination centres at various places will improve ease.....
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Covid-19 claims 24 more lives, infects 655 others in Sindh
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-06-25
KARACHI - As many as 24 more patients of Coronavirus died overnight lifting the death toll to 5,392 and 655 new cases emerged when 13,223 tests were conducted. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued here on Thursday. He added that 24 more patients of COVID-19 lost their lives lifting the death toll to 5,392 that constituted 1.6 percent death rate. S.....
more >>

Covid Vaccination Centre inaugurated at KMC’s Gizri Maternity Home
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-06-25
KARACHI - The spokesperson of Sindh Government and Advisor to Sindh Chief Minister on Law, Environment, Climate Change and Coastal Development, Barrister Murtaza Wahab said that opening vaccination centres at various places would make it easier for the people to get vaccinated. He expressed these views while talking to the media after the inauguration of the Covid Vaccination Centre here at K.....
more >>

Covid vaccination centre established at Naya Nazimabad
KARACHI: In collaboration with Health department, Government of Sindh, the management of Naya Nazimabad has set up a new Covid-19 vaccination centre on its own premises, at Ali Habib Medical Centre (AHMC). “We are pleased to make vaccination easily accessible to the residents of Naya Nazimabad and adjoining areas,” said Samad Habib, CEO, Naya Nazimabad. “The new vaccina.....
more >>

Three die of coronavirus in Sindh, 511 new patients diagnosed
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-06-27
KARACHI - As many as three more patients of coronavirus died overnight lifting the death toll to 5,410 and 511 new cases emerged when 11,903 tests were conducted. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued here on Saturday. He said that three more patients of Covid-19 lost their lives lifting the death toll to 5,410 that constituted 1.6 per cent death ra.....
more >>

Eight Covid-19 patients die in Sindh
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-06-28
KARACHI: Eight patients of coronavirus died overnight and 521 new cases emerged when 14,052 tests were conducted in Sindh, Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said in a statement issued here on Sunday. He said that the fresh deaths lifted the death toll to 5,418, constituting 1.6pc death rate. Mr Shah said that 14,052 samples were tested which detected 521 cases, constituting 3.7pc detection.....
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<th>Title</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Corona cases drop as Sindh shrines set to reopen today</td>
<td>Correspondent, The News, International</td>
<td>2021-06-28</td>
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<tr>
<td>PharmEvo vaccinates 90pc of its employees</td>
<td>Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-06-28</td>
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<td>Sindh re-opens shrines under SOPs</td>
<td>INP, Business Recorder, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-06-28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pakistan to get millions of Moderna, Sinovac, Sputnik shots in coming week</td>
<td>M Waqar Bhatti, The News, International</td>
<td>2021-06-27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sindh to re-open shrines from today under SOPs
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-06-28
KARACHI - The Sindh government has notified to reopen the shrines, from today (Monday) under strict SOPs, as cases of COVID-19 going down in the province. Sindh Auqaf Department has notified reopening of the shrines in the province that were closed down owing to upsurge in coronavirus cases amid third wave of the pandemic. Easing the restrictions in the province, the notification advised the.....
more >>

Sindh Govt to adopt NCOC decisions to further relax COVID-related restrictions: CM Sindh
Source: App, Daily Times, 2021-06-29
Chief Minister Sindh Syed Murad Ali Shah on Monday said that the government would adopt the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) decisions regarding further relaxation in COVID-related restrictions imposed on different activities. He made these remarks while presiding over a meeting of provincial Task Force on Coronavirus held here at CM House, The meeting was attended by provincial mini.....
more >>

Task force endorses opening of shrines, parks: CM
Source: Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-06-29
KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Monday said that the government would adopt the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) decisions regarding further relaxation in Covid-related restrictions imposed on different activities. He made these remarks while presiding over a meeting of provincial Task Force on Coronavirus held here at CM House. The meeting was attended b.....
more >>

