

Situations like the coronavirus pandemic can quickly become a catalyst for social conflict due to misinformation, rumours, and fake news, as observed in Pakistan during recent national catastrophes caused by dengue fever, floods, and earthquakes. The situation is no different with COVID-19 as stories emerge on how fake news is being used to manipulate response efforts, spread rumours and misinformation leading to behaviours that are undermining community cohesion, and causing citizens to be unaware of the role they can play in the pandemic response.

With that in mind, The Accountability Lab Pakistan (ALP), with the financial support from the European Union and technical support from The Asia Foundation (TAF) Pakistan, has officially launched the Coronavirus CivActs Campaign (CCC). This campaign debunks rumours, conducts regular fact-checking, synthesizes data, and convenes virtual forums to produce informative bulletins each week. These bulletins include important government decisions, visual materials, community feedback, debunked rumours with verified information, valid concerns, and other questions from the ground around health and other issues. The goal is to support enhanced awareness among the most vulnerable groups in Pakistan (including ethnic minorities, religious minorities, returning migrants, trafficking victims, prisoners, women, internally displaced persons, transgender persons, persons with disabilities, victims of torture, and other marginalized communities), with a focus on the marginalized communities of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Sindh. These bulletins are translated into Urdu and Sindhi, with audio transcriptions in Pashto. They are shared with stakeholders, local government leaders, media, legal aid centers, community radios, learning centers, CSOs, and humanitarian networks via online and offline means. They are also disseminated through a web-page, shared widely on social media, and are aired on a wide network of radio stations in local languages.

Current Situation of COVID-19 in Pakistan

Total Confirmed Cases
678,165

Total Active Cases
56,347

Total Deaths
14,613

Total Recoveries
607,205

Provinces	Active Cases	Confirmed Cases	Deaths	Recoveries
Punjab	28,871	225,953	6,485	190,597
Islamabad	10,779	59,401	572	48,050
KPK	9,707	89,255	2,382	77,166
Sindh	5,029	265,917	4,504	256,384
AJK	1,607	12,984	358	11,019
Balochistan	279	19,610	209	19,122
GB	75	5,045	103	4,867

Source: <http://covid.gov.pk/stats/pakistan>



Funded by
the European Union



The Asia Foundation



Fact

Myth



Common myths around Covid-19 that have been circulating at the local, national, and international level have come into focus in the past few months of the pandemic.

REPORT SCAM



A Covid relief fund is available through a link

MYTH

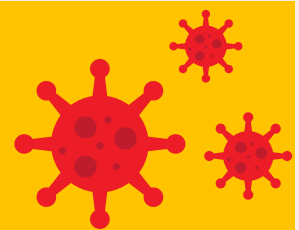


There is a fake link circulating on social media by the link name: <https://covid19relief.get-funds.online/>. Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) Pakistan recently issued an [advisory](#) in which it warned that the number of cases of cyber-attacks due to Covid-19 has greatly increased. Links like these are being forwarded to people by hackers asking people to reveal their private information under the excuse of giving them a Covid relief fund. When you click on a link like this, you will be asked to type in your personal information, and after entering your information, you will be asked to share this link in different groups. If you come across such fake links please be careful and instead of sharing it with others, lodge a complaint to the Cyber Crime Wing of the Federal Investigation Agency (CCW-FIA), by calling at Helpline No. 9911 and report such cybercrimes.



FACT

New study reveals that there is no change in symptoms with the UK coronavirus variant



The [latest analysis of symptom data by researchers from King's](#) shows no major differences in COVID-19 symptom type, severity, or duration of the disease caused by the new B.1.1.7 coronavirus variant. The research study confirms that the new variant is more transmissible. Dr Claire Steves from the School of Life Course Sciences revealed: "The Kent variant B.1.1.7 does not appear to alter symptoms, severity or duration of COVID-19 when we take account of the changing seasons and age of people affected. It's important to emphasize the range of symptoms both the new and the old variant can cause, such as headaches and sore throat, in addition to the classic triad of cough, fever, and loss of smell."

