



WHO CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) SITUATION REPORT-91

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Total (new) cases in
last 24 hours

Globally

2 314 621 confirmed (72846)

157 847 deaths (5296)

Western Pacific Region

132 438 confirmed (1326)

5648 deaths (27)

European Region

1 149 071 confirmed (26882)

103 586 deaths (2648)

South-East Asia Region

29 576 confirmed (2257)

1275 deaths (90)

Eastern Mediterranean Region

129 433 confirmed (4742)

6048 deaths (140)

Region of the Americas

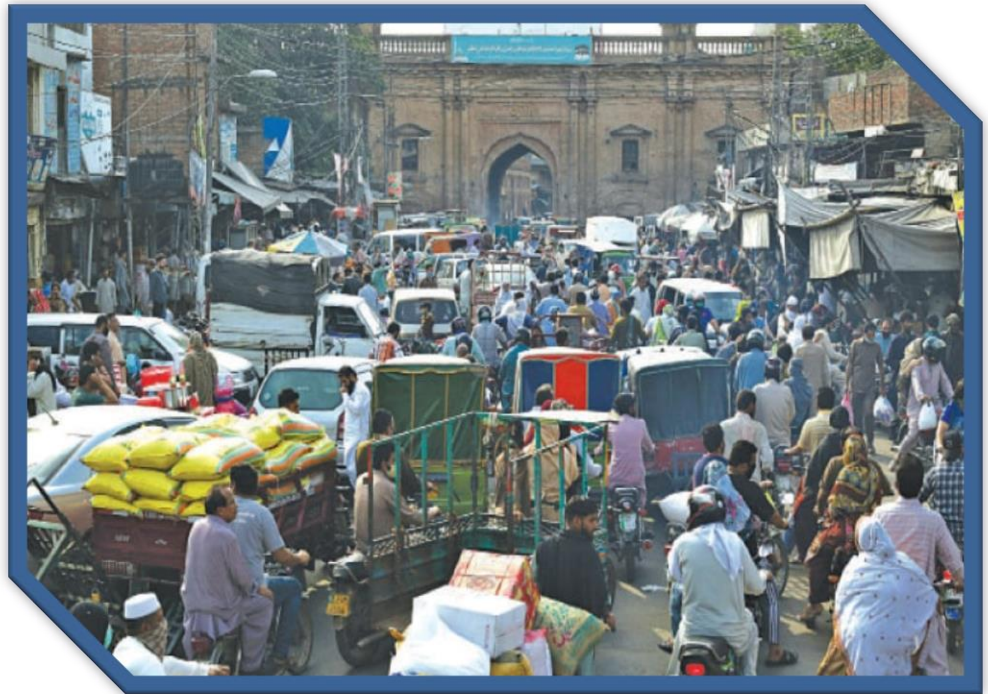
858 631 confirmed (36771)

40 615 deaths (2357)

African Region

14 760 confirmed (868)

662 deaths (34)



Questionable lockdown in a market in Lahore—*White Star*

Global News

- Coronavirus: Oil price falls to 18-year low as turmoil persists
- WHO head warns worst of virus is still ahead.
- Iran reported 91 new fatalities from coronavirus, raising the death toll to 5,209.
- World can now perhaps understand the suffering in occupied Kashmir: PM Imran.
- Afghan prisoner exchanges, US peace plan threatened by coronavirus.
- Russia's confirmed coronavirus cases surge past 52,000.

Global Response

- Arabic translation of 20 SOPs decided in Alvi's meeting with ulema sent to Saudi Arabia
- Pakistan to send chloroquine tablets to US, Saudi Arabia among others, says Awan.
- Iran says 1,000 foreign prisoners temporarily released.
- Myanmar sends Rohingya prisoners back to border amid coronavirus fears.
- Trump says he will suspend all immigration into US over coronavirus.
- Turkey orders four-day curfew in 31 major cities.
- Brazil's Bolsonaro hopes coronavirus quarantine measures end this week.