Sindh to adopt NCOC decisions to further relax Covid restrictions
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-06-29
KARACHI - Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah, presiding over a meeting of Provincial Task Force on Coronavirus on Monday at CM House, said that his government would adopt the NCOC decisions regarding further relaxation in COVID-related restrictions imposed on different activities. The meeting was attended by provincial ministers, Saeed Ghani, Nasir Shah, Law Advisor Murtaza Wahab, Parli.....
more >>

Covid-19 claims 24 lives, infects 622 others
Source: Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-01
KARACHI: As many as 24 more patients of Covid-19 died overnight lifting the death toll to 5,464 and 622 new cases emerged when 14,520 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 5,464 that constituted 1.6 percent death rate. ..... 
more >>

COVID claims 24 more lives
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-01
KARACHI - As many as 24 more patients of coronavirus died overnight lifting the death toll to 5,464 and 622 new cases emerged when 14,520 tests were conducted. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister (CM) 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 5,464 that constituted 1.6 percent death rate. Mr Sye.....
more >>
COVID-19 claims 14 more lives, infects 713 others
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-02
KARACHI - As many as 14 more patients of coronavirus died overnight lifting the death toll to 5,478 and 713 new cases emerged when 13,935 tests were conducted. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued here on Thursday. He added that 14 more patients of COVID-19 lost their lives lifting the death toll to 5,478 that constituted 1.6 percent death rate. Sy.....
more >>

Karachi fears another viral spell in advance of Eid
Source: Aamir Khan, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-03
KARACHI: Despite three waves of coronavirus and forth feared to be on the horizon, the people of Karachi appear to have become desensitised to the deadly virus. SOPs are flouted left, right and centre, while the bustling city appears as though it has long defeated the pandemic. The government on the other hand, after several incremental lockdowns and flailing economy, is now mulling to reopen the.....
more >>

Home dept issues new order regarding COVID-19 SOPs
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-04
KARACHI - The Sindh Home Department has issued a new order regarding COVID-19 SOPs under which business hours in Sindh have been extended to 10pm while Indoor dining in restaurants is allowed till 12pm. According to a notification issued here, the Home department maintained only vaccinated people will be allowed to attend indoor dining while home delivery, takeaway service will be available 2.....
more >>

Friends, colleagues remember scholars lost to Covid-19
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-05
KARACHI: The Institute of Historical and Social Research (IHSR) organised an evening of remembrance at the Zaki Hasan Auditorium at the Jinnah Medical and Dental College for several scholars who recently lost their lives to the Covid-19 pandemic. Addressing the sombre gathering, Dr Syed Jaffar Ahmed said that everyone had read about pandemics in history but who had thought that they would also se.....
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Covid kills eight more, infects another 940 in Sindh
Eight more people have died due to Covid-19 and 940 others have tested positive for the disease during the past 24 hours in Sindh, with the death toll due to the viral coronavirus infection reaching 5,520 in the province. Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said in his daily situation report on the health emergency on Sunday that 16,516 samples were tested in the past 24 hours, resulting in 940 ..... 
more >>

Sindh reports 940 new cases of Covid-19
Source: Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-05
KARACHI: As many as 8 more patients of coronavirus died overnight lifting the death toll to 5,520 and 940 new cases emerged when 16,516 tests were conducted. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued here on Sunday. He added that 8 more patients of Covid-19 lost their lives lifting the death toll to 5,520 that constituted 1.6 percent death rate. ..... 
more >>
Vaccination of staff, traders at Eid cattle markets mandatory
Source: Tahir Niaz, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-05
ISLAMABAD - The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Sunday declared Covid-19 vaccination mandatory for all staff and traders at country’s cattle markets. The NCOC directions came in line with the guidelines earlier issued by the Ministry of Health for Eid ul Azha, urging masses to follow the SOPs to prevent Covid infections. The NCOC also urged the administrations of the ca.....
more >>