Source: Source: Federal Investigation Agency Pakistan (FIA), King's College England



Funded by
the European Union



The Asia Foundation

This publication was produced with the financial support from the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of Accountability Lab Pakistan and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union

VACCINATION REGISTRATIONS FOR 50+ STARTING FROM MARCH 30

NCOC has announced that registration for senior citizens between 50-59 will start from 30th March. For registration, you can SMS your CNIC number to 1166 from any mobile number or visit nims.nadra.gov.pk. The vaccine center and date will be communicated through SMS. Following is the basic process for administration of the vaccine to eligible citizens:

- 1. ELIGIBILITY** - Senior Citizens/ Health Care Workers can check eligibility by sending CNIC (13 digits without space) to 1166 or visit <https://nims.nadra.gov.pk>
- 2. CONFIRMATION SMS** - Adult Vaccination Center (AVC) and PIN Code will be intimated
- 3. APPOINTMENT** - When vaccine becomes available at center, 2nd SMS with date of appointment will be communicated
- 4. VISIT ADULT VACCINATION CENTER (AVC)** - Visit AVC on date of appointment along with Original CNIC and PIN Code
- 5. VERIFICATION COUNTER** - Health Staff will check schedule in NIMS, and verify CNIC & PIN Code
- 6. VACCINATION COUNTER** - You will be vaccinated upon your turn
- 7. CONFIRMATION** - Vaccination Staff will confirm vaccine entry in NIMS
- 8. MONITORING** - After vaccine administration, you will be required to stay for 30 minutes for monitoring.

(Source: NCOC)

If you think you or someone you know is infected with COVID-19, you can call the following government helplines by province:



WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I SUSPECT I OR SOMEONE IN MY FAMILY HAS CORONAVIRUS?

DON'T PANIC

There are government helplines you can call for help

FEDERAL	1166
KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA	1700
PUNJAB	0800 99 000
SINDH	021-99203443 021-99204405
BALUCHISTAN	081-9241133-22 0334-9241133

whatsapp



MINISTRY OF NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES REGULATIONS AND COORDINATION
GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
www.nhsr.gov.pk



Source: Ministry of National Health Services Regulations and Coordination (NHSRC)



Funded by
the European Union



This publication was produced with the financial support from the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of Accountability Lab Pakistan and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union

KP HEALTH MINISTER CALLS FOR COLLECTIVE EFFORTS TO BATTLE THIRD WAVE OF PANDEMIC

Under section 144, the deputy commissioner of Peshawar has made wearing face masks/covers while visiting public spaces (indoor and outdoor) mandatory for all in District Peshawar. Anyone that violates this rule shall be proceeded against legally. This order is effective from 29th March and shall remain enforced for a period of one month unless modified.

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa health and finance minister Taimur Khan Jhagra has urged citizens to once again practice precautionary measures in light of a third wave of the pandemic. In a series of tweets, he said: "Covid fatigue is natural, but now is the time to get the third wave under control. Overall Covid test positivity in KP was 11.2pc yesterday, higher than it has ever been since the first wave." The minister added that positivity rates were high across Peshawar and Swat in particular, and rising in Haripur and Abbottabad. "Peshawar and Swat are showing 7-day average positivity rates of over 20%. It's time for a collective effort again." "Most importantly, we need your help to preserve hospital capacity, and leave room for those who need critical care," he added.

source: Dawn News

Mild Symptoms include:



Severe Symptoms include:



If you have COVID-19 symptoms contact your doctor or the coronavirus helpline at



1166



Funded by
the European Union

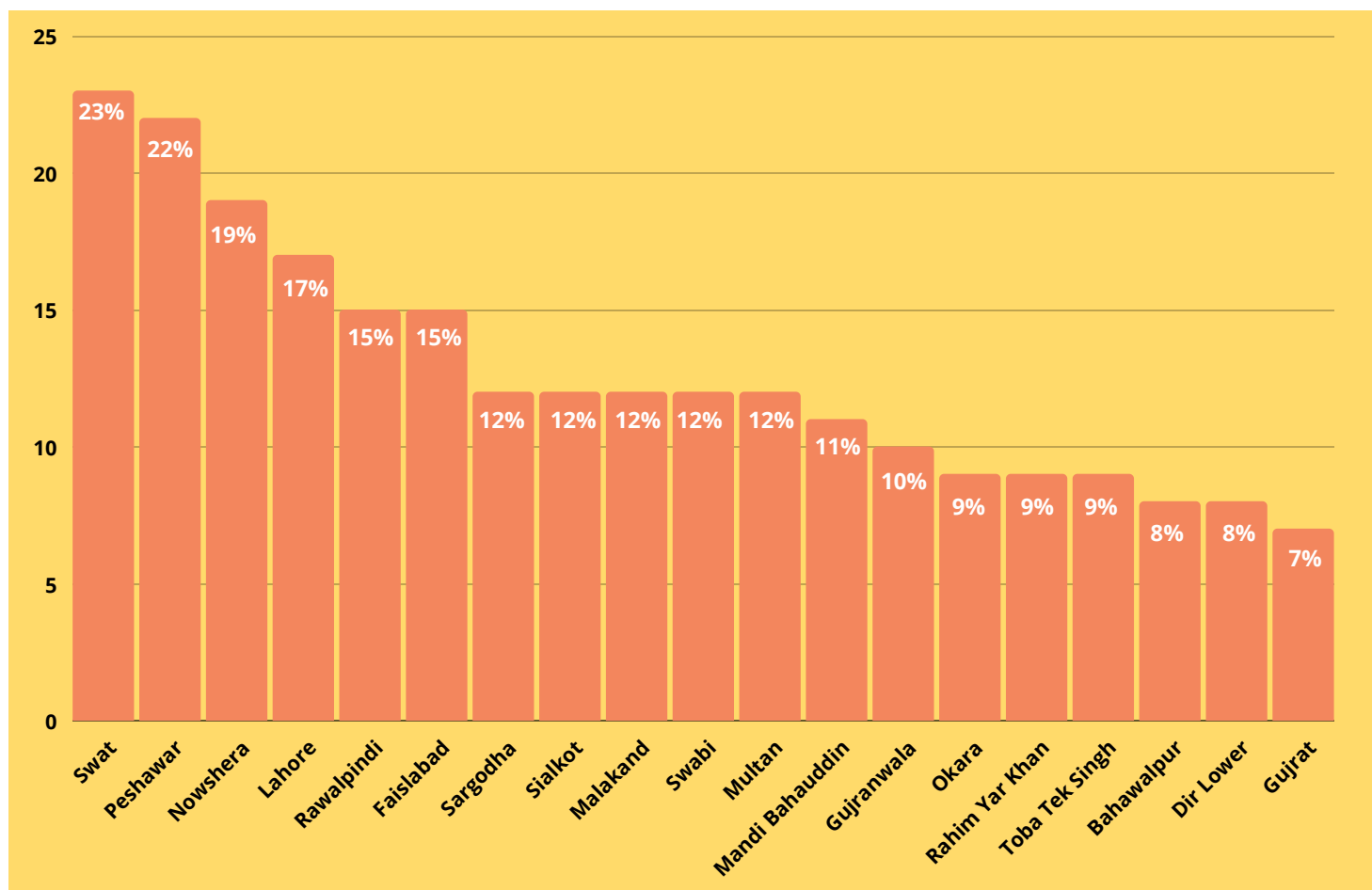
accountabilitylab
PAKISTAN



The Asia Foundation

This publication was produced with the financial support from the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of Accountability Lab Pakistan and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union

Status of coronavirus in the major cities of Pakistan



People not wearing masks will be arrested, warns Lahore commissioner

Lahore Commissioner retired Capt Muhammad Usman on March 27 warned that those found without a mask at a public place will be sent behind bars, as it has been decided in principle to ensure implementation of standard operating procedures (SOPs) to curb Covid-19 spread. The order will be effective from Sunday March 28. "We are passing through peak time of the third wave of the coronavirus that is spreading very fast in Lahore in particular and other parts of Punjab in general. Since many Covid-19 positive patients are being shifted to hospitals [in Lahore] on a daily basis, we have decided to ensure strict preventive measure to avert further spread of the virus," Mr Usman explained. "Therefore, we have decided to launch a crackdown from March 28 against all those not wearing masks, besides flouting other SOPs. Simply, we have been left with no option but to arrest all those found without masks on the city roads, markets, hospitals, parks, shops, malls etc," he added.