Food Panda employees awaiting orders as the take away and delivery started by restaurants—*DAWN*

Local News

- Sindh CM thanks ulema for 'cooperating with the government so far'
- Larkana a potential hotspot in Sindh with 90 cases, says CM Shah.
- President Alvi speaks in Muzaffarabad, commends AJK govt. for effective measures against virus.
- Govt. committed to ensuring food security: SAPM Shahzad Akbar.
- LHC discards petition seeking end to lockdown in Punjab.
- Pakistan's Covid-19 recoveries surpass 2,000.
- More than 84pc households in Pakistan are food secure: survey.
- 15 policemen have so far tested positive in Karachi.

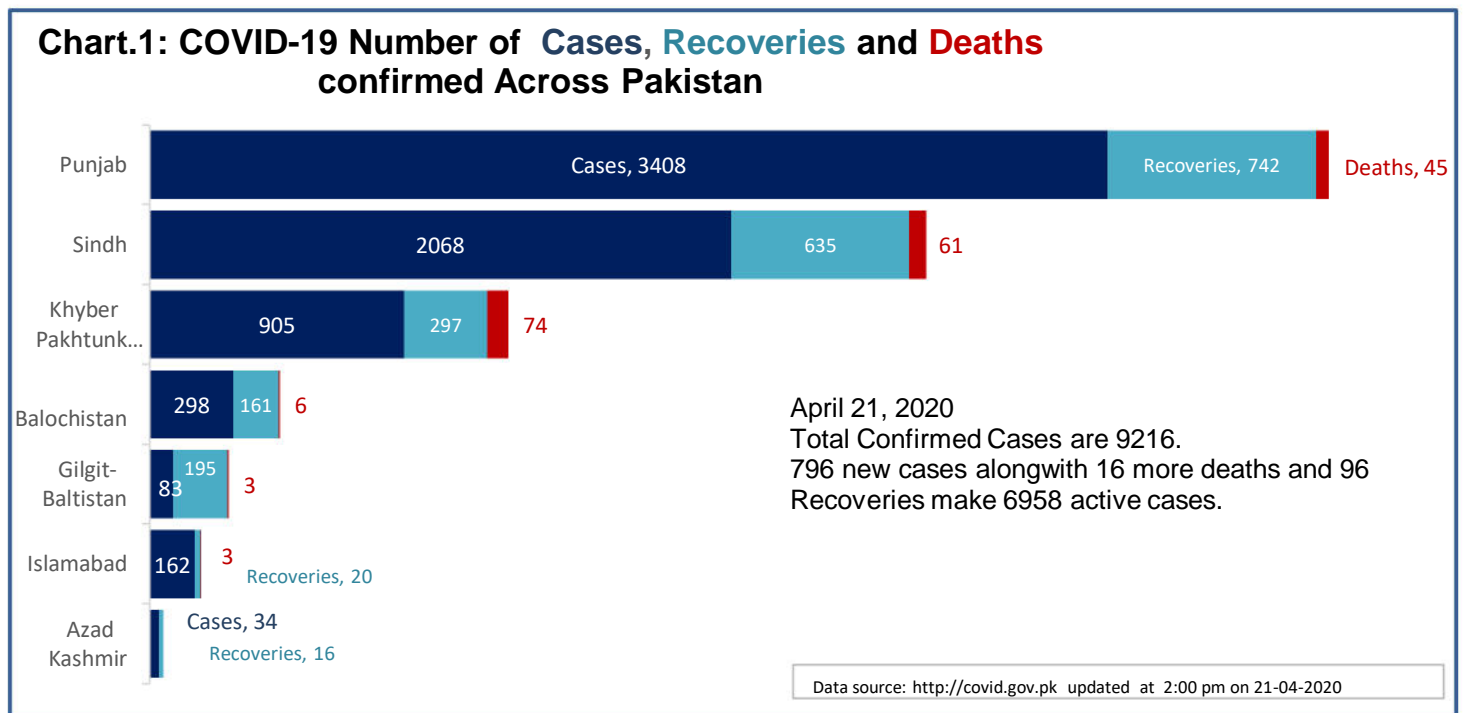
Local Response

- IPPs refuse to reduce tariff formula under govt. ToRs.