86,873 people vaccinated against COVID in district Shaheed Benazirabad
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-05
NAWABSHAH - More than 86,873 persons were vaccinated against COVID-19 throughout district Shaheed Benazirabad, this was stated by District Health Officer (DHO) Dr Daulat Jamali on Sunday. He said that for the purpose nine vaccination centres were set up in different areas of the district with a side by side facility of 25 mobile teams and four teams for vaccination senior citizens were also w.....
more >>

COVID claims eight more lives
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-05
KARACHI - As many as 8 more patients of coronavirus died overnight lifting the death toll to 5,520 and 940 new cases emerged when 16,516 tests were conducted. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued on Sunday. He added that 8 more patients of COVID-19 lost their lives lifting the death toll to 5,520 that constituted 1.6 percent death rate. Shah.....
more >>

PMA calls for ‘extraordinary measures’ to ensure SOPs’ compliance
Source: Faiza Ilyas, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-06
KARACHI: Expressing concern over the increase in coronavirus cases following significant relaxation in Covid-19 related restrictions across the country, the Pakistan Medical Association (PMA) warned on Monday that the situation could get serious if respective provincial governments didn’t take “extraordinary measures” to ensure compliance with the standard operating procedures (S.....
more >>

COVID claims 8 more lives
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-08
KARACHI - Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah said on Friday that as many as eight more patients of coronavirus died overnight in Sindh lifting the death toll to 5,536 while 953 new cases emerged when 16,218 tests were conducted. This he stated in a statement issued here on Monday. He added that eight more patients of COVID-19 lost their lives lifting the death toll to 5,536 that co.....
more >>

1.9m people get at least one dose of Covid-19 vaccine in Sindh
Source: Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-09
KARACHI - The Covid-19 vaccination drive has been underway in six divisions of Sindh as 97000 people got vaccine dose in last 24 hours. According to sources, 1.9 million people have got at least one dose of the vaccine in the province. Around 6,45,000 people have got two doses of coronavirus vaccine in Sindh, sources said. Karachi have 10.2 million people of 18 years and above age eligible for vac.....
more >>
Karachi’s coronavirus positivity ratio hits 10.71 percent
Source: Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-09
KARACHI - The coronavirus positivity ratio in the metropolis failed to drop below 10 per cent, Sindh Health Department said, as the ratio hit 10.71 per cent on Thursday. The health department said 3,888 COVID-19 cases were recorded in the first week of July; 80 people succumbed to the virus in the metropolis, while 36,296 tests were conducted. In the first week of July, 21 people died in District.....
more >>

Covid-19; Sindh governor praises PM for making difficult decisions
Source: Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-09
KARACHI: Governor Sindh Imran Ismail has praised the leadership and vision of Prime Minister Imran Khan and the way he made unpopular but imperative decisions during the tough time of Covid-19. While, addressing the dinner hosted by PTI leader Samir Mir Shaikh, he said that PM’s Covid-19 related decisions turned out to be the most noteworthy action plans. During his address, Govern.....
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## International News

