.....About Newsletter

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

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

Newspapers Covered:

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

Contents…….

Op-Eds
Articles/Editorials/News comments ........................................02

National News

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

International News

- Countries News
- Donors News

SDPI Engagements

- Research Study News
- SDPI Webinar News
- SDPI Related News
- Researchers Articles
- Consultation gathering
- Report Launch News

Sustainable Development Policy Institute, SDPI

10-D West, 3rd Floor, Taimoor Chamber, Fazl-ul-Haq Road, Blue Area, Islamabad. Pakistan,
Tel: +92.51. 2278134, Fax: 2278135,
### SDG-8 and post-Covid Pakistan
Source: Karim Khan, *The Express Tribune, Islamabad*, 2021-07-13
The Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), comprising 17 inter-related development goals and 169 specific targets, provide a “scheme to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all”. Goal 8 i.e. Decent Work and Economic Growth is aimed at achieving full and productive employment while ensuring decency at workplace for all, irrespective of gender and social class. Though the plans..... more >>

### Back to the drawing board
Alarm bells have been rung. The official word from the government—via Asad Umar—is that the fourth wave of the covid-19 virus is emerging caused by poor compliance of SOPs, and spread of the “delta” variants. The SAPM on National Health Services, Dr Faisal Sultan believes the army may have to be brought in to enforce Covid-19 SOPs across the country. The NCOC is not do..... more >>

### Exercising Precaution
While the people of Pakistan have been consumed by enjoying the nation-wide ease in restrictions, the highest number of cases have been reported since June. It has become very evident that we are digressing. Given that Eid-ul-Azha is around the corner, we can expect the situation to get worse and must take precautions accordingly. Failing to act proactively will result in a more deadly wave that i..... more >>

### Preventing Suicides
Source: Nabila Chauhdry, *Daily Times*, 2021-07-13
“A young boy took his life after failing in exams,” “an unemployed man shot himself after takings lives of his wife and kids,” and “a mother threw herself and her kids in front of a train.” These are few excerpts of horrific news we get to read almost daily. Alarmingly, people have started opting for suicide as a permanent solution to their temporary problems. ......more >>

### Killing cash cows
Source: Sarah Nizamani, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2021-07-15
FATIMA Hussain is a young woman with a promising future. The 22-year-old lost her teaching job because of school closures caused by the pandemic. With the pandemic, her options to find new work were few, until recently. About a year ago, Fatima discovered freelancing. With her basic graphic designing skills, she started designing logos and page layouts for low-budget websites. Several free courses..... more >>

### Amid a fourth wave
The number of daily coronavirus cases in the country has more than doubled over the last two weeks — from 979 on June 30 to 1980 on July 13. Many an expert sees this rise as a strong indication of the onset of a fourth wave of the raging pandemic. Even worse, the cases involved those of the highly virulent Delta variant — one that has wreaked havoc in India and many other countries. T..... more >>
The US-China Tech Conflict and Pakistan
Source: Muzammil Ferozi, Daily Times, 2021-07-15
Impeding access to semiconductors, 5G technologies, and more could hamper the wider socio-economic development of a Digital Pakistan. Today, access to advanced technologies has become a chief indicator of national competitiveness and prosperity. Perhaps more than any other field, investments in digital infrastructure are enabling Pakistan and the wider region to improve health care, expand educati.....

more >>

Expeditious justice and ADR
Source: Dr Syed Kaleem Imam, The News, International, 2021-07-16
My fathers’ aunt migrated from India in 1947, and got a small house in Rawalpindi against the claim for the property left in Uttar Pradesh. In sheer affection, she also accommodated her sister in the same house. But for the next thirty years, she and her heirs paid heavily for the price of that love by visiting the courts. The sister had gone to the court to lay her claim for the same house.....

more >>

A Fourth Wave?
Source: Editorial, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-16
The numbers for the coronavirus cases do not look good. Despite reaching a low in the last few months due to the vaccination campaign, relaxation of restrictions, a new "Delta" variant, and Eidul Azha just a few days away have all contributed to an alarming surge in Covid positivity, as cases soar overnight. One day ago, the cases reported were numbered 1,980 cases. The next day, on Th.....

more >>

Routine vaccination
Source: Editorial, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-17
A RECENT survey of countrywide routine immunisation coverage has revealed some encouraging results. According to the Third-Party Verification Immunisation Coverage Survey, around 76pc of children in the country younger than two years have been administered the full dose of initial vaccinations under the country's Expanded Programme on Immunisation. This is an increase of around 10pc in the n.....

more >>

Cost of a divided world
Source: Farrukh Khan Pitafi, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-17
Let me draw your attention to four of my pieces that appeared in this space in the past two years. On June 1, 2019, in my piece titled “The Huawei Inflection Point”, I pointed out the perils of the Trump administration’s dangerous campaign against Huawei. As we examined in this space the reasons given behind the ban were full of platitudes and contained a laundry list of complain.....

more >>

Digital skills a necessity post-Covid
Source: Fiza Farhan, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-17
Covid-19 has impacted the world in multiple ways. More importantly, it has forced policymakers, strategists and analysts to reshape the way that they used to decipher, dichotomize and design development plans. Imparting skills leading to economic livelihood generation has been a major concern for economies around the world, and the Covid outbreak has resulted in closure of schools, universities an.....

more >>
Covid shatters Hajj dreams of older pilgrims
Source: aitham El-Tabei, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-17
Samia Ahmed saved up for 16 years, but like many older Muslims she fears that renewed Covid-19 curbs will prevent her from ever making the Hajj pilgrimage. Saudi Arabia has for a second consecutive year confined the annual Hajj to a limited number of residents, excluding the millions of foreigners who usually flock to Makkah for the rite that every able-bodied Muslim is obliged to perform at ......

more >>

THE CHAOS OF COVID-19 VARIANTS
“In fact, biology is chaos. Biological systems are the product not of logic but of evolution, an inelegant process. Life does not choose the logically best design to meet a new situation. It adapts what already exists ... The result, unlike the clean straight lines of logic, is often irregular, messy.” — John Barry, The Great Influenza: The Story of the Deadliest Pandemic in Hist......

more >>

Growing Delta threat
Source: Editorial, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-18
WE are back to the brink of a Covid-19 disaster. With just over 4.5m citizens in the country fully vaccinated, millions more are vulnerable to the dangerous virus. The Delta variant — known to be up to 60pc more transmissible than other strains — is spreading like wildfire across cities. The occupancy rate for oxygen beds in Gilgit, Skardu, Karachi and Muzaffarabad is 58pc, 50pc, 41pc .....

more >>

Growing Delta threat
Source: Editorial, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-18
WE are back to the brink of a Covid-19 disaster. With just over 4.5m citizens in the country fully vaccinated, millions more are vulnerable to the dangerous virus. The Delta variant — known to be up to 60pc more transmissible than other strains — is spreading like wildfire across cities. The occupancy rate for oxygen beds in Gilgit, Skardu, Karachi and Muzaffarabad is 58pc, 50pc, 41pc .....  

more >>

Pandemic of job losses
Source: Editorial, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-18
The coronavirus pandemic has brought about another kind of pandemic in its wake. It is the pandemic of job losses in most developing countries of the world, including Pakistan, and this is no less serious than the pandemic that is causing a dreaded illness and death on a large scale. A survey conducted by the government has revealed that 27.31 million workers—around half of the country’s......

more >>

Now the fourth wave
Source: Kamal Siddiqi, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-19
Medical experts are telling us that the Delta (Indian) variant of Covid-19 is now the dominant strain worldwide and is accompanied by a surge in deaths, almost entirely among unvaccinated people. In the last week, Pakistan reported 2,783 new coronavirus cases in 24 hours, taking the country’s Covid-19 tally to 986,668. The country’s death toll climbed to 22,760 after 39 more people suc......

more >>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eid alert</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A fragmenting ummah</td>
<td>Rafia Zakaria, <em>Dawn, Islamabad</em>, 2021-07-21</td>
<td>2021-07-21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Another Eid amid pandemic</td>
<td>Editorial, <em>The Express Tribune, Islamabad</em>, 2021-07-21</td>
<td>2021-07-21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Covid curbs: prefer persuasion
Source: Editorial, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-25
The Sindh government has taken a wise decision to increase the range of restrictions from Monday in view of the rising cases of coronavirus infections in the province. Karachi, Sindh’s capital, is the worst affected in the whole province where the positivity ratio stood at 21.54% on Thursday and the infestation was increasing alarmingly. Some of the decisions made at a meeting of the provinc.....
more >>

Rise of populism in the post-Covid world
Source: Dr Maqsudul Hasan Nuri, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-25
Populist sentiments seem to be resurfacing in the wake of Covid-19 as a virulent variant, Delta, spreads across many countries. Populism was a hot topic in world politics from 2017-2019 until the end of 2019 when the world got embroiled in epidemic fever. The Covid-19 crisis in 2019 was unprecedented, rapid and mushroomed across the world as it was unexpected and sudden. It found a fertile gr.....
more >>

Do vaccinated people need to go back to masking?
Source: Issam Ahmed, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-25
With the Delta variant pushing US Covid cases back up, fully vaccinated people are wondering whether they need to start masking indoors again. Covid vaccines remain extremely effective against the worst outcomes of the disease — hospitalization and death — and breakthrough infections remain uncommon. But experts told AFP that one size doesn’t fit all, and people should ..... 
more >>

Mismanaged Tourism
Source: Editorial, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-25
The tourism industry brings in a majority of revenue for the residents of popular tourist spots in the north. This is one reason why the government reversed the ban on tourism and allowed tourists to flock to the northern areas as long as strict SOPs were implemented. However, when these regulations are discarded and when good civic sense is also not practiced, excess tourism becomes a nuisan.....
more >>

Restrictions Reimposed
Source: Editorial, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-25
The fourth wave of Covid-19 in Pakistan is being supported by a 23 percent positivity rate in Karachi alone—the city reported the highest number of Delta variant cases. Overall, each province has experienced a spike in transmission rates that has brought the national average to horrifying 2330 cases every single day. Now that the virus has evolved into a more lethal version of itself, precau.....
more >>

Vaccinate, now
Pakistan’s total reported coronavirus cases crossed the one million mark recently, even though it is believed the actual number may be much higher owing to the country’s low testing numbers. With daily cases averaging around 2,000 in the past two weeks – a rate last witnessed towards the end of May and early June when the third wave was subsiding – there is sufficient reaso.....
more >>
Water, tourism, and policy
In a statement to the press, Ismael Serageldin, a former vice president of the World Bank said in August 1995, "Many of the wars of this century were about oil. Wars of the next century will be over water," writes Paul Brown in his wonderful book, Global Warming: Can the Civilisation Survive? The World Bank has reported that 80 countries around the world are experiencing water shortages ..... more >>

Social protection in times of Covid
No part of the world has remained untouched by the coronavirus pandemic. Everyone has suffered directly or indirectly due to the disease or been affected by the preventive measures. Social protection systems are crucial to protect the poor and the vulnerable when such crises hit. In this case, the higher costs of medical treatment on one hand and a shutdown of businesses as a result of a lockdown..... more >>

Melodies of Hunger
Sitting on a footpath in Nasim Nagar, Gulzar Faqeer recalls pre-Covid days when he and his colleagues would make good money performing folk music and entertaining crowds on various occasions. Faqeer is a drum player. He has been associated with the profession for fifteen years. A few of the group’s members are shehnai nawaz. The group of eight is used to visiting Nasim Nagar in Hyderabad to ea..... more >>

Communal concerns
The squealing and rumbling of eight washing machines continued while children in the courtyard outside made loud noises in a language that seemed to be a mix of Thai, Urdu and Punjabi. The scene was typical of a morning in the Delite condominium in the Prachutit area of Bangkok. It was March 16, 2014. For Davis Khokhar, washing his large family’s clothes at the public laundry room was a dai..... more >>

Online myths
Source: Neda Mulji, Dawn, Islamabad , 2021-07-26
THEY say it takes a village to raise a child and, while this old adage may have been true in the bygone days, in the age of the pandemic it seems exactly the opposite is true. Nuclear families have been broken into even smaller units as family members try to maintain distancing to keep each other safe. Many have had to shift focus away from their children to take care of ailing parents, especially..... more >>

Grim Covid realities
Source: Editorial, Dawn, Islamabad , 2021-07-26
YET another grim milestone was reached last week when we became the 30th country in the world to mark a million coronavirus cases. In Karachi, alarm bells are ringing as cases shoot up. Reports suggest the positivity ratio has crossed 20pc — a shocking statistic which suggests that at least one out of every five people tested in the city gets a positive result. There are reports of people te..... more >>
National News

Balochistan

16 cases of Delta variant reported in Balochistan
Source: Mohammad Zafar, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-13
QUETTA: Balochistan reported 16 cases of Indian Covid variant, commonly known as Delta, as coronavirus cases continue to rise, while officials fear that the variant has reached Karachi. “Eleven cases of the virus are reported from Quetta, while five from Turbat,” said Balochistan Health Secretary Aziz Jamali on Monday while addressing a press conference at the Quetta Press Club. He w.....more >>