- Going forward in COVID-19 times: Pakistan has not so far applied for debt relief from G20 countries.
- Hoarders to be fined, jailed for up to 3 years, says Awan.
- Daraz launches DMart as a convenient solution for ordering groceries, fresh produce online.
- Pakistan conducting most tests in the region: Rashid.
- More than Rs55bn has been given out in Ehsaas Emergency Cash Programme. Rs90m distributed to 7,500 people in capital under PM Imran's Ehsaas programme.
- Local charity raises nearly Rs13 million through 'no-touch methods' for Covid-19 relief.

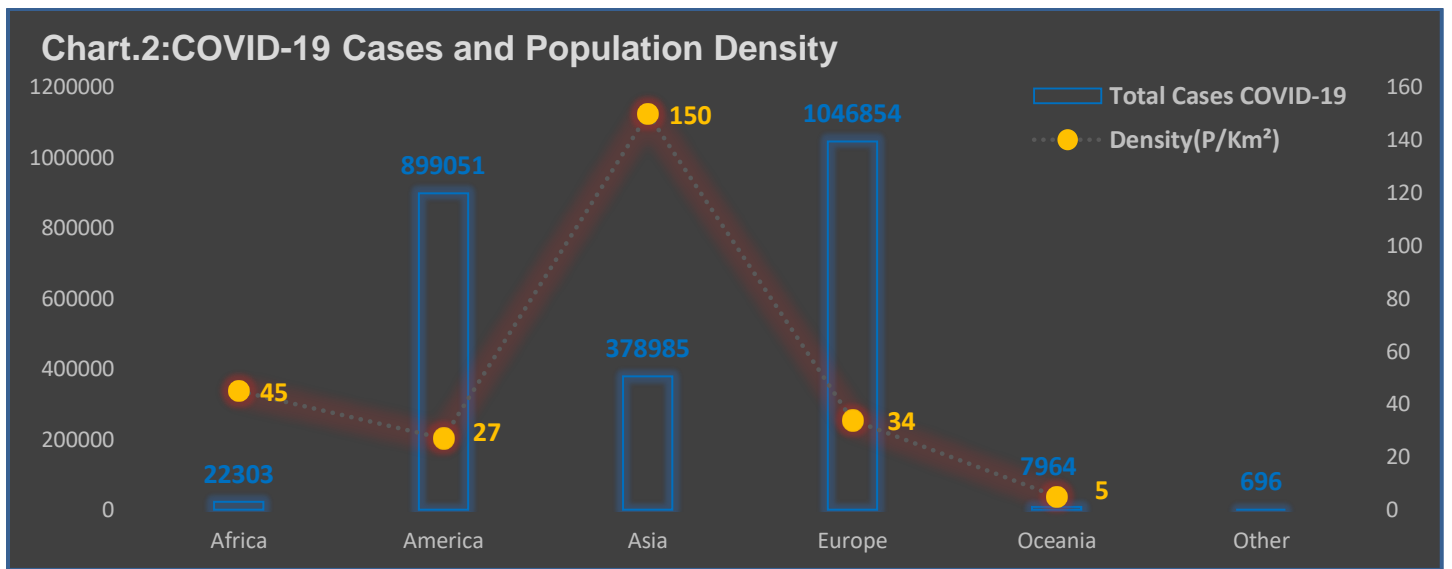


A girl reacts as health official uses a swab to collect a sample in a village during the curfew in Sri Lanka—Reuters