**Countries News**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Macron resumes pre-Covid gig; Russia imposes restrictions; Free Covid vaccines for all Indian adults</td>
<td><strong>Source</strong>: AFP, <em>The News, International</em></td>
<td><strong>2021-06-22</strong></td>
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<td>NEW DELHI: India opened up free vaccinations to all adults in an attempt to bolster its inoculation drive on Monday, as Prime Minister Narendra Modi kicked off a muted International Yoga Day hailing the practice’s &quot;protective&quot; properties against the coronavirus. The country’s vaccination drive has significantly slowed in recent months due to a shortage of jabs and hesitancy.</td>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
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<td>Title</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>US regulator issues alert about Pfizer, Moderna jabs</strong></td>
<td>Reuters, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-06-27</td>
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<td>WASHINGTON: The US drug regulator on Friday added a warning to the</td>
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<td>literature that accompanies Pfizer Inc/BioNTech and Moderna Covid</td>
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<td>vaccine shots to indicate the rare risk of heart inflammation after</td>
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<td>its use. For each vaccine, the fact sheets for healthcare providers</td>
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<td>have been revised to include a warning that reports of adverse</td>
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<td>events suggest increased risks of myocarditis and pericarditis....</td>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
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<td>BEIJING: “It has been proved by China’s successful experience that</td>
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<td>the COVID-19 epidemic is preventable, controllable, and curable,</td>
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<td>Gwadar Pro reported on Sunday. However, the only way to defeat the</td>
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<td>virus is solidarity and cooperation of the international community,</td>
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<td>rather than politicization,” Lin SongTian, President of the Chinese</td>
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<td>People’s Association for Friendship with.....</td>
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<td>**Migrant workers flee Dhaka as BD tightens Covid lockdown; Millions</td>
<td>AFP, The News, International, 2021-06-28</td>
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<td>of Sydney residents in coronavirus lockdown**</td>
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<td>Sydney: Millions of Sydney residents began the first full day of a</td>
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<td>two-week coronavirus lockdown on Sunday, as Australia imposed new</td>
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<td>restrictions to contain an outbreak of the highly contagious Delta</td>
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<td>variant. Restaurants, bars and cafes were shuttered after stay-at-</td>
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<td>home orders for central neighbourhoods were extended Saturday</td>
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<td>evening across the sprawling city and to the coastal and</td>
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<td>mountainous re.....</td>
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<td><strong>UK Health Secretary Matt Hancock resigns</strong></td>
<td>AFP, The News, International, 2021-06-27</td>
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<td>LONDON: UK Health Secretary Matt Hancock resigned on Saturday, after</td>
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<td>revelations that he broke the government’s own coronavirus</td>
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<td>restrictions during an affair with a close aide. The frontman for</td>
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<td>Britain’s response to the pandemic, particularly the vaccine</td>
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<td>roll-out, quit in a letter to Prime Minister Boris Johnson,</td>
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<td>reiterating his earlier apology. &quot;We owe it to people who have</td>
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<td>sac.....</td>
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<td>NEW YORK: The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has added a</td>
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<td>warning about the risk of heart inflammation to fact sheets for</td>
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<td>Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccines, international</td>
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<td>media reported on Saturday. The warning on Friday noted that reports</td>
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<td>of adverse events following vaccination – particularly after the</td>
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<td>second dose – suggest increased risks of myocarditis, or inflamma...</td>
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<td><strong>Delta variant forces new lockdowns as Europe eases curbs</strong></td>
<td>AFP, The News, International, 2021-06-27</td>
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<td>SAINT PETERSBURG: Australia’s largest city Sydney entered a two-</td>
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<td>week lockdown on Saturday to contain a sudden coronavirus surge</td>
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<td>and Russia’s Saint Petersburg announced a record death toll, as</td>
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<td>several European nations lifted restrictions despite the global</td>
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<td>spread of a highly contagious Covid-19 variant. While vaccination</td>
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<td>drives have brought down infections in numerous -- mostly wealthy...</td>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
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### Flooding forces Ganges to give up its coronavirus dead

Source: AFP, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2021-06-30

ALLAHABAD: Partly hidden between long reeds of grass, bodies shrouded in saffron cloth float silently down the holy Ganges river, a reminder of how India’s ferocious coronavirus wave overwhelmed hospitals and crematoriums. Families in India’s north and east gave up the bodies of their loved ones to the river or buried them in shallow graves on its banks, unable to afford the cost of f......

[more >>](#)

### Pakistan to get 2.5m doses of Moderna vaccine from US


WASHINGTON: Pakistan is set to receive 2.5 million doses of the Moderna vaccine from the United States, White House spokesperson Jen Psaki has said. The shipment is part of President Joe Biden’s commitment to play a leading role in ending the coronavirus pandemic everywhere, she told her regular briefing on Monday. Last week, the US president had announced his plans to allocate 75 .....