Balochistan faces sharp increase in Covid-19 cases
Source: Saleem Shahid, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-19
QUETTA: The Balochistan government has expressed concern over sharp increase in Covid-19 cases during its fourth wave in the province. Speaking at a press conference here on Sunday, spokesman Liaquat Shahuwani said the rate of positive cases of coronavirus in the province had reached 12 per cent because the people were showing casual attitude towards vaccination. “Now it is the responsibil.....more >>

COVID-19 lockdown imposed in Balochistan’s Kech district
Source: Agencies, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-26
QUETTA - Amid a surge in the COVID-19 cases, a lockdown has been imposed in Kech district of Balochistan province for 15 days. According to details, a notification was also issued regarding the lockdown in Kech, which said that the lockdown has been imposed in view of the increasing number of coronavirus cases in the district. As per the notification, all shops and markets will remain closed exccep.....more >>

Islamabad

Capital sees over 5pc positivity rate
Source: Munawer Azeem | Aamir Yasin, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-13
ISLAMABAD: With the Delta variant of coronavirus spreading, the positivity ratio in the capital has risen to 6.6pc as 117 people were found infected on Monday. Officials of the capital administration said two elderly male patients, in the 80-89 age bracket, succumbed to the virus in the last two days. Both deceased were residents of G-15, they added. During the last 24 hours 1,752 tests were con.....more >>

More than 500,000 Covid-19 vaccine doses administered on July 12: Umar
ISLAMABAD: Chairman National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) Asad Umar on Tuesday said the country, for the first time, administered more than half a million Covid-19 vaccine jabs in a single day on July 12. “For the first time we crossed half a million doses of vaccination yesterday. 5 lakh 25 thousand doses were administered yesterday,” Umar said on Twitter. "Highest ever f.....more >>

23 areas of twin cities put under smart lockdown
Source: Israr Ahmad, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-13
islamabad/ rawalpindi - The district administrations of twin cities have put as many as 23 areas under smart lockdown in the wake of increasing delta variant Covid-19 positive cases, informed sources on Monday. Deputy commissioners of Islamabad Muhammad Hamza Shafqat and Rawalpindi Amir Aqiq Khan have issued notifications in this regard, they said. According to sources, at least 16 areas in R.....more >>
Cuba offers vaccine production in Pakistan
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-14
ISLAMABAD: In a major boost to the country’s vaccine procurement efforts, Cuba on Tuesday offered to establish a centre for vaccine production in Pakistan which could be used for both domestic use as well as exports, the science and technology ministry said in a statement. The announcement comes, as Pakistan passed a major milestone in its nationwide vaccination campaign by administering mor.....
more >>

NCOC increases number of flights to bring back Pakistanis
Source: Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-14
ISLAMABAD: While the country has administered over 20 million doses of Covid-19 vaccine, the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Tuesday decided to increase the number of flights by 30 per cent to bring back on a daily basis around 3,000 Pakistanis stranded in different countries. According to a statement issued by the NCOC, over 20m doses of vaccine have been administered since Febru.....
more >>

NCOC decides to call in army
Source: Abdul Rasheed Azad, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-14
ISLAMABAD: The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) Tuesday decided to call the army for implementing the mandatory coronavirus Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). The Pakistan Army was last mobilised in April to enforce coronavirus safety protocols in several parts of the country after Prime Minister Imran Khan had sought its help in curbing the spread of the virus. The NCOC also d.....
more >>

Covid vaccine; PM ties easy access to trade revival
Source: Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-14
ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan Tuesday said that universal and affordable access to Covid-19 vaccine is essential to defeat the virus and to revive global trade, investment, and growth. While addressing virtually the UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development 2021, the prime minister said that the world is facing an unprecedented triple challenge, the Covid-19 pandemic as ..... more >>

NCOC decides to call in army for enforcing Covid-19 SOPs
Source: Tahir Niaz, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-14
ISLAMABAD - The National Command and Operations Centre (NCOC) on Tuesday announced that it has decided to call in the Pakistan Army for the implementation of Covid-19 SOPs. An important meeting of the NCOC was held here to discuss the current Covid-19 situation in the country and the ongoing inoculation drive in the country. The NCOC also decided to make coronavirus vaccination mandatory for ..... more >>

FM proposes supply of anti-COVID vaccines to everyone
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-14
ISLAMABAD - Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi on Tuesday proposed equitable and affordable supply of anti-COVID vaccines to everyone and everywhere to defeat the virus and overcome the challenges that flow from it. He was virtually addressing the online Mid-term Ministerial Conference of the Non-Aligned Movement under the theme ‘Non-Aligned Movement at the centre of multilateral eff..... more >>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan Army may be called in to implement Covid-19 SOPs</td>
<td>news Desk, Daily Times</td>
<td>2021-07-13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Pakistan Army may be called in to implement coronavirus standard operating procedures, Special Assistant to Prime Minister on National Health Services Dr Faisal Sultan said on Monday. Speaking to media in Islamabad, Dr Faisal said the last few weeks have seen an increase in Covid-19 cases, with the positivity rate going up from 2% to 4%. He also spoke about the rapid increase in the Delta var.....</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Covid-19: PM tells rich nations to ‘do more’ for poor countries</td>
<td>App, Daily Times</td>
<td>2021-07-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prime Minister Imran Khan on Thursday said as the Covid-19 pandemic has revealed the interdependence of nations, a joint action is essential to fight its triple challenge through vaccine supply, reallocation of International Monetary Fund (IMF) quotas by high-income states and adaptation of climate finance. In his virtual address to the UN High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Developm.....</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 more die of Covid-19; 1,590 fresh cases surface</td>
<td>news Desk, Daily Times</td>
<td>2021-07-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The coronavirus claimed another 21 lives in the country during the last twenty-four hours, pushing the national death tally to 22,618, said the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Tuesday. According to the NCOC data, the country reported 1,590 new cases after 43,790 tests were conducted on July 12. The positivity rate was recorded at 3.63 percent. The total active Covid-19 cases in Pa.....</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over half a million administered Covid jabs on July 12: Asad</td>
<td>Agencies, Daily Times</td>
<td>2021-07-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) head Asad Umar on Tuesday said the country, for the first time, administered more than half a million Covid-19 vaccine jabs in a single day on July 12. “For the first time we crossed half a million doses of vaccination yesterday. 5 lakh 25 thousand (525,000) doses were administered yesterday,” Umar said on Twitter. “Highest ever fi.....</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Covid positivity, cases soar overnight as Delta variant fuels concerns</td>
<td>Dawn.com, Dawn, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-07-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With Eidul Azha just a few days away, the fourth Covid wave appears to be taking hold as Pakistan recorded 2,545 cases on Thursday – a massive 28.5 per cent increase over the 1,980 cases reported a day ago. This is the first time the country has reported more than 2,500 infections since May 29, when 2,697 cases were reported. According to the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), 4.....</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coronavirus positivity rate again crosses 4pc mark</td>
<td>Abdul Rasheed Azad, Business Recorder, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-07-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISLAMABAD: Pakistan’s coronavirus positivity rate, Wednesday, once again crossed four percent mark for the second time in the past three days as 1,980 coronavirus infections were detected across the country after 47,472 tests were conducted, with a positivity ratio of 4.17 percent. On Sunday July 11, Pakistan recorded its highest coronavirus positivity ratio at 4.09 percent since May 30.....</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Source</td>
<td>Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal capital; Smart lockdowns in some more high-risk areas</td>
<td>Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan reports 2,545 COVID-19 cases in single day</td>
<td>Web Desk, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Active Covid-19 cases cross 40,000 mark after a month</td>
<td>Tahir Niaz, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asad warns of ‘rapid build up’ of Covid-19 patients, positivity ratio highest in Karachi</td>
<td>News Desk, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Anti-Covid SOPs a must at cattle markets’**
Source: APP, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-15

ISLAMABAD: The Senate Standing Committee on Interior directed Islamabad Deputy Commissioner Hamza Shafqat to strictly implement anti-coronavirus standard operating procedures (SOPs) in cattle markets in wake of the surging Covid-19 situation in the city. The committee met with Mohsin Aziz on Wednesday and asked the Islamabad administration to ensure the implementation of SOPs across the city in.....

more >>

**DHO suspends vaccinations over non-payment of allowance**
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-15

ISLAMABAD: The issue of non-payment of Covid-19 health risk allowance to the staff of federal government hospitals has taken a serious turn as the workers of the district health office (DHO) have stopped vaccination in all centres. The vaccination process has been stopped in all vaccination centres run by the district health administration (DHA). The DHO staff also presented a charter of demands.....

more >>

**24 tests conducted for release of CanSino vaccine: Dr Faisal**
Source: news Desk, Daily Times, 2021-07-16

Special Assistant to Prime Minister on National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination Dr Faisal Sultan on Thursday said that a thorough testing procedure was adopted before the release of COVID-19 vaccine CanSino at the National Institute of Health (NIH). In a briefing to the members of the Senate Standing Committee on National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination, chaired by Dr .....

more >>

**Pakistan fully committed to Global Health Security Agenda: SAPM**
Source: App, Daily Times, 2021-07-16

Ministry of National Health Services Regulation and Coordination on Thursday organized a second task force meeting of International Health Regulation (IHR), in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO). The forum recommended that meetings of the IHR task force should be held regularly, coordination mechanism should be strengthened, the provincial-level task force should be notified a.....

more >>

**34 more healthcare workers catch Covid across country**
Source: Staff Reporter, Daily Times, 2021-07-16

At least 34 more healthcare workers infected while battling the COVID-19 pandemic in Pakistan soaring total of infected health professionals to 16,788. As many as 21 more doctors, three nurses and 10 other hospital staff infected with coronavirus, sources said. While battling the deadly virus outbreak in the country 164 healthcare workers have lost their lives, the sources said. According to sou.....

more >>

**Another 47 people lose lives to coronavirus across Pakistan**
Source: news Desk, Daily Times, 2021-07-16

Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Health Dr Faisal Sultan Thursday said the upcoming Eid-ul-Adha festival will be in a “limited, closed” environment, hinting at more restrictions to curb the virus spread amid fears of fourth wave. The minister was speaking on Geo Pakistan where he spoke about the spike in coronavirus cases and the measures being taken by the federal government.....

more >>
Corona positivity rate crosses 5pc mark
ISLAMABAD: Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Health Dr Faisal Sultan Thursday said the upcoming Eidul Azha should be celebrated in a "limited, closed" environment, hinting at more restrictions to curb the virus spread amid fears of fourth wave as positivity rate has crossed 5 percent mark. The minister was speaking on Geo Pakistan where he spoke about the spike in coronavirus c.....
more >>

Australia helps boost NIH COVID-19 testing capacity
ISLAMABAD: The Australian High Commission has launched an initiative with the National Institute of Health (NIH) to help double the Covid-19 testing capacity across Islamabad and the four provincial capitals of Pakistan. The Australian grant will be administered by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) through the National Disaster Risk Management Fund (NDRMF). Australia’s assistance aims to enh.....
more >>

One dies of COVID-19, 204 new cases from twin cities
Rawalpindi: As many as 204 new patients were tested positive for coronavirus illness, COVID-19 from Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district in the last 24 hours taking the tally to 109537 while one patient died of the illness from the federal capital taking the death toll from the twin cities to 1790. It is, however, more alarming that the positivity rate of COVID-19 from the Rawalpi.....
more >>

Umar stresses vaccinations to curb spread of Delta variant
Source: News Desk, The Express Tribune, Islamabad , 2021-07-16
ISLAMABAD: National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) chief Asad Umar said on Friday that those who had not received even a single dose of Covid vaccine were over seven times more at risk of becoming infected by the virus or suffering its severe effects. "It's clear that those who have received even one dose are also in a better position than those who have not received any," Uma.....
more >>

Country sees alarming rise in Covid-19 cases
Source: Abdul Rasheed Azad, Business Recorder, Islamabad , 2021-07-16
ISLAMABAD: Chairman of the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) Asad Umar Thursday said the Covid-19 cases in the country and the number of patients being admitted in hospitals were increasing rapidly. “Rapid buildup starting to take place in Covid patients hospital inflow, as well as patients in critical care,” he said in a tweet, adding that this Delta variant had caused.....
more >>

UAE clarification on vaccination certificate
Source: Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad , 2021-07-16
ISLAMABAD: The Embassy of the United Arab Emirates in Islamabad, on Thursday, clarified that the attestation of vaccination certificate of Covid-19 from the Embassy is not considered currently a requirement for travel to the Gulf country. The Embassy in two different statements on Twitter, first clarified, saying: “The Embassy of the UAE in Islamabad would like to clarify that the vacc.....
more >>
Covid positivity rate, cases soar overnight
Source: Tahir Niaz, The Nation, Islamabad , 2021-07-16
ISLAMABAD - With Eidul Azha just a few days away, the fourth Covid wave appears to have taken hold as Pakistan recorded 2,545 new cases on Thursday, a massive 28.5 percent increase over the 1,980 cases reported a day ago. This is the first time the country has reported more than 2,500 infections since May 29, when 2,697 cases were reported. According to the National Command and Operation Cent.....
more >>

Unvaccinated people seven times more likely to catch virus: minister
Source: Aamir Yasin, Dawn, Islamabad , 2021-07-17
ISLAMABAD: With the country’s Covid-19 positivity rate rising to 6.1 per cent on Friday, Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Asad Umar called on people to get vaccinated at the earliest as those who had received no vaccine were seven times more likely to contract the virus than those inoculated. Briefing the media after the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC).....
more >>