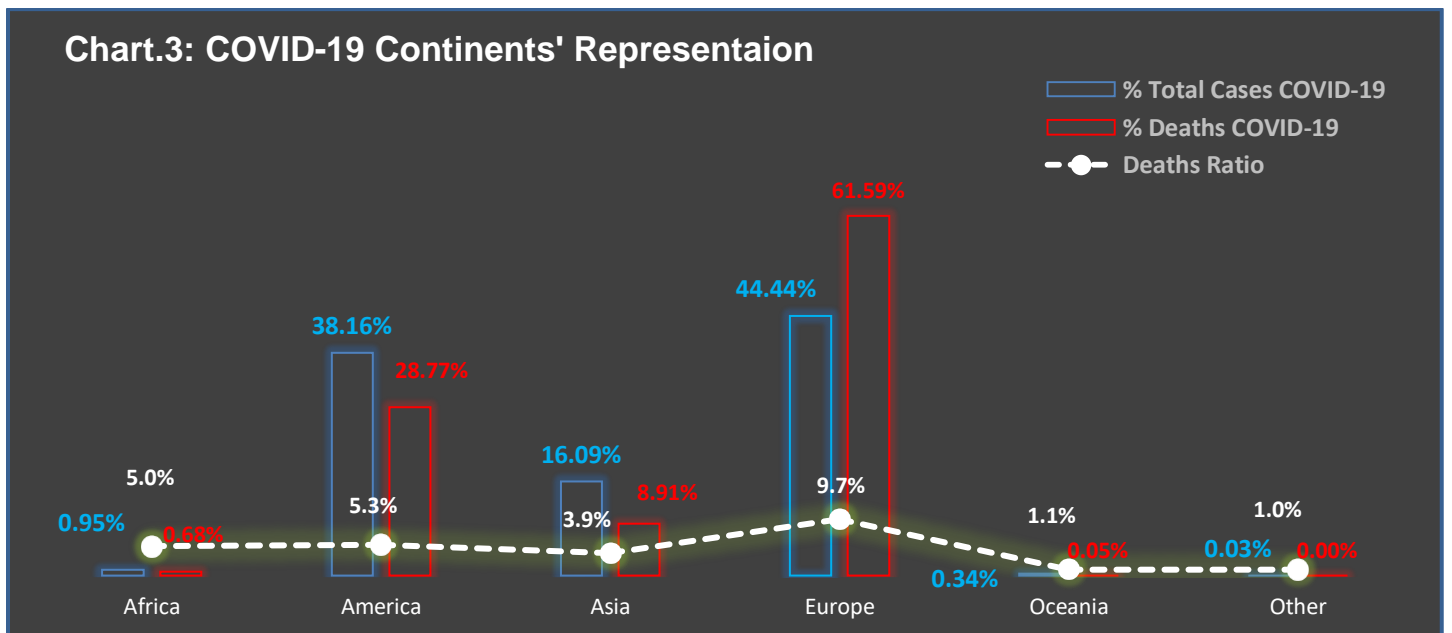
During the last 24 hours, 796 new cases have been confirmed by different laboratories, bringing the national tally to 9216. Seven deaths from KP, five from Sindh, three from Punjab, and one from Balochistan have been reported in the last 24 hours. There are a total 192 deaths and 2066 recoveries across the country, see Chart.1.



COVID-19 is a contagious disease; it is expected to spread more rapidly in populous areas. Comparison of number of COVID-19 cases to the population density of distinct Continents/regions reveals a different scenario. In Americas number of confirmed cases are 8,99,051 with population density of 27(Persons/Km²), while in Europe the number of cases are 10,46,854 with population density of 34(Persons/Km²). In Asia the number of infected cases are 3,78,985 with highest population density of 150(Persons/Km²), see Chart.2. Asia is way behind in number of COVID-19 cases than Europe and Americas. Africa and Oceania has least number of COVID-19 cases. Is it average high temperature providing shield to Asia, Africa and Oceania, or the high immunity in these regions? Asia and Africa are the regions with lowest per capita income and least developed medical infrastructure, many areas in Asia and Africa are hit by Malaria, Dengue and other diseases. This might help improved immunity in these regions.