[more >>](#)

### Asia-Pacific virus outbreaks flare; Covid-19 curbs reimposed in Moscow


Moscow: Work-from-home restrictions were reimposed in Moscow on Monday as Russia tried to contain a deadly coronavirus wave fuelled by the Delta variant, while several Asian nations also tightened curbs to contain growing outbreaks. While many wealthy countries have brought down infections through rapid vaccinations, outbreaks are still raging from Bangladesh and Indonesia to South America -- man.....

[more >>](#)

### Putin rejects mandatory Covid jabs as Russia sees record deaths


MOSCOW: President Vladimir Putin on Wednesday said he was opposed to mandatory coronavirus vaccinations for Russians but urged the jab-sceptic population to get inoculated as his country battles a deadly third wave. Putin was addressing Russians during his annual televised phone-in session, answering questions posed live on air and in recorded videos, with more than two million questions sent in......

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### Terrorists becoming increasingly innovative in coronavirus-hit world: UN counter-terrorism chief

Source: *App, Daily Times*, 2021-07-02

UN counter-terrorism chief Vladimir Voronkov has warned that terrorists are becoming increasingly innovative in a world shaken by the coronavirus pandemic in spite of “significant progress” in the fight against terrorism. Voronkov, head of the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism (OCT), concluded the Second High-level Conference of Heads of Counter-Terrorism on Wednesday at the UN headquart.....

[more >>](#)

### Bangladesh locks down as infections in Europe rise again

Source: Agencies, *Daily Times*, 2021-07-02

Bangladesh’s 168 million people on Thursday began a strict coronavirus lockdown while Indonesia announced emergency curbs as infections surged across parts of the Asia-Pacific. A European Union-wide coronavirus travel certificate was also set to come into force on Thursday, but concerns persisted about a resurgence of the disease as the World Health Organization said cases in the continent .....
PIA special plane airlifts 2m doses of corona vaccine from China
Source: APP, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-07
BEIJING: A special plane of Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) PK-6853 airlifted two million doses of Sinovac Covid-19 vaccine from the Beijing Capital International Airport to Islamabad on Tuesday. This special flight of the national flag carrier in addition to the special flight PK-6852 which transported two million doses of the Sinovac vaccine from China to Pakistan in last month, Qadir.....

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World passes 'tragic milestone' of four million Covid deaths: WHO
Source: Agencies, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-08
Geneva - The world passed the "tragic milestone" of four million recorded Covid-19 deaths on Wednesday, the World Health Organization said, adding that the true toll was likely higher. "The world is at a perilous point in this pandemic. We have just passed the tragic milestone of four million recorded Covid-19 deaths, which likely underestimates the overall toll," WHO chief Ted.....

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Donors News

China provides over 200 mobile oxygen concentrators
Source: Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-01
ISLAMABAD: As the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) has expressed fears that Covid-19 cases may rise during Eidul Azha holidays, China on Wednesday handed over 200 mobile oxygen concentrators to Pakistan. The oxygen concentrators were handed over to chairman of the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) Lt Gen Akhtar Nawaz by China's Ambassador to Pakistan Nong Rong at a c.....

more >>

China donates 200 mobile oxygen concentrators Share:
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-01
ISLAMABAD - China on Thursday donated 200 mobile oxygen concentrators to the government received by National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA). According to a NDMA statement, oxygen concentrators were handed over to Chairman NDMA Lt Gen Akhtar Nawaz by Chinese Ambassador in Pakistan Nong Rong at a ceremony held in Islamabad. The ceremony was attended by officials from Chinese Embassy, M.....

more >>

Vaccine delivery shows enduring US-Pakistan relations: Blinken
Source: Anwar Iqbal, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-04
WASHINGTON: US Secretary of State Antony Blinken has said that the delivery of 2.5 million doses of the Moderna vaccine highlights America's "enduring friendship" with Pakistan and its cooperation in the fight against Covid-19. "We are committed to bringing this pandemic to an end around the world," Secretary Blinken said in a tweet, posted hours after American officia.....