Mosques to be used to create awareness of Covid-19, drugs: DC Islamabad
Source: Aamir Yasin | Munawer Azeem, Dawn, Islamabad , 2021-07-17
ISLAMABAD: The deputy commissioner and senior superintendent of police (operations) on Friday delivered speeches at Faisal Mosque to create awareness among people of Covid-19 standard operating procedures (SOPs) and the harmful effects of drugs. On the other hand, there was no let-up in the number of cases in Islamabad while two persons succumbed to Covid-19 in Rawalpindi. DC Mohammad Hamza Shaf.....
more >>

Covid-19; Umar urges unvaccinated to avoid going to Northern Areas
Source: Abdul Rasheed Azad, Business Recorder, Islamabad , 2021-07-17
ISLAMABAD: While the Covid-19 positivity ratio crossed six percent after almost two months, the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) chief Asad Umar has asked those who have not yet vaccinated themselves to avoid going to the Northern Areas. Addressing a press conference here on Friday along with Special Assistant to the Prime Minister (SAPM) on National Health Services Dr Faisal Sult.....
more >>

Covid-19 positivity rate soars to 6.1pc
Source: Tahir Niaz, The Nation, Islamabad , 2021-07-17
ISLAMABAD - Country’s coronavirus positivity rate soared to 6.1 percent over the last 24 hours, the highest since May 21 when it was recorded as 6.44 percent. According to the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), 37,690 tests were conducted during the last 24 hours of which 2,327 returned positive. During the past 24 hours, Sindh reported 1,466 cases and 25 deaths, Punjab 364 .....
more >>

Covid-19 positivity ratio surges to 8pc in capital
Source: Rahul Basharat, The Nation, Islamabad , 2021-07-17
ISLAMABAD - The novel coronavirus (COVID-19) positivity ratio in the capital on Thursday crossed 8% mark with the highest number of confirmed cases since the month of June. The District Health Office (DHO) details released said that the virus surveillance positivity ratio in the city has surged to 8.54% while 183 persons in the city have been tested positive with the virus in the previous 24 h.....
more >>
Australian High Commission launches initiative with NIH to help double COVID-19 testing capacity
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-16
ISLAMABAD - The Australian High Commission yesterday launched an initiative with the National Institute of Health to help double COVID-19 testing capacity across Islamabad and the four provincial capitals. The Australian grant will be administered by the Asian Development Bank through the National Disaster Risk Management Fund. Australia’s assistance aims to enhance genomic sequencing …..
more >>

Second dose allowed to those waiting for SMS
Source: Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-18
ISLAMABAD: While a large number of people intending to get the second dose of Covid-19 vaccine are sent back from vaccination centres because they fail to show the SMS that their second dose has become due, the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Saturday decided that no one would be sent back unvaccinated. In another development, Pakistan received 1.23 million doses of AstraZeneca va…..
more >>

Capital sees slight decrease in Covid-19 cases
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-18
ISLAMABAD: A slight decrease was seen in the number of Covid-19 cases and positivity rate in Islamabad as 133 new cases were reported on Saturday as compared to 183 the other day. Officials of the capital administration said during the last 24 hours 2,049 tests were conducted in the capital which found the virus in 133 people and the positivity rate was 6.4pc. On Saturday, 101 patients also reco…..
more >>

Govt urged to allow normal working of restaurants
Source: Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-18
ISLAMABAD: The government has been urged by the Islamabad Restaurant Association (IRA) Saturday to continue normal functioning of restaurants under the Covid-19 SOPs to save billions of rupees investment and avoid unemployment. Islamabad Restaurant Association President Khurram Khan, while talking to journalists here said that due to the Covid-19, the restaurants and its allied industries are…..
more >>

PMA concerned over Covid-19 cases spike
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-18
Islamabad - Pakistan Medical Association (PMA) on Saturday expressed concerns over the rapid increase of Covid-19 cases in the country. A statement issued by PMA said that the positivity ratio has reached 6% in the country according to NCOC. PMA already warned that the cases will increase if SOPs are not followed and we regret to say that situation is worsening. The positivity ratio has reac…..
more >>

Pakistan ranks 30th after recording 15,000 virus cases in a week
Source: Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-19
ISLAMABAD: With over 15,000 more cases of coronavirus being reported over the past one week, Pakistan has been ranked 30th among the countries having detected most number of cases since the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic according to global ranking. So far, the country has reported a little less than a million cases (i.e. 989,275) including 22,781 deaths, while India has reported the second hi…..
more >>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Article Title</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Covid claims 21 more lives; 2,607 new cases</td>
<td>Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-07-19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSF — a messiah for the most vulnerable</td>
<td>Khalid Bin Majeed, The News, International</td>
<td>2021-07-17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pindiites making Eid preparations assuring SOPs</td>
<td>Ibne Ahmad, The News, International</td>
<td>2021-07-17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Must ensure SOPs amid rising Covid cases: health ministry</td>
<td>APP, The Express Tribune, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-07-19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPA refuses Covid test at airport</td>
<td>Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-07-19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan gets 1.24m AstraZeneca doses under COVAX</td>
<td>Correspondent, The News, International</td>
<td>2021-07-18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ISLAMABAD: As many as 21 more deaths due to coronavirus and 2,607 fresh positive cases of the infection were reported in the country in 24 hours, till Sunday evening. According to National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), 48,816 tests were conducted while positivity ratio remained 5.34 per cent. The total death toll due to pandemic reached 22,781. On Saturday, NCOC reported 39 death.....

Service to humanity is the biggest faith that towers above all faiths in the world, while those ministering to the suffering humanity in different parts of the world like the silent soldiers of the divine providence far away from their families and the media limelight are the salt of mother earth, who beautify this world with their trailblazing noble deeds and actions. No matter whichever organiz.....

Amid an outbreak of five more Delta variant cases, the authorities see new challenges in terms of implementation of the SOPs at the cattle markets and retail shops. Rush at merchandising markets, especially on garments and shoe shops, is somewhat less as the main concern of the people is to get an appropriate sacrificial animal but children are showing no drop in their demand for looking trendy, .....
## Rising pandemic infection: Dozens of elective surgeries being cancelled, say officials

**Source:** M Waqar Bhatti, *The News, International*, 2021-07-18

**KARACHI:** Dozens of elective surgeries, different medical procedures and radiological interventions are being cancelled or postponed in Karachi and other major cities of the country as a large number of asymptomatic patients are being tested positive for the Covid-19 for last one week as Delta variant of SARS-COV-2 is spreading like wild fire, surgeons and health experts said on Saturday. They sai.....

---

## Coronavirus claims 21 more lives in 24 hours

**Source:** Staff Reporter, *The Nation, Islamabad*, 2021-07-19

**ISLAMABAD** - Twenty-one more deaths due to Coronavirus and 2,607 fresh positive cases of the infection have been reported in the country. According to National Command and Operation Centre, at least 48,816 tests were conducted while positivity ratio remained five point three four percent. The death toll due to pandemic has now reached 22,781.

---

## Citizens asked to strictly follow Corona SOPs

**Source:** Agencies, *The Nation, Islamabad*, 2021-07-19

**ISLAMABAD** - The Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations, and Coordination on Sunday asked the citizens to strictly follow COVID-19 related Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) in offices and markets to prevent the disease in the wake of an increase in the number of Delta variant cases in the country. According to an official of the Ministry, the people were flouting Covid SOPs that.....

---

## Capital's Covid-19 positivity rate jumps from 1pc to 8pc in 2 weeks: DC

**Source:** Our Staff Reporter, *The Nation, Islamabad*, 2021-07-19

**ISLAMABAD** -Deputy Commissioner Islamabad Muhammad Hamza Shafqat has said that Islamabad’s Covid-19 positivity rate has jumped from 1 percent to 8 percent in just two weeks. He said around 40 percent of patients of Covid-19 in the city are suffering from the delta variant. In a tweet on Sunday, he said, “In just 2 weeks the covid positivity in Islamabad has jumped from 1% to 8%. A.....

---

## Capital sees decline in Covid-19 cases

**Source:** Staff Reporter, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2021-07-21

**ISLAMABAD:** The number of Covid-19 cases reported in a single day and the positivity rate further decreased in the capital on Tuesday with 120 people testing positive for the disease and the positivity rate at 6.7pc. One patient passed away after contracting the virus in Rawalpindi district. Officials of the capital administration said that a decline in the number of positive cases on a single day.....

---

## Corona claims 30 more lives in country, 2,452 new cases reported

**Source:** Our Staff Reporter, *The Nation, Islamabad*, 2021-07-20

**ISLAMABAD** - Pakistan reported 2,452 new cases of COVID-19 during last 24 hours and 30 more corona patients lost their lives. According to the latest figures releases by National Command & Operation Centre (NCOC), most deaths were reported from Sindh followed by Punjab during last 24 hours. Out of 30 deaths, 21 patients died on ventilators, while 28 died in hospitals and two died out of th.....
Several PIMS departments including children, COVID-19 ICUs deprived of air conditioners
Source: Rahul Basharat, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-20

ISLAMABAD - Around one dozen departments in Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS) including children and COVID-19 ICUs are deprived of the air conditioners while doctors have demanded a theft inquiry on missing air conditioners from the Outpatient Department (OPD). The dysfunctional air conditioning system at PIMS on Monday sparked a protest among doctors and staff who demanded urgent.....

more >>

SECP advises registered cos to vaccinate employees against Covid-19
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-20

ISLAMABAD - To support the national campaign to prevent Covid-19, the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) has advised over 146,000 companies registered with it, to ensure that their employees/workers, including their families, get vaccinated as soon as possible. In this regard, SECP has issued a circular to all public listed companies, public unlisted and private companies, assoc.....

more >>

Eid-ul-Azha prayers; NCOC for strict compliance with SOPs
Source: APP, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-21

ISLAMABAD: The National Command and Operation Centre on Tuesday declared compliance of guidelines issued on the occasion of Eidul Azha particularly standard of operating procedures (SOPs) for Eid prayer congregations critical to contain disease spread. The NCOC session was chaired by Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Asad Umar where the meeting reviewed implemen.....

more >>

2,145 fresh Covid-19 cases detected across country
Source: Abdul Rasheed Azad, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-21

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has detected 2,145 fresh coronavirus cases and 37 deaths in past 24 hours taking the national caseload to 993,872 and death tally to 22,848 since the pandemic erupted. The latest covid-19 data released by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) said that in past 24 hours the country also recorded 1,059 recoveries taking the recoveries tally to 921,095 since the pa.....

more >>

President for complete adherence to Covid SoPs
Source: APP, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-21

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi Tuesday urged the people to continue raising their guard against the fourth wave of coronavirus by strictly observing all standard operating procedures (SOPs) to contain its further spread. In a short clip message posted on Tik Tok, the popular social media platform, the president advised the people to wear masks and observe social distancing especially durin.....

more >>

Employees and their families; SECP asks companies to facilitate vaccination
Source: Sohail Sarfraz, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-20

ISLAMABAD: To support the national campaign to prevent Covid-19, the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) has advised over 146,000 companies registered with it, to ensure that their employees/workers, including their families, get vaccinated as soon as possible. In this regard, the SECP has issued a circular to all public listed companies, public unlisted and private companie.....

more >>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2,452 more Covid-19 cases reported across country</td>
<td>Abdul Rasheed Azad, Business Recorder, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-07-20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISLAMABAD: Pakistan, Monday, reported 2,452 more Covid-19 cases and 30 deaths taking the total infections tally to 991,727 and deaths tally to 22,811 since the pandemic outbreak. According to the latest Covid-19 data issued by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC), the nationwide Covid-19 positivity ratio was recorded at 4.95 percent as 49,503 countrywide coronavirus tests were con.....</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With positivity rate rising, district admin considering locking down in Islamabad’s hotspot areas</td>
<td>Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-07-19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISLAMABAD: While 640,000 people in the federal capital are now partially or fully vaccinated, which is 43pc of the district’s population, the Covid-19 positivity rate has been rising for the third consecutive week, making the relevant authorities consider imposing smart lockdowns in hotspot areas. According to data, 845,000 doses have been administered in the federal capital. On the other .....</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan ranks 30th after recording 15,000 virus cases in a week</td>
<td>Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-07-19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISLAMABAD: With over 15,000 more cases of coronavirus being reported over the past one week, Pakistan has been ranked 30th among the countries having detected most number of cases since the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic according to global ranking. So far, the country has reported a little less than a million cases (i.e. 989,275) including 22,781 deaths, while India has reported the second hi.....</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alvi displeased with SOPs’ violations during Eid prayers</td>
<td>Syed Irfan Raza, Dawn, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-07-24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISLAMABAD: Amid a surge in Covid-19 cases, President Arif Alvi on Friday observed severe violations of standard operating procedures (SOPs) during Eidul Azha prayers at Faisal Mosque - the biggest Eid congregation in the federal capital. Besides taking serious notice of the violations, the president also expressed his displeasure on the performance of the local administration and directed it and .....</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ogra wants oil, gas sector personnel vaccinated by Aug 15</td>
<td>Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-07-24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISLAMABAD: The Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (Ogra) has directed all companies operating in mid and downstream petroleum sector to ensure all personnel of the oil and gas sector are vaccinated by August 15. Ogra has issued a note to all refineries, oil tankers and their facilities, pipeline operations staff, oil terminals, staff engaged at petrol stations, lubricant blending and reclamation pl.....</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President takes notice of SOPs’ violation at Faisal Mosque</td>
<td>APP, The Express Tribune, Islamabad</td>
<td>2021-07-24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi, taking serious notice of the violation of standard operating procedures (SOPs) against coronavirus during the Eid prayers at the Faisal Mosque, has directed the departments concerned to observe strict compliance. In a letter addressed to the Ministry of Interior secretary with their copies sent to Healthy Ministry and the Religious Affairs Ministry, he expresse.....</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
President displeased over violation of corona SOPs
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-24
ISLAMABAD - While taking serious notice of the violation of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) against coronavirus during the Eid prayers at Faisal Mosque, President Dr Arif Alvi has directed the departments concerned to observe strict compliance. In a letter addressed to Secretary Ministry of Interior with their copies sent to Health Ministry and the Religious Affairs Ministry, the Preside....
more >>