Europe is the highest COVID-19 hit continent. In Europe infected cases are highest in all continents that is 44.44%, 61.59% of total COVID-19 deaths are reported in Europe, and death ratio is about 9.7%. In America 38.16% of world COVID-19 cases are reported, 28.77% died and current death ratio is 5.3%. In Asia 16% of total world COVID-19 cases reported so far, 8.91% died and 3.9% is the current death ratio. In Africa and Oceania this percentage is very low, See Chart.3. Fortunately COVID-19 cases in Pakistan are only 0.4% of total world COVID-19 cases. The COVID-19 death ratio in Pakistan is just 2% of total confirmed cases since the first COVID-19 case reported in Pakistan.



Frequently Asked Questions

Has violence against women increased since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic?

Violence against women is highly prevalent, and intimate partner violence is the most common form of violence. During health emergencies, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, violence against women tends to increase.

Whilst data are scarce, reports from across the world, including China, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, and other countries suggest a significant increase in domestic violence cases related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Reports from other countries suggest a reduction in survivors seeking services due to a combination of lockdown measures and not wanting to attend health services for fear of infection.

Why should I care about violence against women during COVID-19?

Violence against women is a grave violation of women's human rights, no matter when, where, or how it takes place. There are many forms of violence against women, which have many potential negative health consequences for women and their children.

Violence against women can result in injuries and serious physical, mental, sexual and reproductive health problems, including sexually transmitted infections, HIV, and unplanned pregnancies. In extreme cases, violence against women can result in death.

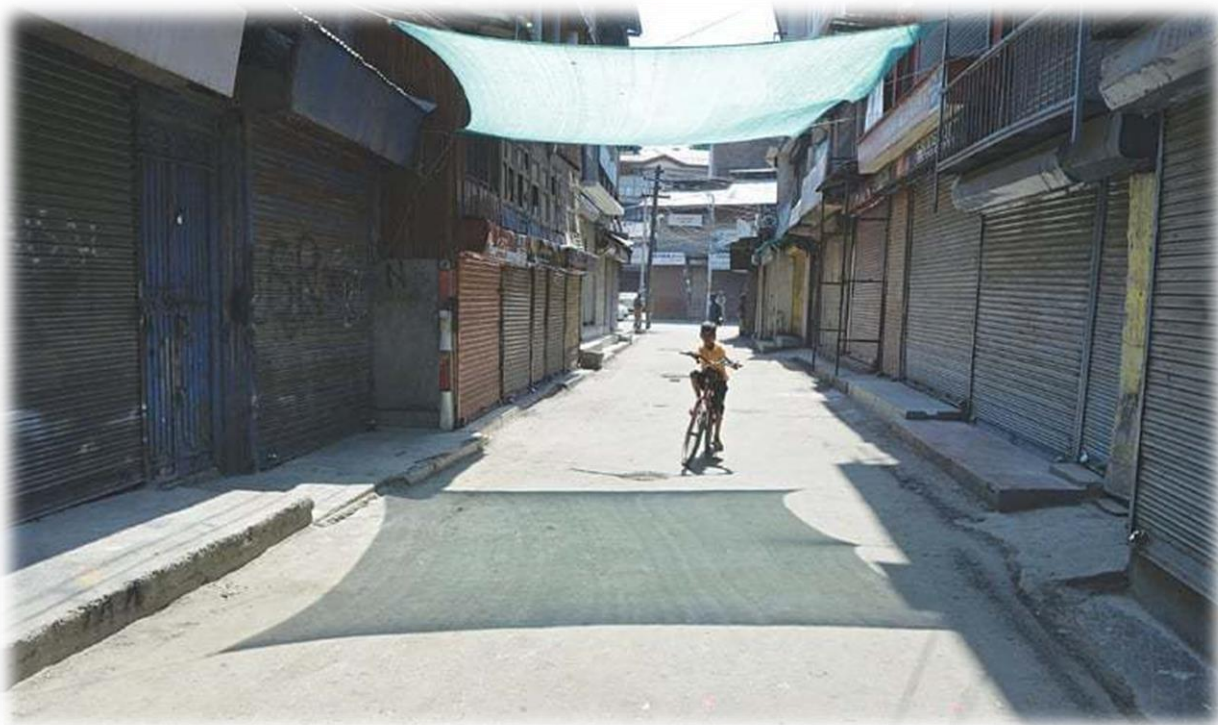
The effects of violence are very often long-lived. Violence – in all its forms – can have an impact on a woman's well-being throughout the rest of her life. This is unacceptable, and the risks of violence that women and their children face during the current COVID-19 crisis cannot be ignored.