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SDPI Engagements

A Report launch

Pension regime needs comprehensive reforms: Report
Source: INP, Pakistan Observer , 2021-06-24
Additional Secretary Finance, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Safeer Ahmed, has said that KP is the first province to revise the retirement age to properly manage pension liabilities. The provincial government in this regard has introduced a contributory scheme for new employees to address the growing pension expenditure. These views were expressed by him while addressing the launching cerem.....more >>

Pension regime needs comprehensive reforms: Report
Source: DNA, Centreline.com , 2021-06-23
Islamabad: Additional Secretary Finance, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Safeer Ahmed, has said that Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is the first province to revise the retirement age to properly manage pension liabilities. The provincial government in this regard has introduced a contributory scheme for new employees to address the growing pension expenditure. He said this while addressing the launching cere.....more >>

PENSION REGIME NEEDS COMPREHENSIVE REFORMS: REPORT
Source: DNA News, DNA News , 2021-06-24
Islamabad: Additional Secretary Finance, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Safeer Ahmed, has said that Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is the first province to revise the retirement age to properly manage pension liabilities. The provincial government in this regard has introduced a contributory scheme for new employees to address the growing pension expenditure. He said this while addressing the launching .....more >>

‘Pension regime needs comprehensive reforms’
Islamabad: Additional Secretary Finance, Government of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, Safeer Ahmed, has said that KP is the first province to revise the retirement age to properly manage pension liabilities. The provincial government in this regard has introduced a contributory scheme for new employees to address the growing pension expenditure. He said this while addressing the launching ceremony of a r.....more >>

Amin: Clean energy transition prime focus of hydropower dev initiative
Source: Staff Reporter, Pakistan Observer , 2021-06-26
Special Advisor to Prime Minister on Climate Change, Malik Amin Aslam has said that Pakistan faces huge challenge of preparedness being at the frontline of rapidly emerging threats to climate change impacts. He said the unprecedented heat waves and alarming rate of melting glaciers in addition to unexpected Monsoon season are posing threats at multiple levels currently. Speaking at the ‘.....more >>

Zartaj Gul hints at including gender lens in climate change policy
Islamabad : Minister of State for Climate Change Zartaj Gul Wazir has said that climate change is not a gender-neutral phenomenon and a gap between Climate Change policies and gender issues still exists that needs to be redressed properly. Ms. Gul was speaking at the report launch ‘Climate-induced migration among women: stories from Muzaffargarh and Tharparkar districts of Pakistan’ org.....more >>
Zartaj Gul stresses for removal of gap between climate change policies and gender issues
Source: Tariq Ullah Wardak, Daily Times, 2021-07-02
Minister of State for Climate Change, Ms Zartaj Gul Wazir, has said that the climate change is not a gender-neutral phenomenon and a gap between climate change policies and gender issues still exists that needs to be redressed properly. "We need to acknowledge that the struggle that women face during the climate crisis is different from those that are faced by men." She said this while.

Climate induced migration among women: stories from Muzaffargarh and Tharparkar' launched
Source: Zubair Qureshi, Pakistan Observer, 2021-07-02
Minister of State for Climate Change Zartaj Gul has stressed the need for reducing the gap between climate change policies and gender issues. She said this while speaking at the launch of a study titled: 'Climate induced migration among women: stories from Muzaffargarh and Tharparkar districts, Pakistan.' Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) has launched the report.

ZARTAJ FOR REDRESSING GAP BETWEEN CLIMATE CHANGE POLICIES AND GENDER ISSUES
Source: DNA News, DNA News, 2021-07-01
ISLAMABAD: Minister of State for Climate Change Ms. Zartaj Gul Wazir has said that a gap between climate change policies and gender issues still exists that needs to be redressed properly. She was speaking at the launch of a study titled: 'Climate induced migration among women: stories from Muzaffargarh and Tharparkar districts, Pakistan', held under the auspices of Sustainable Development Institute (SDPI).