Pakistan’s covid cases cross 1 million
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-24
ISLAMABAD - Pakistan’s Covid-19 cases on Friday crossed the mark of one million with the country reported 14,25 fresh cases of the infection and 11 deaths during the last 24 hours. According to the latest figures released by National Command and Operation Center (NCOC), the national tally of the confirmed Covid-19 cases has reached 1,000,034 since February last year when first case of the de.....
more >>

Masses violate SOPs on Eid as COVID-19 fourth wave threat rises
ISLAMABAD - Despite the frequent warnings of the government regarding the rapid spread of fourth Covid-19 wave, the masses across the country have failed to follow SOPs during the Eid. The Eid celebrations in the country came at a time when a rapid spike in COVID-19 cases was being witnessed and the threat of the Delta variant was looming. In Islamabad alone, days before Eid, the district ad.....
more >>

Unvaccinated people banned from domestic air travel
Source: Ikram Junaidi, Daily Times, 2021-07-25
ISLAMABAD: The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) has decided that unvaccinated people, over the age of 18, cannot be allowed to undertake domestic air travel. Besides, Supreme Court judge Justice Qazi Faez Isa and his wife Sarina Isa have tested positive for coronavirus. Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Asad Umar, who also hea.....
more >>

Justice Isa, wife test positive for Covid-19
ISLAMABAD: Justice Qazi Faez Isa, a judge of Supreme Court, and his wife Sarina Isa have tested positive for coronavirus and have quarantined themselves at home. “Justice Qazi Faez Isa and Sarina Isa have tested positive for SARS-CoV-2; their reports were issued by the National Institute of Health. They are quarantined at home and are under treatment, as per attached doctor’s rep.....
more >>

President Alvi calls for early vaccination to prevent 4th virus wave
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-25
KARACHI/ISLAMABAD - President Dr Arif Alvi on Saturday expressed grave concern over violations of COVID-19 standard operating procedures (SOPs) throughout the country and said that the compliance of the guidelines was immensely important to prevent the fourth wave of the coronavirus and reduce its negative effects. The president stated this while chairing a meeting on the COVID-19 situation a.....
more >>
## Vaccination certificate mandatory for domestic air travel: NCOC

ISLAMABAD: The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Saturday declared COVID-19 vaccination certificates mandatory for domestic air travel. The country's apex COVID-19 body urged the public to get vaccinated by July 31 in order to circumvent any inconvenience. According to NCOC, from August 1, travellers will be required to carry proof of vaccination when taking domestic flights. ......

more >>

## 'Role of media vital for creating awareness about corona vaccine'

Islamabad : Prime Minister’s Task Force on Science and Technology cum Head of Corona Task Force Chairman Prof. Dr. Atta-ur-Rahman on Saturday urged upon the media to play its vital role to create an awareness campaign regarding the benefits of vaccination against the coronavirus. In an interview, Dr. Atta Rahman said availability of the vaccine is another problem facing nowadays and the con.....

more >>

## Country's coronavirus positivity ratio stands at 6.3pc
Source: Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-26

ISLAMABAD: National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) said on Sunday that 45 more patients lost their lives to the novel coronavirus in last 24 hours, taking the nationwide death toll past 23,000. According to NCOC, 44,579 coronavirus tests were conducted across the country in the last 24 hours, of which 2,819 turned out to be positive. The result meant that country’s coronavirus posi.....

more >>

## 'Get serious': Pakistan's Covid-19 cases, positivity rate soar to highest levels since May
Source: Dawn.com, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-26

Pakistan has reported 3,752 coronavirus during the last 24 hours, taking the national positivity rate to a whopping 7.51 per cent as the country battles a fourth wave of the pandemic. According to the National Command and Operation Centre, this is the highest number of cases reported since May 21 when 4,007 infections were reported, and a dramatic overnight increase from the 2,819 cases reported .....

more >>

## President upset by SOPs violation at Faisal Masjid

Islamabad : President Dr Arif Alvi took note of the violation of the anti-coronavirus standard operating procedures (SOPs) during Eid prayers at the Faisal Masjid and ordered strict SOP enforcement. In a letter to the interior ministry whose copies were sent to the health and religious affairs ministries, the president expressed displeasure over SOP violation in Faisal Masjid. “The Presid.....

more >>

## Nationwide Covid death toll surges past 23,000 as positivity ratio jumps to 6.3%
Source: news Desk, Daily Times, 2021-07-26

At least 45 more people lost their lives to the novel coronavirus on Sunday, taking Pakistan’s nationwide death toll past 23,000, figures issued by the NCOC showed. The national tally on Sunday of total active Covid-19 cases was recorded at 55,720, with 2,819 more people testing positive for the deadly virus and 1,176 people recovering from the disease. Forty-five corona patients died, 41 o.....

more >>
Over 50pc residents of capital partially or fully vaccinated
Source: Aamir Yasin | Ikram Junaidi, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-26
ISLAMABAD: Over 50 per cent residents of the federal capital have been partially or fully vaccinated with a senior health official saying the situation of Covid-19 is not as bad as was feared. On Sunday, 168 people were found infected with the virus while the positivity rate was recorded at 8.2pc in Islamabad. One person died and 103 more tested positive in Rawalpindi district. In Islamabad, tak.....

more >>

Capital’s Covid mortality rate reaches 0.93%
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-26
ISLAMABAD: The mortality rate from coronavirus in Islamabad currently stands at 0.93 per cent while 97.31 per cent of infected patients have recovered after contracting the virus, the district health officer’s (DHO) latest report from Sunday revealed. The rate of active cases in the federal capital has been recorded at 1.76 per cent. To date of all the persons who have contracted coronavir.....

more >>

National coronavirus positivity ratio exceeds 6pc
Source: Tahir Niaz, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-26
ISLAMABAD - National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) Chief Asad Umar on Sunday said that the total number of Covid-19 vaccinations carried out so far has exceeded 25 million. In a tweet, the federal minister said that the total number of people to have been fully vaccinated has also crossed 20 million. He added that the authorities have planned further acceleration of the inoculation proc.....

more >>

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Delta variant reaches Peshawar, says official
PESHAWAR: A senior official said on Saturday that Delta variant of coronavirus had reached Peshawar as a woman from the city had been diagnosed with the Indian virus. Provincial Secretary Health Syed Imtiaz Hussain said that a 38-year old woman from Peshawar had been diagnosed with the deadly Indian virus. He said the health department had sent samples of seven patients to the National Institute.....

more >>

Vaccination in full swing
Source: Editorial, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-19
PESHAWAR: Corona vaccination drive has been going on in full swing across Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (K-P) and so far a total of 682,983 people have been vaccinated in the province. An official of the Health Department told APP Sunday that the first dose of Sinopharm has been received by 649,405 people and 274,190 people were also administered a second dose of the same vaccine too. He said, 1,819,850 peop.....

more >>

New cases of Delta, UK variants surface in K-P
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-19
PESHAWAR: Around 16 new cases of Delta version of Covid-19 virus have been detected in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (K-P) along with five cases of UK version, setting alarms bell ringing across the province. Talking to The Express Tribune an official of the Health Department said that samples from 50 patients had been sent Islamabad for testing and both highly dangerous Delta variant and UK versions were co.....

more >>
Corona claims 5 more lives in KP
Source: APP, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-19
Peshawar - Five people died of coronavirus in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa during last 24 hours raising the death toll to 4,385 and the total number of corona cases in the province has reached 140,560. An official of the KP Health Department while sharing details about the corona situation in the province on Sunday said, another 267 people have been infected with the virus in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa during ......
more >>

MMC tends to 3,522 patients on Eidul Azha
MARDAN: The Mardan Medical Complex (MMC) on Friday released a detailed report on the performance of various departments of the hospital according to which 3,522 patients were provided medical facilities during Eidul Azha. Medical Director Prof Dr Mukhtiar Ali said all departments including Accident and Emergency Surgery, Medicine, Gynaecology, Cardiology, Intensive Care Unit, Orthopaedic, Neurosu.....
more >>

Covid positivity rate highest in two weeks
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-13
LAHORE: The Covid-19 positivity rate increased to 2.4 per cent in Lahore, the highest percentage reported during the last two weeks, amid reports about visible signs of the fourth wave of the virus. Rawalpindi with 1.7pc was among the other cities which reported the highest infectivity rate while Multan had 1.5pc while Faisalabad reported 1.1pc. The province’s positivity rate was 1.3pc, ac.....more >>

10-day smart lockdown imposed in 11 Pindi areas
Source: Jamil Mirza, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-13
RAWALPINDI: A 10-day smart lockdown has been imposed in 11 areas of Rawalpindi after 31 patients were detected with the Indian Delta variant of Covid-19 on Monday. All 30 patients infected with the Delta variant have been quarantined at their homes and the district health teams are monitoring their treatment process, a spokesperson said. The district health administration has directed citizens .....more >>

Indian new Delta variant; Punjab to implement strict SOPs at markets, restaurants
LAHORE: The Punjab government has activated the administrative machinery for ensuring strict implementation of Corona SOPs at markets, restaurants and other public places amid rise in coronavirus cases. The management of restaurants and fast food chains are allowing entry to only vaccinated people in their respective premises. However, there is loose control in parks, cattle markets where Cor.....more >>

Vaccination center set up at Jamia Naeemia
Source: Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-13
LAHORE - The district administration has set up a vaccination centre at Jamia Naeemia, Garhi Shahu to vaccinate madrasa students, teachers and other staff. Deputy Commissioner Muddasar Riaz Malik on Monday inaugurated the facility and lauded the standard of arrangements at the facility. Addressing the students, the DC said that the administration was making all out efforts to normalise life in the.....more >>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health dept suspects deadly Delta variant in Lahore</td>
<td>Asif Chaudhry, <a href="https://daily.dawn.com">Dawn, Islamabad</a> , 2021-07-14</td>
<td>2021-07-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAHORE: The Punjab health department has processed 28 Covid-19 samples for genome sequencing, suspecting the presence of highly transmissible and deadly Indian Delta variant in the provincial capital. Picked up from the government teaching hospitals of Lahore, including Mayo, Services and Jinnah, the samples were of the people carrying typical symptoms of Delta virus. According to the health exp.....</td>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corona SOPs violated at cattle markets</td>
<td>Recorder Report, <a href="https://www.businessrecorder.com.pk">Business Recorder, Islamabad</a> , 2021-07-14</td>
<td>2021-07-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAHORE: Despite threat of fourth wave of coronavirus, guidelines issued by the Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department are being flouted in the cattle markets established in Lahore, as neither Corona SOPs are followed nor entry of children and elderly people is restricted there. During a visit, it was revealed that the people are visiting the temporary cattle markets without wearing mask.....</td>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rawalpindi : The number of patients being tested positive for coronavirus illness, COVID-19 in this region of the country is on a tremendous increase for the last two weeks while the positivity rate of the infection has also jumped to well over five per cent in Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district showing the fourth wave of the outbreak is all set to hit the region. In the last two.....</td>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAHORE: The Pakistan Industrial and Traders Association Front (PIAF) has rejected the option of imposing another lockdown in the country, saying the country could not afford to go back to lockdown and also urged the trade and industry to follow the government's SOPs for curbing the spread of deadly coronavirus. PIAF Vice Chairman Javed Siddiqi, in a statement, asked the government to av.....</td>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarwar counts govt’s achievements in Covid times</td>
<td>Our Staff Reporter, <a href="https://thenation.com.pk">The Nation, Islamabad</a> , 2021-07-15</td>
<td>2021-07-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAHORE - Punjab Governor Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar has said that the opposition will be supporting rigging in elections if it does not cooperate with government on proposed electoral reforms. &quot;Rigging would be eliminated from elections forever by e-voting. Moreover, overseas Pakistanis will be able to cast votes”, he said while talking to a PTI delegation which called on him at the.....</td>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAHORE - The Punjab government achieved record vaccination of 308,318 people during the last 24 hours. This was disclosed by Secretary Primary &amp; Secondary Healthcare Department Sarah Aslam, in a statement issued here on Wednesday. She said that vaccination was the only solution to remain safe from the COVID-19 and its all variants. She further said that 118 mobile vaccination camps had a.....</td>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
50 Delta variant cases in Lahore set alarm bells ringing
Source: Asif Chaudhry, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-17
LAHORE: An alarming situation looms as the provincial capital has reported 50 cases of Covid’s highly infectious and deadly Indian delta variant. The report has alarmed the health authorities who have found that more than 70 per cent of the infections reported in Lahore are of delta variant. The health experts say the delta variant is more transmissible form of SARS-CoV-2 that has now reach.....