Source: Dawn News



**wear mask
or
face imprisonment**



Funded by
the European Union



The Asia Foundation

This publication was produced with the financial support from the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of Accountability Lab Pakistan and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union



In view of the sharply increasing positivity rate, NCOC has announced the following regulations that will be applied in cities/districts with positivity greater than 8% on a three-day rolling average:

1. There will be a complete ban on holding wedding functions – both indoor and outdoor – starting April 5. However, provinces will be free to implement restrictions early on as per the situation on the ground.
2. All kinds of gatherings (indoor/outdoor) will be banned with immediate effect. This will include all social, cultural, political, sports, and other events.

NCOC will provide updated hotspot maps to provinces for enforcement of expanded lockdowns, with effect from March 29, 2021.



Covid-19 immunization certificate portal launched

NCOC has now started to issue vaccination immunization certificates. If your vaccination process has been completed you can get your COVID Immunization Certificate from <https://nims.nadra.gov.pk> or from NADRA Mega Centers. Please ensure vaccination staff enters

MINISTRY OF NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES REGULATIONS AND COORDINATION
GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN

IMMUNIZATION CERTIFICATE FOR COVID-19

Ali Ahmed

Birth Date: [Redacted] CNIC No. [Redacted]
Nationality: Pakistan Passport No. [Redacted]

has been administered following COVID-19 vaccine.

Vaccine or prophylaxis	Date	Name of Health Center	Vaccine manufacturer & batch No.
01.	04-02-2021	Mayo Hospital	Sinopharm, China National Pharmaceutical Group Co., Ltd 202012248
02.	26-02-2021	Mayo Hospital	Sinopharm, China National Pharmaceutical Group Co., Ltd 202012248

MINISTRY OF NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES REGULATIONS & COORDINATION
Issuing Authority

Certificate No. 10000 [Redacted]
Issuing Date: 25-03-2021

For more details

staff enters details in#NIMS when getting a vaccine. Check your vaccination status by sending CNIC to 1166. (NCOC)



Funded by
the European Union



The Asia Foundation

Where can I get tested?

Islamabad	National Institute of Health Park Road, Chak Shahzad, Islamabad
Karachi	Agha Khan University Hospital, Stadium Road, Karachi, Sindh
Hyderabad	Liaquat University of Medical and Health Sciences (LUMHS), Liberty Market Roundabout, Liaquat University Hospital, Hyderabad
Khairpur	Gambat Institute of Medical Sciences, Gambat, Khairpur, Sindh
Peshawar	Hayatabad Medical Complex Phase-4 Phase 4 Hayatabad, Peshawar, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.
Mardan	Chughtai Lab Mardan point, near Allied Bank, Shamsi Road, Mardan, KP
Haripur	Excel Labs, TMA Plaza Shop No. 6, Near Girls Degree College Circular Road Haripur, KP
Lahore	Shaukat Khanum Memorial Hospital, 7A Block R-3 M.A. Johar Town, Lahore, Punjab
Multan	Nishtar Hospital Nishtar Road, Justice Hamid Colony, Multan
Rawalpindi	Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, Range Road, CMH Complex, Rawalpindi, Punjab
Quetta	Fatima Jinnah Hospital Bahadurabad, Wahdat Colony, Quetta
Muzaffarabad	Abbas Institute of Medical Sciences (AIMS), Ambore, Muzaffarabad, Azad Kashmir
Gilgit	District Headquarters Hospital, Hospital Road, Gilgit, GB

For more cities visit the [COVID-19 Health Advisory Platform](#)



Funded by
the European Union



The Asia Foundation

This publication was produced with the financial support from the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of Accountability Lab Pakistan and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union