When we are able to prevent violence, or to support women survivors of violence, we help to safeguard women's human rights, and promote physical and mental health and well-being for women throughout their lives. This also helps to alleviate pressure on already stretched essential public services, including the health system.

Source: World Health Organization



The Covid-19 has overshadowed the threat of Locusts for food security



An empty market due to lockdown in AJK- DAWN

COVID-19: Timeline of a Pandemic (Feb. 26, 2020 – Feb. 27, 2020)

Feb. 26 — Brazil confirms its first case of COVID-19, marking the first case in South America. Cases of the virus have now been confirmed on every continent except Antarctica.

Greece, Georgia, North Macedonia, Norway, Romania and Pakistan report their first cases of COVID-19.

For the first time since the outbreak began, there are more new cases reported outside China, 459, than in China, 412.

The Asian Development Bank approves another \$2 million to help countries in Asia and the Pacific prepare for, respond to, and boost their resilience against COVID-19 and other communicable diseases.

The European Commission requests member states to review pandemic preparedness plans, and inform the commission of how they plan to implement them. The commission also announces an initiative to launch a joint procurement procedure to support its member states in accessing personal protective equipment as COVID-19 cases rise in the region, Stella Kyriakides, European commissioner for health and food safety, says during a press conference in Italy.

Feb. 27 — The number of infections globally continues to grow. There are 3,474 cases of COVID-19 — including 54 deaths — outside of China in 44 countries.

Denmark, Estonia, San Marino, and the Netherlands report first cases of the virus.

“We are at a decisive point,” says Tedros during a press conference. “My message to each of these countries is: This is your window of opportunity. If you act aggressively now, you can contain this virus. You can prevent people getting sick. You can save lives. So my advice to these countries is to move swiftly.”

Belgium, Cambodia, India, Nepal, Philippines, Russia, Sri Lanka, and Vietnam have not reported new cases in more than two weeks, according to Tedros.

One of Iran’s vice presidents, Masoumeh Ebtekar, is infected with COVID-19. She’s one of several Iranian officials who has tested positive for the virus. Others include members of parliament Mojtaba Zolnour and Mahmoud Sadeghi; Morteza Rahmanzadeh, mayor of Tehran; and Iraj Harirchi, Iran’s deputy health minister.

Source: <https://www.devex.com/>

Experts' View

The civil-society-linked middle class has good people-oriented ideas but is too small at this stage to step up to fill the void. Thus, if the crisis persists and the current power structure starts to unravel, the gap may actually be filled by extremists and criminal mafias. That would be a worse outcome than the current situation. So, the best that one can hope for from this crisis is a weakening of the elitist power structure led by the establishment so as to provide increasing space for the civil-society-linked middle class to grow and provide leadership over the years. As things stand, opportunities provided by the crisis will likely go abegging again. (**Niaz Murtaza, DAWN**)

Unemployment is as harmful as Covid-19. It is not a public health-related issue that only needs to be addressed in an emergency situation. Given the exacerbated unemployment situation that is likely to persist beyond the present pandemic, Pakistan should make every possible effort to tackle unemployment on a long-term basis rather than merely relying on philanthropic measures to overcome the current crisis. (**Tariq Hassan, DAWN**)