more >>

Delta variant can be serious threat during 4th wave: Yasmin Rashid
Source: Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-17
LAHORE - Punjab Health Minister Dr Yasmin Rashid Friday warned the people of the threat of Delta variant in the fourth wave of coronavirus in Punjab. Addressing the civil servants who completed promotional course for Grade 18 to 19 at the Management and the Professional Development Department, she said that the third wave was deadlier than the previous two waves. Present on the occasion were.....

more >>

Dr Yasmin briefs CM about arrangements for 4th Covid wave
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-16
LAHORE - Provincial Health Minister Dr Yasmeen Rashid called on Punjab Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar at his office on Thursday and briefed him about the arrangements for dealing with the fourth wave of coronavirus. Expressing his concern over hike in cases of coronavirus, the CM directed the officials concerned to ensure effective implementation of the SOPs. He added that citizens should.....

more >>

84 new COVID-19 cases reported in Rawalpindi
Source: APP, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-16
Rawalpindi - As many as 84 patients were reported COVID-19 positive during last 24 hours in the district with 28 belonging to Rawal Town, 19 from Pothohar town, 24 from Rawalpindi Cantt, three from Taxila, two from Kalar syedan, two from Attock and one each from Gujar Khan, Chakwal, Islamabad, Sargodha, KP and Lahore. According to the daily situation report issued by the District Corona Management.....

more >>

Punjab witnessing steady rise in Covid-19 cases; Presence of Delta variant poses a huge challenge: health minister
Source: Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-18
LAHORE: While coronavirus is mutating at faster pace and its new variants are continuously emerging, Punjab is witnessing steady rise in Covid-19 cases, as out of total 17684 Corona tests conducted during the last 24 hours, as many as 415 fresh cases and nine fatalities were reported taking the provincial tally of cases to 349,890 and death toll to 10,865. With the recovery of 134 corona posi.....

more >>

Vaccination centres to be closed on first day of Eid
Source: Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-18
SARGODHA - DC Ali Shahzad on Saturday said that vaccination centres would be closed for one day during Eid holidays in order to facilitate masses. In a statement issued here, the deputy commissioner said the district administration striving hard to ensure vaccination of masses with rapid pace to protect them from the deadly virus. He said the vaccination centres would be closed only on th.....

more >>
No corona death, 208 cases from twin cities
Rawalpindi: Coronavirus illness, COVID-19 claimed no life from Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district in the last 24 hours though as many as 208 new patients were reported from the region with a positivity rate of well over six per cent showing the outbreak is getting more and more intense. The population in the region witnessed a day without reporting of COVID-19 death at least aft......
more >>

Coronavirus claims six more lives; 369 new cases reported in Punjab
Source: Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-19
LAHORE - Coronavirus claimed six more lives while 369 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) here on Sunday, the death toll reached 10,880 while total infections are 350,259 and recoveries are 329,627 in the province. As per the data provided by the P&SHD.....
more >>

Bus terminals fined for violating SOPs
Source: APP, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-21
RAWALPINDI: Regional Transport Authority (RTA) Rawalpindi on Tuesday continued its raids on various bus terminals and imposed fines amounting to Rs55,000 for violating standard operating procedures (SOPs) issued by the government to contain Covid-19 spread. According to a RTA spokesman, on the directives of the deputy commissioner, the authority raids different bus terminals and checked implement.....
more >>

No major movie on Eid as cinemas constrained by Covid
Source: Shoaib Ahmed, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-21
LAHORE: No major film is being released across Pakistan on Eidul Azha as the celluloid scene in the country is bleak owing to the pandemic. According to unconfirmed reports only one film - I love You Lahore - might be released on Eid. The film is produced and directed by Malik Muhammad Ashfaq. The major cast includes Moamar Rana, Shafqat Cheema, Sheeza Khan and Manahil Khan. Major films such as ..... 
more >>

SOP violations: Rs 55,000 fine imposed on violators
Source: Agencies, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-21
RAWALPINDI - Regional Transport Authority (RTA) Rawalpindi on Tuesday continued its raids at various bus terminals and imposed fines amounting to Rs 55,000 on violation of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) issued by the government to contain spread of covid-19. According to a RTA spokesman, the authority on the directives of Deputy Commissioner, Rawalpindi conducted raids at different bus term.....
more >>

Pfizer vaccine to be administer to children underwent organ transplant
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-21
LAHORE - The Punjab government has decided to administer Pfizer vaccine to the children, less than 18 years of age, having organ transplantation. The vaccination facility will be provided at the PKLI centre, and it was decided in a meeting of Corona Expert Advisory Group on Tuesday. Specialised Healthcare and Medical Education Department Secretary Aamir Jan, Primary and Secondary Healthcare ......
more >>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Article</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>RTA imposes Rs55,000 fine over SOPs violations</strong>&lt;br&gt;RAWALPINDI - Regional Transport Authority (RTA) Rawalpindi on Tuesday continued its raids at various bus terminals and imposed fines amounting to Rs 55,000 on violation of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) issued by the government to contain spread of Covid-19. According to a RTA spokesman, the authority on the directives of Deputy Commissioner, Rawalpindi conducted raids at different bus.....&lt;br&gt;more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td><strong>APP, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-21</strong></td>
<td>2021-07-21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CM Buzdar for strict monitoring of corona SOPs</strong>&lt;br&gt;Lahore - Punjab Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar has directed the monitoring teams to conduct checking of markets and other places across the province to ensure strict compliance of coronavirus standard operating procedures (SOPs). In a statement issued on Monday, the CM said that legal action must be initiated in case of any violation. He ordered for constituting special monitoring teams d.....&lt;br&gt;more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td><strong>Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-20</strong></td>
<td>2021-07-20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>772,282 people vaccinated in Faisalabad</strong>&lt;br&gt;FAISALABAD - As many as 772,282 people have so far been vaccinated against COVID-19 in Faisalabad district. District Health Officer Dr Ataul Mun’im said on Monday that 598,889 citizens had been given the first dose, while 130,006 were administered the second dose of vaccine. He said that 27,115 health workers were also given the first dose while 16,272 received the second dose of vaccine. He.....&lt;br&gt;more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td><strong>APP, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-20</strong></td>
<td>2021-07-20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CM for strict monitoring of coronavirus SOPs</strong>&lt;br&gt;Lahore - Punjab Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar has directed the monitoring teams to conduct checking of markets and other places across the province to ensure strict compliance of coronavirus standard operating procedures (SOPs). In a statement issued on Monday, the CM said that legal action must be initiated in case of any violation. He ordered for constituting special monitoring teams d.....&lt;br&gt;more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td><strong>Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-20</strong></td>
<td>2021-07-20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SOPs for Eidul Azha issued after Delta variant surge in Punjab</strong>&lt;br&gt;LAHORE: The Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department on Sunday issued special standard operating procedures (SOPs) due to a surge in the Covid’s Delta variant cases in the province prior to Eidul Azha. Secretary Sarah Aslam said the campaign for vaccination and implementation of coronavirus SOPs duration had been extended till July 25. She said the National Command Operation Cent.....&lt;br&gt;more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td><strong>Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-19</strong></td>
<td>2021-07-19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Seven succumb to Covid-19 during Eid days in Pindi, Islamabad</strong>&lt;br&gt;RAWALPINDI: Six patients died from Covid-19 in Rawalpindi district and one in Islamabad during the last three days of Eidul Azha. In Rawalpindi district, three people died while 41 tested positive for Covid-19 on Friday. On July 22 (Thursday), two people died and 19 tested positive, while on July 21 (Wednesday) one died and 93 tested positive for the virus. Mohammad Altaf, 60, a resident of City.....&lt;br&gt;more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td>**Munawer Azeem</td>
<td>Aamir Yasin, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-24**</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Covid positivity rate reaches 3.2 in Lahore
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-24
LAHORE: With 115 new Covid positive cases reported in Punjab during the last 24 hours, the virus positivity rate in Lahore reaches 3.2. Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department Secretary Sara Aslam attributed the high infectivity rate with the presence of Delta variant in the city saying Faisalabad reported 2.4 infection rate and Multan 2.1. In her statement issued here on Friday, she 

more >>

41 more Covid cases reported
Source: APP, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-24
RAWALPINDI: As many as 1,009,148 people, including 34,181 health workers and 1,043,329 senior citizens, have jabbed themselves so far against the lethal coronavirus (COVID19) at 23 centers since the vaccination administering drive launched on March 10. According to data shared by the district administration, 41 more COVID-19 positive cases were reported on Friday, raising the tally of confirmed 

more >>

Crying young man resists corona jab
Source: Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-24
SHEIKHUPURA - A man who might be afraid of being injected created quite a scene at a Covid-19 vaccination centre in Sheikhupura when after being registered at the centre, he tried to run away but the vaccination centre staff got hold of him and gave him a jab of the vaccine. A young man soon after filling up a registration form for Covid-19 vaccination at Waris Shah Auditorium Hall Vaccination Cen.....

more >>

Community vaccination drive being launched in Rawalpindi district from tomorrow
Source: Munawer Azeem | Aamir Yasin, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-25
RAWALPINDI: As Covid-19 cases surge, the local authorities will be launching community-based vaccination campaign in Rawalpindi district from tomorrow (Monday) to achieve 100pc coverage. Islamabad, on the other hand, witnessed a jump in positivity rate as 121 more people contracted the virus. According to data, 8 per cent ratio was recorded in the capital on Saturday. One patient each, however,.....

more >>

Punjab set to launch door-to-door Covid vaccination campaign
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-25
LAHORE: To meet the targets set by the National Command and Operations Center (NCOC), the Punjab government has decided to launch a door-to-door coronavirus vaccination campaign from July 26 in Lahore, Faisalabad, Gujranwala, Multan and Rawalpindi. The decision was taken at a meeting jointly chaired by Punjab Chief Secretary Jawad Rafique Malik and provincial minister for health Dr Yasmin Rashid ..... 

more >>

Govt plans door-to-door vaccination
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-25
LAHORE: The Punjab government has decided to launch a door-to-door coronavirus vaccination drive, to achieve the vaccination target set by the National Command and Operations Centre (NCOC), in five major cities of the province. Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar, on Saturday, announced that a special door-to-door vaccination drive is being launched from Monday, to reach the maximum number of cit.....

more >>
Corona positivity rate increases to 3.38pc in Punjab
LAHORE: With surge in virus cases, the overall corona positivity rate in Punjab has increased to 3.38 percent, as out of total 10,813 coronavirus tests conducted during the last 24 hours, as many as 366 fresh cases and 15 fatalities were reported taking the provincial tally of cases to 352,073 and death toll to 10,924. With the recovery of 227 corona positive patients, the total number of rec.....

Governor lauds tireless efforts of healthcare workers amid Covid-19
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-25
LAHORE - Punjab Governor Chaudhary Muhammad Sarwar has urged medical teachers to play their due role in improving service delivery and boosting confidence of people on public sector hospitals. Talking to Principal Postgraduate Medical Institute/Ameer ud Din Medical College Prof Sardar Muhammad Al-freed Zafar at Governor House, he praised doctors, nurses and paramedics for working tirelessly d.....

Over 0.8 million people vaccinated in Faisalabad
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-25
FAISALABAD - As many as 807,632 people had so far been vaccinated against the Covid-19 in the district. District Health Officer Dr Ataul Mun'im said on Saturday that 618,921 citizens had been given the first dose while 144,834 were administered the second one. He said that sufficient stock of vaccine was available in the district, adding that 35 vaccination centers and 20 mobile vaccination .....
COVID-19 claims two more lives, 178 new cases
Rawalpindi: COVID-19 has claimed another two lives from Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi district in the last 24 hours taking the death toll from the region to 1,804 while 178 new patients have been diagnosed with the infection taking the tally from the twin cities to 111,417. According to In-charge District COVID-19 Cell Rawalpindi Dr. Hafiz Muhammad Jawad Zahid, the positivity rate o......