Gender-responsive climate action urged
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-02
ISLAMABAD: Minister of State for Climate Change Zartaj Gul has said that a gap between climate change policies and gender issues still exists that needs to be addressed appropriately. She was speaking at the launch of a study titled "Climate-induced migration among women: stories from Muzaffargarh and Tharparkar districts, Pakistan" held under the auspices of Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI).
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| **BRI: PRO-ACTIVE CONSTRUCTIVE ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY**  
Source: DNA News, 2021-06-24  
By Mr. Shakeel Ahmad Ramay, Member Board of Experts, Center for Global & Strategic Studies (CGSS), Islamabad  
China’s transition from a poverty-ridden country to second-biggest economy has taught one critical lesson “sustainable growth and development is only possible through cooperation”. China is cognizant of the importance of cooperation and is trying to create avenues .....[more >>](#) |
| **FATF Choosing to be Unfair**  
Source: Shakeel Ahmad Ramay, Daily Times, 2021-07-03  
There is an old story of a man with a long beard. He lived in a village where somehow his neighbours did not like him. They all wanted to expel him from the village. However, they could not find any valid excuse. One day, a genius came up with a genius idea. He assured villagers that the man with the beard would now have to leave the village. He raised the objection that whenever that man spoke, h.....[more >>](#) |

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Source: Xinhua, Pakistan Today, 2021-06-27  
ISLAMABAD: The Belt and Road Initiative is crucial for global economic recovery in the post-pandemic era and building a community with a shared future for mankind by following a path of cooperation, unity and common development, said a political economist. “Enhanced constructive engagements based on the principle of win-win cooperation is the need of the hour to overcome the challenges posed.....[more >>](#) |
| **Interview: BRI cooperation crucial for global economic recovery in post-pandemic era: Pakistani expert**  
Source: Raheela Nazir, News Asia&Pacific, 2021-06-28  
ISLAMABAD, June 27 (Xinhua) -- The China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is crucial for global economic recovery in the post-pandemic era and building a community with a shared future for mankind by following a path of cooperation, unity and common development, said a Pakistani political economist. "Enhanced constructive engagements based on the principle of win-win cooperation is th.....[more >>](#) |

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Source: Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-06-23  
RAWALPINDI: Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Food Security Jamshed Iqbal Cheema on Tuesday said the PM's Agriculture Transformation Plan was a revolutionary initiative which aimed at taking conventional agriculture to the level of commercial agriculture. Addressing a seminar on ‘Prime’s Minister Agriculture Transformation Plan: Targets and the Way Forward' held a.....[more >>](#) |
| **Agriculture sector development among top priorities of government: Jamshed Iqbal**  
Source: Israr Ahmad, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-06-23  
Rawalpindi -Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Food Security Jamshed Iqbal Cheema said that the agriculture sector development is among the top priorities of the government and PM's Agriculture Transformation Plan is a revolutionary initiative to shift conventional agriculture to the next level – commercial agriculture. He stated this while addressing a seminar on Prime&rsqu.....[more >>](#) |
Experts weigh in on tax on mobile phone calls
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-06-27
ISLAMABAD/KARACHI: The government's decision to introduce tax on mobile phone calls has perplexed the telecom industry and the general public. The telecom industry has said that the proposed taxes on mobile calls over five minutes are not implementable and will play havoc with the prepaid bundles that are currently being enjoyed by the lowest segment of society. Earlier, in the finance bi.....
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Special Seminar

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Islamabad: Pakistan is facing a huge challenge of preparedness in the face of climate change impacts and their rapidly emerging threats, said Special Adviser to Prime Minister on Climate Change Malik Amin Aslam. Mr Aslam was speaking at the Clean Energy Transition Summit organised here by Sustainable Development Policy Institute. Mr Aslam elaborated that Pakistan is on the development pathway .....
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