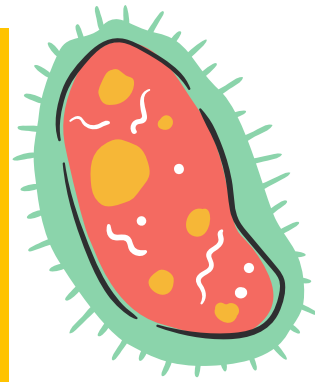
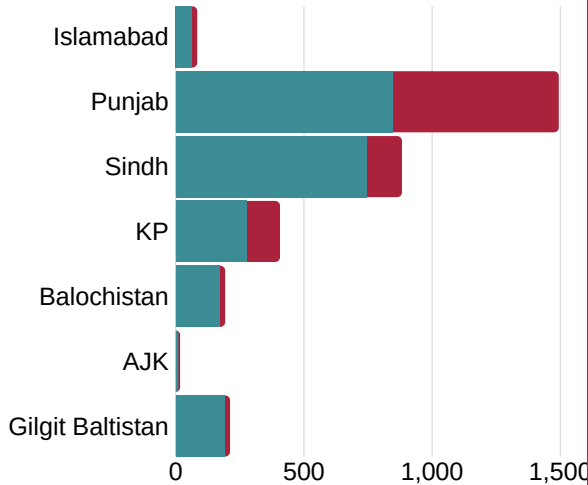


Situations like the coronavirus pandemic can quickly become a catalyst for social conflict due to misinformation, rumors and fake news, as we've seen in the past. Every day we continue to see more false information shared throughout communities, confusing citizens and leaving them unsure as to who can answer their questions.



Confirmed Cases



The **Pakistan Coronavirus CivicActs Campaign (CCC)** captures rumors and perceptions among communities to eliminate information gaps between the government, media, humanitarian agencies and citizens. By providing the public with facts, these coronavirus bulletins aim to create a better understanding of needs regarding coronavirus and to debunk rumors before they can do more harm.



DON'T PANIC!

Follow these steps to help prevent the spread of coronavirus.

- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use hand sanitizer (with at least 60% alcohol) if soap and water aren't available.
- Cover your nose and mouth (with your elbow or a tissue) when sneezing.
- Avoid crowded places and practice social distancing. If you think you have been exposed to someone with coronavirus, quarantine yourself for a minimum of 14 days and monitor any symptoms.
- Do not stockpile supplies.

IS IT TRUE?

Are mosques still open for Friday prayers?

Pakistani President Mr. Arif Alvi, along with provincial governors, held a meeting in late March with Sunni and Shiite clerics in an effort to convince them to close mosques across the country for congregational prayers during the coronavirus pandemic. The clerics rejected the request, with one going on to say that it is not possible in an Islamic country. Meanwhile, a number of Muslim-majority countries, including Saudi Arabia, have cancelled communal prayers. In Sindh, the provincial government imposed a ban on five-time congregational prayers including Friday prayers, effective until April 5. In other parts of the country, congregational prayers carried on as usual. When worshippers in Karachi still showed up for Friday prayers on March 27, the provincial government enforced a three-hour lockdown beginning at noon on Friday. Speaking on the matter, Sindh Minister for Local Bodies and Information, Mr. Syed Nasir Hussain Shah said that this decision was taken in the greater interest of saving lives.

What is the Muhafiz Force?

Following a request from industrialists to restart factory operations to fulfill their export orders, CM Sindh Mr. Murad Ali Shah has formed a committee of health experts, provincial authorities, and law enforcement to prepare standard operating procedures for them. In addition to the SOPs for factories, Mr. Shah would like SOPs for every sector, including shops, bakeries, transport, and even for the month of Ramadan, so that after April 14, business activities can slowly resume in phases.

Are doctors in Sindh really planning on protesting?

Yes. According to the Sindh chapters of the Pakistan Medical Association, doctors treating coronavirus patients at government hospitals are planning to boycott their duties from Tuesday, April 7, if the government does not provide them with adequate personal protective equipment. Speaking on the situation, Young Doctors Association Sindh Chairman, Dr. Omer Sultan shared that doctors working in hospitals have been exposed to the virus without PPE, and that their repeated demands for PPE for doctors have been unmet by the government. He said that while doctors will continue to carry out their duties, they will not visit wards where patients with confirmed or suspected cases of coronavirus are admitted without PPE.



IS IT TRUE?

What is a disinfection tunnel?

Open businesses have started placing disinfection tunnels at their entrances, so all people entering will have to pass through them. Using automatic spray guns loaded with a chlorine-based product, the tunnels work to remove all bacteria from those passing through within seconds. In Multan, one of these tunnels has been placed at the entrance of the wholesale fruit and vegetable market. District management also announced that similar tunnels will be installed at bus stops across Multan very soon. Although these measures are being taken to contain the spread of coronavirus, they do not guarantee immunity. Coronavirus spreads from person to person in close proximity, similar to other respiratory illnesses, such as the flu. Droplets of bodily fluids such as saliva or mucus from an infected person are dispersed in the air or on surfaces by coughing or sneezing. These droplets can come into direct contact with other people or can infect those who pick them up by touching infected surfaces and then their face.

Is the inter-district public transport ban in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa still in place?

The government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has extended the ban on inter-district public transport until April 12. This ban was initially put into place for one week at the end of March in an effort to reduce the spread of coronavirus. On March 26, the provincial government also imposed Section 144 for two weeks. According to the notice, crowds, public gatherings, religious, political, social, and other events are banned until April 7.

Are factories in Sindh already opening again?

Following a request from industrialists to restart factory operations to fulfill their export orders, CM Sindh Mr. Murad Ali Shah has formed a committee of health experts, provincial authorities, and law enforcement to prepare standard operating procedures for them. In addition to the SOPs for factories, Mr. Shah would like SOPs for every sector, including shops, bakeries, transport, and even for the month of Ramadan, so that after April 14, business activities can slowly resume in phases.

Sources: [Tribune](#) [ARY 1](#) [ARY 2](#) [ARY 3](#) [Daily Times 1](#) [Daily Times 2](#)

[Associated Press of Pakistan](#) [Dunya News](#) [Dawn](#) [Samaa 1](#) [Samaa 2](#) [The News](#)

[Khyber News](#) [Time](#) [BBC](#) [DW](#) [Reuters](#) [Brookings](#)



What do I do if I think I have coronavirus?

Do you have any symptoms?

- **Fever**
- **Shortness of breath**
- **Dry cough**
- **Tiredness**



If so, contact your doctor or the coronavirus helpline at 1166.

Where can I get tested?

Karachi

Aga Khan University Hospital

Stadium Road, Karachi

Civil Hospital

DOW University Campus
Mission Road, Karachi

Dow Medical Hospital

Ojha Campus
Suparco Road, Karachi

Indus Hospital

Opposite Darussalam Society, Korangi
Crossing, Karachi

Lahore

Punjab AIDS Lab

PACP Complex
6 - Birdwood Road, Lahore

Shaukat Khanum Memorial Hospital

7A Block R-3 M.A. Johar Town, Lahore

Islamabad

National Institute of Health

Park Road
Chak Shahzad, Islamabad

Rawalpindi

Armed Forces Institute of Pathology

Range Road
CMH Complex, Rawalpindi

Multan

Nishtar Hospital

Nishtar Road,
Justice Hamid Colony, Multan

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



Coronavirus CivActs Campaign is brought to you by
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