Twin cities log 8 deaths during Eid, 532 test positive
Rawalpindi: As many as eight deaths have been reported from the twin cities of Islamabad and Rawalpindi due to coronavirus illness, COVID-19 on Eid days, from Wednesday to Friday while 532 new patients have been tested positive for the illness taking tally from the region to 111,239. It is important to mention here that on the first Eid after the advent of coronavirus in Pakistan, on Eidul Fitr ..... more >>

Five eateries sealed for serving the unvaccinated
Source: Staff Correspondent, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-26
FAISALABAD: Five restaurants and fast food outlets were sealed on charges of serving the unvaccinated customers. City Assistant Commissioner Ayub Bukhari inspected various food outlets and found that Silver Spoon, The Wok, Second Cup, The Fork and Knives and Saariyas at Kohi Noor and Jaranwala Road were serving the customers who were not vaccinated. He sealed all these food outlets. He said the ..... more >>

Covid door-to-door drive: Social mobilisers to allay public apprehensions in Punjab
Source: Khalid Hasnain, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-26
LAHORE: The city administration has arranged 450 social mobilisers to help the government convince people to get themselves vaccinated and avert further spread of Covid-19. The social mobilisers will accompany the teams constituted for launching the first door-to-door coronavirus vaccination drive in the city on Monday (today). “We, with the help of various universities, government and pub..... more >>

Punjab reports highest daily Covid cases in two months
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-26
LAHORE: Punjab has reported 529 coronavirus cases and 15 deaths during the last 24 hours, highest daily cases in nearly two months. The last time the province reported more than 500 cases was on May 30 when 613 people contracted the virus. The total number of cases has risen to 352,682 and the death toll is 10,939. As many as 529 cases were reported in the last 24 hours in the province while 33..... more >>

ovid resurges in wake of Eid
Source: Adnan Lodhi, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-26
LAHORE: Cases of novel coronavirus are on the rise in Punjab once again with 6,520 people diagnosed with the disease during the current month. The rate of fatalities caused by the pandemic has also increased as 179 patients died in the province during the past 25 days, including 30 in the last two days. The death toll during the past two days was the highest in three weeks. At least 529 fresh ca..... more >>
823,270 vaccinated against coronavirus
Source: Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-26
FAISALABAD - As many as 823,270 people have been vaccinated against COVID-19 in Faisalabad district, informed District Health Officer Dr Ataul Munim on Sunday. He said that 627,894 citizens had been given the first dose, while 151,339 were administered the second dose of vaccine. He further said that 27,217 health workers were given the first dose, while 16,820 received the second dose of vaccine......

more >>

15 test positive for Covid-19
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-26
FAISALABAD - As many as 15 people were tested positive for COVID-19 in Faisalabad during the last 24 hours. According to the Health department spokesperson, 1,570 coronavirus tests were conducted in public and private sector labs during the period. He said that total active cases in Faisalabad were 220 while 20,542 patients had so far recovered from the disease. He said that 339 beds were allocate.....

more >>

Covid-19 claims 15 more lives in Punjab; 529 new cases reported
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-26
LAHORE - The coronavirus claimed 15 more lives in Punjab and 529 new cases were also reported during the last 24 hours. According to the data released by a spokesperson for Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department (P&SHD) here on Sunday, the death toll reached 10,939 and total number of recorded cases reached 352,682. As many as 330,986 patients have recovered from the disease s.....

more >>

Sindh

Health dept proposes tougher restrictions to deal with fourth Covid-19 wave
Source: Imran Ayub, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-13
KARACHI: The spike in Covid-19 cases has sent alarms bell ringing in the Sindh administration as health officials proposed on Monday immediate closure of primary schools, imposing a ban on indoor dining along with other restrictions fearing the fourth wave of the pandemic in the metropolis amid growing exposure of people due to approaching Eidul Azha. The Sindh health department formally put its .....

more >>

Pandemic popularises communal sacrifice
Source: Aamir Khan, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-13
KARACHI: With the Zilhaj moon heralding the Muslim festival of sacrifice, scores of people have started thronging the various livestock markets set up across the megacity. Among them, some are buyers looking to bid on the most expensive sacrificial animal, a few who'll haggle for the best bet and many who'll just window-shop. Either way, the livestock bazaars, despite the impending .....
Covid-19 positivity hits 15% in Karachi
Source: Sameer Mandhro, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-13
KARACHI: The Covid-19 positivity ratio has been increasing in the last one week, reaching at 15 percent in the port city. The bed occupancy rate in public and private hospitals have reportedly been said to be very high. The overall positivity in Sindh province is almost seven percent with the highest in its capital while Hyderabad has a 4.5 percent positivity ratio. After ease in Covid-19 relat.....

COVID claims six more lives
Source: Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-13
KARACHI - As many as six more patients of coronavirus died overnight lifting the death toll to 5,613 and 907 new cases emerged when 15,342 tests were conducted. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued on Monday. He added that six more patients of COVID-19 lost their lives lifting the death toll to 5,613 that constituted 1.6 percent death rate. Sy.....

CS warns of sealing cattle markets for SOPs violation
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-13
KARACHI - An important meeting on coronavirus situation was held under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary (CS) Sindh Syed Mumtaz Ali Shah at Sindh Secretariat on Monday. At the meeting, the chief secretary said that marriage halls, cattle markets, restaurants and other markets would be sealed for violating SOPs adopted against coronavirus. Shah directed all commissioners and deputy commissioners .....
Nine members of a family hit by Indian Delta variant in Karachi
Source: INP, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-15
KARACHI: Nine members of a family in Karachi have been affected by the Indian Delta variant of the coronavirus on Tuesday. The affected people include a couple and their children from the Malir area of the Sindh capital. Doctors concerns said that medics have been on high alert to cope with the challenge and the patients are being provided with all-out medical facilities. Meanwhile,......
more >>

Micro smart lockdown imposed on 5 UCs of Korangi
Source: NNI, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-14
KARACHI: In a bid to contain the spread of COVID-19 virus the local administration has notified micro smart lockdown in five union councils in two subdivisions of Karachi’s Korangi District. Deputy Commissioner Korangi has enforced the micro smart lockdown in hot spots of five union councils on a report of the District Health Officer (DHO) after 16 corona virus cases surfaced in the are......
more >>

Sindh launches crackdown on unvaccinated travellers
Source: INP, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-15
KARACHI: Sindh’s Transport Department on Wednesday launched crackdown in the province against passengers travelling without vaccination. Provincial Transport Minister Awais Qadir Shah has said that the deputy commissioner Larkana has provided an ambulance to the transport department for vaccination of the unvaccinated passengers. “Over 50 unvaccinated passengers were administered ..... 
more >>

Sindh govt orders reclosure of schools, recreational places
KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah, keeping in view the new highs of the Coronavirus that has hit the province, particularly in the city, has decided to re-close all recreational places, including indoor dining and sports activities and schools from class one to 9th and warned to take more strict actions if the SOPs were not followed in true letter and spirit. He took these dec......
more >>

Delta variant brings back curbs
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-15
KARACHI: The loss of 26 patients overnight to the novel coronavirus coincided with the Sindh government’s decision on Wednesday to, once again, close recreational places, indoor dining, sports activities and schools from classes I to IX. After seeing the city return to relative normalcy for a short period of time, locals would have to limit their activity. The decision was taken by Sindh C......
more >>

65 cases of Covid delta variant a major cause of concern in Karachi
Source: Muzammil Ferozi, Daily Times, 2021-07-16
The genotyping of randomly selected 94 positive samples of Covid-19 revealed 65 cases of delta variants, which makes 69 percent of total samples tested, which requires the immediate action of the concerned authorities to prevent the possible spread of the fatal delta variant in Karachi. The National Institute of Virology (NIV) at the Dr. Panjwani Center for Molecular Medicine and Drug Research (P......
more >>
Sindh reimposes curbs as positivity hits 7.4%
Source: news Desk, Daily Times, 2021-07-15
The Sindh government has decided to close schools, impose a ban on indoor dining again and place several other restrictions across the province as Covid-19 cases continue to increase amid fears of a fourth wave. The steps were taken Wednesday during the meeting of the Provincial Coronavirus Taskforce headed by Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah. Schools are to close from Friday for students of all cla.....
more >>

Virology institute finds unidentified Covid variants
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-16
KARACHI: The genotyping of randomly selected 94 positive samples of Covid-19 revealed 65 cases of delta variants, which makes 69 per cent of total samples tested, which requires the immediate action of the concerned authorities to prevent the possible spread of the fatal delta variant in Karachi, a statement said on Thursday. The National Institute of Virology (NIV) at the Dr Panjwani Center for.....
more >>

Virology institute finds delta variant prevalence at 69 per cent
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-16
KARACHI: The genotyping of randomly selected 94 positive samples of Covid-19 revealed 65 cases of delta variants, which makes 69 per cent of total samples tested, which requires the immediate action of the concerned authorities to prevent the possible spread of the fatal delta variant in Karachi, a statement said on Thursday. The National Institute of Virology (NIV) at the Dr Panjwani Center for.....
more >>

Covid-19; Business community concerned over closing down of businesses
Source: Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-16
KARACHI: Chairman Businessmen Group (BMG) & Former President KCCI Zubair Motiwala and President Karachi Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KCCI) M Shariq Vohra expressed deep concerns over the decision to once again closing down of dining facility at all restaurants and many other businesses. They stated that shutting down businesses to contain further spread of the pandemic was not the .....
more >>

Moinuddin Haider tests positive for corona
Source: INP, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-16
KARACHI: Former Governor Sindh Moinuddin Haider has tested positive for coronavirus pandemic here on Thursday. According to details, Moinuddin was under treatment at a hospital of Karachi for last 10 days due to downfall of health where he tested positive for COVID-19. It should be mentioned that the former Governor Sindh was vaccinated for the pandemic in March.—INP .....
more >>

COVID claims 25 more lives
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-17
KARACHI - As many as 25 more patients of coronavirus died overnight lifting the death toll to 5,697 and 1,631 new cases emerged when 18,075 tests were conducted. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued on Friday. He added that 25 more patients of COVID-19 lost their lives lifting the death toll to 5,697 that constituted 1.6 percent death rate. Syed Mu.....
more >>
50 more test positive for coronavirus
Source: Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-16
HYDERABAD - As many as 50 COVID-19 positive cases have been reported during the last 24 hours, taking the number of total coronavirus cases to 19577 in Hyderabad district on Thursday. Out of 19577 COVID-19 cases, 18736 have so far been recovered while 440 patients had lost their lives due to the contagion, daily situation report stated. The number of total active cases has reached to 401, of them ..... more >>

Sindh vaccination at Karachi Expo Centre suspended due to non-payment of salaries
Source: Faiza Ilyas, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-18
KARACHI: The vaccination process at the Expo Centre — the country’s biggest mass immunisation centre against coronavirus — was suspended on Saturday after data entry operators went on strike, forcing many people to leave for home without getting vaccinated. The staff claimed that they had not been paid their salaries for three months. Sources said the doctors, nurses and entire..... more >>

Single-day Covid tally tops 2,700
Source: Agencies, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-18
ISLAMABAD: The single-day tally of fresh coronavirus continue to rise on Saturday coming close to the dangerous level of 3,000, according to official data, which stoke fears that fourth wave of the disease appeared imminent if not already there. The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), which supervises the country campaign against the global pandemic, confirmed 2,783 new Covid cases ove..... more >>

Citizens asked to strictly follow Covid-19 SOPs
Source: APP, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-19
ISLAMABAD: The Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations, and Coordination on Sunday asked the citizens to strictly follow Covid-19 related Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) in offices and markets to prevent the disease in the wake of an increase in the number of Delta variant cases in the country. According to an official of the Ministry, the people were flouting Covid SOPs that a..... more >>

Citizens asked to strictly follow Covid-19 SOPs
Source: APP, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-19
ISLAMABAD: The Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations, and Coordination on Sunday asked the citizens to strictly follow Covid-19 related Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) in offices and markets to prevent the disease in the wake of an increase in the number of Delta variant cases in the country. According to an official of the Ministry, the people were flouting Covid SOPs that a..... more >>

Sindh reports 1,467 new cases of Covid-19
KARACHI: As many as 18 more patients of Covid-19 died overnight lifting the death toll to 5,720 and 1467 new cases emerged when 19,655 tests were conducted. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued here on Sunday. He added that 18 more patients of Covid-19 lost their lives lifting the death toll to 5,720 that constituted 1.6 percent death rate. ..... more >>
**Distt admin launches awareness campaign for mass vaccination against COVID-19**
Source: Our Staff Reporter, *The Nation, Islamabad*, 2021-07-20
HYDERABAD - The district administration has launched an awareness campaign to motivate the general public to get themselves vaccinated against COVID-19. On the directives of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Fuad Ghaffar Soomro, Mukhtiarkar City Abubakar Sadhayo along with artists, actors and singers visited different markets of the city and distributed pamphlets and handbills among general public urg.....

**COVID claims 18 more lives**
Source: Staff Reporter, *The Nation, Islamabad*, 2021-07-19
KARACHI - As many as 18 more patients of coronavirus died overnight lifting the death toll to 5,720 and 1,467 new cases emerged when 19,655 tests were conducted. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued on Sunday. He added that 18 more patients of COVID-19 lost their lives lifting the death toll to 5,720 that constituted 1.6 percent death rate. Shah sa.....

**'God have mercy on us': Hospitals in Karachi reaching capacity as Delta variant spreads**
The spread of the coronavirus Delta variant is reaching alarming levels in Karachi on the eve of Eidul Azha as public and some private sector hospitals are reaching capacity and have started refusing patients, medical officials said on Tuesday. The Sindh government said on Monday that the Covid-19 situation in the city is becoming serious, and warned people that ignoring precautionary measures du.....