Experts' Opinion

The mosque is as much a political space, contested and bloodied, as any other in Pakistan. So the defensiveness or territorial behaviour of religious leaders is not an anomaly. The difference between past debates and today is that Covid-19 is a terrorist, and drone, and killer, unlike any other we have ever experienced. So to save lives, we have to focus on the outcome we seek, not the burden of politics and blood that has come before it. (**Mosharraf Zaidi, THE NEWS**)

All around the world, AI and automation are transforming the job market and rendering many of the jobs we currently know obsolete, whilst creating new jobs that could not have been imagined before. If Pakistan's students are to gain the skills necessary to not only survive but thrive in tomorrow's world of work, they cannot afford to lose another minute. Every day they are not receiving a quality STEM education is a day they will never get back. Online learning can be a powerful ally for Pakistan's brilliant young minds as they stand ready to face a world that has just been turned upside down right at the beginning of what could have been – and still can be – a brave new decade. (**John Ingram, THE NEWS**)

World Health Organization
Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) advice for the public

Can COVID-19 be spread through coins and banknotes?



17 April 2020

There is currently no evidence to confirm or disprove that COVID-19 virus can be transmitted through coins or banknotes.

However, respiratory droplets expelled from an infected person can contaminate and persist on surfaces.

Wash your hands regularly and thoroughly after touching any frequently-touched surface or object, including coins or banknotes. Avoid touching your eyes, mouth and nose, if your hands are not cleaned.

#Coronavirus

#COVID19



A man stands behind a makeshift barricade set up to stop people from entering a lane, during a nationwide lockdown—*Reuters*

COVID-19 READS

1. **'UK youth employment prospects crumbling' in coronavirus crisis**
<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2020/apr/20/uk-youth-employment-prospects-crumbling-in-coronavirus-crisis>
2. **These Harvard scientists think we'll have to socially distance until 2022**
<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/04/coronavirus-social-distancing-how-long/>
3. **Italy sees first fall of active coronavirus cases: Live updates**
<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/04/coronavirus-deaths-exceed-40000-live-updates-200419233722851.html>
4. **Cabinet split as experts warn: don't ease Covid lockdown too soon**
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/apr/20/advisers-warn-over-coronavirus-lockdown-relaxation-amid-cabinet-split>
5. **Coronavirus: The political mood is becoming more scratchy**
<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-52358676>
6. **Coronavirus: Boris Johnson fears second peak from relaxing lockdown**
<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-52351982>
7. **There are reasons to be optimistic about a coronavirus vaccine. But it will take time**
<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2020/apr/19/coronavirus-vaccine-covid-19-nhs>
8. **COVID-19: What you need to know about the coronavirus pandemic on 20 April**
<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/04/covid-19-what-you-need-to-know-about-the-coronavirus-pandemic-on-20-april/>
9. **Coronavirus Socialism**
<https://www.forbes.com/sites/patrickwwatson/2020/04/13/coronavirus-socialism/#20d6c9d55225>
10. **10 African Countries Have No Ventilators. That's Only Part of the Problem.**
<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/18/world/africa/africa-coronavirus-ventilators.html>
11. **New York Needed Ventilators. So They Developed One in a Month.**
<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/20/technology/new-york-ventilators-coronavirus.html>
12. **An ICU doctor explains what happens when you're put on a ventilator with the coronavirus**
<https://www.insider.com/what-its-like-to-be-on-a-ventilator-with-coronavirus-2020-4>

Idea by VC PIDE, Dr. Nadeem Ul Haque

Prepared by:

Dr. Zulfiqar Ali Kalhoro, Dr. Saud Ahmed Khan, Dr. Hassan Rasool
Dr. Ahsan ul Haq Satti, Dr. Amena Urooj, Ms. Fizzah Khalid Butt
and Fahd Zulfiqar