**Pandemic hit individual life insurance policy sales in 2020**
Source: Staff Reporter, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2021-07-21
KARACHI: The insurance sector registered a decline in the sale of new individual life policies (first-year and single premiums) in 2020 owing to the imposition of the coronavirus-related lockdown, according to a recent report by the financial sector regulator. Insurance distribution channels like bancassurance were unable to reach out to clients as retail banking activities remained limited last .....
COVID claims 17 more lives
Source: Our Staff Reporter, *The Nation, Islamabad*, 2021-07-20
KARACHI - As many as 17 more patients of coronavirus died overnight lifting the death toll to 5,737 and 1,247 new cases emerged when 11,794 tests were conducted. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued on Monday. He added that 17 more patients of COVID-19 lost their lives lifting the death toll to 5,737 that constituted 1.6 percent death rate. Shah sa.....

more >>

Delta variant cases in Karachi; Hospitals reaching capacity
KARACHI: The spread of the coronavirus Delta variant is reaching alarming levels in Karachi on the eve of the Eidul-Azha as public and some private sector hospitals are reaching capacity and have started refusing patients, medical officials said on Tuesday. The Sindh government said on Monday that the Covid-19 situation in the city is becoming serious, and warned people that ignoring precauti.....

more >>

Eid days; DC H'abad for implementation of Covid-19 SOPs
HYDERABAD: Divisional Commissioner Hyderabad Mohammad Abbas Baloch has said that on the occasion of Eid ul Adha mobility of people’s increases so the COVID 19 could be spread, its need of hour to ensure the implementation of COVID 19 SOPs strictly and expedite the vaccination process. During Eid days cleanliness of city must be assured and the remains of sacrificed animals must be dumpe.....

more >>

Karachi witnesses surge in oxygen demand
Source: Tufail Ahmed, *The Express Tribune, Islamabad*, 2021-07-21
KARACHI: With over 25,922 new cases reported in the province over the past month, in addition to the emergence of the wildly contagious Delta variant, the fourth wave of Covid-19 has become an unassailable threat for the people ofKarachi. The new dark cloud that looms over the city of 20 million, has put a damper on the festivities of Eidul Azha for many. A day before the festival, caregivers of.....

more >>

Covid hospitals in Karachi reaching capacity as Delta variant spreads
Source: Reuters, *The Express Tribune, Islamabad*, 2021-07-20
KARACHI: The spread of the coronavirus Delta variant is reaching alarming levels in Karachi on the eve of the Eidul Azha holidays as public and some private sector hospitals are reaching capacity and have started refusing patients, medical officials said on Tuesday. The Sindh government said on Monday that the Covid-19 situation in the city is becoming serious, and warned people that ignoring preca.....

more >>

Covid surge overwhelms major hospitals in Karachi
Source: Sameer Mandhro, *The Express Tribune, Islamabad*, 2021-07-20
KARACHI: A sharp spike in coronavirus infections has overwhelmed major hospitals in the metropolis. The positivity ratio soared past 20 per cent in less than a week and the city’s hospitals are struggling to accommodate patients. According to Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah, the positivity ratio hit 25 per cent on Monday. Covid-19 wards at Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre, the Si.....

more >>
Administrator dissatisfied with condition of Abbasi Covid-19 ward
Source: APP, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-24
KARACHI: Administrator Karachi Laeeq Ahmed along with Metropolitan Commissioner Danish Saeed on Friday paid a surprise visit to Covid-19 ward of Abbasi Shaheed Hospital and expressed dissatisfaction over absence of staff. According to a press release, in-charge radiology and many house officers and post-graduates were suspended for their “lethargic attitude.” “If doctors, param......
more >>

PSX lacks trading interest amid Covid, weak rupee
Source: Our Equities Correspondent, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-24
KARACHI: Stock market remained subdued on the first trading day after a three-day holiday. With the weekend ahead and nothing to cheer, investors thought it wiser to wait until the market opens next week. The KSE-100 index remained range-bound, moving between the intraday high and low by 73 and 187 points before finishing off Friday’s second session at a loss of 80.10 points, or 0.17 per ce......
more >>

Sindh tightens Covid curbs again
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-24
KARACHI: As coronavirus infections surge across the country, the Sindh government has decided to impose further restrictions beginning July 26 (Monday). The measures, including the closure of indoor and outdoor dining at restaurants and restricted market timings, were decided on during a meeting of the provincial coronavirus task force on Friday. Moreover, the provincial government plans to ask.....
more >>

Sindh moves to block SIMs of unvaccinated citizens
Source: Hafeez Tunio, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-23
KARACHI: Worried and under pressure from the rising trend of coronavirus cases, the Sindh government decided on Friday to take stringent measures against the people who had not yet got the anti-Covid vaccine. Amid fears of a fourth wave of the pandemic driven by the Indian variant called ‘Delta’, the country passed another grim milestone, with the national tally of the infectious dis.....
more >>

Gwadar under complete lockdown amid uptick in Covid cases
Source: News Desk, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-24
Amid the rising number of coronavirus cases — fuelled by the most contagious Delta variant — the administration in Gwadar on Friday imposed a complete lockdown in the entire district, an official notification said. As per details, all shops, hotels and restaurants will be completely closed for the next 15 days with the exception of some shops having essential items. “Only those pe......
more >>

Sindh reimposes Covid-19 curbs from 26th
Source: Mohammad Bilal Tahir, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-24
KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah while presiding over a meeting on provincial Task Force on Coronavirus, decided to close indoor, outdoor dining at restaurants and marriage halls, closed all the shrines, recreational spots and educational institutions, except those where examinations were taking place and reduced business timings of markets/shops from 6am to 6pm from Monday. .....
Covid-19 tally crosses 1m cases across country
Source: Abdul Rasheed Azad, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-24
ISLAMABAD: Country’s coronavirus tally Friday crossed one million cases after the country reported 1,425 new infections during the past 24 hours making it the 30th nation worldwide recording one million Covid-19 cases, the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) announced. According to the NCOC, 25,215 tests were conducted in the past 24 hours and the positivity ratio was recorded ..... more >>

Administrator pays surprise visit to COVID-19 ward of Abbasi Shaheed Hospital
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-24
KARACHI - Administrator Karachi Laeeq Ahmed along with Metropolitan Commissioner Danish Saeed on Friday paid a surprise visit to COVID-19 ward of Abbasi Shaheed Hospital and expressed dissatisfaction over absence of the staff. According to the press release, Incharge Radiology Dr Mubarak and many house officers and post graduates were suspended for their lethargic attitude. “If doctors, para..... more >>

COVID claims 8 more lives
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-24
KARACHI - As many as eight more patients of coronavirus died overnight lifting the death toll to 5,793 and 919 new cases emerged when 10,032 tests were conducted. This was stated by Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah in a statement issued on Friday. He added that eight more patients of COVID-19 lost their lives lifting the death toll to 5,793 that constituted 1.6 percent death rate..... more >>

Schools being closed due to Covid, inter exams on track: Ghani
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-25
KARACHI: Sindh Education and Literacy Minister Saeed Ghani has said that all schools in the province are being closed due to the Covid-19 situation, though exams will take place according to schedule. He was speaking during a press conference at his camp office here in Clifton on Saturday. “The schools may close but the examination schedules will remain unchanged,” he said. “F..... more >>

Govt asks people to follow NCOC guidelines against Covid fourth wave
Source: Imran Ayub, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-25
KARACHI: The federal government on Saturday warned the people that the country was clearly witnessing signs of a fourth wave of the coronavirus pandemic and asked them to follow the defined standard operating procedures and get themselves vaccinated to avert major restrictions and losses. At a meeting chaired by President Dr Arif Alvi at Governor House, it was agreed that the implementation of th..... more >>

President alarmed by blatant SOP violations
Source: Our Correspondent, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-25
KARACHI: President of Pakistan Dr Arif Alvi on Saturday expressed grave concern over violations of Covid-19 standard operating procedures (SOPs) throughout the country. He said that the compliance of guidelines was immensely important to prevent the fourth wave of the coronavirus and reduce its negative effects. The president said this while chairing a meeting at the Governor House on the Covid..... more >>
COVID-19 ward at ASH fully functional: Administrator
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-25
KARACHI - Administrator Karachi Laeeq Ahmed on Saturday said that the 77-bedded COVID-19 ward at Abbasi Shaheed Hospital (ASH) has been made fully activated. The administrator during a visit to the COVID-19 Ward at Abbasi Shaheed Hospital also announced a month’s extra pay for doctors and paramedical staff serving in the ward, said a spokesperson of the KMC. Ahmed approved health sec.....
more >>

Top-up with Western vaccines for travel purposes not a priority: Dr Faisal
KARACHI: Allowing Pakistani citizens, already vaccinated with Chinese or Russian Covid-19 vaccines, to get ‘top up’ jabs of American or European vaccines including Pfizer, Moderna and AstraZeneca for travel purposes is ‘not a first priority’ at the moment but a solution to this issue would be found soon, Special Assistant to Prime Minister Dr. Faisal Sultan said on Saturday.....
more >>

Delta variant’s higher infectivity helps its quick spread
KARACHI: Since first appearing in India in late 2020, the Delta variant of SARS-CoV-2 has become the predominant strain in much of the world. Researchers might now know why Delta has been so successful: people infected with it produce far more virus than do those infected with the original version of SARS-CoV-2, making it very easy to spread, mentions Sara Reardon while reporting for Nature magazi.....
more >>

President appeals to public to get vaccinated soon
KARACHI: President Dr Arif Alvi has appealed to the masses that they should get vaccinated against coronavirus infection at the earliest while at the same time they should act upon the directions issued by the National Command and Control Centre against the spread of COVID-19. The president issued the advice as he chaired a meeting here at the Governor’s House on Saturday. He asked the auth.....
more >>

Sindh reports 2,343 new cases of Covid-19
Source: Recorder Report, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-26
KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has said that as many as 19 more patients of coronavirus died overnight lifting the death toll to 5,833 and 2,343 new cases emerged when 18,122 tests were conducted. This he stated in a statement issued here on Sunday. He added that 19 more patients of Covid-19 lost their lives lifting the death toll to 5,833 that constituted 1.6 percent .....
more >>

Another doctor dies of Covid-19 in city
Source: Staff Reporter, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-26
KARACHI: Another physician died of Covid-19 on Sunday, taking the tally of doctors falling victim to coronavirus since last year to 69 in Sindh. This is the second death of a doctor within three days in Karachi. Dr Firoz Ahmed Qasmi, a senior anaesthetist, was associated with Dow University of Health Sciences for eight years. “He remained in the hospital’s intensive care unit for fi.....
more >>
19 coronavirus patients die overnight
Source: APP, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-26
KARACHI: The Sindh chief minister on Sunday said as many as 19 more patients of coronavirus died overnight lifting the death toll to 5,833 and 2,343 new cases emerged when 18,122 tests were conducted. In a statement, he said that death rate remained at 1.6 per cent. He added that 18,122 samples were tested which detected 2,343 cases that constituted 12.7 per cent current detection rate. He added ......

more >>

COVID claims 19 more lives
Source: Our Staff Reporter, The Nation, Islamabad, 2021-07-26
KARACHI - Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah said on Sunday that as many as 19 more patients of coronavirus died overnight in Sindh, lifting the death toll to 5,833 and 2,343 new cases emerged when 18,122 tests were conducted. This he stated, he added that 19 more patients of COVID-19 lost their lives lifting the death toll to 5,833 that constituted 1.6 percent death rate. Shah sa.....

more >>
International News

**Countries News**

**Covid triggered biggest increase in hunger in decades: UN**
PARIS: The Covid pandemic caused an estimated 18 percent increase in the number of people facing hunger, a UN report released on Monday found, dealing a massive setback to efforts to ensure everyone has access to food. The world was already off track to achieve its goal of eradicating hunger by 2030, but the report warned that Covid had now sent it back in the wrong direction. The "economic d.....

**Covid case cuts short Singapore ‘cruise to nowhere’; Indonesia new ‘epicentre’ as virus cases skyrocket**
Jakarta: Virus-wracked Indonesia posted record daily infections topping 54,000 on Wednesday as the highly infectious Delta variant rips across the archipelago, catapulting it ahead of India as Asia’s Covid-19 epicentre. The Southeast Asian nation has been battered by a virus explosion that overwhelmed hospitals, leaving scores to die at home, while desperate relatives hunt for oxygen tanks .....  

DUBAI: The new travel guidelines for travellers wishing to travel to the United Arab Emirates from Pakistan have been amended just hours after they were issued that airlines passengers flying to the UAE may need to show an attested vaccination certificate to enter the Emirates. UAE authorities later clarified that no plan was in place yet. The embassy of the United Arab Emirates in Islamabad tweet.....

**Three athletes, 1 IOC member test positive for Covid-19 less than a week before start of Olympic games**
Source: AP, *Dawn, Islamabad*, 2021-07-18
Two athletes living in the Olympic Village have tested positive for Covid-19, the first to do so with the Tokyo Games opening on Friday. Organisers confirmed the positive tests on Sunday, saying both were listed as non-Japanese. No names or other details were provided. Organisers also said another athlete had tested positive but this person was not residing in the Olympic Village. This athlete w.....

**Judge says UK govt right to add Pakistan to Red List**
LONDON: The UK High Court of Justice on Friday ruled that Pakistan cannot be taken off the Red List until the UK government takes a decision on the travel ban to the Red List countries. At the London High Court, Justice Linden ruled that Pakistan cannot be removed from the Red List as the UK government has a responsibility to deal with the pandemic to save lives and the government's decision .....  

**England’s Covid unlocking is threat to world, say scientists**
LONDON: The UK government's plan to scrap day-to-day pandemic restrictions in England next week has no basis in science and amounts to premeditated murder for thousands of people, scientists warned on Friday. Prime Minister Boris Johnson said this week it was "highly probable" the worst of the coronavirus pandemic is over as he pressed ahead with Monday’s reopening, despit.....
Pilgrims arrive in Makkah for second pandemic Haj
MAKKAH: Pilgrims began arriving in the holy city of Makkah on Saturday for the second downsized Haj staged during the coronavirus pandemic, circling Islam’s holiest site in masks and on distanced paths. The kingdom is allowing only 60,000 fully vaccinated residents to take part, seeking to repeat last year’s success that saw no virus outbreak during the five-day ritual. This year&acu.....
more >>

Lockdowns, Covid curbs dampen celebrations as some countries mark Eidul Azha
Source: AP, Dawn, Islamabad, 2021-07-20
Muslims in different countries around the world, including the United States, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Indonesia and Afghanistan, were observing on Tuesday yet another Eidul Azha in the shadow of the pandemic and amid growing concerns about the highly infectious Delta variant of the coronavirus. Eidul Azha is typically marked by communal prayers, large social gatherings, and.....
more >>

60,000 perform Hajj; Masked pilgrims pray for Covid-free world
Source: Reuters, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-20
ARAFAT: Thousands of face-masked pilgrims performing Hajj pilgrimage gathered on Mount Arafat on Monday to atone for their sins, expressing hopes for peace and an end to the Covid-19 pandemic. Saudi Arabia has barred worshippers from abroad for a second year running and has restricted entry from within the kingdom under special conditions to guard against the coronavirus and its new variants.....
more >>

Covid-19 surge drives down shares, bond yields; oil plummets
Source: Reuters, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-20
NEW YORK: Stocks on Wall Street fell around 2% on Monday, as a rise in worldwide coronavirus cases and deaths drove investors away from risky assets, crushing bond yields and share prices. Oil prices plunged around 6%, driven down both by worries about future demand and by an OPEC+ agreement to increase supply. New COVID-19 cases rose in England and Asia, with U.S. infections soaring 70%.....
more >>

Blinken to take up HR, Afghanistan with Indian leadership
ISLAMABAD: The US Secretary of State Antony Blinken is reaching New Delhi on Tuesday at the first high-level visit by the new Biden administration for extensive talks with the Modi government on mutual interest despite a horrifying spike of coronavirus in the host country. Earlier, the British Prime Minister called off his visit to India due to the virus while no other foreign dignitary has ventu.....
more >>

Protesters clash with police in Sydney; Thousands march against lockdown in Australia
Sydney: Thousands marched through Australia’s two biggest cities in anti-lockdown protests on Saturday, sparking violent clashes with police in Sydney. Dozens of protesters were arrested after an unauthorised march flouted public health orders in Sydney, while several confrontations with police broke out during the hours-long rally. Officers were pelted with pot plants and bottles of water.....
more >>
Lebanon virus
Beirut: Lebanon’s deepening economic crisis has piled pressure on hospitals, leaving them ill-equipped to face any new wave of the coronavirus, a top hospital director has warned. ..... more >>

As cases soar, Spaniards keep their masks firmly on
Madrid: It’s over 35 degrees Celsius and although masks are no longer obligatory in the streets of Spain, masks are everywhere in Madrid as people fear soaring Covid cases. Unlike people in many other European countries who have dropped their masks, Spaniards have largely opted to hang onto the face coverings that have become part of the daily lives of billions of people over the past 18 mo..... more >>

UK minister apologises for urging people not to 'cower from' Covid
Source: Reuters, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-26
LONDON: British health minister Sajid Javid apologised for and deleted a tweet urging people to take a COVID-19 vaccine and not to "cower" from the virus, saying on Sunday he had made "a poor choice of word". Javid, who replaced Matt Hancock as health minister last month after his predecessor stepped down for breaking COVID rules by kissing an aide in his office, had been ..... more >>

Increased testing needed, says WHO; Manila orders children back indoors amid fears of coronavirus surge: Germany lists Spain, Holland as high-risk virus states
Stockholm/BERLIN: Increased free testing, contact tracing and other steps are needed to fight the Covid-19 Delta variant, now dominant in much of Europe, the World Health Organisation and the EU’s disease agency warned on Friday. WHO Europe and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) issued a joint appeal for "reinforced efforts" by European countries to chec..... more >>

Virus-wracked Indonesia to loosen Covid-19 curbs
Source: AFT, Daily Times, 2021-07-26
Virus-wracked Indonesia said Sunday that small businesses and some shopping malls could reopen despite warnings that loosening curbs could spark another devastating Covid-19 wave, even as it moved to extend a web of restrictions launched this month. President Joko Widodo said measures imposed in early July would continue until August 2 as the highly infectious Delta variant tears across the South..... more >>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>French lawmakers seek deal on vaccine passports after protests</td>
<td>AFT, Daily Times</td>
<td>2021-07-26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawmakers from France’s upper and lower houses of parliament were on Sunday seeking to agree a deal to allow the adoption of legislation making vaccine passports vital for French daily life in the battle against Covid-19. The talks between members of the National Assembly and Senate come a day after France was again shaken by nationwide protests against the rules that saw over 160,000 rally.....</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donors News</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHO warns of ‘dangerous’ variants as Covid cases rise globally</td>
<td>AFP, The News, International</td>
<td>2021-07-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GENEVA: The World Health Organisation’s emergency committee warned on Thursday that new and more dangerous Covid-19 variants were expected to spread around the world, making it harder to halt the pandemic. The announcement was further bad news as several countries battled a new wave of infections fanned by new variants, namely Delta which was first identified in India. “The pandemic .....</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>more &gt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### SDPI Engagements

#### Report Launch New

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evidence-based policy making focus of government: Aliya</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Source:</strong> Web Desk, <em>Daily Times</em>, 2021-07-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ISLAMABAD:</strong> Parliamentary Secretary for Textile, Commerce, Industries &amp; Production, Aliya Hamza Malik, has said that evidence-based policy making has a great importance for every sector of economy, especially for correct and timely decision making. The present government is paying special attention to correcting the policies based on appropriate evidence-based data and information for trade negotiations. <a href="#">more &gt;&gt;</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evidence-based policy making focus of government: Aliya</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Source:</strong> DNA News, <em>DNA News</em>, 2021-07-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>**Islamabad, JUL 15 /DNA/ -- Parliamentary Secretary for Textile, Commerce, Industries &amp; Production, Aliya Hamza Malik, has said that evidence-based policy making has a great importance for every sector of economy, especially for correct and timely decision making. The present government is paying special attention to correcting the policies based on appropriate evidence-based data and information for trade negotiations. <a href="#">more &gt;&gt;</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evidence-based policy making focus of government: Aliya</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Source:</strong> DNA, <em>Centreline.com</em>, 2021-07-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Islamabad, JUL 15 /DNA/ --</strong> Parliamentary Secretary for Textile, Commerce, Industries &amp; Production, Aliya Hamza Malik, has said that evidence-based policy making has a great importance for every sector of economy, especially for correct and timely decision making. The present government is paying special attention to correcting the policies based on appropriate evidence-based data and information for trade negotiations. <a href="#">more &gt;&gt;</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evidence based policy making prime focus of govt: Aliya</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Source:</strong> Staff Reporter, <em>Pakistan Observer</em>, 2021-07-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parliamentary Secretary for Textile, Commerce, Industries &amp; Production, Aliya Hamza Malik, has said that evidence-based policy making has a great importance for every sector of economy, especially for correct and timely decision making. The incumbent government is paying special attention to correcting the policies based on appropriate evidence-based data and information for trade negotiations. <a href="#">more &gt;&gt;</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evidence based policy making prime focus of govt: Aliya</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Source:</strong> Web Desk, <em>The World News</em>, 2021-07-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ISLAMABAD:</strong> Parliamentary Secretary for Textile, Commerce, Industries &amp; Production, Aliya Hamza Malik, has said that evidence-based policy making has a great importance for every sector of economy, especially for correct and timely decision making. The present government is paying special attention to correcting the policies based on appropriate evidence-based data and information for trade negotiations. <a href="#">more &gt;&gt;</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Experts emphasise on learning from global best practices in VRE sector</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Source:</strong> Agencies, <em>The Nation, Islamabad</em>, 2021-07-21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Achieving targets of 30pc RE by 2030 will require some investments in transmission capacity of Balochistan. <strong>ISLAMABAD</strong> - The experts from energy sector have emphasised that for a sustainable energy transition, Pakistan needs to incorporate global best practices in its energy sector, especially in Variable Renewable Energy (VRE) sector related policies. They were speaking at a webinar titled <a href="#">more &gt;&gt;</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Consultation Gathering

**MPs call for climate actions to counter challenges**  
Islamabad: The parliamentarians hailing from all leading political parties have agreed on undertaking climate actions based on a long-term sustainable approach to counter emerging challenges and threats from Climate Change including in the areas of food, water and energy security. The MPs were participating in a consultation on ‘Impacts of Climate Change across different sectors of Pakis.....

[more >>](#)

**Meeting Climate Challenge: SDPI Offers Research, Logestic Support To Policy-Makers**  
Source: Sabahat Hussain, *NEWSMAN*, 2021-07-14  
Islamabad July 12, 2021: The parliamentarians have agreed on undertaking climate actions based on long-term sustainable approach to counter emerging challenges and threats from climate change including in the areas of food, water and energy security. Speaking at a consultation gathering on ‘Impacts of Climate change across different sector of Pakistan’ organized by Sustainable Develop.....

[more >>](#)

### Webinar News

**SDPI To Hold Webinar On 'evidence-use In Policy Making Amid Covid-19'**  
Source: APP, *UrduPoint*, 2021-07-14  
Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) will hold a webinar on "evidence-use in policy making amid COVID-19" on Wednesday to assess the role of evidence in policy-making amid pandemic PESHAWAR, (APP - UrduPoint / Pakistan Point News - 13th Jul, 2021 ) :Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) will hold a .....[more >>](#)

**Pakistan urged to expand solar, wind capacity**  
Source: APP, *The Express Tribune, Islamabad*, 2021-07-15  
ISLAMABAD: Experts from the energy sector have emphasised that for a sustainable energy transition, Pakistan needs to incorporate global best practices in its energy sector, especially in Variable Renewable Energy (VRE) sector related policies. Speaking at a webinar on ‘Future directions for VRE deployment in Pakistan - A discussion on the findings of the World Bank’s VRE report’......[more >>](#)

**Experts Call For Action For Women's Protection Amid Pandemic Situation**  
Source: APP, *UrduPoint*, 2021-07-19  
ISLAMABAD, (APP - UrduPoint / Pakistan Point News - 19th Jul, 2021 ) :To fill the gaps in institutional response to protectwomenvictims of violence and to getwomen's protection laws properly implemented and improved where needed, the legislators need to play their role in this regard. This was the crux of the presentations by experts while speaking at a webinar on ‘Violence againstWomen: C.....[more >>](#)

**Experts call for action for women’s protection amid pandemic situation**  
ISLAMABAD: To fill the gaps in institutional response to protect women victims of violence and to get women’s protection laws properly implemented and improved where needed, the legislators need to play their role in this regard. This was the crux of the presentations by experts while speaking at a webinar on ‘Violence against Women: Challenges, Reforms and the Pandemic’ organize.....[more >>](#)
‘Policies must to curb violence against women’
Source: News Desk, The Express Tribune, Islamabad, 2021-07-21
To fill gaps in the institutional response to protect women victims of violence and to get women's protection laws properly implemented and improved where needed, legislators need to play their role in this regard. This was the crux of the presentations given by experts while speaking at a webinar on ‘Violence against Women: Challenges, Reforms and the Pandemic’ organised by the.....

more >>

SDPI Articles

Celebrating 20 Years of SCO
Source: Shakeel Ahmad Ramay, Daily Times, 2021-07-18
Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) started with a low profile but was extremely focused on the goals and objectives. Since the inception of the organisation, the SCO is adhering to the principles of respect, trust and win-win cooperation. The principles led to the successful execution of plans and achievement of the most urgent objective, including border issues, which boosted the confidence .....  

more >>

Delta calling
Ancient Greek alphabets, alpha, beta, gamma, delta…. are once again being used widely worldwide – this time recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO) to refer to different variants of Covid-19 for non-scientific purposes. This recommendation is based on three reasons. First, Greek alphabets are easy to pronounce and remember. Second, an alphabetic sequence can reveal the ord.....

more >>

CPEC & Environmental Sustainability
Source: Dr Hina Aslam, South Asian Voices Stimson, 2021-07-21
Despite a recent political emphasison the impact of climate change in the country, Pakistan’s environmental crisis is worsening. A marked increase in carbon emissions due to extensive use of fossil fuels to produce energy and air pollution has further exacerbated the country’s environmental issues. Pakistan is ranked among the top ten most affected and most vulnerable to climate change as i.....

more >>
## SDPI's Related News

### Experts discuss prospects of renewable energy generation

LAHORE: Experts discussed the prospects of grid integration and locational study conducted by for energy sector of Pakistan, and major challenges for revised version of Indicative Generation Capacity Expansion Plan (IGCEP) 2030. During a webinar held by the World Bank, Oliver Knight, senior energy specialist, the World Bank, provided insights on studies conducted by the World Bank on “Va.....

[more >>](#)

### CAREC Institute Visiting Fellow Program enhances collective intelligence for better policy advice
Source: BR Web Desk, Business Recorder, Islamabad, 2021-07-25

The Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Institute finalised selection in July 2021 of the new pool of the Visiting Fellow Program finalists to support scholars and researchers from ADB member countries to produce targeted knowledge products which will add to the body of knowledge on regional cooperation in CAREC. CAREC is an inter-governmental cooperation framework representing 11 .....